Come out to play in the Timber Toppers Golf Classic!

The Links Course at Sandestin is the 2012 spot for this exciting annual event, and all Association members and/or guests of our meeting registrants are invited to participate. Suwannee Lumber Company is again hosting a morning of golf, offering trophies, group photos, complimentary golf balls and other prizes. And as a grand finale to a grand day, Bump Faircloth and the Suwannee Lumber family will provide a barbeque lunch to all golfers, no matter their score! The tournament will start at 8:00 am on Wednesday, September 5. The Links Course has been named one of the “Top Five Golf Courses in NW Florida”, so take this opportunity to enjoy a day of golfing fun, camaraderie, barbeque, prizes and maybe bragging rights! Registration is available on the “Short” form on page 3, or simply contact the Association office where staff will gladly sign you up for this event!

Sandestin Resort is THE place to be

We’re headed back to the beautiful Baytowne Wharf area of Sandestin Resort for this year’s Annual Meeting, being held September 5-7. Guest rooms for our meeting are reserved in the Grand Sandestin units. Studios are fully furnished with a kitchenette. One-Bedroom Condominiums offer a full kitchen, living room, dining area, washer/dryer, full balcony and separate master bedroom. Quaint shops, fabulous dining, and exciting nightspots make up the Village of Baytowne Wharf and are only steps away from our accommodations and the Convention Center. Call to make your hotel reservations now by contacting Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort at 800.320.8115. You’ll just need to let them know you’re with the Florida Forestry Association (group #22H8GQ) in order to receive the special FFA rate of $133 (Studio) or $154 (One-Bedroom Condominium). For more site details, check out www.Sandestin.com. Reservations can also be made online.

Extra! Extra!

Continuing education hours have been approved by the Society of American Foresters (SAF) for the Association’s September 5-7 Annual Meeting. For details of the meeting’s educational opportunities, check out What We Do on our web site at www.floridaforest.org.

A total of nine (9) Master Logger hours and 8 SAF CFE hours (3 @ Category 1 – CF, and 5 @ Category 2 – CF), are available through attendance in the three-day event. Details on the Annual Meeting SAF credits for foresters can also be viewed on the SAF web site at: www.safnet.org/calendar/eventDetails.cfm?eventID=44201.

A Poker Walk is being planned for Wednesday morning, 8:00-10:00 am, for all the non-golfers. Details will be available soon, but plan to pack your walking (or run if you prefer) attire and get in on the fun! Registration is $10, with a $5 wild card option. It’s a time to meet those you know and those you’ve yet to know. Exhibitor’s $10 fee will be waived, as a special thank you for their support of the Trade Show.

One booth/exhibit will be recognized for Best of Show on Thursday, September 6. Attendees will have the chance to vote on their favorite again this year. Flag Credit Union won in 2011, and along with recognition for their creativity and friendliness, they received a complimentary exhibitor registration for this year’s meeting.
Annual Meeting Speaker Highlights

SPECIAL KEYNOTE OPENING SESSION
Adam Putnam – FL Commissioner of Agriculture

The first-term ambassador of Florida agriculture and forest business will provide the keynote address to officially begin the Association’s 90th year anniversary celebration on Wednesday, September 5th at 2:00 p.m. In his role as Commissioner of Agriculture, Putnam is focused on protecting the quantity and quality of the state’s water supply, securing a stable, reliable and diverse supply of energy, expanding access to Florida’s abundance of fresh produce and fostering the growth and diversification of Florida agriculture. His most recent success was legislation that gave Florida its first comprehensive energy bill in five years. Included in the bill is a forest sustainability project to measure growth and harvest of forest resources.

FAMILY COMMUNICATION’S ROLE IN SUCCESSION PLANNING
Are you ready? – Ginny & Allen Nipper
Many families have or will experience intergenerational transfer of land and timber assets. While it is truly a tale of both generations and should be a smooth and pleasurable experience, both generations can have questions and concerns. What role can family meetings play in family communication in relationship to intergenerational transfer? What challenges to establishing effective family meetings and communication can be expected? What topics are reasonable to discuss at a family meeting? Have ground rules been established for family meetings? Are the family expectations reasonable? All of these and other questions will be addressed in this seminar.

