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# Forest Owner

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January - February 1979

# THE NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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From

## The EDITOR'S DESK

LAST SPRING the thought of having the editorship of the FOREST OWNER so overwhelmed me that not until now have I relaxed enough to visit with you. At present however, I find each issue an interesting challenge.

ALAN KNIGHT, our former editor, who left us to work in Rhode Island, assures me that he expects to have a firm date and details of the itinerary for the European trip, as well as another installment of the story of the previous trip, for the next issue.

HOWARD WARD, our director from Candor, has suggested that the NYFOA might like to have a speaker's bureau. The talks would be checked, by some of our experts, for accuracy. Otherwise they would be the work of the ones giving them. This might be another way of being of educational service.

Ward recently gave a talk for a book club and showed slides of his European trip, as well as of his Christmas tree operation.

Members willing to be a speaker may write to either Mr. Ward or myself.

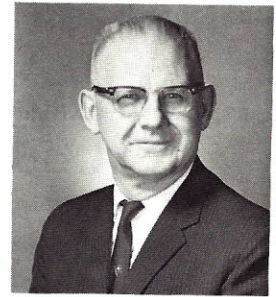
AS YOU READ this I expect to be in the San Francisco area of California visiting my daughter and her family.

I also hope to miss a few snow storms and find some interesting things to tell you when I return.

So "Hasta la Vista"

*Evelyn Stock*

## Former President Departs



EUGENE FARNSWORTH, past President of the NYFOA expects to leave soon for a four month stay in Burma.

Farnsworth will be acting as assistant in a FAO United Nations Development Program to establish a Forest Research Institute at Yezin, 250 miles north of Rangoon.

Areas of assistance will primarily be in research of Growth and Regeneration of Natural Forests, Technology of Vegetation Propagation, Development of Future Seed Orchards, and Fertilization studies in plantation Establishment.

The program, contracted by CESF is under the direction of Dean Charles Larson. George Armstrong also of CESF and chief technical advisor for the project expects to be in Burma for a period of four years.



Holiday Greetings  
to all our friends.  
May the new year  
bring us all  
much happiness.

## Woods Walk, Shirley Forests

October 12, 1978

**MARKING TREES** for harvesting where decision making is difficult was the theme of a woods walk near Elizabethtown, New York.

The group assembled at the Shirley residence where the objectives of the operation of the Shirley Forests were covered in a brief rundown of the results of 23 years of operation.

In general, growing stock has more than doubled, timber quality has improved, and operations have been on a break even or better level.

**NYFOA PRESIDENT ROBERT SANDS** explained that the objective of the Forest Owners Association is to help woodland owners achieve satisfaction from their woodlands and manage their properties to achieve the desired ends, whether for income or for other motives such as aesthetics, wildlife, or the pleasures of watching a forest area respond to carefully planned management.

The setting and history of Reber Valley in which the Woods Walk took place was outlined by Alberta West, a local historian.

**HOW TO JUDGE** when and how heavily a stand of timber should be thinned was outlined by Professor Farnsworth, of CESF at Syracuse who demonstrated the use of a prism as an index of growth rate and density in a stand of trees.

After lunch the walkers donned rain gear and proceeded to a stand of trees having but 30 square feet of one focal area, yet it was apparently using all the nutrients the soil could deliver to support tree growth. The trees were old stunted, and unhealthy due to a lack of nutrients.

The next stop was made at a stand having 100 feet of basic area, where one or more poorly formed trees might be removed. The third stop was at an old hedge grown up to large, limby, decadent oaks and maples, indicating that the soil had once been cultivated.

One oak tree had fallen over knocking down, in domino fashion, four valuable pines of merchantable size; evidence that if people do not harvest timber before it becomes over mature nature will do it and convert the timber back into soil.

**THREE RED OAKS**, approaching over maturity were using up as much space as 16 medium sized pines.

Another stop featured a dense stand of red and white pine and hemlock having a basal area of 20-31 feet<sup>2</sup> and needing a heavy thinning to prevent stagnation of the stand.

