# The Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner



Fall 2013 Volume 27 Number 3

### In Our Woodlot by Ed and Wanda Piestrak

e did an article last fall about planting black walnut nuts for seedling production. We were very careful to plant two dozen nuts in a secure flower box container with top soil. The top was covered with a stainless steel mesh with 1/8" openings. Large rocks were placed on each end of the wire and the wire was covered with topsoil. We awaited the arrival of the seedlings this past spring. We were quite confident it was a squirrel proof system.

Well this past spring we went to inspect the seedlings and none were present. We uncovered the steel mesh and noticed all the black walnuts were missing. How could this happen? Upon closer observation it was determined that the large rocks on the ends were slightly moved and a small hole was revealed. During the winter the squirrels somehow moved the large rocks to get into the walnut container. I am assuming that nature gave the squirrels a special smelling sense that allows them to locate nuts planted underground in a secure area and allows them to determine how they will excavate the nuts for winter survival. We were "out-squirreled" sort of speaking. We give up, and since we struck out twice, the squirrels win. I guess we will abandon any future planting of these types of nuts.

Mark up two wins for the squirrels, zero for the nut planter.

## **ANNUAL DINNER MEETING**

by Dick Dennison

embers, family and friends of NYFOA are invited to WFL's 8th annual dinner and chapter meeting Tuesday, October 29. Appetizers at 5:30, dinner at 6:00 at Monroe County Cooperative Extension, 249 Highland Avenue, Rochester, NY.

Professor Clinton Krager, a member of the Science and Technology Department at FLCC, will be our guest speaker and he will be assisted by

Dr. Bruce Gilman,
Director of the Mueller
Field Station in Canadice.
Partners in Amphibian
and Reptile Conservation
(PARC) designated 2013
as the Year of the Snake.
That may not be what you
would be celebrating as
you walk through your



Photo credit- PARCPlace.org

woods, but Professor Krager just might give us a different perspective on the subject of snakes!

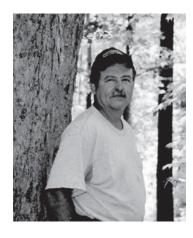
Chef Brad Stevenson of Laurier Catering in Mendon will again provide a delicious buffet. Space is limited to the first 84 people who sign up. Brad's fee is \$28/person; your Board of Directors is contributing \$6. Please have your check for \$22 in to our Treasurer Ron Reitz at 6086 Canadice Hill Road, Springwater, NY, 14560, by Tuesday October 22.

Once again we invite donations for door prizes. 50/50 raffle tickets will be available at 1 for \$5 and 3 for \$10. A big "thank you" to Northeast Stihl for donating a new Stihl Chain Saw. Raffle tickets are 1 for \$10, 2 for \$15 and 3 for \$20. Cash or checks are acceptable. We are fortunate to have the support of Northeast Stihl.



Photo credit- PARCPlace.org

**Editor's note:** It is with heavy hearts we print the following. Stan was a familiar face at WFL events and his passion for improving the forests will be missed.



## In Passing

by Corey Figueiredo

With this letter I regret to inform you of the unexpected passing of Stan Stek on July 7, 2013. His passion for the woods was second to none, always putting in his best effort to "turn the woods around." He took pride in the fact that by the end of each day he had changed it for the better two acres at a time whether mismanaged or unmanaged. No one I know has had such a long career with so much accomplished; all improvement oriented.

I would venture to say his impact of timber stand improvement had covered 10,000 acres with the release of countless oaks and apples for wildlife. He planted tens of thousands of trees with as much enthusiasm on the first planted to the last planted.

He also left his mark with all the landowners he educated through one on one work, workshops, presentations and educating my other employees along the way. He took immense pride in his work and when he put his saw glasses on it was all business from there on.

Prior to working with Future Forest, Stan worked with Bruce Robinson on the Rochester Watershed at Hemlock and Canadice Lakes. We will be donating a memorial bench with plaque on Canadice Lake. The plaque will contain his name and accomplishments.

