



Allegheny Foothills Chapter Newsletter

Chairman's Corner

The sun was just about to set as I was headed into Jamestown last night. It glowed on the tops of the hills around us and the fall colors were magnificent. I always look forward to the fall season and the beauty and bounty it brings. There is also always an abundance of chores to get done to prepare for the winter that will follow.

I have spent a little time this year exploring my woodlot. I cleared trails, found trails that I didn't know were there, and found little areas in my woods that I had never looked closely at before. In the process my woodshed got full, a couple of neighbors got some firewood and a few cord are waiting by the road to be split for sale.

The AFC Chapter's last woods walk was at Tony and Connie Pingitore's on September 22. It was a great day with over 40 in attendance. It's been a great year for chapter activities with a variety of events that have been well attended. I want to thank all of you



who hosted events this year and Dan Anderson, our Program Chair. I was able to attend every event this year and family and friends who came along enjoyed the events as well.

Come on out to the Chapter Christmas Party in early December (look for details in this newsletter). It's always a good time with good food and fellowship. I hope to see you there.

— Otis Barber

NYFOA-AFC Annual Christmas Holiday Party

Please join us at our annual Christmas Holiday Party on December 8, 2012 at the Randolph Community Building on Route 394 in Randolph, NY. The time is 10:30 to 2:30. Meat, beverages and table service will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass, and if you want to participate in the gift exchange bring a hand-made or low-cost white elephant gift, \$5.00 max. If you play an instrument or like to sing Christmas songs, by all means join us for the entertainment. Story tellers are also welcome. This is a wonderful location to get together for an early holiday celebration. The food is always excellent, the music is splendid



& the gift exchange is always fun. Come meet your fellow NYFOA members and have a great time!

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News from the Fairgrounds

Angelica—July 15-20 The Sugar Shack at the Allegany County Fairgrounds played host again this year to AFC's table top display, wood ID quiz and related "woody" stuff. Jim Makowski and Craig Austin, fixtures at the "Shack", allowed us space in their building, where you can always find someone connected to the maple producers in Allegany County.

NYFOA volunteers rounded up a few new members during the week, and several landowners signed up for forest visits by Master Forest Owner (MFO) volunteers.

THANK YOUs go to all those who volunteered to staff our display area and help spread the message that healthy, sustainable forest management practices provide countless benefits to everyone.

Al Yanda, Bob Sherry, Bonnie Yox, Don Nelson, Rob Chamberlain, Russ Biss, Ron Abraham, Dick Patton and Mark Lewis each provided a half day of service to NYFOA at the Fair. **Thanks** to all!

Little Valley—July 30-August 5 As in recent past years, NYFOA-AFC again found space at the Cattaraugus County Fair—in the Norton Conservation Building, not far from the main gate entrance off Route 353. The Cattaraugus County Sportsmen's Federation owns and maintains this building, so our tree-hugger volunteers get to associate with reps from the Wild Turkey Federation, the Trappers Association, Trout Unlimited, and NYS Environmental Conservation Officers who are occasionally assigned duty at the Fair.

During the week our volunteer staffers signed up a new NYFOA member, 4 forest owners requesting visits from MFO volunteers, sold \$53.00 in raffle tickets, and 4 Doyle scale sticks.

The custom-crafted walking stick, provided again this year by Tony Pingitore and painted by Dan Anderson, was won by Sally Winship of Little Valley.

Jim Prince, John & Gayle Rembold, Mark Marcus, Bob Wood, Ken Kuczka, Larry Eddy, Mitch Banas, Jim Taft, Bob Gorecki, Dick Brennan and Bob Sandberg all spent half a day volunteering. Gary Sargent donated a whole day.

Thanks to all for your willingness to be ambassadors for the cause of good forest stewardship!

-Jeff Rupp

2012 Summer Picnic

I have a 'lopper' that allows me to cut off weedy stems up to about 1 inch in diameter. Can you imagine a machine that can lop off a tree 16 inches in diameter, then lay it neatly on the ground? This demonstration was just one portion of the wonderful summer picnic which was graciously hosted by Diane and Jeff Rupp at their property near Cattaraugus, NY. About 50 people were at the picnic, which is about the best attendance that I can remember.

