



Chairman’s Corner

Submitted by Dick Brennan

Greetings. I’m looking forward, with guarded optimism, to this year’s activities being conducted under more normal circumstances as more of the population gets vaccinated and COVID protocols are relaxed. Two woods walks have already been scheduled (see “Mark Your Calendars”) and 2 more are being planned. However, until further notice an “Assumption of Risk” form will still be required for participation in NYFOA sponsored activities.

Craig Vollmer has been hired to fill the position of Executive Director recently created by the State Board of Directors. Craig is a resident of Chautauqua County so he certainly will be familiar with our area. He will be working with chapters to assist us in providing quality activities to members. I’m looking forward to working with Craig.

NYFOA and NY Tree Farm are collaborating with the Audubon Society on a grant to highlight and encourage forestry management practices that positively impact the habitat of selected bird species. Some of the species are: American Woodcock, Prairie and Golden-winged Warbler, Wood Thrush, and Ruffed Grouse. Initially AFC will be involved in publicizing activities where recommended practices , already implemented, can be observed. These practices are described as not being in conflict with existing management practices but complementary to them. Craig Vollmer will be coordinating grant activities for the NYFOA chapters involved. As this newsletter goes to press, details and dates have not yet been formalized. So look for details in the Summer Newsletter or possibly sooner.

(Continued on p. 3)

Because of the current COVID-19 Restrictions, we ask that masks are worn and that social distancing is practiced at all of our events.

Mark Your Calendars—Upcoming NYFOA AFC Events

May 8	Ted First/FSF Woods Walk	9:00-11:30
July 17	Rembold Woods Walk	9:00

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Chapter Board of Directors:

Dick Brennan— Chair	(716) 699-4125
Greg Michalak—Vice-Chair	(716) 789-5721
Fran Michalak—Secretary	(716) 789-5721
Tony Pingitore— Treasurer	(716) 962-4041
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Dan Anderson—Steering Committee	(716) 640-5549
Tom Deacon —Steering Committee	(716) 358-3529
Mark Rivard —Steering Committee	(716) 913-6380
Bob Wood— Steering Committee	(716) 945-4849
Mike Jabot—Newsletter/PR	(716) 673-3639



Woods Walk—Ted First / Foundation for Sustainable Forests—May 8 (9:00)

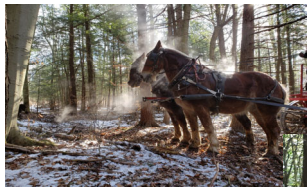
On Saturday May 8th from 9am until 11:30am, join The Foundation for Sustainable Forests (FSF) for a tour of First Forest, a 105 acre woodland near Sinclairville that was recently donated for long-term conservation.

The Foundation for Sustainable Forests is a nonprofit land trust that protects forest land through a model of active, thoughtful management. We work with landowners in the region of southwest New York and northwest Pennsylvania to ensure that their legacy of forest stewardship continues in perpetuity.

At First Forest we will review a recent timber harvest conducted using horse logging and discuss in detail the FSF's unique silviculture. By combining "worst first" single tree selection with small group selection openings FSF foresters create a mosaic of diverse tree ages, species and habitat. The FSF management process builds forest resilience to better help the ecosystem withstand disturbances such as invasive species, forest pests and climate change.

Come prepared for a hike, while First Forest has some trails the tour will require rock-hopping a small stream and traversing small hills. Depending on weather and availability, a horse logging crew may be on site to demonstrate techniques and answer questions.

First Forest is located on Fenner Road north of Ellery Center and south of Stockton. A neighboring home's address is 5403 Fenner Road Dewittville, NY. Parking will be available along the side of the gravel access driveway, vehicles with particularly low ground clearance should park along Fenner Road. There are no bathroom facilities on site, and due to COVID-19 restrictions no shared food or beverage will be provided.



NYLT New York State Logger Training Spring Workshops

<http://www.newyorkloggertraining.org/announcements>

Woods Walk—John & Gayle Rembold’s Property—July 17 (9:00)

The July 17th Woods Walk will be at John & Gayle Rembold’s property 6666 Sweeney Hill Road, Cattaraugus, NY . We will start with a gathering at 9-9:30am and will be entering the woods at 9:30. We will provide bottled water and there will be a port- a-potty available.

We will review forest activities on our property and view the results of these activities.

- These include early plantation development, road building, timber harvest and EQUIP sponsored invasive control and TSI.
- We will also observe the effects of deer browsing and discuss open field management.
- We are hoping to have a forester on hand and our walk will be on “fairly flat” ground.

We are limited on shade so prepare for the weather.

Bring your own beverage and lunch if you so desire.

Directions

From central Little Valley (traffic light) head north on Rte. 353 for 1.3 miles. Turn left onto County Road 5 (New Albion Road) and go 2.3 miles to Sweeney Hill Road (at a curve) turn right and proceed .8 miles to 6666. DO NOT TRY GPS as it misdirects you!

Chairman’s Report (continued)

The steering committee wants to put more emphasis on youth. As a start, participants in our woods walks are invited and encouraged to have their children and/or grandchildren accompany them. I guess, middle school age and above would be appropriate with safety and maturity being considered. Of course, both boys and girls are invited. It’s not important that silviculture terms are meaningful to them but rather that they spend time in the woods with adults who value being there. One of my fondest memories is walking through our family woods playing the “what kind of tree is that?” game with my father. Values are instilled early. If camps emphasizing natural resources will be offered this year, our chapter is interested in financially assisting those in need. Please contact any member of our Chapter Board of Directors listed on this newsletter for more information.

Two vacancies exist on our Chapter Board of Directors (aka Steering Committee): the Planning Coordinator for Programs position and an AT-Large position. Interested members may contact any chapter member for more details. This is a nice group of people that enjoy the camaraderie of sharing the values of promoting sustainable forestry and stewardship of family woodlands. Thanks to Jim Barber and Vic Richardson who previously held the positions.

We are always interested in new ideas for activities and would like to hear from you. Don’t be bashful!

Looking forward to planting Oak seedlings, for me a spring ritual,

Dick Brennan, AFC Chairperson (dpatrikbrennan@hotmail.com)

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EVENTS CALENDAR

May 8 9:00—11:30
Ted First/FSF Woods Walk

July 17 9:00
Rembold Woods Walk

Welcome New Members!!!

Craig Vollmer

Ashville, NY

Stumpage Price Report

https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/stumpagewinter21.pdf

Please email your comments to:
jabot@fredonia.edu (Mike Jabot)

If you know of someone who has woodland, or is interested in wood lands invite them to join NYFOA-AFC. Feel free to show them your copy of the Newsletter and/or the N.Y. Forest Owner Magazine.

The mission of the New York Forest Owners Association (NYFOA) is to promote sustainable forestry practices and improved stewardship on privately owned woodlands in New York State. NYFOA is a not-for-profit group of people who care about NYS's trees and forests and are interested in the thoughtful management of private forests for the benefit of current and future generations.