This 110 Apex Predator XP rifle will be up for grabs during the Fish Fry Gun Raffle.

77th Annual Meeting Speaker Spotlight Pt. 2

Last month we introduced our Forest Management Workshop speakers in our Speaker Spotlight Pt. 1. This month, we have an excellent lineup of speakers you can hear from during our General Session on October 12. We are excited to see all of our guests beginning Tuesday, October 11 for our 77th Annual Meeting and 75th Anniversary Celebration!

Dr. Don Bragg, USDA Forest Service

Originally from northern Wisconsin, Project Leader Don C. Bragg started his USDA Forest Service career in March of 2000 as a Research Forester focusing on silviculture and ecology of upland ecosystems with the Southern Research Station in Monticello, Arkansas. Dr. Bragg has B.S. and M.S. Degrees in forestry from Michigan Technological University and a Ph.D. in forest ecology from Utah State University. Between 2013 and 2017, he was the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Forestry, and has been the Project Leader of the longleaf pine and other southern pine research work units since June of 2017.

Dr. Joe Conrad, Warnell School of Forestry, UGA

Joe conducts research on timber transportation safety and efficiency, timber harvesting productivity and cost, logging capacity, and wood supply chain efficiency. Joe earned a B.S. in forestry from The University of the South and an M.F. and Ph.D. in forest operations from Virginia Tech.

Peggy Clark, Clark Timberlands

Peggy Clark is the owner and manager of Clark Timberlands and has been synonymous with sustainable forestry for almost 40 years. In what would become a series of “firsts” in her career, Peggy assumed the role of manager of the family timber, cattle and real estate investment business in 1987 after the untimely death of her father, Charles Clark. She has grown the timber business to encompass timberland in eight south-central Arkansas counties, including other real estate investments, a livestock auction, and a working farm and cattle ranch. She was the first woman appointed to the Arkansas Forestry Commission, the first female president of the Arkansas Forestry Association, the first woman to serve as president of the National Forestry Landowners Association, and the first female elected to First Commercial Corporation’s board of directors. She also serves as a trustee of the Ross Foundation and is on the board of the Mid-America Museum, Garvan Woodland Gardens, the Arkansas Community Foundation and the Ouachita Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Director of Forestry Education, Rob Beadel, and a few others will begin selling cards after our “Diamonds in the Outfield” event. Three decks of cards will be sold at $10 per card. You MUST pay in cash for this raffle. Beginning the night of Wednesday, October 12, guests at the PotlatchDeltic Fish Fry can purchase a chance to win a 110 Apex Predator XP rifle as part of the annual AFAEF Gun Raffle. The gun features a Mossy Oak camo synthetic stock, 4-12x4mm Vortex Crossfire II scope, mounted and bore-sighted, a detachable box magazine, and more.

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AFA Provides More Details on “Diamonds in the Outfield” Event, Annual Meeting Fish Fry

With only a few days left until our 75th Annual Meeting, the Arkansas Forestry Association wanted to provide our guests with updated information on our Potlatch/Deltic Fish Fry event.

As a reminder, this year, we will be at Dickey-Stephens Park, which is just a short drive or walk across the river from the DoubleTree. Guests driving need to park in the lots to the left of the Broadway Bridge and enter through the First Base Gate just on the other side of the bridge.

For those walking, you will exit out of the hotel, pass by the Robinson Center, walk down the Broadway Bridge, turn right and enter at the First Base Gate. Doors to the venue will open at 5:30 p.m. on October 12.

All guests MUST wear your annual meeting lanyard to gain entrance to the park. Our guests who plan to have an adult beverage during our Fish Fry, will need to ensure they have their ID ready to show park employees. They do have a Clear Bag Policy that will be in effect during our event.

For those who purchased tickets to our Green Diamond Management Company “Diamonds in the Outfield” event, keep an eye out for Jennifer, who will be stationed at the park entrance, to pick up your golden tickets.

There is still an opportunity to purchase your chance for a one-carat diamond necklace valued at $3,000. You can buy tickets at the AFA store at time.com/DITOTicket, or you will have an opportunity to purchase them at the annual meeting until 7 p.m. October 11, if any remain. If you cannot attend, please inform AFA who your proxy for the event will be.

Food from Adams Catfish and Loblolly Creamery will be available at 6 p.m. Folks will have plenty of time to catch up with friends and colleagues before and after the Fish Fry is served. Our catfish buffet and the Loblolly Ice Cream Truck will both begin serving food at 6 p.m. Guests will have an opportunity to get a scoop of one of the six most popular flavors served at Loblolly's store.

The final chance for our “Diamonds in the Outfield” participants to pick up their golden ticket will be 6:30 p.m. Starting at 6:45 p.m., we will gather all our ticket holders to the area where they will be picking boxes.

When the number on your golden ticket is called, participants will get their ticket to Communications Coordinator Seth Stephenson, who will give them a wooden ball. They will then give that ball to Director of Forestry Education Rob Beadel, where they can choose a ring box. Once everyone has made their choices, we will all open the boxes together, so we will all go home with our grand prize.

Once this is completed, cards for our Arkansas Forestry Association Education Foundation Gun Raffle will be sold.

We have a lot going on this year at our Fish Fry and want everyone to be prepared for the events taking place. If you have any questions, please contact the AFA office, before the event by calling (501) 374-2441.

South Central Log a Load for Kids Holds Golf Tournament, Teases Online Auction

T

The morning of September 15 turned out perfect as the South Central Chapter of Arkansas Log a Load for Kids gathered to hold their annual Golf Tournament in Glenwood.

Each year, the chapter invites teams to play in their special tournament to help raise money for Arkansas Children’s. This year, they had 29 four-person teams totaling 116 players.

“arocks.org for information on the above Zoom meetings.

Please Note: Please visit our calendar at http://arkforests.org A link to this auction can be found on the AFA calendar at arkforests.org.

Golf and chapter leader David Smith would like to thank all the players, donors, and their 2022 committee for the work put into making this year’s event a success.

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