A Year to be Thankful!

We are grateful that 2016 has been a year of new opportunities, positive accomplishments, and new members and supporters from across North America. As 2017 approaches, we look forward to continuing important work, while we watch carefully to see how national and international developments affect our work and mission. One thing that will not change in 2017 is our resolve to advance our mission of caring for and conserving forests through research, education, professional practice, and advocacy.

We owe you, our members and supporters, an enormous thank you for all you do for the benefit of forests and forest communities, and for your continued support.

From all of us at the Forest Stewards Guild, We wish you all the best for 2017!
As we reach the shortest days of the year, the long nights offer a chance to reflect on where we have been in the last 12 months, and where we hope to go in the months ahead. It is a time to consider our successes, learn from mistakes, and renew our energy and enthusiasm for continued progress in the new year.

For those committed to long term forest stewardship, successful management and conservation of our forest resources requires these same reflections on a regular basis. A willingness to engage in honest assessments while maintaining a commitment to constant improvement are hallmarks of adaptive stewardship. This same willingness is also embedded in the DNA of the Forest Stewards Guild. A combination of pragmatism and idealism enables the Guild to be both nimble and efficient, casting an impact far and wide. The Forest Stewards Guild Model Forest, Linwood brings a wealth of experience and history to our work. He is already strengthening the forest for the birds and explore new ways to implement silviculture with birds in mind.

1. Northeast

The Forest Stewards Guild was hard at work in the Northeast in 2016. We held Women and Our Woods workshops to empower women woodland owners to steward their land. We co-led Foresters for the Birds workshops to help foresters, loggers, land trusts, and landowners “see the forest for the birds” and explore new ways to implement silviculture with birds in mind. Through the North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange, we helped spark field-based conversation about the role of fire in oak ecosystems in our region. We also helped host a national gathering of fire scientists and managers in New Jersey’s Pine Barrens. The Guild facilitated the Rhode Island Woodland Partnership’s strategic planning process to advance a culture of forest stewardship in Rhode Island.

All of this work and more was made possible through the support of foundations, individuals, and partners in forest stewardship across the Northeast. This heavily forested region is dominated by forested communities in which people care for the forest by caring for the places we call “home.” Together, through collaborative partnerships, the Forest Stewards Guild and friends are safeguarding our forests. We look forward to continuing this important work in the year ahead.

2. Pacific West

In September, Guild members played an active role in the Redwood Science Symposium that was held in Eureka, California. Initially developed by a team that included longtime Guild member Yana Valakovich of University of California Extension, the event brought together over 300 foresters and conservationists from around the country to share science and policy practices related to redwoods forest management. The Guild and our members helped sponsor the event with an opening reception.

In 2016, the Guild heartily welcomed Linwood Gill on staff as Pacific West Region Director. A founding member of the Guild and the manager of Parker Ranch, a Forest Steward Guild Model Forest, Linwood brings a wealth of experience and history to the organization. His passion for sustainable forestry and his deep knowledge of California’s redwood forests bring exciting growth opportunities for the Guild. He is already strengthening our relationship with the Bledsoe Research Forest and is working to foster deeper connections between the Guild and forest owners and managers of Northern California. Through his leadership, we look forward to a year of new projects and partnerships throughout the region.

A Message From Rick Morrill

As we reach the shortest days of the year, the long nights offer a chance to reflect on where we have been in the last 12 months, and where we hope to go in the months ahead. It is a time to consider our successes, learn from mistakes, and renew our energy and enthusiasm for continued progress in the new year. For those committed to long term forest stewardship, successful management and conservation of our forest resources requires these same reflections on a regular basis. A willingness to engage in honest assessments while maintaining a commitment to constant improvement are hallmarks of adaptive stewardship. This same willingness is also embedded in the DNA of the Forest Stewards Guild. A combination of pragmatism and idealism enables the Guild to be both nimble and efficient, casting an impact far and wide. The Forest Stewards Guild Model Forest, Linwood brings a wealth of experience and history to our work. He is already strengthening the forest for the birds and explore new ways to implement silviculture with birds in mind.

