

# The Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner



December 2007

Volume 21, Number 5

## Membership Drive

In an effort to increase membership, the state Board of Directors has challenged each chapter to work towards gaining new members. The challenge period runs from June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 through May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008. The reward for increasing membership 10 percent is a \$1 rebate for each member in the chapter as of 6/1/07. A 20 percent increase will net \$2 per member. Western Finger Lakes had 332 members as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

Treasurer Ron Reitz reports WFL is on sound financial footing but if we're offered money he would be glad to add it in our bank account. Approximately 20 new members have joined WFL chapter of NYFOA in 2007 with about half that number since June 1<sup>st</sup>. Thus we need to find approximately 23 more new members in the next six months to "win" the rebate reward.

How can you help? One

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## Second Annual Dinner Meeting

November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 found 82 signed up for the second annual WFL chapter dinner meeting. After chef Brad Stevenson's catered meal, over 35 door prizes were available for ticket holders to select from.



*Paul Schnell and an assistant feed a Bald Eagle named Liberty.*

Keynote speaker Mike Allen of the DEC shared some of his experiences over the past 30 years in returning the bald eagle to New York State. In 1976 only one pair of bald eagles, nesting at Hemlock Lake, were left in New York State. In 2006 over 170 chicks were hatched in New York. The recovery has been so successful the bald eagle has been removed from the federal endangered species list, a tribute to the dedication of Mike and his colleagues. The success noted in New York has been mirrored throughout the northeastern United States and southern Canada. The bald eagle is back!

It was quickly evident from his comments that Mike is dedicated to

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## Membership Drive

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way would be to consider giving a gift membership to a friend, neighbor, student or colleague.

Ownership of forest land is NOT a requirement in joining NYFOA. WFL has members without woodlands but they believe in the principles of good stewardship fostered by NYFOA and want to add their voice with those who are owners.

NYFOA offers individual and family memberships of one, two and three year duration as well as a student version. A one year student membership is \$10. Individually a one year membership is \$30, two year \$55 and three year \$80. For a family, one year memberships are \$35, two year \$65 and three year \$95. A multi-year membership requires the writing of a larger check but the cost per year is reduced and it's a guarantee against any possible future increase in dues.

Make checks payable to NYFOA Post Office Box 541, Lima, New York 14485. Credit cards are also accepted and more information can be found at [www.nyfoa.org](http://www.nyfoa.org) or 1-800-836-3566.

## Upcoming WFL Chapter Meetings

The upcoming chapter meetings outlined below will be held at the Monroe County Cooperative Extension building at 249 Highland Avenue, Rochester, New York from 7:30 until 9:00PM with refreshments to follow.

### **Invasive Insects • Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Dr. Douglas Allen, Professor of Entomology at SUNY-ESF will discuss invasive insects that affect our woodlots. Approximately thirty frequently encountered exotic forest insects occur in our northeastern forests. Many have received a lot of publicity in recent years; others have more quietly infiltrated our native fauna. Dr. Allen will discuss the causes, future prospects and what forest owners should do.

### **Managing for Wildlife • Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Marilyn Wyman, Extension Educator with the Agroforestry Resource Center at the Green County Cornell Cooperative Extension, will discuss wildlife management for forest owners.

Often those living in the country want to attract wildlife to enjoy viewing and there are ways to encourage those animals you want. The first part of this presentation will investigate options landowners have to enhance their property for certain types of wildlife. The second part will help assist landowners in dealing with nuisance wildlife and discouraging them from becoming established.

*Keith Maynard  
Program Director*

## The Race to Bio-fuels

“The time will come, in two or three decades, when we will look at the days of only sawing boards and making paper as the Dark Ages,” says Robert G. Wagner, professor of forestry at the University of Maine. “The chemical versatility of wood is so great, we will cringe at the idea we were once wasting it.”

Wagner is one of more than 20 scientists involved in the Forest Bio-products Research Initiative, the largest public research project in Maine's history.

The project brings together some of the brightest people in the state to answer two core questions: Can we do more than make forest products with the vast quantity of wood harvested in Maine each year? If so, what would the impact be on the state's economy and environment?

“This project leverages Maine's traditional strengths in forestry and forest products,” says Stephen Shaler, professor of wood science at the University of Maine, and scientific director of the research initiative. “We understand the existing forest-products industry, and we understand forests. It was strength on strength.”