Each woods walker had an opportunity to test out the use of a prism or angle square to measure stand density.

It was agreed that the stand was in need of two thinnings spaced 10-15 years apart.

**ANOTHER STAND** had been logged three years ago, reducing the basal area to about 100 square feet per acre.

The rain had persisted throughout the day but the woods walkers felt well rewarded.

They were glad to have learned that the thinning theory could be applied in commercial logging operations, thereby maintaining good growth and multiple harvests during a timber stand rotation.

**WOODS WALK PARTICIPANTS** were Paul and Lillian Steinfeld, Pleasantville.

William Casselman, Elizabethtown  
Richard Lea, CESF, Syracuse  
Eugene and Frances Farnsworth, CESF  
Alberta West, Reber  
Richard Sayward, Willsboro  
NYFOA President Robert Sand, and Mrs. Sand

Harold and Gary Brown, Jamesville  
Richard H. Regan, Holbrook

\* \* \*

## How To Treat Wounds To Prevent Decay

By Alex Shigo, Northeastern Forest  
Experiment Station

Decay is a major cause of damage to trees. Wounds start the process 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 wood 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 wound dressing only if it is needed as a sign that the wound has been treated.

\* \*

For information on preservation of wood with chemical treatments you may send for a new publication by U.S. Forest Service's Forest Products Lab "General Tech. Report FPL-15," free from Nat. Media Office USDA Forest Service 370 Reed Road, Broomall, Pa 19008

\* \* \*

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## ACCIDENT ALIBIS

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Many have experienced the confusion of traffic accidents and have had to try to summarize exactly what happened in a few words or less on insurance or accident forms. The following quotations were taken from these forms and were eventually published in the Toronto Sun, 7/26/77.

I thought my window was down, but found out it was up when I put my hand through it.

I told the police that I was not injured, but on removing my hat, I found that I had a skull fracture.

The pedestrian had no idea which direction to go; so I ran over him.

The indirect cause of this accident was a little guy in a small car with a big mouth.

The telephone pole was approaching fast. I was attempting to swerve out of its path when it struck my front end.

A truck backed through my windshield into my wife's face.

The guy was all over the road; I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.

I saw the slow-moving, sad-faced old gentleman as he bounced off the hood of my car.

I was thrown from my car as it left the road. I was later found in a ditch by some stray cows.

I was unable to stop in time and my car crashed into the other vehicle. The driver and passenger then left for a vacation with injuries.

# NEW EXTENSION FORESTRY BILL TO AID TREE FARMERS

By J.P. LASSOIE, CORNELL UNIVERSITY

On July 1, 1978 President Carter signed into law H.R. 11779. This Act expands the renewable resources extension program with state extension program in cooperation with state extension services in order to provide private forest landowners with education and information about managing and using forests, rangeland, fish and wildlife, water, and information about managing and using water and other renewable resources. It was developed with the cooperative efforts of state forestry agencies, state extension services, forest industries, conservation organizations, forestry schools and Members of Congress working with the Department of Agriculture.

Under the Act, the Secretary of Agriculture in cooperation with the state cooperative extension service program shall:

(1) provide educational programs that enable individuals to recognize, analyze, and resolve problems dealing with renewable resources, including forest and range-based outdoor recreation opportunities, trees and forests in urban areas, and trees and shrubs in shelterbelts;

(2) use educational programs to disseminate the results of results of research on renewable resources;

(3) conduct educational programs that transfer the best available technology to those involved in the management and protection of forests and range lands and the processing and use of their associated renewable resources;

(4) develop and implement educational programs that give special attention to the educational needs of small, private non-industrial forest landowners;

(5) develop and implement educational programs in range and fish and wildlife management;

(6) assist in providing continuing education programs for professionally trained individuals in fish and wildlife, forest, range, and watershed management and related fields;

(7) help forest and range landowners in securing technical and financial assistance to bring appropriate expertise to bear on their problems; and

(8) help identify areas of needed research regarding renewable resources.