The Forest Stewards Guild has completed another outstanding year, driven by our principles, supported by our members, and focused on constantly improving our leadership in the forest management and conservation community nationwide. If you attended our national meeting in Duluth, or one of the many regional events throughout the year, you cannot help but feel the enthusiasm and momentum toward shared goals. If you read one of our many publications, you know the value of the confluence of science and ethics in research and education. It is the contagious hope for the future and commitment to a stewardship ethic embodied in this work that motivates all of us and makes the Guild so special.

2017 promises to be a busy year, as the Guild is poised to expand existing programs like the Model Forest Network, while exploring new opportunities to improve member engagement and services. We are also continuing to grow our organization, always seeking to bring new forest stewards into our circle. To that end, I invite all of our members, from students to professionals, to reach out to friends and colleagues and tell them why you are a member of the Guild, and encourage them to learn more about our organization and values.

If you are already a Guild member – thank you for all that you do. If you are a prospective member, I invite you to join our community of stewards in the new year.

Happy holidays to all.

Rick Morrill
Board Chair
As we reach the shortest days of the year, the long nights offer a chance to reflect on where we have been in the last 12 months, and where we hope to go in the months ahead. It is a time to consider our successes, learn from mistakes, and renew our energy and enthusiasm for continued progress in the new year.

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Lake States
In 2016, the Guild deepened its roots in the Lake States. In September, University of Wisconsin-Madison forestry and wildlife ecology students joined professional Guild members to explore sustainable land management practices in Wisconsin's Baraboo Hills – one of the Nature Conservancy's Last Great Places. Long-time Guild member and Baraboo Hills native Mike Mosman educated the group about the region through maps and notes from his graduate student work.

In October, Guild professional members joined Michigan Technological University students at the school’s Tech Trails Forest to discuss a variety of forestry issues while hiking through this newly-designated Forest Stewards Guild Model Forest.

We also strengthened our reputation of providing timely policy and research reports with the creation of a member’s position statement on changes to Wisconsin’s Managed Forest Law. We will continue to lead as an advocate on these and other ongoing forest policy issues in Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin.

Finally, 2016 marked the second year of the Guild’s new Wisconsin. We welcomed our newest full-time staff member, Esmé Cadiente, as Southwest Program Assistant. We also strengthened our reputation of providing timely policy and research reports with the creation of a member’s position statement on changes to Wisconsin’s Managed Forest Law. We will continue to lead as an advocate on these and other ongoing forest policy issues in Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin.

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Southwest
The Southwest team continued to work in rural forested communities and areas of frequent forest fires. Highlights from this year include the expansion of the Forest Stewards Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), a core Guild program for nearly two decades. In 2016, 46 youths, across six crews, worked in the Carson, Cibola, and Santa Fe National Forests. In addition to providing mentoring, job skills training, and college credits, the YCC Program helped further conservation projects in critical areas throughout northern New Mexico.

Community Forestry Coordinator, Matt Picarello, expanded our prescribed fire expertise by gaining first-hand experience working on wildfire assignment. Matt joined an interagency team assigned to manage Utah’s Mineral Fork fire over the course of two weeks.

Since 2013, the Guild has coordinated and led prescribed fire training exchanges and cooperative prescribed fires to further the development of fire adapted communities. This year was no exception and began with fuel reduction burning on private land in a high-risk community near Santa Fe. Later, with support from the Fire Learning Network and the New Mexico State Land Office, the Guild returned fire to over 520 acres of ponderosa pine and dry mixed conifer forest, an effort that will restore healthier forests.

Finally, the region benefited from the addition of our two hard-working summer interns, Owen Ludwig and Nicholas Olson and we welcomed our newest full-time staff member, Esmé Cadiente, as Southwest Program Assistant.

