



Southern Ohio Forest Farming Conference

August 27-29, 2021

United Plant Savers Botanical Sanctuary; Rutland, Ohio

INSTRUCTOR BIOS

Bob Beyfuss retired from Cornell University Cooperative Extension in 2009, where he served as an Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Leader and also as the NY State specialist for American Ginseng Production. Bob received his Bachelor's degree from Rutgers University in 1973, majoring in Botany and his Master's degree in Agriculture from Cornell in 1987. He is the author of "American Ginseng Production in NY State", "The Practical Guide to Growing Ginseng" "Ginseng Production in Woodlots" "The Economics of Woodland Ginseng Production" "Growing Gourmet Mushrooms from A to Z" and other publications regarding Ginseng, Mushrooms, Organic Gardening and Agroforestry. He continues to speak at conferences and teach mycology workshops for Cornell.

Dr. Eric Burkhardt is a botanist and ethnobotanist. He is Director of the Appalachian Botany and Ethnobotany Program at Shaver's Creek Environmental Center and Associate Teaching Professor in the Ecosystem Science and Management Department at Penn State. His research and outreach program in Pennsylvania is focused on developing sustainable wild stewardship and agroforestry production systems for specialty forest products including American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*), goldenseal (*Hydrastis canadensis*), and ramps (*Allium tricoccum*).

Maureen Burns is a lifelong lifestyle entrepreneur. She follows her heart and instinct in creating businesses that feed both the heart & soul. Herbal Sage Tea was started in 1992 after a tragic fire took her business to the ground. Inspired by the need to heal herself, the plants aided and guided her in creating something to share with others, hence the birth of Herbal Sage Tea Co. Currently Maureen spends her time creating organic blends for the tea company and helping folks at her new tea and spice shop located on Main Street in Pomeroy Ohio. She also hosts guests at Hawks Ridge Camp on Herbal Sage's 100 acre farm and at The BrickHouse Apothecary in Historic Pomeroy. To learn more about Maureen follow her on social media ([herbalsagetea](#)) or stop by her new shop in Pomeroy.

Chip Carroll has been involved with agroforestry and non-timber forest product work for the last 20 years. He began his career working with Rural Action's Sustainable Forestry Program where he worked closely with producers growing medicinal herbs in their woodlands and helped to form the Roots of Appalachia Growers Association. At Rural Action he was also active in State and National policy work related to American Ginseng regulations and regularly consulted with lawyers, judges and prosecutors on ginseng poaching cases. He has consulted as an expert witness on ginseng and other medicinal herb crop damage claims, providing the court with lost crop values. Chip was the Assistant Farm Manager for Frontier Natural Products' National Center for the Preservation of Medicinal Herbs where he helped manage research projects and oversaw their internship program.

He currently is the Sanctuary Steward for United Plant Savers 370-acre Botanical Sanctuary in Rutland, Ohio where he also oversees their Medicinal Plant Conservation Certificate Program. He also has been working for the United States Forest Service for the past 8-years monitoring wild ginseng populations on public lands. In



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2016, Chip was hired as the Manager of Ohio Operations for American Ginseng Pharm, an agroforestry enterprise with operations in New York and Ohio.

In addition to his continued work with United Plant Savers, Chip operates his own business, Woodlandwise Botanicals. Through this, he does on-site consulting and education for landowners interested in growing ginseng and other woodland medicinal herbs. Chip's focus has been to transition wild-harvested species into cultivation regimes in order to take pressure off of native populations of Appalachian medicinal herbs. This is being accomplished through consumer education, relationships with the natural products industry, and working directly with landowners that wish to grow these herbs.

Chris Chmiel and Michelle Gorman, own and operate Integration Acres, a diversified farm that first offered fresh pawpaws for sale back in 1996. Today it offers fresh and frozen pawpaw pulp, jarred pawpaw products and a variety of other forest-farmed, locally foraged crops like spicebush berries, ramps, and black walnuts. It remains one of the largest processors of pawpaws anywhere. Integration Acres also is a seasonal farmstead creamery that produces pasteurized and aged, raw milk goat cheeses. Integration Acres, along with the Albany Business & Community Development committee and the Albany Riding Club, organized the first pawpaw festival on Sunday, October 10, 1999. It rained for most of the day, but the event, then called the Albany Pawpaw Festival, was a success and a tradition was born. Many years later, the Ohio Pawpaw Festival has evolved into one of Ohio's premier events, offering attendees a solid weekend of all things pawpaw: the best pawpaw competition, pawpaw cook-off and pawpaw eating contest; a pawpaw beer garden & tasting session event; workshops & speakers; live music; an artisan & community marketplace; kids' activities; and, of course, plenty of pawpaw food. A full line-up of educational presentations and activities cover pawpaw growing, cooking, genetics, medical use and other topics related to sustainability. The festival is a special project of the Ohio's Hill Country Heritage Area Program, which "is dedicated to the identification, protection and appropriate development of the natural, cultural, recreational and economic resources that make up Appalachian Ohio to enhance the quality of life of the region's residents and to welcome visitors to experience the area's rich heritage, natural beauty and traditions."

