*New York*

# Forest Owner

July-August 1977

## GYPSY MOTH · HEIBERG AWARD
## PONDS · DO-IT-YOURSELF
## SURVEYING

vol. 15 no.4

# THE NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION

**From a Cover Artist –**

"Thank you for using my illustration (of the pileated woodpecker) on your cover. Had I known that I would have done a better job. If you need art work in the future, I would be more than happy to oblige your needs."

Brian Moss
333 West End Avenue
New York, N.Y.10023

**Changes, Changes –**

Because of the current economic situation in New York State and the need for the State to provide a greater number of services to its citizens at ever increasing costs, it will be necessary after May 16, 1977 to charge for certain services provided under the Cooperative Forest Management Program While we regret this action, we have no alternative as funds to carry on the program as before are not included in the budget enacted by the Legislature for the current fiscal year.

I have included a schedual of the charges that have been placed in effect. Please note that with the exception of the preparation of a detailed forest management plan, the services that will be charged for are the ones that produce income for the landowner.

Some time ago you requested the assistance of a Department forester in the management of your woodlands. We regret that because of the backlog of similar requests, we have been unable to provide that assistance before this.

We would appreciate your checking and returning the enclosed postcard so we will know if you still wish to avail yourself of the forestry services we offer. - Please keep in mind that the types of assistance we have always offered, such as reforestation and forest management advice, and the services connected with the federally-funded Forestry Incentives Program (FIP) and Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP) continue to be offered without charge. These services are not mentioned in the attached schedule.

We hope that your interest in good forest management will not be affected by this new development. May we hear from you soon?

SCHEDULE OF SERVICE CHARGES

Sawtimber Marking – $6 per acre, limited to 50 acres.

Marking of Fuelwood, Pulpwood, Posts, Poles - $2 per acre, limited to 50 acres.

Preparation of Detailed Management Plans - 40c per acre. Limited to 3 days of field time.

Paul D. Keller
Regional Forester
New Paltz, N.Y.


IN THE MAILBOX...
...letters posted, pilfered or passed along.

**Letter to N.Y. Assemblyman Bersani –**

" I am writing to urge you to support the State Environmental Quality Review Act(SEQR) without amendment.

"I have read the legislation which is pending and which if enacted, would further delay and emasculate SEQR To do so would be false economy, for the Environmental Impact Statement Process (EIS) is one which saves developers, the State, and the people money, time and frustration.

"The authors of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the interpreting courts, and the framers of SEQR (which is patterned after NEPA) never intended that the EIS process formalized by NEPA should be used to preclude development. Indeed, industrial and commercial development and government activities in New York State will not be curtailed by SEQR as it now stands: in contrast, developments undertaken which incorporate environmental considerations in the planning process will be more economical, more attractive, and will be a long-lasting source of pride as well as income.

"Ideally, the entire EIS process should be adopted at all levels of human endeavor, wherever man and his environment interact."

Peter E. Black
DeWitt, N.Y.





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, November.

# more letters...

An Opinion on
Forest Taxation –

"As a member of the association I am writing you about an issue which I believe in the final analysis is the most important one we as forest owners face today. That is the whole question of the system of taxation on forest lands throughout New York State. The present version of Section 480A of the General Tax Law due to be implemented soon may give some relief . . in the southern section of the State, but as I and others interpret it, it will give scant if any relief to the northern section, the Adirondack and Tug Hill regions where the most heavily wooded areas occur!

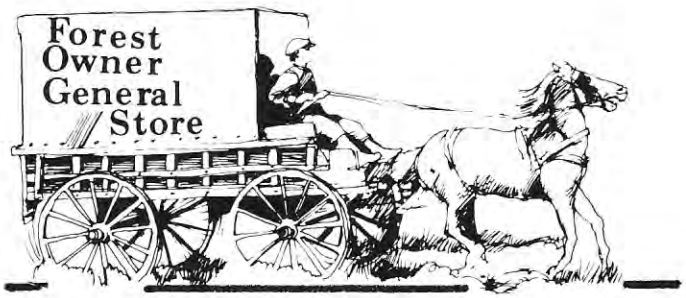
". . This situation becomes ironic if we take into account the fact that the Tug Hill and Adirondack areas have (or are proposed to have) by far the most stringent zoning restrictions in the state if not the entire country. The market value of the land has been drastically lowered but this has not been reflected – as it should be by tax law - in a lowering of the taxes paid on the land. The Town of Montague's temporary zoning ordinance basically provided for zoning limits of 3, 10, 25 and 42 acres. Yet this is not reflected in the tax situation. Land zoned for 3 acres is assessed the same on a per acre basis as land zoned for 42 acres. Additionally, each acre is assessed at $25 per acre, whether there be 5 acres or 1000 acres. We have the intolerable situation of having land which is impossible to sell because of the restrictive zoning, yet paying a tax rate on the "highest and best use",i.e. development.

"If this situation is allowed to remain unchecked it will result in the practical extinction of the private forest owner in the whole North Country region!

"I believe this should at present be the main goal of our Association, for if private ownership of forests ends, so does our organization."

Peter V. O'Shea
RD 6, Box 347
Pleasant Hill Rd.
Hopewell Junction, N.Y.
12533

*(Editor's note: Mr. Shea's letter was much longer, but I believe I've left the essence of his views here.)*




**FOR SALE:** What have you to sell, swap, or donate? Use this space. Submit ads with proper amount of money to: Christopher Berthiaume Advertising Manager, Glenmary Dr. Owego, New York 13827.

**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:** Classified and display ads for Forest Owner Magazine, circulation 500. Ads appropriate to forest most welcome. $2.50 per column inch for display ads (there are 3 ten inch columns per page . . . or $37.50 for a half page) or 10 cents per word for classifieds. Chain saws, wood stoves, land, consultants . . . you name it!



## MYSELF A TRE

Lee Brummer

Publications Dept. of Consolidated Papers, Inc. Box 50 - Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54494 – Public Relations

I AM the heat of your hearth
on the cold winter nights,
The friendly shade screening
you from the summer sun,
and my fruits are refreshing,
quenching your thirst
as you journey on
I am the beam that holds your house
The board of your table.

The bed on which you lie
and the parchment from which
your mind is nourished.
I am the handle of your hoe
The door of your home,
the strength of your cradle
and the shell of your coffin.
You who pass by, listen
and harm me not.

Got a question?

# Ask a Forester

### Cedar Extracts –

I've heard rumors of demand for cedar oil for use in a pharmaceutical product. What about this?

John Stevenson
Eden, Vermont

Dear Mr. Stevenson:

I personally do not know of any pharmaceutical product based on cedar extracts. I suggest you contact Martha C. Mapes, Div. of Nutritional Sciences, MVR Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14853.

James P. Lassoie
Extension Forester
Cornell University

(Anybody else have an idea for our Vermont reader? – Editor)

### Burning Softwoods –

My 3½ acre woodlot has numerous white pine and some hemlock. I have read that pine and hemlock and other resinous wood produce an accumulation of creosote and is the source of most chimney fires.

Can seasoned white pine be burned safely? How much seasoning? Hemlock?

Robert W. Traver, Sr.
Averill Park, New York

Dear Mr. Traver:

Generally I see nothing wrong with burning pine and hemlock as long as the combustion is complete and high temperatures are reached. The best way to insure this is to use well seasoned wood. Seasoning outside in a covered situation for two years should be adequate. The enclosed publications may prove useful.

James P. Lassoie
Extension Forester Cornell University

### What About Pulpwood?

I saw in the American Agriculturist I could get details for the value and market for hard and soft wood . . mostly pulpwood. I have a lot of poplar trees to remove to make a place for reforestation. I hope you can advise about a market for pulpwood.

Austin Wormuth
Avoca, New York

Dear Mr. Wormuth:

The market for forest products varies greatly from place to place in New York State. There has been a market for "poplar" (I assume you are referring to what is generally called aspen or popple) in the western part of the state.

Your best source for the latest information on markets is your local office of the New York Department of Environmental Conservation.

