

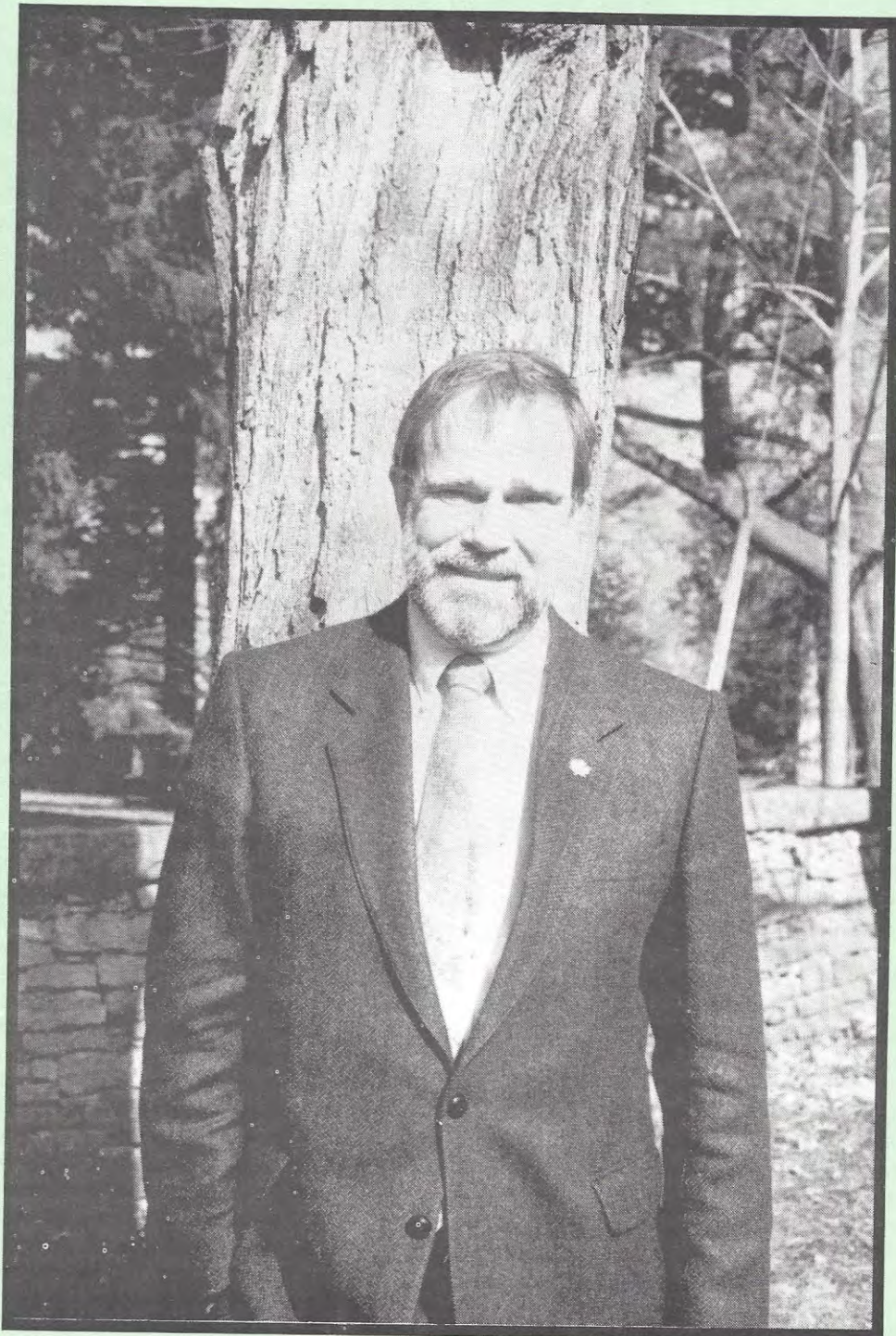
# FOREST OWNER

A Publication of the New York Forest Owners Association

JULY/AUGUST 1991

People and Trees: Partners in Time

THE NEW YORK



*See Caption on Page 4*



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THE NEW YORK

# FOREST OWNER

A publication of the New York Forest Owners Association

Karen Kellicutt, Editor

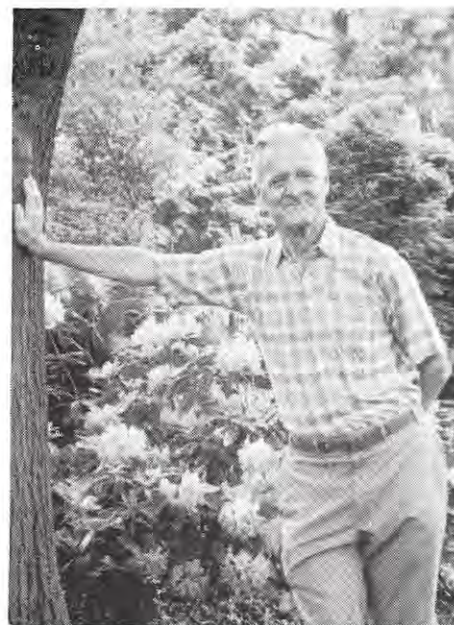
*Materials submitted for publication should be addressed to: R. Fox, R.D. #3, Box 88, Moravia, New York 13118. Articles, artwork and photos are invited and are normally returned after use. The deadline for submission is 30 days prior to publication in September.*

**Please address all membership and change of address requests to P.O. Box 180, Fairport, N.Y. 14450.**

## President's Message

As indicated in John Marchant's report to the members at the Annual Meeting in Syracuse (carried elsewhere in this issue), our Association is enjoying an unprecedented momentum in many areas. I am very pleased to have been elected your President in April at a time when all is going so well. I plan to do all I can to ride the wave so-to-speak and to make sure we take advantage of the opportunities that are now before us.

I have lots of help. Charlie Mowatt was elected 1st Vice President and has agreed to take on the job of chapter development and relations. His enthusiasm and knowledge of what makes chapters tick will be invaluable in carrying out this responsibility. Bob Sand, newly reelected to the board, has volunteered to be Recording Secretary, much to my relief. In addition, his years of experience in the industry makes him a senior advisor. Norm Richards, also reelected to the board after a few years on the sidelines, is ready to assume leadership for the Annual Meeting in April 1992. Angus (Scotty) Johnstone, a CPA from East Aurora, has been elected Treasurer. For some years, we've needed a CPA to handle the finances of NYFOA! Dick Fox has completed his six years as a director, but has agreed to continue as Chairman of the Editorial Committee, a big job requiring a lot of time and energy. We're fortunate to have Dick willing to carry on. Dave Colligan is now Membership Chairman and will be putting his ideas into play in the



Stuart McCarty

months ahead. Read his Membership Corner in this issue.

There are lots of others stepping up to help and in future issues I plan to tell you of the part they are playing in our effort to "ride the wave". My two key advisors, who are continuing to play essential roles, are John Marchant who as Executive Director this past twenty months has done wonders for NYFOA and, last but not least Mary, my wife and past President, who gives me all kinds of support and reminds me that in the doing we should have FUN!

In closing we all owe the retiring directors a vote of thanks: Allen Horn, who served as President, Chairman of the Editorial Committee and Program Chairman; Tom Conklin, member of the Editorial Committee

(Continued on Page 19)



# 1990: A Productive Year for NYFOA

*The following material summarizes a talk given at the Annual Membership Meeting on April 27 in Syracuse, NY by Executive Director John Marchant.*

The past eighteen months have been an interesting and productive period for the New York Forest Owners Association. We have shown a real growth from 1200 to 1600 members in that time frame which represents an increase of 33%. Figures also indicate that the membership dropout rate has not changed appreciably since the first of this year so we haven't seen any negative effects from our recent increase in membership fees.

The real questions are: "Do we know why this happened and do we know how to sustain it?" I believe the answer to both is "YES".

First and foremost has been the formation of chapters across the entire state. New chapters in the Glens Falls, Albany and Wappingers Falls areas have done much to round out our representation in the East. Reactivation of the Tioga Chapter has brought new interest in the south central portion of the state and potential chapters in the Syracuse and the Upper Adirondacks regions will have us literally blanketing the state. New York City and Long Island remain areas of high opportunity which we must also address in the near future. All of these activities have been associated with increased advertising in local newspapers, DEC listings, Cooperative Extension Bulletins etc. They have held a variety of general meetings, woodswalks and workshops. Their efforts have made a significant difference in getting NYFOA better known and people interested. Excellent "Newsletters" are now coming from most of our chapters which has a great effect in maintaining high levels of interest within respective local areas. New efforts are now underway to provide good communication between all of the chapters for the beneficial exchange of successful ideas and methods.

Second, the profile of NYFOA has been increased statewide and nationally with an OUTREACH effort into the broader forestry community. The following listing attempts to give

a feel for the breadth of the outreach rather than details about any particular interaction.

A. The NYS Stewardship program: We are a working member of the Stewardship committee and produce the newsletter "Woodland Steward" as part of our contribution. That newsletter has produced well over 100 new members for NYFOA and the circulation is now up to 7000 and growing. Many members of that committee also understand NYFOA, its goals and capabilities better than ever before.

B. The Department of Environmental Conservation: I just can't say enough about the effective cooperative relationship we now have with this organization and individual members of its staff. They have made major contributions to our new developing chapters, continually disseminate information about the value of NYFOA and participate in many of our activities.

C. Cornell Cooperative Extension: We are continuing to co-sponsor the "FORESTS ARE FOREVER" seminar at Woodsmens Field Days with them and are also working to establish a multi-day workshop which will graduate "MASTER WOODLAND OWNERS".

D. We are getting excellent help and support from many people at the School of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse.

E. Our relationship with the NYS Tree Farm organization has strengthened considerably in the past year. We recently received 15 new members from the NYFOA ad they ran on the overcover of one of their publications and we responded in kind by advertising their excellent reference book *Survival Handbook* in the "FOREST OWNER".

