



Southern Finger Lakes Chapter
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NY Forest Owners Association Southern Finger Lakes Chapter Newsletter



January 2014

The 6th Annual Peter Levatic Memorial Seminar

Saturday, February 22nd - 9:00 am to Noon
Spencer-Van Etten High School Auditorium
State Route 34 – Spencer, NY

“Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Through Good Woodlot Management”

9:00 – 10:15 ***Beauty Is In The Eye of the Beholder: Making Your Woods More Attractive For Wildlife***

Kristi Sullivan – Extension Associate, Cornell Dept. of Natural Resources

10:15 – 10:45 Break (light refreshments and door prizes)

10:45 – 12:00 ***30 Years of Wildlife Management Through Forestry: Successes, Failures and Suggestions for the Future***

Gary Goff – Senior Extension Associate, Cornell Dept. of Natural Resources

Pre-registration is not required, but questions can be referred to Brett Chedzoy at Schuyler CCE: bjc226@cornell.edu, or by phone: 607-535-7161.

In the case of cancellation due to extreme weather, notification will be posted by 9:00 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 21st at CCE's forestry forum: www.cornellforestconnect.ning.com.

Chairman's Message

We now approach the mid of winter, and we have experienced some bruising winter weather for several months now. The sun time now grows longer, and I look forward to more activity in our woods. The critters in the woods were not quiet, as the tracks we see in the snow can attest. All the snow certainly lets us see who really gets around in the woods and fields.

Our winter seminar at the end of February has a theme of actions you might consider for the benefit of wildlife and the woods. These are not mutually exclusive! Join us for a Saturday morning at the Spencer-Van Etten High School and enjoy the speakers, the coffee, and the social time with fellow forest enthusiasts.

NYFOA had a statewide theme last spring called Restore NY Woodlands. We sponsored some statewide forest seminars nearly synchronously in late spring. The theme of "restoration" was important, because a number of forces are at work that allow decline of the forest as a natural resource. So, NYFOA has decided to continue this theme. Our winter seminar is focused on one form of restoration. But there are more! Today, we hear of using forest cull products for an energy resource...important as a possible alternative to today's increasingly impacting fossil fuel industry. If we think of our forest management plans with multiple dimensions (cull wood products, wildlife habitat, improved timber, etc.), we can perhaps at least counter the decline of our woods!

Keep those home fires burning!

Robert Barton - Chair

Got Trees? Get More From Your Woodlot - Learn More, Earn More!

**2014 New York Farm Show
February 20 – 22, 2014
NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY**

NYFOA will have fifteen free "Learn More, Earn More" seminars as part of its annual programs at the Farm Show in Syracuse in February. Our programs are free and open to all.

We expect all NYFOA members to once again receive in the mail free tickets to the Farm Show's exhibit buildings, courtesy of the Farm Show Organizers. Parking at the Fairgrounds is free. If you come to the Farm Show, please stop in the Arts and Home Center to say hello.

This year we will again have the expanded booth area adjacent to the seminar room in the Arts and Home Center that we enjoyed last February. We had many more visitors than saw our displays in the past, and our experienced booth staff could far more easily chat with visitors and help with their questions.

Seminar topics this year will include: improved wildlife and bird habitat, timber sales, pest control, preventing timber theft, successful tree planting, profit from portable saw mills, feral hogs, help from consulting foresters, and protecting the family legacy.

"Learn More, Earn More" programs at the Farm Show are a team effort with Cornell Cooperative Extension, the Department of Environmental Conservation and the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, with additional support from the New York Farm Bureau, Audubon New York, and others. NYFOA is grateful for the range of support that makes the Farm Show programs possible.

Read [here](#) for details of the program schedule (or www.nyfoa.org)

52nd ANNUAL NYOIA SPRING PROGRAM Saturday, MARCH 22, 2014

Marshall Hall, SUNY College of Environmental Science
and Forestry, Syracuse, NY

Join us for campus tours, and presentations on:
"Silviculture and Regeneration for the Landowner",
"Return of the American Chestnut", "Wildlife Species of
Conservation Need and the Woodland Owners"

Registration details [here>>>](#) (or www.nyfoa.org)

NY 4-H Forestry Weekend

(Partially supported by fundraising at SFL's annual Levatich Seminar)

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) will conduct their 8th annual 4-H Forestry Weekend at Delaware County's 4-H Camp Shankitunk, Delhi, NY on May 9-11, 2014.

This year's NY Forestry weekend activities for youth aged 10 and up will include activities in education and competition in tree identification, tree measurements, compass use, and topographic map reading.

Youth will also hear about forests and forestry as a career from professional forester, Justin Perry, with NYS DEC. In addition, we will have a little fun with geocaching, a night hike, and a pest hike.

No experience is necessary to attend. The emphasis is placed on learning and having a good time, not on competition! All have the opportunity to learn skills they can use in many future careers, meet youth from across the state, and become better stewards of our forests. In 2013, there were 55 youth (ranging in age from 10 to 17) and 27 adults attending, representing 11 NY counties.

Last year's winning team was from Orange County and represented NY State in the National 4-H Forestry Invitational Competition last July, held at the West Virginia State 4-H Camp at Jackson's Mill in Weston. More about the National can be found at <http://4hforestryinvitational.org/> Ingrid Hill, (CCE Educator, Orange County), Rebecca Hargrave (Environmental Sciences, SUNY Morrisville), and Gary Goff (retired Sr. Extension Associate, Cornell Department of Natural Resources)

coordinate the annual event. Youth and adults are charged \$40 to attend. The program relies heavily on the assistance of the MANY wonderful CCE County Educators, 4-H volunteers, and parents who promote the program in their counties, bring the youth and help out as chaperones, cooks, and score keepers, and assist with a myriad of other program activities.

For more information on NY 4-H Forestry visit <http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/orange/4-hforestry.htm>



Senior-aged winning team from Orange County, 2013.



Map reading exercise, 2013.

Levatich Woodswalk on October 5th and Ed Neuhauser's Woodswalk on October 26th



Tim Levatich introduces the walk at his cabin.



Tim explaining herbicide treatment on beech.



Tim talking about the Hay-scented fern.



Checking out the growth pattern of a harvested ash tree.



Brett Chedzoy explaining crop tree management.



DEC Forester John Graham Explaining basal area thinning.



A pine tree Ed girdled as an alternative to cutting.



Warming up with great soup and cornbread at Ed's and Peg's.

Come and join our group of New York Forest Owners, a not-for-profit organization which supports sustainable forestry practices and improved stewardship on privately owned woodlands. Regular annual dues are just \$30.00 for an individual or \$35.00 for a family.

Contact: NYFOA, P.O. Box 541, Lima, New York 14485 1-800-836-3566 www.nyfoa.org

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