

List of Torreya Discussion Group Participants and Observers

Compiled by Connie Barlow
Updated April 24, 2004

ALEXANDER, BILL – Landscape and Forest Historian at the Biltmore Estate and Gardens in Asheville NC. Quite a few years ago, he independently arrived at the idea that "native range" for *Torreya taxifolia* might well be the southern Appalachians. Has been trying to elicit interest in having the seeds and squirrel-planted seedlings of the T. tax grove at the Biltmore harvested and used for the benefit of the species. Had conversations with Connie Barlow on this theme in 2000. baalexander@biltmore.com

BARNES, LEE – Landscape advisor in private practice in Waynesville NC (south side of Smokies). Got PhD on topic of cloning of *Torreya taxifolia*. Prominent in bioregional movement and environmental activism. Has been tossing around *Torreya* ideas with C. Barlow for two years. Familiar with classic literature on *Torreya*, including the 1875 "Pilgrimage to *Torreya*" by Asa Gray. lbarnes2@earthlink.net

BARLOW, CONNIE – science writer & instigator of this discussion. Got interested in the plight of *T. tax* after a visit to the Apalachicola while working on my 2001 book, "The Ghosts of Evolution: Nonsensical Fruit, Missing Partners, and Ecological Anachronisms" (Basic Books), which is a review of what has come from two decades of work following on Janzen and Martin 1982: "Neotropical Anachronisms: The Fruits the Gomphotheres Ate." Also advocated rewilding of *Torreya* to southern Appalachians in a 2002 issue of "Arnoldia" magazine. Correspondent for Wild Earth magazine, where I reviewed Hazel Delcourt's 2002 book, "Forests in Peril" in the Spring 2004 issue. Working with Wild Earth on having this *Torreya* discussion presented (possibly as pro and con) in Fall 2004 issue of Wild Earth, theme of corridors. cbtanager@aol.com

BROOKS, L. ANATHEA – Currently Assistant Director of the NASA Goddard Earth Science and Technology Center. Has MS in Conservation Biology (U Maryland) with thesis on endangered fungi. Has been interested in *Torreya taxifolia* since learning of it as an undergraduate at UC Berkeley. Has published on the interface of natural science, ethics, and policy. Broad interests in ecology, climate change, symbiosis, conservation and history. Plans to visit locations of Chinese *Torreya* species. Got the naturalist bug as a child—even worked at natural history museum as curatorial assistant all through high school. Sister of Leigh Brooks. abrooks@pop900.gsfc.nasa.gov (but will soon be moving abroad)

BROOKS, LEIGH – The Nature Conservancy, northern Florida. Works with the Conservancy's Apalachicola Bluffs and Ravines Preserve and *Torreya* State Park. Has observed mature, 2' diameter *torreya* planted in

Columbus, GA and seed-laden torreyas at Atlanta Botanical Garden. She and sister L. Anatheia Brooks visited Bill Alexander and thriving torreyas at Biltmore Estate. They have also met with Rob Nicholson at Smith College. Weekend hobby, along with Pam and Bill Anderson, is to explore torreyas's native range and GPS locations of live trees. Knows private landowners with trees on property. Also interested in Florida yew. leigh_brooks@tnc.org

BROWN, JOSH – Associate editor of "Wild Earth" magazine, which is official voice of the Wildlands Project. Very up-to-speed on latest in conservation biology, rewilding, deep ecology, and wilderness protection. Has worked with C. Barlow on several articles/book reviews in Wild Earth magazine. josh@wildlandsproject.org

DELCOURT, HAZEL – Prof Dept Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, U. Tenn Knoxville (ret.). Palynologist. Author of the book, "Forests in Peril: Tracking Deciduous Forests from Ice-Age Refuges into the Greenhouse World," which is a summary of her 30 years of work in this area, and which was what prompted Connie to start this discussion. Co-author with Paul Delcourt of 1977 paper, "Presettlement Magnolia-Beech Climax of the Gulf Coastal Plain: Quantitative Evidence from the Apalachicola River Bluffs," Ecology 58: 1085-93. Has written an outline of ideas and a preliminary draft for team discussion, "Is the Current Range of *Torreya taxifolia* Its True Native Range?" Summarized fossil evidence of *T. taxifolia*, from its generic roots in the middle Jurassic, through late Cretaceous evidence in North Carolina. hazeldelcourt@earthlink.net, hdelcourt@utk.edu

DETERMANN, RON (and Carol Helton Denhoff) – Conservancy and Conservation Director at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. In charge of the *Torreya taxifolia* and Florida yew plant propagation program there, including replanting seedlings back into "native" habitat. rdetermann@atlantabotanicalgarden.org cdenhoff@atlantabotanicalgarden.org

GORDON, DORIA – senior ecologist at the Nature Conservancy and Courtesy Professor of Botany at Univ Florida, Gainesville. dgordon@tnc.org

HERMANN, SHARON – Auburn University, lead of co-author (with Mark Schwartz) of several papers on *T. taxifolia*. hermasm@auburn.edu

JARZEN, DAVID – paleobotanist at museum at Univ Florida Gainesville. He suggested to C. Barlow that she read Hazel Delcourt's book, "Forests in Peril," which then stimulated this whole discussion. dmj@flmnh.ufl.edu

JOHNSON, JOHN – a radical environmental activist with Katuah Earth First! in Southern Appalachia. After a few years of activism "from the brain", john has fallen deeply in love with the greater Southern

Appalachian bioregion. John is Assistant Program Director and the wannabe Staff Naturalist at the Sequatchie Valley Institute at Moonshadow (www.svionline.org) where he lives on the side of the Cumberland Plateau at the mouth of Cartwright Gulf (aka Lane Cove on USGS "Daus" Quadrangle). In his desire to learn more about the ecology of Southern Appalachia, John has decided to rediscover science and go back to college and pursue a BS in Forestry with a minor in Botany at UT Knoxville. He will be relocating to Knoxville sometime in the latter half of '04, but will remain engaged in educational efforts at the Sequatchie Valley Institute and advocacy efforts with Katuah Earth First!. He doesn't capitalize his name because he doesn't believe in capitalism. John likes homebrew, anarchist social theory and wildflowers. He is a founder and on the Board of Directors of the Dogwood Alliance (www.dogwoodalliance.org), one of the South's leading forest protection organizations. He has been published in the Earth First! Journal, Wild Mountain Times and Earth Matters. Currently John is also a part-time laborer and has worked the last two summers as a research assistant with a Phd candidate at UNC Chapel Hill.