Ed Daniels owns and operates Shady Grove Botanicals with his wife, Carole, in Randolph County, West Virginia. He has a life-long passion for hunting, fishing, and the great outdoors and has been growing ginseng for the past 27 years. He and his wife are licensed ginseng growers and dealers, licensed hemp growers, and also grow vegetables to sell to the local community members. He started a program called "Plant the Seed" in 2018, wherein he travels throughout WV doing forest farming presentations, showing children and adults his methods for growing ginseng, goldenseal, ramps, etc., and encouraging more people to grow these at-risk medicinal herbs.

This program now includes teaching children how to grow and raise their own vegetables and working with his county's school system to create school gardens and erect high tunnels to increase food securities within those



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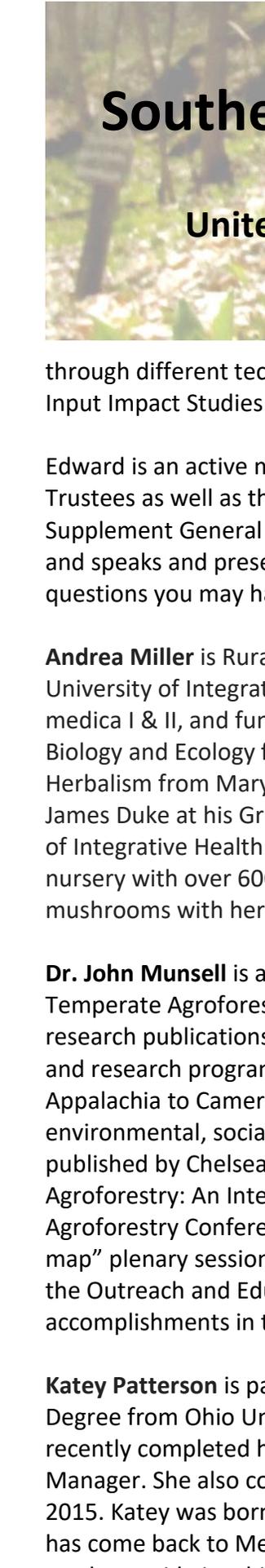
communities. To incorporate the two entities, he and his wife formed a non-profit corporation, called “Plant the Seed Project”. Ed is a West Virginia Master Naturalist and is currently working on his West Virginia Master Gardener’s certification. He has been recognized by the West Virginia Humanities Council as a Master Apprentice on agroforestry and forest farming, as well as being highlighted at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, DC.

Rick Felumlee along with his wife and partner Jan, own and operate Mayapple Farms, a small diversified forest farm in Muskingum County. They produce forest crops like ramps, ginseng and other woodland native plants, a variety of mushrooms and conventional produce crops like berries, garlic and chili peppers. They are life-long residents of the area and are committed to improving the local food system through sustainable, organic agriculture.

Tanner Filyaw is Rural Action’s Sustainable Forestry Program Director. Tanner graduated from Ohio University in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Geography, and a minor specializing in Environmental and Plant Biology. From 2005 to 2008 he worked as an AmeriCorps VISTA with Rural Action’s Sustainable Forestry Program conducting landowner education and outreach around sustainable forestry, land stewardship, and the production of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP's). In 2008 he accepted a staff position as Rural Action’s NTFP Specialist, and continues to act in that capacity. He regularly conducts workshops, presentations, and other educational programs for Ohio landowners to help them develop sustainable income strategies from forested lands. In 2017 Tanner earned a Master of Science in Environmental Studies from Ohio University’s Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs for his research examining mycorrhizal fungi in wild-simulated ginseng roots, and the effect of mycorrhizal colonization on root ginsenoside concentrations. In his spare time Tanner experiments with producing forest-grown mushrooms, maple syrup, American ginseng, and a variety of other edible and medicinal forest plants on his property.

Ed Fletcher has been in the botanical business and made his livelihood working with plants for all of his adult life. He learned about plants from the roots up, propagating and growing native American wildflowers in his family’s 4th generation ornamental nursery business, Gardens of The Blue Ridge. He joined Wilcox Natural Products as Cultivation Manager he developed and managed the cultivation program overseeing nearly 4,000 hectares in 8 different countries of medicinal species crops. He continued this work as the Chief Operating Officer of Strategic Sourcing, Inc’s Botanical Division for 15 years before joining Herbal Ingenuity where he established and developed the Quality & Sustainability Department as a founding member of Herbal Ingenuity.

