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New York
Forest Owner

March - April 1977



BRIAN MOSS

THE NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION

The South Shall
Rise Again...
With a Few Pointers —

I read with interest the article about the New York Forest Owners Association in a recent edition of *Northern Logger and Timber Processor*. The originators of the Association are to be congratulated. They have developed a novel approach, at least to my knowledge, to the old problem of reaching the private forest landowner.

The ownership pattern here in the Tennessee Valley is evidently somewhat similar to that in New York. The 125 counties that comprise the Valley contain some 18.3 million acres of privately owned forest land. This land is owned by just over 356 thousand owners, or an average holding of 50+ acres. Only 18 percent of this privately owned land is contained in ownerships in excess of 500 acres.

The approach you have taken to instill an interest in this large block of owners in total resource management and to assure the right of the landowner to manage his lands for whatever goal he desires should work here in the Tennessee Valley, as well as in New York. I would greatly appreciate it if you, or someone in your organization, would send me some additional information about the NYFOA — background, organizational methods, charter, etc. if available — as well as a copy of your publication, *The Forest Owner*.

We are interested in the possibility of utilizing your approach in one or more counties or watersheds in the Valley, working through local civic groups and organizations. Again, congratulations to your group, and the best of luck in the future.

— William B. Buckley, Staff Forester
Tennessee Valley Authority

Of Barter and Education —

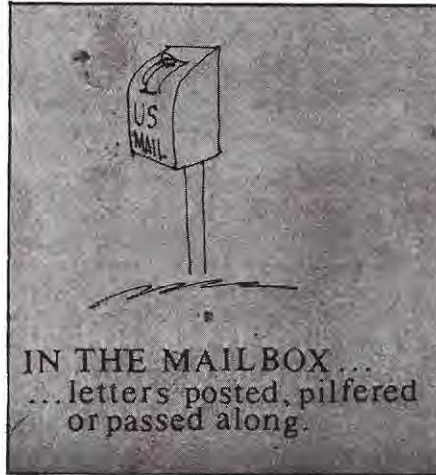
"Most of you folks have received handbook No. 274 from USDA. How long did it take you to fathom the maze of words and diagrams? Be truthful now. Or the "Timber Capital Gains Taxation" booklet? Figure that one out too! I dare you.

Then we received the excellent material from John Stock who has worked like holy h___ to get some sensible material to you. But he and all of us know that tax assessors pay no attention to such booklets. If they see you sell two logs, up goes your assessment. Why? So Nyquist [*Ewald Nyquist, State Education commissioner until recently*] can put out his fog to stay on 'til the last straw in a job from which he was fired . . . over planning, big buildings with marble faced halls, swimming pools, athletic plants to equal a small college, and teachers who have lost knowledge of the word dedication, have made the property owner a target for higher and higher land tax . . .

Sure, barter is one of our tools which never appears in any computer anywhere. I am using it and plan to use more of good old fashioned barter. Will tell you more of that venture in a future vending of spleen in *Forest Owner*, if the editors do not censor my stuff."

— Ed Moot
Schenectady, N.Y.

(Which we did, but I trust not too severely. Ed.)



Nice Comments Lighten Our Day —

"Both Ken and I would like to tell you that the last issue of *The Forest Owner* was excellent. Thought the front cover most appropriate."

— Ruth Eberley
Whitesboro, N.Y.

"I enclose a copy of the Florida Association magazine to show you how far superior your *Forest Owner* is in spite of their high-salaried professional staff."

— Alfred Najer
Sarasota, Florida

Thinning, Not Fuel —

"The article *Burning Wood for Fuel* by Dave Taber in the January issue was interesting, but misleading by the stress he gave to "Fuel Value based on Density". Actually dry hardwoods burn with the same amount of heat release regardless of species; a pound of cottonwood burns with the same heat release as a pound of oak or hickory. Admittedly the homwowner *buying* wood on a cord (Volume) basis is getting more heat value per cord in the denser species. However, this article was written (or was it?) for the forest owner who probably has a lot of slash, thinnings, or blowdown available. He should be encouraged to burn this wood, regardless of species, since there is no difference in heat value. In all probability the amount of work necessary to produce a ton of firewood is roughly the same, regardless of species.

Admittedly there are some convenience and esthetic factors which should be considered, but it is lamentable that by stressing the heat value the article implies that the forest owner should be selective in his fuel-wood. The emphasis should rather be on the thinning and cull-removal of his woods, and using this wood for fuel."

— R.W. Holmes
Victor, N.Y.

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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.

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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, November.

and more letters...

An Opinion on Forest Taxation —

"I have a forest plantation of some 48 acres in the Town of Northeast, Dutchess County, and another forest plantation of 40 acres in the Town of Middlebury, Wyoming County. Plantings were started in Dutchess County in 1946 and in Wyoming County in 1949. I have, in my lifetime, planted over 50,000 trees and been responsible for planting several million trees.

I recognize the tax problems of the forest landowner and of the subdivisions of government to whom taxes are like life blood.

It seems to me that a modification of the old Fisher Forest Tax Law might provide a solution to our present problem. I suggest that the assessment on forest land be frozen as was the case in the Fisher Law. The landowner could be required to pay the town 10% of any wood product sale instead of the 6% in the Fisher Law. A woodland management plan should be mandatory. A review of the woodland by the Department of Environmental Conservation, at the landowner's expense, should be made every five years. Failure to harvest within two years of notification that a harvest cut is needed and/or failure to pay for the mandatory inspection should forfeit the protected assessment status of the land under the law. The forester's estimate of the 10% timber value and cost of the review could then become a lien on the land, collectible with the taxes. Large tracts of state-owned forest land could make a payment to the local government in lieu of taxes.

What I have outlined is a simple solution to the problem, using the basics of a law that was enacted many years ago. It stood the test of time. I think it could still be effective, with a few minor adjustments."

— Robert Jonas
Cottage, N.Y.

More on Forest Taxation —

I saw your forest owners article in the *American Agriculturist*. I have two little timber lots in NY State: a 100 acre and an 11 acre lot. They were purchased several years ago when the taxes weren't too bad, but now I doubt if they grow enough to pay the taxes. How do you find the comparison of growing timber?

— A. L. Satterlee
Lewis Run, PA

Dear Mr. Satterlee:

Income from forest land varies, as in all other businesses, with the degree and competence of management. This means that I can give you average figures that cover the whole range, but not figures that apply directly to you or your properties.

On the average, an acre of forest land in the northeast produces about one quarter (1/4) of a cord of wood per acre per year. The average merchantable stumpage value of this annual growth at the time of harvest is about one dollar (\$1.00).