KEEL, BRIAN, G.

Doctoral candidate at Antioch New England Graduate School in Keene, N. H.

Research topic: plant migration driven by climate change and the need for assisted migration, with a specialization in orchids. For research, using *Habenaria repens* as a model for terrestrial orchid conservation. *Habenaria repens*, a semi-aquatic orchid, is found in the Atlantic and gulf coastal plains as far north as east central N. C. Coined the term "assisted migration." Presently working for the U. S. Forest Service on Green Mountain National Forest in Vermont. Principle duties are manager of the timber stand improvement and reforestation program, and the research and monitoring coordinator for the Forest. Member of the Society for Conservation Biology
BGKeel@aol.com

MACDOUGAL, JOHN - Missouri Botanical Garden. He hasn't yet responded to Connie's invitation to join this discussion, but in 2001 he did communicate by email to Connie, reporting on 2 T. tax on the grounds growing outdoors in Zone 8 and Zone 6a. John.MacDougal@mobot.org

MARTIN, PAUL - Pleistocene Ecologist, emeritus Univ. Arizona Tucson. Many contributions of deep-time and deep-history understanding of present-day ecologies. Publicly known as the main proponent of "overkill hypothesis" for "extinction of the massive" that occurred in N.A. 13,000 years ago and in many other places in world whenever humans first arrive with technologies that can kill at a distance. Has mentored many (including Connie Barlow) in this area. Has also proposed in Wild Earth magazine "bringing back" elephants into the arid western states (for ecological control of shrub invasion in grasslands and for evolutionary purposes), and several decades before that proposed doing same with camels (Camelidae family originated in

N.A.). Also written on the role of paleoIndian fire and the role of pre- and post-Columbian Indians in extirpations of local and regional game species. Retrospective book coming out this year. "Overkill"
pmartin@geo.arizona.edu

MORAN, ROBBIN - recommended to Connie to contact KIM TRIPP (ktripp@nybg.org), who is director of horticulture at NYBG and who has written a book on conifers. (Connie is doing this April 24.)

NICHOLSON, ROB - director of the Arboretum (Conservatory Manager) at Smith College. In 1989 he and staff collected 2622 cuttings from 166 trees at 14 sites throughout the native range of *T. tax.* Cuttings were rooted and young plants were potted for 2 years before being shipped to botanical gardens and other institutions worldwide for observation and research. 4000 additional cuttings were taken in 1997 from the original plant cuttings, representing 150 genotypes, and then were rooted and shipped to Atlanta Botanical Garden for propagation. For details, see Bibiana Garcia Bailo, Rob Nicholson, Ron Determann, and Stephen Sojkowski, "The ex situ conservation of stinking cedar," Public Garden, July 1998, pp. 9-11. RNICHOLS@email.smith.edu

RINKER, BRUCE - director of research at Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota Florida. Interested in everything ecological; introduced Connie to D. Jarzen. brinker@selby.org

SCHWARTZ, MARK - U.C. Davis. Lead or co-author (with Sharon Hermann) of a number of papers on *T. taxifolia*, focusing on research important for conservation. Has also had experience with the California species of *Torreya*. mwschwartz@ucdavis.edu

SEAMAN, GREG - NWFL Director of Science and Conservation Resources, The Nature Conservancy Northwest Florida Program. gseamon@tnc.org

SIMPKINS, STAN - USF&WS Endangered Species program, overseeing *T. taxifolia* conservation. Note: Determann suggested C. Barlow include him in the conversation; his reply is that he "wishes to mull it over with several other USF&WS biologists" before entering the conversation. Note: The last two emails Connie has sent him have been bounced back to her, so he is unaware of Rob Nicholson's email and Connie's 10 questions. Stan_Simpkins@fws.gov, Stan_Simpkins@fws.gov

SPITZER, PAUL - ornithologist, but an overall naturalist, who made spring pilgrimage from Apalachicola pocket refuge to the Smokies. Spitzer_Paul@hotmail.com

TRAVERSE, AL - retired palynologist, Penn State U. Lots of important papers. Paul Martin introduced C. Barlow to him several years ago, and they enjoyed an email correspondence. The Delcourts gave C. Barlow a copy of his 1982 paper, which she is reading now, "Response of World Vegetation to Neogene Tectonic and Climatic Event,"

Alcheringa 6: 197–209. Connie hopes he will jump into the conversation. atraverse@earthlink.net

WHARTON, PETER – curator of Lam Asian Garden, University of British Columbia, Vancouver. Active in working to restore Pleistocene animal and plant components to southern China/northern Vietnam; experience in the importance of north–south mountain ranges to plant survival during climate change. peter.wharton@ubc.ca

WHITE, PETER – Director of the arboretum at Univ. North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Lots of relevant publications. Had initial phone discussion with C. Barlow on ecological anachronisms in 2000. All roads point to Peter White. Several in this discussion have recommended to Connie that she recruit Peter White to coordinate/lead whatever sort of multi-institution effort might emerge from this T. tax discussion. pswhite@unc.edu