

New York

Forest Owner

January - February, 1977



**Firewood • Landowner Liability • Walnut Trees
Cross Country Skiing • European trip details**

THE NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION

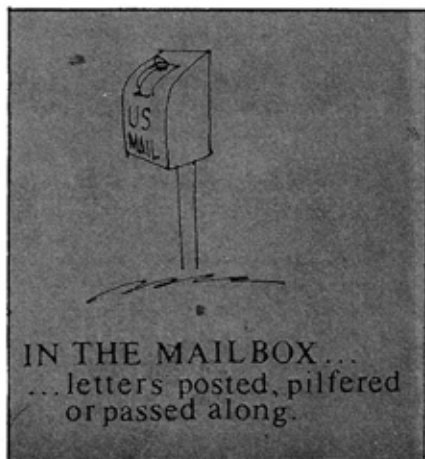
vol., 15 no. 1

European

Trip Too Late?

"The trip itinerary and costs are very encouraging but the dates were very disappointing. We had planned for early spring... April, but May is too late for our summer business, and maybe too late to encourage farmers to attend. Sorry.

Eric P. Rasmussen
Acra, N.Y.



Pardon Our Pride -

"I like the new format of our magazine. We seem to be getting more useful and interesting information with each edition. Keep it up."

Don Majka
Fairfax, Virginia



Message from the President

Come visit the forests of Switzerland, Austria and Germany, May 8-23, 1977. This is an opportunity to become better acquainted with other forest owners from this state, Switzerland, Austria, and Germany.

Highlights of the trip include a tour of the Alpine Museum and orientation by Swiss forestry officials, meeting with the Wood Producers Association and Hunters Association in Zurich and the Alpine forest tour in Lucerne; forestry activities in Innsbruck and Salzburg, Austria; farm and estate visits in Bad Aibling, Germany for forest management and to the National Forest near Munich, Germany.

"All work and no play..." You know how it goes. Fully half of the trip is unstructured, i.e., you will have time for touring on your own in the areas we visit.

Switzerland has beautiful mountains, lakes, and snow but it also has castles, old age pensions and wild ibex. The national honesty and courtesy is incredible. Lucerne has the lake and mountains, fascinating transport museum and a suspension cable-car to the top of Mt. Pilatus.

Garmisch-Partenkirchen in Germany is an Alpine resort which has a magnificent panorama of the German and Austrian Alps with winter sports galore, cable cars, and a glass-lined public swimming pool. Take the cable-car to the top of Zugspitze Mountain for an eye-filling you will never forget.

Salzburg, being Mozart's birthplace, has the Mozart Museum. Interesting to the music lovers will be the Palace Concerts. Here in Salzburg, also is the cable-car trip up 6170 feet of an Alp in 8 minutes.

We will also be in the beautiful Salzkammergut lake country of Austria which you may see by car or bus. Last, but by no means least, we will have a day or two in Munich, The number 1 art center, the celebrated Pinakothek, has a fabulous collection of German, Italian, Dutch and Flemish art. Munich has a tall TV tower with a spiraling elevator. Plenty of good restaurants and bright lights may attract you.

The price of \$950* subject to minor changes due to international exchange rates includes air fare, tour bus and escort, double occupancy room with bath, continental breakfast each day, tips and taxes. The price does not include lunches, evening meals, side trips you may take on your own, tips and taxes.

Prices and arrangements are based on a minimum of 25 persons. Some reduction or increase can be expected with more or less travellers.

Helen, my wife and I, plan to make the trip. Come join the party. Enjoy meeting and travelling with other forest owners. Swap ideas! See the world!

Sincerely yours,
Lloyd G. Strombeck

*\$150 down payment is due Jan. 31, 1977 and the balance March 1, 1977. 90% refund made up to 30 days before departure for cancellation. Make all checks payable to the New York Forest Owners Association.

Association Officers

Lloyd G. Strombeck, President
57 Main Street, Owego, N.Y. 13827

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Alan R. Knight, Editor
526 Anderson Hill Road RD 2, Candor, N.Y.

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Raymond R. Walker
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Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Board of Directors of the New York Forest Owners Association.

Materials submitted for publication should be addressed to: Alan R. Knight, Editor, N.Y. Forest Owner, 526 Anderson Hill Road, R.D. 2, Candor, N.Y. 13743.

Written materials, photos, and art work are invited. Although the return of unsolicited materials cannot be guaranteed, they are normally returned after use.

The first day of the previous month is the deadline for inclusion of any item. Published: January, March, May, July, September, October, November.

Got a question?



Ask a Forester

Forest Acreage —

"Can you send information about forests and literature in regard to privately owned forest acreage in Empire State?"

Phil Gardner
Glassboro, N.J.

Dear Mr. Gardner —

"Yes. And I hope you've got them, courtesy of Cornell's Extension Forester, by the time this is published."

— Editor

Chestnut Blight —

"Where may I secure detailed information on a possible cure for the virulent blight of chestnut trees?"

Mrs. E. Whiteway
Coxsackie, N.Y.

Dear Mrs. Whiteway —

"From Dr. Wayne Sinclair, Plant Pathologist, State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Plant Science Building, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 14853.

— Editor

Odd Coloring in Knotty Pine —

"I have a question about some 1" by 6" knotty pine with various colored streaks running through the grain. The colors run from gray-blue to a yellowish-green . . . very colorful and attractive. I was wondering what caused some wood to color this way."

Jack M. Pasch
Schenectady, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Pasch —

"Wood staining fungi can produce a wide variety of color changes. Wood which is decaying will show color change partially due to the presence of hyphae of the fungus or fungi . . . which require oxygen, food, moisture, and agreeable temperatures to function.

"In addition, it has been suggested that chemical stains can be caused by the oxidation or fermentation of organic compounds naturally contained in wood.

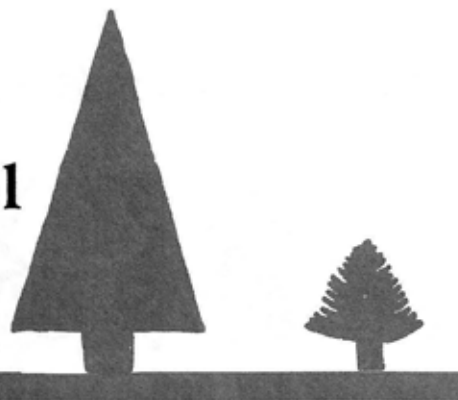
"Blue stain is very common in white pine, caused by fungal hyphae. Blue stain frequently occurs during the late spring and summer months when freshly sawn lumber is accessible and conducive to blue stain fungi, particularly between 75 and 95 degrees.

"Normally, sapwood tends to be whitish in color and the heartwood more yellowish. Sometimes field grown pines which were not surrounded with competing trees have a more yellow heartwood . . . according to the beliefs of some people. They call it pumpkin pine. I do not know of any documentation of this."

Dave Taber
Extension Specialist
Wood Utilization
SUNY, Syracuse, N.Y.