If you also manage your lands for recreation income which does not interfere with timber production the following average sample returns can be reasonably anticipated:

*Annual Hunting Leases (\$1.00 per acre per year)
Annual Camp Site Leases (\$3.00 per acre per year)*

Management and marketing must determine what uses and income are compatible and what uses are mutually destructive.

Taxes are based on land assessments for the highest and best use to which land can be used. The rules are so loose and biased that an equitable assessment is rarely achieved under present economic and social conditions. Timber growing is rarely the highest use of land but who can say whether it is the best use for what location. Government requires money to provide services for voters who are reluctant to pay for them. An ever increasing percentage of voters are not landowners so government tends to demand an inequitable amount of its income from the landowner.

— David Hanaburgh
Consulting Forester
Buchanan, NY

One for the Record Books—

Dear Mr. Hanaburgh:

I have been corresponding with several people from Cornell University who have been very helpful in advising me of the 480a law. It is too bad it is not in effect today as this year's taxes have spiraled almost double and before the law is effective I will have thrown an extra \$100 to \$1200 in the tax pot. It makes me absolutely furious to even think about such highway robbery.

Yes, I have been before a grievance board . . . three times in four years. Each time I felt I was properly prepared. However, I left with the feeling that the board impatiently listened to my complaint as a formality . . . with absolutely no intention of even considering my complaint. Note the changes over the past few years and you can see why I am anti small town government.

	Town Tax	School Tax	Total	Assessed Value
1969	\$42.30	\$53.60	\$95.90	\$800.00
1970	40.40	63.20	103.60	800.00
1971	44.23	75.10	119.33	1000.00
1972	59.73	69.74	129.67	1000.00
1973	56.82	137.65	194.47	1000.00
1974	94.01	280.18	374.19	1200.00
1975	208.45	262.80	471.25	1800.00
1976	218.73	540.63	759.36	38,250.00
1977	380.06	not in yet	986.00 (est.)	

I believe it is quite clear I am being raped by Rochester township. I do intend to take it to court this year.

I would appreciate it if you could tell me . . . any possible tax assistance in this area other than the 480a law.

I joined the NYFOA as soon as I heard about it, but I imagine it will be some time before *The Forest Owner* covers all of my questions. Best regards and please let me know if I can be of assistance to the organization in any way.

William (Bill) Mitchell
North Bellmore, N.Y.

Dan Hudon And His Lumbermaker

I have just completed a building, 60 x 125 feet — 20 feet to the gable, with all the lumber in the entire building sawed with only a chain saw and a Lumber Maker chain saw accessory! The building is all wood with the exception of a metal roof! Since I found out about the Lumber Maker in your magazine, I thought this might be of interest to you folks there. I got my Lumber Maker from Haddon Tools and still get them from Haddon.

I started my business in chain saws 10 years ago, and shortly thereafter, found out I would need more room. I went to local contractors to find out how much a building the size I wanted would cost, and received estimates of \$31,000 to \$56,000, all frankly out of my price range. I put off the idea of a building until 1974, when I noticed an ad in your magazine for a new chain saw accessory put out by Haddon Tools, called the Lumber Maker. I immediately decided to look into it, not only as something new to use to help my business, but to provide me with a source of lumber in my own construction project. Logs were readily available to me in my area and I got a couple of Lumber Makers, one to use and one for stock. As soon as I tried it out, I knew it would work, so I laid out the plans, and, in my spare time, started sawing. I guess the pictures of the building are proof enough the Lumber Maker proved a real value to me. I have sawed over 15,000 feet of lumber with a chain saw and the Lumber Maker, and have no intention of stopping now. The building is up — and it's mine! But the real benefit to me has been the value of the Lumber Maker to me in my business. Business has never been better!

My building, which I let everyone around know was made with a chain saw and a Lumber Maker, does attract attention, with saw customers coming as far away as 150 miles just to see it, and to buy saws and the Lumber Maker from me, I have displays of saws, with the Lumber Maker on them, and when someone wants to see how it works, we just start up the saw and go outside to a demonstration area and show them. We make a cross cut or two first, then start ripping. Of course, I don't demonstrate a low power or low cost saw, even though the customer comes in to buy one! Most always



A lumbermaker attaches to a chainsaw to make dimension lumber on-the-spot.



Dan Hudon, Jr. and Sr.



Dan Hudon's Woodcutter Headquarters.

WINNERS

Photo Contest for Unusual Trees

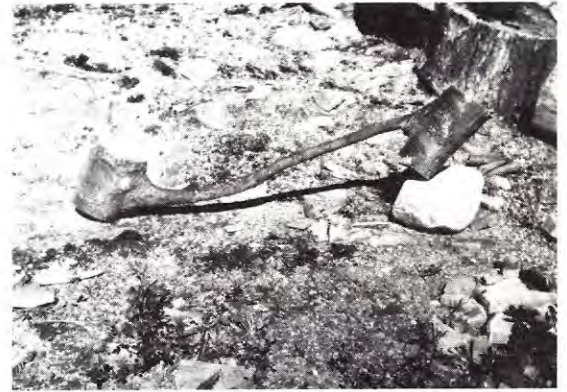
Dan Hudon (continued)
And
His Lumbermaker

the customer takes a larger, higher priced saw when they see how much more use they'll get from the saw with the Lumber Maker on it, and how many more things they can do with a chain saw. I have been called on many times to demonstrate the Lumber Maker at loggers' conventions and shows, all with results better than excellent. It always draws a crowd.

Now, we are starting on a log cabin right here on the premises, building it all with a chain saw and, of course, a Lumber Maker. I expect this to prove even a bigger draw than the building. Log cabin plans come with every Lumber Maker, and I always show them to the customer. It really helps sales. Eight out of ten customers who buy saws from us also buy the Lumber Maker. It's a real profit maker for us in its own right, brings old customers back and keeps new ones coming in. Dealers may write to me for literature on the Lumber Maker, if they like, or write direct to Haddon Tools, 4719 West Route 120 in McHenry, IL 60050. They will get all the information on this little wonder tool, prices, etc. They will find it will be a real help to them in selling chain saws.

Daniel Hudon
Barneveld, NY

1st
Place



Mr. Forest Wallaby found this limb... or is it two? Or three? One branch apparently grafted itself onto another, providing us a winner in the 1976 unusual tree photo contest, and providing Mr. Wallaby a cash prize.

2nd
Place



Earl Pfarner of Chafee, N.Y. calls this one "I can't believe I ate the whole thing."

