

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 2011.

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 2011 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 18th-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 emergence 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 premodern 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, the award went to **Paul Sutter** for "What Gullies Mean: Georgia's 'Little Grand Canyon' and Southern Environmental History," published in *The Journal of Southern History* (76.3: 579–616). This article is an excellent case study of how a local development reveals national trends. Sutter's analysis of the origins and meanings of Providence Cave illustrates that we must examine issues through a variety of lenses—in order to fully understand the problem of erosion, we cannot simply look at the land, or the ways in which locals worked the land, but we must also look to how we think about and take meaning from it. His article challenges simplistic explanations and presents a complicated, complex analysis of soil conservation in the state of Georgia specifically and the U.S. in general. Ultimately, his article is a model for asking big questions of seemingly localized issues. Interesting, insightful, excellently written and conceptualized, Sutter has been successful in expanding the value of environmental history as it has been applied to national parks and placing it within the deeper context of the American South.

CHARLES A. WEYERHAEUSER BOOK AWARD

The Charles A. Weyerhaeuser Award rewards superior scholarship in forest and conservation history. Awarded biennially prior to 2004, 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 2011 recipient is **Sara Gregg** for *Managing the Mountains: Land Use Planning, the New Deal, and the Creation of a Federal Landscape in Appalachia* (Yale University Press, 2010). The forests and parks that crown the Appalachian Mountains are the creation of the national government; they were established in the first half of the twentieth century for conservationist and recre-

ational purposes. What is more, this public landscape required the replacement of hill farmers with trees and tourists. What historians have not known, however, is how exactly this transformation occurred, how local actions affected the outcome, and whether the process unfolded similarly across regions.

Managing the Mountains deftly straddles this analytical divide with two regional case studies, "mediating," as the author explains it, between a "top-down" and often triumphal story of land reclamation and reforestation initiated by well-meaning federal conservationists and a "bottom-up" story of how resident autonomy was eroded by insensitive projects of government uplift and by increased capitalist pressures on the region's natural resources.

Gregg's two sites are the Blue Ridge Mountains of northwestern Virginia, an area that became the Shenandoah National Park during the New Deal, and the Green Mountains of Vermont, where much of the landscape also became enfolded within the national forest system. In Virginia, however, the existing inhabitants were written off as static, premodern relics, and therefore dispensable, whereas in Vermont there occurred a more democratic discussion of how the famed Yankee independence of the state's hill farms and towns might be preserved by accepting some, but not all, of the New Deal's offerings. Gregg's book is an extremely important contribution to conservation history. It breaks new interpretive ground, and analyzes a nationally significant process by means of two very gracefully written and engaging case studies.

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 2011 F. K. Weyerhaeuser Fellowship was awarded to **Yaron Miller**, **Matthew Rutledge**, and **Risha Druckman**.

Miller, a master's candidate at the Nicholas School, is examining "The Secondary Effects of Federal Historic Land

Preservation Strategies and their Implications for Land Trusts”; Druckman, a PhD candidate from Duke’s Department of History, is focusing on “Knowing the Wind and Which Way It Blows: A Genealogy of Wind-Knowledge Production in America (1600–2000)”; and, Rutledge, also a master’s degree candidate from the Nicholas School, submitted his project on “Oak Regeneration and the Restoration of Hardwood Forests: Utilization of Low Value Species and Restoration of the Historical Covertypes.”

ALFRED BELL TRAVEL GRANTS

Alfred D. Bell Jr. travel grants are awarded to enable researchers to use the FHS Library and Archives for relevant research. Recent Bell fellows include:

Dr. Max Grivno, a historian from the University of Southern Mississippi, is interested in labor issues of pulpwood cutters in the Deep South during the 1970s and 80s. He 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.

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 chestnut in the northern areas of its range as well as the use of chestnut in the tanbark industry.

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.

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.