In a world where oil prices are at record levels, production has reached its peak and supply is threatened by developments beyond our control, wood has become the focus of intense scrutiny. This seemingly simple

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# NYFOA Position Statement on Forests as Carbon Offset Projects

Greenhouse gas emissions, climate change and whether or not our industrial activities are causing global warming seem to be hot button topics. It's very common to find articles about these topics in the press.

Since trees take in carbon dioxide they represent a vast reservoir of carbon. Carbon "locked up" in trees can no longer contribute to rising carbon levels in the atmosphere. It benefits society, therefore, to maintain and improve our forests as a means of reducing greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere.

Since New York has more forest cover than any other state in the North East, it's clearly something of interest and importance to New York's forest owners. There are currently discussions about payment to forest owners for maintaining & improving their tree cover as a means of sequestering atmospheric carbon.

NYFOA has recently issued the following *Position Statement* included here for your examination.

*Richard Starr*  
*Chairman*

Among the many benefits that forests provide, there is growing appreciation for their role as absorbers of greenhouse gasses. The biomass in forests is a vast repository of carbon that helps balance the carbon cycle on which life depends.

An industrialized society and the use of fossil fuels have

been identified as major causes of the increased rate of carbon buildup in the atmosphere that contributes to climate change. A pragmatic and economical component of a solution recognizes the contribution of forests to our global carbon cycle. Indeed, one of New York's assets in this situation is its 18 million acres of forest land. By encouraging owners to manage their woodlands for robust growth, forests will continue to provide not only carbon sequestration, but wood products and many other benefits. These include fish and wildlife habitat, biodiversity, clean water and recreation opportunities. Active management to encourage healthy and vigorous forests intensifies these benefits. Without well managed forests, we could lose not only the carbon battle — but most of the other benefits our forests provide.

Mechanisms are being developed that allow industrialized nations and major greenhouse gas generators to offset their carbon emissions by paying woodland owners to establish and maintain healthy forests, thereby "sequestering," or storing, vast amounts of carbon. Projects such as this are an attractive prospect to many who believe that conservation of forests will be difficult unless the environmental benefits they provide are, like other services for society, properly valued through payment schemes.

NYFOA supports New York's continued participation in the

Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) with other states in the region and urges all levels of government in New York to recognize that:

- Woodlands help mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.
- 85% of forest land in NYS is owned by private individuals.
- The increasing cost of owning forest land has resulted in sales for development purposes which often removes much of the previous tree cover.
- Forests managed to encourage active tree growth and abundant reproduction store more carbon than in forests not having deliberate intervention.
- Paying woodland owners to use best management practices in their forests continues economic, environmental and societal benefits of woodlands and adds balancing the carbon budget to the list.
- Initiation and support of carbon offset programs are vital to our way of life and perhaps life itself.

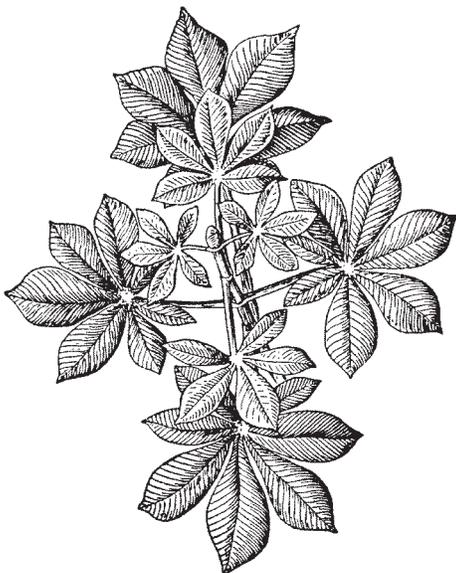


# Annual Dinner Door Prizes

The WFL board of directors obtained a variety of door prizes for the November 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner Meeting. Following is a list of the prizes with donors and recipients. We apologize for incorrect spellings.

Looking forward to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dinner Meeting next November, the board would like to invite members to consider donating something “homemade” to the door prize booty. Something as simple as baked goods would offer participants more variety to select from. This year our homemade items included a black cherry measuring stick, osage orange walking sticks, pillow with a forest scene and white oak seedlings.

