

The Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner



Winter 2020

Volume 34, Number 4

Chair's Chat

Dick Starr



I don't know about you but I'm ready for 2020 to enter the history books. Considering the COVID pandemic and the nastiness of the recent election, I doubt historians will look back kindly on 2020. Closer to home we can hope 2021 sees us once again enjoying woods walks with friends, teaching and learning good chain saw etiquette through Game of Logging and gathering for our ever popular annual dinner meeting. Wouldn't it be fun to do so without facial coverings (beards don't count) and social distancing.

It cannot be repeated too often that we appreciate having DryShod boots and Stihl Products as corporate sponsors. Their generous gifts help us balance the books as do all those who purchase tickets. Thank you.

On October 20th your Board of Directors had its first face to face meeting in awhile and it felt good. David Deuel and his wife offered their family pavilion overlooking the lovely Genesee Valley as a meeting spot including a variety of palate pleasing goodies. I had hoped for a warm sunny fall day and leaves ablaze with autumn color. Alas, we don't always get our wishes but it served our purposes perfectly including SD requirements.

The main reason this meeting was real rather than virtual was the need to draw winning tickets for our raffles. Many thanks to Greg Lessord for shepherding the raffles to maturity. When it came time for drawing the winning ticket there were various techniques on display. See if you can find them in this newsletter. Cathy closed her eyes ensuring privacy without peeking. David turned his back and buried his arm to the elbow while snagging the winner. Collette faced the task head on – just do it! Congrats to the winners.



David's Pavilion

**More Photos of
Our Get-
Together on
Page 3**



Your WFL Board at Work

WFL CHAPTER SERVICE AWARD 2020

by Dale Schaefer

Greg Lessord has been an active member of the Western Finger Lakes Chapter of NYFOA for over ten years. Greg eventually became a member of the WFL Board of Directors and has been our representative to the NYFOA State Board of Directors for several years. Greg has actively promoted forest activities as a WFL NYFOA member and as an MFO (Master Forest Owner) volunteer.

Greg played a big part in helping our chapters initiative, Firewood For Charity (formally Chainsaws For Charity) get off the ground. He not only offered opinions as the group formed but provided his log splitter as we began processing logs to donate firewood.

As WFL began holding raffles at our Annual Dinner Meeting, Greg stepped up again and offered to manage the process of taking in raffle tickets in advance of the dinner meeting. Our chapter was able to successfully hold raffles again this year due to Greg's management, even with the limitations of Covid-19 suspending our dinner meeting.

The Western Finger Lakes Chapter of NYFOA would like to thank Greg for his many contributions to our Chapter and the State Organization of NYFOA.

See next page for photos of Greg in one of his many roles in service to NYFOA.

