

Bill Moody Award Presented Annually at Conference

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The TREASURE Forest Association and the TREASURE Forest Program both have a long history of individuals and groups who have dedicated many years and countless man-hours to the promotion of the multiple-use management concept.

The TREASURE Forest Program is based on the philosophy that private landowners should be encouraged to manage their forestlands and rewarded for their accomplishments. It works by utilizing a network of agency professionals and individuals to assist landowners in establishing and following forest management plans. These plans are designed to achieve the landowner's individual objectives and outline sound forest management practices and ethics that promote good stewardship of all forest natural resources.

The Bill Moody Award is given each year by the Alabama TREASURE Forest Association to honor those individuals and or groups who have made significant contributions to the advancement of the TREASURE Forest Program and the Alabama TREASURE Forest Association.

Beginning in 1996, the selection process for the Helene Mosley Memorial TREASURE Forest Award was changed so that the state of Alabama was divided into four TREASURE Forest regions. Each of the four regions selected their outstanding TREASURE Forest winner and each was a recipient of the Helene Mosley Memorial TREASURE Forest Award. The Bill Moody Award was introduced that year by the Alabama TREASURE Forest Landowners Association and was presented to the outstanding TREASURE Forest winner among the four regional winners selected that year. Dr. Emory Cunningham received the 1996 Bill Moody Award.

In 1997 The Alabama TREASURE Forest Association instituted a change in the Bill Moody Award criteria. The four regional outstanding TREASURE Forest winners would all be considered by the ATFA as state Helene Mosley winners and the Bill Moody Award would from then on be presented to an individual or group who had made significant and outstanding contributions to the TREASURE Forest Program and the ATFA. Each acknowledgment presented in

honor of the award has a special connection to ATFA and involves woods native to Alabama.

In 1997, W. Kelly Mosley was the first recipient of the Bill Moody Award as the individual who had made an outstanding and significant contribution to the TREASURE Forest Program and ATFA. His generosity has helped promote stewardship by recognizing and rewarding those who have set the highest example of what the TREASURE Forest philosophy aspires to convey. Because this was the first of the awards in this category, Dan and Romaleta James (TREASURE Forest #385) felt strongly that the award should carry with it a distinct and unique acknowledgment of service rendered. That year they provided a framed map of the state of Alabama. Wilson Beard of Denham Springs, Louisiana, handcrafted each individual county shape from a different species of wood. Dan James collected the 67 different species of wood from his TREASURE Forest in Bibb County and delivered them personally to Beard. Beard's son is Patrick Beard, who heads the Louisiana State Stewardship Program for



Dr. Emory Cunningham, right, with son David and the 1996 award.



This award was for Kelly Mosley, who was unable to travel to Huntsville in 1997 to accept it.



State Forester Timothy C. Boyce with the 1999 award.



Jerry Johnson, right, 1998 recipient, accepts the award from ATFA Executive Director James Malone.



Larkin Wade, center, was the 2000 recipient of the Bill Moody Award. Gary Fortenberry, left, and Timothy C. Boyce, right, made the presentation.

the Louisiana State Forestry Commission.

The 1998 Bill Moody Award recipient was Jerry Johnson, state staff forester, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Auburn, Alabama. His support of forest landowners and the ATFA combined with his involvement early in the development stages of the TREASURE Forest Program standards helped strengthen a foundation for good forest stewardship in Alabama. The acknowledgment that year was "Eagle in Flight." It was constructed of wood and has a 52-inch wing span. The craftsman was Jesse Kinnaird of Centreville, Alabama, and the eagle was produced in an intarsia (mosaic) pat-

tern method with American holly, Eastern redcedar, black walnut and American smoke tree (chittum wood). Jerry is a native of Centreville, Alabama, and Dan James provided the wood to Mr. Kinnaird.

The 1999 Bill Moody Award recipient was State Forester Timothy C. Boyce. Mr. Boyce's involvement in the development and implementation of the TREASURE Forest Program and his long-term commitment to supporting landowners and the ATFA, have been a cornerstone of the success of both. The acknowledgment that year was a 15-inch marquetry (inlaid design) plate with the TREASURE Forest logo. Produced by mar-

quetry master Ernie Ives of Ipswich, England, its picture was featured in the year 2000 International Wood Collectors Society membership brochure. Mr. Ives is a personal friend of Dan and Romaleta James and the plate was the result of their collaboration. It contained sycamore, ash, camphor, maclura, and olive.

The 2000 Bill Moody Award recipient was Larkin Wade, retired Extension forester for Auburn University. Larkin supported the TREASURE Forest Program as a member of the Alabama Forestry Planning Committee since its beginning. The acknowledgment that year was a wooden map of the state of Alabama produced by Ray Morgan of Decatur, Alabama. The map was made from birch and depicted all 67 counties.

Many acknowledge Bill Moody as the father of the TREASURE Forest Program. Mr. Moody started talking to the Forestry Commission about an idea he had to get landowners in Alabama to become better informed and better stewards of their land over a quarter century ago. He told this TREASURE Forest story to everybody who would listen. Bill Moody and the members of the Alabama Forestry Commission knew that forestry is complex and that landowners needed help in understanding how to manage Alabama's woodlands. Mr. Moody knew that there was a need for coordination among the state agencies that helped landowners. Member agencies and organizations of the Alabama Forestry Planning Committee have worked over the years with many in forest industry and the business community to cooperate in their tasks of serving and involving landowners. Countless numbers of people helped Bill Moody with the establishment of the TREASURE Forest Program and the ATFA, but it is his leadership that is recognized through the award.

The Bill Moody Award recipient for 2001 is still a deep, dark secret, and the acknowledgment for that award is being completed at the time of this publication. The award will be handed out at the Alabama Landowner and TREASURE Forest Conference to be held in Auburn on October 25-26. Information about the conference can be found on pages 30-31 of this issue. 🏆