However, I would advise against planting on land from which poplar or aspen has been cut. Aspen sprouts very vigorously and profusely from roots and stumps and would quickly crowd and shade out any trees you might plant.

A. W. Roberts, Jr.
NYFOA Committee on
Natural Resources and Land Use

# NYFOA to go exhibiting this summer

*Exciting woodmen's events highlight the Woodmen's Field Days at Boonville, N.Y. This year's event will be August 20 and 21.*

The Forest Owner's Association will have an exhibit and float in the parade at 12 noon on Saturday, August 20th at Bonnville's Woodsmen's Field Days. The Forest Owners will also sponsor a "nymph" in the parade.

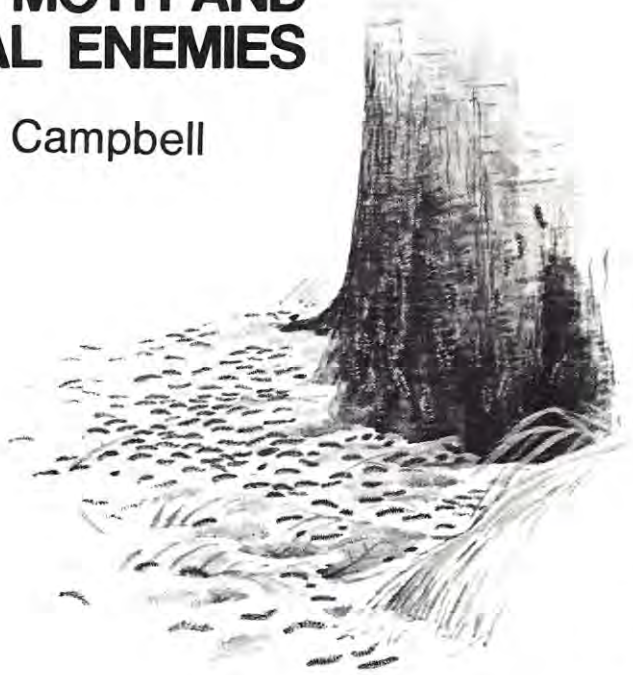
For those who have never seen it, the Woodsmen's Field Days is quite an event: championship woodsmens' contests, canoe races, log loading and skinning, axe throwing, chopping. And NYFOA will be there, part of it.

NYFOA will also have a booth at State Fair this year, August 30–September 15. We'll be sharing the booth with the College of Environmental Science and Forestry and some 4-Hers who will be demonstrating chainsaw safety and firewood skills.

Contact Ken Eberley to volunteer to spread the word about NYFOA. (9 Edgewood Drive, Whitesboro, N.Y. 13492).

# THE GYPSY MOTH AND ITS NATURAL ENEMIES

by Robert W. Campbell



Occasionally, gypsy moth larvae simply exhaust their available food before many of them can pupate. In such cases, the ground may resemble a moving carpet as the insects wander through the defoliated stand. Many of these insects will eventually die in windrows as they pile up against the bases of their erstwhile host trees.

MOST OF US have grown more or less immune to the sort of long-range, remote threats that we read or hear about so frequently in this age of instant communication. But those who have seen a gypsy moth outbreak can testify that the threat this insect poses seems immediate and sometimes almost terrifying.

Millions of dollars have been spent in efforts to control this pest or to eliminate it from this continent; yet it continues to spread and to defoliate our woodland, park, and ornamental trees.

Gypsy moths, *Porthetria dispar* (L.), were imported to the United States from Europe in 1868 by a scientist who thought he could use them to make silk. They escaped, bred, thrived, and built up populations that soon began to damage trees in Massachusetts.

The gypsy moth is a defoliator. It devours the foliage of hardwood trees— especially oaks— which can kill the trees. From the first infestations in Massachusetts, the gypsy moth has spread until it is now the major insect threat to the hardwood forests of the northeastern United States.

Some of our failures to control this pest have had their roots in the long-standing notion that we must at all times *do* something. This notion, in turn, seems to have been based on the premise that doing *anything* is better than just sitting around and watching our trees be gobbled up.

For example, millions of forested acres in the northeastern United States were treated with DDT in the 1950's, even though we had far too little factual information about either the natural life system of the insect itself or the possible interactions between the insect's life system and this one-dimensional method of treatment.

My introduction to this insect was based on the notion that somebody *should* do nothing at all except sit on a stump and watch the insect. The late Dr. Donald L. Collins, the state entomologist of New York, offered me a summer job as "gypsy moth watcher" in 1957. I took that job, and found my niche, I guess, because I've been a gypsy moth watcher ever since.

Insect-pest management has been identified so closely with chemical pesticides in recent years that we tend to ignore the fact that these pesticides are only a part of pest-population management. We should know our enemy beforehand in enough detail so that we can use pesticides only in bona fide emergencies; and other methods—including doing nothing—would become much more prominent in the management scheme.

The following notes about the gypsy moth, its behavior, and its ecology have been collected during 17 years of observing this insect pest.

## Larvae

Predaceous ground beetles kill gypsy moth larvae. Most important is a large iridescent green importation from Europe called *Calosoma sycophanta* (fig. 10). The adult beetles begin to appear while the gypsy moth population is still in its third instar, and most of these adult beetles will have disappeared by the time the gypsy moth population has pupated (although *their* larvae will have become predaceous on the gypsy moth pupae by that time).

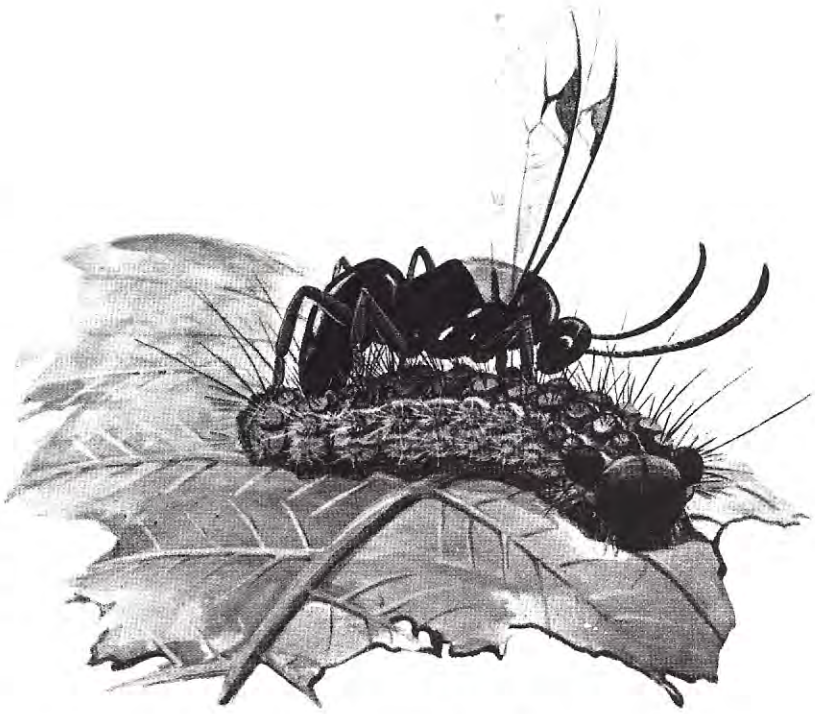
These Calosoma beetles may be difficult to find unless many are present, because they seem to be more active at night than during the daylight. Each adult beetle, which had spent the winter months in an underground chamber, apparently tends to establish a rather restricted home range.

We have seldom found a Calosoma beetle in an area when the resident gypsy moth population was sparse, even though both gypsy moths and Calosoma beetles had been numerous in that area in the preceding year. Although beetle densities increase from year to year if the density level of their prey also increases, the gypsy moth populations I studied have usually crashed before the beetle population had time to increase to a level at which the beetles could consume a substantial part of the gypsy moth population; and the beetle population subsequently disappeared.

Mice, too, eat Calosoma beetles. Typically, they discard the exoskeletons of their prey in rather neat piles. These remains are usually found on level spots near tree bases.