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P.O. Box 1281 Pittsford, NY 14534 (585) 414-6511 seager\_michael@yahoo.com The Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner is published for members of the Western Finger Lakes Chapter of the New York Forest Owners Association (NYFOA) and is published 4 times per year. NYFOA was founded in 1963 and is organized to encourage the wise management of private woodland resources in New York State by promoting, protecting, representing and serving the interests of woodland owners. The Western Finger Lakes chapter was founded in 1988 and encompasses Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, and Yates counties.

Membership is open to anyone interested in understanding how to manage a woodlot. NYFOA membership can bring returns in the satisfaction of growing quality timber, stabilizing forest industries and markets, providing permanent jobs, increasing the value of your woods, enlarging areas of natural beauty across the state, and leaving behind a monument in living trees to bless the tomorrows for the boys and girls of today. For information on becoming an NYFOA member, contact Liana Gooding, NYFOA Secretary, NYFOA, P.O. Box 541, Lima, NY, 14485 or at 1-800-836-3566. Annual membership is \$30 for individuals and \$35 for families and includes: subscriptions to this newsletter; to the bimonthly NYFOA state-wide publication, *The New York Forest Owner*; attendance at chapter meetings; and at two statewide meetings. Membership at the Contributing level \$50-\$100 and Supporting level \$101 & up) are also offered. For more information visit www.nyfoa.org.

Readers are encouraged to submit articles for publication in this newsletter. Articles should be mailed or e-mailed to: Richard Starr at the address to the left. Electronic submissions are preferred. Any letters should be sent to the Chair for consideration.

For event reminders and late-breaking news, **subscribe to our email list** by sending a blank email to nyfoa-wfl-news-subscribe@npogroups.org

Note: The deadline for our next, Winter, issue is December 1st.

# WFL Visits the NYS Agricultural Experimental Station in Geneva

by Dick Starr





Photo by Jim Minor

Thomas Chao introducing WFLers to the Geneva Station's Apple Orchard

On June 14th WFL had its spring meeting at the NYS Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva, NY. The Station, part of Cornell University, became operational in 1882 and currently encompasses 20 buildings, 870 acres and approximately 300 faculty, staff and graduate students. Research is a major activity but the primary goal is to serve those who produce and consume NY State's agricultural products.

It was interesting to learn that most of the food we eat did not originate in North America.

Basically, humans domesticated wild plants for food purposes and North America was not a population center. Consider that the Jerusalem Artichoke is the only vegetable credited with originating in North America. Three medicinal plants – Bloodroot, Wild Yam and May Apple originated in North America. We do better in the fruit department claiming Western Dewberry, Strawberry, Blueberry, Blackberry, Gooseberry, Cranberry, red Raspberry and Grape.

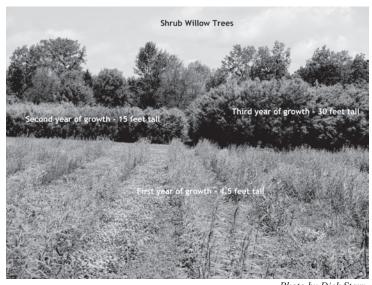


Photo by Dick Starr

Willow-as-biomass-source experimental field.

Our tour started in the orchard with Thomas Chao. The orchard we visited has 2000 apple varieties. Most are on dwarf root stock to reduce the area required for growing. Cross pollination is not an issue since the concern is preserving and studying the trees, not the fruit they produce. A sister program holds the national collection of 20,000 vegetable seeds.

Next was a visit to Larry Smart's shrub willow biomass site. Shrub willow grows quickly on marginal land, requires little in the way of fertilizer and pesticides. Dormant unrooted cuttings are planted in the spring and cut back to ground level one year later. This stimulates vigorous sprouting as

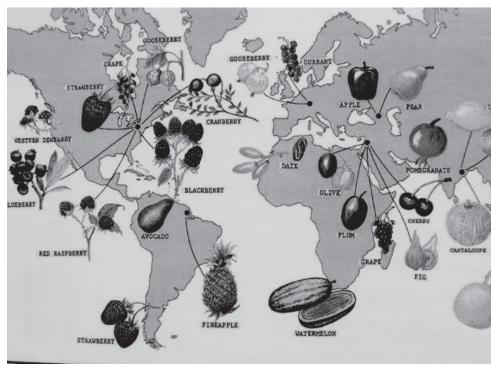
Geneva - Continued on page 4.