About Us

NYFOA Western Finger Lakes 2021 Board of Directors

Richard Starr, Director and Chairman

231 Farm View Dr.
Macedon, NY 14502
(585) 377-4849
pockaa@aol.com

Dale Schaefer, Director and Vice Chairman

6017 County Road #37
Springwater, NY 14560
(585) 367-2849

Nick Jensen, Director, Secretary and Annual Meeting Coordinator

51 E. Market Street
P.O. Box 1424
Corning, NY 14830
(607) 936-3785 Ext 156
silvoplanning@gmail.com

Ron Reitz, Director and Treasurer

6086 Canadice Hill Rd.
Springwater, NY 14560
(585) 367-2847
rrrlpr@aol.com

David Deuel, Director

3236 Telephone Rd.
Caledonia, NY 14423
(585) 226-2952
dsdeuel@gmail.com

Cathy Gardner, Director

7400 Corby Road
Honeoye Falls, NY 14472
(585) 624-7636
cathygardner10@yahoo.com

Greg Lessord, Director and Chapter-Designated Representative to the State Board

449 Hubbell Rd.
Spencerport, NY 14559
(585) 703-8513
buckslyergs@hotmail.com

Jim Minor, Director and WFL Newsletter Publisher

22 Bryn Mawr Road
Rochester, NY 14624
(585) 247-7069
jeminor@rochester.rr.com

Colette Morabito, Director and Program Coordinator

1100 Main St
East Rochester, NY 14445
(585) 248-0654
colettemorabito57@gmail.com

Peter Muench, Director and Outdoor Activities Coordinator

P.O. Box 473
Naples, NY 14512
(585) 736-7172
munchme.444@gmail.com

Mike Seager, Director and Electronic Communications Coordinator

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 youngsters 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 \$45 and includes: subscriptions to this newsletter; to the bimonthly NYFOA state-wide publication, *The New York Forest Owner*; attendance at chapter meetings; and to statewide meetings. Membership at the Contributing level \$50-\$99; Sponsor level \$100-\$249; Benefactor \$250-\$499; and Steward \$500 or more 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 Spring 2021 issue is February 15th

The Raffle Drawings

All photos including cover photos by WFL chairman Dick Starr



Greg Lessord Guards the Tickets



David's Technique



Cathy's No-Peek



Colette Pulls a Winner

New York Nut Growers Association Fall Meeting

by: Colette Morabito



Coat of arms for the New York Tree Crops Association

"The Future of the World is Nuts" stated by Philip Rutter, founder of the American Chestnut Foundation. He could not be more correct today and for so many reasons! But I digress. On Saturday, October 17, I decided to break out of the coronavirus lockdown and venture out to Penn Yan to the New York Nut Growers Association's (NYNGA: pronounced ninja!) Fall Meeting. It was both liberating and educational. Following all protocols for safety

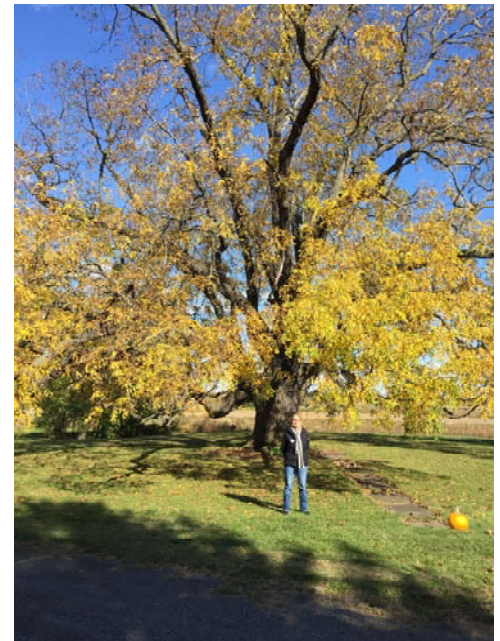
and compliance for gatherings, we were shy of 40 people. It was a beautiful sunny day but cold. The views from the Seneca Lake Duck Hunters Club were breathtaking. The leaves were in peak color from the club's open-outdoor pavilion and beyond. The deep aqua blue of Seneca Lake offset by the bright blue of the sky only magnified the gloriousness of the landscape. It was simply magnificent to see and experience the panorama of Upstate New York from this secluded vantage point. A bit of medicine from the lonesome months we have spent in confinement from both neighbors and friends. And, certainly it gave me a larger perspective apropos to our woodlot and the more micro-focused, property management we have pursued since the pandemic arrived.

NYNGA does it right when they put on a meeting. Speakers from all perspectives of nut trees were invited to offer: historical insights; soil health observations; discussion on the new hazelnut cultivars; acorns as a food source; invasive species (our own MFO coordinator Laura Bailey presented); updates on their English Walnut, chestnut and hazelnut projects; as well as demonstrations; local stops to see trophy trees; and a self-guided tour of Black Squirrel Farms. NYNGA provided a great lunch and the dessert for me was the opportunity to have human interaction with others who have a profound vision of all "things" trees. Check out the New York Nut Growers Association on the internet at: NYNGA.org

Klaas Martens of Martens Farm was a fascinating speaker. A well-educated and humble man, teacher, and experienced farmer who saw beyond the immediate business of feeding people. He sounded like one of Bruce Robinson's disciples in all his wisdom and understanding of succession, plant diversity, and his philosophical thoughts about nature. Mr. Martens stated that the ability

for any civilization to be able to survive can only be successful if agriculture thrives. He spoke eloquently about monocultures in agricultural fields and the weeds, bugs, and disease that thrive there as well. As we all know, trying to fix one problem with chemical solutions, simply creates new issues.