Southeast
Activity is growing for the Guild in the Southeast. In May 2016, the Forest Stewards Guild produced a report on ecological forestry practices for bottomland hardwood forests of the southeastern U.S., which launched us into engagement in regional initiatives on this important topic. As discussions grow about sustainability and the ecological management of bottomland forests, the Guild aims to be in the heart of it, advocating for decisions based in science and practical experience. We are grateful to the many contributors who shared their expertise.

In 2016, the Forest Stewards Guild was honored to present the Lifetime Achievement Award to Fred White, whose legacy to generations of forest stewards is immeasurable.

The 2016 National Meeting of the Forest Stewards Guild drew over 130 natural resource managers, researchers, and students together in Duluth, Minnesota for a singular event designed to empower practitioners with restoration tools rooted in forest science, conservation, and collaboration. The three-day program created an opportunity to learn and practice an evolving land ethic.

The keynote address by Aldo Leopold scholar, Curt Meine, set the stage for interweaving lessons from Leopold with the evolution of our understanding of ecosystem function and our responsibility as a “thinking community” to restore and sustain our forests. The full indoor program offered participants a suite of presentations on collaborative work in forest conservation and management, strategies for ecological forest management in a variety of forest types, and tools for restoration and community collaboration through the lens of sustaining healthy watersheds across a diversity of ownerships and management landscapes. Field trips on the second day provided an in-depth look at restoration work in exceptional forest landscapes. The Cloquet Forestry Center provided the perfect venue for the final synthesis workshop. A harbor cruise, softball game, canoe trip, and an evening gathering provided opportunities for attendees to network and connect.

Sharing Science, Experience and Practice
The Guild research program synthesizes and conducts scientific research that facilitates the practice of ecological forestry. Our work in 2016 provides good examples of linking science, experience, and practice. In March, the Guild and partners released a report on the economic and ecological effects of forest practices and harvesting constraints on Wisconsin’s forest resources and economy. This report paired the field experience of Guild members in the Lake States with research to produce a better understanding of the impacts of forest policy.

A key part of putting science into practice is engaging with scientists and land stewards through workshops, field trips, and conferences. Research Director, Zander Evans presented the Guild’s work at meetings from Washington, DC to Durango, Mexico and the Guild’s National Meeting in Duluth, Minnesota. Partnerships extend the positive impacts of our work and the Guild is deeply engaged with others, like the Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition and Fire Science Knowledge Exchanges, who share our passion. In 2017, work will continue on a range of research issues from management of post burn landscapes to building the concept of resilience into land management planning organization as a result of their lifetime contributions.

The Guild honored two of our founding members with Lifetime Achievement Awards at our meeting. Ross Morgan of Craftsbury Common, Vermont, and the late Fred White of Chapel Hill, North Carolina were recognized for their lifetime of personal and professional service in Putting the Forest First, and for teaching and inspiring others who care for people and the land. The Guild is a much stronger organization as a result of their contributions.

2016 YCC members proudly display certificates of completion.

National Meeting attendees put learning into action at the Cloquet Forestry Center.

The 2016 National Meeting of the Forest Stewards Guild
Put the Forest First
Annual Review 2016

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Providing essential support for our work

S

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support the Guild’s work. We extend our

sincere thanks to these and other friends who
became leaders in giving as members of the 2016
Stewards Circle:

