



Celebrating 100 years of New Hampshire's working forests

2009 Kendall Norcott Award Chip Kimball

Named for the organization's first executive director and established in 1989, the Kendall Norcott Award is the New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association's (NHTOA) most prestigious honor. The Kendall Norcott Award recognizes a member of the NHTOA for his or her exemplary service and dedication to the organization well beyond board or committee work.

Chip Kimball, long-time member of the NHTOA, has worked tirelessly on behalf of the organization in several capacities for more than a decade.

Thus it is fitting that Chip is the 2010 recipient of the Kendall Norcott Award.

Chip's roots run deep in New Hampshire. According to family legend, Chip said, "When the state line between New Hampshire and Massachusetts was decided in the 1730s, my family was on the New Hampshire side of the line." Chip graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a degree in civil engineering. Chip and his wife, Susan Bryant-Kimball (see article about the President's Award recipient), bought their first woodlot in 1984, and since then have continued to acquire property. Now they own about 1,200 contiguous acres in Sandwich and Tamworth.

The Kimball's share a passion for their land and its history. They are proud that they are careful stewards of their land. For nearly 15 years, they have actively managed their land, primarily by themselves, including inventorying the timber and conducting regular timber harvests.

"Conducting a timber cruise yourself is an excellent way to get to know your land," Chip said. "We enjoy learning about the history of the land."

Engaged in the management of their land, it was natural for Chip and Susan to become involved with the NHTOA, the statewide organization that represents all members of the forest products industry including landowners, foresters, loggers, truckers, and sawmills.

Chip served on the NHTOA board from 2000 to 2007. Among the many accomplishments during his tenure were establishing the Annual Fund as a stable source of income for the organization and launching the Granite State Woodland Institute, the NHTOA's tax-exempt 501(c)3 corporation, which supports the NHTOA's educational and training work. Since leaving the board, Chip has continued to be a member of the organization's Development Committee.

Since 2007, Chip has represented the NHTOA and the N.H. Farm Bureau on the N.H. Department of Environmental Services Wetlands Council. Currently, he is the president of the council.

"It's important work, and someone has to do it," he said.

By Ann Davis