3rd
Place



Another Earl Pfarner entry: a birch arising out of a hemlock stump.

Backyard Maple Syrup

by *Alex Dickson & John W. Kelley*
Cornell University



The variety of containers that can be used in place of sap buckets.

If you know you have some sugar maple trees in your backyard or woodlot perhaps you would like to make a little maple sirup. It is a relatively simple operation and can be a fascinating educational experience for young and old alike.

Here's a list of the items you will require to make some of that amber elixir that did so much to sustain the morale of early American settlers.

In order to tap the trees, you need a brace with a seven-sixteenth inch bit. All standard spiles, whether for buckets, bags or tubing, are designed to fit a hole made with a seven-sixteenths inch bit. The spile may be a commercially manufactured item or a short piece of one-half inch wooden dowelling with a hole drilled through it. Any type of pail or jug can be used to catch the sap, but if you intend to make maple sirup each year, you may wish to invest in special plastic bags, plastic tubing or metal buckets with covers.

Keep Holes Sanitary

To keep the tap holes sanitary, you will need either a mixture of 1 part of household chlorine bleach in 20 parts of water or special tap-hole sanitizing pellets. The chlorine solution may be squirted into the holes with a plastic squeeze bottle at least twice during the season. Some clean, discarded household detergent bottles serve this purpose admirably.

On a good day, you may expect each tap hole to produce one gallon of sap. Therefore, if the pan, tub, or pot you are going to use for boiling is too small to hold all of the sap you are likely to collect at one time, you will need a storage tank. Such a tank may be a 20- to 30-gallon utility bucket, or a wooden box lined with 6-mil. plastic sheeting.

Boil Outside

Unless you have an exhaust fan in your kitchen, do most of your boiling outside. A galvanized washtub and ten or twelve cinder blocks make an adequate evaporating set-up. The size of the tub depends on how many taps you have. A 14 ½-gallon tub can comfortably handle 12 taps. You will need dry wood or some other fuel, too. A standard cord of seasoned fuelwood, or a pile measuring 8 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft., will boil down enough sap to make 12 to 15 gallons of sirup. Depending on the season and the trees, you can count on 1 to 2 quarts of sirup per tap hold per season.



Collecting station using plastic tubing

The sirup should be finished on your kitchen stove with the help of a candy or other thermometer on which you can read 7 degrees F. above the boiling point of water fairly precisely.

Filter the Sirup

When the sirup is ready, it may be cloudy due to impurities called sugar sand. These may be removed by filtering the hot sirup through a sheet of orlon felt. Household flannel may also be used if nothing else is available, but it will not clarify the sirup completely.

Ordinary jars filled right to the top with hot sirup serve well as storage containers. The sirup contracts on cooling, but a vacuum is formed if the jars have airtight covers.



The backyard boiling setup with cinder block fireplace and washtub.

Tap in March

Trees may be tapped as early as the end of January, but the principal sap flow occurs in March. As soon as the buds begin to swell in April, the sap becomes off-flavor or "buddy" and collecting must be discontinued. Spiles should be removed and all equipment cleaned thoroughly with a weak chlorine solution before being stored until next year. The holes in the tree do not need to be plugged. A new hole, located at least 6 inches horizontally or 12 inches vertically away from the previous tap must be made next time. The same hole cannot be reused.

Sap begins to deteriorate if stored longer than 48 hours before boiling. The tubs and pots used for boiling should be cleaned each time they are used to keep the sirup lighter in color and more delicate in flavor. On the average, it will take 40 quarts of sap to make out quart of sirup. Therefore, if you start with ten gallons of sap, you should boil outside until only 2 to 3 quarts of liquid remain. Then transfer to the kitchen stove and boil further until the thermometer reads 7 degrees above the boiling point of water as you determine it. You must do this each time you make the sirup. The boiling point may vary from day to day at the same location.

Maple Supplies Available

The special maple supplies such as spiles, bags, filters, sanitizing pellets and so on are available from many dealers throughout the state. If you know a maple producer near you, contact him. He might be a supplier of equipment as well. If you do not know where to go or would like more detailed information, contact your Cooperative Extension Agent or the extension forester at Cornell.



King George Did Pine for Pine

AN APPEAL TO HEAVEN



What could a king want from colonies that could scarcely raise enough food for the tea and rum that must be imported? King George III wanted what he did not have at home — the tall white pines of New Hampshire.

In 1634, when the first cargo of white pine masts arrived in England for the sailing ships of the world's foremost navy, they quickly replaced Riga fir from southern Baltic shores. The fir was a fairly short tree so that often two had to be spliced with a joining spindle to make a serviceable mast.

But New Hampshire pine was tall enough to equip ships whose mainmast might be forty inches in diameter and 120 feet tall and weigh up to eighteen tons. White pine weighed 25 percent less than Riga fir and was often unblemished from bottom to top.

In 1722, at the behest of the king, all white pines fit for masting the Royal Navy were declared reserved for the king by the New Hampshire General Court. In 1772 it passed a law making it a crime to harvest trees a foot or more in diameter. The governor, appointed "surveyor of the king's woods," employed many deputies who spread throughout the countryside looking for sawmill yards that might be breaking the law. They confiscated suitable logs, burned settlers' sawmills, and used spies and informers to locate illegal logs.

The response was violent. The New Hampshire Pine Tree Riot in 1772, three years before the Boston Tea Party, resisted the seizure

of some 270 logs, seventeen to thirty-six inches in diameter, from Clement's Mill Yard in Weare, New Hampshire.

When the sheriff and a deputy arrived to enforce the law, they were thoroughly beaten by twenty men with faces blackened and switches in their hands. The lawmen's horses, with manes clipped and ears cropped, carried their owners out of town with "jeers and shouts ringing in their ears."

The British militia soon arrived to find the woodsmen had fled into the forest. When they later surrendered they were fined only twenty shillings each by a Judge Mesheck Weare, who thought it prudent to demonstrate his regard for public sentiment rather than for the sheriff and the pine tree law.

At Lexington, when the colonists shouldered arms in resistance to the Stamp Act, the Sugar Act, and high duties on tea, they had the example of the men of Weare before them. The revolutionists' first flag was the famous pine tree banner, a green tree on a white field, with the words, "An Appeal to Heaven." This was the flag used at Bunker Hill, and used by George Washington when he dispatched two vessels to intercept two English munitions ships.

The tall white pines of New Hampshire are gone, as are the sailing ships that made such good use of them. They served to set a pattern for resistance to the Crown that ultimately freed the entire country.