*Dick Starr  
Chairman*



<b>Prize</b>	<b>Donor</b>	<b>Recipient</b>
Biltmore Stick	Charlie Mowatt	Dave Swanson
Bird Seed	WFL Chapter	Mary Jeanne Packard
Crop Tree Field Guide	WFL Chapter	Frank Penkaty
Black Cherry Stick	Charlie Mowatt	Mary McCarty
Osage Orange Stick	Dave Swanson	Marianne Maynard
Osage Orange Stick	Dave Swanson	Eileen Schaefer
Hardhat	Tree Farm	Joe LaBarca
Forest Pillow	Pat Dieter	Dave Swanson
Lavendar Moon Herbs	L. Moon Herb Garden	Carol Krebs
Gift Package	L. Moon Herb Garden	Marian Mowatt
Gift Package	L. Moon Herb Garden	Ginny Damann
Pint Maple Syrup	Sugar Bush Hollow	Valerie Boneci
Pint Maple Syrup	Sugar Bush Hollow	Tom Rutkowski
Tree ID Binder	WFL Chapter	Joann McMahon
Tree ID Binder	WFL Chapter	Mary Ann Rutkowski
2 Felling Wedges	Anonymous	Tom Witt
4 Tree Tubes	WFL Chapter	Mike Seager
4 Tree Tubes	WFL Chapter	Jeanette ?
White Oak Seedlings	Charlie Mowatt	Debra Holtz
White Oak Seedlings	Charlie Mowatt	Walt Schuchardt
Bottle of Spirits	Dan Dennison	Bill Bernatovich
Bottle of Spirits	Dan Dennison	Dave & Cecilia Deuel
Bottle of Spirits	Dan Dennison	Dave Horton
Bottle of Spirits	Dan Dennison	Rick Dormann
Bottle of Spirits	Dan Dennison	Jerry Calhann
Bottle of Spirits	Dan Dennison	Jane Bernatovich
Bottle of Spirits	Dan Dennison	Not Recorded
Cider	WFL Chapter	Jim Casey
Cider	WFL Chapter	Frank ?
Cider	WFL Chapter	Steve Engard
Cider	WFL Chapter	Dale Schaefer
Cider	WFL Chapter	Barry Wittschen
Cider	WFL Chapter	Not Recorded
NYFOA Sweatshirt	WFL Chapter	Dick Starr
Jar Maple Cream	WFL Chapter	Not Recorded
Jar Maple Cream	WFL Chapter	Not Recorded
Pint Maple Syrup	WFL Chapter	Not Recorded
Pint Maple Syrup	WFL Chapter	Not Recorded

# Tell Us What You Think

To help guide future activities of the WFL chapter, the board of directors would appreciate your input. Please take a few minutes to cut out this survey, answer the questions, and mail the completed form to:

**Mike Seager**  
**Post Office Box 1281**  
**Pittsford, New York**  
**14534**

We appreciate the responses we have already received to the survey that was distributed at the dinner meeting in November. This is essentially the same survey, so members who filled out one at that meeting need not fill out another. A summary of the survey results will be published in the next newsletter.

While we welcome your input at any time, and in any format, the board will meet in early February to begin planning the chapter activities for 2008. It would be most helpful if you could respond to this survey by the end of January so we will have time to review the responses prior to our February meeting.

As a reminder, board meetings are open to all members, and contact information for all board members is on the last page of this newsletter. If you have any comments or questions about NYFOA or the WFL chapter, feel free to attend any board meeting or contact any member of the board.

*Mike Seager*  
*Director*

## Chapter Activities

### Newsletter

- Yes  No I am satisfied with it as is (If no, please give a brief explanation).
- Yes  No I would be interested in a column profiling a WFL member.
- Yes  No I would be interested in a personal activity report of a WFL member.
- Yes  No I would be interested in how-to-articles such as grafting, pruning, TSI marking, deerskin tanning.

Other ideas/suggestions:

### Meetings

\_\_\_\_\_ How many general meetings per year would you prefer?

### Woods Walks

\_\_\_\_\_ How many woodswalks per year would you prefer?

“My preferred time is” ( 1 = least preferred, 3 = most preferred )

\_\_\_\_\_ Sat AM \_\_\_\_\_ Sat PM \_\_\_\_\_ Sun AM \_\_\_\_\_ Sun PM

Which topics should be highlighted?

- Noncommercial cutting  Commercial cutting  Conservation
- Pre-cut marking  Post-cut results  Firewood

Other ideas/suggestions:

### Workshops/Seminars

“My preferred time is” (1 = least preferred, 3 = most preferred)

\_\_\_\_\_ Full day \_\_\_\_\_ Half day AM \_\_\_\_\_ Half day PM

\_\_\_\_\_ How many miles are you willing to travel?