Eric Stawitsky, of Pioneer Forestry, led a morning hike on the Rupp's property. This was very informative, and thoroughly enjoyed by everybody. Can you imagine a hemlock tree 40 inches in diameter and around 300 years old? Have you ever seen the beautiful Maidenhair Fern? These are just a couple of the treats from the morning hike. Thank you Eric for conducting the hike!

After a delicious lunch, we headed to the woods to observe the tree shearing machine in action. Joe Baronich did a fantastic job showing the capabilities of this machine (I want one!). He also demonstrated a firewood processor that did the whole firewood preparation and then loaded it into a truck. Thanks to Joe for the demonstration!

I think that I join many in thinking that this was one of our best summer picnics ever. Thank you so much, Diane and Jeff!!

-Dan Anderson







NYFOA/Scout Woods Walk at Pingitore Forest September 22

What was originally intended to be a session for Scouts and 4-H members turned out to be a full blown NYFOA Walk in our woods in the Town of Stockton. We had a turnout of forty-two people, equally divided between kids and adults. The kids ranged in age from fourth grade to high school seniors. After the usual coffee, cider and doughnuts we split into two groups. Mark Kurtis, consulting forester and scout leader, took six boy scouts, four Webelos and four other kids and four adults for a forestry merit badge session. All parties thought Mark did an outstanding job. Mark was the forester that marked our timber in 1998 for our first logging experience; therefore, he knew the history of our woods.

I took the other group and headed to the woods. Our group covered: tree identification, Game of Logging (GOL), timber sale dos and don'ts, low impact logging, the importance of woody biomass left on the forest floor, TSI (Timber Stand Improvement) and whatever topic came up. We discussed the philosophy behind our recent TSI cut. Rick Thor, one of two new Master Forest Owners (MFO) from Chautauqua County, gave a demo on using a scale stick. Then the two groups came back together for a demo of the use of a skidding cone, and a forwarding arch, and we cut some boards on our mini band mill. Audience participation was great, lots of questions and comments. After the walk, several of us sat around the kitchen table for a couple of hours talking woods, food plots and bees. Rick also talked enthusiastically about his experience at Arnot Forest and his MFO training. Perhaps his enthusiasm will rub off and some attendees will follow suite.

Both groups were impressed with two huge maple trees we have. From a timber point of view they are just taking up space, but we would never cut them. If I find a long enough rule, I will tape their circumference.

I would like to thank Kelly Rinehart, Scoutmaster, from Lakewood for showing interest about a year ago and hooking up with Mark Kurtis to bring it all together, and also thank Mark for his fine job. I would also like to thank Dick Vail for his help getting things ready and supplying some of the refreshments, and MFOs Jeff Rupp and Rick Thor for their inputs during our walk. And, **thank you all for taking part.** It was a great day despite intermittent rain and dreary weather.

On another note: as of Sunday, September 16, AFC has three new MFOs. They are Michael Jobot PhD, Fredonia; Rick Thor, Lakewood; and Steven Jacobi, Alfred Station, Allegany County. -Tony Pingitore

Welcome New Members: Steven Jakobi, Alfred Station; Joseph Snyder, Alfred Station; Jim Pingitore, Angola; Mark Odell, Brocton; Anthony Schablowski, Cattaraugus; Clyde Rodgers, Cherry Creek; Michael Jabot, Fredonia; Ed Haag, Houghton; Rick Thor, Lakewood; Ken & Melissa Kuczka, Perrysburg; Cynthia & Richard Dayton, West Valley and Devon Newkirk, Sebring, FL **291 Total Membership**

WANTED: Homes for two (2) dislocated items which were left at the AFC picnic at the Rupp Family Forest in the Town of New Albion: (1) Oneida stainless serving spoon (2) Imperial stainless large serving spoon

One spoon was left behind on July 21, 2012, the other spoon has been visiting since July 23, 2011. These visitors are resting comfortably, but they long for the familiar surroundings of their real homes. Please call and reclaim these non- nuisance invasives. Jeff & Diane Rupp, 7009 State Land Road, Cattaraugus, NY 14719 Phone 716-257-5652

WANTED: Recipe for the delicious sausage that was served at the 2012 NYFOA AFC Picnic. Was it venison? If you are willing to share your recipe, please email afcnewsletter@yahoo.com and it will be passed on to the requesting member.