You may find both the nymphs and the adults of a stink bug (Pentatomid) with their elongated beak inserted in gypsy moth caterpillars or pupae. Although I have usually interpreted this activity as scavenging, rarely predation, on the caterpillars, these bugs clearly do prey on both gypsy moth caterpillars and pupae from time to time, although this particular predator/prey relationship is probably of little biological significance.

Other potential invertebrate predators of the older gypsy moth caterpillars, such as ants and spiders, have been watched closely; but in 17 years of observation I have seldom witnessed predation on the older caterpillar stages by these organisms.



This braconid wasp, *Apanteles melanoscelus*, is laying an egg in a small gypsy moth caterpillar. The wasp here is shown larger than real life size in relation to the caterpillar.

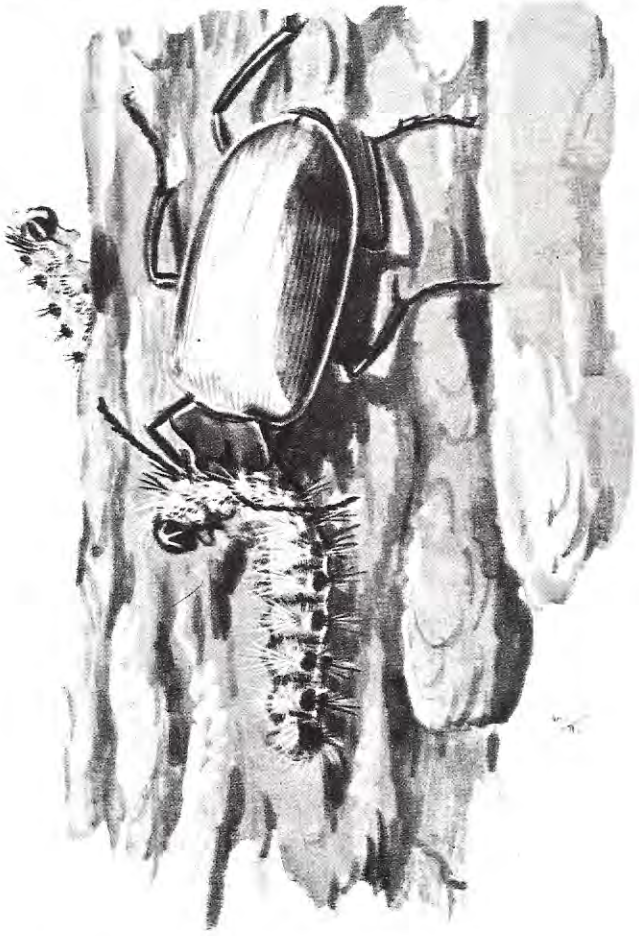


Figure 10.—This ground beetle, *Calosoma sycophanta*, was imported into this country from Europe. These beetles often hang head down from the tree bole as they prey on wandering larvae they have captured.

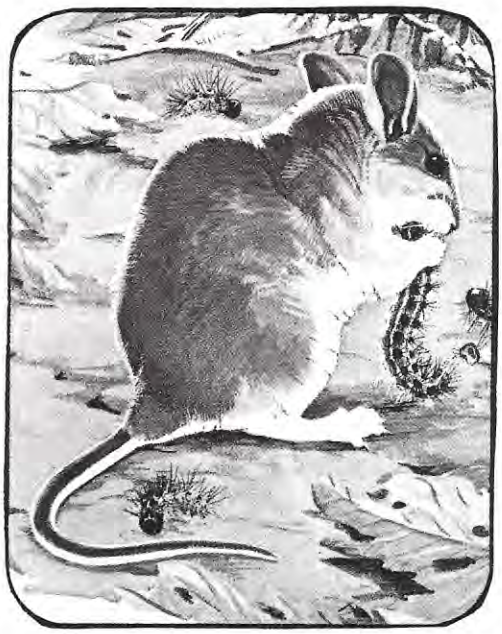
Figure 13.—Both the black-billed cuckoo, shown here, and the yellow-billed cuckoo are attracted to outbreak areas. They seem to specialize in eating hairy caterpillars such as the gypsy moth.

Birds, especially grackles—and perhaps also starlings and red-winged blackbirds—can be important predators on fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-instar caterpillars, but usually only when the prey population is sparse. My observations on the food-getting behavior of such birds in woodland situations are sketchy, for two reasons. First, flocks of these birds are difficult to approach closely under woodland conditions. Second, such flocks may range across several square miles of woodland, presenting the appearance of constant movement from place to place.

Our evidence from a generally sparse gypsy moth population in northeastern Connecticut and adjacent Massachusetts indicated that these birds tended to find *relatively* high-density gypsy moth caterpillar populations and that they then concentrated on these high-density spots as food sources.

In 1971, as outbreak conditions developed to the south of this study area, I noted that flocks of grackles were easy to find in the northern edge of the outbreak, but almost never a few miles farther north under conditions of lower density. Unfortunately, these birds seldom have much effect on the gypsy moth under outbreak conditions, because under these conditions there are too many gypsy moth caterpillars per acre for the birds to remove a significant proportion.

One other bird should be mentioned in relation to the gypsy moth: the cuckoo, or wood crow (fig. 13). Both black-billed and yellow-billed cuckoos are noted as predators of hairy caterpillars, and they are always present in small numbers around outbreaks of the gypsy moth. I always associate the unique call of these birds with gypsy moth outbreaks, probably because I have rarely heard them elsewhere. These are relatively shy birds, but a patient observer with field glasses can assure himself that they are eating gypsy moth caterpillars.



Northeastern hardwood forests contain a more numerous and more varied community of small mammals than most people, including many foresters, realize. The white-footed mouse, *Peromyscus leucopus,* is both a prominent member of this community and an important predator of the gypsy moth (at least while the prey population is sparse). Usually these mice prey much more on pupae than on older caterpillars, for reasons that will be described. On the other hand, I have observed a few cases where mouse predation on the caterpillars was extremely high.

When a mouse finds a gypsy moth caterpillar, he sometimes grasps the insect in his forepaws and pulls off its head capsule with his teeth. He discards the head capsule, together with the bright green upper digestive tract, then rolls the caterpillar skin back on itself—just as you might peel a banana (fig. 14).

Only a small portion of the prey insect is consumed. Under woodland conditions you are most likely to find the caterpillar remains around tree bases, but if you happen to have a tree house in that old apple tree in your backyard, look for them there. We have found these remains at least 35 feet above the ground, in tree crotches, which goes to prove that the mouse is an excellent climber.

These mice are much more active at night than they are during daylight hours, and at night the older caterpillars are on the foliage and inaccessible to the mice. Thus most of the predation by mice is restricted to dawn and dusk.

Other small mammals, such as shrews, voles, and chipmunks, have not been significant predators of any gypsy moth stage. In cage experiments, both voles and chipmunks have usually refused to eat the insect.

## A FEW LAST WORDS

Pest outbreaks, like runaway fires, tend to be spectacular. Our methods for suppressing both insect outbreaks and fires tend to resemble a sort of man-against-nature morality play, both dramatic and exciting.

Of course, any professional fireman will tell you that the best way to cope with a potential fire is to prevent it from occurring in the first place. Similarly, pest managers would much prefer to contain potential pests at innocuous and manageable levels rather than have to cope with outbreaks. The problem in both cases is that we have not yet found totally effective ways to prevent either pest outbreaks or fires.

The apparently spectacular success of modern pesticides gave many entomological researchers a feeling that a permanent pest-control solution, rather than a short-term emergency control, had been found. Now, however, as we seek new ways to live in reasonable harmony with our insect neighbors, we have found that we need to know a great deal more about their ecology in order to design pest-management systems that are broad and flexible as well as ecologically sound. We need to know the enemy better.

# Gypsy Moth Poses Threat to Many Areas in Southeastern and Northeastern New York

A gypsy moth egg mass survey was conducted on high use forested areas, forested communities and high value forests in 33 counties in New York. The purpose of this survey is to predict defoliation before the feeding season starts, allowing time to plan controls. In 1976, the gypsy moth caused medium or heavy defoliation on 2,944 hectares† in the state (FI&DC, 76).

