

Marcia Summers, Editor

Comments, suggestions,  
and questions are  
welcome. We also accept  
guest op-eds and letters  
relating to articles  
published in Forest  
Wisdom and Across the  
Landscape.

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#### MEET AIMEE ABBY

New Guild Membership  
Coordinator



Aimee Abby is originally from Modesto, California. A graduate of UC Santa Barbara and Middlebury College, she has spent three years living in Madrid, Spain. Aimee's professional background is in teaching and human resources, and her last position was as Human Resources Director of the First National Bank of Santa Fe. She has happily spent the last two and a half years at home raising her daughter, Emma, who started preschool this fall.

Aimee said that she "has always tried to practice wise resource use in her personal life," and she appreciates the Guild's like-minded business ethic. She looks forward to working with the Forest Guild as Membership Coordinator and to meeting you in person, by phone (505.983.8992 x 21) or by email [aimee@forestguild.org](mailto:aimee@forestguild.org).

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WELCOME TO OUR 51 NEW MEMBERS!

#### NEW GUILD CLIMATE CHANGE REPORT OFFERS PRACTICAL STRATEGIES FOR FOREST MANAGERS

by Bob Perschel

The Forest Guild's report *Climate Change, Carbon, and the Forests of the Northeast* marks the first time that climate change impacts, carbon policy recommendations, and forest management challenges in the Northeast have been interconnected and distilled into practical, attainable strategies for use by forest managers.



While a number of reports investigating the link between forests, climate change, and carbon have been released or are due for release, the Guild's effort is the only one so far to investigate the available science and suggest a range of forestry techniques to achieve climate adaptation and carbon goals. In December 2007, the report announcement was delivered electronically to Guild members, broadcast

widely over the internet, and posted on the Forest Guild website. Since then it has been downloaded over 11,000 times, a sure sign we have produced something both topical and timely. Go to the Guild [website](#) to download a copy, or request a copy by contacting Renee Denipah at 505-983-8992 x10.

The report is divided into individual sections that address the alteration of forests in the Northeast, current carbon trading programs, and policy and forestry recommendations for climate change adaptation and mitigation. Research is offered as evidence that forests of the Northeast have changed, and further shifts in plant and animal ranges, habitat suitability, and disturbance regimes are expected. Policy recommendations focus on retaining forestlands as forests including: standards for excellent forestry in carbon trading criteria and augmenting current forestry programs. Management recommendations for climate change include keeping forests healthy through appropriate silvicultural methods using natural disturbance regimes as guides, maintaining natural communities, and maintaining and expanding forest reserves.

The report also addresses forest management recommendations for carbon storage. Scientific research indicates that many of the techniques utilized to practice excellent forestry are also viable ways to sequester more carbon. Some of those techniques include: managing forests for structural complexity, extending rotations, choosing appropriate thinning techniques, and utilizing low-impact logging. In the Northeast, the report will now be used to influence the establishment of additional carbon offsets under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a regional carbon cap and trade system going into effect in 2009. Currently RGGI is only scheduled to provide offsets for tree planting. We will be working with partners in the Northeast to insure that appropriate forest management practices are also recognized as ways to sequester more carbon. Interested Guild members should contact me by phone (508-756-4625) or by email ([bob.perschel@verizon.net](mailto:bob.perschel@verizon.net)).



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#### PROFILE OF A GUILD MODEL FOREST: TREE SHEPHERD WOODS *In Thurston County, Washington*

by Jean Shaffer



*Editor's note:* The Forest Guild Model Forest Program recognizes places, people, and relationships that foster sustainable forest management and demonstrate successful silviculture. Every issue of *Across the Landscape*, beginning with this one, will include a regular feature, "Profile of a Guild Model Forest." In this issue, we visit Tree Shepherd Woods managed by Guild member Jean Shaffer and her husband Jerel Shaffer.

Our southern-facing Tree Shepherd Woods in Thurston County, Washington (southeast of Olympia) historically was old growth cedar with wetland winding in and out of the lowland area. According to Cecelia Carpenter, tribal historian and member of the Nisqually Indian Tribe—the original stewards of this land—the tribe utilized our woods

**Professional members:**

Amber Fields, Hancock, NH  
Alex Finkral, Flagstaff, AZ  
David Ford, Seattle, WA  
David Hobson, Portland, ME  
Robert Leso, Chesterville, ME  
Wendy Sammarco, Carnation, WA  
Joseph Trudeau, Hancock, NH

**Student members:**

Kurt Angersbach, Billings, MT  
Caitlin Cusack, New Haven, CT  
Hank Hambricht, Asheville, NC  
Joseph Kennedy, Swannanoa, NC  
Bidur Khadka, Narayani, Nepal  
Ashley Lidman, Burlington, VT  
Kathie Mattor, Fort Collins, CO  
Connor McGeehan, Asheville, NC  
Virginie Pointeau, Vancouver, BC  
Brandon Stephens, Knoxville, TN  
Shawn Swartz, Asheville, NC  
Meredith Talbert, Asheville, NC  
Stephanie Walsh, Burlington, VT  
Christopher Zellers, Bangor, ME