What does this have to do with nut trees, you ask? The edge between two ecosystems, for example the forest and an open field, is the most diverse area of both systems-whether it be plants, insects, or animals. There is a pattern and logic to what is happening when an open field goes back into forest. This sets up a situation for succession of species. Five years out, an abandoned field can sustain black walnut trees when all the conditions are right. Martens urged us to "learn to see what we are looking at". If there is a climax crop, change will stop, as the dominant species is very resilient and thus limiting diversity. Every problem that you observe is based upon what you or the previous landowner did before. Be open to identifying what is happening by looking at any pattern or logic to your specific situation. Keep scrupulous notes and document your findings, ob-



300 year old Black Walnut tree and Colette, Penn Yan, NY



Meghan, of Black Squirrel Farms, discussing their homemade, squirrel resistant drying racks for all their viable Black Walnuts



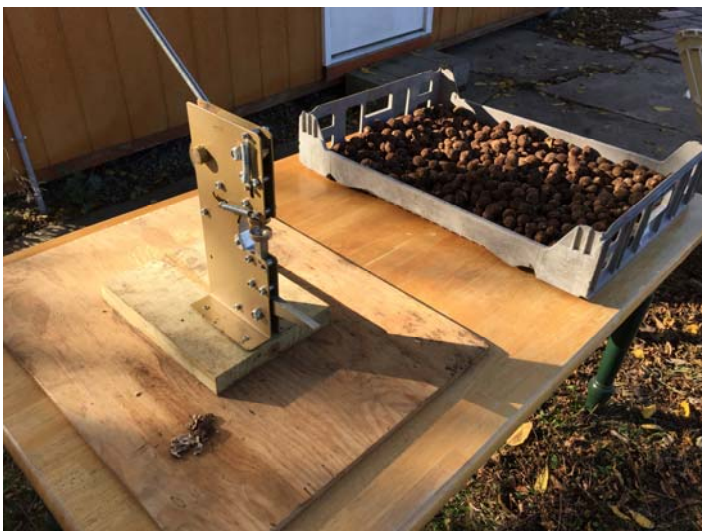
Black Squirrel Farms on-site, outdoor, black walnut processing center

servations, and activities.

The New York Tree Crops Alliance has a newly formed Co-op; they are looking for committed, local members. Landowners in the Finger Lakes area are converting abandoned dairy farms into nut farm orchards. Cultivars (clones) of hazelnuts are their focus. Now would be a good time to communicate with them on their requirements for membership. Jeff Zarnowski of Z's Nutty Ridge Nursery gave a thorough overview of their endeavors and particulars. Check them out for specific details on the website for: New York Tree Crops Alliance.

If disease resistant Hazelnut cultivars are of particular interest to you, please contact Don Knezick at Don@Foggybottom.farm to place an order for the fall of 2021. These trees are being propagated in New Jersey at the Foggy Bottom Tree Farm Nursery.

New England Nut Growers Co-op is also reaching out to



The black walnut cracking station at Black Squirrel Farms

promote acorn consumption for people. An arduous process but a homegrown treat for your family. It was also encouraged to have pigs eat the acorns to supplement their diets. Several forest owners who are members of the Co-op sell their acorns to pig farmers. Squirrels and deer beware of the acorn competition!

Squirrels. They were a big topic of conversation regarding all manner of keeping them from stealing nuts, re-planting them in all the wrong places, eating them, digging up seedlings, etc. etc. etc. We are not alone at WFL in our attempts to limit squirrels from their energetic propensity to aggravate us and our nut harvests. Albeit there are some members of WFL who will heartily disagree! (See the Fall 2020 Blowout Newsletter, In My Woodlot #1, by Ed Piestrak, page 2)

Check out Black Squirrel Farms website for yet another amazing option to learn about Black Walnut processing on a small scale. It is both encouraging and inspiring to be around such self-starting and enthusiastic people who have a deep respect and love of their land and trees.

