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# Forest Owner

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New York Forest Owners Association, Inc.

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## MOUNTAIN VIEWS FROM MOHONK, AND CATSKILL TOUR, HIGHLIGHTS OF 4TH FALL MEETING

Mohonk Mountain House from its vantage point of 1253 feet offers views northwestward into the Catskill forest preserve. It's about 12 miles airline across a wide valley to the distant mountain panorama. To the east, it's 10 miles to the Hudson River. Part of the appeal of Mohonk Mountain House are the numerous vistas it affords from its location on a cliff. At places the powerful upsurge of forest growth tends to obscure vistas and is a constant challenge to the forest manager. This will be pointed out by Dan Smiley, in charge of the 5000 acres of forest, when he takes us on a two hour guided tour along the trails where there are frequent outlooks from thatched miniature "pagodas."

With the Hudson River Valley adjacent to the Fall Meeting site the Friday evening program on September 30 will make all the more meaningful the story of plans and programs for the rehabilitation of the Hudson River and general beautification of this historic region.

Saturday morning, October 1, with Norman Richards, Chairman of the Arrangements Committee as tour leader, we will leave Lake Mohonk House and in a 90-mile three-stop tour see some of the current important natural resource uses in the Catskills. First stop will be at New York City's large Ashokan Dam, 19 miles from Mohonk. It is one of several important reservoirs built to guarantee the vast water requirements of the metropolitan New

York City Area.

Twenty five miles further our second stop will feature the new famous Bellayre Ski Center operated by the Conservation Department of New York State, evidence of State recreational development within the Catskill forest preserve.

Our third stop will bring us to a panoramic background of farm and forest at the Catskill Ski Center. Here is a private recreational development in Delaware County in the community of Andes. At this point Howard F. Conklin, Professor, Agricultural Land Economics, Cornell University, will talk to us about private recreational investment for public use in Delaware County and results of current studies on private recreation development.

Our fourth and final stop will be for luncheon at the State University Agricultural and Technical College, Delhi, New York, where at McDonald Hall we shall be served by students majoring in hotel management, in a modern commodious environment. Here members of the New York Forest Owners Association will have a chance to meet with officers and members of the Delaware County Conservation Association where Art Rasmussen, toastmaster on this occasion, serves as vice president in both organizations.

Whether in the nearly century old Mohonk Mountain House or out on the recreational development areas of the Catskills or at the fine dining facilities of the State University in Delhi, we are sure that you will be convinced that the theme of our meeting "The Forest Owner in a Dynamic Environment" has been amply demonstrated. Great changes in



land use, in social outlook and thinking about the future are underway. Come to the 4th Annual Meeting and become more fully aware of our current "dynamic environment."

One word more - What is Mohonk Mountain House like? It is a house where you immediately feel at home. It's a sort of "old slipper" kind of place, where hiking clothes are the order of the day, and the several dozen rockers on the veranda invite your relaxation and contemplation with friends. Better put in your reservation. You are in for a treat! Our Fourth Fall NYFOA meeting beckons you to come along!

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AS YOUR PRESIDENT SEES IT

The best available single source of harvesting and marketing information in New York state is the DIRECTORY OF PRIMARY WOOD-USING PLANTS IN NEW YORK STATE. It is published by the New York State Department of Commerce, 112 State St., Albany, N.Y. 12207 and the New York State Department of Conservation, State Campus, Albany, N.Y. 12226. The FORWARD to this publication states, "This directory of woods contractors, middlemen, and primary wood-using plants is designed to assist forest landowners in marketing their various forest products." The publication includes listings of primary wood-using plants by districts and counties; out-of-state plants and logging contractors; middlemen handling roundwood; secondary specialty plants, log debarkers; wood chipping machines; dry kilns; independent logging contractors by Forest Districts, plus selling recommendations, timber sale contract form, list of helpful agencies, and a list of publications used as marketing aids. INTERESTED MEMBERS should write for this publication to either the Department of Commerce or Conservation.

D.H.H.

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TREE FARM COMMITTEE HONORS NYFOA MEMBERS

Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Pittenger of Marcellus are the proud owners of the 300th Tree Farm certified in the State of New York. The new 220 acre unit approved for certification in the American Tree Farm System of growing trees as a crop on private lands has topped the 300,000 acre mark in New York, according to H. D. Phillips, Deferite, NYFOA member and Chairman of the New York Tree Farm

Committee.

International Paper Company dedicated a 25,000 acre Tree Farm near Tupper Lake on Saturday, July 30, at which time the Pittengers were presented with a certificate of membership in the Tree Farm program and a sign to install on their property.

