



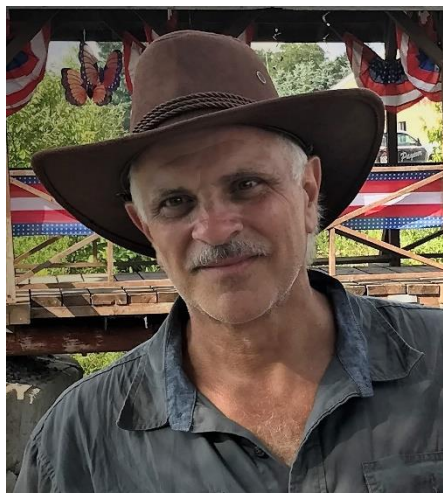
CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Volume 28, Issue 2

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A Message From the Chairman...

Jason Post



A handful more cases of Oak Wilt Disease were reported in NYS, such as was also outlined and discussed in SAC's last Newsletter. According to Joe, earlier this year, the Canadian government planned to impose a quarantine on any species of Oak log being imported from NYS to Canada, between May 1, 2018 and October 1, 2018. This would be a real problem for NY log producers, land owners, and of course the Canadian saw mills. The saw mills joined together, and convinced the government to repeal the quarantine. As a result, the government came up with a set of stringent rules and regulations to follow. For the time being, Oak log exports to Canada can continue, for this year anyway.

Things will be different in 2019.

At the risk of sounding repetitive, market conditions have been very good, with high demand and high prices. There are currently no species of hardwoods that would be considered a "dog". Even the lumber markets have been doing extremely well. With kiln dried lumber demand high, and warehouse inventories low, sawmills are cranking away. The only complaint is the shortage of logs at the mills. Log exports to other countries, especially China, are under fire because of this.

Coincidentally, China is now reinforcing the law that all logs must be debarked or fumigated before shipping to Mainland China, and now requiring the same for all logs being shipped from Hong Kong to the Mainland. As a result, all shipments to China and Hong Kong have currently stopped. This has put a damper on our industry as well as the Chinese sawmills. There are meetings being held right now, that we hope, will help to resolve these issues.

I'll have an update for you all by our Annual Picnic in July. Hope to see you there!

Welcome New Members:

Ellen & Zhong-hua Lu of Cropseyville, **and** Larry Chase of Westerlo

A Note From the Secretary...

Laura Pisarri



We are going through some changes here at CDC. As Secretary, I have written, as well as edited, many of the Newsletter articles in the past. However, in addition to my Secretarial duties, I have now been voted in as the new Editor of our Newsletter. If you have an event, advertisement or article you'd like to have considered for publish in the Newsletter, please email it to me. With prior approval from our Chairman, Jason Post, I will edit and print it in our Newsletter.

I would like to apologize for the delay in getting the Newsletter out this quarter. Working and running our full time business, has made it difficult to find the time to compose, edit, print, and mail this one on time. There is just too much that happens within the three months between mailings, to fit it all in. I will be implementing a few minor changes in the way the Newsletter is presented, as well as the frequency of its mailings. It has been approved by the Committee, to send a shorter version every two months, instead. In addition, I am offering an "opt-out", for people who would rather **not** receive the hard copy in the mail. This will help cut some of the printing and mailing costs, as well as help those who wish to de-clutter. Every Newsletter is posted on NYFOA's website, which is now a beautiful **color version**, and can be printed, if desired. If you wish to "opt out", please send me an e-mail letting me know, and I will remove you from the Newsletter "snail-mail" list. I am also considering a Newsletter e-mail list. Let me know your preference.

Please note: Jason and I have consolidated our e-mails by creating a new e-mail address, which is accessible to the both of us. Our old e-mail addresses will no longer be valid, so be sure to replace them with this one... jason.laura.nyfoa@gmail.com

From Committee Member, Gerry McDonald: My son Tom always gets me thoughtful Christmas gifts. This year, he got me a newfangled chainsaw sharpener made by Stihl. At first glance, I was skeptical. It has a lot going on. There are 4 guide bars, 2 round files, 1 flat file, and skewed ends for holding everything in place. After trying it, I am **sold**. This is the best saw chain sharpening invention ever! This contraption sharpens the teeth and files the rakers to the correct height all in one pass. After securing the saw bar in a vise, you only need 4, or maybe 5 passes for each tooth. The end housings are oriented at the correct file angle, and you just need to keep the file level and apply some pressure. I couldn't find the name of the device, but I did find a good instructional video at <https://youtu.be/SzjmpNTVH6U>



If you want to save time, and get results, this is well worth it.

Annual Winter Gathering

Submitted by *Laura Pisarri*



On January 20, 2018, NYFOA CDC members and their families enjoyed another fun-filled night at our Annual Winter Gathering in Menands, NY. Tim Russell of Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA) was our guest speaker this year. He spoke about the Young Forest Initiative, a project in NYS, designed to help young forest habitat on Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) across the state. It was a very thorough, informative and entertaining presentation, of which everyone enjoyed.

Unexpected guest, Mike Zagata, NYFOA's new Director of Organization Development, introduced himself and gave a lengthy presentation of his ideas for helping NYFOA gain more memberships. We look forward to seeing his accomplishments.