I did have the special honor to visit a Black Walnut tree that is said to be over 300 years old. There was a gift of a dozen black walnuts for me to bring home. I have just begun to stratify them over the winter months in my refrigerator. We are delighted to have this opportunity to add new genetics to our forest family. should all go well in my stratification endeavors. I also have a half dozen English walnuts that are also tucked away. Oh, how I love English Walnuts. Such a beautiful and giving tree-if all the conditions are right!! The best part of the day was receiving three English Walnut saplings. They have since been planted and duly recorded for posterity. We plan to photograph our year old grandson every year next to one certain English Walnut seedling, and of course, keep a record of who is genuinely the nuttiest!



Dave, Colette and David Morabito pose next to our newly planted English Walnut sapling. Thank you NYNGA for this gift. We are nuts about it!

Something to Consider

by David Duel

Litter can be a noun or a verb, with several different meanings. In our woodlots, most would use the definition "the uppermost layer of the forest floor consisting chiefly of decaying matter". Another definition, "a disorderly accumulation of objects, especially carelessly discarded waste materials or scraps". Both are present in our woodlots, this addresses the latter.

On October 22, 1965, the Highway Beautification Act was signed into law. First Lady, Ladybird Johnson became the spokesperson for this initiative to clean up our highways. Wildflowers were planted, screening was constructed around junkyards, numerous billboards were removed, and "littering" became a crime punishable by a \$50 fine. "Don't be a litterbug" was ingrained in our young minds from relentless public services ads. Our childhoods were filled with the fear of being arrested and labeled a criminal for life if we threw anything out of the car windows. From what I am seeing today, either we have forgotten this 1965 law over time, or maybe we just don't care.

This past April, as I was picking up litter in our front yard along US Route 20, I began to reminisce about the 60-70's and the "Keep America Beautiful" campaign. Perhaps it was the COVID lockdown, or maybe just the beauty of a spring day, but I decided to take my wheelbarrow and clean the road ditch along our woodlot and farmstead. Approximately 1/3 mile, on both sides of the road, yielded an overflowing wheelbarrow. Most notable item, in my opinion, was a plastic bag stating, "Be proud of yourself, you just bought a bag made with recycled materials". The irony of it all!

Hopefully I won't get too far off topic, but a couple of personal musings. US Route 20 (which we consider "our street") is "America's Longest Highway", 3365 miles from Boston to Newport, Oregon. Simple math, 1/3 mile in front of our house, 1 wheelbarrow full, equals 10,095 wheelbarrows of litter on just one road, one spring day. This seems like a lot, and it is a lot, but in reality just a very small portion of our waste stream. Figures from NYSERDA indicate that New York State produces 36.6 million tons of waste annually. Broken down into categories, 50% is municipal solid waste, 36% industrial waste, 10% construction and demolition waste, the remainder bio solids. That's a lot of garbage, no wonder some ends up on our highways.

The point of this rambling? Renewed awareness of our waste stream and how we, as a society, view our surroundings. I know I'm preaching to the choir, but let's all increase our efforts to "Keep America Beautiful". Thank you for the privilege of your time.



Is one man's trash truly another man's treasure? Litter cleaned from road ditch by our house this spring.

Classifieds

Wanted: Woodlot and Related Activity Photos. We're building a small collection of photos for publicity and similar NYFOA purposes. If you have photos from woodwalks, woodlot activities, NYFOA activities, etc. and are willing to share, please e-mail them to Jim Minor, jcmminor@rochester.rr.com.

Tree Tubes for Sale - Member/(Non-Member) price: 4' (\$5.00/\$5.50); 4' w/ stake (\$6.00/\$6.50); 5' (\$5.50/\$6.00); 5' w/ stake (\$6.50/\$7.00). Proceeds benefit WFL chapter. (585) 367-2847.