How to Cope With a Preservationist

- by Dave Taber

Ecology is important. There is a need for conservation. Preservation of some natural resources may be critical to their presence in the future. But some loggers as well as some of the new breed of conservation-minded timber harvesters have difficulty in understanding forest preserves. They see trees die and rot. Their livelihood depends on landowners making timber available for harvesting. When they see woodland "locked up" by any landowner, they feel that the timber contained thereon is a wasted resource. They know that some of the trees will succumb to insects and disease. And it is difficult for some of them to appreciate or understand the importance people have for non-economic amenities like the value placed on keeping the forest environment "natural and untouched by man."

In an attempt to gain understanding, timber harvesters of the New York State Timber Producers Association invited a Sierra Club member to give his point of view. How to cope with a preservationist was the topic of discussion, at a January 21 meeting in Boonville.

The featured speaker was Sierra Club member James P. Lassoie who happens to be Cornell University's new Extension Forester.

How to cope with a preservationist was the hot topic discussed with solemn and intense concentration for two full hours. Interest was so great you could feel the tension. Outside of words which filled the room, you could hear a pin drop. All eyes focused on the bearded Sierra Clubber as he elaborated in soft tones on how to cope with a preservationist.

The Extension Forester set the stage after quickly explaining that he did not represent the Sierra Club but was only a member, giving his own personal point of view. He said, "The way to cope with a preservationist is to understand him or her." Then Jim added, "If you understand preservationists, conservationists, and also utilization of our natural resources, you can cope with them."

The power and heritage of the Sierra Club was depicted by the fact that it was founded in 1892 with only 28 people, while now 85 years later, it has 156,000 members who want to explore, enjoy, and preserve the nation's forests, waters, wildlife, and wilderness areas.

Discussing forest preservationists at the January NYS Timber Producers' Association meeting in Boonville are (left to right) Kenneth Eberley, Timber Producers' Association President Glenn Watson, and Dr. James P. Lassoie, Extension Forester and Sierra Club member. Ken Eberley said, "It was a very good meeting...I like to find out how others feel."

Although for two hours a tremendously provocative discussion filled the Boonville town barn, Jim's facts of life, as he called them, were intently absorbed. Jim's six facts of life are: 1) on spaceship earth, we are all in this together; 2) abundance breeds neglect; 3) the environmental ethic of preserving from exploitation a portion of the natural resources — replaced the cowboy ethic of pushing west and consuming all of them; 4) exploitation breeds preservation; 5) democracy is the best form of government; and 6) people view impacts on the environment such as logging based on two things: What they actually see and secondly, what they think from past knowledge and experience.

In addition to these facts of life, Jim Lassoie mentioned that frequently there is a missing link in people's minds: The act of living in a wood house, using wood furniture, and depending on paper products is not connected with the fact that trees were cut to produce them. He went on to note that the forest industry is in an enviable position because of its utilization of a renewable natural resource.

In conclusion three suggestions were offered by Extension Forester Lassoie regarding coping with preservationists. They were: 1) understand them, 2) don't offend them, and 3) be an activist and educate them tactfully so they will understand what you have to offer them and the nation.

It was reported that although the discussion was heated at times, everybody left on a cordial note.



Improving Wildlife Habitat

NYFOA 15th Annual Spring Meeting

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1977

MORRISON HALL
CORNELL UNIVERSITY ITHACA, NY

This year's meeting brings three dedicated wildlife experts into one program of interest to all members. Each one on our program has given up this day to bring their personal expertise gleaned from many years in the field of wildlife management.

Dr. James W. Caslick, a former research biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is presently a Senior Research Associate in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell. His work is in the field of wildlife management, with special emphasis on habitat improvement, game-bird production, and the reduction of animal damage to home-grounds and agricultural enterprises. Dr. Caslick has been associated with research at Cornell for 14 years, where he has been awarded both masters and doctoral degrees.

Dr. Milo E. Richmond, a native of Cutler, Illinois, earned his B.A. and B.S. from Southern Illinois University. He then spent two years as a Field Biologist with the Nebraska Division of Fish and Game before beginning a teaching career in Zoology, Vertebrate Biology, Ichthyology-Herpetology, Mammalogy, Cell Biology and Endocrinology at the University of Missouri and later at East Tennessee State University. At the University of Missouri he earned his M.S. and Ph.D. in 1967. Mike is an Associate Professor of Wildlife Science and Ecology at Cornell and was appointed Acting Leader of the N.Y. Co-op. Wildlife Research Unit in 1975.

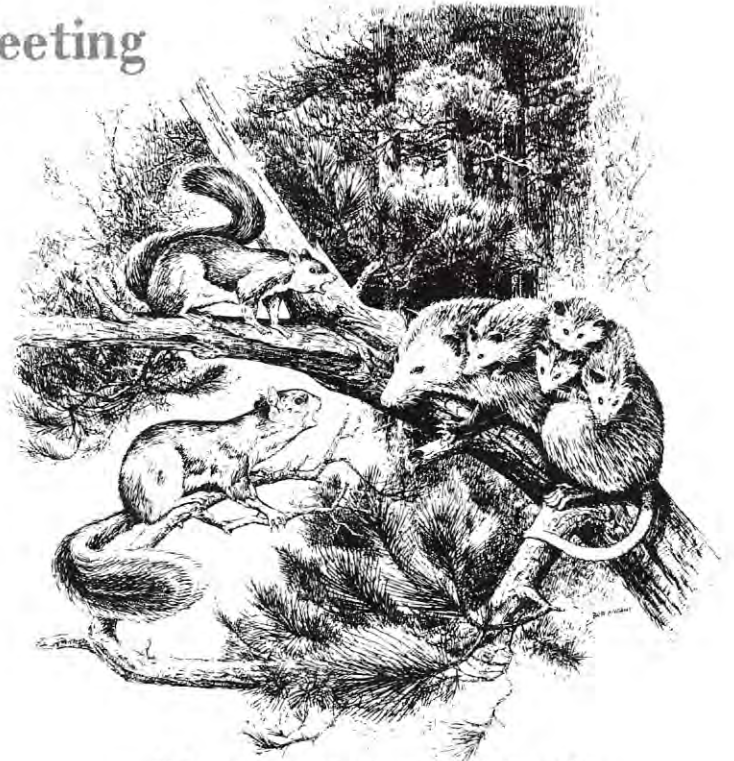


Illustration provided by the Kirby Lumber Corporation, Houston, Texas.