F. During the past we have given talks at State Forest Practice Board meetings and Stu McCarty was invited and attended their annual state meeting.

G. Contacts with members of Empire State Forest Products Association continue to produce valuable information and contacts.

H. We recently helped North Eastern Loggers Association advertise an information booklet they



John Marchant

just published. They were pleased that we took the initiative to help get the booklet out and expressed a desire for more and better interactions in the future.\*

I. In April we participated in a joint meeting between DEC staff from regions 8 and 9 and their Canadian counterparts from Ontario. The purpose of the meeting was to share ideas for better serving Non-Industrial Private Forest Owners. One of the Canadian foresters was enough impressed with our organization that he became a member and volunteered to help us in any way he could.

J. Also in April we were represented at a National Conference on "Stewardship and the Land Ethic" in Harrisburg, Pa. Valuable contacts were made with several County Forestry Associations of Pennsylvania. They are interested in looking into a statewide organization and were interested in how we operated NYFOA.

K. National Woodland Owners Association: We now have a close working relationship and interaction with Keith Argow and this "National Owners" organization of which we are an affiliate. We are now working out an arrangement for each NYFOA member to receive a complimentary copy of their publication "NATIONAL WOODLANDS". At their request I have agreed to act as one of their Regional Vice Presidents for 1991.

L. Personal contacts have been made with Forest Owner Association Executives and Cooperative

*(Continued on Page 18)*



# NY Forest Owners Association Outstanding Service Award

The following remarks were made by Robert Sand, Chairman of the Award Committee.

Today we honor the 1991 recipient of this award. It is recognition for outstanding service to the New York Forest Owners Association, and affords us the opportunity to make this presentation to Helen and John Marchant of Fairport, Monroe County, N.Y. For the past thirteen years we have presented this award as tangible recognition for dedicated service to our membership. Let me review the growing list of past recipients:

1978	Emiel Palmer
1979	Ken Eberley
1980	Helen Varian
1981	J. Lewis DuMond
1982	Lloyd Strombeck
1983	Evelyn Stock
1984	Dorothy Wertheimer
1985	David H. Hanaburgh
1986	A.W. Roberts, Jr.
1987	Howard O. Ward
1988	Mary & Stuart McCarty
1989	Alan R. Knight
1990	Earl Pfarner

We are now in our 30th year of service to forest owners. All have benefited by membership, yet we must keep in mind that our work is accomplished by volunteer energies. Today we wish to recognize the significant contributions of Helen and John Marchant. I'm not sure who introduced our association to the Marchants, but over a relatively short time, their enthusiastic dedication has been exemplary. I'll name a few:

1) Founded the Western Finger Lakes Chapter in 1987.

2) Hosted a most successful woodswalk on their 160 acre tree farm near Wheeler, in Steuben County. It was the most perfect day of the year — near cloudless, bright and warm, with a wonderful breeze enjoyed by 100+ attendees. John had a full agenda perfectly organized.



John C. Marchant (right) and his wife Helen receive from Bob Sand, NYFOA Awards Committee Chair, praise and the Special Award which is engraved "in appreciation of outstanding service to the New York Forest Owners Association: Helen W. and John C. Marchant, at the 29th Annual Meeting on April 27, 1991." (Forest Stewardship Photo by Taber)

3) In 1988 at the Fall Meeting held at Croton-Point, John presented an introduction to NYFOA membership.

4) Since October 1988, using their home as OUR official office, the Marchants have been intently involved with the duties assumed as executive director of the N.Y. Forest Owners Association.

The Challenge to make NYFOA a far more viable organization has been successful, and most of the credit must be attributed to the personal commitment and expertise Helen and John provided.

Our common denominator is the joy of nature out-of-doors, but office work makes it all possible.

Today we recognize Helen W. and John C. Marchant by presenting the 1991 Outstanding Service Award and acknowledge the since appreciation of all NYFOA members for their dedication.

## COVER CAPTION:

At NYFOA's Annual meeting, Daniel W. Weller, Chief of Bureau of Forest Resource Management, Division of Lands and Forests, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) discusses "stewardship incentives" in cash that will be available for forest owners through the Forest Stewardship program managed by DEC.

(Forest Stewardship Photo by Taber)

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# 1991 Heiberg Memorial Award

The following remarks at the 29th Annual Forest Owners Association meeting, Syracuse, NY were made by Robert Sand, chairman of the Awards Committee.

This presentation of the Heiberg Award for 1991 is a pleasant privilege for me. Today's award is the 25th. The first presentation to Dean Hardy L. Shirley was made at the 4th annual meeting in this same room on April 30, 1966.

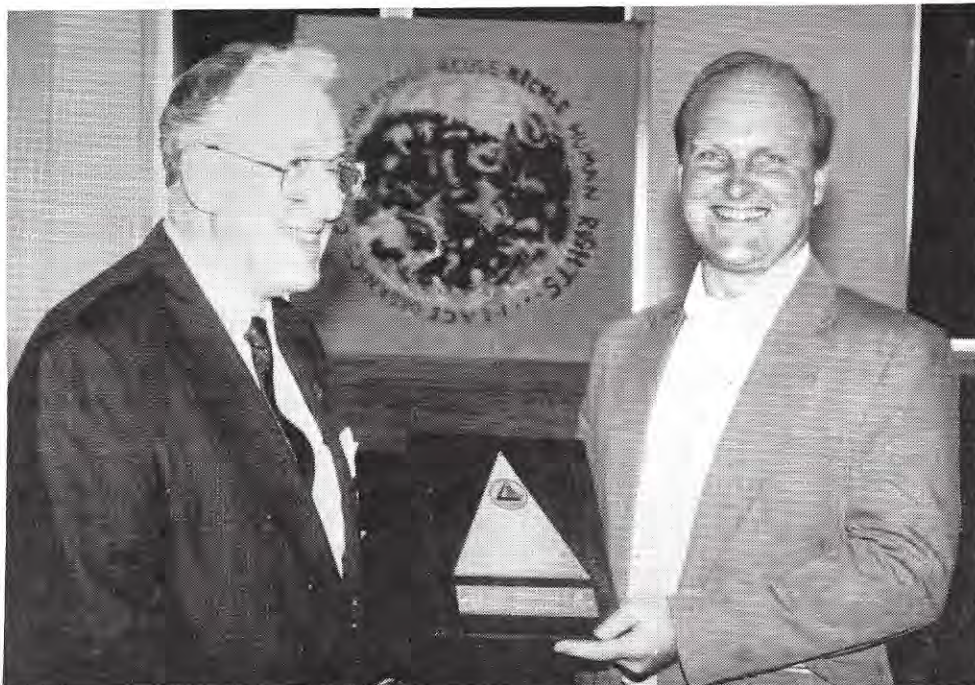
It is in recognition for outstanding contributions in the fields of forestry and conservation in New York State.

Past Recipients: THE HEIBERG AWARD:

1967	David B. Cook
1968	Floyd Carlson
1969	Mike Demeree
1970	No Award
1971	Fred Winch, Jr.
1972	John Stock
1973	Robert M. Ford
1974	C. Eugene Farnsworth
1975	Alex Dickson
1976	Edward W. Littlefield
1977	Maurice Postley
1978	Ralph Nyland
1979	Fred C. Simmons
1980	Dr. William Harlow
1981	Curtis Bauer
1982	Neil B. Gutchess
1983	David W. Taber
1984	John W. Kelley
1985	Robert G. Potter
1986	Karyn B. Richards
1987	Henry G. Williams
1988	Robert M. Sand
1989	Willard G. Ives
1990	Ross S. Whaley

Svend O. Heiberg, a renowned Professor of Silviculture, devoted much of his career here at the N.Y. College of Forestry. Dr. Heiberg first proposed the establishment of an association of Forest Landowners in N.Y. State. He enlisted the efforts of Dean Shirley, and together they initiated this successful Forest Owners Association. This award is presented in his memory.

Robert S. Stegemann was born in Rochester. He attended Union College and received a BA in Economics in 1975, returning to Rochester to work for SIBLEY CORP. originating home loans for this mortgage banking firm from 1976-



Robert S. Stegemann (right), Executive Vice President of the ESFPA from 1986 - 1990, and now Regional Manager, Public Affairs, International Paper Company, for the states of New York, Connecticut, Delaware, and New Jersey, receives Heiberg Memorial Award "for an outstanding contribution in the fields of forestry and conservation in New York State," from the New York Forest Owners Association, presented by Bob Sand, Awards Committee Chair, at annual spring meeting of the 1200 member association, here. Stegemann, of the Capitol District has his office in Albany, NY. The annual meeting was held at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

(Forest Stewardship Photo by Taber)

1977. Next, he entered graduate studies at SUNY College of Environmental Sciences & Forestry, where he earned a MS in Resource Management in 1980.

One item of special interest, during '78 and '79 he spent his graduate school summers as a smokejumper in Alaska.

He was associated from 1981-85 with the Tug Hill Commission in Watertown as Senior Policy Analyst in natural resources, with a strong focus on forestry. He helped form and develop the regional forest landowner's group, THRIFT.

For the past five years, Bob has been Executive Vice President of the Empire State Forest Products Association. His duties in Albany involved advocacy of forest landowner and industry interests, providing regular interaction with legislators, agencies, the public, and the forest community. ESFPA

sponsors the N.Y. Tree Farm Committee. Bob Stegemann provided significant input to the Governor's Task Force on Forest Industry in New York State. That report was completed on Dec. 1, 1989.

Several months ago Bob became Regional Manager Public Affairs for International Paper with offices in Albany.

We wish to recognize Bob Stegemann's tenure with ESFPA. It has been outstanding leadership, dedicated to being a tireless champion on forestry related issues. Bob has been both knowledgeable and persuasive as a lobbying voice. We will miss his expertise but wish him much success with his present responsibilities.

Today we are privileged to present the 1991 Heiberg Memorial Award to Robert S. Stegemann, acknowledging his dedication to Forestry and Conservation in New York.