PLEASE NOTE: Space permitting, the WFL Board of Directors 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.

Raffle Results!

by Greg Lessord

Due to the pandemic, which I'm not sure if that refers to a presidential election year or COVID-19, both equally polarizing, we were forced to cancel the annual dinner meeting.

But the raffles must go on. So your WFL board convened a business meeting on October 20th in the backyard pavilion of director David Deuel under rainy skies and a balmy 46° F with no fireplace or woodstove!

Luckily there were donuts so we were able to proceed with business.

A typical board meeting followed, although there was that one incident involving Dale Schaefer- surprise, surprise. However we were all sworn to secrecy and shortly thereafter the drawings were held.

In no particular order your WINNERS are:

- DRYSHOD boots- **Matthias Reisen** of Avoca, NY: choice of ANY style from their 2020 catalog
- STIHL MS170 chainsaw- **John Keebler** of Victor, NY
- STIHL personal protective gear package- **Marty Reener** of Rochester, NY

Congratulations to all our winners!

Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets. 100 % of the proceeds stays right here with the WFL chapter so we may continue with NYFOA's mission and tailor it to our own regional needs. If you have any thoughts, concerns or suggestions to help us better serve our membership, please let any board member know. We welcome your input.

THANK YOU to Lon Stevens and DRYSHOD USA (DryshodUSA.com). This is their second year of sponsorship. It is very much appreciated.

THANK YOU to Dan Ras and STIHL (StihlUSA.com) for their continuing support. Our saw winner, John Keebler, got an unexpected surprise. STIHL felt a saw in hand warrants (and rightly so) PPE on the body and sent John a certificate to outfit him with such. Now there some serious commitment! Bravo.

I personally use both their products and am very satisfied. I think you will be too. If you haven't already, please give DRYSHOD and STIHL a try.

Hopefully 2021 will see some sense of normalcy and we can resume our premiere October dinner meeting along with all our other great events.



photo credit: Colette Morabito

Kudos to Greg Lessord for taking on the responsibilities of our raffles this year. His organizational skills and eye for detail were fantastic.

Some useful tinyurl's:

- For the latest information on NYS stumpage prices, go to <https://tinyurl.com/DEC-Stumpage>
- For NYFOA's Facebook page, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/NYFOA-FB>
- For our Western Finger Lakes chapter's page on the NYFOA website, go to <https://tinyurl.com/NYFOA-WFL>

Empire Farm Days

by Colette Morabito

One of the many examples of how WFL gets the word out regarding the benefits of NYFOA membership, as well as Master Forest Owner Volunteers, is through the Empire Farm Days in Seneca Falls, NY held each August. From my research, Dale Schaefer volunteered as far back as 2010 to fulfill this outreach. He was in charge of recruiting 9 volunteers. Three volunteers per day, each spending a full day during the three-day event talking to passersby at the fair. Not an easy task. There was the organizing and accumulation of up-to-date handouts for the table, providing hands-on activities for all age groups, and talking one-on-one with countless people about trees, woodlot management, and the opportunity to have someone come and visit their woods to answer questions and offer guidance. I took over the responsibilities in 2017. As you may have guessed, the 2020 Empire Farm Days was cancelled due to Covid-19.

Alas, the location of Empire Farm Days has changed. The new location is at Palladino Farms in Pompey, NY and set for August 3-5, 2021. It is just south of Syracuse, a more central location for New York State. As the website suggests, Syracuse offers more accommodations and amenities. This new location is set through 2029. This is a good 2-hour drive for many WFL members and volunteers. Although WFL is dedicated to this

Welcome New Members

Michael Adams	Avoca
Danny Barry	Hamlin
Bob Bleier	Victor
Brandon Bulkley	Prattsburg

outreach, it is now located in the Central New York chapter (CNY) region of NYFOA.