Paul M. Kelsey is a resident of Tompkins County, NY, having graduated from Cornell in 1943 with a B.S. in Wildlife Management. For over 30 years in New York State he has been a dedicated and hard-working leader in Wildlife Management. Associated with the N.Y. State Department of Environmental Conservation, he is Senior Wildlife Biologist. Paul has written many articles for the *Conservationist*, a publication of D.E.C. and had many others published with local, state and national coverage. He presently teaches a Saturday course in wildlife at the Tompkins-Cortland Community College and comes to us fresh from the hills of Dryden and this teaching activity.

(Tear Here)

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1977

N.Y. Forest Owners Association Annual Meeting
Morrison Hall Cornell Univ. Ithaca, NY

Registration Fee: \$6.00 per person (includes lunch and coffee break with donuts).

Make Check Payable To: N.Y.F.O.A. Inc.

___ Please forward to me a list of overnight accommodations available in the Ithaca area.

To: Mr. Richard C. Fassett
c/o Cotton-Hanlon, Inc.
Odessa, N.Y. 14869

Please Reserve _____

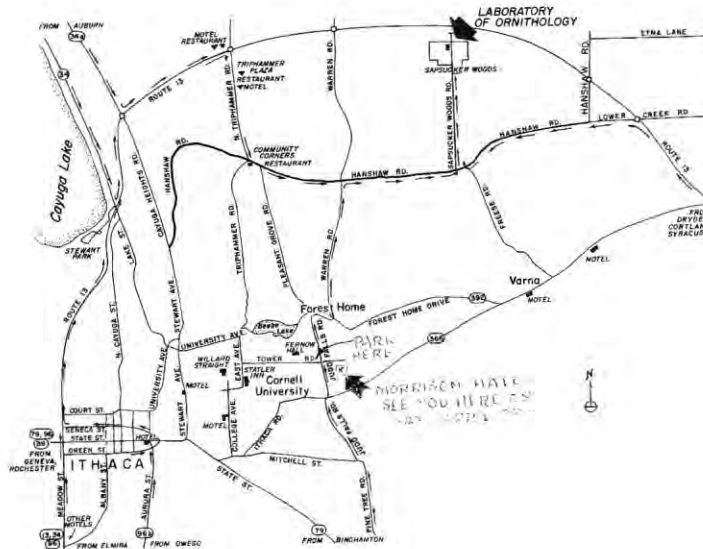
Places For: _____

names of all attending

THEME:
 "IMPROVING WILDLIFE HABITAT"

PROGRAM

8:30 - 9:15 a.m.	Registration [Free coffee and donuts available] \$6.00/person including lunch, Hosts — Richard and Betty Fassett.	5 minute	Question and Answer Period.
9:15 - 9:30 a.m.	Official Welcome. Dr. David L. Call, Director of Cooperative Extension—Cornell.	11:55 a.m.	Lunch, Morrison Hall Lounge
9:30 - 10:15 a.m.	Annual Business Meeting. Lloyd G. Strombeck, President. Report of the Board of Trustees-David H. Hanaburgh	1:00 p.m.	Presentation of the Heiberg Award — Auditorium.
10:15-10:25 a.m.	Introduction of Dr. James P. Lassoie, New Extension Forester - NYS College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.	1:15 - 1:55 p.m.	Wildlife Management Will Bring Added Dividends to Any Forest Property. Paul M. Kelsey, Senior Wildlife Biologist, Bureau of Game and Wildlife, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation.
10:25-11:05 a.m.	A Case History of Wildlife Habitat Improvement Made on a Central NY Property. Dr. James W. Caslick, Senior Research Associate, Dept. of Natural Resources - NYS College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.	5 minute	Question and Answer Period.
		2:00 p.m.	Depart Morrison Hall for Sapsucker Woods.
		2:15 - 4:30 p.m.	The Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Dr. Samuel E. Weeks, Assistant Director. Dr. Weeks will present a slide talk, orientation and tour of this world center for the study and cultural appreciation of birds.
			Adjournment — Drive Home Safely.
5 minute	Question and Answer Period.		
11:10-11:50 a.m.	The Use of Fire for Habitat Improvement. Dr. Milo E. Richmond, Associate Professor, Wildlife Science and Ecology, Cornell University.		



Map to Cornell University's Morrison Hall, site of this year's annual meeting.

Summary of the Board of Directors Meeting

— January 15, 1977

The meeting was held in Syracuse, N.Y., with the President, Lloyd G. Strombeck presiding. There were sixteen officers and members of the board present.

Treasurer Emiel Palmer reported that our 1976 income was \$3,877.85 with expenses of \$3,167.18, leaving a balance of \$710.67.

Kenneth Eberley reported for the membership committee stating that we now have 520 members.

Dave Hanaburgh reported for the Trustees saying that they want to make a report at the annual meeting with suggestions of services they can render in the future.



NYFOA Board members meet in Syracuse. (Left to right, front row) Evelyn Stock, Ken Eberley, Ruth Eberley, Gene Farnsworth, Bill Craig, Barbara Pittenger. (Second row) Emiel Palmer, J. Lewis Dumond, Gordon Conklin, Al Roberts, David Hanaburgh, Lloyd Strombeck, Raymond Walker, Alan Knight.

After discussion it was voted that we apply for membership in the Empire State Council of Agricultural Organizations.

Kenneth Eberley is to be in charge of the exhibit and float we are to have at the Woodmen's Field Day in Boonville, N.Y.

We are also to have an exhibit at the State Fair in cooperation with the Wood Utilization Service.

The next board meeting is to be held in Syracuse on March 5, 1977.

J. Lewis DuMond
Secretary

Association Board of Trustees Acts on Several Issues

Decisions intended to inform Forest Owner Association members about the goals and activities of the NYFOA Trust Program marked the recent Board of Trustees meeting.

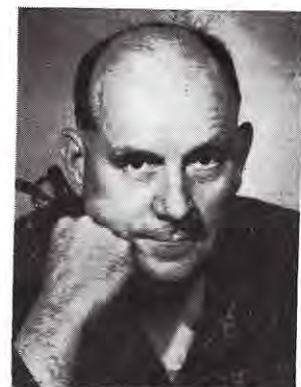
At their January 15th meeting, trustees Emiel Palmer, William Lubinec, and David Hanaburgh agreed on the following resolutions:

- that a short report on the Trust Program be scheduled for and made at the Annual Meeting of the NYFOA in April.

- to write up a one-page description of the NYFOA Trust Program and Board of Trustees; to have 1000 copies off-set for distribution at Fairs, Meetings and similar occasions.

- to request the NYFOA Board of Directors to set up a trust fund from accumulating revenues. This trust fund to be administered by the NYFOA Board of Trustees. Both the principal and interest to be used for educational or public service purposes as directed by the NYFOA Board of Directors.

