



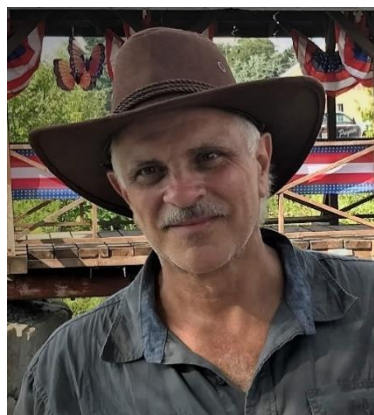
CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Volume 29, Issue 3

July 2019

A Message from the Chairman...

Jason Post



Blue skies, bright sunshine, and cool nights, gives a person a sense of serenity, unless you are in the log and lumber business. The increase in retaliatory tariffs by the Chinese government, have compounded the gloomy storm clouds hovering over us. Another 25% tariff on wood products went into effect on June 1st, which caused the Chinese buyers to reduce the price of logs by 12%.

Timber prices have also been drastically affected by the Chinese market collapse. Right now, Red Oak trees are worth less than the harvesting and trucking costs. According to Joe, Red Oak kiln dried FAS lumber is selling for less than #2 common sold for, back in early 2018. Pretty gloomy numbers for U.S. sawmills. Prior to the tariffs, saw mills were blaming their shortage of logs on exports to China, even though these same mills were also exporting lumber AND logs. Now the mills are in serious trouble. They not only have an abundance of logs and lumber, but also a loss of 24% of their customer base. In hind sight, the “good old days”, really **were** good. ...Another whisky barrel please!



A Note From the Secretary...

Laura Pisarri

It's **FAIR TIME** again, and we're all setting up our booths, and showing off our beautiful new NYFOA tablecloths! Please don't forget to send me a photo of your display with the new tablecloth in use. ...Maybe even a “before” photo, from a previous year's event. I'd like to feature them in our Newsletter, as well as submit them for possible publication in The New York Forest Owner Magazine. I can't wait to see how awesome each of your displays look!

Every Newsletter is posted on NYFOA's website, which is now a beautiful **color version**, and can be printed, if desired. If you wish to “opt out” of the “snail-mail” version, please send me an e-mail letting me know. It will help to keep our costs down, as well as give our Website more traffic! **Please Remember:** Jason and I have consolidated our e-mails by creating a new e-mail address, which is accessible to both of us. Our old e-mail addresses are no longer valid, so be sure to replace them with this one in your contact list... jason.laura.nyfoa@gmail.com

A Beautiful Day in June, at the New Baltimore AgFest, on the VanEtten Farm, in Ravena, NY. Many thanks to Phil, Jason & Laura, for faithfully volunteering.



Laura & Jason displayed a few of their handmade crafts available for sale.



Check out our new double sided event sign they made! We even sold a few Dry Shod Boot raffle tickets!

COME TO THE FAIR!!

CDC will once again be setting up an educational booth at the **Altamont Fair August 13th-18th**, joined by NYS DEC Lands and Forests, Capital/Mohawk PRISM, and the Master Forest Owner program. We are expanding our impact, by partnering with these like-minded organizations. Of course, we are there to encourage people to make good use of the trees around them, and possibly entice folks to become members. People stop by and talk about their woods, the wildlife they see, brag about how many cords of wood they cut, or just ask about the tree in their back yard.

That is where YOU as a member fit in. If you have benefitted from being a NYFOA member, why not pass on your experience to others, by volunteering to staff the booth for a shift? Four hours will fly by quickly! Some days we will have tree seedlings to handout, delighting young and old alike.

If you would like to help with the booth at the Altamont Fair, or would like further information, email Phil at pw Walton518@gmail.com or call **518-895-5346**. (Leave message) Entrance passes will be provided, so it is no cost to you. Thank you for helping!

CDC will also be at the **Schaghticoke Fair, August 28th - September 2nd**. Volunteers are needed to man the booth, promoting NYFOA's mission and giving out tree seedlings, provided by the NYS DEC Tree Farm. Each day is broken into 4 hour shifts: 10am-2pm; 2pm-6pm; and 6pm-10pm.

If you would like to help man the booth, please e-mail Bob Sheedy at rms47@aol.com to reserve a time slot. (Entrance passes will be provided.)

