

## **Upper Savannah Land Trust Board and Staff Biographies**

### **June 5, 2017**

#### **Douglas Bell**

Douglas Bell is a partner with McDonald Patrick Poston Hemphill & Roper, LLC. He is a 1995 graduate of the University of South Carolina with honors and a 1998 graduate of the University of South Carolina School of Law. As an attorney with more than eighteen years of experience in commercial and real estate transactions, nonprofit governance, land use, estate and trust planning and administration, his practice focus provides a complimentary background for his role as a board member.

#### **Rossie L. Corwon**

Rossie Corwon currently is in her second term as President of the Upper Savannah Land Trust Board and has served on the Board since 2014. She earned a Graduate Degree (Master's in Business Administration) from Texas A&M and also earned a Bachelor of Science with Honor in Agricultural Engineering from Clemson University. She is a SC Registered Professional Engineer. She is currently the City/County Engineer for Greenwood, SC but has also worked with the International Paper Company, Greenwood Commissioners of Public Works, Greenwood Mills, WRS, Inc., a Wal-Mart Development Company, and was the owner and operator of Stormwater Specialists, LLC. She currently resides in Greenwood with her husband Mike and has two sons and daughters-in-law, and 7 grandsons.

#### **Ken Driggers**

Ken Driggers is responsible for preparing the Upper Savannah Land Trust easement documents, baseline assessments and providing counsel as needed. He has 30 years experience in natural and historic resource conservation. He is a former associate of the World Wildlife Fund and Founder and Director of the Palmetto Conservation Foundation. He has Masters and Law Degrees from the University of South Carolina and a Bachelor of Arts from the College of Charleston. He is a member of the South Carolina Bar. He is the co-author of the S.C. Conservation Act of 1991 and drafted the model battlefield easement used by National Park Service. He was formerly on the Board of the National Wildlife Federation and is a fellow in New Urbanism with the University of Miami.

#### **Alvin Feltman**

Alvin R. Feltman committed his career to conservation and wise use of our natural resources and brings this same commitment to the Upper Savannah Land Trust. He is self-employed in a Forestry Consulting business known as Southern Woodland Associates, LLC where he assists landowners in a wide variety of Forestry services. He earned an Associates Degree in Forestry

from Horry-Georgetown Technical College and a Bachelor's Degree in Forest Resources from Mississippi State University. He has worked in numerous forest resources with Georgia-Pacific and the US Forest Service as project manager in Timber Management, Wildlife Management, Watershed Management, and Fire Management. He is a member of the Society of American Foresters, Association of Consulting Foresters, South Carolina Forestry Association, Quality Deer Management Association, and Newberry Landowners Association.

### **Bryan Green**

Bryan T. Green grew up in Milton, Florida where he first developed his love of the land by exploring his family's old farm. He went on to college at Mercer University, then medical school at the University of South Alabama where he graduated Alpha Omega Alpha. He did his internal medicine residency there and then a gastroenterology fellowship at Duke University. He began private practice gastroenterology in Greenwood, South Carolina where he fulfilled his life-long dream of owning his own forest land by purchasing a tract of land on the Saluda River. He has permanently protected this tract and several others he was fortunate enough to purchase by placing a conservation easement on them. He remains passionate about land conservation and the preservation of native fauna and flora.

### **Rick Green**

Rick Green works at Upper Savannah Council of Governments and has been involved with Upper Savannah Land Trust activities since the first meetings to discuss the idea. He is a graduate of Wofford College with a Bachelor's Degree in History and a graduate of Clemson University with a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning. He has been employed at Upper Savannah Council of Governments since 1994. A background in planning studies has enabled him to bring a unique perspective to the development of the land trust while also facilitating meetings and providing staff support. This support has evolved into the position of Secretary to the land trust Board of Directors. He has been able to watch the organization progress from an idea to a concrete organization planning for future growth.