In essence, H.R. 11779 will provide the funds necessary for a greater commitment from cooperative extension to the educational needs of the small, private woodland owners of New York State.

Much needed forestry staff will be added to the State's cooperative extension network in order to enhance current educational efforts. In time

In time, tree farmers, as well as the general public, will be able to better enjoy the economic, social, and ecological benefits resulting from the better management of our valuable woodlands.

This is surely the era of private woodlot forestry.

\* \*

Thro' all the circle of the golden  
year?

Ah ! When shall all men's good  
Be each man's rule, and universal  
Peace

Lie like a shaft of light across the  
land

-Tennyson

\* \*

# Cutting method affects appearance

The five principal methods of cutting veneer in plywood manufacturing each affect the appearance of the wood.

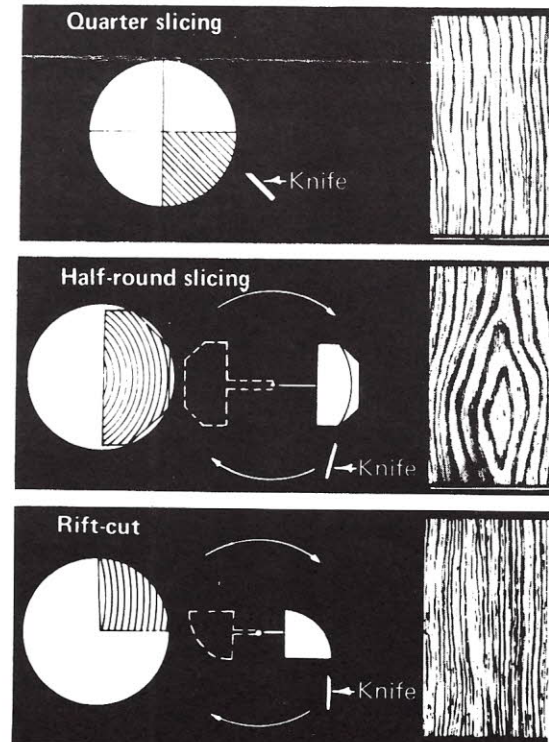
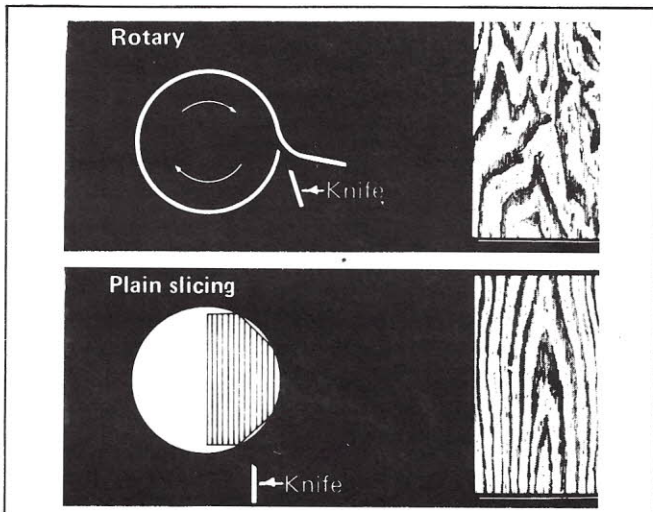
In the **ROTARY METHOD** - the log is mounted centrally on a lathe and turned against a sharp blade. The result is much like unwinding a roll of paper. Since this cut follows the log's annular growth rings, a bold grain figure is produced.

**HALF ROUND SLICING** - is a variation of rotary cutting in which segments of the log are mounted off center on the lathe. The result is a cut slightly across the growth rings, visually showing modified characteristics of both rotary and plain-sliced veneers.

**PLAIN SLICING** - entails slicing the log parallel to a line through the center of the log. The result is a cathedral like grain pattern which is more uniform than the rotary cut.

