

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The Forest History Society awards program enables the Society to recognize research and writing in forest and conservation history and to stimulate further research into our understanding of the relationships between people and forests. High standards for selection reflect equally upon the recipient and the Society. Awards and fellowships are fully supported by endowment. Following is a list of awards for 2012.

LEOPOLD-HIDY AWARD

The Aldo Leopold–Ralph W. Hidy Award honors the best article published in the journal *Environmental History* during the preceding year. The award is presented jointly by the American Society for Environmental History and the Forest History Society, and is judged by the editorial board of the journal. The 2012 recipient is **Sam White** for the essay, “From Globalized Pig Breeds to Capitalist Pigs: A Study in Animal Cultures and Evolutionary History” (16.1, 94–120).

As farming intensified in eighteenth-century Europe, forest clearance meant that fewer wild food sources were available for local pigs. Enter the Chinese pig: with an enhanced capacity for rapid fattening, these breeds played a key role in the transformation from subsistence to industrial meat production. White’s article uses pigs as a fertile case study to explore the history of early modern globalization and the emergency of industrial capitalism. He combines cultural and technical material with grace and subtlety over a wide span of space and time, showing how the reciprocal influences of culture, evolution, and economy shaped pig breeds from the pre-modern era to the present. A significant example of interdisciplinary work, one editorial board member calls this “classic environmental history: blending archival and scientific sources, the national and the global, our effects on nature and nature’s effects on us, to help us re-see a world we thought we knew.” His analysis is both striking and consequential, providing a new approach to the growing body of animal studies in environmental history, based on an evolutionary perspective. The piece is eloquently argued and well illustrated.

THEODORE C. BLEGEN AWARD

The Theodore C. Blegen Award recognizes the best article in the field of forest and conservation history that is not published in *Environmental History*. Articles are submitted by editors of scholarly journals and a panel of judges selects the winner based on contribution to knowledge, strength of scholarship, and clarity and grace of presentation. This year’s award went to **Lynne Davis** for “Home or Global Treasure? Understanding Relationships between the Heiltsuk Nation and Environmentalists,” published in *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly* No. 171: 9–36.

Davis gives us the value of many years’ work with the Heiltsuk First Nation in the Great Bear Forest on the coast of northern British Columbia. Her exceptional experience has penetrated difficult social dynamics; her resulting report is nuanced, multi-faceted, accurate, and well-written with a clear perspective. It penetrates an important knot: the often clumsy and baffling relations between environmental activists from outside and the world of the First Nations, focusing on the dilemma of ecological preservation versus jobs. This piece will be valuable to outsiders anywhere who engage with indigenous populations on environmental issues. The compassion of her work is evident in the vivid, uncompromising story she tells and evaluates. One judge commented that this article represents the most remarkable long-term research ending in a terrific historical account of a First Nation through a significant recent period of change and upheaval.

CHARLES A. WEYERHAEUSER BOOK AWARD

The Charles A. Weyerhaeuser Award rewards superior scholarship in forest and conservation history. This annual award goes to an author who has exhibited fresh insight into a topic and whose narrative analysis is clear, inventive, and thought-provoking. The 2012 recipient is **Emily Wakild** for *Revolutionary Parks: Conservation, Social Justice, and Mexico’s National Parks, 1910–1940* (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2011).

This innovative book demonstrates how the creation of the Mexican national park system was a dual project in conservation and social justice—and thus a revolutionary

evolution in nation-building. Wakild asks significant questions about how a less-developed country like Mexico became so successful in conservation when most others did not, about why parks became a political priority for the revolutionary government, and how these parks were different from the American model they appeared to emulate. She takes the reader deep into the three big issues that all the social sciences must confront—human economic productivity, distributional social justice, and social-ecological sustainability. She pairs the reshaping of the Mexican nation-state with the conscious desire to protect a mixed-use land use regime in protected areas. The thesis is provocative, the insights into state formation are valuable, and this book adds an important dimension to American park and forest history. Her work displays masterful and exemplary scholarship and, although densely written, it is absolutely superb.

F. K. WEYERHAEUSER FOREST HISTORY FELLOWSHIP

The F. K. Weyerhaeuser Forest History Fellowship is awarded annually to a student at the FHS university affiliate, Duke University, whose research is historical in nature and related to forestry, land use, or the environment. Criteria include overall significance and quality of presentation. The 2012 F. K. Weyerhaeuser Fellowship was awarded to **Kimberly R. Marion Suiseeya**.