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## NOTICE....This is an Appeal to the LHC Members!

LHC Chairman Chris Prentis is in need of Committee Members to help run the Chapter. He is looking for a few people to fill the offices of Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, etc. Chris will need people who will volunteer some time to help organize Chapter Events, such as Woods-walks, Maple Syrup Tours, etc.

If any of you would be interested in helping to make a difference, or know of any non-members that may be interested, please contact him at [chris@lowerhudsonforestry.com](mailto:chris@lowerhudsonforestry.com), or email Laura at: [jason.laura.nyfoa@gmail.com](mailto:jason.laura.nyfoa@gmail.com)

## EVENTS:

### NYFOA CDC Presents a FREE Woods-Walk:



Rheinstrom Hill Audubon Sanctuary and Center  
Saturday August 24th, Hillsdale, NY. 10am to noon.

Rheinstrom Hill Audubon Sanctuary and Center is a 1,039 acre sanctuary located in the southeastern corner of Columbia County. It provides habitat for many at risk climate-threatened bird species, such as Wood Thrush, Veery, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue-headed Vireo, and warblers such as Ovenbird, Chestnut-sided, Black-

throated Blue, Black-and-white, and Blackburnian. It is also habitat for White-tailed Deer, Coyotes, Bobcats and Black Bears. The Rheinstrom Hill Audubon Sanctuary and Center is a great place for birding, nature walks and hiking. Hundreds of visitors enjoy the beauty of the sanctuary each year.

Audubon New York has begun a forest management project at Rheinstrom Hill that will use best management practices to restore the sanctuary to a balance of forest types to improve conditions for birds and other at-risk wildlife. The main goal of the outreach effort is to provide training to private forest landowners and other audiences, with the goal of applying these land management techniques beyond the demonstration project and improve forest health across a larger landscape throughout Columbia County and beyond.

Suzanne Treyger, Audubon NY Forest Program Manager, will lead a talk about the Forest Stewardship Plan and management goals for this property. Two deer exclosure sites, established in 2015 and 2019, will provide dramatic visual evidence of the impact of deer on forest regeneration. Suzanne will discuss the relationship with a local hunting club and their use of DMAP (Deer Management Assistance Program) permits to control deer numbers.

Suzanne will also discuss Audubon's Harvest for Habitat program which enables bird habitat improvements through active forest management.

Meet along the Sanctuary road at 10 am Saturday August 24th for this 2 hour outdoor program. This event is FREE and open to the public.

Rheinstrom Hill Audubon Sanctuary & Center  
225 Cambridge Rd  
Hillsdale, NY 12529

<http://ny.audubon.org/about-us/centers-sanctuaries-chapters/rheinstrom-hill>

If you have any questions contact Jimmy Bulich: 518-429-4979



## **EVENTS:**

### **WoodsWalk ~ Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 10am - 12pm.**

Bob & Darleen Springer

Blodgett Hill Road Ravena, NY

(<sup>3/10</sup> mi. south of the intersection of Blossom Hill and Blodgett Hill Road)

### **Woods and Taxes**

with

NYFOA Member & Retired Forester, Carl Wiedemann

If you're a woodland owner and would like to make ownership more affordable, then you'll be interested in this opportunity to visit Bob Springer's woodlot in Ravena (Albany County). Bob is a member of the New York Forest Owners Association (NYFOA) and has generously opened his 164 acre property for this event.

Bob has taken two steps which have significantly reduced the tax burden. First, he is an active forest manager, with two timber sales over the past twenty years. Growing and selling valuable timber is one option woodland owners have, to generate income. Bob's second action was, to enroll the property in New York's Forest Tax Law program. Landowners with 50 acres or more of woodland can qualify, and most participants receive an 80% reduction in their assessment. Growing and selling valuable timber, and lower property taxes, make owning a woodlot much more affordable.

At this event, you will see a mature woodlot of mixed hardwood trees with many species, including: Red Oak, White Pine, Sugar Maple, Hickory, and Hemlock. We'll talk about the difference between forestry, and simply selling to the highest bidder. You'll get a chance to ask Bob about his experiences with selling timber, and the Forest Tax Law. High clearance all-wheel drive vehicles are recommended, because we'll be using an unimproved woods road for access. However, there will also be opportunities for ride sharing.