In **QUARTER SLICING** - the quarter log is cut at approximately right angles to the growth rings.

The **RIFT-CUT** - is the most expensive method and used mostly with various species of oak. Oak has medullary cells radiating from the center of the log like the spokes of a wheel. The rift is obtained by slicing slightly across these rays. This results in a very uniform vertical grain pattern.



GUIDE TO WOOD SPECIES

Species	Principle Uses	Appearance			Hardness	Finishing	
		Color	Figure	Grain		Paint	Transparent
Ash White	Trim, Cabinetry	Creamy Light Brown	High	Open	Hard	Not used	Excellent
Basswood	Decorative Mold- ings & carvings	Creamy White	none	closed	soft	Excellent	Excellent
Beech	Semi-exposed Cabinet parts	White to Reddish BR.	Med.	closed	Hard	Excellent	Good
Birch Yellow-Select Red (Heartwood)	Trim, Cabinetry	Dark Red	Med.	Closed	Hard	Not used	Excellent
Birch Yellow Select White (Sapwood)	Trim, Paneling	Creamy White	Med.	Closed	Hard	Not used	Excellent
Butternut	Trim, Pan. Cab.	Pale Br.	High	Open	Medium	Not used	Excellent
Cedar Western Red	Trim, Pan. Exter. & Interior	Red. Br. white Sap.	Med.	Closed	Soft	Not used	Good
Cherry American Black	Trim, Pan. Cabinetry	Reddish Brown	High	Closed	Hard	Not used	Excellent
Chestnut Wormy	Trim, & Paneling	Grayish Brown	High	Open W. W.holes	Med.	Not used	Excellent
Fir Douglas, Flat grain	Trim, Frames Paneling	Reddish Tan	High	Closed	Med.	Fair	Fair
Douglas, Vertical Gr.	Trim, Frames Paneling	Reddish Tan	Low	Closed	Med.	Good	Good
Maple, Hard Select White Sapwood	Trim, Paneling Cabinetry	White	Med.	Closed	Very Hard	Not Used	Excellent
Oak, English Brown	Veneered Pan. & cabinetry	Leathery Brown	High	Open	Hard	Not Used	Excellent
Oak, Red Plain Sawn	Trim, Panel. Cabinetry	Reddish Tan-Br.	High	Open	Hard	Not Used	Excellent
Oak, White Plain Sawn	Trim, Panel. Cabinetry	Greyish Tan	High	Open	Hard	Not Used	Excellent
Pine Eastern or Northern Wh.	Trim, Frames, Pan. & Cab.	Creamy Wh to Pink	Med.	Closed	Soft	Good	Good
Poplar Yellow	Trim, Pan. & Cabinetry	Wh. to Br. Green cast	Med.	Closed	Med.	Excel.	Good
Walnut Amer. Black	Trim, Pan & Cabinetry	Chocolate Brown	High	Open	Hard	Not Used	Excellent

From - BUILDING DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION August, 1978.



# LOG SPLITTER

Prepared by  
George Buzzell

Orleans County Forester  
Newport, Vermont

A special thanks goes out to Merton Pike of Stowe, Vermont. In January, 1968, Merton took time out from his farming operation to show this County Forester the splitter he had built in his spare time.

Merton has contributed some excellent ideas which have been incorporated in the attached drawing. He also pointed out some disadvantages which his splitter has as it is now set up. However, these problems are not serious and can be fairly easily solved.

Merton is using the hydraulic pump and controls on his crawler tractor to actuate the splitter. The pump generates only 1150 PSI which really isn't quite enough pressure to handle some of the tougher splitting chunks. Also, the man operating the controls has to travel back and forth from the tractor to the splitter to run the controls and load the splitter. Merton says this running back and forth keeps his feet warm but cuts down on efficiency a bit.