After much contemplation and discussion with the NYFOA board, WFL is passing the torch to CNY in hopes that they will continue to spread the word about all the benefits of the MFO program as well as joining up with NYFOA. We will most certainly support CNY as they pursue this outreach in Pompey. A word of thanks to the countless volunteers over these many years that have graciously offered their time and talent. I plan to make the trip out to Pompey next summer. It appears that they have a very extensive indoor area that will alleviate some of the weather issues typical for August in Upstate New York. Empire Farm Days is an amazing event that boggles the mind. Be sure to check in on the new NYFOA and MFO volunteers from CYN if you plan to attend. I sure will. Hope to see you there.

Mark Your Calendar for 2021

by Colette Morabito

Have you ever wondered how garlic is braided? An amazing family of garlic farmers had a tutorial last August that I had the opportunity to attend. This family has a real love and understanding of their land and woodlot. They have egg-laying chickens as well as several horses. The chickens provide food, horses provide pleasure, and both provide manure for the compost needed to fertilize their garlic fields. The woodlot allows them to produce maple syrup each year, wood to burn for the evaporator, and a recreational location for their family and grandkids.

Consider joining me in early August 2021 as they are offering a class to WFL/NYFOA members to come and learn the art of garlic braiding. A couple hours are needed and for \$25.00, you can bring home and consume your own-personally made and locally grown garlic braid! Location is just south of Mount Morris. Date to be determined by Mother Nature. Stay tuned.



Here I am with my garlic braid

WFL FIREWOOD FOR CHARITY COMPLETES SEASON FIVE

by Dave Keebler

The WFL Firewood for Charity initiative, formerly Chain-saws for Charity, completed its fifth year on October 10th. This was the date that the Canandaigua Rotary Club picked up the first load of the season. The Rotarians took 14 face cords and had it all delivered by the end of the day.

Firewood4Charity (F4C) did not work over the winter because of the virus shutdown. Prior to the shutdown it was typical to have six or more volunteers working at one time and within six feet of each other. In addition people brought food items to share with one another during breaks while sitting in chairs and benches arranged in a circle in the Quonset hut. None of which was allowed during the shutdown. Fortunately there were no firewood orders left to be filled when the shutdown began. A big plus for the operation was that Wagner Lumber delivered enough logs over the winter to meet the projected orders from the Rotary Clubs for the 2020 season.

When it was announced that restrictions were going to be lessened David Deuel made plans to begin operations. They were necessarily limited in order to comply with the constraints imposed by the government. The tasks however remained the same three as always – block logs, split blocks and stack the firewood. Pre-shutdown a crew of six would have two people with chainsaws blocking logs, one person moving the blocks to the gas-powered splitter, two people running the splitter and one person stacking the wood. If there were more volunteers on a given day then they would help move the blocks and stack the wood. Or perhaps use splitting mauls to move the process along.

When David made the constrained plan he had to consider that two people running the splitter would be within six feet of each other. He also had to consider that the stacker would routinely come within six feet of the splitter operators as would the people moving the blocks to the splitter. On days when a couple volunteered they could manage the splitter and the stacking but of course production would nevertheless be hampered by the government required constraints.

Looking at the process and taking into account the configuration of the log yard it was decided that to comply with government directives volunteer crews would have to be limited to four people. Three would man the blocking, splitting and stacking positions. The fourth would float between the positions doing whatever would be needed at any given time – moving blocks, helping pile the splits and so on. People moving the blocks and doing the splitting and stacking would have to establish a routine of work/standby/step back so that each could do their job and still maintain social distancing. This

would meet the government standards and allow limited production. To compensate for lower production two workdays a month were added to the schedule. Mornings every Wednesday and the second and fourth Saturdays of the month were designated to be workdays. Previously it had been only two Wednesdays and one Saturday a month.

In order to manage the crew size volunteers would contact David directly. When there were more than four volunteers he planned to have them in at additional times. For instance afternoons on workdays after the normal regular morning crew had left. So there you have it – a perfect plan for achieving all objectives within the imposed constraints.