Geneva - Continued from page 3. the second growing season begins. Harvest (chipping) typically occurs the third season after the original planting. We saw a field in which trees had grown 4.5 feet from ground level so far this year. Those entering their second year were 15 feet tall and three year olds were approaching 30 feet. New varieties are sterile thus non invasive. The hope is that shrub willow can fuel wood chip boilers which are becoming more numerous. A 12 acre field of shrub willow can produce 140 tons of wood chips per year.

Next Jennifer Grant explained the **Integrated Pest Management** program. Started in the 1980s the

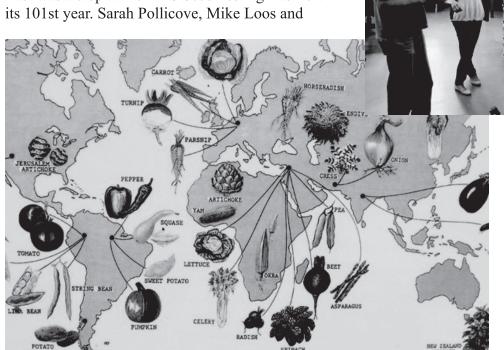
program aims to focus the use of pesticides thus reducing risk to human health and the environment. An integrated system of real time weather stations helps forecast the potential outbreak of pests thus reducing the use of pesticides when there is no need. The objective is optimal pest control with minimal impact. They're also working with weed-suppressive groundcovers that minimize herbicide use.

Last was a stop at the NYS Seed Testing Lab now in



Rendition supplied by Geneva staff.

Geographic origins of select fruits.



Rendition supplied by Geneva staff.

Geographic origins of select vegetables.



Kathy Campo showed how seed samples gathered by agriculture inspectors are sifted, sorted, counted and germinated. This all leads to properly labeled packaging of seeds with an objective of good quality seed. If the seed is sold in NYS, it's tested.

# Velocipede by Dick Starr



Karl Drais

n 1817 forester Karl Friedrich Christian Ludwig Drais von Sauerbonn, Lthankfully now known as Karl Drais, demonstrated his laufmaschine, German for running machine. In essence, it was a bicycle without pedals made entirely of wood, weighed about 50#, had no brakes and was the beginning of mechanized personal transport. It was also called the velocipede, Latin for fast foot, as the rider propelled it by pushing his feet on the ground. Picture riding a bicycle by ignoring the pedals and pushing your feet on the ground for propulsion. Karl rode 8 miles in one hour and later did 38 miles in four hours.

Since the motivation for the laufmaschine was to replace horses with human muscle power it came with a leather saddle seat. It was soon known as the dandy horse since most riders were dapper young men with too much time and money. It has been suggested that the 1815 eruption of Mt. Tambora in Indonesia was also a factor. The dust and ash cloud from the volcano reduced the amount of sunshine reaching the ground leading to widespread crop failure and starvation of horses. Fewer horses meant reduced availability of horse drawn transportation and the obvious need to find a horse substitute.

Karl was a teacher in his uncle's private forestry institution and received the title of Chief Forester. He later retired from forestry, lived on his pension and turned his energies to inventing. He is also credited with the typewriter and meat grinder. The roads of the time were so rutted from carriages that many velocipede riders took to the sidewalks. This endangered pedestrians resulting in laws banning velocipeding on sidewalks.

The velocipede was not a financial success and Karl Drais died penniless in part because of political unrest at the time. The addition of pedals decades later gave rise to the modern bicycle and auto inventor Karl Benz had

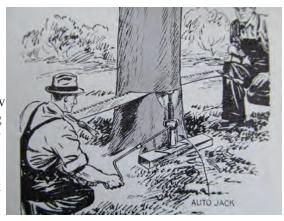


inspiration from the velocipede. Without invention of the bicycle could bicycle mechanics Orville and Wilbur Wright have made their flying machine? If not, can we give Karl some of the credit for airplanes?

The velocipede is not dead. In 2005 Austrian Walter Werner rode one the entire length of the Danube River, 2125 miles in five months. Bottom line? A forester invented the bicycle, the typewriter, the meat grinder and indirectly the airplane.

