

From: Connie Barlow conniebarlow52@gmail.com
Subject: please invite Torreya Guardians rep to Mar 1 Torreya conference
Date: January 11, 2018 at 11:06 AM
To: jasons@ufl.edu
Cc: Clint Bancroft ansleyanesthesia@aol.com, Chris Larson LarsonStudio@cox.net, Lee R Barnes lbarnes2@earthlink.net, Jack jack_georgia@hotmail.com, Fred Bess boggardener@cox.net, Rob Nicholson rnichols@smith.edu

CB

Hi Jason -

You received seeds from us (2014 from Lee Barnes and 2015 from Jack Johnston) back when you were doing your gopher tortoise experiments. It is terrific that you seem to be the lead (in a roster of others) in initiating the Torreya Symposium to take place at Gregory House in Torreya State Park March 1-2. And congrats in getting E.O. Wilson to speak and lead a hike there!

I have polled **our three most experienced volunteer planters** in the northward assisted migration effort (Lee Barnes, Jack Johnston, and Fred Bess) and two have scheduling conflicts with leadership responsibilities in other botany gatherings. Those two are Lee Barnes (NC) and Fred Bess (OH). Jack Johnston has no interest in speaking at the conference, but he may be interested in attending if he has no scheduling conflicts last minute with his paying work.

Clint Bancroft (near Chattanooga TN) is a more recent volunteer planter — and with extraordinary success both on his 18 acres of forested land and with attempting to keep noteworthy genotypes going by way of taking and rooting cuttings. He has taken branchlet or basal sprout leader cuttings from the lone remaining giant along the Chattahoochee River in Columbus GA, the lone giant in Madison FL, and the amazing 90-year-old grove surrounded by multi-age offspring entirely self-propagated near Highlands NC (Clint and Jack collected 82 seeds from that grove autumn 2017). Clint has no interest in speaking at your event, but he would love to attend (he is retired now).

Via the cc group in this email, I am letting **Chris Larson** know about your conference. She is retired, too, and not only lives a bit west of Torreya State Park near Mossy Head FL, but she has long been nurturing horticulturally purchased seedlings there (with automated irrigation and periodic liming to keep them healthy). She and her husband manage their land-trust acreage for longleaf pine (via fire) and gopher tortoises. And in March 2015 she got Scout troop kids to plant seeds donated by Torreya Guardians (2014 seed harvest) there, but in cooler ravine areas of her land where irrigation is unnecessary. Seedlings have emerged!

Learn about these two Torreya Guardians via their Torreya webpages:

CLINT BANCROFT: <http://www.torreyaguardians.org/tn-ocoe.html>

CHRIS LARSON: <http://www.torreyaguardians.org/liming.html>

Q&A DISCUSSION SESSION SUGGESTION: My husband recently broke his hand, so we had to come to the Atlanta area where his insurance (Kaiser Permanente) has facilities. So we are now ensconced in the vacation home of a friend north of Atlanta (Big Canoe subdivision) and will be here till March 11, so that means **I can possibly attend**. If you wish to invite me too, I also would be fine with not speaking at the event. Rather, I would propose a casual, off-hours Q&A with Torreya Guardians. Because the key experience that Clint and I share (that probably everybody else at the event will lack) is our each having visited the 90 year old Torreya grove in Highlands NC. Prior to discussion I propose that we show the group the **28-minute video** I made of that grove:

[11: FL Torreya to Highlands NC: 90 years of de facto rewilding \(2015\)](#)

Go to our Videos page and scroll down to Episode 11 to access it: <http://www.torreyaguardians.org/video.html>

In turn, **my main question for the group is whether that grove is actually *T. taxifolia***. Trees in that grove have low branches that spread along the ground (not rooting) for 20 feet or more beyond the trunk. The only other place I have seen that is one specimen at the Biltmore, which is actually growing in the Asian section, not in the original grove planting. In my BILTMORE VIDEO (episode 18, timecode 38:30), I specifically show that strange branching pattern and then I paste in the bit of the HIGHLANDS video that shows the same branching. My experience at **Dawes Arboretum in Ohio** (which received seeds from us) is that the their Chinese specimen did leaf budburst in June, but our Florida specimen 10 feet away did leaf budburst in May (see Video episode 13b). My experience with California Torreya is that vegetative leaf forms seem to be far more variable within a species (depending on habitat) than between species. So there is lots to figure out!

In keeping current with what our group has done and is doing, the easiest way is to go to **our Projects Report page**, chronological: <http://www.torreyaguardians.org/comments.html>

There you will see your Symposium listed, as well as the "managed relocation" symposium in California Dec 4 — which I point out both for its terrific structure in speakers (you can watch their videos) and discussion breakout sessions and because Torreya expert **Mark Schwartz** was the first speaker and he reported on our work. Notice too that **Torreya made the editorial in the December 4 issue of Nature**. Keep scrolling down and you'll see me delivering a potted seedling in November to a staff member at **Morton Arboretum** in Chicago (I see that your symposium has a Morton speaker in it, so I already let my contact there know that). Keep scrolling and you'll see Clint Bancroft's contributions re the Madison Florida tree, and so on.

We're looking forward to hearing from you!

Best wishes for your symposium success.

