



Allegheny Foothills Chapter Newsletter

Chairman's Corner

Submitted by Bill Dorman

Because of the late Spring, my fire-wood cache has suffered. I had a little left over, but have been unable to drop the cull trees as planned. Fortunately for me there was a blow-down last year in the lot next door and I have been cleaning that up and it is nicely seasoned. We had our first woods walk of the 2015 program hosted by the Rembolds on May 9th. It turned out to be a beautiful day and a great learning experience. The Rembolds were excellent hosts and we are appreciative of all their efforts. This will be my last "Chairman's Corner" article and I have volunteered for the secretary's position. I hope I can do as well at this

task as Kim has done for several years and speaking on behalf of the organization, we sincerely appreciate his efforts. The remaining slate of officers has been established and the change-over will take place at the annual picnic. Details are included in this newsletter and we would be happy to see you there. Please enjoy Summer 2015 and always make it a point of putting NYFOA activities on your calendar.

Thanks,
Bill Dorman
Chairman
NYFOA-AFC

Mark Your Calendars—2015 NYFOA AFC Dates

July 11– Cattaraugus County, Annual Meeting & Picnic

July 13-18– Allegany County Fair

July 27-August 2– Chautauqua County Fair

July 31– Freedom, NY, Gutchess Lumber Sawmill Tour

August 3-9– Cattaraugus County Fair

August 15- Gerry-Levant, NY Woodswalk

September 12– Ellsworth Woodswalk

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Chapter Board of Directors:

- William Dorman– Chair (716) 640-4305
- Jeff Rupp- Vice-Chair (716) 257-5652
- Kim Sherwood– Secretary (716) 287-3331
- Tony Pingitore– Treasurer (716) 962-4041
- State Association Representatives David Morabito Jr and David Morabito Sr cmorabi2@rochester.rr.com
- Dan Anderson- Planning Coord. (716) 386-7802
- Dennis Dragich Membership Coord. (716) 359-2135
- Catherine Heath– Newsletter Editor (716) 785-0675

Annual Summer Meeting & Picnic Saturday July 11, 2015 Submitted by Jeff Rupp

The AFC's Annual Summer Meeting, Picnic, Woodswalks, & Election of Chapter Officers will be held at the Baronich family forest property, 7263 Pepperdine Hill Road, in the Town of New Albion, Cattaraugus County on Saturday, July 11th.

This 62 acre property, in Baronich family hands for 45 years, is just a couple miles east of the Village of Cattaraugus and is easily accessed from Co. Road 76.

Joe Baronich has promised a full morning of demonstrations, demonstration areas and hiking opportunities, including; grouse habitats, tree shear, and use of a 3-pt. hitch PTO logging winch, band saw mill, vernal pools, wetland, chain saw log squaring, and more. Woods trails include both shorter and longer loops.

Gather (like grouse chicks) and register around 9:00 a.m.; A brief Chapter mtg. at 9:30; the woods walks and demos until noon time.

Dogs, burgers & drinks will be provided. A dish to pass is optional. In any case, bring your family and enjoy the green wooded New Albion Hillside Forest!

Fair Time!

Submitted by the Fair Committee

It's Fair Time! County Fair Time is just around the corner. Volunteers will be needed to man the displays at the three county fairs. This is a good way to meet people, increase our membership and advance good forest stewardship and have fun doing it. There are a lot of folks out there that can use and appreciate the information we can provide. It is a good time to sign up people for MFO visits and these often produce new members. When committee members call for help, please be receptive to their plea. It is especially helpful if our MFOs are on hand to offer their expertise. The experiences of being a volunteer is rewarding both personally and for NYFOA, ask anyone who has done it. We are looking forward to seeing you at fair time.

The fairs dates are:

Allegany County, July 13th-18th

Chautauqua County, July 27 to August 2

Cattaraugus Count, August 3 to 9th

To offer your help, call Jeff Rupp @ 257-5652 for Allegany or Catt County or Dennis Dragich, (716) 359-2135, dpdragich@windstream.net for Chautauqua County. We could also use donations from crafters for raffle prizes or give-a ways for kids.

Gutchess Lumber Sawmill Tour July 31st

Submitted by Mitch J. Banas

Have you ever wondered what a state-of-the-art sawmill operation looks like? Come see for yourself at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31, 2015 when Gutchess Lumber, 10660 Maple Grove Road, Freedom, New York 14065 will be treating NYFOA Niagara Frontier Chapter and Allegheny Foothills Chapter members to a tour of its "cutting edge" facility. No reservations are required, but please contact Mitch Banas at mbanas@jaeckle.com (preferably) or 716/983-6895 if you plan on attending so you can be notified of any last-minute changes in schedule (the tour being so far out, it is somewhat dependent on mill operations). Come join us for what will no doubt be a fascinating visit – and come meet some fellow NYFOA members from neighboring chapters at the same time. See you there!

Gerry-Levant Woodswalk August 15th

Submitted by Bruce Robinson

This Woods Walk will offer opportunity to examine the effects of seed sources, basal area density and associated forest species on regeneration. Although regeneration is essential for long term management, what signs do we look for to tell us it is too early to be concerned.