### From the July, 1940, Popular Mechanics (courtesy of Dick Starr)-**Automobile Jack Replaces Wedge While Felling Large Tree**

If no wedges are available to prevent a tree from pinching the saw while felling it, an auto jack may serve the purpose. Simply saw into the tree trunk so that a section can be chipped out with an ax below the sawed cut to provide a place on which to rest the end of the jack as shown. As the saw goes deeper, frequent raising of the jack will open the cut and aid in felling the tree in the direction desired. Of course, an auto jack is only suitable for the purpose when a light wedging effect is required. Such a jack cannot be used to cause a large, leaning tree to fall in the direction opposite to that at which it leans. Be sure to set the jack on a piece of wood so it will not sink into the ground.



### NYFOA MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

by Ed Piestrak

Wanda and I attended the NYFOA General Meeting in March at SUNY College of ESF in Syracuse. One of the speakers, Professor Canham, spoke at length about the origin of NYFOA, year started, amount of initial members and so on. About 212 people were the initial members in 1963 and over the years it continued to grow especially when the various chapters were formed. However for the past years the membership appears stagnated in the 1855 range.

We began to ponder what could be iniated to once again move the membership upward. The following idea was a possible alternative:

During January we received a postcard from Lippes, Mathiar, Wexlur Friedman LLP about a meeting in Hornell, NY, Stueben County about the possible lifting of the gas drilling moratorium in New York. It appears that they are on the cutting edge of representing land owners in New York when it comes down to leasing.

I attended the meeting and approximately 140 landowners who own over 200 acres each also attended. They were expecting 50 or 60 but the response was exceptional. Before the meeting I was talking with several landowners and they related if the gas drilling moratorium is not lifted, they would have to sell off parts of their lands to pay the taxes. I mentioned if any of them considered a 480A management plan and not one knew what a 480A plan was and how to get involved in that process.

I checked with the attorneys how they got those large land owners invited and the process was not that complicated.

First they targeted Stueben County and since tax records are public knowledge they got a list of all 200 plus acres landowners. There was approximately 500 contacted but like in my case, since our lands are in various deeds, I got a couple of invites. The 140 plus that attended the training had to be broken down into two groups since the room held about 75 people with many standing.

What a way to consider increasing NYFOA membership ----

A) Target a county

- B) Get the records of landowners in that county. Utilize any amount of targeted group; 100 acres or 200 acres and so on.
- C) Send them all a postcard (postage is 0.33 each) and invite them to a meeting with a panel of people. For example, a NYFOA member, a DEC person and one or two private foresters from that area who are supportive of 480A.

The meeting could be advertised as a way to improve forest land, learn about 480A, especially the tax savings that could be given for managing the forest in a sustainable manner.

The benefits would be significant, especially to help the farmers and landowners reduce their taxes as well as maintaining sustainable forest land.

This is just our summation of one way to address increasing the membership in NYFOA.

### Remembering Richburg, continued from page 7

One year later, in May 1882, news of a gusher in Cherry Grove, Pa signaled a mass exodus as the fickle floaters fled to the new Eldorado. The Pa gusher caused a slump in the oil market and the number of active drilling rigs in Richburg dropped from 219 to 94 in two months. The 1890 census showed 374 folks in Richburg, the smallest village in the state. So short lived was the population boom that it never registered on the U.S. census.

It's interesting to note that natural gas had no value in 1881 since it had no market. However, the drillers often piped the natural gas to fuel their steam engines thus saving a few dollars. Spectacular fires often resulted when the drill bit hit a gas vein. Under pressure from below, the gas rocketed up the casing and, during winter, encountered a wood fire used to keep the drillers warm. Boom!!

The state Appellate Division has unanimously ruled that New York's local governments can ban hydraulic fracturing and shale gas drilling within their borders (see May 3, 2013 *Democrat & Chronicle* newspaper). This adds an interesting new facet to the gas drilling debate. A large pool of oil has been found beneath the prairie of western North Dakota. For a look at the effect this has had in North Dakota see the March 2013 *National Geographic* magazine.