Burning Wood for Fuel

by Dave Taber



Background: Once again wood is an important fuel. Historically wood has always been important in the Northeast section of the United States. Wood not only has been used for shelter in the form of barns and houses, but for fish weirs, lobster traps, canoes, baseball bats, bowling pins, skis, and fuel for cooking and warmth.

Perspective: New York is a forested state. On a percentage basis New York State has twice as much forestland as the rest of the world. Only about 28 percent of the world's land area is forested whereas 5 percent of New York is forested. Excluding the forest preserves in the Adirondacks and the Catskills, New York State contains some 14.3 million acres of commercial forest land which accounts for about 46 percent of the State's land area.

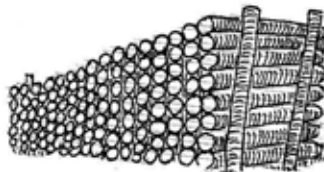
Natural forests have covered New York State for centuries. Only some 5 percent of the state's land has been planted. Overwhelmingly, the state's wood lands have regenerated naturally by seeding and root or stump sprouting. These natural forests account for 95 percent of the state's forests (commercial non-preserve).

New York is predominately a hardwood state. Over 8 percent of the commercial forest land is in hardwood forest types. And it has been estimated that New York State has more growing stock volume of the following hardwood species than any other state: sugar maple, ash, beech, basswood, and yellow birch. In addition, each year the hardwood trees add timber volume to the state's resource. It may be harvested or it may be left to augment the timber reserve for future use. In 1967 the USDA Forest Service estimated that the state's hardwood timber removal was only 55% of the net annual growth. Therefore, the reserve was building up.

State, federal, and other public entities own only 6 percent of the woodlands; the forest industry only owns 9 percent; farmers own 26 percent; and some 255,000 other private individual owners control 59 percent of the forest resource.

In comparison, world oil reserves are being depleted. It has been estimated that the proven oil reserves which are available in non-communist countries with present-day technology will last only 35 to 37 years at the present rate of consumption.

WOOD BURNING SYSTEMS: The heat made available from burning wood depends on a number of different factors. One factor being the efficiency of the wood burning chamber to burn wood and transfer heat to the desired place. Standard fireplaces are estimated to be only 10 percent efficient. Stoves have been estimated to range in efficiency from between 50 and 65 percent. Moisture content of wood is a critical element. Green wood or unseasoned wood contains natural moisture which was present in the cells of the tree. This moisture cools a fire and actually requires heat to evaporate it. Therefore, the drier the wood, the better it will burn and the more heat which will be made available. Also, unseasoned wood will tend to harbor decay organisms and insects more readily during storage than dry wood. A freshly cut tree can have a moisture content of 50-100 percent based on the oven dry weight of the wood. Wood seasoned outside can dry to 14-25 percent, and wood in a storage shed or cellar can dry down to 10-14 percent. Wood in living room or kitchen may dry to 5-9 percent during the winter months when the home is heated. Speed of drying and final moisture content depend on air circulation, temperature, and relative humidity.



Species of wood vary in dry weight (density), and therefore, weight of wood and split wood without bark will tend to dry faster than long lengths of round wood with bark which insulates to keep moisture in the wood. Basically all woods burn and provide heat. A characteristic of different woods is their varying ease of starting, production of red hot coals, making of sparks, and amount of heat produced when burned. Mixing different species of wood with different degrees of seasoning in the fireplace, stove, or furnace can help regulate the fire for attainment of the desired characteristics.



Growth on the managed woodlot yields at least one half a standard cord per acre yearly—forever.

FUEL VALUE BASED ON WOOD DENSITY

In addition to density, resins like pitch in wood contribute to fuel value, whereas moisture in wood detracts from available heat during combustion. Density given in the table below is based on clear samples of wood moisture content. A range of densities will occur for trees of the same species and even within a single tree, wood density will vary. (Source: USDA Forest Service, Agriculture Handbook No. 72, revised, August, 1974.)

Species	Density
Hickory, pignut	.75
Hickory, shellbark	.69
Birch, sweet	.65
Elm, rock	.63
Oak, Northern Red	.63
Birch, yellow	.62
Oak, Black	.61
Maple, Black	.57
Walnut, Black	.55
Hackberry	.53
Pine, pitch	.52
Elm, American	.50
Sycamore (American)	.49
Red Cedar, Eastern	.47
Sassafras	.46
Poplar, yellow-tulip	.42
Spruce, black	.40
Cottonwood, Eastern	.40
Locust, black	.69
Hickory, bitternut	.66
Birch, paper	.55
Hickory shagbark	.72
Oak, Chestnut (rock)	.66
Beech, American	.64
Oak, Pin	.63
Maple (sugar) hard	.63
Honeylocust approx	.62
Ash, White	.60

Birch, Paper	.55
Maple, red	.54
Tamarack (E. Larch)	.53
Cherry, black	.50
Ash, black	.49
Magnolia (cucumber tree)	.48
Pine, red	.46
Pine, jack	.43
Spruce, red	.41
Spruce, White	.40
Hemlock, Eastern	.40
Oak, scarlet	.67
Ash, green	.56
Aspen, bigtooth	.39
Aspen, Quaking	.38
Basswood	.37
Poplar, balsam	.34
Cedar, Northern White	.31
Willow, black	.39
Butternut	.38
Fir, balsam	.36
Pine, Eastern white	.35

Significance of Specific Gravity: based on specific gravity alone, a species with a specific gravity of .36 would produce only half as much heat as a species with a specific gravity of .72, which is twice as much. However, other factors like the amount of pitch or resins contained in the wood will vary the potential available heat because of their higher heat value per pound. Also, it is worth noting that individual trees may vary in specific gravity depending on the rate of growth, so the specific gravities given in the table should be used only as a guide.

The conversion of wood into usable products requires six times less energy than for steel and 39 times less than for aluminum.

FIREWOOD ...

- evaluating the pros and cons
- cost comparisons with other fuels
- rating the woods



by Fred E. Winch, Jr., Cornell's recently retired Extension Forester.

If you do not own a woodlot

During times of relative prosperity, the purchase of wood for heating your home is a questionable practice. If, however, the ready-to-burn cost of a standard cord of good hardwood is less than that for a ton of coal or for 200 gallons of fuel oil, then the use of wood is worth consideration. Sometimes wood may be obtained from a neighbor's woodlot for the labor of cutting it, or at a very low stumpage price. When labor commands low wage rates, fuelwood's competitive place is more favorable.

If you own a woodlot

Advantages

Generally heat from wood gives the greatest economy, and often the greatest satisfaction, for the following reasons:

1. The heat value available from a standard cord of several of our hardwood species is equal to 1 ton of good anthracite coal or to 200 gallons of fuel oil. Many other woodlot species have values only slightly under that of 1 ton of coal.

2. From your own woodlot you can produce that standard cord in a form ready for the fire for from 6 to 10 hours of labor. Assigning a fair wage rate to this labor, places the cost of that cord much lower than the price for an equivalent amount of coal or oil.

3. Heating units (furnaces and stoves) that burn wood efficiently and recover most of the heat which the wood is capable of producing are now available. Many of these units also have the convenience of thermostatic control and for-

ced-air circulation, if desired.