# A 'SIP' at NYFOA Annual Spring Meeting

By R. FOX

Professor Allen Horn, NYFOA's outgoing President prepared a great program replete with promise for the future of forestry, a tale of where NYFOA has just been, outstanding awards winners, and some forestry flak. President Stu McCarty and the new board begin with a refreshed NYFOA and an extraordinary challenge.

Executive Director John Marchant's report on NYFOA's most recent eighteen months and the three 1991 awards are detailed on other pages of this issue of THE NY FOREST OWNER. It is not possible in print nor do I have the skill to adequately describe the 1991 Spring Meeting; I will attempt to provide something of the flavor.

The featured speaker, Dan Weller, principal administrator/forester for this Stewardship Incentives Program (SIP) was enthusiastic about the level of funding and the diversity of eligible projects. The SIP effort is directed at soils and water, trees and wildlife; and the management of their mix. The representation of that management is first in the mind of the owner, secondly, expressed in a documented plan, and, thirdly, approved by a NYS DEC forester. The cash incentive available is up to \$10,000 per year per owner; minimum acreage is irrelevant, maximum acreage is 5000 acres. The money will be disbursed through US Agricultural & Stabilization Conservation Service (ASCS) Offices as are the oversubscribed Forestry Incentives Program (FIP) funds. Two fundamental differences separate SIP from FIP, according to Chief Forester Dan Weller. FIP depends upon plans written by DEC foresters; and these plans are designed to manage forest lands for wood products. SIP, however, permits plans to be written by private foresters and other natural resource professionals, and by owners; and the plans will be designed to manage for many products. SIP is a government program designed to "manage nature".

The Stewardship Committee, which is chaired by NY State Forester Bob

Bathrick and has NYFOA representation by Executive Director John Marchant, is expected to approve a 75% - 25% cost share and the 25% may be allocated to the planning. The effective term of the plan will be ten years and previous plans may be amended to qualify.

It is tempting to offer examples; however, such efforts would be speculative. It appears SIP is an exciting new approach to government management/regulation of natural resources and land use, a leveling of the playing field for people and trees.

Although Dan Weller acknowledged both a lack of details and money in hand, he asserted details will be forthcoming, perhaps by the end of August, and the money in October. This explanation provided little sustenance for the next speaker, Professor of Forest Practices, Dr. Craig Davis. Professor Davis addressed the building and rehabilitating of roads components to SIP. In a review of the available information on SIP for this part of management planning, he didn't find any information. Undeterred by the lack of SIP definition, Dr. Davis gave a terrific presentation of ways to access and maintain access while the owner continues to conserve and enhance the resources in a woodlot.

After lunch the program 'got tough'. Gary Goff of Cornell University Extension and the Department of Natural Resources challenged forest owners with some new options and intractable problems. An example of such problems: the sensitivity of certain plant and animal communities to an uninterrupted canopy was guaranteed to frustrate small woodlot managers. For new options there was: current trends in silviculture and natural resource management are facilitated by the use of computers and an array of software.\*

A change of pace and, despite a lack of SIP details, useful information on soils and water was provided by Paul Ray, a Soil and Water Conservationist from Madison County.

The final hurrah on SIP was an orchestrated review of some components by Professor of



Daniel W. Weller, Chief, Bureau of Forest Resource Management, Division of Lands and Forests, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) ponders "Forest Stewardship" by an urban woods with its prominent sugar maple tree and flagstone wall, as he prepares to explain the Stewardship Incentives Program that will provide cost-sharing financial support to owners of one acre or more of forest land for their stewardship efforts.

(Forest Stewardship Photo by Taber)

Silviculture, Dr. Norman Richards. The audience had been participating in the presentations of all the speakers as might be expected; namely, questions from the audience and answers from the speakers. NYFOA Director Dr. Richards carefully chosen criticisms of certain SIP projects and their usefulness in New York provided some spice and seasoning. To the credit of all the speakers and members, they gave for what they got.

I conclude, SIP promises choices ranging from a bounteous banquet to gourmet's garnish.

\*"Computerized Forestry for Private, Nonindustrial, Forest Owners", a Nat. Res. Research and Extension Series Publication may be obtained by writing a check for \$2.80 payable to Cornell Univ. and sending it to: Distribution Center - GP; Cornell Univ., 7 Bus. & Tech. Park; Ithaca, NY 14850.



# Landowner Legal Rights: Liability and Duty Owed Persons Using Your Property

By DAVID J. COLLIGAN

Perhaps the question asked most often by landowners upon learning that I am an attorney is what happens to them if someone is hurt upon their premises. An owner, lessee or occupant of premises whether or not posted, owes no duty to keep the premises safe for entry or use by others for hunting, fishing, organized gleaning (whatever that is), canoeing, boating, trapping, hiking, cross-country skiing, tobogganing, sledding, speleological (cave exploration) activities, horseback riding, bicycle riding, hang gliding, motorized vehicle operation for recreational purposes, snowmobile operation, cutting or gathering of wood for non-commercial purposes, or training of dogs.

The law goes on to say there is no duty to give warning of any "hazardous condition or use of or structure or activity on such premises" to persons entering for the above-mentioned reasons. My advice is to warn if there is a known danger which is under the owner's control, such as a structurally defective barn, a target shooting area, an old well or

foundation, if for no other reason than to avoid an unnecessary injury to someone. Also, the law does hold farmers liable for gross negligence or reckless behavior, and failure to warn of very dangerous situations may constitute gross negligence. Under no circumstances is malicious or willful failure to guard or warn against a condition, use, structure, or activity protected from liability. Just in case you're wondering (most do), spring guns, booby traps, unleashed wolves, starved and released Bengali Tigers, 30 foot Anacondas and other deliberate but passive "protective" devices also create liability.

A very common misconception is that by giving permission to someone to use your property you create liability where there was none. This is simply not the case. However, if a fee is received for the use of the property, then you do owe that person a duty to keep the premises safe. This is important to remember as hunting leases become more common.

Ref: N.Y. General Obligations Law  
Section 9-103

David Colligan is a NYFOA  
Director and a practicing Attorney at  
Law with a law firm in Buffalo.

## Schoharie County State Forest Woodswalk

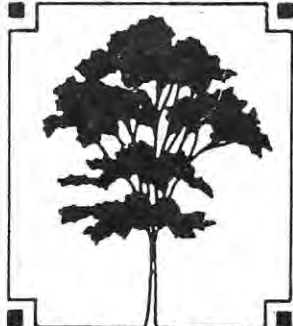
The Schoharie County State Forest Woodswalk is scheduled for August 24. We will meet at a parking lot located on Route 30, about one mile north of the Max V. Shaul State Park. Watch for NYFOA signs on Route 30. See the accompanying map. The Max V. Shaul State Park is located about 12 miles south of I-88, approximately halfway between Oneonta and Schenectady.

The "Woodswalk" will include some movement by motorcade, so it is important to carpool as much as possible. We plan to start promptly at 10:00 am, stop for a bring-your-own lunch and conclude by 2:30 pm.

The focus of the Woodswalk will be on State Forest history and management. We will explore the results of sixty years of forestry practice on State Forests. We will be led by Charlie Boone. He is the retired Superintendent of State Forests and the one best able to give us a good picture of past forestry practices on State Forests.



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# Ask a Forester

By WES SUHR  
BIOS OR "BIAS"?

The "clear-cut" and interesting article by Robert Demeree in the Jan/Feb issue, *Clear-cut — Myths, Madness and Controversy*, has stimulated some inquiries. Dick Fox received a "letter to the editor" in the form of a clipping from a publication or serial called BIOS, submitted by Paul Crear of Crear Farm, Severance, NY.

The clipping is from an article that reviews *PATTERN AND PROCESS IN FORESTED ECOSYSTEMS* (NY: Springer-Verlag, 1979) by F.H. Bormann (Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies) and G. E. Likens (Institute of Ecosystem Studies, NY Botanical Garden, Millbrook, NY). This book reviews watershed research initiated by the authors at the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest, located in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, and operated by the US Forest Service, Northeastern Forest and Experiment Station.

The excerpt from BIOS refers to only the early watershed treatments that began in 1965 where:

- All woody vegetation was cut from a 35 acre watershed, even the riparian or streambank vegetation, leaving all commercial stems on the ground (none harvested).
- Herbicides were applied for three successive summers after the cut, allowing no woody regrowth for three years.
- Streamflow of this treated watershed was then compared to that of an adjacent untreated or control watershed for changes in water yield, erosion and nutrient losses.

Now, let's understand what the scientists were trying to do, Mr. Crear — they were trying to compare the results of vegetative treatment — not trying to replicate an actual logging clearcut. I have never seen even-aged silviculture, using the clearcutting method, denude a complete watershed within one year or one cutting cycle, either in Eastern or Western US (experimental watersheds being the exception). Nor have I ever experienced herbicides being applied throughout the logged

areas to discourage regrowth of trees. And obviously, on all managed forests, mature trees are cut to be harvested, not to be left on the ground. This is the source of most erosion and sediment from actual silvicultural harvesting — skid trails and haul roads — therefore, they are carefully located, constructed and maintained or closed by the forester or logging engineer.

The clipping you sent is an incomplete and misleading review of a good book. For example, it states, there was "... an increase in erosion of soils throughout the watershed ..." and implied the result was "... the forest floor actually sank three centimeters in depth." In fact, since logs were not removed from the completely cleared watershed, there was little, if any, soil movement on the slopes — there was only slight disturbance of the forest floor caused by felling the trees. Even with the "... massive flush of water ...", as claimed by BIOS, there were only small amounts of soil removed along streambanks or channels. The primary cause of the "sinking forest floor" was NOT soil erosion but was due to the accelerated rate of decomposition and mineralization of organic matter, after much greater amounts of light, heat and moisture reached the forest floor following total canopy removal.