“My interest in the following is” ( 1 = little, 2 = moderate, 3 = high )

\_\_\_\_\_ Game of Logging, a day long chainsaw safety and proper tree felling workshop

\_\_\_\_\_ Forester for a Day, a day long timber stand improvement workshop

\_\_\_\_\_ ATV logging \_\_\_\_\_ Sawmill tours \_\_\_\_\_ Timber sales

\_\_\_\_\_ Grading lumber \_\_\_\_\_ Equipment demos \_\_\_\_\_ Maple syrup

Other ideas/suggestions:

## Legal Issues

“My interest in the following is” ( 1 = little, 2 = moderate, 3 = high )

\_\_\_ Timber sale contracts \_\_\_ Estate planning \_\_\_ Hiring a forester

\_\_\_ Conservation easements \_\_\_ Property taxes \_\_\_ Income taxes

\_\_\_ Hunting leases \_\_\_ Gas/Oil leases \_\_\_ Farming leases

Other ideas/suggestions:

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### Legislative Issues

“My interest in the following is” ( 1 = little, 2 = moderate, 3 = high )

\_\_\_\_\_ Tree tax      \_\_\_\_\_ Timber theft      \_\_\_\_\_ Property rights  
\_\_\_\_\_ Trespass      \_\_\_\_\_ Boundary line determination

Other ideas/suggestions:

### Management Ideas

“My interest in the following is” ( 1 = little, 2 = moderate, 3 = high )

\_\_\_ Government incentives    \_\_\_ Non forested land    \_\_\_ Invasive insects  
\_\_\_ Government assistance    \_\_\_ Management plans    \_\_\_ Invasive plants  
\_\_\_ Sustainable woodland practices    \_\_\_ Wetlands    \_\_\_ Grasslands

Other ideas/suggestions:

### Timber Practices

“My interest in the following is” ( 1 = little, 2 = moderate, 3 = high )

\_\_\_ Contracts      \_\_\_ Finding a forester      \_\_\_ Timber sale  
\_\_\_ Marking trees for thinning      \_\_\_ Stumpage prices/trends  
\_\_\_ Forest measurements for personal use      \_\_\_ Working with a forester  
\_\_\_ Small scale timbering operations      \_\_\_ Best harvest techniques

Other ideas/suggestions:

### Wildlife Information

“My interest in the following is” ( 1 = little, 2 = moderate, 3 = high )

\_\_\_ White tailed deer      \_\_\_ Songbirds      \_\_\_ Ruffed grouse  
\_\_\_ Chronic wasting disease      \_\_\_ Wild turkeys      \_\_\_ Coyotes  
\_\_\_ Managing for wanted & unwanted wildlife      \_\_\_ Food plots

Other ideas/suggestions:

### Personal

Reason(s) for owning, or being interested in, forest land

Yes  No Firewood       Yes  No Hunting/fishing/trapping  
 Yes  No Recreation       Yes  No Potential income

Other – please specify:

Number of days/year you’re in the woods hunting, hiking, observing, managing, camping, gathering firewood, marking/measuring, doing TSI, etc.

0 – 5       6 – 10       11 – 15       16 – 20       more

How many WFL events have you attended in the last year (estimated)?

\_\_\_ Woods walks    \_\_\_ General meetings    \_\_\_ Workshops/seminars

Yes  No Is your wooded property also your residence?

Yes  Maybe  No Would you like to help with a WFL event?

(If yes, your name would be very helpful)

Name (optional):

County of residence:

## The Race to Bio-Fuels

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material, used for thousands of years to make fires and build shelters, might one day provide plant-based fuels, chemicals, plastics and a host of other products.

In the process, it could transform Maine’s manufacturing base, with pulp and paper mills becoming centers for the production of a wide range of “bio-products.”

Scientists believe the mills could make the new, high-value products that could substantially improve the financial picture for Maine’s paper industry, which is under increasing pressure from foreign competition.

Reducing the amount of oil used to run engines and make chemicals would also help to reduce the threat of global warming. Carbon now captured in prehistoric oil reserves becomes carbon dioxide -- a key “greenhouse” gas -- when petroleum-based fuel is burned. Well-managed, fast-growing forests “breathe in” carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and lock it up in wood. That means wood-derived fuels could potentially be “carbon-neutral” over the long term, and not add to global warming.

“Wood is the most environmentally sound material on the planet,” says Wagner. “Anything you can make out of oil, you can make out of wood.”