4. The cost of a good wood-burning unit is lower than that of either a good coal-burning unit or an oil heater.

5. In times of national emergency, coal and oil are likely to be rationed. Wood from the woodlot continues to supply unrationed heat at such a time.

6. A power failure does not affect wood-burning as it does oil heating or stokers.

7. Wood is a clean fuel.

8. Wood is a safe fuel.

9. The ash residue left after burning is much lower than that of coal. A standard cord of hardwood reduces to an ash residue of about 60 pounds. This ash has a value as a fertilizer.

10. Wood is a renewable resource. Coal and oil are not renewable and are, therefore, "expensive" fuels in terms of our national resources. We have only so much coal and so much oil in the country, and every ton or every gallon that is burned is not replaceable. By harvesting the growth, we can cut fuelwood from the same acre of ground, every year, forever.

11. If yours is a typical New York State farm woodlot, it is badly in need of a cutting which thins crowded groups, removes defective trees, and takes out inferior species. If a fuelwood cutting is made wisely, the value of the trees which are left can be increased.

12. Fuelwood may be produced at a very low cash expenditure. What is not spent is as important as what is earned.

Disadvantages

Wood has certain disad-

vantages as a fuel. You should also be aware of these when you make your decision. Some of the disadvantages are the following:

1. Wood is bulky and heavy in relation to its heat content. This means that provision must be made for a storage space greater than that for coal or oil. Homes in cities and villages with restricted storage space may find it impossible to burn wood alone, unless regular delivery can be assured.

2. For best performance, wood must be dry. Coal or oil do not require seasoning.

3. Low pipe or flue temperatures cause the condensation of creosote with its attendant hazard of chimney fires. The creosote problem however can be largely eliminated by proper burning, a good chimney, and proper installation of the heating unit.

4. Like a coal fire, a wood fire must be stoked though not so often as is commonly believed when wood is burned efficiently.

In considering the advantages and disadvantages of wood, coal, and oil, you should keep in mind the labor situation on the farm. On some farms it is a distinct problem to keep hired help productively employed during a short period of winter or during periods of poor weather. Some persons, by nature, would rather work harder taking care of cows in order to make more money to buy coal or oil. The saving which can be effected by investing labor into providing fuel is, however, considerable, especially when fuel-making can be done during slack work periods.

Compare the Costs - Firewood vs. Coal, Oil and Gas.

Aside from national considerations of alternative fuels for use in the Northeast, one should look at the cost of fuels for heating the home, the shop, or outbuildings. As costs of coal, gas, oil and electric energy rise, wood as a fuel, produced at home and by the user may well have increasing dollar advantages as well as unrestricted availability. Table 1 compares with other fuels the heating

values of a standard cord (4' x 4' x 8') of wood which is air-dry or seasoned for six to ten months. Hereafter any reference to a cord means the standard 4' x 4' x 8', 128 cubic foot cord. Other units are sold as "face cords," "stove cords," "foot cords," or "fireplace cords" and are not standard units of measurement.

Comparison of other fuels to wood

Species	Coal (tons)*	#2 Fuel Oil (gallons)*	Natural Gas (100 cubic feet)*
Hickory, Shagbark	1.36	191	309
Oak, white	1.26	176	286
Beech	1.20	169	274
Birch, yellow	1.18	166	268
Maple, sugar	1.18	166	268
Oak, red	1.18	166	268
Ash, white	1.10	154	251
Maple, red	1.02	144	233
Elm, American	.93	130	211
Aspen (popple)	.69	97	158
Pine, white	.67	94	152

These units are equivalent to a cord (4' x 4' x 8') of air-dry wood.

Thus, if you can produce a cord of fuelwood, delivered to the furnace room, from such species as beech, yellow birch, sugar maple and red maple, for \$25--including labor-- you can successfully compete with fuel oil. It takes 166 gallons of fuel oil to produce as much heat as an average cord of wood. If the oil costs 40 cents per gallon, that is a cash expenditure of \$66.40 for the same amount of heat. Of course, you must also look at the factor of convenience as well, because you must feed the furnace, take

out the ashes, and be at home reasonably frequently to do it. On the other hand, the \$25 cost of the wood represents several hours of labor. If you can make \$6 per hour taking care of cows or working in town for all the hours you have available, it means that for every 5½ hours of your labor you can buy 166 gallons of No. 2 fuel oil. Alternative uses of your time, therefore, have some bearing on how practical wood as a fuel may be.

Rating the Firewoods

Species	East of Starting	Coaling Qualities	Sparks	Fragrance	Heating Class (I=best)
Apple	Poor	Excellent	Few	Excellent	II
Ash	Fair	Good	Few	Slight	II
Beech	Poor	Good	Few	Slight	I
Birch (white)	Good	Good	Moderate	Slight	II
Cherry	Poor	Excellent	Few	Excellent	II
Cedar	Excellent	Poor	Many	Good	III
Elm	Fair	Good	Very few	Fair	II
Hemlock	Good	Low	Many	Good	III
Hickory	Fair	Excellent	Moderate	Slight	I
Locust (black)	Poor	Excellent	Very few	Slight	I
Maple (sugar)	Poor	Excellent	Few	Good	I
Oak (Red)	Poor	Excellent	Few	Fair	I
Pine (white)	Excellent	Poor	Moderate	Good	III



Chain Saw Safety Rules

1. Carry the saw by the handle only.
2. When you carry chains to and from a job, roll them up and carry them by a rope or wire, or in a special carrying case, as protection against cuts and damage.
3. Inspect trees carefully for loose limbs, rot, and the like before starting to cut. (You cannot hear a rotten limb crack when the saw is going.)
4. Swamp out around the tree or the log back of the chain so it does not catch on anything.
5. When felling a tree, choose your escape path *in advance*. Be sure that there are no obstructions to slow down your get-away.
6. Wear heavy shoes or boots that have non-skid soles and will not slip. Leather soles are usually dangerous.
7. "Safety" leg or knee pads sewn into the pant leg prevent cuts from chains.
8. Leave the chain saw on the ground or on the log while starting the engine. Be sure the saw is solidly placed.
9. Keep a firm grip on the handles and keep the guard or dog tight against the tree or log.
10. Shut off the engine except when the saw is actually in use. This prevents damage both to you and to the chain.
11. Use wood or magnesium wedges. They are light and do not seriously damage the chain. Put the wedge in place only when the chain is not in motion.

The largest single owner of commercial forests is the Federal government with 22% of total acreage.

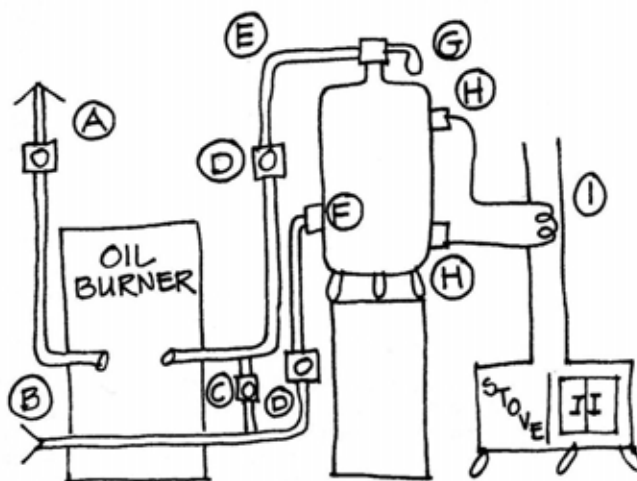
The total forest area of the U.S. is some 754 million acres.

