

In Their Own Words: Letters to the AFC

To Bullock County AFC
Union Springs, Alabama:

We were fortunate enough to have the Alabama Forestry Commission come to our "Summer Reading" entertainment and teaching program. We wish to thank them for their investment in our children learning about fire safety. We had 15 adults and 45 children.

Francis Brown
Director, Bullock County Library
Union Springs, Alabama

To Greg Pate
Montgomery, Alabama:

I want to share appreciation on behalf of the Clay County Forestry Planning Committee for the assistance that Nick Jordan and Josh Benefield have given the Committee with our Forest Resources Auto Tour plus other events and programs. They had a major role in coordinating the Arbor Day Seedling Giveaway event. They also assisted with our self-directed Forest Resources Auto Tour when they GPSed locations for the signs, then obtained and installed the signs.

We appreciate the Alabama Forestry commission's shared interest in continued forest management and improving/enhancing opportunities for landowners and local residents.

Sincerely,
Norphlet McCollum
President, Clay County Forestry Planning
Committee
Lineville, Alabama

To Greg Pate
Montgomery, Alabama:

I wanted to send you a quick note to thank you for allowing your employees to help us on our recent Commodity Tour in North Alabama. We could not have had a successful trip without their help. As you know they were instrumental in rounding up four trailers to move people around Mr. Jack McQuinn's property in Jackson County.

As it turns out, even though Jack had hosted tours with large busses before, our drivers did not feel they could safely

get the busses down the driveway to his property. So, without the trailers we would have had to make a mile walk to get to the beginning of the tour. Then, it started pouring rain and without the trailers we would have been stuck making a mile trek out of the woods, in the rain.

However, despite the weather, our people really enjoyed the tour and getting to see a portion of Jack's property. It's a beautiful place. If your travels take you through the Paint Rock Valley in Jackson County, I urge you to schedule a visit to see his place.

The AFC employees [listed] below went out of their way to help make our tour possible and enjoyable. I want to personally thank you for allowing their participation and thank them for their willingness to help out on the tour. They did a great job.

David Kelly, Tallapoosa County
Robert Ellington, Coosa County
Blake Kelley, Coosa County
James Yarbrough, Tallapoosa County
Jeff Keener, DeKalb County
Lynn Washington, Jackson County
I look forward to a strong partnership between the Alabama Forestry Commission and the Alabama Farmers Federation. If we can ever be of assistance, please don't hesitate to give me a call. Thanks again for all of your help.

Sincerely,
Rick Oates
Alabama Farmers Federation
Montgomery, Alabama

To Ken Leslie
Semmes, Alabama:

THANKS, THANKS, THANKS!!!

On behalf of the Mobile Police Department-community Services Section, we would like to "Thank You" for your participation in our 31st Annual National Night Out that was held at the Bel Air Mall.

You helped make this event a huge success with over 200 people attending. National Night Out (www.nationalnightout.org) is an annual event held on the first Tuesday of August, so please mark your calendar to assist next year, if possible.

Again, we are truly grateful and if there is anything the Mobile Police Department-Community Services Section can assist you with, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,
Officer Gary Owens
Chairperson, National Night Out
Mobile Police Department
Mobile, Alabama

To Brad Lang
Northport, Alabama:

Just a word of thanks for the excellent work of Brad Fite and Jim Junkin. Not only did they perform their work in an excellent manner, they were very courteous and helpful.

Our property has been in our family four or five generations and has never had any professional management. The land, other than row crops, was simply known as the woods. In the late 90s we began clear cutting and replanting. After about 15 years, we realized the land was slowing getting in the condition as before.

We contacted Jim and Brad through AFC. In the spring of 2014 they performed a controlled burn on approximately 30 acres of longleaf pines. It is amazing the amount of underbrush it destroyed. Now you can walk through the area with no problem.

Not only did Jim and Brad perform excellent and professional work in the field, they also provided my brother and me with a "Stewardship Management Plan" that will be beneficial to our families hopefully for the next four generations.

Thanks again to AFC and Jim and Brad.
Joe Leatherwood
Lewis Leatherwood
Northport, Alabama

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Letters to the AFC

(Continued from page 28)

To James Jeter
Northport, Alabama:

I just read the article in the summer edition of Alabama's TREASURED Forests magazine. Good article.

I just wanted to say thanks for carrying the torch to woodland landowners. These folks are the answer to the majority of resource concerns we have in Alabama including water quality and quantity. We have got to find more ways to engage our private landowners or we are destined to fail as conservationists.

Eric Spadgenske
State Coordinator,
Partners for Fish and Wildlife
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Daphne, Alabama

To Alabama Forestry Commission
(Baldwin County office),

Thank you so much for attending the 2014 Annual Safety Kids Workshop at the Home Depot. We all really appreciate everything your department does for our community. You are the BEST!! The kids really love to see Smokey too.

Chellee Burns, Kids Workshop Captain
& Angela Mullek, Project Specialist
The Home Depot
Foley, Alabama

To James Jeter
Northport, Alabama:

Just read your article in Alabama's TREASURED Forests on BMPs and it was excellent, as usual. You may have missed your calling – a writer.

Ed Cain
TREASURE Forest landowner,
Greene and Shelby counties

To Jake Brown
Grove Hill, Alabama:

I want to thank you for the excellent manner in which you prepared our timber management plan. You were excellent to work with and I appreciate the outcome so much. As we discussed, since we started on the plan, the co-owner and

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I have decided to attempt to divide the property so that each of us would have single ownership. We are in the process of working on that. When we reach a resolution, I will let you know what it is and will plan to sign for certification of my ownership at that time.

Thank you again for your help.

John P. ("Pat") Kelly
Clarke County

be helpful to you!
Thanks,

Ashley Smith
Alabama Forestry Association
Montgomery, Alabama

To Greg Pate
Montgomery, Alabama:

I had the opportunity to work alongside Steve McEachron and Chris Brewer at a private landowner's property last week. The experience was educational and enjoyable. Their interaction with the landowner was first class and she demonstrated trust and confidence in their recommendations. All the best,

Chris Erwin
American Forest Foundation
Wetumpka, Alabama

To Jim Jeter
Northport, Alabama:

Thank you for taking the time to travel and speak at our PLM course. As always, you did a great job making BMPs interesting and relevant to your audience. Technical difficulties with the Powerpoint couldn't even slow you down. Thanks again and please let me know if I can ever do anything for you.

Tyler Brannon
International Paper
Prattville, Alabama

To Greg Pate
Montgomery, Alabama:

I want to thank you and your organization for the assistance in planning the future use of my forest property. I especially want to thank Dan Green for his personal assistance in the comprehensive planning of my property. The management plan he provided will be of great use to me as I continue to develop my forest lands.

Again, I want to thank you and your department for the help.

Peter Wood
Mentone, Alabama

To Jim Jeter
Northport, Alabama:

Thanks so much for taking time out of your schedule on a Saturday to speak at the Alabama Loggers Council Annual Meeting in Prattville. You have certainly earned the respect of the guys – they listen to what you have to say and hopefully take action! Thanks for ALL of the many ways you Promote and Protect Forestry in Alabama, Jim! Let me know if I can ever