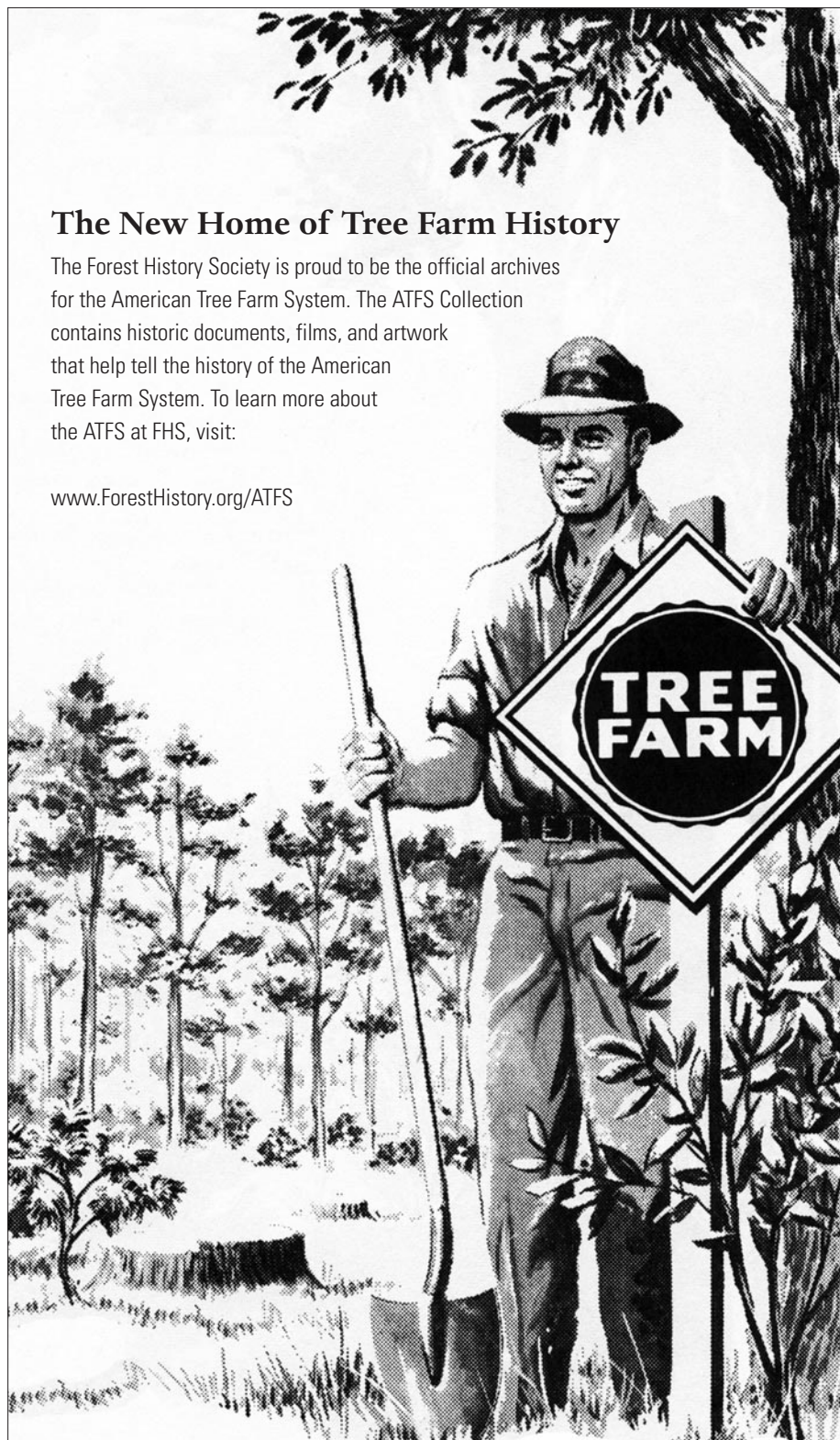
Liesel Hall, a PhD candidate in environmental sociology at Drexel University in Philadelphia, visited FHS to work on her dissertation: “Cultural Values, Political

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. □

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