### **Remembering Richburg**

by Dick Starr

t has been said if we don't study the past we're Londemned to repeat it. As NYS contemplates drilling for gas in the Marcellus shale, I thought it might be instructive and interesting to review some events from the past. I didn't appreciate it as a child but the NYS oil boom of the early 1880s began in my home town of Richburg, named after founder Alvin Richardson. The earliest known recognition of oil in North America occurred in 1627 when Seneca Indians lead a French missionary to an oil spring/seep near present day Cuba in Allegany County. The seep is now dry but a memorial remains for visitors to see. Native people prized the oil for medicinal purposes. Early entrepreneurs bottled the black ooze and advertised it as making the lame to walk, the blind to see and restoring the health of those suffering from rheumatism, gout and neuralgia. Perhaps I should give this a try too.

As the industrial revolution began, oil seeps and whale oil were about the only sources for lubricants. Seeps didn't supply much and whales were threatened with extinction. By the 1830s the hunt was on for a reliable supply of crude oil and early NY oil wells were not productive. However, the oil seeps made it clear there was oil beneath the surface somewhere. The first producing well was drilled in Limestone, NY in 1865 and came in at seven barrels/day. At today's \$100/barrel that's nearly \$5000/week.

On April 28, 1881 the 150 residents of Richburg, a sleepy village connected to the outside world by daily stagecoach, awoke to news of a gusher producing at the rate of 70 barrels/day. In less than a week there were four stage lines bringing folks to town in



Photo provided by the author

The Nitro Truck

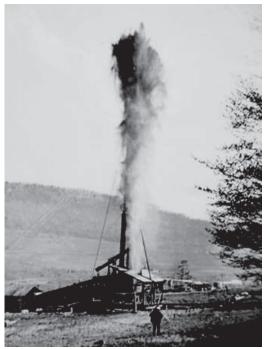


Photo provided by the author

Shooting a well.

crowded coaches eager to join in the excitement. Railroad spurs soon followed adding to the population. In a few months there were 3000 folks in town and need for accommodations was acute. One story told of four families sharing a room when a fifth family moved into the center of the room. Things were harmonious until the fifth family took in boarders. Within a year liquor, without a license, was being sold in 100 different places and ladies of the evening occupied 40 buildings. Meanwhile the hunt for oil went on at a fever pace with drilling rigs just about everywhere. One rig was between two buildings on a lot 20 feet wide.

The village was as wild as any in the old west. Holdups were common while five peace officers and three judges tried to keep order. A newspaper article on December 16, 1881 stated, "A whole week passed and not a murder in Richburg!" In early 1882 the population was approaching 10,000. Many were known as floaters since they "floated" wherever the economic currents and potential for riches took them. In July 1881 a telephone office was opened in Richburg, just five years after its invention. In August of that year Western Union opened an office as well. There were two daily newspapers. Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show performed there as well as a fight by John L. Sullivan. It was later calculated that for a 15 year period the oil brought to the surface in this part of NYS was worth more than all the rest of the country's products combined.

continued on previous page

**Book Report Part 4** 

### "The Man Who Planted Trees" by Jim Robbins © 2012

by Dick Starr

On the September 2012 Seager woods walk Bruce Robinson pointed out that trees do not move so whatever their defense mechanisms, it doesn't involve flight. One defense is to kill the chain saw operator by dropping a big limb on him/her. These are called widow makers. Another defense is aerosols. Diana Beresford-Kroeger argues that the role of chemicals emitted by trees is generally overlooked. Beresford-Kroeger says, "When you peel an orange and get a cloud of mist in the air, that's an aerosol." She believes that the aerosols emitted by trees are part of a sophisticated survival strategy.

Trees can be chemical factories. It's generally known that aspirin was first found in willows. Got a headache? Chew on a willow twig. Native peoples were well aware that the plant kingdom was a drugstore. Animals that live in or near trees are showered by a range of antifungal, antibacterial, and antiviral compounds that protect them from disease and infection. In French Guiana researchers sampled compounds emitted after purposely damaging tree bark and leaves. They found an astounding 264 different volatile organic compounds in 55 tropical tree species. In California's Sierra Nevada, researchers sampled the air just above a remote forest and found 120 chemical substances not found in an urban setting. Only 70 of the chemicals could be identified.