LET’S TAKE A SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY
LaDonna Gatlin
Back by popular demand to help us celebrate our 90th Anniversary, LaDonna Gatlin will headline the President’s Dinner, September 6th. The sister of country music’s Gatlin Brothers, LaDonna began her career as a member of the family singing group. Certainly her name insures great music, but LaDonna’s performance will go beyond the music with a powerful message. LaDonna’s outstanding vocals, along with plenty of down-home humor and storytelling will definitely send attendees off on a high note! Don’t miss this special performance, designed especially for our Anniversary celebration!

WITH VISION THERE IS HOPE
Bruce Vincent – President, Communities For A Great Northwest
Bruce Vincent, a third generation logger from Libby, Montana, knows what works and what doesn’t when it comes to getting people engaged in things that matter. In a presentation that brings audiences laughter, tears, and a cultural call to action, Bruce advises that the future of forestry is going to be defined and defended by someone’s visionary leadership. America is ready for a new vision of conservation and environmental stewardship that is based upon hope instead of fear. Those who work at the ground level in implementing society’s framework for protecting the environment are positioned at the leading edge of the changes and challenges of this discussion.

WOW! Annual Meeting Sponsors

Our sponsors make the meeting and we’d like to recognize and thank those listed below for coming through in a big way. Plenty of sponsorship opportunities are still available so please consider joining our family of supporters by contacting our office today at 850.222.5646 to be sure you’re included in upcoming promotions.

Platinum Sponsor $10,000

Gold Sponsor $5,000

Silver Sponsor $1,500-$4,999

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LaDonna Gatlin

Gold Sponsor $5,000

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Rex Lumber Company
Southern Forestry Consultants, Inc.

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TD Bank
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Usher Land & Timber, Inc.

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Southeastern Wood Producers Association

LaDonna Gatlin

Let's Take a Sentimental Journey

LaDonna Gatlin – President, Communities For A Great Northwest

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Forestry Trade Show!

Top forestry businesses will be on hand at the Florida Forestry Association Trade Show. Both exhibitors and attendees benefit from this prime opportunity where vendors meet the important key decision-makers and day-to-day users of forestry products and services. For more details or to reserve space, contact Debbie Bryant at debbie@forestfla.org. Register early and take advantage of every promotional opportunity!

Many thanks to the following confirmed 2012 Exhibitors. Be sure to check them out on our web site at www.floridaforest.org/tradeshow.php.

Advantage Forestry Container Pines
American Forest Management
American RX Fire Applicators, Inc.
ArborGen, Inc. SuperTree Seedlings
Assof Consulting Forests FL Chapter
Bituminous Insurance Company
Blanton’s Longleaf Container Nursery
Crop Production Services
Fandick
Flag Credit Union
Florida FGF, LLC
Florida Forest Service
Florida Project Learning Tree
Florida Tree Farm Program
International Forest Company

Approximately 700 organizations and individuals involved in the forest trade are expected to participate in the annual meeting! For more information about the annual meeting please contact Debbie Bryant at debbie@forestfla.org or call 850-222-5646.

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Donate to the Silent Auction!

At this year’s family reunion-style Annual Meeting, we’re asking everyone to bring an auction donation instead of a covered dish! Our Pass It Forward theme will spotlight Florida forestry past and present, and we’re anticipating the “old” and “new” (and everything in between) crowd to be on hand. Donors do not have to attend the Annual Meeting (although we really do want you there). If you’d like to contribute to the silent auction, contact Debbie Bryant at 850.222.5646 or debbie@forestfla.org for more details! Many thanks to the following “early bird” supporters of this event:

Allure Fine Gifts, Chiefland FL • Barry Hartley • Bob Moore-BMC Forestry • “Boogie”

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