Laura and John Addison, Santa Fe, NM
Catherine Bauer, Longwood, FL
Bill Bradley, New York, NY
Sam Brown, Parkman, ME
Bob Bryan, Harpswell, ME
Peter Bundy, Minneapolis, MN
Alan Calfee, Dossie, VT
John Clancy, Madison, WI
Andrew Clark, Portola Valley, CA
Fred Clark, Madison, WI
David and Gretchen Comdiniz, Baraboo, WI
Dartmouth College Woodlands, Milan, NH
Mike Debonis, Waterbury Ctr, VT
Paul Delong, Madison, WI
Mike Dunbeck, Stephens Point, WI
Dan Donahue, Ashford, CT
Amber Ellering, St. Paul, MN
Tom Enders, Bethany, CT
John Fenderson, Nashville, TN
Kathryn Fernholz, Minneapolis, MN
Jerry Franklin, Issaquah, WA
Jameson French, Kingston, NH
Kent Gilges, Gandandaigua, NY
Kathy Holian, Glorieta, NM
Eric Holdt, Sacramento, CA
Robert Hrubes, Emsaryville, CA
Dylan Jenkins, Williamsport, PA
Charles Koch, Jaffrey, NH
Nancy Langston, Houghton, MI
Steve Lindeman, Salvilva, VA
Jon Martin, Albuquerque, NM
Isabel McKay, Brooks, ME
Robert Meares, Emeryville, CA
Susan Moore, Raleigh, NC
Charles Moreno, Center Stafford, NH
Mary Sue and William Morrill Family Foundation, Lakeville, CT
Rick Morrill, Greensboro, VT
Restoration Forestry, Inc., Garberville, CA
Steve Buddell, Durango, CO
Kristin Salishbury, Albuquerque, NM
V. Alaric Sample, Washington, DC
Ken Smith, Sewance, TN
Mary Smiekeas, Silver Spring, MD
Kaarsten Turner Duby, Coosco, CO
Richard Valqura, Sun Prairie, WI

Mary Snieckus, Silver Spring, MD
Steve Ruddell, Durango, CO
Lakeville, CT
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Mary Smiekeas, Silver Spring, MD
Kaarsten Turner Duby, Coosco, CO
Richard Valqura, Sun Prairie, WI

Annual Review 2016

As of December 2, 2016

Stewards Circle
Providing essential support for our work

Organizational Sponsors

Thanks to the many partners who supported us in 2016

We want to take this opportunity to recognize and thank over 150 organizations and businesses who partnered with us or supported our work in 2016. Our many accomplishments this year would not have been possible without the help of these and other organizations who support our mission.

