Awards and Fellowships

Forest History Society awards and fellowships are fully supported by endowment. The awards program enables the Society to recognize research and writing. High standards for selection reflect equally upon the recipient and the Society. Following is a list of the awards for 1996.

Charles E. Brooks of Texas A & M University has received the Ralph W. Hidy Award for the best article in Forest & Conservation History. He wrote "Overrun with Bushes: Frontier Land Development and the Forest History of the Holland Purchase,1800-50," F&CH (January 1995): 17-26. Henceforth, the Hidy Award will be biennial in coordination with the Aldo Leopold Award, sponsored by the American Society for Environmental History. Both awards will recognize superior scholarship published in Environmental History. The Hidy Award will be offered in even-numbered years, and the Leopold Award in odd-numbered years.

Robert L. McCullough received the Theodore C. Blegen Award for best article in a journal other than Forest & Conservation History for "A Forest in Every Town," published in the winter issue of Vermont History.

The Charles A. Weyerhaeuser Award for best book on forest and conservation history is biennial, granted in odd-numbered years.

Leon Alligood, reporter for the Nashville Banner, received the John M. Collier Award for Forest History Journalism. His four-part article, "The State of the Forest," appeared in the September 4-7 1995 editions of the Banner.

The very competitive F. K. Weyerhaeuser Forest History Fellowship produced a tie, being split between Catherine J. Karr and Nigel M. Asquith. Both are doctoral students at Duke University. Karr in political science and Asquith in zoology. Karr is examining how local communities in southern Brazil are dealing with environmental change, while Asquith is studying the long term impact of habitat fragmentation on wildlife populations following construction of the Panama Canal.

Richard P. Tucker • professor of history at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan, researched the beginnings of the field of tropical forestry. He explored the papers of renowned forester, Tom Gill, and the records of the International Society of Tropical Foresters.

Melvin Johnson • of the Texas Forestry Museum, worked on the East Texas Sawmill Data Base Project. He utilized the older volumes of several trade publications to add to the list of mills and companies included in the database and to flesh out information on people and organizations already found in their files. The project is a model for other states and regions attempting to document their own sawmill cultures.

James R. Kates • a doctoral student in journalism history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, worked on the ways in which the replanted cutover of the Lake States was conceptualized and "sold" to the public. He used the records of the American Forestry Association and the National Forest Products Association to document public concern with recreation, planned landscapes, and fire protection during the 1920s.

Marcus Hall • a Ph.D. candidate in the Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, used the records of the American Forestry Association and the Society of American Foresters, as well as several smaller collections, to study the history of ecological restoration, especially reforestation. His dissertation will trace the influence of Italian concepts of landscape on the U.S. and vice versa.

Tobias Lanz • a doctoral student and instructor in the Department of Government and International Studies at the University of South Carolina is writing his dissertation on forest policy and conservation philosophy in Cameroon, Africa. He used the FHS collections to document North American influence on current international conservation and development policies.

Paul Sutter • a Ph.D. candidate in environmental history at the University of Kansas is studying the intellectual and cultural origins of wilderness advocacy. He used the records of the Society of American Foresters and the American Forestry Association to trace the development of support for wilderness in the era between the World Wars.

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