Plots were established in areas of preferred hosts consisting mainly of oak, willow, poplar, basswood, apple and/or gray birch.

Table indicates that medium or heavy defoliation is expected on 5,746 hectares in New York State, an increase of 2,802 hectares over 1976. Statewide gypsy moth defoliation is on an upward trend. Two direct impacts of the gypsy moth increase are feeding damage to trees and shrubs and nuisance problems created by the gypsy moth and its activities.

The department of Environmental Conservation will not conduct a gypsy moth suppression project in 1977, but will continue to monitor the gypsy moth population and provide technical advice to affected landowners on management alternatives.

The department will release 1,000 parasitic wasps and flies in two locations in New York to increase the number of natural controls of the gypsy moth. The gypsy moth parasite survey will be continued in 1977 for the third consecutive year of a five year study. Knowledge gained from the study about the kinds, relative abundance and geographic distribution of parasites is used in selecting parasites for release.

TABLE – 1977 Hectares of forest subject to defoliation by the gypsy moth. Areas expected to have light defoliation are not reported.

| Counties | Towns | Medium (ha) Defoliation* | Heavy (ha) Defoliation* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Clinton | Plattsburgh | 368 | 400 |
| Franklin | Constable | 120 | 80 |
| | Malone | 80 | 120 |
| | Westville | 30 | 50 |
| Orange | Deerpark | | 1264 |
| | Highlands | 256 | |
| | Tuxedo | 8 | |
| | Woodbury | 156 | |
| Rockland | Stony Point | 60 | |
| Suffolk | Easthampton | 120 | 200 |
| Sullivan | Bethel | | 246 |
| | Forestburg | | 262 |
| | Highland | | 538 |
| | Lumberland | | 780 |
| | Mamakating | | 164 |
| | Tusten | | 376 |
| Ulster | Wawarsing | 68 | |

† One hectare (ha) equals 2.47 acres
* Medium defoliation equals 31 to 60 percent; heavy defoliation equals 61 to 100 percent.

## How to TREAT WOUNDS PREVENT DECAY

**DECAY** is a major cause of damage to trees. **WOUNDS** start the processes that can lead to decay. Decayed trees are unsightly, hazardous, and low quality. To prevent decay, first prevent wounds, but if a tree becomes wounded follow these steps to minimize decay, and to help the tree remain healthy.

1. Clean wounds; trim away loose injured bark.
2. Shape the wound into a vertical oval when possible. Use a sharp knife to make a clean edge between vigorous bark and exposed wood.
3. Remove dead, dying or weak branches from the wounded tree.
4. Water and properly fertilize the tree.
5. Remove dead wood from around tree - practice sanitation.
6. Remove less valuable woody plants that may be crowding the valuable wounded tree.
7. Protect the tree from further injury.
8. Use a thin coat of a wound dressing only if it's needed as a sign that the wound has been treated. Otherwise do not paint the wound.

# Outstanding Tree Farmer Award to Franklin County Resident

**by Dave Taber, Extension Specialist, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse.**

Stewart Decker of Brushton in Franklin County was awarded the distinction of being New York's Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year at ceremonies held at the Albany Quality Inn on May 19.

Fred A. Umholtz, chairman of the New York Committee of the American Tree Farm System announced the selection of Decker from competition consisting of some 300 tree farms in New York.

Richard Lewis, manager of the American Tree Farm System which is nationally sponsored by the American Forest Institute of Washington, D.C., presented Decker with a suitably engraved plaque noting the outstanding conservation accomplishment and announced that he would be presented with a new McCullogh chainsaw at the New York State Woodsmen's Field Days in Boonville on August 20.

Peter A. Berle, Commissioner of the N.Y.S.Department of Environmental Conservation addressed the members of the Empire State Forest Products Association where the Outstanding Tree Farmer award was presented. Berle emphasized that "the forest products industry is of great importance in New York from both economic and environmental standpoints." And after noting that he uses a chainsaw to cut all his own firewood and suggesting that many people are beginning to realize the importance of New York's forests by association with wood for fuel, Berle stated that "it is our job to see that the forest industry thrives in the State."

*Stewart Decker (c) of Brushton (Franklin County) is congratulated for being the Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year by John Stock (r), Commissioner of the Adirondack Park Agency from Tupper Lake, and Francis A. (Mike) Demerce of Bainbridge. Mr. Decker was recognized for over 50 years of forest management.*

Outstanding Tree Farmer Stewart Decker's accomplishments were enumerated by N.Y.S. Forest Practice Act Service Forester Peter Grupe of the Ray Brook office of the N.Y.S.Department of Environmental Conservation. Decker was selected for his interest and dedication to conservation, implementation of good forest management practices, and use of the renewable forest resource to continually provide society with forest products.

Decker, who has owned and operated some 280 acres of woodland for over 50 years, has had a detailed forest management plan since 1947 when it was prepared with the assistance of the present Bureau of Forest Resources Management, N.Y.S. Department of Environmental Conservation. Over 50 years of woodland ownership and 30 years of formal forest management with professional forestry practices, indicate how forests can be utilized and enjoyed while providing much needed forest products over the years and actually for perpetuity.

Mr. Decker, now over 70 years old, has lived on his Franklin County farm since 1909 and has actively worked in the woods since he was 15 years of age. His most recent accomplishments include the elimination of inferior trees on 5 acres by timber stand improvement which stimulates the growth of higher quality residual trees. Last year 10 acres of woodland was cultivated by timber stand improvement practices conforming to advice from Peter Grupe, service forester with the N.Y.S.Department of Environmental Conservation from Ray Brook.

Decker said that part of his enjoyment of tree farming under principles of the American Tree Farm System comes from seeing wildlife habitat in the forest. Decker has also established and maintained an extensive network of roads throughout the woods for forest fire control and access purposes; he keeps current on insect and disease infestations with assistance from the N.Y.S. Department of Environmental Conservation technicians; and he has continually implemented woodland improvement practices to cultivate rapid forest growth of quality trees throughout his property.

(cont. on p.12)

# *Four Steps to Managing Your Stream or Pond*

**by Neil H. Ringler**

Whether your land was acquired for enjoyment during holidays and retirement, or for a solid investment in the future, thoughtful management of its streams and/or ponds will almost certainly increase its value. "Management"here refers to actions that you as land owner, choose to take in the enhancement of the watercourses on your property. Clearly such actions depend on the values to be enhanced. Avid fishermen may wish to encourage growth and reproduction of game fishes; hunters may be interested in attracting waterfowl; and just plain nature lovers may be content to keep track of natural plants and animals in their watershed.

Some courses of action should be considered in managing your stream or pond. The first, and perhaps most exciting, course of action is to *FIND OUT WHAT LIVES THERE.* This endeavor may take either a few days or many years, depending on the detail with which you carry out your survey and the interest you may have (or develop!) in exploring aquatic life. Most aquatic creatures can be collected with a kitchen strainer, minnow trap or fishing rod. Field guides to collection and identification are now available for most major groups of aquatic plants, fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, molluscs, insects and crustaceans. The"How to Know" series of nature guides published by the William C. Brown Co. are especially useful, as is the booklet "A Guide to the Study of Fresh Water Biology" written by J.G. and P.R. Needham. The educational opportunities of such a survey are almost limitless for children and parents alike, and can provide many summers of continuous enjoyment. For those looking for help, high school or college biology instructors often welcome the opportunity to study a small stream or pond, and field trips may be possible to permit full class participation. An added advantage of school participation is that they may be able to employ specialized sampling gear, such as hoop nets or an electroshocker, which can improve your survey.

*An electric shocker can be used to stun fish temporarily to help an investigator "count noses".*

*A seine can be pulled through a pond in order to sample the size and species of fish in a pond.*

The second course of action is to *DECIDE WHAT VALUES YOU WISH TO ENHANCE.* This depends on your own needs, and on your sense of esthetics. Management values often conflict, but they do not have to, particularly if more than one stream of pond is located on your property. For streams, some landowners prefer to leave an upper section in its natural state, and make any changes in a lower section.