To adorn our banquet tables this year, Jason and I hand decorated glass vases and filled them with an array of fresh greenery, pussy willows and pine combs. Tucked inside each arrangement, was my first attempt at wood-burning. (A magnet made from small hardwood slices, with NYFOA CDC and our logo engraved on it.) Surprisingly, they were a big hit with all the lucky winners! Jason and I enjoy creating our unique, handmade centerpieces for our special events. It appears our winners are equally pleased. Each year, we donate one of our creations to NYFOA for the Silent Auction, at the Annual Meeting in Syracuse. They usually go for \$25 there!



Congratulations to the winners of the centerpieces: Jim Bulich, Claudia Dollerd, Bill Lyons, Ed Downey, Fred Bockis, Phil Walton, Laura Dart, and Dick and Shari Gibbs.

Winners of the NYFOA CDC Wooden Magnet: Tracy Lamanec, Gerry McDonald, Tom Wolfe, Dave Schmidt, Laura Dart, Jimmy Bulich, and Jeff Kehoe.



As usual, the food was FABULOUS. A plentiful buffet of scrumptious homemade recipes, from appetizers to desserts, filled our banquet tables. A special thanks to the Bethany Presbyterian Church for accommodating us every year, as well as Ron and Peggy Pedersen for all their dedication and hard work setting up and cleaning up. Thank you, Peggy for the Reece's Peanut Butter Bar recipe. Yum!

P.S. We have ideas for adding more fun-filled events to this already fun evening, as well as possibly having it at an earlier time of day. TBA in a future newsletter.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- * **The New Baltimore Agfest**, an Antique Machinery & Agricultural Festival, will be held on June 2ND and 3RD from 9-5, at the VanEttan Farm, 1314 Sawmill Road, Ravena, NY. This is a FREE event for the whole family. Call Rob @ 518-756-3517 for more information. Stop by NYFOA's tent, and get one of our complimentary handmade NYFOA magnets. (While supplies last)
- * **NY State Forestry Field Day** will be held on June 2nd 2018 at Morrisville State College, Morrisville, NY. This all day event will include a certified tree farm forest stewardship workshop. Lunch will be provided. Interested individuals should contact Walt Friebel at 315-202-4127 for more information and to register.
- * **Our next meeting will be on July 10th** at Tracy Lamanec's Shinglekill Falls, in Purling, NY. We will enjoy a barbeque picnic, during our meeting at 6:00pm. Come early and enjoy the day at the falls! (Contact Tracy @ 518-864-5068 for directions)



NYFOA CDC Sponsored Spruceton Valley Maple Syrup Tour...

Submitted by *Laura Pisarri*



On March 24, 2018, Jason and I attended, and represented NYFOA, at the Spruceton Valley Maple Syrup Tour. Located on Spruceton Road in West Kill, owners Skip and Lori Dippold gave us a thorough and interesting tour of their sugar house, and showed us all the hard work that goes into the daily operations. We learned that it takes four Maple trees, at least 40 years old, to yield enough sap in six weeks, to produce just one gallon of syrup. Forty gallons of sap have to be

boiled down in the huge stainless steel evaporator. Skip has over 3300 taps, averaging 800 gallons of Organic syrup a year. A lot of hard work, and commitment is required of the whole Dippold family, to man the fire, operate the evaporator, and sterilize, filter, grade, and pack each gallon of this delicious syrup.

An assortment of tasty Maple treats were available for purchase, along with their infamous Organic Maple Syrups. As tokens of appreciation, our handcrafted wooden NYFOA magnets were given to owners, Skip and Lori Dippold, and the other attendees.



This tour is a "must see" on your Maple syrup outings, with breathtaking mountain views of the Catskills and delicious Organic Maple products! Do yourself a favor, call 518-989-6721 and ask to visit Skip and Lori's Sugar House at 595 Spruceton Road in West Kill. Tell them Jason and Laura of NYFOA sent you. You'll be AMAZED!

A NYFOA CDC/RPA-sponsored **Maple Syrup Tour**, was held at Larry and Kathy Skinner's Sugar Bush, in the woodlot of Dick and Shari Gibbs, in Wynanskill again this year. Folks enjoyed Larry's presentation, the walk in the woods, as well as seeing the Skinner's evaporation system at work. As always, a tasty supply of Maple products were available for purchase.



* **CDC Picnic** will be held on July 29th from 12-3pm at the Glen Doone picnic area at John Boyd Thacher State Park. Come and enjoy the spectacular views of the Capital District from the Helderberg escarpment, and roasted chicken from Boston Market. Cost is \$6 per adult, which includes admission to the park, a chicken half, and drinks.



Bring a side dish to share, and/or a dessert, so there will be a delicious assortment of homemade goodies for all. This year there is a \$6 per car parking fee. :/

This year, we are adding a Silent Auction!

Bring a new or gently used item or two to donate...

Such as: plants, books, handmade items, tools, hunting equipment, bric-a-brac, household items, artwork, baked goods, etc. Email me (Laura) to let me know what you will be donating, and any questions you might have.

Please use our new email address.



Help Support Our Chapter!

The Steering Committee is an informal group of chapter members, who gather every three months, to further NYFOA's mission of encouraging sound forest management practices. The Steering Committee plans woodwalks, workshops, and exhibits, at local events, such as county fairs. If you would like to participate, please join us. All are welcome.

Steering Committee Chapter Officers:

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YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Helps Support Sustainable Forestry

Forests cover more than 60% of the state providing important benefits including watershed protection, wildlife habitat, wood products, recreational opportunities, clean air, and beauty. The

New York Forest Owners Association is a not-for-profit organization established to encourage sustainable forestry practices and sound management of privately owned woodlands. Members include woodland owners and all others who care about the future of New York's trees and forests.

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