Mother Nature however had other plans. We have experienced a hot, hot summer that has been sprinkled with heavy rain storms. As fate would have it the rains often came on days scheduled for work so it had to be cancelled. Other work days were cancelled just because of the unbearable temperatures. It would simply be too brutal to stand over a hot gasoline engine splitting wood in the intense heat. A new work flow which replaced the sequential-station model evolved from these circumstances. Volunteers, limited to four or less, arrived early in the morning and split blocks by hand using splitting mauls. They moved their own splits to the wood pile. This independent work style allowed every volunteer to work at their own pace. They were also free to take breaks whenever they wanted as the flow of other workers would not be interrupted. David made blocks during the off days or else a volunteer that wanted to would block some logs on workdays and join the splitters latter. One new rule was created. Once the sun peaked over the tops of the silos, thereby removing all shade, work ended.

This technique proved to produce a fair amount of firewood. Early in September the racks were filled up with 40 face cords. There was no more room at the inn, so David closed down production and had the Rotary Clubs contacted to arrange their pick up dates.

If you would like to volunteer contact David Deuel at dsdeuel@gmail.com.

Please note, this issue (as well as previous issues) of the Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner are also available on-line (with all photos in color) in the WFL section of the NYFOA web site, www.nyfoa.org.

Also note that other chapters' newsletters are also available for reading in their chapter's sections on the NYFOA web site.



Member Profile

Each issue of the Forest Owner magazine contains a 'Member Profile' section. Jeff Joseph, chair of the editorial committee, is seeking NYFOA members to feature. If you have interest in having your woodlot efforts show-cased, contact Jeff at jeffjosephwoodworker@gmail.com.

New Business Announcement: Silvo Planning LLC

NYFOA-WFL board member and frequent contributor to this newsletter, Nick Jensen CPA, CFP® has started a new kind of financial planning firm. Silvo Planning is a fee only fiduciary financial advisory firm that also provides tax preparation and tax planning for its clients. Silvo Planning works with property owners to address their unique planning needs. Please contact Nick if you would like to find out more about his new company and if Silvo Planning may be of service to you and your family. The web address is: silvoplanning.com. Nick can also be reached at 607-794-1672 or by email at silvoplanning@gmail.com



Join and/or Give

NYFOA is a not-for-profit group promoting stewardship of private forests for the benefit of current and future generations. Through local chapters and statewide activities, NYFOA helps woodland owners to become responsible stewards and helps the interested public to appreciate the importance of New York's forests. Join NYFOA today and begin to receive its many benefits including: six issues of The New York Forest Owner, woodwalks, chapter meetings, and statewide meetings.

Note: For Gift Memberships, list the recipient's information (must not have been a NYFOA member for 3 years) directly below.

- I/We own _____ acres of woodland.
- I/We do not own woodland but support the Association's objectives:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State/ Zip: _____

Optional:
 Telephone: _____
 Email: _____
 County of Residence: _____
 County of Woodlot: _____
 Referred by: _____

Regular Annual Dues:

- Student \$15 (Please provide copy of student ID)
- Individual/Family \$45
- 1 Year Gift Membership \$25
 Gifto(r)s (NYFOA member) name _____

Multi-Year Dues:

- 2-yr \$80
- 3-yr \$120

Additional Contribution:

- Supporter \$1-\$49
- Contributor \$50-\$99
- Sponsor \$100-\$249
- Benefactor \$250-\$499
- Steward \$500 or more
- Subscription to Northern Woodlands \$15 (4 issues)

NYFOA is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) taxexempt organization and as such your contribution may be tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Form of Payment: Check Credit Card
 Credit Card No. _____
 Expiration Date _____ V-Code _____
 Signature: _____

Make check payable to NYFOA. Send the completed form to:
 NYFOA
 P.O. Box 541, Lima, New York 14485

Questions: 1-800-836-3566

On-line: www.nyfoa.org

∞ Upcoming Events ∞

Note: For possible updates to these meetings and to learn about events in neighboring chapters and across the state go to our NYFOA website's EVENTS section at

<https://www.nyfoa.org/events>

General Meetings

There will be no meetings scheduled with the WFL membership through the end of 2020, and into early 2021. We have some great speakers prepared to present to us later in 2021 as we anxiously await the end of all Covid-19 restrictions. Please enjoy this issue of the WFL Forest Owner newsletter. We hope that it fills the gap of our lost time together.