On a warm day in 1970, Dr. A. Kukowka, professor of medicine in Greiz, Germany spent a couple hours beneath 4 massive yew trees puttering around in his garden. Suddenly he was overcome by nausea, headache and dizziness. He felt disoriented and lost all sense of time. Visions of vampires and vipers were in his mind and his limbs became weak as he broke into a cold sweat. Then things shifted and he was under a large dome with angelic music playing. He had visions of paradise and was "indescribably happy."

A medical exam found no explanation for the bizarre sensations. Dr. Kukowka was able to replicate the experience beneath his yew trees. He had ingested nothing from the yews, only stood beneath them. He concluded his experience came from a chemical in the tree, probably terpene, aerosolized on a warm summer

day. The volatiles emitted by trees include alcohols, esters, ethers, carbonyls, terpenes, and acids. Their lifespan can be minutes or months depending on amount of sunlight, ambient temperature, genetics of the tree and the species. Their role in the life of a tree is poorly understood.

In the late 1930s Dr. Hans Molisch, an Austrian plant researcher, showed that ethylene gas, released by ripening apples and pears, induced nearby late ripening apple varieties to ripen early. Black walnuts, Juglans nigra, emit juglone a chemical which repels many, but not all, nearby competitive plants as well as some insects. Horses are susceptible to hoof problems if black walnut shavings are used as bedding material. Rick Karban, professor of ecology at University of California, Davis says, "Trees are far savvier than is generally believed, and are much more than sticks of wood with leaves."

About the author, Jim Robbins, from the Amazon.com web site...



Jim Robbins

Jim Robbins, a free-lance writer for more than thirty years, lives with his family in Helena, Montana. He has been a frequent contributor to the New York Times since 1980, and has written for numerous magazines from Conde Nast Traveler to Smithsonian. He has carried out assignments, in Europe, Mongolia, Peru, Chile, Mexico and across North America, especially the Rocky Mountain West. He is the author of four books of non-fiction, and is at work on a fifth. His writing interests fall into two main camps: the environment and the human central nervous system. He considers the fact that he has been able to freely indulge his curiosity and get paid for it, one of his greatest accomplishments.

# Stumpage Price Report

(See Next Page for Stumpage Price Tracking)

Species	Western/Central  Doyle Rule			New York State	
	Low Price Range (Median)	Average Price Range (Median)	High Price Range (Median)	Stumpage Price Report Summer 2013/#83	
Most Common Species				The same of the same of the same	
Ash, White	75-500 (250)	250-600 (360)	300-750 <sup>0</sup> (500)		
Cherry, Black	200-650	400-1670	620-1325		
Maple, Red (Soft)	( <b>400</b> ) 50-250	(600) 80-350	200-500		
	(150) <b>130-700</b>	(250) <b>445-850</b>	(350) <b>550-1130</b>		
Maple, Sugar (Hard)	(450)	(575)	(795)		
Oak, Red	100-600	250-700	400-800		
Dina White	(325) <b>30-75</b> *	(500) <b>50-100</b> *	(650) <b>70-150</b> *		
ine, White	(50)	(75)	(115)		
Less Common Species					
Aspen	5-30** (25)	20-50* (40)	20-60** (55)	Sawtimber Price (Including Veneer and Poles) Dollars per Thousand Board Feet	
Passwood	50-150*	50-200*	020-250		
Basswood	(100)	(150)	(200)		
Beech	25-30**	40-150* (50)	50-175*		
D: 1 V II	(30) <b>20-200</b> *	55-300*	(80) <b>90-500</b> *		
Birch, Yellow	(100)	(150)	(215)		
Birch, White	NR	NR	NR		
Butternut	150-150** (150)	50-450* (300)	NR		
Elm, American	NR	NR	NR		
Hemlock	25-70* (50)	40-125* (50)	50-160* (100)		
Hickory (con )	50-200*	100-300*	100-350*		
Hickory (spp.)	(100)	(150)	(200)		
Oak, Chestnut	75-300* (100)	100-400* (150)	150-450* (250)		
Oak, White	50-300*	120-375*	140-600*		
Oak, Wille	(150)	(250)	(350)		
Pine, Red	25-70** (50)	45-130* (90)	100-180** (170)		
Spruce (spp.)	25-140**	45-150*	50-170**		
Spruce (spp.)	(50)	(90)	(125)		
Tulip Poplar	20-200* (100)	75-300* (150)	155-400* (235)		
Walnut, Black	300-800*	600-1200*	800-2500*		
vvainut, biack	(500)	(825)	(1200)		
Aspen	1-12** (7)	3-16* (5)	NR		
Birch, White	NR	NR	NR	Cordwood Price Dollars per Standard Cord	
Hemlock	NR	6-48** (27)	NR		
Mixed N. Hardwoods	1-18*	2-20*	2-24*		
Pine	(8) NR	(12) 4-7**	(16) 8-18**		
		(6)	(13)		
Spruce/Fir	NR	NR	NR		
Firewood	1-20*	3-34*	10-75*		