The third course of action is to *DECIDE WHETHER ANY CHANGES ARE NEEDED.* This decision depends on what values you wish to enhance, it can be made best after you have some knowledge of the existing creatures and their environment. Fishes (and other aquatic creatures) retain some flexibility in their living requirements, but there are limits of temperature, spawning sites, and food availability. Thus, trout may live and grow but not reproduce in a cool pond lacking tributary streams or spring seepage. They ordinarily cannot live in ponds or streams in which summer temperatures remain above 75°F for extended periods. On the other hand, a large mouth or small mouth bass can live and successfully reproduce in such warm water environments, and where adequate food species (sunfish, minnows, crayfish) are present the bass may attain a large size. Brown bullheads are well adapted to most pond environments, and they seem able to feed and grow on a variety of foods. Habitat requirements of virtually all New York's inland fishes are given in the book by W.B. Scott and E.J.Crossman, *Freshwater Fishes of Canada,* and management considerations have been discussed by G.W.Bennett in his book, *Management of Artificial Lakes and Ponds.* Here I wish only to emphasize that one should be aware of what organisms are present before contemplating any management plan, and that there are environmental limitations on enhancement of populations. Size and numbers of aquatic plants and animals are related to the geology of a watershed, because water chemistry, temperature, and streamflow are influenced by the soils through which the water flows. A land owner cannot readily change geological features, but his knowledge of them can help him decide what kinds of organisms can be expected to thrive in his watershed.

A fourth course of action is to ***MAKE THE DESIRED CHANGES.*** To improve fish in a pond or stream a lot can be gained simply by eliminating activities that tend to reduce the capacity of a watershed to support fish. Thus, livestock should not be permitted to graze near the banks of a stream, because their removal of vegetation and trampling of the banks reduces needed cover for game fishes. Cutting of trees or shrubs along the banks should be avoided, since in small streams more than 90 percent of the heat input results from sunlight striking the water surface. The shade created by trees and shrubs helps to control stream temperature. These plants also provide homes for insects and spiders, which fall into the water and the mouths of waiting fish. And in the autumn, leaves falling into water provide a third or more of the energy utilized by such fish food organisms as caddisflies and stoneflies.

Small dams erected to provide a "swimming hole" or a fishing pond can result in warming of stream water, and one must consider what effect such devices might have downstream, or even on a neighbor's property. Pesticides should not be used where they can contact the water surface, because they may be toxic to fishes or food organisms. Use of live bait brought in from other regions should not be permitted, at least where one is interested in maintaining natural (original) fish communities.

Besides eliminating detrimental activities, one can also take positive action. Plant willows and alders along banks denuded by grazing or logging. A variety of devices constructed of logs and stakes have been developed to increase protective cover and modify stream flow characteristics. Landowners interested in a more detailed account should consult the excellent booklet by R.J.White and O.M. Brynildson, ***Guidelines for Management of Trout Stream Habitat in Wisconsin,*** (Available from Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources). Brush piles can be used in ponds to increase shelter and concentrate fishes. Productivity may sometimes be increased by

addition of agricultural limestone. Trees and shrubs planted on lake shores may have effects beneficial to fish populations, in addition to adding beauty. In rich ponds with many summer plants and algae, winter ice cover may be followed by reduced oxygen levels, and dead fish may result ("winterkill"). Use of fertilizers or grazing of cattle near such ponds should be avoided, but these activities could benefit ponds low in nutrients. Your local Soil Conservation District can be of great help in answering questions relating to ponds, and again G.W.Bennett's book should be consulted before launching an extensive management plan.

The final course of action in stream and pond management is to ***KEEP TRACK OF YOUR RESULTS.*** Management changes should be carefully recorded, along with the date, site and worker's name (yours!) Effects can be determined by keeping a record of the number, size and perhaps distribution of organisms before and after the changes took place. For fishermen, a daily log of catches provides an index to the number and size of fish present. Similar indices can be devised for bird sitings, aquatic insects collected, and so on. These records are really just a continuation of the first course of action: finding out what lives there. Finding out, and keeping track of seasonal and yearly changes in plant and animal communities is a special treat for forest landowners. In addition to the practical value of these records, they will add immeasurably to the enjoyment of your aquatic environment.

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## Tree farm award (continued)

Timber harvesting was conducted in 1966 when nearly 200,000 board feet of lumber were removed for manufacturing into consumer products. This was equivalent to the amount of lumber needed to built about 20 houses.

Fuelwood from small diameter trees and tree tops from commercially sold sawlogs amounting to some 20 to 50 standard cords per year has been used for home heating and firing up evaporators for making maple syrup. Of course, using naturally renewable forests for fuel reduces depletion of the world's limited oil and natural gas reserves.

Food grown in New York's forests is provided by Decker who now produces about 600 gallons of maple syrup per year from his 100 acre sugar bush, although production has varied from 300 to a high of 1800 gallons annually.

According to Regional Forester Russell C. Mulvey of the Warrensburg office of the N.Y.S. Department of Environmental Conservation's Bureau of Forest Resources Management, "Stewart Decker is a man with a wide range of interests in trees and forestry. His entire life has been involved with maple syrup production, and he is an advocate and practitioner of reforestation and timber management."

Information on how to become a Certified Tree Farmer in New York under the American Tree Farm System for persons owning ten or more acres of woodland can be obtained from Fred A. Umholtz, N.Y.S. Tree Farm Committee Chairman, 3 Parkwood Drive, Cortland, N.Y. 13045.

# Maurice Postley Receives 1977 S. O. Heiberg Memorial Award

*Maurice Postley, of Delaware County, receives the Heiberg Award from Gene Farnsworth, President of the New York Forest Owners Association.*

The 1977 recipient of the Heiberg Memorial Award is Maurice G. Postley of Franklin, New York. Mr. Postley's accomplishments provide an impressive example of significant contributions made by dedicated volunteer citizen initiative.

Mr. Postley began his professional career in 1918 with the Tarrytown Daily News He moved to the New York Evening Journal in 1925. In 1935 he was appointed Secretary to the New York City Department of Health, and in 1938 he became Secretary to the New York City Board of Education. He entered the public relations field in 1947. In 1963 he left New York City and moved to a farm he had previously purchased near Franklin, Delaware County, New York.

In Delaware County, encouraged by the local Soil and Water Conservation District Mr. Postley was a major factor in the organization of the Delaware County Conservation Association, Inc. He has served as its president for 14 years. The objectives of the Conservation Association express clearly the values that guide his efforts. In part, these objectives state:

"To promote and support the optimum long-term conservation, development and use of privately owned rural land and its related resources of timber, soil, water, wildlife and outdoor recreation in Delaware County, New York.

"To foster a fuller appreciation of the potentials and rewards of rural living.

"To employ directly and in cooperation with other groups those educational. promotional, and other measures suitable for the purpose of advancing the objectives of this Association within its areas of interest. These include, but are not limited to: the establishment and improvement of woodland, the production and marketing of timber, the protection and habitat improvement of fish and wildlife, the construction and reclamation of ponds and lakes, the conservation of soil and cropland, the protection of the rights of rural land owners, and the minimization of the risks and hazards of such ownership."

Mr. Postley provides vigorous and dedicated leadership to the Association and its programs. It now has over 350 members and makes significant contributions to improved relationships and understanding between property owners and the agencies involved with natural resources.

Mr. Postley has been a citizen volunteer with many organizations. His association with the Department of Environmental Conservation contributed to making state owned forest areas more accessible to the public. In 1970 he participated in the formation of the Appalachian Timber Development Association Inc., and served as its President. He served as Public Relations Director of the South Central New York Resource Conservation and Development Project for 10 years. He recently accepted the Chairmanship of the Franklin Town Planning Board, and he is also a member of the Delaware County Senior Council. He has been an Associate Director in the Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District.

On his 154 acre farm, Mr. Postley has planted more than 60,000 trees. He considers himself to be a "conservative conservationist" and strongly believes that every effort must be made to promote understanding, cooperation and friendship in a world that is both idealistic and realistic.