The Capital District Chapter of NYFOA is pleased to sponsor this event, which is free and open to the public.

For more information, e-mail our Secretary (Laura) at: [jason.laura.nyfoa@gmail.com](mailto:jason.laura.nyfoa@gmail.com)

**Rain Date: Sunday, September 15th**

Mark Your Calendars...You won't want to miss THIS one!



**MANAGING YOUR WOODLOT**  
**FOR WILDLIFE**

**Chainsaw  
Raffle!**

**Door  
Prize!**

**Please Join US!**

**Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> 10am - 3pm**  
John Boyd Thacher State Park Visitors Center  
830 Thacher Park Road, Voorheesville, NY

**The Helderberg Room**

**Speakers Include:**

Dr. Scott Stoleson, Research Wildlife Biologist with Forest Service's Northern Research Station, PA:

"The Importance of Creating Openings via Clear-Cutting and Other Management Techniques to Benefit Wildlife."

Dr. Walt Carson, Associate Professor of Biology, University of Pittsburgh:

"White-Tailed Deer Impacts on Forest Regeneration & Will There Be Another Northern Hardwood Forest?"

Andy Weik, Wildlife Biologist, Ruffed Grouse Society & Woodcock Society, NYS:  
"Forest Management For Woodcock & Grouse and Young Forest Initiative"

**SILENT AUCTION!**

**\$25 Pre-Registration is Required, as Seating is Limited**

**Includes: Morning Coffee and Light Lunch**

**Please Contact Laura (CDC Secretary) by September 16<sup>th</sup> at: [jason.laura.nyfoa@gmail.com](mailto:jason.laura.nyfoa@gmail.com)**

**The Steering Committee** is an informal group of chapter members, who gather every three months, to further NYFOA's mission of encouraging sound forest management practices. The Steering Committee plans woods walks, workshops, and exhibits, at local events, such as county fairs. If you would like to participate, please join us. All are welcome.

**Join us at our next Committee Meeting** on October 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at Sleepy Hollow Lake Tennis Club. Bring a drink to share. We are having PIZZA!

### **Steering Committee Chapter Officers:**

**Jason Post, Chapter Chair** jason.laura.nyfoa@gmail.com 518-965-9183

**Jeff Kehoe, Vice Chair**  
halfacreforestry@gmail.com 518-596-9040

**Laura Pisarri, Secretary/Newsletter Editor**  
jason.laura.nyfoa@gmail.com 518-965-9182

**Phil Walton, Treasurer**  
pwalton518@gmail.com 518-895-5346

**Jimmy Bulich, Chapter Designated Director**  
bulichjimmy@gmail.com 518-429-4979

**Tracy Lamanec, Nominating Committee Officer**

tlamanec@msn.com 518-727-7194

### **Steering Committee Members:**

**Ron Bernhard**  
rgb138@verizon.net  
518-765-4600

**Bob Sheedy**  
rms47@aol.com  
518-482-1288

**Carl Wiedemann**  
cpwiedemann@gmail.com  
518-707-6350

**Dick Gibbs**  
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518-283-0155

**Gerry McDonald**  
oakmando@gmail.com  
518-756-2232

**Ron Pedersen**  
rwp1131@gmail.com  
518-785-6061

**Dave Schmidt**  
518-237-8327

## Welcome New Members!

### CDC

Andrew Rowles of Schoharie, NY

Mark von Dwingelo of Redding, CT

### LHC

Andy Galler, Garrison, NY

David Kerr, Barryville, NY

Scott Kohlefl, Cresco, PA

Paul Niederauer, Massapequa, NY

Winnakee Land Trust, Rhinebeck, NY

## YOUR MEMBERSHIP Helps Support Sustainable Forestry

Forests cover more than 60% of the state providing important benefits including watershed protection, wildlife habitat, wood products, recreational opportunities, clean air, and beauty. The New York Forest Owners Association is a not-for-profit organization established to encourage sustainable forestry practices and sound management of privately owned woodlands. Members include woodland owners and all others who care about the future of New York's trees and forests.

**NYFOA, P.O. Box 541, Lima, New York 14485 1-800-836-3566 [www.nyfoa.org](http://www.nyfoa.org)**