

# Chairman's Corner

Submitted by Bob Wood



**NYFOA**  
 New York Forest Owners Association

ALLEGHENY FOOTHILLS



This will be my last article as the AFC Chair, as per our new/revised “organizational guidelines”, we made the Chairman’s term a maximum of 4 years. These were formally put in place last year. And while this effort was a tedious, time consuming and one of the least exciting tasks, I do want to personally thank Mike Jabot, Vic Richardson and Dick Brennan for the diligent efforts to ensure the Chapter guidelines became a reality. I also want to thank our AFC Steering Committee and other members for their time and energy, which is provided on a volunteer basis, to ensure we have an interesting and educational events schedule. Many of these same folks provide coverage for the NYFOA booths we have at the Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Fairs.

Four years goes quickly and while there were and continue to be issues pertaining to retaining and increasing NYFOA/AFC membership, I believe we have made progress. Membership has stabilized and we and our NYFOA State-wide board have continued to look at “best practices” via marketing the benefits the NYFOA membership offers. Locally, we, (our AFC), have sponsored some excellent events, including one which provided us with a tour of the Chautauqua Institution by Betsy Burgeson, who is the Supervisor of Gardens and Landscapes. She shared with us the EAB infestation and talked candidly about treatment approaches, including demonstrating the inoculation procedure and its awesome costs. This event and others help illustrate issues to address as our woodlands continue to be bombarded by more destructive insects and diseases, including impacts from Mother Nature, e.g. the weather.

I believe our woodland owners’ walks/tours have continued to be one of our most popular, educational and valuable event endeavors. I hope more of you fine members will offer us the opportunity to tour your woodland. This year is off to a good start, with 2 events already taken place. We have our annual Summer Picnic and Chapter Steering Committee elections coming up on Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM at the Audubon Society Center. I hope you can make it. Please schedule some extra time so you can tour this remarkable “nature center” resource we have in our own backyard.

Again, thank you for your support to our Chapter.

## Mark Your Calendars—Upcoming NYFOA AFC Events

<b>July 20 (10:00 AM)</b>	<b>Annual Picnic</b>	Jamestown Audubon
<b>September 14 (9:30 AM)</b>	<b>Joint Woods Walk</b>	Friendship, NY
<b>September 21 (10:00 AM)</b>	<b>Brennan Woodswalk</b>	Ellicottville, NY

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CHAIRMAN’S CORNER	1
UPCOMING EVENTS	1
JOINT WOODS WALK	2
BRENNAN WOODS WALK	2
NYS TREE FARM PRESENTATION	3
STUMPAGE PRICE REPORT	3
ANNUAL MEETING	4
CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY FAIR	5
NEW MEMBERS	6

### Chapter Board of Directors:

• Bob Wood— Chair	(716) 945-4849
• Dick Brennan—Vice-Chair	(716) 699-4125
• Otis Barber—Secretary	(716) 962-8175
• Tony Pingitore— Treasurer	(716) 962-4041
• Dick Patton—NYFOA Rep.	(716) 761-6333
• Jim Barber—Steering Committee	(716) 962-9027
• Tom Deacon —Steering Committee	(716) 358-3529
• Vic Richardson.—Steering Committee	(716) 792-9559
• Mark Rivard —Steering Committee	(716) 835-5516
• Dan Anderson—Planning Coord.	(716) 640-5549
• Mike Jabot—Newsletter/PR	(716) 673-3639

---

## Joint Woods Walk—Western Finger Lakes Chapter & Allegany Foothills Chapter - September 14

Submitted by Colette Morabito

"High-grading is a *natural* phenomena in all woodlots. It has been so intentionally perfected beyond the natural in private forests, however, that we consider it to be universally negative. In reality, high grading is well established in a developing forest long before the first commercial cutting. We will look at several stages of a forest, including seedlings, saplings, small poles, large poles, and several size classes of sawtimber. In addition to forest stages we will look at how different species cope: from the tenacious bully beech to the 'I'm out of here early succession losers'. Time elements must be considered, especially learning how this affects *all woodlots*. Putting all of this together enables efficient intervention in our woodlots. When is releasing effective? Are we considering the whole forest with every action, or are we satisfied to 'take care of that sucker that was thought to be so offensive'? Are there target species that should not appear in any woodlot, thus deserving to be universally attacked? What are acceptable growing stock trees and what universal stocking level(s) should apply?