Aitkin County Land Department
All Tree Firewood
Algonkian College
Amp & Henry Fund Charitable Trust
Applied Ecological Services
Arad Land Trust
Association for Fire Ecology
Audubon Vermont
Badlands Chapter of the Namao Nation
Bairley Foundation
Baraboo Woodworks
Baxter State Park Authority
Beekeeper Fund
Blindind Foundation
Bluewater Acres Fire Department
Brace Bauer Consulting
Bureau of Indian Affairs - Northern Pueblos Agency
Bureau of Land Management - Taos Field Office
Burned Area Learning Network
Carolyn Foundation
Car's General Works
Carrion National Forest
Chippewa National Forest
Chite' Care Services
Gila National Forest
City of Madison, Wisconsin - Parks Division
City of Santa Fe Fire Department
Choptep Fire Protection Center
CM ArborCare
Compass Land Consultants
Conservation Insights, LLC
Cottonwood Gulch Foundation
David Conservation Foundation
Douglas Partners Inc
Ecological Connections
Ectose Consulting
Environmental Defense Fund
Emvra Forest Conservation Fund
ESK
Fire & Hops Gastropub
Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network
Fire Service Support
ForestLand Group
Forest Trust
Forest Winkel
Foresthaven
Foundation for Sustainable Forests
Foundation to Help Brooks of Julie Haiti Inc
GFR Forestry, Raleigh, NC
Granite Gear
Great Old Broads for Wilderness
Great Santa Fe Flood Coalition
Hidden Valley Nature Center
Horizon Foundation
HR Vign Small Products
Huron Mountains Club of Michigan
Insect Shield
Integrated Forest Management
John C. Beck Foundation
Joint Fire Science Partnership
Kennebec Woodland Partnership
Kekupwe Woods Cooperative
Lake States Fire Science Consortium
Maine Audubon Society
Maine Coast Heritage Trust
Maine Community Foundation
Maine Forest Service
Maine Invasive Species Network
Maine Natural Areas Program
Marathon County Wisconsin - Forestry Department
Macomomo Forestry
Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
McKinley County, New Mexico - Fire Department
Michigan Technological University
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Mt. Taylor Manufacturing
National Council on Air and Stream Improvement
New Mexico Forest Foundation
New Jersey Audubon
New Jersey Forest Fire Service
New Jersey State Forestry Services
New Mexico Association of Counties
New Mexico State Forestry
New Mexico State Land Office
New Mexico State Prescribed Fire Council
New Mexico South Conservation Corps Commission
Norcross Wildlife Foundation
North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange
North Carolina State University
North Coast Fire Protection Compact
Northern Arizona University
Northland Forest Products
Old Wood
Padilla Logging
Pinchot Institute for Conservation
Prometheus Fire Consulting
Prometheus PCES, LLC
QR, LLC
Rachel Wood Consulting
Rainforest Alliance
Ramah Navajo Chapter - Forestry
Rehabbed Forest Foundation, Inc.
Reindeer Construction
Rhode Island Foundations
Rhode Island Woodland Partnership
Rocky Mountain Ecology
Rural Villages for Conservation Coalition
Santa Clara Pueblo
Santa Fe County, Wildland Division
Santa Fe Fire District
Santa Fe National Forest
Santa Fe Brewing Company
Silver Dollar Racing and Shavings
Society of American Foresters, Minnesota Chapter
South-Central Minnesota BIDK
Southwest Fire Science Consortium
Spatial Informatics Group
St. Croix State Park
Syhuna Forest
Teton Ski Valley
Terra Firma Resource Foundation
Toupee Paule
The Conservation Fund
The Forestland Group
The Nature Conservancy - Colorado Chapter
The Nature Conservancy - Fire Learning Network
The Nature Conservancy - Michigan Chapter
The Nature Conservancy - Minnesota Chapter
The Nature Conservancy - New Mexico Chapter
The Nature Conservancy - Wisconsin Chapter
The Nature Conservancy - Maine Chapter
The Sapelo Foundation
The Watershed Research and Training Center
The Wildfire Society’s Forestry and Wildlife Working Group
Timberlake Ranches
Treat Mountain Forestry
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Seney National Wildlife Refuge
U.S. Forest Service - Northern Research Station
U.S. Forest Service - Pacific Northwest Research Station
U.S. Forest Service - Rocky Mountain Research Station
U.S. Forest Service - Southern Region
U.S. Forest Service - Southwestern Region
U.S. Forest Service - Southwestern Region
Collaborative Forest Restoration Program
U.S. Geological Survey
U.S. Geological Survey - Jemez Mountain Field Station
University of Arizona
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee - School of Forestry and Natural Resources
University of the South, Sewanee - Department of Sciences
University of New Mexico - Earth and Planetary Sciences
Economic Research
University of Minnesota, Bureau of Business and Economic Research
University of New Mexico - School of Forestry and Wildlife Ecology
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point
Valles Caldera National Preserve
Village of Angel Fire, New Mexico - Fire Department
Western Ecosystem Technology
Wildfire Network
Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - Forestry Division
Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies
Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation
Zuni Pueblo School
Stewards Circle
Providing essential support for our work