Although Americans make up only 6% of the world's population, they consume 35% of the world's energy.

Hot Water by Wood Heat

Roger Bienvenue of Keene, New Hampshire wrote us about his ideas for a wood fired hot water system:

"I am presently heating our current house with a Franklin-type stove which includes a water heating coil in the stove pipe which preheats our domestic water to 100 degrees before going into our boiler to top off around 160 degrees." (Below is a sketch of the system.)



A. Domestic hot water, B. Cold from main, C. Gate valve to by-pass system, D. Gates to isolate system, E. Preheated water to boiler, F. Water into old electric tank, G. Safety relief valve, H. Adapters made to fit element holes, I. 2 turns 1/2" copper tubing, water circulates by convection.

Mr. Bienvenue is looking for a wood fired water boiler for his new home, but has been unable to locate a manufacturer. Several others have written with the same request. If anyone knows of a company making wood-fired water heaters, please share the information with us.

Wood Energy Bibliography

Many people have written to the Society asking for a bibliography of publications dealing with wood as a source of energy. The following list contains books and reports that are available from the publishers (as listed). We also have a copy of each in our resource library at the Society's office.

This list is by no means exhaustive. Please help us by adding your suggestions.

Wood as a Home Fuel

- The Complete Book of Heating With Wood, by Larry Gay. Garden Way Publishing, Charlotte, Vermont 05445. 128 pp. \$3.50.
- The Woodburners Handbook, by David Havens. Harpswell Press, Brunswick Maine. 96 pp. \$2.95.
- Wood Stove Know How, by Peter Coleman. Garden Way Publishing, Charlotte, Vermont 05445. 30 pp. \$1.00.
- Firewood for Heat, by Peter Allen. Society for the Protection of N.H. Forests, 5 So. State St., Concord, N.H. 03301. 12 pp. \$.50.
- Wood as Home Fuel, by Raymond Foulds. Cooperative Extension Services of the Northeast States; available from Publications, Hills Bldg., University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt. 05401. 16pp.
- Antique Woodstoves, by Wil and Jane Curtis, Garden Way Publishing, Charlotte, Vermont 05445. 63 pp. \$2.95.

Wood Cookstoves

- The Wood Cook's Cook Book, by Sarah Haskell, available from Portland Stove Foundry, P.O. Box 1156, Portland, Maine 04104. \$4.45.
- The Secret of Better Baking, by Mary Chambers. 1925 Edition, available from Portland Stove Foundry. \$1.45.

Woodlot Management

- Woodsmanship, by Bernard Mason. A.S. Barnes & Co. 1954. (Currently out of print but try your library).
- One Man's Forest, by Rockwell Stephens. The Steven Greene Press, Brattleboro, Vermont. 159 pp.

Woodland Ecology: Environmental Forestry for the Small Owner, by Leon Minckler. Syracuse University Press. 229 pp.

Expanding Horizons of Wood Energy

Wood Residues as an Energy Source, Proceedings from the Denver Workshop of September, 1975. Available from Forest Products Research Society, 2801 Marshall Court, Madison, Wisconsin 53705. \$11.00.

Governors Task Force on Wood as a Source of Energy, State of Vermont, 1975. (not available due to shortage of funds; contact T. Walker, Department of Forest and Parks, Montpelier, Vermont 05602).

The Feasibility of Generating Electricity in the State of Vermont Using Wood as a Fuel, by JPR Associates, Stowe, Vermont. Available from Northeast Forest Experiment Station, 6816 Market St., Upper Darby, Penn. 19082.

Methanol, the Alternative Car Fuel, by John Lincoln. Garden Way Publishing, Charlotte, Vermont 05445.

Publications to Watch For

The Woodburners Encyclopedia, to be edited by Raymond A. Montgomery with writings by Dr. Jay Shelton, Physics Professor at Williams College. Publishers: Vermont Crossroads Press. 108 pp. \$5.95.

The Wood Heat Journal, a monthly magazine similar to Country Journal, to be edited by Craig Neal, Box 2301, Norwalk, Conn. 06851. First issue is scheduled for September, 1976.

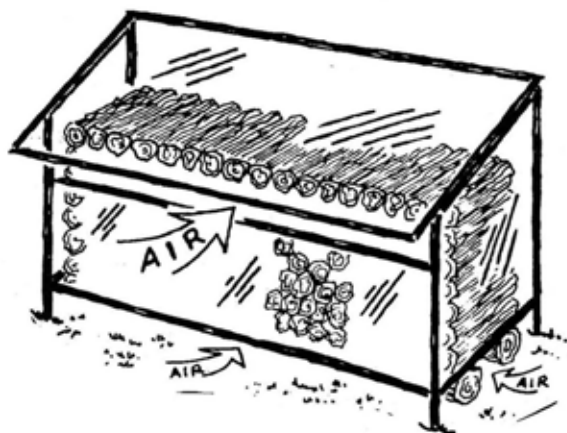
This page is taken entirely from "Wood 'n Energy" Newsletter, produced by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests 5 South State Street, Concord, New Hampshire 03301.

Build Yourself A SOLAR WOOD DRYER

Accelerated seasoning of firewood is possible with the invention of a solar wood dryer. Prof. E. L. Stone, of Cornell University's Department of Agronomy has come up with an interesting contraption that greatly speeds up the seasoning process, enabling firewood to thoroughly dry in a little more than three months. In New York, this process, when left to natural drying, usually is a slow one due to the climate. And "seasoning" is by no means an exact term.

Either the producer or the purchaser of green wood can speed up natural drying by cutting wood to shorter lengths; by splitting the larger pieces; by stacking for maximum exposure to sun and air movement; and by sheltering the stack against rewetting by rain and snow. In all cases, wood stacked outside should be supported well off the ground to prevent water absorption from the soil and decay of the lowermost tiers.

The solar wood dryer uses these guidelines and adds to them by using the sun to best advantage. The wood is stacked in a location well exposed to sunlight and then covered with clear plastic sheeting. In sunny weather, temperatures under the plastic will rise much higher than outside, warming the wood and evaporating the moisture. Some arrangements for cooling must be provided. It is advisable to hold the plastic away from contact with the rough ends of the logs to prevent abrasion, allow air flow, and keep condensation from rewetting the wood.



Alternative Fuel Experiment in Detroit Public Schools

Detroit may have found an energy supply in its own backyard, if an experiment at Cody High School proves successful. Wood chips made from the city's diseased trees are being burned to heat the 3,240-student school on Detroit's west side.

In a decision handed down recently by John L'Hote, Divisional Director, Detroit Public Schools from the Wayne County Board of Health Air Pollution Bureau, Cody High School has been approved for burning large quantities of wood chips during the peak heating demand period expected this winter.