# 2007 Stumpage Report

Species	Western/Central Doyle Rule			New York State Stumpage Price Report Summer 2007/#71	
	Low Price Range (Median)	Average Price Range (Median)	High Price Range (Median)		
<b>Most Common Species</b>					
Ash, White	55-310 (185)	150-370 (225)	175-700 (300)	<b>Sawtimber Price (Including Veneer and Poles) Dollars per Thousand Board Feet</b>	
Cherry, Black	500-1240 (900)	700-2000 (1200)	1000-2500 (1400)		
Maple, Red (Soft)	50-310 (150)	100-515 (250)	100-515 (350)		
Maple, Sugar (Hard)	200-800 (550)	400-1200 (700)	500-2000 (900)		
Oak, Red	100-495 (300)	275-800 (390)	300-900 (500)		
Pine, White	20-100* (60)	40-150* (100)	100-200* (110)		
<b>Less Common Species</b>					
Aspen	10-50* (30)	20-100* (50)	50-100* (60)		
Basswood	50-185 (100)	50-310 (150)	100-400 (250)		
Beech	20-100* (40)	30-135* (50)	50-150* (60)		
Birch, Yellow	25-200* (100)	40-310* (200)	100-900* (250)		
Birch, White	NR	NR	NR		
Butternut	50-150* (100)	100-250* (200)	100-400* (300)		
Elm, American	NR	NR	NR		
Hemlock	25-100* (50)	35-100 (60)	50-150* (95)		
Hickory (spp.)	25-200 (100)	40-360 (150)	75-360 (220)		
Oak, Chestnut	75-200* (100)	150-500* (250)	150-500* (300)		
Oak, White	50-300 (110)	100-500 (250)	100-500 (335)		
Pine, Red	30-290* (55)	25-410* (75)	50-515* (100)		
Spruce (spp.)	50-120* (90)	100-135* (120)	100-200* (155)		
Tulip Poplar	30-200* (100)	75-250* (170)	100-350* (200)		
Walnut, Black	100-800* (500)	400-1200* (850)	500-1500* (1100)		
<b>Cordwood Price Dollars per Standard Cord</b>					
Aspen	NR	NR	NR		
Birch, White	NR	NR	NR		
Hemlock	NR	NR	NR		
Mixed N. Hardwoods	5-15* (10)	2-20* (12)	5-20* (15)		
Pine	NR	NR	NR		
Spruce/Fir	NR	NR	NR		
Firewood	5-10** (8)	2-15* (12)	5-20* (16)		

## Second Annual Dinner Meeting

*Continued from cover page.*

his role in helping the bald eagle return and loves what he does. Mike is a prime example of finding a job you love to do and then never working another day in your life. He expressed the comment, "I actually get paid to do this."

Paul Schnell, a licensed raptor handler, also came with a female bald eagle named Liberty. Liberty cannot fly because of a wing injury when she was about 5 months old in her native Alaska. In fact, Alaskan birds were instrumental in the bald eagle recovery in NYS as many were brought here from that great state. The bald eagle can live 30 years in the wild and up to 50 in captivity.

*Richard Starr  
Chairman*





## New York Forest Owners Association

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*Terms run January to December, except Activity Directors are September to August*

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*The Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner* is published for members of the Western Finger Lakes Chapter of the New York Forest Owners Association (NYFOA) and is published 4 times per year. NYFOA was founded in 1963 and is organized to encourage the wise management of private woodland resources in New York State by promoting, protecting, representing and serving the interests of woodland owners. The Western Finger Lakes chapter was founded in 1988 and encompasses Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, and Yates counties.

Membership is open to anyone interested in understanding how to manage a woodlot. NYFOA membership can bring returns in the satisfaction of growing quality timber, stabilizing forest industries and markets, providing permanent jobs, increasing the value of your woods, enlarging areas of natural beauty across the state, and leaving behind a monument in living trees to bless the tomorrows for the boys and girls of today. For information on becoming an NYFOA member, contact Liana Gooding, NYFOA Secretary, NYFOA, P.O. Box 541, Lima, NY, 14485 or at 1-800-836-3566. Annual membership is \$30 for individuals and \$35 for families and includes: subscriptions to this newsletter; to the bimonthly NYFOA state-wide publication, *The New York Forest Owner*; attendance at chapter meetings; and at two statewide meetings. Membership at the Contributing level (\$50- \$100) and Supporting level (\$101 & up) are also offered. For more information visit [www.nyfoa.org](http://www.nyfoa.org).

Readers are encouraged to submit articles for publication in this newsletter. Articles should be mailed or e-mailed to: Richard Starr at the address to the left. Electronic submissions are preferred. Any letters should be sent to the Chair for consideration.