Another statement that bothers me is, "The most fundamental effect of clearcutting was a dramatic increase in the volume of stream flow, particularly during spring snowmelt and after heavy rainstorms." It is true that peak flows were increased due to the clearcut, but not to the extent that flooding or channel damage was created downstream. And actually, the most "dramatic increase in the VOLUME of streamflow" occurred in the **GROWING SEASON**, not during snowmelt runoff. This is the season with the driest soils (highest soil moisture deficit) because of high water use by plants (evapotranspiration). With comparatively little plant use of soil moisture in the cleared watershed, the soils recharged rapidly with rainfall and the excess moisture was

Send Questions to:  
Wes Suhr, R.R. 1, Box 59B  
Oswegatchie, N.Y. 13670

drained to streamflow. Contrast this to the high soil moisture use by uncut plants in the control watershed where the soil moisture deficit was much greater, resulting in a progressive reduction of streamflow throughout the growing season.



*Careful tree harvesting can safely increase streamflow in northern hardwood ecosystems.*

These early watershed research results have been generally observed on experimental watershed studies throughout the US — with careful management, tree harvesting can safely increase water yields without a significant increase in streamflow sediment. Of course, the actual increase in water yield (including nutrient and sediment gains or losses) has fluctuated widely, depending on conditions at the site (or the location of the watershed). These include the variables of geology, soil, slope factors, plants, available moisture, storm factors, climate, and how individually different treatments of plant materials affect (and are affected by) all the other site factors.

So you can see this is a very complicated subject. The results of research in one watershed may not, and most often have not, been closely duplicated in another watershed — even after researchers try to apply the same treatment to both watersheds. For example, the Hubbard Brook study found that if managers would be crazy enough to completely denude an entire watershed in one year and not allow regrowth for three years, they could expect to increase annual water yields 30 to 50+ percent but may also pollute streamflow with nitrate ions and lose valuable nitrogen (and other valuable elements), possibly lowering the

*(Continued on Page 9)*



## Ask a Forester—

(Continued from Page 8)

productivity of the site for growing trees. The high loss of these nutrients or ions has not been duplicated in other watershed nutrient studies, even with such drastic treatment, because other watersheds have different nutrients and soils and a bundle of other different factors.

Lastly, I want to summarize for all readers the results of careful clearcut harvesting (with no herbicide treatment) in the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest, as reported in **THE NORTHERN HARDWOOD FOREST ECOSYSTEM: TEN YEARS OF RECOVERY FROM CLEARCUTTING** by J. W. Hornbeck, C.W. Martin, R.S. Pierce, F.H. Bormann, G.E. Likens and J.S. Eaton (USFS, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, Report #596, 1987). Two methods of silvicultural clearcutting were used — progressive strip in one watershed of 89 acres, leaving a buffer strip of uncut trees on both sides of the stream channel, and block clearcut of another whole watershed (30 acres), leaving no buffer strips. Other than that, careful logging was practiced: rubber-tired skidders were used to remove logs, tops and branches remained on the site (but removed from stream channels), main skidder trails were located well away from streams, roads drained properly — "... every effort was made to ... minimize damage to forest soils and streams." Both treated watersheds were compared to two untreated or control watersheds, one 32 acres and the other 104 acres with these results:

### Changes in Water Yield

■ Increases in annual water yield occurred mostly in the growing season (June through September).

■ Spring flows occurred earlier due to speedup of snowmelt on harvested watersheds.

■ Block clearcutting showed a 36% increase in water yield the first year after harvest, while the strip clearcutting was only 1/10th of this increase. Over the 10-year regrowth period, the block clearcut increased water yields by 7%, and the strip clearcut by 4%.

■ In regard to the higher storm peak flows and earlier snowmelt flows from the clearcut watershed: "If the timing changes after cutting are to have a practical significance with

regard to downstream flooding, thousands of hectares within individual, regional watersheds would have to be harvested. There seems little likelihood that clearcutting will ever be of sufficient scale in New England to bring about significant changes in downstream spring floods."

### Erosion Losses in Streamflow

■ There were only small changes in turbidity readings and sediment trapped in weir basins indicating "... minimal changes in sediment or particulate losses resulting from harvest."

■ Turbidity data indicate that erosion losses from both the block and strip clearcut remained at low levels. "The results confirm an earlier conclusion from the clearfelling and herbicide experiment on Hubbard Brook Watershed 2: northern hardwood ecosystems have an inherent resistance to erosion that can withstand cutting disturbances so long as the forest floor is not abused."

■ Erosion losses will be low with careful logging:

◀ Conduct logging when soils are driest, in this case at end of growing season in early autumn.

◀ Retain buffer strip along stream channels and avoid streamside zones when skidding.

◀ Keep skidroads at lowest possible grades and water bar after harvesting is completed.

◀ Allow or provide for rapid revegetation.

### Nutrient Losses in Streamflow — Management Implications

■ "Overall, the nutrient losses resulting from strip cutting and block clearcutting at Hubbard Brook do not seem to be a major concern."

■ The "replacement mechanisms" (increased nitrification and decomposition of forest floor due to clearcutting, and nitrogen inputs from precipitation) are maintaining nutrient pools on the site at adequate levels for ecosystem growth. Exceptions may be nitrogen and potassium — more study is needed to adequately assess the cycling of these elements under different cutting regimes.

■ The nutrient impact of even-aged management practices can be significantly reduced by employing strip rather than block clearcutting, or by reducing the size of the clearcut

block; for example, do not remove over 25% of a given watershed area in one cutting cycle.

■ The authors add this word of caution: "Nutrient removals for whole-tree harvesting of northern hardwoods may be 2 to 3 times the values reported here ... and ... of much greater concern."

### Summary Conclusion

This general statement concludes the Hubbard Brook studies to date and should be quoted verbatim: "Commercial clearcutting of northern hardwoods, whether by progressive strips or blocks, is a severe disturbance to the forest ecosystem. However, our study indicates that if care is taken during logging, there should not be major adverse impacts on site nutrient capital, stand regeneration, or productivity. By the 10th year after harvest, hydrologic and nutrient budgets had returned nearly to preharvest levels, and a closed canopy had formed. Compared with block clearcutting, progressive strip cutting moderates effects on hydrologic and nutrient cycles ...".



### WES SUHR BIOGRAPHY

Forester (BS, U. MN), Forest Hydrologist (MS, U. AZ)

US Forest Service, 15 years: soil survey/timber site index (NM), forest administration and management (AZ), watershed and wildlife staff (AZ), regional hydrologist (CA).

Dept. of Watershed Mgt., U. AZ, 2 years: teaching forestry and research in watershed management.

SUNY, Wanakena Campus, Forest Technology Program (Ranger School), 15 years: teaching forestry, program director.

Private business: tree/shrub nursery; presently operating forest product sales and service, sole proprietor.

Wife, Carol; two daughters, Marie and Lisa, both married with families.



# Chapter Reports

## TIOGA CHAPTER NEWS

The revamped Tioga Chapter held a very successful Woodswalk near Candor on May 4. Hosts Jim Signs and Patrick McGlew led more than thirty woodswalkers through several planting and timber stand improvement projects. The observation of a Great Blue Heron rookery provided the thrill of the day. It was truly awesome to see their nesting activities at close range.

An innovative woodswalk addition was the display of many books and other literature. While not for sale, NYFOA members were made aware of the existence of many reference sources on a wide range of topics. **GOOD IDEA.**

KUDOS to Jim Signs for hosting and providing shelter (assuring perfect weather!); to Kelly Vick for her gracious handling of registration, resulting in several new NYFOA memberships; to Brent Henry, COOP EXT, for his help in organization and especially to Patrick McGlew for his leadership.

It is hoped that from the many enthusiastic attendees will emerge a few willing hands to help Pat sustain the future of this chapter.

After the woodswalk, Mary and Stuart McCarty visited Howard Ward, founder of the chapter and past president of NYFOA at his Candor home. Howard was pleased to learn of the successful rejuvenation of this important chapter.

On June 28, the Chapter toured Cotton-Hanlon sawmill. A report of this event could not make the publishing deadline of this issue of **THE NEW YORK FOREST OWNER.**

## AFC/JFC COMBINED ACTIVITY

**JULY 20, 1991** — Fitzpatrick and Weller, Inc., Mill Street, Ellicottville, NY (Cattaraugus County). 10:00 am. This combined AFC/NFC outing will tour the Fitzpatrick and Weller mill in the morning. A picnic is planned for the afternoon.

The mill tour will focus on the value added to wood products by the firm's dimension plants. This mill not only saws lumber, it also remanufactures that lumber into laminated kitchen cabinet panels, cabinet doors and other furniture parts. Many of these oak, maple and cherry products are exported to England and other European Countries.

The economic stimulus provided by such verticle integration is highly significant. So significant, in fact, that Fitzpatrick and Weller, Inc. was awarded the 1990 US Commerce Department Export Award for comparably-sized firms in New York State.

Our host will be Dana Fitzpatrick, President of Fitzpatrick and Weller International, LTD, the international marketing arm of the company. We are pleased to claim Dana as a member of the Allegheny Foothills Chapter of NYFOA.

Following the mill tour, we will travel to Betty Densmore's Canada Hill Road home for a family-style picnic. Please bring a dish to pass and your own meat to grill. Soft drinks and lemonade will be provided.

## THRIFT

Bonnie Colton, HILLTALK's editor reminds us that a previous reference to the "lesser Adirondacks" is never used; the expression is the "lesser wilderness" and the meaning of lesser is restricted to size.

HILLTALK reports a recent innovative "woodsride" by car whereby the participants reviewed clearcut, plantation row thinning that was too heavy, plantation row thinning that was just right, and other special forestry and forestry related sites. Worthy of special comment was a drive-by of the site preparation finally underway for the new \$42 million Biomass Energy Plant in Lyonsdale. This 19 megawatt generation plant is being built by Lyonsdale Energy, Ltd., a subsidiary of the Mitsubishi Corp. and is scheduled to open in the summer of 1992. In addition to the improvements

in the local economy the forests of Tug Hill and the people who own them will both be richer by the removal of the low grade product.