According to L'Hote, the school has mixed wood chips with coal for several months with success but the heating load was minimal because of warm weather. "The real test will occur when the temperature gets down to freezing," L'Hote noted. "The Air Pollution Bureau has tested the quantity of wood we burn and the emissions from the boiler at Cody High School and have no objections to our stepping up our tests," L'Hote said.

The Parks and Recreation Department removes diseased, storm-damaged and other problem trees from Detroit's residential areas and recycles them into wood chips with a Morbark Chiparvestor.

from "The Northern Logger"

Spring Meeting April 9

Wildlife Habitat Improvement

April 9th is set as the date for the Spring meeting of the New York Forest Owners Association. "Wildlife Habitat Improvement" is to be the theme of the Saturday program, and a tour of Cornell's world famous Laboratory of Ornithology is to be featured.

A hour-long business meeting will be held in Morrison Hall, on the Cornell Campus, followed by interesting lectures to help landowners attract a rich diversity of wildlife to their lands.

Robert Sand and Cornell's new Extension Forester James Lassoie are making the necessary arrangements.

Photo Contest for Unusual Trees...

This month's photo contest entry from Mr. Forest Wallaby concludes our year long competition. Entries will be judged by the editorial committee, chaired by Mrs. Evelyn Stock, in time for announcing winners in the March-April issue of the *Forest Owner*. First prize, \$5.00; Second, \$3.00; Third place, \$1.00.

Anybody have contacts with a photo equipment company? Maybe they'd like to sponsor the next round!



Two links joined by one common branch. Found by Mr. Forest Wallaby on Carmacol Hill, Rome, N.Y.

Black Walnut Trees for Sale

Who sells walnut trees? Almost anyone who wants to make some extra money. One person wanted to eliminate the annual fall clutter of walnut nuts on his lawn. Another wanted to get rid of a dead tree. Others just wanted some money at an opportune time. Even a church was involved. The possibility of selling church yard walnut trees to pay off the debt on church buildings looked interesting to one inquirer. These responses highlight a deluge of inquiries received as the result of an item in the April 18 issue of the *New York Times*.

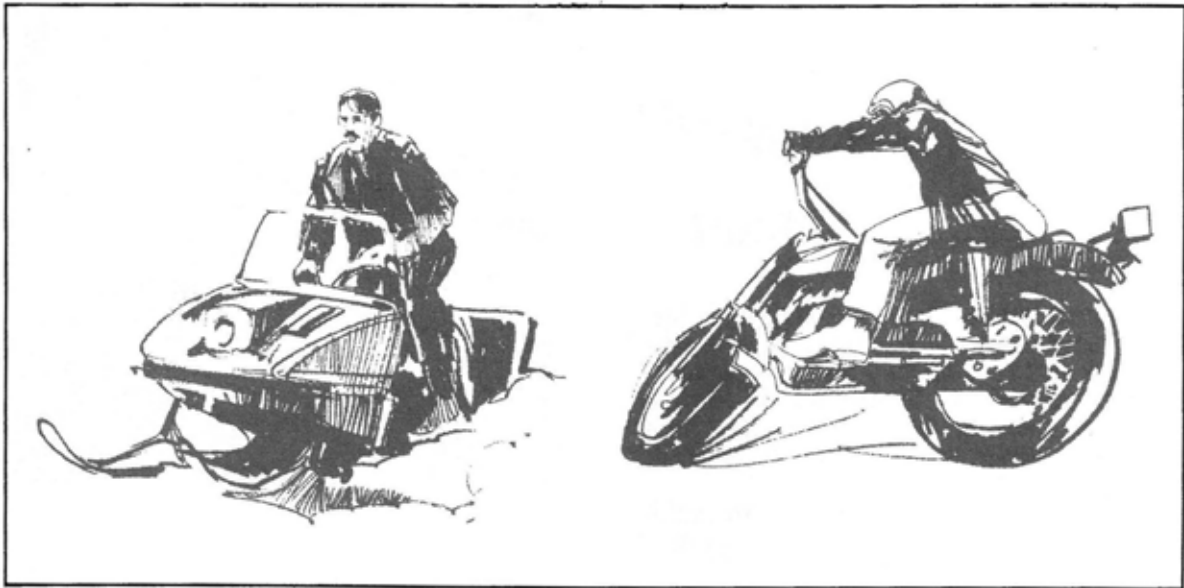
My response was a "Memorandum on Selling Walnut Trees or Veneer Logs." And let me say that my gratitude is extended to Joseph Kalina, a veneer log buyer from Syracuse, who provided me with some guidance.

Joe described how important markets are. He explained how markets can change and how quality determinants may vary with different mills and market conditions. For instance, usually, pinkish-black walnut wood is considered top quality followed by black colored wood and of least value, gray colored wood. Even rate of tree growth or wood grain is evaluated.

Walnut veneer log markets were relatively poor last spring, but Mr. Kalina hopes they will pick up in the fall. Actually, fall and winter veneer markets for walnut are usually best anyway. This is due to increased demand for export-logs to Europe.

If you wish a copy of the "Memorandum on Selling Walnut Trees or Veneer Logs," contact Dave Taber, Moon Library, SUNY, Syracuse.





Are you liable if a snowmobiler or motorcyclist hurts himself on your lands?

Landowner Liability for Recreationists

by Michael Duttweiler
NY Sea Grant Advisory Service

Landowners often bear the brunt of increased numbers of outdoor recreationists. Many cases of trespassing, littering, and general abuse of property rights have been reported in recent seasons. A common concern is the extent of landowner liability for personal injury to recreationists whether or not they are invited to enter his lands.

There are three legally defined types of persons who might enter your lands: trespassers, licensees, or invitees. A *trespasser* is a person who enters your land without your permission, *whether or not your land is posted*. Generally, the landowner has no legal responsibility for protection of trespassers *unless* he has "willfully and maliciously" set up a "trap" or hazard with intent to harm them.

The second situation is when recreationists enter lands as licensees. That is, when recreationists *are granted permission to enter lands for free for their own purposes*, such as to go fishing. Generally, the landowner has no responsibility for the protection of licensees on his land, just as he has no responsibility for trespassers. The exception again would be if the landowner sets a "trap" with intent to harm persons entering his lands. If you do grant persons permission to enter your lands it would be a good policy to warn of any dangers of which you are aware.

The last of three situations is when recreationists are invitees to your land. That is, when persons *are granted permission to enter lands upon payment to the landowner*. For example, if you charged admission for use of your lands to hunters, fishermen, or snowmobilers, those persons would be invitees. In contrast to trespassers, and licensees, invitees must be protected from "unreasonable danger" by the landowner. That is, the landowner is fully liable for the protection of persons who have paid to use his lands.

Influence of Posting on Liability

Posting is simply a means of advertising the fact that you do not want persons on your lands. There is no direct effect of posting on landowner liability. A trespasser is a trespasser whether or not your land is posted.

Liability and Susceptibility to Suit

Even if the landowner is clearly not liable, someone such as an injured trespasser might bring suit against you but to win the suit he would have to establish four things:

1. Legal obligation for protection by the landowner (you)
2. Reasonable proof that the landowner failed to meet his legal obligations.
3. Reasonable proof that the landowner's

failure to conform to the law actually caused the injury.

