



You Can't Script This Any Better

Sometimes there's a series of coincidences which are so remarkable that if someone told you what had just happened, you'd say they couldn't have scripted it any better.

In September, retired U.S. Forest Service employee Brian Payne contacted FHS historian Jamie Lewis about visiting the Society and donating books from his personal collection. A forester and economist, in 1968, the Forest Service had sent Brian to Tuskegee Institute to establish a pre-forestry program to help African Americans become professional foresters.

Jasmine Brown is a graduate student at Oregon State University, whose master's thesis is on diversity and inclusion in natural resources. She first learned of FHS after meeting Steve Anderson at the recent Society of American Foresters convention, after which she contacted FHS librarian Jason Howard about her topic. While visiting nearby NC State University about its doctoral program, Executive Director of Forest Assets, Sam Cooke, urged her to come see our materials on African Americans and professional foresters. She decided to stay an extra day and pay FHS a visit.

The next day morning found Jasmine at FHS talking with Jamie about [Paul Logan](#), who's believed to be the Forest Service's first African American forester, when Brian and his wife Almuth arrived. Logan, whose

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Kerri Dean is in the
Christmas Spirit

Lynn W. Day Education
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From the Blog

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great gifts anytime of
year and for any
occasion.**



**We've slashed our prices
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parents had worked at Tuskegee, had to "pass" as white in order to join the Forest Service in 1927. Although Brian had known "Uncle Paul" his entire life (Brian's father and Paul were working together when Brian was born), the Payne family didn't know Paul was black, or that he was born and raised at Tuskegee, until Brian read Jamie's book, [*The Forest Service and the Greatest Good.*](#)

Jasmine not only knew about Paul Logan from her research, but also knew of Brian's work and role in history. Although she was glad to meet Jamie because of his work on minorities in forestry, she was excited to meet Brian, who not only had made history at Tuskegee but in 1971 had published a landmark article about minorities and professional forestry. For the next couple of hours, Jasmine, Jamie, Brian, and Almuth talked about Tuskegee, Paul Logan, minorities and professional forestry, and much, much more.

No, you couldn't have scripted it any better.



Almuth Payne, Brian Payne, Jamie Lewis, and Jasmine Brown.

FHS President Meets, Greets, and Treats at SAF

FHS president Steve Anderson made the most of his time at the Society of American Foresters' national convention in Louisville. He met with SAF leadership, university dean's from across the nation, the Intertribal Timber Council, the SAF Philosophy and History Working Group, the International Society of Tropical Foresters, and many FHS members. He had numerous discussions with groups and individuals about housing their collections of records, and he

FHS and ASEH/FHS Joint* Members

Cathryn Abernathy
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Give Thanks!

As 2019 comes to a close, we're reflecting on the many reasons we're grateful for all of you and our work to collect and preserve forest and conservation history. Please help us keep the work going with your membership gift before the end of calendar year. Join or support [online](#) today.

ATTENTION AUTHORS!

Did you recently publish a book? Do you have one coming out soon? If so, please tell your publisher to send us **TWO** review copies: one for our magazine *Forest History Today* and the other for the journal *Environmental History*. Have them sent to:
Eben Lehman
Forest History Society 2925
Academy Road Durham,
NC 27705

All books are entered into our [bibliographic database](#), which is used by scholars

welcomed new members who joined during the convention.

around the world to find the latest publications in environmental history.

In a special offering, Anderson provided FHS books and films from the FHS exhibit to the winner and runner-up of the Quiz Bowl, a nationwide competition of over 30 schools of forestry whose teams of four students answer questions from ecology, forest management, economics, policy, and history. This year, while Michigan Tech University outlasted Paul Smith College in the final, both teams left happy.



Students from Michigan Tech University and Paul Smith's College were awarded free FHS books and films for their efforts in the Quiz Bowl.

Thanks to a Bell Grant, Kerri Dean Is Already in the Christmas (tree) Spirit



Kerri Dean is a PhD candidate in American History, with minor fields of Environmental History and Museum Studies, at Claremont Graduate University in California. Her dissertation will examine how the changing values attached to the Christmas tree in the United States has reflected shifts in American culture and society. She looked at documents from collections of the National Christmas Tree Association, the North Carolina Christmas Tree Association, and the Lunenburg County Christmas Tree Producers' Association, located in Nova Scotia, along with materials in the [U.S. Forest Service History Reference Collection](#), and various books and journals.

She is a student of Char Miller, an FHS Fellow and Emeritus board member, and author of FHS publication [Ground Work: Conservation in American Culture](#).

Lynn W. Day Education Center Enjoys Banner Month

Our thanks to all who attended, presented, and aided in the Alexander von Humbolt Colloquium commemorating Alexander's 250th birthday! More than forty people attended, which brought together five Humboldt scholars for a two-day event in our Lynn W. Day Education Center! A special thanks to former FHS board member Dan Richter for serving as both program and local arrangements chair. You can watch the entire--unedited--event on [our YouTube channel](#). This event was also our inaugural live streaming event. Look for more live events in the future.



Dan Richter moderated a panel discussion on the first day. From left to right: Dan Richter, Stephen Jackson, Stephen Bell, Elizabeth Millan, Laura Walls, and Nicolaas Rupke. Current board member Matthew Booker served as moderator on the second day.

Triangle and Piedmont Chapters of the Society of American Foresters came for a tour and a showing of [*America's First Forest*](#).



Duke Forest staff held their annual public meeting to discuss its work on the Duke Experimental Forest. More than one hundred friends of Duke Forest filled the Lynn W. Day Education Center. FHS staff provided a tour to thirty attendees before the gathering began.



Duke Forest director Sara Childs updates the public about ongoing and upcoming projects and research.

Former FHS board member Richard Tucker and his nephew David Tucker came for a tour while Richard was visiting family in the area. Richard had last visited just after the foundation had been poured.



From the Blog

An early scene in the November 17 episode of *Madam Secretary* takes place in a meeting room in the West Wing of the White House. What I saw hanging at one end of the room caused me to exclaim, "That can't be it! Are you kidding me?!?" Upon closer examination, I shouted, "I was right! Above the fireplace! That's ..."
Read more at "["Madam Secretary' and the Gifford Pinchot Connection."](#)

Turkey is the preferred main course for the American Thanksgiving meal. Enjoy these two tryptophan-free turkey-related blog classics: "[How Turkeys Changed Forest History](#)" and "[The Year Turkeys Fought Forest Fires.](#)"