In making the announcement, Chairman Phillips congratulated the Pittengers, pointing out that "they are setting a good example by demonstrating the proper use of privately-owned forest land."

"Trees are a crop that can be grown again and again on the same land," Phillips said, "and this is the philosophy of land management being practiced so well by the Pittengers."

New York's forest industries during 1966 will salute the 25th anniversary of the American Tree Farm System, the most comprehensive tree growing program ever undertaken by the forest industries of any country.

The nationwide American Tree Farm System sponsored by the American Forest Products Industries, Inc., now lists in excess of 30,000 Tree Farms embracing more than 67 million acres of privately owned, tax-paying forest land. Every acre is growing wood for man's use today and tomorrow.

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FROM A NEIGHBOR IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Recently Lawrence W. Rathbun, President, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, wrote your secretary in part:

"We have a Natural Areas Preserve group, a Natural Resources Council of private agencies and now we have some 20 Town Conservation Commissions who look pretty much to us for leadership. We take pride in our two conservation camps and a day camp for primary school groups which reaches about 1,000 youngsters each day."

The headquarters for the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests is at 5 S. State St., Concord, N.H. The forester for the Society is Paul O. Bofinger. Until recently this position was held by Larry Rathbun.

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OUR CAMP, BEAVER CAMP (PART I)

By Director Renee F. Doster

Since our Secretary, Professor Carlson, is off to India to assist in the Rural Radio



## OUR CAMP, BEAVER CAMP (continued)

Feasibility Study for India, I was "volunteered" by our President, David H. Hanaburgh, to write an article for the Forest Owner on "Our Camp."

I imagine you will find me rather long winded and taking up a lot of space, but once I start on the subject it is difficult if not impossible, to stop because it means so much to me.

Our Camp, officially known as Beaver Camp because long ago some beavers built a dam in one of the creeks, making a pond for themselves, is situated in the extreme Northeastern section of Oneida County and the Southeastern section of Lewis County between the town of Boonville and the settlement of McKeever. It consists of 1135 acres accessible by a private dirt road and a private woods road. The area in which our property is located is described as the Western Adirondack Subregion. This Subregion is a long narrow plain of approximately 315,000 acres extending North and South along the western boundary of the Adirondack Park in the counties of Oneida, Lewis, and Jefferson. This land is sometimes spoken of as "outwash plains" because they are sand deposits that were laid down centuries ago in the bottom of a large glacial lake by streams that flowed from the Adirondack high lands. Needless to say, the soil is not of the best and the climate makes for moderately slow tree growth. The elevation ranges from 900 to not more than 1500 feet above sea level and the growing season is relatively short -- 120 days or less per year. We often have frosts as late as mid-June.

Various species of trees make up the forest cover -- Hard Maple, Beech, Black Cherry, Yellow Birch, Soft Maple, Hemlock, Elm, Red Spruce, White Spruce, Balsam Fir, Aspen, Gray Birch, White Pine, Red Pine, and Scotch Pine.

Our Camp was begun back in 1919 by our Father as a hunting place and later, after he married and as Mother liked it so much up there, it was remodeled, enlarged, and became our "home away from home" in the summertime. It has been developed primarily as our "fun" place. It is a beautiful spot, down in a little hollow with evergreens surrounding us, a pond in back for swimming and fishing, fresh cold spring water that tastes the best in the world, and lots of fresh, clean air. Here we can wander around without trespassing on anyone's property, fish, pick berries (blueberries, blackberries, and sometimes red raspberries), trim the present trees, and plant new ones.

We kids still reminisce about tree plant-

ing -- up early and out in the cold following Daddy along -- he dug the holes and we would put the little trees in, making sure that they were in the center of the hole, fill in the dirt, pressing it tight against the trunk, give it a dose of water and move on to the next one. By the time we had planted a few hundred, we would get pretty weary of the job even though it was going to make the area more attractive and we would start putting two trees in a hole. That only lasted a little while, cause usually Mother was bringing up the rear and she would find them. Then we would get a lecture on tree planting, etc., and would have to dig them up and replant them, separately, again. Now, of course, we like to walk through the meadows and point out the fruits of our childhood struggles.

Our most recent plantings -- 2000 Scotch Pine and 5000 Red Pine -- were done by the New York State Conservation Department. We check their progress, but the thrill in seeing them grow is not the same as that when we look at the ones we planted ourselves.