4. Proof of actual loss or damage.

What can you do about trespassers?.

Even if your mind is somewhat at ease knowing that you aren't responsible for the safety of trespassers, you still might not know what to do if you have a trespassing problem.

Part of the problem with enforcing trespass laws in New York is that Environmental Conservation Officers of the N.Y.S. Department of Environmental Conservation and New York State and local police operate under different sets of laws. The Conservation Officer operates under N.Y. Conservation Laws which state that lands must be properly posted before he can apprehend a trespasser for formal penalty under law. If the land is not posted as described in N.Y. Conservation Laws, the only action that the Conservation Officer could produce is revocation of all fish and game licenses. This action could be taken if a person was asked to leave, didn't and the landowner supported a complaint. However, state and local police and sheriff operate under New York Penal Law and can apprehend a trespasser *whether or not the land is posted*. In both cases, the landowner himself must have asked the trespasser to leave and must agree to support a complaint before the officer can issue a legal summons.

In summary, if your lands are posted according to specifications in the Conservation Laws, either an Environmental Conservation Officer or a state or local policeman could issue a summons for trespass, *if you have asked the trespasser to leave and will support a complaint*. If your *lands aren't posted*, and you have asked the person to leave, and you are willing to support a complaint, state or local police are able to apprehend trespassers.

Options available for Landowners

There are several options available for landowners with different feelings about recreationists.

Nearly 120,000 deer are slaughtered by motorists on the nation's highways each year.

In 1800 it took farmers 344 hours to produce 100 bushels of corn; in 1910 it took 147 hours, and by 1960 the time was reduced to four hours.

1. For those landowners who definitely want no recreationists on their lands, you may:

- a. Leave lands unposted and refuse entry to any seeking it.
- b. Post lands to advertise your refusal of access. In either case, you are not liable for trespassers.

2. For those landowners who wish to allow controlled access.

You may allow entry upon request for permission with no liability for damages, as long as *you don't receive benefits from such entry*. Or, you might consider establishing a fish and wildlife management area on your lands to localize use.



3. For those landowners who wish to allow formal access. You may:

- a. Operate the access commercially by yourself and thereby accept all liability.
- b. Sell or rent easements for public use to a public agency (For example, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation) thereby transferring liability to that agency.

Whatever the options you elect to take, it would be most wise to consult with your insurance agent and-or lawyer to clarify your liability.

It's cheaper to grow plants for the flower garden from seed, either sowing the seed right in the garden or starting them now indoors. For information on starting them from seed, gardeners may request free, single copies of Cornell bulletin IB20, "Flowers From Seed," from the Mailing Room, Bldg. 7, Research Park, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850.

ASSOCIATION NOTICES and MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES
N.Y.F.O.A. BOARD OF TRUSTEES
20 November 1976

NOTICE!

All proposed amendments of the N.Y.F.O.A. By-laws should be in the possession of the Editor of *The Forest Owner*, Alan R. Knight, 526 Anderson Hill Road, R.D. 2, Candor, N.Y. 13743, by February 1, 1977 for publication in the March-April issue of *The Forest Owner*. This is to meet the By-laws requirement that proposed amendments be mailed to all members of the Association at least 10 days prior to the 1977 annual meeting in April.

Any article or section may be amended, repealed, or changed by 2/3 vote of the members present and voting at the annual meeting and providing the membership has had at least 10 days prior notice of the amendment.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

"Nominations for the Association Board of Directors are due January 15th, 1977" according to an announcement made at the November 20th Board meeting in Syracuse. Seven directors will be needed to fill out the director roster for terms to expire in 1980.

Association members may nominate themselves or others (please contact someone before nominating him or her) by forwarding a brief biography of the nominee to Allen Bratton, Cooperstown, N.Y. 13326.

At 10 A.M., prior to the N.Y.F.O.A. Directors Meeting at Syracuse, a meeting of the Board of Trustees was called.

The possible activities of the Board of Trustees were discussed and it was decided that each major activity would be performed by a Committee of Board Members. Each Committee will be designated by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees as needed. Examples of probable committees:

1. Finance Committee
2. Property Management Committee
3. Law Committee

Necessarily, any Trustee may serve on any one, combination, or all committees depending upon availability, expertise, volume of work required.

There was a discussion of the kinds of trusts that might be acceptable by the New York Forest Owners Association:

1. Gifts to the New York Forest Owners Association which the Board of Trustees would administer.

2. Individual Land Trusts, when adequate administration funds are provided in the trust. These trusts would be administered by the New York Forest Owners Association, through its Board of Trustees, at an agreed compensation to the New York Forest Owners Association.

3. Special Purpose Trusts where the Administration of each trust could be accomplished at no cost to the New York Forest Owners Association. Examples of such trusts might be:

1. Educational Land Trusts
2. Resource Preservation Trusts
3. Memorial Trusts
4. Use or Purpose Dedication Trusts

Potential donors were discussed.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Board of Trustees would be at 10 A.M. on Saturday, January 15, 1977, in Marshall Hall, College of Forestry, Syracuse, in conjunction with the N.Y.F.O.A. Board of Directors Meeting.

David H. Hanaburgh
N.Y.F.O.A. Board of Trustees
Chairman





VERSES (ON FUELWOODS)
BY CELIZ CONGREVE

Beechwood fires are bright and clear,
If the logs are kept a year.
Oak logs burn steadily
If the wood is old and dry.
Chestnut only good they say
If for long it's laid away.
But Ash new or Ash old
Is fit for a Queen with a Crown of Gold.

Birch and fir-logs burn too fast
Blaze up bright but do not last,
It is by the Irish said
Hawthorn bakes the sweetest bread.
But Ash green or Ash brown
Is fit for a Queen with a golden Crown.

Elmwood burns like churchyard mould.
E'en the very flames are cold.
Poplar gives a bitter smoke
Fills your eyes and makes you choke.
Apple-wood will scent your room
With an incense like perfume.
But Ash wet or Ash dry
Is for a Queen to warm her slippers by.

Outstanding Tree Farmer

If you are a tree farmer under the American Tree Farm System, you know best what you have accomplished in tree farming over the years. Your efforts in forestry conservation, woodland management, and use of our state's natural resources may win you the award as Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year. If you're not a certified member of the American Tree Farm system, you may wish to contact a forester to ask about it. Fred Umholtz, 3 Parkwood Drive, Cortland, N.Y. 13045, is the Tree Farm Committee chairman in New York.

Each year a New York Tree Farmer is selected by a contest of the Tree Farm Committee as Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year. In 1977 the contest winner is expected to receive a new chainsaw, compass, subscription to American Forests, expense paid trip to the Woodsmen's Field Days in Boonville, \$10 gift subscription for TSI equipment, and a nicely inscribed plaque from the American Forest Institute.



Wood for tennis rackets is important. New York boasts the largest tennis racket factory in the U.S. according to a Wilson official. Thousands of tennis rackets are produced weekly at the Wilson Sporting Goods Company in Cortland.