In other administrative action the Board of Trustees appointed Emiel Palmer as Treasurer of the Board of Trustees, resolved to request that \$100 for emergency expenses for the Board of Trustees be placed in the Association budget, and resolved to request that the Association Board of Directors reappoint David Hanaburgh to a new five-year term. Mr. Hanaburgh is a consulting forester, residing in Buchanan, N.Y.



David Hanaburgh, Buchanan, N.Y., was recommended for a five-year term as member of the Board of Trustees.

Making a Profit from Tree Farms

from Nation's Business, October 1976...

Contrary to popular belief, most of America's commercial forests are not owned by government or by the big lumber and paper companies.

In fact, 59 percent of these forests are owned by private landowners. The federal and state governments own 28 percent, while the forest products industry is a distant third with 13 percent.

Many owners are turning once-idle forestlands into profit. In addition, the owners are improving the habitats of fish and game, as well as enhancing the scenic beauty of the countryside, by following the tree farm system of private timberland management. The system was started in 1941 by the Weyerhaeuser Co., Tacoma, Wash., and was later adopted by the American Forest Institute.

In the 1940's, few landowners thought of timber as a crop, and most of them believed that the woods took care of themselves. Today, that is no longer true. Thanks to the tree farm system, many landowners have learned that timber can be a good cash crop, with proper management.

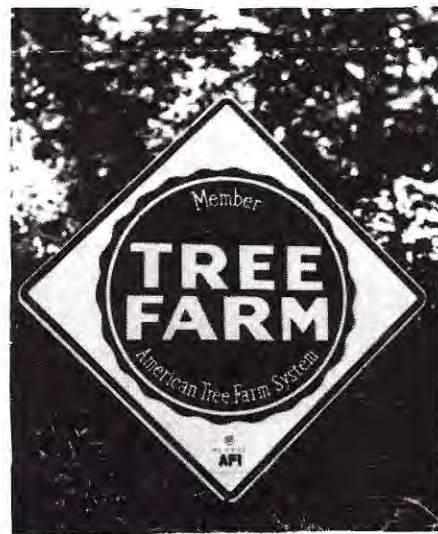
Anyone who owns woods can have his land certified as a tree farm by following a few simple rules of sound forest care. Under the program now sponsored by the American Forest Institute more than 32,000 individual tree farms have been certified. Some farms are no larger than ten acres. A few exceed one million acres.

To qualify for tree farm certification, woodland must be privately owned, managed for the growth and harvest of repeated forest crops, and adequately protected from fire, insects, diseases, and destructive grazing. Both government and industry, where possible, offer the services of their foresters at no cost to landowners seeking certification. Some wood-using companies help tree farmers with management planning and protection programs, as well as planting and harvesting.

The companies may even provide seedling trees at cost.

Here is an example of what even small landowners can accomplish under the program.

Wallace and Sylvia Fengler bought 264 acres of land near Scarborough, Maine, and had it certified as a tree farm. In three years, working side by side, they harvested 712 cords of wood and 258,000 board feet of wood products; planted two acres of wild-life shrubs; thinned, weeded, and pruned 18 acres of white pine; and established 23 acres of forest plantation, including white and red pine seedlings.



The Fenglers got help and professional advice from state foresters, cooperative loggers, and staff foresters from the S. D. Warren division of Scott Paper Co.

Landowners are cautioned that tree farming is not a get-rich-quick scheme, but they are assured that income from forestland can be doubled or tripled by adopting good forest management practices.

MRS. PAUL (LOIS) MAIER

On November 8, 1976 Mrs. Paul (Lois) Maier, a member of NYFOA was killed instantly in an auto accident while returning from a visit in Canada.

Ever since her husband passed away fifteen years ago, she has been a part of our family and a very frequent guest in our home. She became interested in NYFOA when she attended a fall week end with us. She was so impressed and enjoyed it so much that she became a member and attended nearly every fall meeting thereafter.

Though she lived on a 100 acre farm in Shortsville, N.Y. and was very much interested in woodlands, she was for many years associated with Lauer's Furniture Store in Rochester, N.Y. where she did interior decorating and was well known in her field of endeavor.

For a woman of 76, she was young in spirit and enjoyed meeting and making new friends. She made many friends through NYFOA and her friendly smile and warm personality will long be remembered by those who came to know her.

Her passing has left a void that can never be filled nor can she be easily forgotten.

— Ben and Virginia Swayze
Union Springs, N.Y.

Bird Feeding

- by Evelyn Stock

Birds visiting your lawn will give you many hours of pleasure. And feeding birds, especially this winter with its storms and deep snow, will help our feathery friends make it through.

Ideally bird feeding should be started in the fall when the birds are establishing their feeding territories. But with a little patience on your part they will find your feeder in winter.

At first try white bread. Break it up and toss on the ground near the feeder where the birds can see it. Try the bread only as a lure however as it will also bring four-footed guests. Then go on to other foods.

A number of things from the kitchen may be used. First on the list are pan drippings which may be stored in the refrigerator. Egg shells can be crushed and refrigerated. Many birds that eat sunflower seeds will also eat squash or melon seeds.

If your yard is swept by cold blasts, create a sheltered place for the birds. Place your feeders where the birds can flit quickly into nearby trees and bushes. Nearby evergreens make good shelter.

Gardeners are suspicious of birds because of minor deprecations in their berries, grapes, peas or strawberries. However the birds do more good than harm by keeping insects under control. I had a very wormy apple tree 500 feet from the feeder and after one season of bird feeding most of the apples were free of worms.

Providing food is only part of the overall plan. There is much we can do to aid in the assimilation of food and care of plumage. Grit and water are in many ways as important as food.

In a broad sense, grit is what a bird eats that has value in grinding food. Some pebbles, especially those composed of quartz, are the most common forms of grit. Eggshell, charcoal, ashes and dry earth are ingested for their mineral content. Mourning doves, finches and Evening Grosbeaks seem to crave salt or minerals found in ashes, charcoal or Alkali rich soil. Salt can be obtained in small amounts in bakery products, peanut butter and bacon grease or mixed in snow, earth or ashes.



Water is very important. Birds sometimes have to travel long distances to obtain water. A bird bath will often attract more birds than the feeder. It should be located near the ground (not on a pedestal). It is essential, as with the feeders, that cover be close by. Birds are slow to recognize water, but a dripping hose or faucet will attract their attention to it. Birds need water in winter, if anything, more than other times for drinking and to bathe in. Birds bathe to keep warm.