Understanding high grading is just one more tool in managing a forest stand. The same low, natural fork that allowed a tree to out-compete its neighbors could have been identified and removed with a pruning shear, or later a long-handled lopper, or later yet a chain saw. The untreated tree is skipped during harvest because its quality 'doesn't cut it'. It increases in size and dominance. When sufficient numbers exist, we might even blame high grading for degrading a stand.

Cutting is the most expedient method of reversing high grading. Learning how to cut poor trees which *directly* benefit the residual is key. If nothing else, we will learn to reward laziness and justify neglect!"

Bruce Robinson, Consulting Forester, shall be leading the woods walk held at 6067 White Creek Road, Friendship, NY 14711 on Saturday September 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30.

Light breakfast refreshments served before we venture into the woods. Some walking required-wear proper

---

## BRENNAN's WOODS WALK—Saturday September 21

Submitted by Dick Brennan

This is an opportunity to view a just completed Ash timber harvest and timber stand improvement (TSI) project on a 50 acre woodlot. In addition, you'll see a deer fence enclosure of approximately 1 acre that was completed as part of the project. The property is located on **7773 Fancy Tract Rd, Ellicottville NY 14731 approximately 6 miles east of the Village of Ellicottville NY. 10:00am – 1:00pm** Supervising forester of the project, Eric Stawitzky, will be on hand to answer questions.

Coffee will be provided. Hot dogs/hamburgers will be available at the conclusion. The woodlot is approximately ¼ mile from the parking area on a hill behind the house. It is accessed via a newly graded log road. A UTV and a pickup truck will be available for those not desiring or able to make the walk up the hill.

**Travel Directions:** From the Village of Ellicottville go east on NY 242 for approximately 6 miles, then turn left (north) onto Fancy Tract Rd. and immediately go over a RR crossing – **Caution this is an active line** – proceed ½ mile on Fancy Tract Rd. and the property will be on the West (left) side. The house has a row of mature white

On May 9th Eric Stawitzky of Pioneer Forestry gave a presentation at the Randolph Community Center and stayed around to answer questions. Fifteen people attended. Eric is the Tree Farm chair for area 11 which is the western region of NY state. The NY Tree Farm Program is a voluntary program that encourages woodland owners to engage in good stewardship around four areas: wood, water, wildlife, and recreation. The program has been in existence since 1941 and has recently evolved to the current emphasis on accountability. Unlike organizations that focus more on information, it requires the woodland owner to be held accountable for the goals and activities described in their management plan.

Although the landowner has flexibility in developing the plan and in managing their land, they must address 8 areas of sustainability and demonstrate evidence to a Tree Farm representative that the stated activities have been completed before they can be certified as a tree farm. Eric emphasized that the program may not appeal to all woodland owners and that the plan requires management of paper work as well as the woodlot. However, it does take an owner's good intentions and forces a focus on activities that will be required and documented. In a busy world many of us need this structure to act.

Certification is a representation of a thoughtfully managed woodlot, an example for others to follow, an encouragement to the next generation to follow, and has the possibility for improving the marketability of wood products that are managed responsibly. For more information about gaining certification, contact [nytreefarm.org](http://nytreefarm.org). A spe-

### Stumpage Price Report

[https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands\\_forests\\_pdf/sprwinter19.pdf](https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/sprwinter19.pdf)

*The mission of the New York Forest Owners Association (NYFOA) is to promote sustainable forestry practices and improved stewardship on privately owned woodlands in New York State. NYFOA is a not-for-profit group of people who care about NYS's trees and forests and are interested in the thoughtful management of private forests for the benefit of current and future generations.*