A PhD candidate at the Nicholas School, Suiseeya submitted her research on “Institutions, cross-scale linkages, and justice: Exploring the human security implications of global forest regimes.” She will explore how conservation policies designed at the level of global governance respond to issues of equity and poverty and hence affect those communities dependent upon forest resources for their livelihoods in Southeast Asia. Her research brings together questions of justice, environmental sustainability, economic development, and institutional governance. Because these questions pertaining to human interactions with the natural environment operate at many levels of scale, ranging from global governance mechanisms to community participation, Suiseeya is especially interested in developing better social science methodologies for understanding complex causality.

Suiseeya’s research design is premised

upon comparative case studies from Laos and Indonesia; through the use of semi-structured interviews, community mapping, and participant observation, she plans to examine the scalar feedbacks in forest institutions as well as impacts of forest governance on forests and forest-dependent communities. Her research interest in the intersection of conservation and justice is becoming even more relevant in a period of global environment problems, particularly climate change.

ALFRED BELL TRAVEL GRANTS AND VISITORS

Alfred D. Bell Jr. travel grants are awarded to enable researchers to use the FHS library and archives. Recent Bell Fellows include:

Dr. Emily Brock, assistant professor of history at the University of South Carolina, returned to FHS to complete work on a book that examines the interplay of scientific ecology and management of forests in the American West. She had previously visited FHS while a graduate student in history at Princeton University and found that her outlook on the topic had changed considerably during the intervening years. She used the records of the Society of American Foresters and biographical files from the U.S. Forest Service collection to better understand the development of professional forestry.

Dr. Mason C. Carter, Professor Emeritus, School of Renewable Natural Resources at Louisiana State University, began work on a history of the impact of forestry on the South in the second half of the twentieth century. The FHS Library provided many of the landmark publications needed to begin such a project.

Dr. Donald Edward Davis, an independent scholar from Washington, D.C., is writing an environmental history of the American chestnut and used several collections at FHS to add to his extensive quantity of data and stories. He was particularly interested in expanding documentation of the chestnut in the northern areas of its range as well as the use of chestnut in the tanbark industry.

Matt Fockler, a PhD candidate in earth sciences at Montana State University, received a Bell Fellowship to conduct research in the Society's U.S. Forest Service Headquarters History Collection. Fockler is writing a historical geography of the national forest idea as manifested in Montana, focusing especially on the interconnections between national forest policy

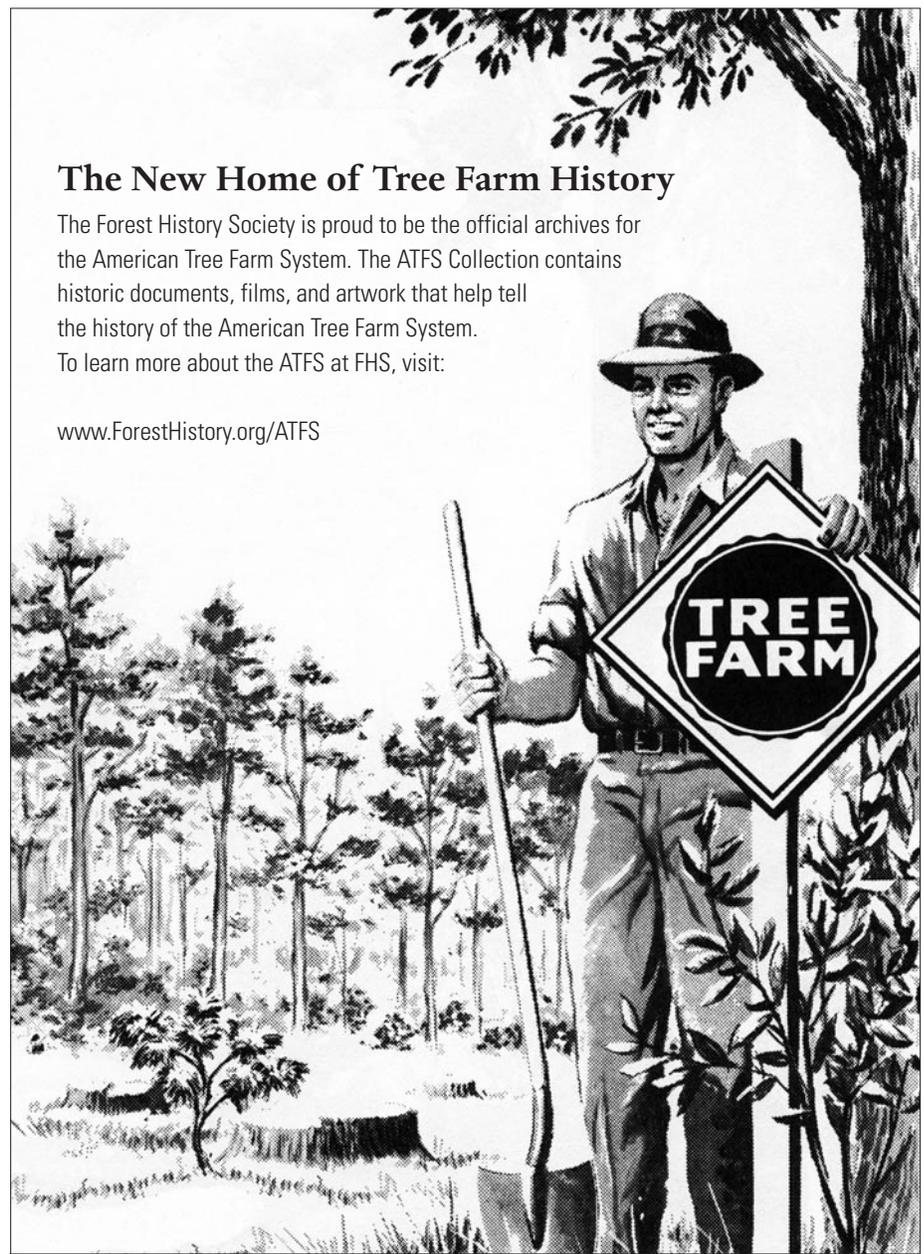
and the people being impacted by those policies. He is using the Lewis and Clark and the Flathead national forests as his case studies.