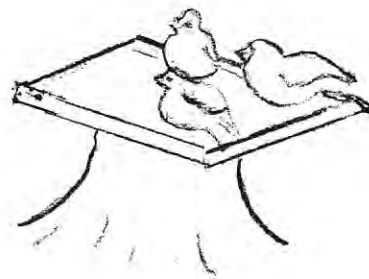
Overly Hearty Eaters

Some birds, grackles, blackbirds, cowbirds, often will monopolize the feeders. All too often flocks of these birds settle in and are not easily discouraged. If this happens, withhold most seeds, grain and bakery products. Substitute thistle and continue with fruits such as apple, orange, and raisins. Suet and fat mixtures may be continued. Grackles are easily scared and someone coming to the door will make them leave. Blue Jays carry food off to eat. Grinding the food or chopping the seeds makes the food last longer. Blue Jays rob eggs from nests to obtain the calcium. Providing a source of calcium will stop this destructive habit.

Squirrels

Squirrels are one of the most vexing problems that many of us in the east have to face when we take up bird feeding. There are the gray, red, fox squirrel, and flying squirrels. They consume quantities of food. The usual way to discourage squirrels is to move the feeder away from the house and into the open where they cannot obtain access by jumping. Posts with metal shields can be used. There are other devices also. A yappy dog is one of the best.

More and more birds are staying in the north. These half hardy ones often die in a severe storm. Feeding stations greatly improve the outlook for these birds. The northern oriole was the first of the tropical migrants to begin to stay behind in conspicuous numbers. It is significant that this bird is most common in towns and cities in winter and that they almost invariably take up residence near homes with feeding stations. Rose breasted grosbeaks, blue grosbeaks, indigo buntings, cardinals, bluejays, nuthatches, various woodpeckers, juncos, are some of those that you may see at your feeder. It is in the northern states in winter that the birdlife is most largely concentrated in areas where people live.



If you haven't been feeding the birds you have been missing a visual treat. Armed with an adventurous spirit and some birdfood you can step to the window most any time looking for a new bird and often finding one. It is quite a thrill to see 3 or 4 cardinals, 2 or 3 blue jays, 2 kinds of woodpeckers, juncos and a pheasant flitting merrily about in the white snow, with the blue sky behind and bright sunlight.

There are many interesting and informative books on all facets of the subject. Some of you may want to explore further.

Inviting Bird Neighbors

Cornell Bulletin No. 103 \$.25

A Field Guide to Birds

Roger Tory Peterson

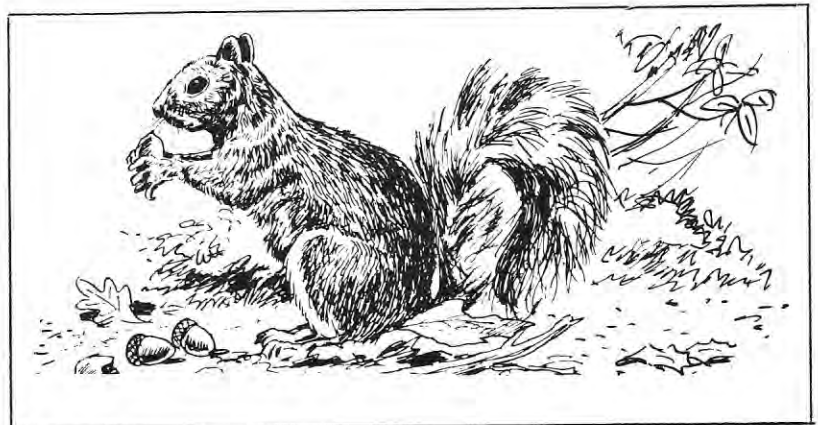
A well-known guide to field marks of Eastern birds, invaluable for serious bird students.

Birds, a Guide to the Most Familiar American Birds

By Herbert S. Zim and Ira N. Gabrielson 1949. 157 pgs. A good book for beginners.

Enjoying Birds in Upstate New York

By O.S. Pettingill, Jr. An aid to recognizing, watching, finding & attracting birds in NYS.



Svend O. Heiberg, Forester

by Rod Cochran

Suny College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse

--- Svend Oluf Heiberg was one of the founders of NYFOA, associate dean of the State University College of Forestry at Syracuse University, and an internationally-known silviculturist. It is in his memory the Heiberg Award is made.

Dean Heiberg became in 1963 the first forester, and the first American ever to receive the honorary doctoral degree from the Royal Danish College of Agriculture. In 1955, he was awarded the Knight of Dannebrog decoration by King Frederik IX of Denmark for his service to world forestry. He was born in Fredericksberg, Denmark, and emigrated with his wife to this country in 1926, and became a citizen eight years later.

He earned master degrees in forestry at both the Royal College in Copenhagen and Yale. Dean Heiberg had been on the faculty of the College of Forestry for 37 years, during which time he was active in teaching and research. He was appointed chairman of the Silviculture Department in 1949, and to the associate deanship of Graduate Studies and Resource Management in 1959.

Dean Heiberg was invited in 1951 as the Walker-Ames Visiting Professor at the University of Washington, Seattle, which honors men of outstanding and international reputations in their fields of competence. Only two foresters have ever received this invitation.

He was a representative to the International Union of Forest Research Organizations' Congress in Vienna, Austria, in 1961.

His wide travels and working experience in European forests brought a broad approach to Dean Heiberg's activities and his philosophy throughout his life. He traveled around the world on a motorcycle at the age of 24, and his firsthand knowledge of many areas of the earth and his wide-ranging interests made him a gifted teacher. Dean Heiberg enjoyed a special relationship with his students for his enthusiasm was catching, but he expected them to work

hard. He was director of Spring Camp from 1928 to 1954, at Pack Demonstration Forest near Warrensburg, N.Y. A firm believer in teaching an "appreciation of the woods," he developed this five-week course of field instruction and experience for junior and senior general forestry students.



Svend Oluf Heiberg (1901-1965)

Svend O. Heiberg, Professor of Silviculture at the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse, New York, is credited with being the founder of the New York Forest Owners Association. He was familiar with forest landowner associations in the Scandinavian Countries and believed there was a need for such an association of forest landowners in New York State. He developed an interest and enthusiasm for this idea at the College of Forestry and among influential forest land interests throughout the State.

Dean Heiberg was active in professional associations, and was a member of the Council of the Society of American Foresters from 1960 to 1963, and was elected a Fellow of the Society. He served as chairman of the Silviculture committee of the SAF, and in the New York Section of the Society he chaired the committees of forest practice and natural areas. He was chairman of the Forest Soils Section, of the Soil Science Society of America; and vice-president of the Experimental Ecology Section, at the 7th International Botanical Congress in Stockholm, in 1950.