The part of his work he enjoys the most is working with farmers, growers and suppliers around the world to educate and assist them in producing their best possible crop. He addresses all aspects of the process from propagation, cultivation, harvesting and post-harvest handling techniques for the chosen crop to achieve this. He has conducted research on different crops to improve their yields, marker constituents and overall quality



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through different techniques including Regulated Irrigation Deficit, Light Percentage Variations and Nutritional Input Impact Studies.

Edward is an active member of the American Herbal Products Associations (AHPA) and serves on the Board of Trustees as well as the current Chair of the Botanical Raw Materials Committee. He is a member of the Dietary Supplement General Chapters Expert Committee of the United States Pharmacopeia, other advisory panels and speaks and presents at numerous Industry gatherings. He is always happy to discuss any botanical questions you may have.

Andrea Miller is Rural Action's Sustainable Forestry Program Manager and a Teaching Assistant at Maryland University of Integrative Health. At MUIH, Andrea TA's safety of botanical medicine, herbal pharmacy, materia medica I & II, and fundamentals of herbal medicine. Andrea received a bachelors of science in Conservation Biology and Ecology from Bowling Green State University in 2013 and a masters of science in Therapeutic Herbalism from Maryland University of Integrative Health in 2016. Andrea has worked for ethnobotanist Dr. James Duke at his Green Farmacy Garden in Fulton, MD and managed the herb garden at Maryland University of Integrative Health. Before joining Rural Action, Andrea worked at Companion Plants, a medicinal plant nursery with over 600 species and varieties of herbs. She enjoys hiking, identifying plants and looking for mushrooms with her dog, Jig and snuggling with her cat, Kiwi.

Dr. John Munsell is an Associate Professor at Virginia Tech University, Past-President of the Association for Temperate Agroforestry, and Associate Editor for Agroforestry Systems. He has authored more than 40 research publications and raised over 3 million USD to support agroforestry and sustainable forestry outreach and research programs. John teaches agroforestry at Virginia Tech, and has worked with communities from Appalachia to Cameroon to study agroforestry and sustainable forestry implementation and associated environmental, social, and economic impacts. He is co-author of The Community Food Forest Handbook published by Chelsea Green and a chapter on forest farming in the forthcoming textbook North American Agroforestry: An Integrated Science and Practice, 3rd ed. In 2017, John chaired the 15th North American Agroforestry Conference in Blacksburg and recently represented North America during the concluding "road map" plenary session at the 4th World Congress on Agroforestry in Montpellier, France. In 2019, John received the Outreach and Education Award from the Association for Temperate Agroforestry for extraordinary accomplishments in the field of Agroforestry engagement.

Katey Patterson is passionate about plant conservation and environmental education. She has a Bachelor's Degree from Ohio University in Outdoor Recreation and Education, with a minor in Environmental Studies. She recently completed her internship for her degree with United Plant Savers, and is now working as the Program Manager. She also completed the Medicinal Plant Conservation Certificate at United Plant Savers in the Fall of 2015. Katey was born and raised in Meigs County, Ohio and after moving around for the past few years, she has come back to Meigs County to help out on her family farm. In her life, she has worked multiple years as an outdoor guide in which she led trips for sea kayaking, ziplining, backpacking, and canoeing. Katey loves



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adventure, her dog, knitting, rollerblading, cooking, and wildcrafting herbs. Her passion lies in working with children outdoors and inspiring them to be future stewards for the land. She is grateful to live in an area of the world with such biodiversity and kind people, and she wants to help preserve these aspects for generations to come.

Robin Suggs Before joining Appalachian Sustainable Development's Agroforestry Program, Robin was the sole proprietor of MoonBranch Botanicals, a grower and producer of native medicinal plant materials along with other non timber forest products in the small community of Yellow Creek in far western North Carolina. His company supplied the natural products and medicines industry with high quality native raw bulk botanicals produced in their natural habitats. In 1996 he founded and served as executive director of the Yellow Creek Botanical Institute, a 501(c)3 corporation based in Graham County North Carolina. In this position, he was responsible for the conceptualization, development and management of a non-profit research and development organization utilizing native botanical resources as tools for sustainable economic development in western North Carolina. Robin is responsible for the development of the Graham County Economic Diversification Program, which seeks to create a vertically-integrated natural products industry in western North Carolina. As a result of his work in this area, Robin has had the opportunity to develop both the organizational and financial resources necessary to make North Carolina a global contender in this industry. Under his guidance, Yellow Creek Botanical Institute has developed inter-institutional partnerships with more than two dozen state, federal, and private organizations. These partnerships have resulted in a unique collaboration which seeks to develop a botanical medicines industry in western North Carolina including a network of buyers and suppliers, establish propagation and cultivation protocols for native species, provide an analysis of market trends and preserve the region's ethnobotanical knowledge by developing a regional database.