## WESTERN FINGER LAKES

Ray Wager reports in the WFL Newsletter that more than 200 people attended the March meeting, due in large part to an article in the **ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE** by Jim Castor and concerns raised by the ice storm damage to trees. The highlight of the evening was a presentation by CPA Jack Laschenski wherein he outlined IRS regulations concerning tax considerations for loss of timber due to a natural disaster. This program also featured a slide presentation on "Wetlands" by NYS DEC Reg 8 Wildlife Biologist Art Kirsch and special recognitions to DEC Foresters Mark Keister and Billy Morris. The May meeting examined 480A tax legislation and the scheduled speaker was Bill Tierson, former Forestry Manager of the 15,000 acre Huntington Wildlife Forest. June 1, Gary Buchanan arranged a woodswalk at the Hamilton's tree farm, where damage from the ice storm was severe.

Western Finger Lakes suggests an idea of considerable value at woodswalking and other events. Numbered 3" by 5" index cards are distributed to all attendees for suitable comment, the name is optional, the card is later returned for its information, and the number drawn for a prize. The potential for that idea is too great for the size of the card.

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## Membership Corner

By **DAVID J. COLLIGAN**,  
Chair, Membership Committee

Our organization is growing both in size and in the number and kind of activities it offers its members. Continued growth allows us even greater choices in the future. Last year we requested every member to tell a woodlot-owning friend about our organization and give them or have them sent a NYFOA membership brochure. Write NYFOA at PO Box 180, Fairport, NY 14450 with names and addresses of prospective members and brochures will be sent directly to the prospects.

There is tremendous potential for interaction with other organizations with common goals and parallel activities. A few of them are the Ruffed Grouse Society, the American Chestnut Association, the Wild Turkey Association, the Finger Lakes Trail Club and a number of outdoors and sportspersons clubs. Opportunities present themselves whenever these clubs hold meetings or have shows or exhibitions. Anyone from NYFOA

who is willing to attend such meetings of other organizations and distribute NYFOA brochures (even leaving them on a literature table designated for that purpose) can call me (716-832-3611) to receive an appropriate number of brochures. A booth or other display is a possibility provided you can arrange the schedule to tend it at least during peak hours and the cost is not prohibitive.

We also are looking for some publicity help. Our woodswalks, lectures, elections, etc. are all newsworthy events at least at the local level. We have all of the state's daily newspapers, addresses and names of outdoors editors, but we need someone who will take the time in advance to make the media contact, follow through with any help requested either in fact-finding or background material, and thank the media representative afterwards in order to maintain good future contacts. If interested, please call the undersigned. Madison Avenue experience is not required but a friendly, outgoing personality helps.

## S. 96 Sempronius

By **ALFRED SIGNOR**

Today we dedicate a Memorial Stone,  
Praying that "vandals" will leave it  
alone,

In memory of the U.S. Civilian Con-  
servation Corp.

May the memories live on forever  
more

The corps really started in thirty-  
three,

Roosevelt's Tree Army, "The  
C.C.C."

We were fed "beans" and also  
"stew",

When we were served "S.O.S." the air  
was BLUE.

We were issued clothes the army  
wore;

We scratched and dug till our butts  
were sore.

We worked and toiled in every way  
For the mighty sum of a "buck" a day.  
We had some time for play and fun  
after our day's work was done.

We always had to earn our pay  
it didn't come free — "That's The Mod-  
ern Way"

I can't help but think how worthwhile  
it would be,

if we once more could have the  
"C.C.C."

Perhaps it would get our young'uns  
back on track

Off their "butts", off "booze", and  
"crack".

"Love Lfee"



*Before the crowd; there were over 100 for the ceremony, everyone received a White Spruce furnished by the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District to remember the occasion.*

(Photo by Mary Hart)

(Continued on Page 19)

## A Walk in the Woods of Watkins Glen

By **CHARLES MOWATT**  
**R. FOX**

The woodswalk at Watkins Glen State Park on May 25 was a very successful introduction of NYFOA members to members of the Finger Lakes Trail Conference (FLTC).

The FLT Conference was organized in 1962 as the governing body to promote, instruct, and coordinate the building and maintenance of the trail system from the Catskills to Niagara Falls. Altogether the main trunk trail and its branches total nearly 800 miles. There are some forty separate individuals, groups or organizations that sponsor segments of the trail. Sponsors are responsible for the physical layout and the maintenance of the trail. Our hosts at the Watkins Glen woodswalk, the Finger Lakes Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) were the designated sponsors for that particular trail segment. The ADK tour guides were Larry Korner, Werner Angrick, Harriet Budke, Nick Vandam, and Avraham Michaeli.

The NYFOA woodswalkers learned how the trail was constructed and maintained. It was apparent that members of both organizations enjoyed similar attractions; for instance, the challenge to identify a calling bird or an unfamiliar plant. There were cautious discussions of harnessing the water power, harvesting the fish and wildlife, and forest management; and the suitability of such practices to the Park and privately owned natural resources.

Typical of the balance in spirit, was the balance in body: 13 from NYFOA, 13 from FLTC, and 3 more of the participants were members of both organizations. Former NYFOA Director and previous Chairman of the woodswalk Committee, Alec Proskine was an early designer of a segment of the Finger Lakes Trail.

Under the flag Stewardship there must be other organizations with compatible objectives to goals of NYFOA. We found this to be true of the Finger Lakes Trail hikers. Lovers of woodland have a common bond that transcends organizational structure and individual passions.



# Easy Target

By ERIC A. JOHNSON

I just returned from a long drive out to the Midwest and back, during which I was reminded that there's not a lot of interesting scenery along I-90 from New York to Wisconsin in early April, unless you enjoy looking at mile after mile of empty fields and farms. Me, I'd much rather look at trees.

One small consolation was that the boring, largely timber-free view through my windshield gave me a chance to think about a popular concern expressed by several people I met during my travels. "I don't think we ought to ever cut down another tree," one guy confided, "because global deforestation has gotten so bad that we really can't afford to lose any more trees."

Looking out at a farmscape unbroken by anything resembling a serious woodlot, I could sympathize with his anxiety.

"Look," I said, "I'm no authority on the rest of the world, but I do know that this country has more than enough trees — the big problem is that the percentage of *decent* timber seems to be on the decline." He asked me to define a "decent" tree and I explained the difference between good sawtimber and garbage.

As we talked, it began to dawn on me that the quality of the tree in the ground ought to be irrelevant to the person concerned about the greenhouse effect, as long as it's alive and growing and thus busy converting carbon dioxide into oxygen. To the uncompromising, reactionary environmentalist, in fact, a woodlot full of green garbage must be preferable to one supporting quality sawtimber, since the likelihood of someone coming by and harvesting timber from it is presumably much lower.

That brings up the question of why environmentalists — many of whom ought to know better — oppose timber harvesting in the first place. After all, cutting down mature trees frees up younger, more vigorous specimens, which convert more carbon dioxide to oxygen per acre than the trees they're replacing. It also raises the question

why environmentally knowledgeable people would be against a practice which transforms concentrated carbon (living wood) into more stable forms like framing lumber and furniture, rather than allowing the tree to immediately start releasing greenhouse gasses when it dies and decays.

The answer to this apparent inconsistency in the typical logging opponent's approach is one or more of the following: 1) ignorance; 2) a knee-jerk, philosophical opposition to interference by human beings in the affairs of Nature; or 3) a more practical concern about potential problems like the sedimentation of waterways, soil compaction or wildlife disruption.

Number three is a valid concern that most loggers today share, but the significance and impact of such mechanical damage and pollution — where it occurs — pales in comparison to the environmental disruption and destruction caused by the average farmer.

Why do we hear so little opposition by environmentalists and concerned citizens to an industry that routinely rips up the ground so that it can wash and blow away, pours tons of dangerous chemicals on each acre every year, and makes a habit of leveling forests and anything else that threatens to slow or otherwise impede production?

Part of the answer is that most Americans — if you put them on the spot and made them think about it — would agree that it's OK to tolerate some environmental degradation to

avoid starvation. Far fewer, unfortunately, feel the same way about the production of paper and furniture and lumber for shelter, even though these are arguably almost as important, and certainly a lot less frivolous than some agricultural products and practices that come to mind.

But pointing out the average person's blind spot doesn't explain the environmental lobby's silence.

Ironically, those who set the agenda for the environmental movement are well aware that agricultural production is much more damaging to the environment than timber production and harvesting. They also know that the American public has considerably more sympathy for the farmer and his way of life, than it does for the logger and the industry he represents. This makes the logger a much easier target than the farmer.

In recent years the U.S. environmental movement as a whole has become a big, powerful and well-financed political force. Contrary to what its promoters would have you believe, however, the movement's success has not come about through a sincere policy of tackling worthy causes based on their environmental merit. Instead, its leaders have chosen to ignore principle and environmental reality in order to pursue quick success — at your expense.

Johnson is editor of *Northern Logger and Timber Processor*. Reprinted from the May 1991 *Northern Logger*.