### **Sands Moody (Sandy) Gresham**

Sandy is a retired educator and a National Teacher of the Year for Project Learning Tree. She has a lifelong love of the woods and family lands from early hunting, boating and camping with her parents, to later, meeting her husband, Chuck (retired professor of Forestry, Clemson) at South Carolina Conservation Camp in 1965. Sandy has served on the SC Agricultural Extension Service Board, the Georgetown County Extension Council, the Waccamaw Regional Planning Council 2020 Committee, the SC Department of Education Science Curriculum Committee and the Science Textbook Committee. She has served several terms on the SC Project Learning Tree Board. Currently, Sandy devotes her time to chairing the McCormick County Forestry Association, serving on the McCormick County Extension Council and the Upper Savannah Land Trust. Sandy enthusiastically promotes Project Learning Tree to educators and students in western South Carolina and North Carolina, and in eastern Georgia. In their free time, she and

Chuck enjoy entertaining at the “family cottage” on beautiful Lake Thurmond.

### **Patrick Eugene Griswold**

Patrick works as a Project Manager with Town and Country Construction of South Carolina and has been a board member of the USLT since 2014. Patrick was born in Phenix City, Alabama where he lived until completing his Bachelor of Science in Building Construction from Auburn University. In 1988, Patrick came to Greenwood South Carolina to start the construction of the Fuji Film, USA campus. While here, Patrick met his wife, Renee and has called the Greenwood area home since 1992. Even though construction can seem counter to the mission of a land trust, Patrick has come to appreciate the necessity of balance between the effect of new construction on the land and conservation of the lands that make the Upper Savannah area special. This balance comes through his work in the construction business and serving on the USLT Board.

### **Will Hodges**

Will Hodges has served on the Upper Savanna Land Trust board for three years. He is a resident of Laurens, SC where he resides with his wife. He graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Mechanization, a minor in Business as well as a Masters in Crop, Soil, and Environmental Science. He currently serves as President of the Laurens County Cattleman’s Association and is on the board for Laurens County Farm Bureau. His love of farming and land preservation comes as a great asset to the Upper Savannah Land Trust efforts to protect our farms and forest.

### **Lanny Miller**

Lanny Miller, along with his wife and two daughters, live in Edgefield County on their family’s property. Lanny feels blessed to have been able to manage their land, not only for timber but for wildlife as well. His love and concern for natural resources was instilled in him by his grandfather and is what drives him to assist the Upper Savannah Land Trust in their efforts to conserve land. He earned an Associate’s degree in Land Management from Horry-Georgetown Tech. He served 25 years on the S.C. Wildlife Commission. He has worked in a broad range of positions and companies including the U.S. Forest Service, the Soil Conservation Service and in many capacities in private industry. His current position is with Rivers Edge Forest Products as the Procurement Manager.

### **John R. Patrick**

John R. Patrick and his wife, Rebecca, are natives of Greenwood, SC and live in Greenwood with their son, Hunter. John is a graduate of Clemson University with a focus in Human Resource Management. He has over 13 years of experience in the wealth management industry and is a Financial Advisor with Countybank Investment Services offered through Raymond James

Financial. He previously worked as a Vice President for Park Sterling's Wealth Management Group where he obtained his Series 63, 65, and 7 Securities Licenses as well as his South Carolina L,A,& H Insurance license.

### **Andrew Robinson**

Andrew Robinson is a native of South Carolina. He has served on the USLT board since 2011. He served as Vice Chair of the Board from 2012-2013 and Chair from 2013 to 2014. He is currently serving as the Treasurer from 2015 to present. He is a 4<sup>th</sup> generation landowner of Pine Lane Farm located in McCormick, SC which is an active cattle and tree farm. He, his wife and daughter have lived on the farm for 18 years. His mission towards conservation is driven by his family's long standing enjoyment of their land and the hopes that it will be there for the same reasons for many generations to come. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business from Erskine College. He works as a Sr. Buyer/Planner in Procurement for a pharmaceutical company sourcing raw materials and packaging for a US and Mexico facility.

