



CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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Chairman Jason Post and Secretary/Editor Laura Pisarri, Receive Chapter Service Award



On May 4th, 2019, Jason and Laura were presented with the 2018 Chapter Service Award, at the Statewide Annual Meeting, in Syracuse, NY, by CDC Vice Chair, Jeff Kehoe and Board President, Art Wagner.

Jason was introduced to NYFOA by Mike Greason, and shares Mike's passion for sustainable forestry practices. After Mike's passing, Dick Gibbs had been thrust into the role of Chapter Chair, and Jason then mentored under Dick Gibbs and Jim Bulich. Jason filled a key role during that time of transition, in

working with Dick, to bring the Game of Logging (GOL) chainsaw safety training, to a great many landowners in the CDC region. He and Laura are always looking for new ways to make NYFOA more appealing and well known, to the many land owners, who do not yet know about the value of being a member and a participant of NYFOA.

Laura came to NYFOA just a few years ago, but she came with a passion and a drive to help us succeed in our mission, and to educate and promote NYFOA's cause to the multitudes. As our Chapter Secretary, she guides and complements our Chapter Chair, and brings order and fresh ideas to the table. She has, along with Jason by her side, attended and volunteered many hours at our chapter's booth display during Fairs, Maple Syrup Tours, Saratoga Woodworkers' Shows, Woods-walks and other events, as well as their Log Yard Tours. Together, they share the same passion for NYFOA, and enjoy educating all who cross their paths, no matter where they are during the course of their days. Laura has been solely instrumental in achieving a more uniform and professional appearance for all of NYFOA Chapters' booth displays, through the purchasing of our beautiful NYFOA tablecloths. She also does a remarkable job as Editor of our Chapter Newsletters. Laura is detail oriented, and enjoys capturing and submitting all of our events, through photos and interesting articles.

Jason's articles in our Newsletter are a "must read", as he and Laura work with loggers, foresters, and land owners on a daily basis, as Log Brokers at their Log Yard in Leeds, NY. Jason speaks with experience about timber prices, values, and trends, in the world of turning standing timber into salable lumber. Together, they gather, sort, and ship containers of logs all over the international market. This hands-on experience makes Jason's newsletter columns, of interest to folks far beyond the CDC region. Their Annual Log Yard Tour is attended by many, and again is a new direction, where NYFOA-CDC has found new ways to reach woodlot owners.

Laura and Jason are a driving force in promoting the activities of our NYFOA Chapter. They are very creative, especially Laura, who puts her personal creative touches on every event. They keep the ball in play, as we map out the yearly Chapter Activities, and are always looking for ways to educate, protect, and preserve our precious forests. Laura is our persistent motivator! Her drive and persuasive ways, help us to think outside the box, and achieve new levels in the pursuit of our Chapter's mission fulfillment. Both Laura and Jason, make the events and meetings look easy. That is the real beauty of these two gracious individuals. Their gift of time and talent is precious, and both dedicate a good deal of their personal time, so generously. This recognition is but a small way to express our appreciation, for the efforts they make every day, and for the dedication they exhibit for NYFOA.

Jason and Laura are now the very lifeblood of NYFOA's Capital District Chapter. They travel to many meetings, learning and bringing back new ideas, to those of us who are more like bumps on a log, than we want to think or remember. For that attribute, they are the new growth and sap, which must be fostered, in order for the Chapter to survive, and have any chance of growing. They are passionate about the care and feeding of the Chapter, sufficiently enough, to invest their own personal time and energy into the vitality of NYFOA, as well as our Chapter. We have, in the past, referred to them as the "Dynamic Duo!"

One of the attributes Jason and Laura, that helps all of us, is their willingness to encourage us to get out of our own comfort zone, and our patterns of the past, and look for new ways for NYFOA to appeal to the new generation of landowners and forest owners. They realize, that NYFOA needs to change with the changing demographics of small woodlot forest ownership, else it also becomes irrelevant. Jason and Laura exemplify this willingness to take a broad look at forestry and ownership, and be instrumental in bringing positive changes, for the benefit and growth of NYFOA and sustainable forestry practices.

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***A Note of Thanks, from Laura and Jason...***

*Jason and I are deeply touched by these kind and appreciative words, and are humbled and honored to be recognized. Jason has been my faithful guide, as I have not been involved in NYFOA long enough, to have the knowledge he and the rest of you possess. He is very passionate about NYFOA, and has been a great teacher for me, as well as anyone who comes into his path. That passion has now become my passion, but without his patience and willingness, some of my ideas would be more difficult to come to fruition. It is so nice to be appreciated, it really makes it all worthwhile. It brings a smile to our faces, and warms our hearts. We are truly blessed to have such a great group of guys on our Committee, who understand the need for positive change in this ever-changing world, and who appreciate all of our efforts, to find new ways for NYFOA to grow and appeal, to the new generation of land and forest owners. Thank you all, so much!*

*Laura & Jason*

**Another Beautiful Day in June, at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual GAS UP 2019, in Schoharie, NY.**



**An antique sawmill, at the fair.**



**Prospective new members?**



**Laura & Jason, with the help of CDC Committee Member, Dave Schmidt, volunteered their Saturday, to man our booth display.**



Many people were attracted to the Log Identification Game.



Our winner received a FREE NYFOA T-shirt!



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

**NYFOA CDC Members**, Bob and Darleen Springer, hosted a woods-walk on their 164 acre property in Ravena, NY, on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Bob explained their goals and objectives, through a recent enrollment in 480a and a timber harvest. He stressed that the woodlot purchased in 1997, has been a hobby, not a business for him.

CDC Committee Member, and retired DEC Forester, Carl Wiedemann, was instrumental in explaining the do's and don'ts of a management plan, and enrollment in 480-a.

Many points and topics were covered during this two hour walk, including the pros and cons of top lopping; why commercially viable trees were left standing and not harvested; as well as the repercussions of high grading; invasive species problems; and wildlife habitat, among others.

It was a very informative event, and we were able to gain the interest of new perspective members, who have since obtained membership with CDC.



**Events:** Our Winter Gathering will be held at the Bethlehem Community Church, 201 Elm Avenue, in Delmar, on February 22, 2020, from 1-4pm. Bring a dish to share, and enjoy our Guest Speaker, and member of the Audubon Society, Gordon Ellmers. (Details to follow.)

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

**Join us at our next Committee Meeting** on January 14<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the Kelly Adirondack Center, in Niskayuna. Bring a drink to share. We are having PIZZA!

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

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

**Jeff Kehoe, Vice Chair**  
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**Laura Pisarri, Secretary/Newsletter Editor**  
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**Jimmy Bulich, Chapter Designated Director**  
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### **Tracy Lamanec, Nominating Committee Officer**

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### **Steering Committee Members:**

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**Bob Sheedy**  
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**Dave Schmidt**  
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## Welcome New Members!

### CDC

Frederick Seely of Preston Hollow, NY

George Steele of Amsterdam, NY

Cynthia Telles of Windham, NY

David Wos of Rensselaer, NY

### LHC

Pia Davis, of Shady, NY

Didi Madden of Orangeburg, NY

## **YOUR MEMBERSHIP Helps Support Sustainable Forestry**

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

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