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# New York Forest Owners Association Fall Meeting Oct. 4 & 5, 1991 Allegany State Park — Salamanca, NY

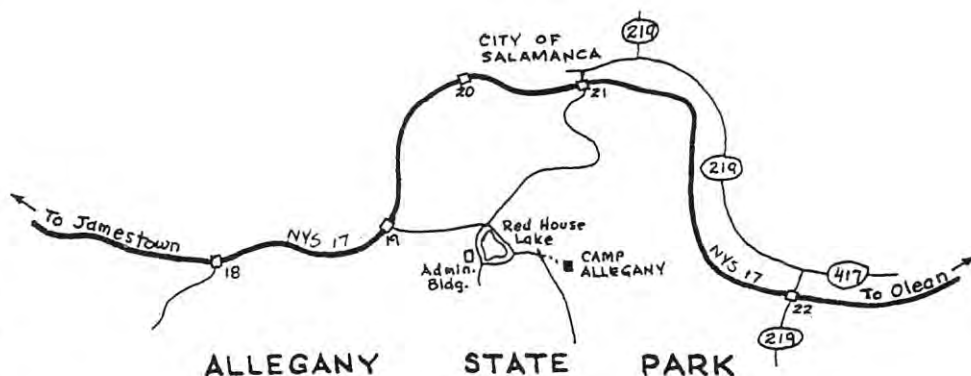
## AGENDA

### Friday, October 4

- 4:30 - 7:00 Registration at Camp Allegany  
Displays and Demonstrations
- 5:00 Cash Bar
- 7:00 Buffet Dinner — BBQ  
Chicken, country style ribs, potato, broccoli, salads, pies.
- 8:00 **SPEAKER:** Jim Rich, Allegany State Park Manager

### Saturday, October 5

- 7:00 - 8:00 Breakfast - Scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, french toast, home fries, fruit  
Prepare box lunches - turkey, ham, cheese sandwiches, chips, brownie, beverage
- 8:45 Depart by motorcade for Northeast Forest Experiment Station, Kane, PA (approx. 40 miles).
- 9:45 Arrive NEFES, Kane. Divide into smaller groups for tours of field studies carried out on the Experiment Station. Station Director, Susan Stout, plans to show us deer impact studies, control of interfering understory species and the results of various thinning intensities.
- 12:00 Box lunch
- 2:30 Conclude field tour and Fall Meeting.



Registration must be received by Sept. 25, 1991. However, space limitations necessitate limiting reservations to the first 100 paid applications. Therefore, **your prompt attention is urged.**

Return this form by September 25 with check payable to NYFOA to Betty Densmore, Route 1, Box 81A, Machias, NY 14101. Phone (716) 942-6600.

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

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Meals: Dinner, Breakfast and Box Lunch \$24.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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SATURDAY: Optional ..... \$11.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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FRIDAY: Each cabin, regardless of No. occupants \$42.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SATURDAY: Optional, first come, first served \$42.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



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# BRIEFS

## A Pause

Stubborn research has uncovered the origin of People and Trees: Partners In Time.

While at the Empire State Forest Products Association's Albany Spring Meeting, Dan Weller was pursued and interrogated on the matter. This effort was deferred to State Forester Bob Bathrick, who was also in attendance. The NY FOREST OWNER was dutifully informed that the expression was the creation of Ms. Gail Vaillancourt, a forester in New Hampshire. In 1990 New York State was designing an Arbor Day poster and sought her permission; State Forester Bathrick verified the lack of copyright and New York has "claimed" it ever since.

Ms. Vaillancourt recalled that the idea came to her during a brainstorming session in Portland, Me. in the summer of 1989. The slogan was to keynote a fall publication of the 20 state Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service.

However, New York State has chosen to separate the slogan by a comma; the NY FOREST OWNER, in the past used a semicolon; and occasionally a dash and the original publication employed a colon. US Forest Service Forester Vaillancourt was delighted to learn of New York's extensive use; and offered no comment on the matter of punctuation. If the principal matter of the moment in New York Forestry is our punctuation, we must have it all together.

## Selection Method Makes Uneven-Aged Forests

By D. TABER

I made a mistake in the article, "Logging for Forest Crops: What You Need to Know," published a few months ago.

In it I said that under the silvicultural system using the selection method, trees are "even-aged." Do you recognize the error?

As Ralph D. Nyland, professor of silviculture at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, reminded me, with the selection system for *uneven-aged* forest management, a forest and (community of similar trees) must have at least three distinct age classes.

Different age classes in an uneven-aged forest stand exist because each selection cutting removes mature trees to make space for the generation of a new age class. Each cutting also

thins the unmaturing trees to promote better diameter growth. The selection cutting (not "selective cutting," which removes the biggest, best, or most valuable trees) ensures that three things happen at each treatment:

1. Mature crop trees are removed.
2. The best immature trees are tended to by removing ones that are competing, deformed, slow growing, and/or low value.
3. A new age class of seedlings is established in the space previously occupied by the mature trees.

These are some of the key factors for successful uneven-aged management. In fact, when done appropriately, selection cutting will result in a forest stand with trees of different ages scattered throughout. And that makes the stand uneven-aged.

## Main Tree-Spiking Law Being Pushed

Maine loggers, land managers and environmentalists recently called for criminal sanctions against anyone who drives spikes into Maine trees in an attempt to stop or slow logging operations. Maine Forest Council executive director Edward I. Johnston, in testimony before the Maine legislature's Judiciary Committee, characterized tree spikers as "spineless" and compared tree spiking to poisoning medicine capsules and putting razor blades in apples.

Last year the environmental terrorist group Earth First! spiked 400 old growth trees in and around the Big Reed Preserve. Loggers equipped with metal detectors have found and recovered only about 100 of the spikes

so far, and a few spiked logs have found their way into sawmills.

Tree spiking advocates, for their part, say they are not frightened or likely to be dissuaded from further spiking incidents in the future. "Even before this bill, the people who did it considered the act illegal," Earth First! member Gary Lawless recently told the Associated Press. Jonathan Carter, an Earth First! spokesman, said he foresees prison sentences for future tree spikers, who he says feel their efforts to save the forests are worth the punishment. "If we sit back and let due process take place it will be too late," Carter said, adding, "What is happening is analogous to the Boston Tea Party."

## Is the Sierra Club Selling Out?

Dissident members of the Sierra Club, according to the Associated Press, say the environmental group is selling out — compromising its ecological values as it gains political clout in Congress. "There's a climate of almost revolt at the grass-roots level," one disgruntled Sierra Club

member is quoted as saying, adding, "The business of making deals and using our native forests as a bargaining chip is appalling." The critics say they want to publicize the internal wrangling over the political strategy so that the 598,000-member organization will be shamed into

endorsing more extreme proposals to halt logging on federal land. "We have destroyed 95 percent of America's forests," another Club member contends. "We should be trying to save every last stick of what is left," he notes.



(Continued from Page 14)

# Forests Forever- Forests Are Essential to Our Lives

"Forests Forever — Forests are Essential to Our Lives" is scheduled to be a dynamic seminar on August 16, 1991 at the New York State Woodsmen's Field Days in Boonville, NY. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. with registration at 6:30 p.m. Speakers on the program who will discuss such things as maximizing the enjoyment and benefits of our forests are as follows.

\* John R. Courtney, Jr., President of the New York State Timber Producers Association; and owner and manager of his own logging and pulpwood firm in the Adirondacks.

\* Vincent P. Chebetar, Jr., Immediate Past President of the New York Institute of Consulting Foresters; and a Forest-Manager with FORECOM (Forestry, Recreation, Ecology, and Conservation), Inc. of Avon (near Rochester), NY

\* Daniel W. Weller, Chief, Bureau of Forest Resource Management, Division of Lands and Forests, NYS

Department of Environmental Conservation; and a coordinator for the "Forest Stewardship Program" and the "Community Urban Forestry Program," throughout New York State.

According to David W. Taber, Cornell Cooperative Extension forestry specialist with the Department of Natural Resources at Cornell University, "understanding forest stewardship and incentives for promoting increased benefits from our privately owned forests will be an inspiring part of the seminar."

As part of the New York State Woodsmen's Field Days, the seminar, which is open to the public, is sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension and New York Forest Owner's Association. For additional information, contact the NYS Woodsmen's Field Days (Phyllis A. White, Executive Secretary), P.O. Box 123, Boonville, NY 13309 (Tel. 315/942-4593).

## NYS Woodsmen's Field Days — Boonville

The New York State Woodsmen's Field Days is expected to attract some 15-20,000 people interested in a variety of aspects of forestry in the state on August 16-18, 1991 in Boonville, NY. For special information about the educational, entertaining, and

recreational forestry field days, local facilities, and/or a flier on the schedule of activities at the event contact Phyllis A. White, Executive Secretary, NYS Woodsmen's Field Days, P.O. Box 123, Boonville, NY 13309 (Tel. 315/942-4593).

## Et tu, MCI?

Following on the heels of a recent announcement and advertising campaign by U.S. Sprint, telephone long - distance rival MCI Communications Corp. has announced its own environmental group donation scheme, according to the American Pulpwood Association (APA). "Through this unique and innovative program," MCI recently announced, "MCI, along with four of the nation's leading environmental groups, can heighten awareness and provide funding for many critically important conservation and preservation efforts."

Under the agreement, according to the APA, MCI will contribute five percent of the monthly phone bill of new subscribers and four percent of the phone bill of existing customers

who want it, to: the National Audubon Society, the National Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited and The Nature Conservancy. The APA says that two of these groups, National Audubon and the National Wildlife Federation are "the most litigious preservationist groups in the country. To date, their combined appeal and lawsuit efforts have caused the closure of 53 Pacific Northwest sawmills and the unemployment of 4,327 Northwestern U.S. forest workers.

The APA urges concerned loggers and others to contact William G. McGowen, Chairman and CEO, MCI Communications Corp., 1133 19th St. N.W., Washington, DC 20036, to make their views known.

## SUNY-ESF' Whaley Named '90 Forester of the Year

Dr. Ross S. Whaley, president of the State University College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF) recently received the 1990 Forester of the Year Award from the New York Chapter of the Society of American Foresters.

The award was presented to Whaley at the January meeting of the chapter in Kingston, NY. The award was the first of its category presented by the chapter to acknowledge sustained, long-term contributions to forestry by an individual.

In part, the award reads, "In recognition of your outstanding contributions to the practice and profession of forestry, the conservation and stewardship of forest resources in New York, and the objectives of the Society of American Foresters."