## PROBLEMS SOLVED

The above problems could be solved by mounting the controls, pump and reservoir on the cylinder end of the splitter. The pump could be operated off a tractor PTO and should generate around 2200 PSI. Also, the cylinder Merton is using has a 32" stroke, which is not enough to travel all the way to the wedge. A longer stroke would take care of this situation.

The only other drawback to Merton's splitter is moving it around in the woods. Wheels mounted on the cylinder

end and a hitch on the wedge end, or else a low scoot or stone boat would facilitate moving the splitter. However, in use, the splitter should be as close to the ground as possible to avoid having to lift heavy chunks.

## MATERIALS USED

A three-foot piece of iron welded across the bottom of the I-beam keeps Merton's splitter from tipping over.

This splitter was built largely from parts picked up in a machinery dealer's junk yard. Total cost of the project was around \$75.\*

## SPLITTER SAVES

This splitter saves labor (can easily be operated by two men), saves time (is fairly fast), and saves money (saved Merton about \$900 or so on the purchase price of a commercially built splitter).

The price of a complete "home-made" outfit built from brand new components would fall between \$300 and \$400.

For further information, contact your County Forester.

\* Costs may vary.

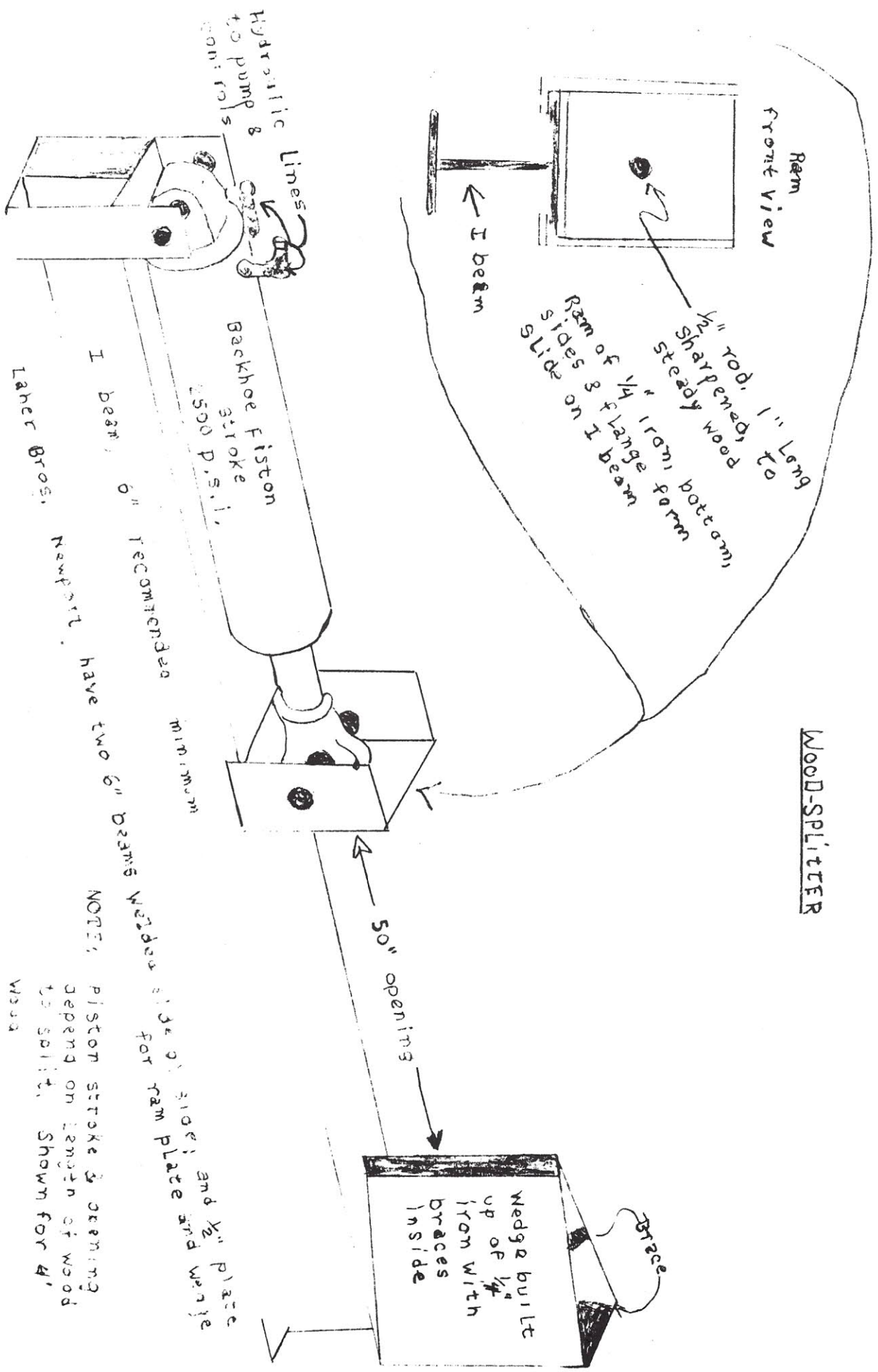
\* \* \*

Question: What is the best way to make a fire with sticks?

Answer: Make sure one of them is a match.

\* \* \*

WOOD-SPLITTER



NOTE: Piston stroke & opening depend on length of wood to split. Shown for 4' wood

NOTE: Have two 6" beams welded side of ram plate and wedge

## Snow Fences Save Fuel & Labor

By J.K. Campbell  
Cornell University

By judicious positioning of a snow fence, the energy of the wind can be used to pile snow away from driveways or walkways. Not only will such a scheme save fuel required for a snowblower or plow, but it will reduce the number of times you will have to arise early to plow snow.

Where should the fence be placed? Can a windbreak of trees be used? Canadian engineers have found that about 90 percent of drifting snow moves along within one foot of the ground and deepest drifts occur where wind velocity is least.

