

## **2020 Maine TREE Foundation Board of Directors**

### **Ethan Bessey, Hallowell**

Ethan is the President of E.D. Bessey & Son and Bessey Development in Hinckley, ME and is the fifth generation of the Bessey family to own timberland and operate the family business in Maine. With roots in the state dating to shortly after the Revolution, the Bessey family has a long history of sustainable forest management, honorable business practices and community involvement. In addition to the family business and timberland, Ethan is the president of E.D. Bessey Lumber Products, LLC, a custom hardwood flooring and lumber brokerage that he started while living in Austin, TX. He was raised in Waterville and received a B.A. in Sociology from the University of New Hampshire in 1998. He and his wife Emily started the 501(c) 3 Hearts for Ezra Foundation to raise awareness and fight for a cure for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) which took their 8 month old son Ezra in 2013. The foundation raises money for SMA research and hosts community awareness events in central Maine. Ethan lives in Hallowell with his wife and two daughters and two West Highland Terriers.

### **Barbara “Barrie” Brusila, Warren – Secretary**

Barrie received her B.S. in Forest Management and her M.S. in Forestry from the University of Maine. She has been a consulting forester since 1980, working independently as well as for several employers before becoming a co-owner of Mid-Maine Forestry in 1995 with her husband Mitch Kihn (also a forester.) Mid-Maine Forestry has been certified by the Forest Stewardship Council as a Certified Resource Manager since 1998. Their business involves providing a variety of services for non-industrial landowners including individuals, families, towns, and land trusts. The work includes woodlot reconnaissance, forest management plans, timber inventory, timber marking, stumpage sale administration and supervision, and timber stand improvement. She works in cooperation with state and federal agencies in administering timberland cost-share programs. Barrie is on the Advisory Committee for Baxter State Park's Scientific Forest Management Area. She is a founding member, and was a Board member, and chair of the Board of the Forest Stewards Guild. She was on the steering committee of the Maine Forest Biodiversity Project and is a past president of SWOAM. She was a District Supervisor with the Knox-Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District for 17 years.

### **William Cole, Sidney**

Willie and his brother, Don, founded Trees, Ltd. in 1986 as a conventional logging operation specializing in thinning. The company has grown from 2 employees to 5 full time and 2 part time and evolved from conventional to a fully mechanized operation. Trees, Ltd. has been the recipient of several awards, including CLP Logger of the Year, COFE Outstanding Contribution, MFPC Outstanding Loggers of Maine and FRA Regional Outstanding Logger. Willie and Lisa have been married for 29 years and have a daughter and 2 sons, the youngest of whom works full time with Trees, Ltd. Willie and Don share a passion for educating landowners, children and the general public on how a healthy forest and logging industry complement each other.

### **Elizabeth Cushman, Pownal**

Beth is a Maine Licensed Professional Forester, earning her degree at the University of Maine. She also holds an MS in Science Education and a CAS in Educational Leadership. She is the former Executive Director of the Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands, overseeing the Northeast Master Logger Certification Program and two Forest Steward Council certifications. Presently she is the VP of Internal Operations at Maine Custom Woodlands. Beth is also involved in the Forest Resources Association and is a member of Phi Delta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi, University of Maine Chapter, and the Society of American Foresters.

### **Charles Hall, Albion**

Charlie is a Licensed Professional Forester, earning his degree at the University of Maine with a concentration in timber utilization and pulp and paper. He is the Sr. Wood Procurement Manager at SAPPI Fine Paper. He lives in Albion, Maine with his wife Jenny and two sons.

### **Alexander R. Ingraham, Hampden, President**

Alex currently works for Pingree Associates Inc. of Bangor, Maine. He received his B.S. in Forest Management from the University of Maine, and his M.B.A. at the College of Charleston in South Carolina. At Pingree, Alex investigates new business opportunities while monitoring current ventures for Pingree's clients. Prior to joining Pingree Associates, Alex worked in Northern California as a consulting forester writing and implementing timber harvest plans. He is currently an intern forester in the State of Maine, and a member of the Society of American Foresters.

### **Keith Kanoti, Old Town**

In his current position as Forest Manager for the University of Maine, Keith oversees the management of all forestland owned by the University of Maine System and the University of Maine Foundation. Prior to this he spent 10 years with the Maine Forest Service as a district forester in Jonesboro and later as the Maine Forest Service water resources forester. He has been an active member of the Maine Sustainable Forestry Initiative state implementation committee for many years. Keith earned a BS in Forestry from the University of New Hampshire and an MS in Forestry from the University of Maine.

### **Kathryn (Katie) Manende, Alfred**

Katie works for the vegetation management division of Central Maine Power Company, and is the owner of her own forestry consulting business, Maine Woods Forestry. She received a BS in both Forestry and Wildlife Ecology, and a MF focused on forest certification from the University of Maine. Katie also holds licenses in the State of Maine as a forester, arborist, and pesticide applicator, in addition to being a certified forester. Katie is a member of a number of professional societies including the Maine Arborist Association, National Wild Turkey Federation, American Tree Farm System, Maine Tree Farm Committee, and has been heavily involved with the Society of American Foresters, holding numerous positions within the organization.

### **Marcia McKeague, East Millinocket – Past President**

Marcia is Vice President of Maine Woodlands Operations of Acadian Timber and President of Katahdin Forest Management LLC. She is responsible for the overall operation of the business which owns 300,000 acres and 100 leased properties in the Katahdin Region. She has a B.S. in Forestry from the University of Michigan and a Masters of Forestry from Michigan State. She has been a member of the Society of American Foresters since 1977 and a Maine Licensed Professional Forester since 1981, when she joined Great Northern Paper. She was formerly a Governor-appointed public member of the Land for Maine's Future Board from 2000-2007 and a Vice President of the Board of the Center for Woodlands Education.

### **Frederick H. Morton, Jr., Auburn – Treasurer**

Fred is Executive Vice President and Regional Manager of Farm Credit East, ACA, where he is responsible for all customer service and lending activities to Maine's farms, fishing and forestry businesses. He received a BS in Agricultural Economics from the University of Maine. Fred is active in the Sixth Street Congregational Church, the Maine Forest Products Council, Forest Society of Maine, a member of the University of Maine's Board of Agriculture and a panel member for Farms for Maine's Future program. Fred enjoys camping, hunting, fishing, sports and "the great Maine outdoors."

### **Dr. Brian E. Roth, Orono**

Brian is the Acting Director of the Cooperative Forestry Research Unit (CFRU) at the University of Maine. The CFRU connects Maine's forestry community with the University of Maine through stakeholder driven applied forest research. Brian is also a member of the Graduate Faculty at the University of Maine. He serves on the Maine Spruce Budworm Task Force as the research team leader. In his free time he serves on the board of the Maine Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation as Chair of their Science and Data Committee. Brian is also active with the Maine Chapter of the Society of American Foresters, serving on the executive committee as a member-at-large. Brian enjoys managing over 700 acres of woodlots in Windsor, Etna and Steuben that he co-owns with a several friends. He is a licensed Forester Intern with the State of Maine. Brian holds a PhD in Forest Production Ecology from the University of Florida, a MS in Forest Science from Oregon State University and a BSc. In Forest Management from the University of Alberta.