To the many partners who supported us in 2016

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Ken Smith, Sewanee, TN
Kristin Salisbury, Albuquerque, NM
Steve Ruddell, Durango, CO
Rick Morrill, Greensboro, VT
Lakeville, CT
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City of Santa Fe Fire Department
Chesapeak Forestry Center
CM ArborCare
Compass Land Consultants
Conservation Insights, LLC
Cottonwood Gulch Foundation
David Conservation Foundation
Default Partners Inc
Ecological Connections
Ecore Consulting
Environmental Defense Fund
Emmy Forest Conservation Fund
ESCI
Fire & Hops Gastropub
Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network
Fire Service Support
ForestLand Group
Forest Trust
Forest Winkel
ForestXena
Foundation for Sustainable Forests
Foundation to Help Tribes of Jalie Hali Inc
GIR Forestry, Raleigh, NC
Granite Gear
Great Old Broads for Wilderness
Great Santa Fe Fireweed Coalition
Hidden Valley Nature Center
Horizon Foundation
HR Vegil Small Products
Huron Mountain Club of Michigan
Insect Shield
Integrated Forest Management
John C. Beck Foundation
Joint Fire Science Program
Keresbro Woodland Partnership
Kehakum Woods Cooperative
Lake States Fire Science Consortium
Maine Audubon Society
Maine Coast Heritage Trust
Maine Community Foundation
Maine Forest Service
Maine Invasive Species Network
Maine Natural Areas Program
Marathon County Wisconsin - Forestry Department
Macomomo Forestry
Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
McKinley County, New Mexico - Fire Department
Michigan Technological University
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Mt. Tabor Manufacturing
National Council on Air and Stream Improvement
National Forest Foundation
New Jersey Audubon
New Jersey Forest Fire Service
New Jersey State Forestry Services
New Mexico Association of Counties
New Mexico Forest Service
New Mexico State Land Office
New Mexico State Prescribed Fire Council
New Mexico South Conservation Corps Commission
North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange
North Carolina State University
North Coast Forest Protection Compact
Northern Arizona University
Northland Forest Products
Old Wood
Padilla Logging
Pinchot Institute for Conservation
Prometheus Fire Consulting
Promised Fire Consulting
Promised PCSLL
QR, LLC
Rachel Wood Consulting
Rainforest Alliance
Ramah Navajo Chapter - Forestry
Redwood Forest Foundation, Inc.
Reindeo Construction
Rhode Island Foundations
Rhode Island Woodland Partnership
Rocky Mountain Ecology
Rural Villages for Conservation Coalition
Santa Clara Pueblo
Santa Fe County, Wildland Division
Santa Fe Fire Fire Society
Santa Fe National Forest
Santa Fe Brewing Company
Silver Dollar Racing and Shavings
Society of American Foresters, Minnesota Chapter
South-Central Missouri RBLD
Southwest Fire Science Consortium
Spatial Informatics Group
St. Croix State Park
Tahoe Forest
Taos Ski Valley
Terra Fuego Resource Foundation
Tontouque Pine
The Conservation Fund
The Forestland Group
The Nature Conservancy - Colorado Chapter
The Nature Conservancy - Fire Learning Network
The Nature Conservancy - Michigan Chapter
The Nature Conservancy - Minnesota Chapter
The Nature Conservancy - New Mexico Chapter
The Nature Conservancy - Wisconsin Chapter
The Nature Conservancy - Maine Chapter
The Sagado Foundation
The Watershed Research and Training Center
The Wildlife Society’s Forestry and Wildlife Working Group
Timberlake Ranches
Treat Mountain Forestry
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Sney National Wildlife Refuge
U.S. Forest Service - Northern Research Station
U.S. Forest Service - Pacific Northwest Research Station
U.S. Forest Service - Rocky Mountain Research Station
U.S. Forest Service - Southern Region
U.S. Forest Service - Southwestern Region
U.S. Forest Service - Southwestern Region
U.S. Forest Service - Fire Protection Program
U.S. Geological Survey
U.S. Geological Survey - Jemez Mountain Field Station
University of Arizona
University of Minnesota, Bureau of Business and Economic Research
University of New Mexico - Earth and Planetary Sciences
University of Wisconsin - Madison - School of Forestry & Wildlife Ecology
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point
Valles Caldera National Preserve
Village of Angel Fire, New Mexico - Fire Department
Washington Economics Technology
Wildfire Network
Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - Forestry Division
Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies
Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation
Zuni Pueblo School
A Year to be Thankful!

We are grateful that 2016 has been a year of new opportunities, positive accomplishments, and new members and supporters from across North America. As 2017 approaches, we look forward to continuing important work, while we watch carefully to see how national and international developments affect our work and mission. One thing that will not change in 2017 is our resolve to advance our mission of caring for and conserving forests through research, education, professional practice, and advocacy.

We owe you, our members and supporters, an enormous thank you for all you do for the benefit of forests and forest communities, and for your continued support.

From all of us at the Forest Stewards Guild, We wish you all the best for 2017!