Low Price Range - reported range of the absolute lowest price paid by survey respondents over the last six months.

Average Price Range - reported range of the average price paid for "middle quality" timber by survey respondents over the last six months.

High Price Range - reported range of the absolute highest price paid by survey respondents over the last six months.

Median - One-half of reported prices are higher and one-half are lower than this price figure.

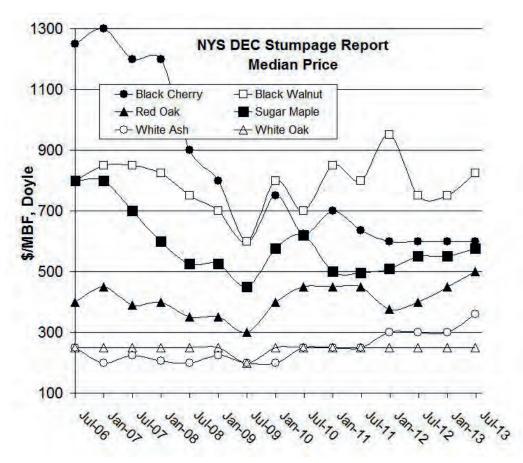
Doyle, International 1/4" and Scribner Rules - Provide an estimated volume in board feet of a given tree or stand of tres. In most cases, each rule will provide a different volume estimate when applied to identical trees. Each region of the state has a most commonly used rule, but the use of other rules in a region is possible.

**NR** - No Report.

- \* All price figures in this cell were produced from less than 20 survey responses.
- \*\* All price figures in this cell were produced from less than 5 survey responses.

## **Tracking Stumpage Prices**

WFL member Dean Faklis started tracking the stumpage price reports for certain hardwoods within DEC region 8 several years ago. This proved of considerable interest to other members so here we continue Dean's tradition...



# Fire Regs

by Dick Starr

don't get too worked up trying to keep track of new rules and regulations be they local, state or federal. If it affects me I'll eventually learn of it, perhaps via a fine. I suppose it's the "ignorance is bliss" approach and may help explain my general happiness. Maybe it's just retirement. DEC updated their regulations on outdoor burning in 2009 and I thank Capital District Chapter chair Dick Gibbs for bringing this to my attention.

The new burning regs have allowances for agricultural and forest related burning of materials generated on the farm or in the woodlot. Forest owners can not burn woodlot debris March 15 through May 15. I suspect this also applies to any property owner wishing to dispose of tree generated yard debris by burning. DEC states this two month

burn ban span has reduced forest fires by 60%.

However, farms are exempt from the two month window and can burn debris any time. The NY Department of Ag and Markets determines what constitutes a farm. In general, a farm has to be a minimum of five acres of contiguous land and be run as a farm business. Forest owners can burn brush. limbs and similar items generated by a forest (not trucked in) from May 15 through the following March 15. That is, unless the downed limbs and branches are in a town greater than 20,000 population in which case no burning is allowed any time. Population is determined by US census data. Conservation Law says landowners in the Catskills and Adirondack parks continue to need a DEC permit to burn forest debris. There are other exemptions such as campfires.

Specific questions about the new regs can be answered by contacting Greg LaBarge at DEC 518-402-8403 or gglabarg@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

### **Upcoming Events**

# Got Trees, Woods, Woodlot, Forest? – Want or Need Advice on Improving Them?

On October 5th, professional forester Bruce Robinson will conduct a program and a woodswalk at Greenwood Hill Farm in Andover, NY. Greenwood Hill Farm is located off SR417 and has 60 acres of mixed hardwoods that are being managed under a 480a forest plan. Bruce and the landowners, Dana and Jim Kruser, will discuss how they are approaching improving the health of the forest and accomplishing the multi-use goals of commercial timbering, wildlife habitat management and recreational use.