**NYFOA**  
New York Forest Owners Association

---

## Annual Meeting

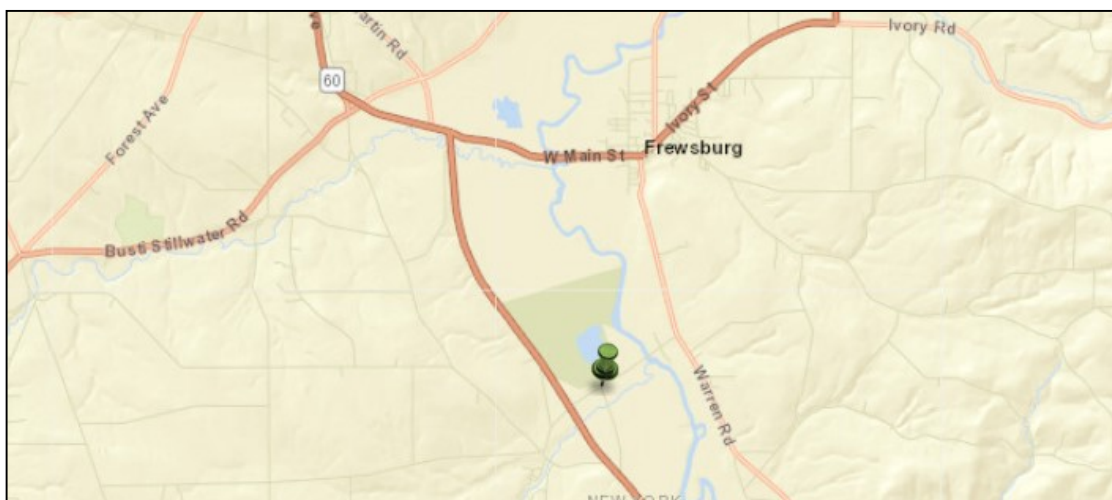
Submitted by Dan Anderson

The NYFOA Summer Picnic will be held on Saturday July 20th at Audubon Society located on River Rd out of Frewsburg

The Audubon Nature Center covers over 600 acres and has a number of attractions. It is located at 1600 Riverside Rd, Jamestown, NY (map below). just outside of Frewsburg, NY. Easiest directions are to get off I-86 at Kennedy, and pick up RT. 62 and head towards Frewsburg (away from Kennedy). Follow 62 through Frewsburg for about a mile to the traffic signal. Turn left on 62 and drive for about two miles to Riverside Rd. Turn left and after about 1/2 mile the Audubon Center is on your left side.

Our chapter meeting will be at 10:00 followed by lunch. We are asking everyone to bring a dish to pass. AFC will provide beverages, table service, plates , napkins, and cups. We welcome members to come earlier if they would like.

At the Annual Meeting, we will be voting on two amendments to the Operational Guidelines that were approved by the Executive Committee last year. We hope you can make it!



---

## Amendments to Operational Guidelines

Submitted by Dick Brennan

At our Annual Meeting, we will be voting on the two amendments to our Operational Guidelines listed below:

### Amendments to the Operational Guidelines for Approval

1. The number of at Large Steering Committee member positions shall be increased by one. This will bring the total number of at Large Steering Committee member positions to four.
2. The chairperson of the Steering Committee, after stepping down from the position, may serve as an ex officio member of the Steering Committee. An ex officio member is a non voting member and cannot be counted in determining the number required for a quorum.

We are ramping up for another session of the Chautauqua County Fair. As always, we are soliciting your help manning our display in the Conservation Building. This is an experience that is worthwhile, interesting and fun. You will get to meet people with like interests, who value their woodlots and are eager to learn what NYFOA has to offer and to share their experiences with others. As a representative of AFC you will learn from the contacts you make at the fair.

We also are in need of items for our raffle, especially handmade wood craft. We could also use small items to be given as prizes for our kid’s game. We sincerely hope for your help!

Call Dick Vail at 640-5860 or Tony Pingitore at 962-4041 or email to [tonyfp231@gmail.com](mailto:tonyfp231@gmail.com).

---

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY FAIR**  
**ALLEGANY COUNTY FAIR**  
**CATTARAUGUS COUNTY FAIR**

**JULY 15 – 21**  
**JULY 15 – 21**  
**JULY 29—AUGUST 4**



Mike Jabot, Editor  
291 Chestnut St.  
Fredonia, NY 14063  
Phone 716-673-3639  
Email: jabot@fredonia.edu

---

## EVENTS CALENDAR

**July 20 (10:00 AM)**

**Annual Picnic—Jamestown Audubon**

**September 14 (9:30 AM)**

**Joint Woods Walk                      Friendship, NY**

**September 21 (10:00 AM)**

**Brennan Woodswalk                      Ellicottville, NY**

---

## Welcome New Members!!!

George Petrella

Brocton, NY

---



Please email your comments to:  
jabot@fredonia.edu (Mike Jabot)

**If you know of someone who has woodland, or is interested in wood lands invite them to join NYFOA-AFC. Feel free to show them your copy of the Newsletter and/or the N.Y. Forest Owner Magazine.**