The New York Forest Owners Association is proud to honor this remarkable man and to recognize his contributions to forestry and to conservation in New York, by presenting to him the 1977 Heiberg Memorial Award.

**Presented April 23, 1977, Annual Meeting of the Association - Ithaca, New York.**

Cover

Painted by Wayne Trimm
for the U.S. Forest Service
Gypsy Moth Bulletin.

# "Thence forty rods east to a chestnut tree."

by H. Peter Wood & Richard W. Kulis
Massachusetts Extension Service

If you can't find what's left of that old landmark, read on ...

Accurate boundary location and marking are essential if a landowner plans to manage his property — or eventually plans to transfer it to another owner. He must know where his land begins and ends and what belongs to him and what belongs to his neighbors. Boundaries also provide one with the tools to determine total area or acreage which can be used to calculate land values, taxes and survey information. Well marked boundaries are a deterrent to timber and other trespass.

## FINDING EXISTING BOUNDARIES

Reference should always be made to your deed. Every county has a registry of deeds which is a source of information on property located in that county. This office is usually located in the county seat. The town assessor's office also may have tax maps which might be of assistance. Deeds describe the property by providing information on such things as corner points, distances, bearings, area, general location, and may refer to adjoining property ownership.

Stone walls and fences were oftentimes used in the early days as property dividers between owners and to control livestock. Wire attached to trees or posts, commonly used to control livestock, *may or may not have been placed exactly on the boundary line.*

The following are typical indicators of boundary lines:

1. Stone walls.
2. Wire fences and evidence of wire fences. Instances have been reported that remnants of wire on the ground can sometimes be located with the use of a metal detector. Also, wire may be seen embedded in trees.
3. Wooden fences and evidence of them.
4. Blazes — old or new — may be found on living trees, and on standing or fallen dead ones. Blazes may not always have been placed on boundary line trees.
5. Streams, roads, ridge and cliff lines.
6. Brushed-out lines. These may have resulted from past cutting for surveys or boundary renewal activities, but not always. Cut stubs of brush or small trees may remain as visible line indicators for 20 years or more.
7. Visual change of vegetation sizes. A line indicating different forest age and size classes or different species resulting from a timber harvest or change in land use. This line might appear as an abrupt change in tree diameters or as a difference in vegetation.

## THE BEGINNING POINT

It may be difficult to find the reference points as described in your deed. Some deeds are old and may be vague. Corners and lines described in them may not be found on the land. In other instances corners and lines can be located *(see Diagram 1).*

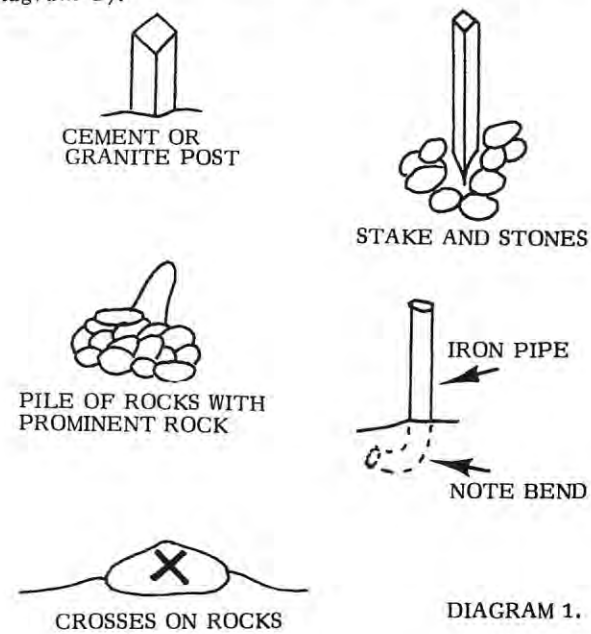



DIAGRAM 1.

Typical boundary corner indicators are:

1. A stake in a pole of stones.
2. A pile of stones.
3. A pipe driven into the ground, stone or cement posts.
4. Chisel marks on corner trees.
5. Blaze marks on corner trees.
6. Intersections of roads or joining of streams.
7. Distances and bearings from another reference point.

In some cases, corner indicators may be long gone or buried beneath forest litter. It is very worthwhile to seek out older residents of the community, neighboring property owners or the assessor to help in locating your boundaries.

## UNIT OF MEASURE

The following are common units of measure found in typical New England deeds:

Foot = 12 inches
Yard = 3 feet = 36 inches
Rod = 16.5 feet
Chain = 66 feet — composed of 100 links
Link = 7.92 inches
Mile = 5,280 feet
Acre = 43,560 square feet

In measuring distances the following can be used:

1. A tape — usually100 feet
2. A chain — 66 feet
3. A pace — length of one step *(see footnote*)*

The length of your pace can be determined by walking in a straight line for twenty steps, measuring that distance and dividing that distance by the number of steps. Do this three times to obtain your average length of step.

*Example:*

$$\text{Length of step} = \frac{\text{55 feet covered by 20 steps}}{\text{20 steps}} = \text{2.75 feet to the step}$$

This length of step can be used to measure (estimate) distances. Some foresters and others figure two steps to the pace and count each time the right — or left — foot strikes the ground. The process for figuring length of pace is the same as above. Accurate measurements should always be made with tape or chain and not paced, and should be horizontal and not slope distances.

*Other definitions of the pace:
The geometrical or great pace is 5 feet, representing the distance from the place where either foot is taken up, in walking, to that where the same foot is set down. The Roman pace, reckoned like the geometrical pace, was equal to 5 Roman feet, or about 58 English inches.

## ESTABLISHING BOUNDARY LINES

Some boundary lines have been marked in rather permanent fashion such as stone walls. In such cases they are self-evident and do not need to be re-established — just found. In other instances portions of walls may have been removed, or never completed to the corner of the property. Occasionally, properties have been divided and corner points have not been placed on the ground, even when they occur along a stone wall. These corner points must be accurately located.

Many times there is not good or conclusive evidence of a boundary line. **Caution: Do not mark any line with blazes until you are sure the line is correctly located.**

To establish a boundary line the following technique is sometimes successful.

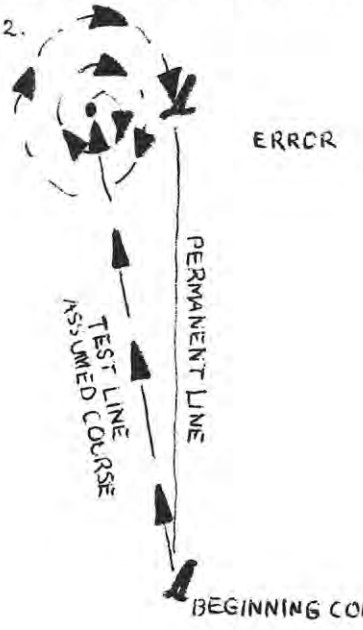
1. First locate a beginning-point corner that you are confident is accurate.
2. When a bearing and distance is given in your deed, measure the distance indicated in the deed along the bearing.

A hand or staff compass may be used to indicate the bearing. Keep in mind that a compass points to magnetic north, which in New England is approximately 14.5 degrees west of true north varying slightly from year to year. To convert from true north to magnetic north subtract 14.5 degrees. Be sure you understand the use of the magnetic north to true north, add 14.5 degrees; conversely to convert from true north to magnetic north 14.5 degrees. Be sure you understand the use of the compass. As property values increase the transit survey, because of its higher degree of accuracy, is being used more and more.

When you reach the end of the measured distance you should be in the vicinity of the corner you are seeking. Only in the rarest of instances will you hit the corner "on-the-nose".

3. At the end of the measured distance (now called the test line), search for evidence of the old corner. This can be done by walking in an increasing series of circles *(see Diagram 2)*.

DIAGRAM 2.



4. If you are fortunate, you may find some evidence of the old corner as indicated earlier. Such evidence could be very meager, no more than a pile of stones, rusted pipe, rotted stake or slight irregularity in the terrain where the corner once was.