New York species used for the wood frame deluxe model tennis rackets are sugar maple, red maple, and basswood. Additional species include walnut, mahogany, and ash.



Getting out into the winter countryside is one of the real benefits of country living. Here's a pleasant, healthy way to do it.

A Beginner's Guide to Cross Country Skiing

by Alan Knight

As prices for conventional ski gear and daily lift tickets go up, so does interest in a different type of skiing. Cross country skiing is a good alternative to half hour lift lines, costly boots and skis, and crowds.

Years ago, let's say in the twenties or thirties, there really wasn't much difference in skis. The old hickory boards had "bear trap" bindings which permitted one to lift his heel from the surface of the ski. Across the toe was a leather strap, and the bear trap was a spring loaded clamp which kept your foot snugly packed into the toe piece. Somewhere along the way, someone got the idea of securing the heel to the ski, allowing the ski to be much more responsive to leg maneuvers, and shifts of weight. A whole new technique of downhill skiing was born, and cross country skiing was left to a small group of die hards.

The development of downhill equipment and the development of new techniques have raced along at about even speeds, much to the joy of manufacturers. Like the automobile industry, the ski manufacturers would have you believe

that last year's fiberglass ski and high-on-the-leg, canted, fiberglass boots just aren't as good as this year's foam filled super dupers. Downhill skiing has become as much a status chase as a sport. But cross country skiing simplifies all this.

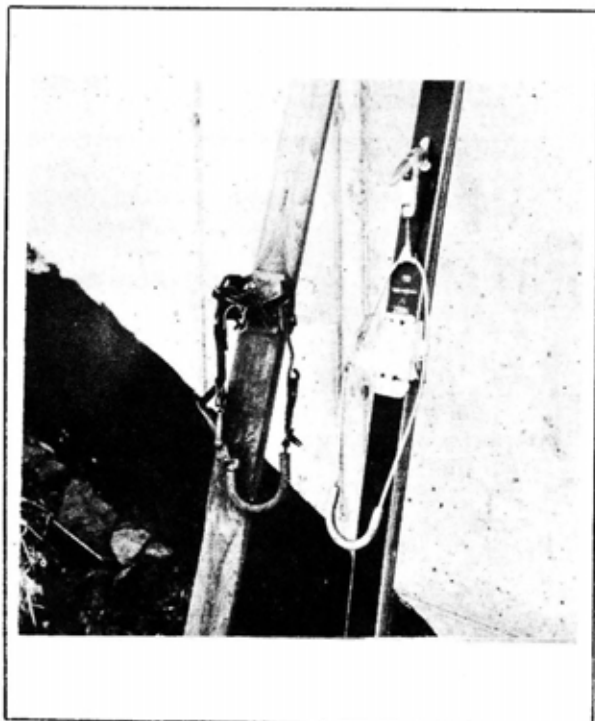
In order to rediscover cross country skiing you can resurrect an old, regular pair of skis, with the old bindings. They're perfectly good and certainly cheaper if you've still got them laying around. Or, shop for a new pair.

How do you shop for new cross country skis?

Any length will do, but a pair approximately as tall as you are is best. Slightly longer is better than slightly shorter. But, if skiing in thick woods, shorter skis will let you turn easier. Next, be sure that whatever binding you use allows your heel to come up from the surface of the ski. Only your toe should be secured to the ski. Metal edges (essential on downhill skis) are not necessary and should even be avoided. New cross country skis won't have them.

If you visit a ski shop, don't be surprised if the salesman doesn't seem to know what he's talking about. I haven't found a ski salesman yet that really understood the simplicity of the sport and who didn't try to steer me towards the ultimate product in his shop. And most are downhill experts. You'll note that the skis are quite narrow, some even slightly more so than others. Most are from Scandinavia, the home of cross country skiing. The products are generally good quality. Some will have special bottom surfaces or hard wood edges. These are good features, particularly as they protect your investment from rocks.

Beware the bindings! When selecting bindings you have a basic choice. One type of binding allows you to use plain old hiking boots. The other is a special type which holds your boot with a pin and clamp mechanism. It's up to you. If you really want to go into this thing, go ahead and buy the special binding and boot (which looks more like a track shoe). But if you just want to knock around and already have a sturdy pair of hiking boots, buy the cheaper, simpler type of binding. Be sure the hiking boots have the uppers and soles strongly sewn together. Some of the newer glued down varieties have lasted about a day in the wet snow and strain placed upon them. It may pay to buy some good boots, anyway, for hiking and gardening.



At left, an old hickory ski of 1940's vintage, perfectly good for cross country use, provided the heel is not held down. At right, a new, narrower cross country ski. Both bindings will take a work boot or hiking boot.

One last item are the poles. They should be strong and armpit high, since considerable strain can be placed on them at times. They can be lightweight or heavier, even homemade models. There really isn't too much mystery about poles, despite what the salesman tells you. Just check on the guarantee. With experience, you'll want to try various ski waxes, too.

Now you're ready to go. Dress in layers. Even if it's cold out, you'll be wanting to peel off the outer layers once your body starts heating up. A lightweight knapsack is a good place to put a hat, jacket, and scarf. A couple of candy bars for quick replenishment of energy will be a welcome find inside the pack.

Once afield, practice some technique, but don't get too upset about feeling awkward. Try to lean forward, putting your weight over the tips of your ski. As you drive your left foot forward, still leaning forward, bring your right pole forward and place it about even with the tip of the left ski. Keeping your weight forward will help you glide a bit, then drive the right ski and left hand forward... and glide again. That's all!

You're on your way. Breathe in the cool country air, observe the out-of-doors, and enjoy country living.



New type narrow ski with special boot and pin-and-clamp binding.



ITINERARY

- Day 1 - Flight from N.Y. to Zurich
- Day 2 - Arrive Zurich, Bus to Berne
Day at leisure in Berne.
- Day 3 - Morning tour of Alpine museum. Orientation by Swiss forestry officials. Tour of forestry equipment plant and demonstrations. Evening program with Wood producers Assn. and Hunters Assn.
- Day 4 - Berne via Interlaken to Lucerne. Rest of day and evening at leisure.
- Day 5 - Alpine forestry tour near Lucerne. Rest of day on your own.
- Day 6 - Lucerne via St. Anton to Garmisch. Day at leisure.
- Day 7 - Optional excursion to Zugspitze. Afternoon visits re. Alpine forest mgmt.
- Day 8 - Garmisch via Seefeld to Innsbruck. Afternoon of forestry activities there.
- Day 9 - Morning of free time. Depart for Salzkammergut. Evening at leisure.
- Day 10- Forestry activities near Salzburg.
- Day 11- Half day visit to city of Salzburg. Depart for Bad Aibling. Evening at leisure. -Depart for Munich.
- Day 12- Visit to farm for discussion of game management. Visit to estate and farm forest management activity.
- Day 13 -Optional tour to Bavarian National Forest. Or live it up in Munich.
- Day 14 -Flight to New York.