Over the years, since 1919, the Camp and surrounding land has seen much improvement. To preserve our water table and to insure some fire protection, Daddy contacted the Soil Conservation Department in Boonville, New York, for advice on building a pond in a swampy area behind the Camp. They tested the soil and found it was a mixture of sand and gravel which would, of itself, easily retain water. The original pond was constructed in 1955 and since that time has been enlarged twice to its present size, covering approximately an acre. It is spring fed, ranging in depth from five inches on the shores to ten feet or so in the deepest parts. We keep it stocked with trout for fishing and enjoy its cool waters ourselves for swimming and boating. The animals -- deer, foxes, raccoons, and groundhogs also enjoy its cool waters in the dawn and twilight for drinking. One year, we even had a bear! He was very aggressive though -- came right up on our back porch one night to raid the ice box. When he couldn't get the doors unlatched, he knocked it off the porch and what a mess that made! Eggs, mayonnaise, and pickle juice splattered all over the inside. When he returned the second time, Daddy got so mad (cause his gun had jammed) that he went out on the porch and threw a tomato at him, and, you know, that bear high tailed it right out of there. The State Trapper came up and set up his trap, but the bear has not come back since.



(Editor's Note: But the Forest Owner will be back with Part II in September Issue!- The Western Adirondack Subregion reference in paragraph 3 is further described on pages 7-9 in "Atlas of Forestry in New York State," a 1958, 90 page (14"x9") ring bound publication of text, maps, charts and photographs, available from Extension Department, State University College of Forestry, Syracuse, N.Y. 13210 for \$2.50).

NEW DIRECTOR, BEN SWAYZE,  
OF UNION SPRINGS

Ben Swayze was born and raised on the farm on which he now lives. He has always had a great interest in forests and their products. Ben has acquired 700 acres of land, of which 500 are tillable and the remaining 200 are in forest land. The tillable acres grow cash crops such as corn, wheat, beans, oats, barley, hay and sugar beets.

Sugar beets are a new crop to this area and since Empire Sugar Company has invested about \$30,000,000 in a processing plant in Central New York, he feels that he would like to see sugar beets become a stable and profitable crop to supply the Empire Sugar Company with the much needed raw material to insure the success of this venture. Growing sugar beets is in the experimental stage but it is a much needed new crop and can prove very valuable to the farmers who do undertake the task of growing beets.

Since the operation on Ben's farm depends on cash crops, it is necessary to make the 200 acres of woodland produce its share of the profit too. By careful cutting and trimming, these woods produce enough wood to sell, to use in the wood shop, and to repair all the buildings on the farm. The maples in the woodland produce their share of profit by providing Ben with a small sugar bush with about 1200 tap holes, which produces maple syrup and sugar that is sold at the bush. The bush is near the house and the months of February, March, and April provide a most enjoyable social life as well as a profitable one.

Besides the busy life of a farmer, Ben bowls, plays golf, has served as a member of the school board, and is an active director of the Sugar Beet Growers Association. He is married and has two grown daughters.

Dear Mrs. Palmer, Membership Secretary,  
I would like to inform you of my change of address.

Also, your newsletter (the Forest Owner) has been useful to me in many ways. Just a word or two to let you know what a fine job you people are doing.

Many thanks.

John Herlosky

FRTW GAINS IN CONSTRUCTION

Acceptance of fire-retardant treated wood by building codes and insurance rating bureaus for specific uses as an alternate to noncombustible materials is considered to be the most important reason why annual production of FRTW has risen from 12,600,000 fbm in 1960 to 25,900,000 in 1965 (Preliminary Report from USDA), a 105 percent increase. This kind of recognition has made it highly competitive with so-called noncombustible material making it possible to not only save building costs but also cost of insurance.

To bring the record up to date, some recognition is given FRTW today by every insurance rating bureau or state insurance rating agency in the country. All of the state agencies now accept fire-retardant treated studs in partitions in high-rise buildings without penalty. The fire restrictive noncombustible building may be required to have all structural members of noncombustible material but is at the same time permitted to have FRT stud partitioning.

Building codes covering more than 100 major cities have announced acceptance of FRTW in one form or another, and FHA has come to recognize it as acceptable in its Minimum Property Standards for multi-family and row housing. (Source: Wood Preserving News Vol. 44, No. 6 June, 1966)

FORESTERS ON WGY FARM PAPER OF THE AIR

For a number of years, since 1960, Floyd Carlson has been one of Don Tuttle's Countryside Speakers on the WGY Farm Paper of the Air, once each quarter, when the month has 5 Wednesdays. Forestry has been getting 1/13th of the air time of this feature.

Last year Floyd moved up into the spot vacated by the death of the late Charles John Stevenson and is heard the second Wednesday of each month and Dave Cook has undertaken Floy's old spot. Forestry now gets 4/13ths of WGY's Countryside air time. A most welcome development.