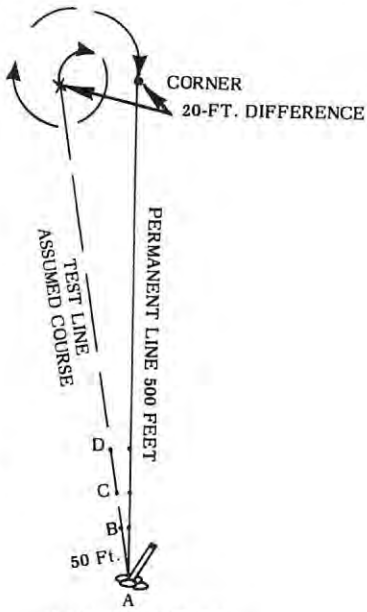
5. When you have located the corner you are seeking, it will not likely fall along the test line. If it does, the test line becomes your permanent boundary line.

6. If the corner falls to either side of your test line, it will be necessary to locate the permanent line from the corner back to your beginning point.

7. Never permanently mark the test line but use flagging or strips of cloth. If you find the test line is not the permanent boundary line, these markings will have to be removed.

8. There are several ways to locate the permanent line using the test line as a reference. If the terrain allows for sighting between the two points, mark the line directly. If this is not possible, a series of offsets from your test line to the permanent boundary line can be calculated. *(see Diagram 3).*

DIAGRAM 3.




| STATION TO STATION | DISTANCE | CUMULATIVE DISTANCE | OFFSET |
|---|---|---|---|
| A to B | 50 feet | 50 feet x .04 = | 2 feet |
| B to C | 50 feet | 100 feet x .04 = | 4 feet |
| C to D | 50 feet | 150 feet x .04 = | 6 feet |
| D, Etc. | | | |

$$\frac{20 \text{ feet}}{500 \text{ feet}} = .04$$

9. Boundary work is more easily done when leaves are off the trees.

10. If you have any difficulty at all in finding your boundary call a surveyor for assistance.

Surveyors usually only establish the corner markers in their work.

If a landowner wishes to have a surveyor mark the boundaries between corners this condition should be stated in the agreement or work contract.

Note: When a map or plat of one's property is to be filed with the deed by the County Clerk the survey must be performed by a registered surveyor and his seal and signature affixed to the map or plat.

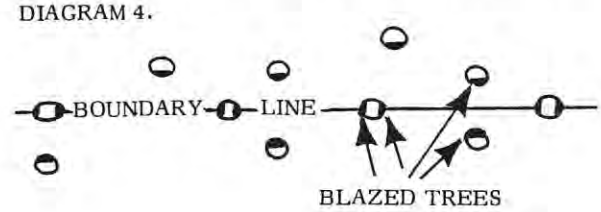
## PERMANENT BOUNDARY LINES

Once you are satisfied that the boundary line has been located then it should be marked in as permanent a manner as possible. It is a good idea to notify the owner of the adjacent property and obtain mutual agreement on the boundary location.

The blazing of trees is a common way to mark woodland boundaries. Many combinations of blaze marks can be used, but the following is suggested.

Few trees are actually on the boundary line. For those trees that are on the line, fore and aft blazes should be made about five feet above ground level. When a sufficient number of trees cannot be found on the line itself, then blaze trees within a few feet of the line so that the blaze marks face the line *(see Diagram 4).*

DIAGRAM 4.




Trees to be blazed should be healthy, vigorous, and not less than four inches in diameter. With an axe remove a four- to six- inch square section of bark down to the live wood. This blaze can be especially identified as a boundary mark by cutting one slash mark three or four inches below it.

In many instances individuals like to paint the blazes for ease in identification. A bright oil base paint is suggested. Wait until the blaze is dry before doing this. Nailing or tacking markers to trees is not recommended. □


# Editorial

The Forest Owners' Tour of Switzerland, Austria, and Bavaria is now history, and an exciting bit of history for me it was, too. I'll never forget the people we met, their hospitality, and the fine people who joined together for this good-will mission.

Of course, the trip merely whet my appetite for another expedition, and Scandinavia seems awfully attractive.

Maybe we can muster some observations and photos from our sixteen travellers to share in an upcoming issue of ***The Forest Owner.***

* * * * * * * *

The Fall meeting is set for October 8 at the Rogers Environmental Education Center, Sherburne. Details next month.

* * * * * * *

I run into a lot of landowners in the course of my travels. Some are farmers, some are executives or teachers or engineers. It seems a lot of them are upset about "those environmentalists" and "all these environmental rules" like the wetlands act, SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review Act), the Catskill proposals, etc. Without commenting on the wisdom or possible impacts of this flood of laws, I'd like to share an observation. And it goes about like this: in the late 60s and 70s many people were upset about environmental problems. In my labors I was joined by more than one farmer who wanted to strike a blow for environmental quality. But how times have changed. Now farmers and landowners are in the fore front of resistance to environmental regulation.

Did they really think they could escape? Do any of us really think regulations are only for the other guy? How naive we are. Our zeal has come home to roost in our own tree and we don't like it a bit. We built and unleashed a branch of government to pinch the pollutin' rascals, never suspecting we were pursuing ourselves. Shades of Richard Nixon. Only we can't resign. We'll just grant ourselves immunity.

* * * * * * * *

Woodcutting father to son on other end of 2-man saw: It's not so bad that you rest every few minutes. But do you have to drag your feet on the ground?

Karl Borgula and Franz Imfeld, foresters for the Luzern area, explain their operations to our group of NYFOA travellers.

# Message from the President

As freshman president of the New York Forest Owners Association, I anticipate the year ahead with mixed feelings of challenge, concern and anticipation. Probably a year from now I will understand much more clearly where I should turn my attention, and to what efforts I should give priority. At present, however, I find that I am reviewing what I know about the Forest Owners Association, what it is, what it hopes to be, how it is structured, and how it functions. I have reread with interest the descriptive circular that we distribute to prospective members. Probably all of us should do this more frequently than we do.

One aspect of NYFOA is reassuring. Perhaps each of us cannot clearly articulate what we want the Association to do, but we probably know pretty well why we are members. We have a definite interest, common to all. We are interested in owning and enjoying forested areas, and we would like to find ways to make that interest more rewarding, either in greater enjoyment or in greater material returns - or both. These are appropriate objectives. We group together because we believe we are more likly to be successful in our search for returns from our forest if we combine our efforts than if we rely on our own resources.

We hope that during the coming year your Board of Directors and your officers will be successful in helping to increase each member's enjoyment in his forest. If you have suggestions for ways in which the Association can help, please tell us about them. We will respond as well as we can, within our limitations, and we hope each member will in turn support the Association. It is basically a matter of enlightened self-interest that, as members, we work to make our Association stronger in order that the Association can help us to be more effective as forest owners, and to be better prepared to meet the challenges and problems that are involved.