In addition to the associations in which he held committee assignments, Dean Heiberg was a member of the American Society of University Professors, Ecological Society of America, Dansk Skovforening, Danske Forstkandidaters Forening, and Sigmz Xi.

In his research, Dean Heiberg had been concentrating in recent years on forest soils work and the effects upon trees of soil fertilization treatments. His study of potassium deficiencies in the outwashed sand plains of the Adirondack region is a classic in the field. He authored more than 40 scientific articles of silviculture, forest soils, forest planting, economic cutting, and the education of foresters.

Svend Heiberg passed away in 1965, leaving a lasting imprint on forestry and this association.

Illustration provided by the
Kirby Lumber Corporation,
Houston, Texas.

WILDLIFE depends on Forest Owners, Foresters, and Wildlife Managers

by A. DeForest Marsters

State University College of Forestry at Syracuse

Private forest owners hold the Key to survival of many species of wildlife. The harvesting practices carried out on your forest can have a drastic effect on what species of wildlife thrive in your woodlot and in what numbers these animals are found. This is especially true this winter.

Several species of wildlife need a mature forest for survival — for example, Fisher, Pileated Woodpeckers, Wild Turkeys and Wood Ducks. Pileated Woodpeckers need dead and dying trees to find insects and cavities to nest in. The Wild Turkey needs the mast crops (acorns, nuts, etc.) for food. The Wood Ducks need masts as well as the cavities of mature forest to nest in. Fisher are associated with the large extensive areas of mature forest. This may be due to the fact that they feed extensively on Red Squirrels that are found in greater abundance in mature forests.

Many species of wildlife thrive in other stages of Forest succession. Many researchers find a close relationship between Grouse and Aspen — a tree species found in early successional stages of forest. Deer definitely thrive in the early stages of forest when browse is more available. A deer has a hard time browsing on twigs of a mature tree — like the ones that cover much of the Adirondack Park. With the snow conditions and cold of this winter of 1976 and '77 — we can expect a great many deer to starve in the Adirondacks and possibly throughout the rest of the North East, even though hunters thinned the deer herd last fall.

On the other hand, deer will feed extensively on beech nuts, acorns, apples and the like when these foods are available. Some sort of harvesting plan to include areas to produce browse and still leave mature trees to produce fruit is ideal.



This is where forest owner, Foresters and Wildlife managers can and must work together to increase wildlife numbers. The merchantable trees can be cut for lumber, producing areas for seedlings to sprout and produce browse. The larger cull trees can be left to produce mast, insects and nesting cavities. When the smaller trees grow up and start producing mast some of the cull trees (the ones that are not being used for nesting — Pileated woodpeckers, squirrels, owls, coons, etc.) can be cut for firewood. Small clear cuts or this selective cutting allows for a constant supply of browse and mast for wildlife. I should note the good mast crops are not constant and vary from year to year. When mast is available this offers an alternate food supply during the fall but the availability of browse during late winter is critical to the survival of deer when snow covers the ground.

The time of harvesting timber or cutting cull trees can be beneficial to wildlife, especially deer. The tops from these trees can supply browse for deer during late winter, when their food supply may be low due to deep snow. Remember that deer have certain areas in which they concentrate during the winter and if your forest land is one of these areas you can help the deer survive.

So if you are a forest owner, get together with your local forester and wildlife manager and work out a plan to benefit wildlife.



Editorial

Thirteen have signed up for the tour to Austria, Switzerland, and Germany. That's exciting. I can hardly wait. We have enough people to go and have a fine trip, and still we can take 13 more. The deadline has been extended to March 15th.

How long do you think property taxes will last as a fund raiser for local government and schools?

The membership rolls keep going up. Show your friends a copy of *The Forest Owner*, or leave a copy at the doctor's office.

I've really enjoyed all the snow on my cross-country skis. It's so nice to get out into the silent world of snow covered hemlocks, hear the quiet songs of Kinglets.

"Whose woods these are
I think I know.
He owes back taxes
On them, though."

—with apologies
to Robert Frost

Alan R. Ziegler

This month's cover is from Brian Moss of Syracuse's State College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

For Sale: Back issues, Northern Logger to 1961; American Forests, some 1922; full set Journal of Forestry to 1934, few earlier issues. Offers invited. Allen W. Bratton, RD 1, Box 253, Cooperstown, NY 13326.

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.

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

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A view of Tug Hill

by Peter Trickey

Lay out \$60, borrow a saw and save \$700, or for the sake of convenience pump 150 gallons of oil into the side of your house. With maybe five gallons of gas for the chain saw, maybe a gallon of sweat from your brow and about 60 greenbacks, you can buy 20 cords of Tug Hill hardwood from the State of New York.... Ah, nothing like the smell of a good wood fire.

Now take those 14 inch logs, load them into the box of the old Ford truck, take them home and stack them next to your round oak stove. Next time the late summer - early autumn chill creeps through your house, load the belly of the stove with a hunk of maple, shut the squeaky door, put your damp socks on the pipe, sit back and get warm.

After you've sat in front of the stove so long that you think your face is going to crack from the heat, take some of the money you saved from cutting your own firewood, go down to the village and get your supplies for winter. Now if you take to carrying a gun through the woods in pursuit of fill for your freezer, stop by your local sport shop and stock up on the needed gear for such adventures. If your freezer is at its capacity from the vegetables from the garden and the berries from the forest, and you antici-

from the Boonville Herald
September 29, 1976...

pate a plentiful harvest of grouse and venison - buy yourself a new freezer.

Now, when spring rolls around and the freezer is just about empty - take some of the money you saved from providing fuel, (I figure you've got about \$350 bucks left) go back to the sports shop, buy yourself a new fly rod, some hooks, maybe a few flies, go down to that cool stream (more than likely it's not far from your doorstep) and fill that damn freezer with trout.

When summer rolls around and you've completed the seasonal cycle and you're leaning against the trunk of an old ash after cutting firewood all day in the hot August sun, give thanks to Mother Nature for providing you with tangible resources many communities once had and are now without.

Next time you meet a town planning board member, or a member of the Cooperative Tug Hill Planning Board who has attended a multitude of meetings and driven hundreds of miles in the last two years without a cent of compensation to try to keep Tug Hill the way it is and keep you operating effectively within this cycle - Don't give him hell - Give him your ideas and your understanding.

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Sponsoring Member	\$500 and up