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- For Reservations -

Please make all checks payable to: NY Forest Owners Association
 Mail to: Alan R. Knight
 Editor, NY Forest Owner
 526 Anderson Hill Rd.
 R.D.2, Candor, NY 13743
 Confirmation and regular mailings will follow.

Please reserve _____ places for _____ (no.)
 the NY Forest Owners European tour. I have enclosed a check for \$ _____ to cover the deposit of \$150 each. I have read and understand the conditions.

Names _____

Address _____

Zip _____

Telephone () _____

See the "message from the president" on page 2 for details and terms.



Editorial

Alan R. Knight

It seems like a long time ago that I sat in an office at the University of Rhode Island listening to a counselor explain the test results. I had taken an exam to help myself understand my goals in life. The fellow was baffled because the results were confusingly unrelated, he said. According to the results, I was strongly inclined towards careers in agriculture, printing, administration, and teaching. "I've never seen a combination like that," he mused, surely worried about my uncertain plight.

Now look at me, gluing articles into a wad that may yet become a magazine.

Should your state legislators receive *The Forest Owner*? Would it influence the way they view forest owners? If you think so, send me the names and addresses. We'll see that they are added to the mailing list.

Are you a latent environmentalist? Careful. Better look over your shoulder before answering with the slightest nod. Someone might see you.

In November I met some of the most inspiring people I ever met. Each of these New Englanders had been involved in private land conservancy efforts. They were taking private action to preserve forest lands, wetlands, agricultural lands. Some of them were moderately successful, some astonishingly so.

I like working with *The Forest Owner*. I wonder if I'll ever afford to be a forest owner.



Wanted: People to sell ads for Forest Owner magazine. Commission basis. Decent arrangements. Contact Editor at 526 Anderson Hill Road, R.D. 2, Candor, N.Y. 13743.

For Sale: What have you got to sell, swap, or donate? Use this space. Submit ads with proper amount of money to Editor, 526 Anderson Hill Road, Candor, N.Y. 13743.

Wanted: Classified and display ads for Forest Owner magazine, circulation 500. Ads appropriate to forest owners most welcome. \$2.50 per column inch for display ads (there are 3 ten inch columns per page) or 10 cents per word for classifieds. Chain saws, wood stoves, land, consulting services, . . . you name it.

Wanted: Small saw mill capable of cutting 1-2 mbf a day. Working or fixable. Write: c/o Majka, 6074 Walker Road, R.R. 2, Utica, N.Y. 13502.

Wanted: Original art work or photographs suitable for use on cover of Forest Owner magazine. Illustrations capturing forest, nature, or rural themes desired. No payment offered, just the free advertising such use affords budding artists.

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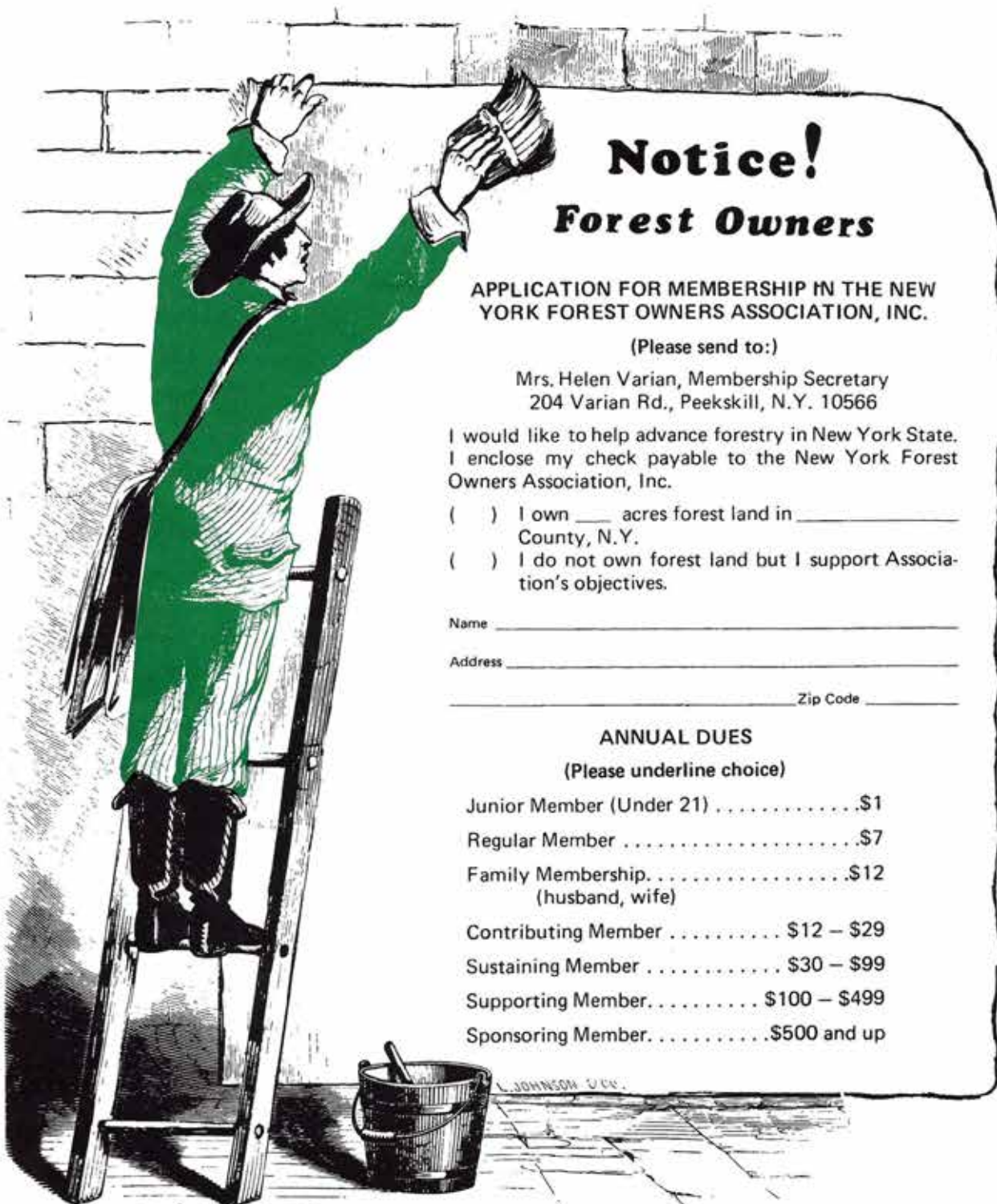
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Notice! Forest Owners

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE NEW
YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

(Please send to:)

Mrs. Helen Varian, Membership Secretary
204 Varian Rd., Peekskill, N.Y. 10566

I would like to help advance forestry in New York State.
I enclose my check payable to the New York Forest
Owners Association, Inc.

- I own ___ acres forest land in _____
County, N.Y.
- I do not own forest land but I support Associa-
tion's objectives.

Name _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____

ANNUAL DUES

(Please underline choice)

- Junior Member (Under 21)\$1
Regular Member\$7
Family Membership\$12
(husband, wife)
Contributing Member \$12 – \$29
Sustaining Member \$30 – \$99
Supporting Member \$100 – \$499
Sponsoring Member \$500 and up

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