Whaley was chairman of the Governor's Task Force on Forest Industry in New York, a member of the Governor's Commission on the Adirondack Park in the 21st Century, and a member of the Interstate Task Force on Northern Forest Lands Survey. This year Whaley serves as president of the national Society of American Foresters (SAF), a scientific and educational organization of 20,000 members. The SAF is the accrediting institution of the nation's forestry education programs and vigorously promotes a professional code of ethics.

Whaley has written or co-authored several dozen professional papers and speaks nationwide on environmental issues. Dr. Whaley was the principal speaker at NYFOA's 1988 Fall Meeting held at Croton Point Park and The Heiberg Award Winner in 1990.

From the June Issue of *The Northern  
Logger & Timber Processor.*

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# NY State 1991 Envirothon — a Winning Program

By NANCY STEVENS

Challenging young minds through the spirit of competition is the notion behind the New York State Envirothon. While the concept may be innovative, the long-range goal is one that Soil and Water Conservation Districts have been striving to achieve since their inception: teaching our young people to become responsible conservation-minded adults.

The program originated in Pennsylvania in 1984 and has since spread to other states. The idea for a New York State competition started in Cayuga County with James Hotaling, director of the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District. Hotaling notes that in 1990, the first year of the New York State Envirothon, three counties (Cayuga, Cortland, and Onondaga) sent teams to the state competition. In one year, the program has expanded to include eighteen counties from across the state.

For a county district team to qualify for the state event, a county must first hold a local event that is open to students 9 through 12. Districts work closely with high schools by providing them with study materials and helpful suggestions.

Each team is comprised of five students representing the same school. During the competition, each team rotates through five testing stations where they are asked questions relating to aquatics, wildlife, soils, forestry, and current environmental issues. Each station must be completed within 30 minutes. The team with the highest cumulative score in the five subject areas becomes the local winner and represents their respective counties at the New York State Envirothon.

At the state level, the Envirothon is coordinated by a steering committee composed of representatives from the NY Conservation Districts Employees Association, NY Association of Conservation Districts, USDA Soil Conservation Service, NYS Soil and Water Conservation Society. Funding is provided by the New York Power Authority, the Power Authority, as a matter of policy, promotes projects to protect the environment statewide.

The New York State Envirothon was held on May 22 and May 23, 1991

at Casowasco Conference Center on the shores of Owasco Lake. The students arrived on Wednesday afternoon and began their stay by participating in a nature walk with Stephen Davison, the Region 7 Forester from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. Later that evening, the youths were treated to an educational campfire program conducted by George Steele.

The actual competition started the following morning and continued into the early afternoon. Five main agencies assisted with the testing stations. The wildlife station hosted by Dianna Ellis from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service asked students to identify birds, animal tracks, and natural processes.

Diane Kuehn from Sea Grant provided questions on aquatic vegetation, aquatic insects, and fish identification at the aquatics station.

Hosting the soils station was Tyrone Goddard from the USDA Soil Conservation Service. At this station, the teams answered questions relating to soil types and site suitability.

Steve Davison, from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation challenged teams with questions on forest management practices, tree identification, and gypsy moths at the forestry station.

The current environmental issues station was hosted by George Steele, an Environmental Educator with the NYS D.E.C. This station covered a variety of topics including solid waste, hazardous waste, recycling, and energy conservation.

After each rotation, the team scores were quickly posted which fostered a sense of competition. After the last rotation, the score board was taken down so the final winner would not be revealed until the awards ceremony. The competition was very close, with only a point and half difference separating the first and second place winners.

The team from Greenville High School representing Greene County emerged as the winner of the state competition and will represent New York State at the National Envirothon to be held in Maine later this summer. Team members included Mark Duncan, Sarah Orris, Heather Rauf, Erik Richardson, and Brooks Wright. Cincinnatus High School from Cortland County placed second, while Weedsport High School from Cayuga County took third. To celebrate their victory the Greenville High School Team threw one of their advisors, Greene Co. SWCD Manager Rene VanSchaack, in the lake.

*(Continued on Page 19)*



*The Weedsport Team at the Wildlife Station. Picture shows the Weedsport team from Cayuga County at the Wildlife Station. Shown from left to right, Jason Smith, Kevin Harris, Andrew Andalora, John Slauson and Brian Derby.*



# New York's Outstanding Tree Farmers Named

By DAVE TABER

The New York State Tree Farm Committee has selected its Outstanding Tree Farmers for 1991. Robert and Audrey Childs from Cattaraugus County are this year's recipients of the award which signifies excellence in forest management, land stewardship, and commitment to the Tree Farm Program. The award is sponsored by the American Tree Farm System of Washington, DC, as part of its national program.

The Childses, of the Childs Blueberry Farm in Humphrey, NY, were nominated as the 1991 Outstanding Tree Farmers of New York State by Bruce E. Robinson and David J. Waldron. Waldron is a service forester for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC), Division of Lands and Forests. In recent years, Waldron has provided technical assistance to the Childses. Robinson, a consulting professional forester of Jamestown, NY, and a member of the New York State Tree Farm Committee, was a former service forester with the NYS DEC and has provided professional forestry assistance to the owners since 1970.

In 1965 when the Childses bought the woodland, they immediately received technical support from another NYS DEC forester, employed before Robinson, who helped them develop a management plan to meet their needs and improve their woodland.

Before they bought the 100 - acre woodland, it had been abused by poor logging practices. The Childses have cared for and managed their woods to improve its quality and productivity during their 26 years of ownership. Recommendations and guidance on silviculture, tree planting, and pruning were provided over the years by the professional foresters. The family's observations, experiments, and cultivation activities have provided a wealth of environmental education about animals, trees, and wild and cultivated plants.

Bob and Audrey Childs and their three children, R. Peter, Daniel, and Nancy, have actively thinned and pruned the family homestead's woodland. (R. Peter also proudly owns a 15-acre Certified Tree Farm to which he plans to add 153 additional



*Robert P. Childs and his wife, Audrey (couple on left) are recognized at their sugarhouse, after learning that they are the Outstanding Tree Farmers in New York State for 1991. Rejoicing with them in early springtime, when they were notified of the award, are Cornell Cooperative Extension staff of Cattaraugus County Thomas M. Livak, a Horticulturist - Naturalist; and Joan S. Petzen, Agriculture Program Leader. It is April 5, and they are gathered at the new sugarhouse (built in 1990 with custom sawn lumber from home - grown beech trees), as the wood fueled evaporator inside produces the last run of maple syrup for the season.*

(Forest Stewardship Photo by Taber)

acres that he purchased in 1991.) For over 20 years, 20-60 face cords of firewood have been produced from forest thinnings to meet the family's needs. Their original home in East Aurora (near Buffalo) was heated with wood; and the family's weekend work on their Humphrey, NY property provided pleasure as they improved the forest and obtained needed fuel.

In 1985 they "retired" from city life to the country where they could spend more time cultivating the land and forest. On their property in Humphrey, they moved into a new wood-framed and wood-sided home built according to their specifications. It was especially well insulated to conserve energy and effectively use passive solar heat. In addition, a barrel stove, made by Bob Childs from a kit, heats the house, although an unused electric heating system exists as a backup.

In developing the woods, the Childses favored sugar maple trees because they were able to produce an early return on their investment while using the woods to provide maple syrup. In 1991 they had some 500 taps and produced about 75 gallons of

maple syrup including a specialty product, "blueberry maple syrup." Their son Daniel, a high school teacher of business and an adjacent property owner, has filed for a patent on his new food product, blueberry maple syrup, as part of the extended family tree farm and fruit farm enterprise.

In 1990 the family built a sugarhouse with beech lumber sawn on a contract basis by a local business with a portable bandsaw mill. The logs came from trees marked for removal by NYS DEC service forester Waldron. They removed the designated trees from the property during their woodland cultivation operations to improve the present quality of the forest and its future growth. In addition to providing lumber for the sugarhouse (where sap is evaporated into maple syrup), the trees yielded fuelwood from small stems, lumber to build an addition on Daniel's home, and boards to sell for construction projects to people in the community. In total, the owners have harvested 5,000 board feet of red oak on a single tree selection basis.

(Continued on Page 19)



# The Empire State Forest Products Association's Annual Spring Meeting

By R. FOX

Sixty-five people met at the Albany Hilton Hotel May 8 for ESFPA's annual Albany get-together. The morning agenda included comments on the New York State Budget from a business point of view by Edward Reinfurt, vice president of the Business Council of NYS.

Mr. Reinfurt explained the delays in the budget process as efforts to make new policy decisions. The major portion of the morning session was devoted to the role of forest management in working landscapes. The first part of the portion was presented by long time NYFOA supporter, Bob Quinn, Regional Project Coordinator for the Tug Hill Commission. Bob reviewed the role of the Tug Hill Commission and the formation of a unique inter-municipal agreement among fourteen townships (PATH) to regulate the forest management practices of the region. The second part of regional efforts to regulate management was downstate and provided information on the forest management of the New York City Watershed.

In the afternoon, after a short review of the project Learning Tree (PLT), the program celebrated 50 years of Tree Farm efforts with

remarks by Lester DeCoster, VP, American Forest Council, Washington, DC. Notable in this presentation was Mr. DeCoster's reference to an urban Backyard Tree Farm program proposed to the N.Y.C. Superintendent of Schools and the accompanying remark: "If we can make it there; then we can make it anywhere."

1990 Outstanding Tree Farmers Harriet and Dr. John Hamilton, NYFOA members of the Western Finger Lakes Chapter were invited to give the ups and downs of tree farming on their land near Wayland in Livingston County. Harriet started with the ups because Jack averred the occasion was one of the few times he would get the last word. After seniorities of 60 years for Harriet and 40 years for Jack were compared, and descriptions of many Stewardship efforts, Harriet concluded her highs with the comment: "We are grateful that we have had the opportunity to spread the gospel of growing better trees for better living. Dr. Hamilton reported, they lost money.