**Supporting members:**

Margo Evashevski, San Francisco, CA  
Don Ewy, Walden, CO  
Terry Farless, Chapel Hill, NC  
Dann Kelehan, Santa Fe, NM  
John Lissoway, Los Alamos, NM  
Richard and Mary Martin, Palo Cedro, CA  
Bill Patterson, Brunswick, ME  
Linda Perkins, Albion, CA  
Blake Selzer, Washington, DC  
Carol Miller and Ronald Setzer, Missoula, MT  
Teri and Earl Underwood, Park City, UT  
Chip and Linda Ward, Torrey, UT  
Larry Arky, West Hartford, CT  
John and Hermi Hiatt, Las Vegas, NV  
Andrea Keller Helsel, Columbia, MD

**Sustaining members:**

Robert and Tina Arky, Manalapan, NJ  
Neal Desai, San Francisco, CA  
Lauri Drey, Durham NC  
William H. Romme, Fort Collins, CO  
Barbara and Frank Weeda, Joshua Tree, CA  
Marc Wexler, Colts Neck, NJ  
John Lynch and Jane Freeman, Reno, NV

**MPC ELECTION RESULTS**

Three New Members Selected  
The Forest Guild's Membership and Policy Council (MPC) is a 9-member representative body comprised of professional members of the Guild. The MPC supervises the development of Guild policy and position statements and



as a favorite camping and passing-through area. After the land was taken by the U.S. Government from the

Nisquallys through the Medicine Creek Treaty in 1854, it endured many owners and was clear-cut probably twice before we owned it. In 2006 our gift of the land title back to the Nisquallys was completed, and they will re-take possession upon my husband's and my passing.

Today the forest has predominantly 80-year-old Douglas fir, some hemlock and cedar, and salal understory. The main forest resides on a table top and slopes moderately to the south where there is open pasture and then more forest to the neighboring south boundary. The wetlands were ditched many decades ago, and now they disperse one way as Eaton Creek and the other way as Spurgeon Creek.

We are restoring the forest in the pasture areas with the local seed stock of Doug fir and native shrubs (tall Oregon grape, cascara, hazelnut, salal, and chokecherry) as well as herbs that are naturally dispersed by local birds and animals. In the woods we are doing Orville Camp's Natural Selection Ecoforestry which theorizes that disturbed forest succeeds to climax through selecting its weaker members out over time.



Our goal is old growth. *(Photo at left shows forest before selective harvest, and photo at right shows forest after selective harvest)* Our forestry approach is to allow and enhance succession through harvesting the naturally selected-out trees, which can be read by these indicators: trees that have lost position in the canopy for accessing sunlight; trees of relative age that have smaller diameters; trees without lighter brown wood between bark growth cracks; trees that have less than 20 percent of their trunks crowned with branches; and cone-shaped tree boles, rather than a straight column-shaped bole. We keep a small percent of weaker trees growing to recruit snags.

Our forest is healthy and responding to our approach with increased growth. We have test plots and a control plot erected by specialist Jerry Becker, of Port Orford, Oregon, to monitor the growth rates. I use our forest as a demonstration of Natural Selection Ecoforestry and do Ecoforestry consulting for other land owners. My husband has built logging equipment that allows no soil impact during log removal and has also fabricated a mill and a woodworking shop to add value to the logs we take out and air dry. We know there will be even better lumber down the road, as the naturally selected-out trees provide straighter-grained and wider-girth trees in the future. For more information on Tree Shepherd Woods, please visit our website, <http://www.reachone.com/TreeArt/treeshepard.html>.

**SE REGIONAL MEETING HUGE SUCCESS**

Three Generations of Guild Members Gather at N.C.'s Duke Forest

*by Howard Gross*

Forest Guild members and colleagues from across the southeastern U.S. met on December 1-2, 2007, in Durham, North Carolina, for a tour of the Duke Forest and presentations about biomass utilization and carbon policy as they relate to forestry. The Duke Forest and Duke University provided excellent venues for the 30 participants in this weekend event. This successful weekend meeting was planned by Nate Wilson (Forest Guild Southeast Region Coordinator), Judd Edeburn (Duke Forest Resource Manager), and Fred White (Guild founding member and Chief Forester for the Forestland Group).