NYSDEC Self-Issued Certificate of Origin for transport and possession of Untreated Firewood In accordance with ECL Part 192.5, Firewood Restrictions to Protect Forests from Invasive Species, persons who cut and transport untreated firewood, from a NY source, for personal use must complete and possess this form, available at www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/selfisscert.pdf

Visit NYS DEC Summer Camps on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/NYSDECsummercamps>

2013 DEC Summer Camp Scholarships For information and applications for the 2013 Environmental Education Summer Camps at Colby, DeBruce, Rushford and Pack Forest, please visit DEC's website:

www.dec.ny.gov/education/29.html or call 518-402-8014. Please help us help young people better understand the world around them by encouraging family and friends to apply; submit an essay and completed DEC application by January 15, 2013! Send to Otis Barber, 6399 Route 380, Sinclairville, NY 14782.

**NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS
ASSOCIATION**

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EVENTS CALENDAR

DECEMBER 8 CHRISTMAS PARTY

10:30 AM—2:30 PM

RANDOLPH COMMUNITY BLDG

**BRIEF BUSINESS MEETING
FOLLOWED BY A
SMORGASBOARD OF FOOD,
ENTERTAINMENT AND WHITE
ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE**

JAN 1 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

**PLEASE EMAIL NEWS TO
[AFCNEWSLETTER@YAHOO.COM](mailto:afcnewsletter@yahoo.com)**

**JAN 21 STEERING COMMITTEE
12 NOON R&M RESTAURANT**



NYFOA Members and Scouts view the mini band mill demonstration at Tony Pingitore's Woods Walk on September 22nd.

Agriculture, manufactures, commerce and navigation—the four pillars of our prosperity—are the most thriving when left most free to individual enterprise. —Thomas Jefferson

Chautauqua County Fair 2012

Our stay at the fair this year was a success; we made \$166 on the raffle, had two paid members and several that are probable/hopeful members. The following businesses donated items for our raffle: Monte's Small Engine Repair and The Power Shop, both in Fredonia, and Cassadaga Edge and Engine. The walking stick was won by Mike Cluchy from Westfield and other goodies were won by NYFOA member Bruce Brown from Panama.

We had a record 19 volunteers, including 4 new members Bill Dorman, Janet Freedline, Steve Lehen & Linda Wieland. Thank you to all volunteers for a job well done, and our trapper friends next to us for lending us camo table covers and helping pack up on Sunday. Also, St. Mary of Lourdes Church for loaning us tables & chairs.

Next year I hope we can again improve our display and have more games & activities focused on kids. For those who haven't ever volunteered, please consider it for next year, it is a worthwhile experience.
-Tony Pingitore

The *Allegheny Foothill Chapter Newsletter* is published for members of the Allegheny Foothills Chapter of the New York Forest Owners Association (NYFOA) and is published 4 times per year. NYFOA was founded in 1963 and is organized to encourage the wise management of private woodland resources in New York State by promoting, protecting, representing and serving the interest of woodland owners. The Allegheny Foothills Chapter was founded in 1989 and encompasses Allegheny, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties.

Membership is open to anyone interested in understanding how to manage a woodlot. For information on becoming a NYFOA member, contact Liana Gooding at (800) 836-3566. Annual membership is \$30 for individuals and \$35 for families and includes: subscription to the AFC Chapter newsletter; the bi-monthly NYFOA statewide publication, *The New York Forest Owner*; attendance at Chapter meetings, woods walks, special events and statewide meetings. For more information visit www.nyfoa.org

Please email your comments to afcnewsletter@yahoo.com