They have also found that certain relationships exist between types of fences and snow drift location. The relationship is shown in the diagram by the type and length of drifting that may be expected from solid and porous fences. The lengths of the drifts are described as multiples of the fence height H. In other words, 4H shown in the diagram indicates the drift would be 16 feet long if the fence were four feet high.

A solid fence, like a building, will cause a cliff-like drift to form on the windward side - in front of the fence. High air turbulence will exist on the leeward side - behind the fence. Highest turbulence will occur about four fence heights behind the fence where the wind direction at the ground is actually reversed!

A porous fence allows the snow to blow through, creating a drift behind the fence. Porous fences are described by "fence density", which is the percentage of solid area in a fence. For example, a fence built of eight inch boards spaced 1 3/4 inches apart would have a density of 85 percent. The common highway snow fence is 50 to 60 percent density. A shelter belt of deciduous trees will have a density of only 30 to 50 percent since no leaves are on the trees during the winter. A shelterbelt of evergreens can exhibit a much higher density.

The diagram shows that if you want to protect a driveway from drifting snow with a four feet high snow fence of 50 percent density, the fence should be set 10H or 40 feet from the driveway.

As the first step in using a snow fence for snow drift control, you must know the direction of prevailing winter winds. For best results, the fence should be placed perpendicular to the wind direction.

\* \* \*

Have you peace  
The quiet urge  
Verily the lust for comfort  
for comfort murders the passion  
of the soul, and then walks  
grinning in the funeral.

Have you peace  
The quiet urge  
that reveals your power?

Have you remembrances  
The glimmering arches that span  
the summits of the mind?

Have you Beauty  
that leads the heart from things  
fashioned of wood & stone to the  
holy mount or have you only com-  
fort that becomes host & then  
a master.



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# Bring a Friend!

There are 255,000 other forest owners in New York.  
 Why not invite them to join NYFOA today?

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

(Please send to:)

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

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

- ( ) I own \_\_\_\_\_ acres forest land in \_\_\_\_\_ County, N.Y.  
 ( ) I do not own forest land but I support 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