As a conclusion to the 50 year celebration, Mike Virga of Lyons Falls Pulp & Paper, NYS Tree Farm Committee Chairman gave a report of the New York State Tree Farm

Program and introduced the 1991 Outstanding Tree Farmers, Bob and Audrey Childs, members of NYFOA, Allegheny Foothills Chapter. (Page 17 for article).

The Program concluded with a presentation of the ESFPA publication, Forest Policy Summary for 1990, which contains a critique of issues and legislation, a legislator report card and short descriptions of ESFPA programs. State Forester Bob Bathrick reviewed the Stream Crossing Permit process. Joseph Martens, Assistant Secretary to the Governor reiterated the Governor's support for the conclusions expressed by the 1989 Task Force on the Forest Industry; and to that end the Governor announced he would create a Forest Products Resource Development Council to inform the governor on ways to facilitate forest industry.

Finally a workshop for "talking to legislators" was offered for those first timers who wished to attend. Between 5:00 and 7:00 PM an informal Legislative Reception was held in the Legislative Office Building providing an opportunity for legislators, legislative aids, and ESFPA members to exchange concerns and interests.

## NYFOA Activities —

*(Continued from Page 3)*

Extension Foresters in the following states: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Oregon and Canada.

Many of these contacts came from a talk I was invited to give in Hartford, Connecticut last fall presenting NYFOA as a case study for the effective use of volunteers. This gave us national exposure and many of the attendees seemed impressed with our statewide organization. It gave me the chance to emphasize the strong role of volunteers in our chapters, which has become the life blood of this organization.

So what does this all add up to?? Two important things!!

First, our organization is becoming better known and respected at an ever

increasing rate. I am amazed at the flow of inquiries into the office for information about us and about how to become members. They come from a wide variety of places resulting from our new outreach into the entire environmental community. I also see new leadership volunteering itself as people see our presence and capabilities in this outreach process. Capable people like to be part of an organization with valuable goals and the commitment to reach them. NYFOA is clearly presenting that image in more and more places. And this image is not just coming from the illustrations listed above but from everyone of our chapters and their dedicated people who are making it happen where it really counts.

Second, I truly believe we are at a new era of opportunity. The public awareness of environmental needs is

ever increasing. Our relationship to a wide variety of supporting agencies and organizations has never been better. Federal and state agencies, through the new Stewardship Incentive Program (SIP), will be able to provide appreciable levels of financial support in the near future.

So the stage is set, the opportunities are available, its up to us, to make our organizational goals a reality!! And lets not forget that those goals really do lead to getting the right things done in our woodlots and on our lands. Just growing NYFOA to a larger size is not one of the goals, it is an important part of the strategy.

\*"Log Scales And Other Useful Information" may be ordered from: The Northeastern Loggers' Assoc.; PO Box 69; Old Forge, NY 13420; (315) 369-3078.



## S. 96 Sempronius —

(Continued from Page 11)

"Lfee", as he is familiarly known, read this poem at the ceremony held Arbor Day, April 26, 1991 to an appreciative audience. There were eight former members of the "C.C.C.'s" present. S. 96 Sempronius refers to the official designation of the reforestation camp which was located nearby.



"Bob Sand representing the NYFOA Board ended the ceremony by recalling the responsible NYS Conservation Department foresters of the CCC era, and passed out copies of 'The Emergency Conservation Act' which created the original Corps."

(Photo by Mary Hart)

## NYS Envirothon —

(Continued from Page 16)

The top three winners received a plaque as well as a cash prize to be used for environmental education at their school. Each participant received a certificate and a t-shirt. More importantly, all the students left with a greater knowledge and appreciation of our environment.

If you would like to learn more about the Envirothon, contact your local Soil & Water Conservation District or James Hotaling at 248 Grant Avenue, Auburn, NY 13021.

Nancy Stevens, is the Education Program Assistant with Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District.

## President's Message —

(Continued from Page 2)

for several years, and Harold Petrie, who was particularly helpful as Chairman of the Nominating Committee for a number of years. All, along with Dick Fox, completed two terms of six years. We also thank Morgan Heussler who finished a year as treasurer after having been President for two years. He said being President was easier! We appreciate the service they all rendered to NYFOA.

Stuart McCarty

## NY's Outstanding Named —

(Continued from Page 17)

A 35-year-old red pine plantation on the property, during two improvement thinnings, has produced timber for log cabins and poles for landscaping walkways.

The Childses planted Christmas trees simultaneously with fruit trees in an "agro-forestry" type of cultivation to develop a 2-acre orchard of pear, apple, plum, and cherry trees. Once they harvest the white spruce Christmas trees, the fruit trees that will have grown to fill the space will still be in production. They also grow some black and Carpathian walnuts in the orchard.

The Childses are experimenting with growing shiitake mushrooms on limbs from oak trees, under the shade of a stand of spruce trees. In addition, Bob Childs initiated a fertilization study in 1990 in his 35-year-old red pine plantation to evaluate how fertilizer and lime affect the growth rate of the trees.

They have built five ponds, including three small ones, on the property by the excavation of naturally wet areas. They have stocked the ponds with a variety of fish including large mouth bass. In addition, the ponds attract wildlife. Great blue herons, wood ducks, teal, mallards, and wild Canada geese are common visitors. Deer are plentiful too. Thirty - four homemade, strategically placed wooden bluebird houses have attracted four families of bluebirds, house wrens, and 17 pairs of nesting tree swallows. The family has built five bird houses for wood ducks, and one was used in 1990.

They are cooperators in the New York Nest Box Network project that works for bluebird conservation and is

affiliated with the Audubon Society of New York State.

Bob and Audrey Childs are active in the New York Forest Owners Association (NYFOA). Audrey Childs is secretary of the Allegheny Foothills Chapter of NYFOA.

Bob and Audrey are both Master Gardeners, certified volunteers with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cattaraugus County. In that capacity they donate their time to answer questions about gardening and tree farming at the Cooperative Extension education center.

Their farm is composed of a variety of innovative, small-scale, crop-cultivation applications. In addition to their tree and wildlife efforts, they grow asparagus, blueberries, currants, wild blackberries, raspberries and strawberries. Known by many consumers for its blueberries, maple syrup, and jams, the Childs Blueberry Farm exemplifies some farming alternatives. And the family is active at marketing the farm products at farmers markets in the urban areas of Buffalo, Tonawanda, Hamburg, Olean and East Aurora.

Their farm has been the site of several educational events including a NYFOA Woods Walk, Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardener tour, and a 4-H youth tour.

On April 4, 1991, the Cattaraugus County Soil and Water Conservation District recognized Bob and Audrey Childs when it honored them at its awards banquet as the Outstanding Forest Owner of Cattaraugus County.

On April 27 at the annual spring meeting of the New York Forest Owners Association at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, the New York State Tree Farm Committee officially announced that Robert and Audrey Childs are the Outstanding Tree Farmers of New York State for 1991.

For additional information about the American Tree Farm System (the tree farm program for private owners of at least ten acres of woodland), forest stewardship, and how foresters can help you with planting and caring for woodland trees, contact any of the following:

1. Regional Forestry Offices of NYS DEC.
2. Michael Virga, Chairman, NYS Tree Farm Committee, American Tree Farm System, Lyons Falls Pulp & Paper, Inc., P.O. Box 338, Lyons Falls, NY 13368.



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## Fall Meeting —

*Continued from Page 13)*

You are invited to choose from among several accommodations offered in and near Allegany State Park.

**Camp Allegany** is a group camp constructed in the 1970's to house resident camper/workers in the Young Adult Conservation Corps. It consists of two dormitory buildings, a mess hall, a recreation building and the meeting room recently constructed by the College of Environmental Science & Forestry.

The dormitories will accommodate up to six people in each room. These heated sleeping rooms have hardwood floors, single cots with mattresses and metal wall lockers. You must bring your own bedding and towels. Each of the two dormitories will house a maximum of about 30 people.

In order to provide a bed for as many as possible, it will be necessary to reserve one dormitory for women and a separate one for men. There are two bathrooms **inside** each dormitory building. There are multiple facilities in each bathroom.

Cost of dormitory accommodations: \$11 per person, per night.

Although NYFOA activities end Saturday afternoon, the dormitory facilities will be available for those desiring to stay Saturday night.

**Congdon Trail Cabins.** These cabins are a part of the rentals regularly available at Allegany State Park. Congdon Trail is located within walking distance of Camp Allegany. We have reserved all 16 cabins on Congdon Trail for NYFOA use on Friday night.

Each cabin is 17' x 23', single room, winterized with a refrigerator, gas heater and two double bunks (four beds).

Bathing and toilet facilities are located in a building separate from individual cabins, but within easy walking distance.

Cost of each Congdon Trail cabin is \$42 per night. You must bring your own bedding and towels. You are encouraged to make cabin reservations in the name of four occupants known to you (for example, two couples). These cabins will also be available for rental on Saturday night, but we cannot guarantee reservations for Saturday night unless paid reservations are received prior to commitment to public rental.

Meals, dormitory and Congdon Trail cabin rentals will be accepted through NYFOA by using the accompanying reservation form.

## WOODLOT CALENDAR

**July 10,** "Clearcut and TSI" CAY, Summerhill State Forest, 6 PM by DEC Steve Davison; W. Hatfield (315) 497-1078.

**July 20,** AFC/NFC; Fitzpatrick and Weller, Inc. Saw Mill Tour 10 AM; Betty Densmore at (716) 942-6600.

**Aug. 16 - "Forests Forever - Forests Are Essential to Our Lives"** NYFOA/Cornell Cooperative Extension - sponsored seminar; 6:30 PM, Boonville.

**Aug. 16 - 18 - NYS Woodsmen's Field Days;** Boonville; contact P. White, Ex. Sec. P.O. Box 123, (315) 942-4593.

**Aug. 24 - NYFOA Woodwalk;** 10 AM, C. Mowatt at (607) 583-7006 (see map).

**September 25 - NYFOA Fall Meeting -** Be sure to make reservation (see map)

**NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE IS AUGUST 1, FAX TO: (315) 497-0410.**

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