### **John William (Bill) Rogers, II**

John William (Bill) Rogers of Abbeville is the retired Director of Pharmacy Services at Self Regional Healthcare in Greenwood, SC. He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology and Chemistry from Guilford College. He also earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Pharmacy and Master of Health Services Administration from the Medical University of South Carolina. He is Past President of the MUSC College of Pharmacy Alumni Association and remains active in his field as an Adjunct Clinical Professor at the College of Pharmacy at Presbyterian College and the S.C. College of Pharmacy. Rogers is a long-standing civic volunteer both in community activities and the pharmacy profession in areas such as fund raising, historic preservation, participating in medical missions abroad, volunteering in the arts, and as a public speaker.

### **James Carl Sanders, Jr. (Jimmy)**

Jimmy Sanders & his wife of almost fifty years, have one child and one remarkable grandchild. Jimmy has been involved with the Upper Savannah Land Trust since its inception. He serves as chairman of the Upper Savannah Land Trust monitoring committee. He is a graduate of Berry College. He owns and operates tree farms in three South Carolina counties totaling 525 acres and one of these farms is protected by a conservation easement with Upper Savannah Land Trust. He is retired from the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service. Along with serving on the Upper Savannah Land Trust board, he also serves on numerous environmental organizations and committees. He was honored as 2014 South Carolina Tree Farmer of the Year.

### **Stanley Todd**

Stan Todd resides in Anderson SC and enjoys spending time on his farm in Greenwood SC with his wife and three sons. He is a 1989 graduate of Clemson University and is partner with

Commercial Air condition Service Inc. of Greenville. Stan and his family enjoy the outdoors and are avid sportsman with interest in long-term habitat conservation.

### **J. Bradford Thompson**

Brad Thompson is the founder and President of Thompson Forest Consultants, Inc. He is an advisor for landowners and facilitates the management of approximately 100,000 acres of woodlands in South Carolina and Georgia. He is a graduate of Clemson University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Resource Management. He is a member of numerous environmental and real estate organizations including the Association of Consulting Foresters of America, South Carolina Chapter, the Society of American Foresters- Enoree Chapter, the South Carolina Forestry Association, and the South Carolina Forestry Commission. Brad is a registered forester in South Carolina and Georgia and is a licensed real estate broker.

### **Hamp Warner**

Hamp Warner was born and raised in Greenwood, South Carolina. He currently serves as vice-president of the USLT board. His father was a cattle farmer and his mother was an educator. His parents acquired timber land as an investment strategy and it was on this land that he found his love for the outdoors. Among other outdoor activities he has always enjoyed hunting, and fishing. It is from these experiences growing up that encouraged him to acquire and managing land and timber. He believes that the conservation easement program is a way of insuring that the land will be here to enjoy by his kids as well as others.

### **Frank J. Wideman, III**

Frank Wideman is a native of Washington DC. He currently resides on a fifth generation family farm (built in 1825) near Bradley, South Carolina with his wife Lisa, six dogs, and two cats. He has two grown daughters, Sarah and Dessa. He presently serves on the board of the Upper Savannah Land Trust and is also active in the economic development of the Greenwood area serving as chair of the Greenwood Partnership Alliance. He graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Political Science Degree. He has served numerous organizations and committee's including the South Carolina Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. He is retired from the United States Army and currently serves as president of the Self Family Foundation.

### **Wallace Wood**

Wallace Wood and his wife Susan have been active members of the McCormick County, SC community for 38 years. They have two adult sons Aaron and Austin. He has served as Executive Director of the Upper Savannah Land Trust for almost six years and has served on the board of directors several times since the organization began in 2000. He earned Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Agricultural Education from Clemson University and served as a County

Extension Agent/Director with Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service for 32 years. Wallace was on the team that produced the first Master Tree Farmer series on S.C. ETV. He is a Certified Crop Advisor with the American Society of Agronomy. He continues to serve numerous agricultural and forestry organizations and is active in McCormick First Baptist Church. In 2011 he was named South Carolina Tree Farmer of the Year by the South Carolina Tree Farm Committee. In 2015 he was inducted into the Clemson University A. Frank Lever County Extension Agent Hall of Fame.