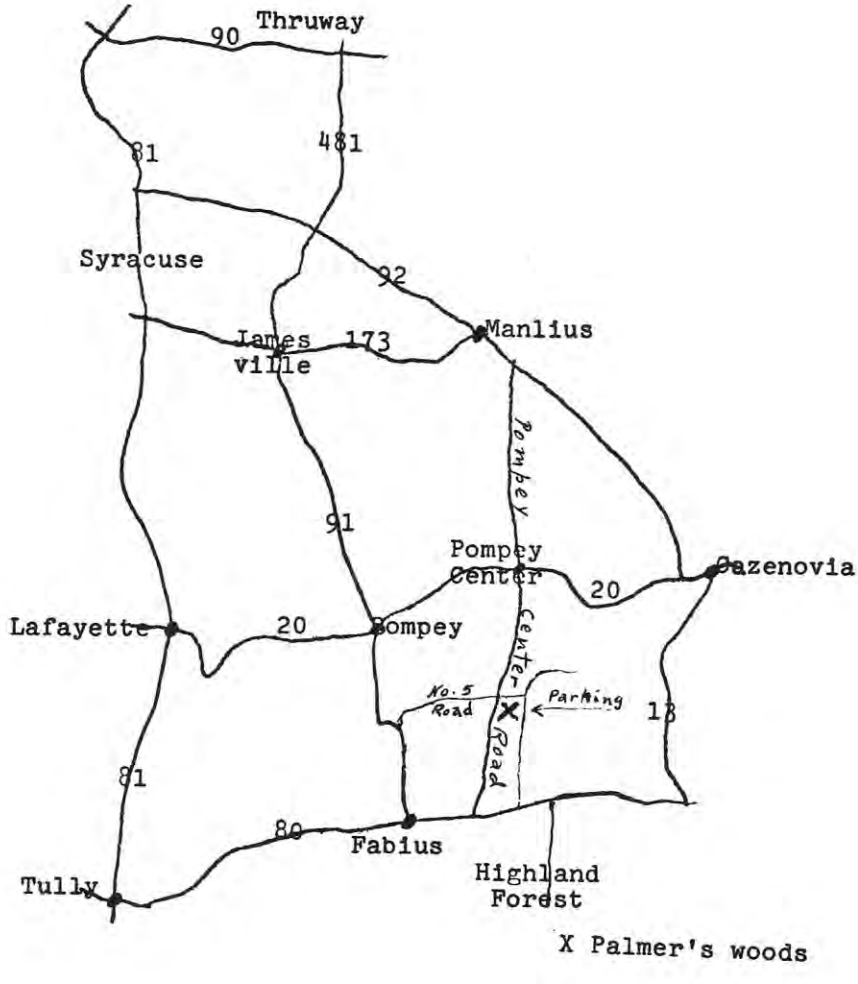
Gene Farnsworth

# WOODS WALK
## Slated for Central New York
## August 13th

A "woods walk", sponsored by the New York Forest Owners Association is to be held on Saturday, August 13, in the southeast corner of Onondaga County, at a Tree Farm certified under the American Tree Farm System. Utilizing both the plantation and forest of Emiel and Carol Palmer, (which was recently designated "an outstanding forest", by the New York State District Forest Practice Board) and the nearby county owned Highland Forest, the outing will provide an opportunity for forest land owners to observe mixed hardwood stands under selective harvesting, and plantations of red pine, spruce, and larch, which have been under various degrees of timber stand improvement.

William Burlingame, Senior Forester for the State Department of Environmental Conservation will direct the program. Available to answer questions will be a representative of the American Tree Farm System and others familiar with timber harvesting, conservation and wildlife. Interesting forest practices utilized at Highland Forest will be explained by David Mele, Onondaga County Forester. The Pioneers Museum will be open for those who desire to look over the exhibits concerning farming implements, household tools and artifacts of the nineteenth century.

Non-members are invited to attend, and there is no registration fee. All the participants of the "woods walk" will gather at Pompey Center on Route 20. The tour will begin at 10:00 AM. A "bring your own lunch" break will be about twelve thirty at Torbert Shelter, Highland Forest. Hot and cold drinks will be furnished. The tour will end at 3 PM.




From "The Friday Newsletter"
U.S. Forest Service

*AVERAGE ENVIRONMENTALIST – A PROFILE:* The January issue of the "Audubon" magazine reports results of a survey of Audubon Society members that merits our attention. It reveals that the average member is an executive earning $36,000 annually (26 percent in top and middle management posts and 40 percent engaged in professional or technical occupations). The median age is 44 years and the membership comprises 58 percent males and 42 percent females; 85 percent attended college and 43 percent attended graduate school.

Perhaps of more particular interest to the Forest Service are the environmental interests presented: 81 percent of the members are especially interested in wildlife conservation, then in descending importance, wilderness preservation, water and air pollution, land use planning, population growth, forestry (54 percent), energy, noise, poisonous substances, and strip mining. Outdoor pastimes include – other than bird watching-photography, hiking, bicycling, camping, fishing, canoeing, skiing, and backpacking. The "Audubon"magazine is their principal source for environmental information.

# Music of the Forests: A Variable Feast.

Photo: Marsha & Michael Burns

*(The following is adapted from the script of a recent program in the series, "A Variable Feast," written and produced weekly for radio station WGMS, Washington, D.C., by Paul Hume, music critic for the Washington POST. Mr. Hume, has kindly provided a listing of other classical music of the forest in addition to that selected for the program, which he thought would be of interest to "GreenAmerica" readers.)*

"There are so many works of music in all forms that take us deep into woods and forests that I could—shall we say—have reforested a one-hour program many times over: a song by Chausson, called 'A Forest of Charm,' the various songs about the woods by Brahms, several of the Brahms love song waltzes that talk about forests, the wood scenes by Schuman or a song by Schoenberg.

"The 'Song of the Forests,' is from one of the Oratorios written by Dimitri Shostakovich following World War II. In the first movement, we are reminded both of the beauty of Russias' great forests and of the devastation that sometimes overtakes them either by natural disaster or because of wars. In this recording, the choir and orchestra of the USSR organization under Eugene Mavrinsky, look for the time when their forests will grow again where they used to flourish.

(Shostakovich "Song of the Forests, Opus 81" —Angel S-40214.)

"A historical visit to another deep Russian forest, this time one which still stands almost impenetrable, is contained in the last act of the great opera, 'A Life for the Czar,' by Mikhail Glinka. In the final scene, which I find one of the most moving and beautiful in all opera, Ivan Susanin, a patriot peasant, has let the invading Poles deeper and deeper into the woods to divert them from the hiding place of the young Czar, whose life they are seeking. The music is affected by the deepness and darkness of the forest. In this recording, Nicolai Ghiaurov with the London Symphony under Edward Downes sings the final scene from 'A Life for the Czar,' as he leads his enemies into this deep, dark forest where he knows his own life will be lost.

(Glinka "A Life for the Czar"—London 25769.)

"For a bit of a change from the Russian forests, as they were being reforested or as they stood centuries ago, we turn to 'North Country Sketches,' by Frederick Delius, a picture of wooded country in the north of England. This was a part of England Delius loved very much. The first of the four musical sketches is called 'Autumn, The Wind Soughs in the Trees.'

"Here, Delius gives us a quieter, more pastoral landscape, but one in which the woods are the obvious, dominant factor. The recording is by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under Sir Charles Groves.

(Delius—"North Country Sketches" Angel S-37140.)

"Surely, the most famous operatic music about our forests is that wonderful scene in the second act of Wagner's 'Siegfried' in which the young hero stretches himself out in the shade of a great tree and examines the sights and sounds of this forest in which he has spent all of his life to that time. For Wagner, the forest dictated the mood of the music, the very instrumental colors he used. He wanted the lights and shadows of the forest to enter into the drama as it is portrayed on the stage. And in the scene described here, as Siegfried lies meditating, he wishes he might once have seen his mother and father. Of course he never saw either of them, since he was an orphan. In the scene, his wonderment about what his father and mother were like is interrupted by the singing of a bird. He cuts himself a reed from a pipe and tries to blow on it for a while. All the sounds a young man might hear or make himself in the forest are reflected in Wagner's music as played by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Georg Solti in Wagner's 'Forest Murmurs' from 'Siegfried.'

(Wagner—"Siegfried" London 1508 [5-record set].)

Surely the most famous piece of purely instrumental music about a forest is the Johann Strauss Waltz "Tales From The Vienna Woods." The complete version opens with an unusual zither solo, in the recording by the London Philharmonic directed by Antol Dorati.

(Strauss—"Tales From The Vienna Woods" London 21018.)

And even this shortest of samplings must not overlook the most obvious sylvan music of all, Handel's "Forest Music" for harpsichord—delicate, powerful, expressive of all the moods the forest evokes in the human observer, from delight and solace to somber reflection and even fear.

(Handel's "Forest Music", harpsichordist Igor Kipnis, Columbia M 7326.)

Among the most endearing of Beethoven's symphonies, the Sixth, to which the composer himself attached the label, "pastoral," was said by Beethoven to have been written in part while he was sitting in a valley bordered with high elms. He told his friend Schindler that he wrote the movement called the "Scene by the Brook," while seated on the ground, his back against one of the elm trees. He calls the entire symphony "a recollection of country life."

(Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony, the Sixth, London STS 15161.)

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**(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 Association'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