Greenwood Hill Farm completed a limited commercial thinning of a portion of the forest last winter using a professional logger with horse-drawn equipment. This past spring they began a hardwood forest regeneration project with the planting of 100 red oak trees. Bruce will lead a walk through both the forest and the regeneration projects describing what has been done, why, and what the next steps are. As with all of Bruce's woodswalks, this one promises to be full of interesting information for novice and experienced forest owner alike.

The event will get underway around 9:30 am with refreshments. Bruce's presentation, with ample time for your Q&A, will began at 10:00 am. Bring a bag lunch and we will break at noon. Following lunch Bruce will guide us through both the forest and hardwood regeneration project. The walk will be on forest roads with a small amount of up and down. Please bring clothing appropriate to the season (there will be a tent at the site for the presentation part of the program and for lunch).

RSVPs are encouraged, but not required. To RSVP and for directions and more information, please contact Dana & Jim Kruser at (607) 478-5171 or by

### A Gift

A gift membership to NYFOA is a wonderful way to introduce a friend or family member to the wonders of the woodland. Send a check for \$30 individual or \$35 family to NYFOA, PO Box 541, Lima, NY 14485. Now you can also enroll on-line at www.nyfoa.org .

email at jim@greenwoodhill.com. For more general information on Greenwood Hill Farm, please go to their website at: www.greenwoodhill.com.

This will be a joint event of the Western Finger Lakes and Allegheny Foothills chapters of the New York Forest Owners Association (NYFOA). For more information on NYFOA, visit: http://www.nyfoa.org/

Save the date: January 21, 2014, Monroe County Cooperative Extension; "Birdhouses for bluebirds and strategies for dealing with predators and competing species", presented by Ken Harbison. More information to follow in our Winter issue.

### **Welcome New Members**

W. Averell H. Bauder Ovid

Dan Carlson Bloomfield

Vince DiCarlo Grand Island

Hans J. Farnung Ontario

Ken Klump Honeoye

Carvel B. Martin Macedon

### Classifieds

Tree Tubes for Sale - Member/Non-Member price: 4' (\$4.50/\$5.00); 4' w/ stake (\$5.50/\$6.00); 5' (\$5.00/\$5.50); 5' w/ stake (\$6.00/\$6.50).

Proceeds benefit WFL chapter. (585) 367-2847.

Quality Tree Care at Affordable Prices by Eastern Tree Climbers, Tom Dunn, Proprietor. 35+ years in business, BBB highest rating; bucket truck, chipper, knuckle boom loader, stumper; Experienced in large hazard trees 585-367-3738

Polymer Nails for Posted Signs - 100 tough non-metal nails, 2 1/4" long. Be kind to your trees and sawyer. \$12 + \$3 S&H = \$15, check to Perluma at PO Box 74 Springwater, NY 14560. Information: dfaklis@perluma.com.

1947 Ford Tractor 2N (9N-8N), 2 speed Sherman transmission, 3pt hitch, belt driven buzz saw. \$2,100, call Dale Schaefer 585-367-2849.

PLEASE NOTE: SPACE PERMITTING, THE WFL STEERING COMMITTEE ALLOWS MEMBERS TO PLACE FREE CLASSIFIED ADS IN THIS NEWSLETTER PERTAINING TO GOOD STEWARDSHIP PRACTICES. HOWEVER, ADS PRESENTED HERE ARE NOT AN ENDORSEMENT BY WFL.



### **New York Forest Owners Association**

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# The Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner



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What do these German "dandies" have to do with forestry? See "Velocipede" on page 5.

# Mark your Calendar!

- October 5th. Woods Walk \*
- October 16th. Board of Directors, Lima Hotel 7 PM
- October 29th. WFL Annual Dinner Meeting \*
- January 21st. "Birdhouses for Bluebirds" presentation. More info in our Winter issue.

\* See inside for details

**Note:** For event reminders and late-breaking news, subscribe to our email list by sending a blank email to-

nyfoa-wfl-news-subscribe@npogroups.org