Since Fred was Judd's predecessor at the Duke Forest, their combined perspectives covering more than fifty years of the Duke Forest's management provided a wealth of lessons shared in the field. With other Guild professional members—including Clint Trammel, Don Handley, Bruce White, Michael Lewis, and Dave Halley—drawing upon their decades of experience to add to the discussions, meeting participants were treated to a treasure trove of knowledge regarding the management of woodlands typical of the lower Piedmont of the southeastern U.S. The educational value of this meeting was especially valuable as three generations of foresters attended,



addresses issues related to membership and member services. MPC members are elected for a 3-year term.

During the last two months of 2007, Guild professional members voted to elect three new MPC members. Thirteen very capable individuals—each of whom put forth the time, effort, and interest—comprised an outstanding slate of candidates. The winners of the election are Sarah Deumling (Rickreall, OR), Laura French (New London, NH), and Mary Snieckus (Silver Spring, MD). They join current members Fred Clark, Ehrhard Frost, John Hodges, Steve Lindeman, Kaarsten Turner-Dalby, and Bill Wilkinson.

Congratulations to the new council members! And thanks again to everyone who put forth the effort to run and to everyone who took the time to vote.

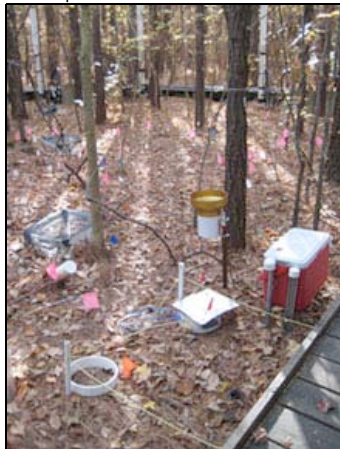


professor and Guild member Dr. Dave Ellum.

including ten forestry students from Warren Wilson College who traveled over 200 miles to attend the meeting with their

The Duke Forest was established in the early 1930s and now comprises over 7,000 acres. Its original focus on forestry education and research has expanded over time to include a broad range of studies in the ecological and environmental sciences. The forest is actively managed with timber harvesting providing over 80% of the forest's operating revenue (for more info, see [www.dukeforest.duke.edu](http://www.dukeforest.duke.edu)).

The first day of the meeting was spent in the field visiting seven sites that each portrayed a unique aspect of the ongoing research and management knowledge gained at the Duke Forest. The first stop was to visit the Forest-Atmosphere Carbon Transfer and Storage (FACTS-I) research site, where CO2 concentrations are maintained 50 percent higher than ambient atmospheric levels in three loblolly pine forest plots, providing a rich area for experimentation regarding processes that regulate carbon storage in forests. The next site provided an opportunity to view wireless data collection techniques and instrumentation for measuring,



modeling, and predicting changes in forest



environments. Subsequent stops viewed various silvicultural treatments demonstrating and generating discussion about opportunities for conversion of tree plantations to multiple cohorts, pre-commercial thinning of loblolly pine to promote multiple forest values, and comparing seed tree versus seed-in-place regeneration. We also had the opportunity to view research sites focused on nutrient cycling in forested stream ecosystems. The day concluded with a group dinner and discussion at the Blue Corn Cafe in Durham, NC.

Two interesting presentations about relevant forest policy topics comprised the meeting the following morning. Will McDow, Guild member and Southern Forest Project Manager for Environmental Defense Fund, gave an overview of biomass utilization issues in the Southeast and facilitated a group discussion on how the region's emerging biomass market might impact ecologically sound forest management. Will's concerns focused on three areas: (1) local forest impacts, (2) landscape-scale impacts, and (3) air- and water-resource concerns for communities near where biomass plants will be built. Will acknowledged that this discussion currently creates more questions than it answers, and that the answers will largely depend on issues of scale around plant development. Distributed small-scale biomass power generation integrated with other wood uses is preferable to large-scale development in many ways, and he holds out hope that biomass utilization can provide some compensation and incentive to deter forestland conversion through development.

Matt Smith, Director of Ecosystem Services for FORCON Ecomarket Solutions, discussed principles of forest carbon, carbon markets, and their real world applications. This was a great opportunity to hear the latest thinking about policies that are shaping carbon markets particularly as they relate to carbon credits for forestland management. Matt expounded upon several related policy challenges for forestry offsets in the marketplace, including the difficulties of quantifying carbon sequestered in forests, problems in determining baseline conditions above which sequestered carbon can be sold as carbon credits, and considerations regarding the permanence of sequestered forest carbon compared to the requirements of the marketplace. Matt also discussed forest management decisions and actions that impact and optimize carbon sequestration as well as strategies and questions to consider in developing a forest carbon sequestration project.

For sharing quality information pertinent to Guild members, this weekend meeting provided an excellent balance of venues (the field and the classroom) and topics (silvicultural practices, research, and policy). Thanks to Nate Wilson, Fed White, and Judd Edeburn for their efforts in planning this successful meeting as well as all participants and presenters for their time and effort. And a special thanks to Duke University for sharing their facilities and to the Forestland Group for paying speaker travel costs.