Dr. Max Grivno, a historian from the University of Southern Mississippi, used the American Pulpwood Association collection and forest and paper industry publications, as well as oral history interviews, to obtain a fuller picture of conditions that led to the formation of unions and a series of strikes in the Deep South during the 1970s and 80s.

Liesel Hall, a PhD candidate in environmental sociology at Drexel University in Philadelphia, visited FHS to work on her dissertation titled: "Cultural Values, Political

Actions, and Ecological Outcomes: The Condition of U.S. National Forests from over a Hundred Years of Policy and Social Change." She was able to obtain U.S. Forest Service appropriations information for several years that were unavailable elsewhere.

Donna Sinclair, a PhD student at Portland State University, utilizes oral history as a tool for understanding the role women and minorities have played in the U.S. Forest Service. In addition to conducting her own interviews, she used existing interviews in the FHS collection. She also examined collections related to workforce diversity, recruitment, and training as well as biographical files. □



The New Home of Tree Farm History

The Forest History Society is proud to be the official archives for the American Tree Farm System. The ATFS Collection contains historic documents, films, and artwork that help tell the history of the American Tree Farm System.

To learn more about the ATFS at FHS, visit:

www.ForestHistory.org/ATFS

THE FOREST HISTORY SOCIETY www.ForestHistory.org/ATFS

“The Big Blowup” website is now online!

U.S. Forest Service History



On August 20–21, 1910, fire consumed 3 million acres, several towns, and at least 85 lives in the Northern Rockies. No event in U.S. Forest Service history has had a greater impact on the agency than the “The Big Blowup” of 1910. Heroes were made, legends were born, and the agency was changed forever. The Forest History Society has established a website about the centennial of the 1910 fires dedicated to preserving and presenting the history of that seminal event. Many documents being made available are hard-to-find articles written by the men who lived through the fire and were deeply affected by it. Men like Ed Pulaski, Bill Greeley, “Gus” Silcox, and E. T. Allen.



A sampling of 1910 Fires images from the FHS Photo Collection.

Drawing from the extensive holdings of the Forest History Society, the FHS staff has created a new section of our U.S. Forest Service History web pages about the history and legacy of the 1910 Fires. There you will find an overview essay of the event and numerous items such as:

- a first-hand account of the ordeal by Ed Pulaski and others
- historical documents, photographs, and maps
- PDFs of books and essays that place the fires in historical context
- reflections on the fire’s impact on land management and fire policy
- an original essay by fire historian Stephen Pyne
- a bibliography of books and articles about the fires

You can find all of our outstanding resources on the Big Blowup at www.ForestHistory.org/1910fires.htm.