The walk will begin at 9 AM, Saturday, August 15 at a gas well road south of 4212 Gerry-Levant Road in the Town of Gerry (North of Ross Mills). The terrain for this one is gentle. We will plan some short hike(s) that will end with a trailer ride back to the starting point. We will have an opportunity to have lunch together at 4212, at son Bruce Robinson's home. Watch for NYFOA signs.

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.

When to Cut

Submitted by Dick Patton, MFO Coordinator

When doing an MFO (Master Forest Owner) visit or on a NYFOA woodswalk, I am often asked when and how often should a person harvest a woodlot. The answer, of course, is different for each owner and each woodlot. I am writing this just as an experienced amateur. There are many good professionals who might or might not agree with my way of determining when to cut.

First I must determine that the woods has saleable product in a quantity that will attract a buyer. Polewood or cordwood is marketable and can be thinned to release future higher quality timber. Timber trees of 12" DBH (Diameter Breast High (4 1/2 ft) and larger are always saleable. However, a good sale should have some trees with a diameter of 18" or larger. If the forest is overstocked a thinning cut is in order.

After the thinning or releasing cut, the question of when to make the next and subsequent harvests should be considered. Trees in good shape, on decent land, with proper spacing will expand 2" to 4" in diameter in 10 years. It may be considerably less in a poor situation or slightly more in a really good site.

The next thing I do is to wait, watch, measure and record. I use a paint stick and have a coding method to mark a sampling of the trees. When the canopy closes and the trunk girth is timber size, it may be the time to harvest again. Of course during all this time, trail making and timber stand improvement is in order.

The basic question was, "how often should one harvest a woodlot?" I start looking at about 10 years after a light or medium harvesting, and usually order a harvest every 12 to 15 years. Still it's not that simple. Get help from a DEC (Department of Environmental Conservation) Forester, a Private Forestry consultant or a Master Forest Owner.

Ellsworth Woodswalk September 12th

Submitted by Dan Anderson

Here is the info for the Ellsworth Swift woods-walk on September 11. It will start at 10AM on Saturday, September 12. The location is 4306 County Road 6 in Cuba, NY. Attendees may bring a lunch, or restaurants are close by in Cuba and Portville.

Directions: If coming by way of I-86, get off at the Cuba Exit. Take Rte 305 south through the village of Cuba. About 1 mile past Cuba turn right on Allegany Rte 6. The location is on the east side of the road.

If coming by way of Rte 417 from Olean, take Cattaraugus County Road 27 (Haskell Rd.). This becomes County Rte 6 when entering Allegany County. The location is on the east side of the road.

Our Foxy Spring Entertainment

Submitted by Tony Pingitore

This spring we had the fortunate opportunity to watch a family of six red fox kits romp by their den not even forty yards from our back deck. I first saw them when I was cutting a couple of saplings six feet from a fox hole. All of a sudden two furry balls exploded out wrestling with each other and rolling over and over, biting each other's ears, then a third came out and watched the wrestling match. The three paid no attention to me what so ever. This was about sixty yards from the house. A few days later, there were six of them romping near the den closer to the house. They played like a bunch of kittens, knocking each other over, nipping at each other and being just as playful as can be. At times, an adult would sit on an old log by our saw mill and watch or join in the fun. As the weeks progressed, they started to lose their furry ball look and started to look more like foxes, they still however, paid little attention to us and we could still get within fifteen feet of them. All this started about the last week of April and lasted until the end of May. They have since either moved to a different den or gone on their own. Going to a different den is most likely, which is something they do.

(Photos con't on p. 6)

Life at Alpacaville

Submitted by Dan Anderson

I didn't understand that life on the farm involves a relentless production of manure. I was pleased to find a market to sell the manure as it is extremely fertile for gardens, so when an order came in for a whole trailer load, life was good. Life wasn't so good when the loaded trailer broke an axle at the bottom of our hill, spilling manure in all directions. I raced home to get the tractor and bucket to clear the manure and push the broken trailer off the road. A police officer was writing a ticket for me as soon as I got to the bottom of the hill with the tractor. A flatbed costing \$171 hauled the broken trailer back to the house. Ouch! Expensive manure for me to deliver.

The next day my wife asked me if I could now see the humor in the situation as there was more to the story. I hadn't felt well the night before with a fever of 102.3, but felt even worse when she informed me that I had used the alpaca thermometer (You know where that has been) to take my temperature. Ugh- I hadn't even cleaned it off as I never expected it to be in our medicine cabinet!! UGH!!

**NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS
ASSOCIATION**

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EVENTS CALENDAR

May 9

Rembold's Woodswalk

May 30

2015 Spring Woodswalk

June 15

Steering Committee Meeting

July 11

Annual Meeting & Picnic

July 31

Gutchess Lumber Sawmill Tour

August 15

Gerry-Levant Woodswalk

Welcome New Members: Peter Quanz; Sherman, NY

Please email your comments to afcnewsletter@yahoo.com or mail to ctp11@hotmail.com
(Catherine Heath)

Our Foxy Spring cont'd

Photos Submitted by Tony Pingitore