The next scheduled Western Finger Lakes **Chapter Board meeting** is set for January 19, 2021 at 7 p.m. We are planning a Zoom meeting with the assistance of Board member Mike Seager. We are prepared to meet remotely until the Coronavirus issues are sorted out.

The Annual NYFOA state meeting will be virtual this spring, a webinar-type format or perhaps a live program will be considered. No official date set but I imagine that it will have the same dynamic speakers as in years past with the most up to date and pertinent information. Look for more updates from the state in the coming months.

Empire Farm Days is set for August 3-5 at Palladino Farms LLC, 3149 Sweet Road, Jamesville, NY 13078 (**note change in location** from previous years) in cooperation with Heritage Hill Brewhouse. A summer farm show for the northeast. This is a new location for the following 10 years. Check out the website for all the specifics: empire farm days

A **garlic braiding class** in Mount Morris, New York is planned for early August 2021. Exact date to be determined by harvest and drying time needed for the plants. \$25.00 cost. Bring home your own hand-braided, locally grown garlic braid, suitable for hanging in your kitchen. Keep or give as a gift. It is a healthy and delicious trophy.

WFL Outdoor Activities – 2020/2021

Our Chapter chose to postpone our 2020 outdoor activities due to requirements for gatherings and activities in the age of the Covid-19 Pandemic. 2021 is, of course a new year, and we are assuming we can resume a year of robust outdoor activities.

This discussion is to outline some of what we plan for next year and while we don't have all the known activities or specific dates, we do have some items on the horizon for you to keep in mind..

GAME OF LOGGING and OUTDOORS 2021

WHAT'S NEXT?

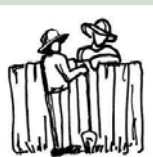
by Peter Muench

2020 certainly didn't behave the way we expected here in the WFL region thanks to the COVID effect on what we could schedule for outdoor activities. In the last WFL Newsletter, the "Blowout Issue", we noted some of the outdoor activities we had hoped to provide, and some optimism for the GOL, and since then there is only one new item to report.

The WFL partners with NYCAMH (New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health) to cosponsor the GOL. NYCAMH has secured their 2021 funding and will be subsidizing participants in the course. We set up a Level 1 course with the Genesee Valley Conservancy on the Mill Creek Nature Preserve on Route 21 in Wayland NY for Spring of 2020, which of course was postponed. We plan on scheduling that Level 1 course in that same location this Spring however we do not have dates as of this publication. As soon as that schedule becomes available it will be on our website and in the publication "The Woodlot".

In the mean time you can get additional information on this and other GOL's from Pauline Boyer at NYCAMH, 1-800-343-7527, or email chainsawsafety@bassett.org. You can also go to the GOL website at www.gameoflogging.com or call at 1-800-252-2502.

This winter should hopefully see some easing in the restrictions on gatherings and we will continue to develop a full schedule of outdoor activities focusing on the events noted in the last Newsletter. Keep in touch and we hope to see you there.



Wait! Instead of recycling this issue of the *Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner*, why not pass it on to a friend/neighbor to give them a hint at what they're missing by not being a member of NYFOA.



New York Forest Owners Association

Post Office Box 541, Lima, NY 14485

Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AVON, NY
PERMIT NO.32

The Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner



Winter 2020

Volume 34, Number 4



photo credit- Colette Morabito

David Deuel stands in front of the dramatic and glorious panoramic view from his home pavilion. Thanks David for hosting the WFL board meeting.

Mark Your Calendar

- January 21—WFL Board Zoom meeting*
- Spring '21—NYFOA Annual Meeting*
- August 3-5—Empire Farm Days at new location*
- Early August—Garlic Braiding Class*

* 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@npgroups.org