



# CNY Chapter NYFOA

November 2015

COVERING CAYUGA,  
HERKIMER, MADISON,  
ONEIDA, ONONDAGA  
& OSWEGO COUNTIES

Ralph Meyer,  
Chair

- 315-264-1087  
meyerralf@yahoo.com

Rich Taber,  
Vice Chair, alternate  
Chapter Designated  
Board Member

- 315-837-4265  
richtaber@aol.com

Sandy Babcock,  
Treasurer

- 315-662-7707  
aplstone@dreamscape.com

Peter Cann,  
Secretary,

- 315-687-3812  
plcann@twcny.rr.com

Bruce Revette, Chapter  
Designated Board  
Member, 315-852-9670  
or 315-447-2741  
revettbm@morrisville.  
edu

Randi Starmer,  
Newsletter

- 315-637-5213  
randi.starmer@gmail.com

Dan Zimmerman,  
Forester,

- 315-404-7069

## Upcoming Events that May Interest YOU

### December 4 - Christmas Party at the Babcocks at 6:30 pm -?

3174 Thompson Road in Cazenovia. Delicious food and good company provided by Sandy & Maria. Cost of \$5.00/person. Please RSVP by Dec. 1 at 315-662-7707 or email [aplstone@dreamscape.com](mailto:aplstone@dreamscape.com)

### November 29 - 2pm at Liverpool Public Library A showing of the film

"DIRT! The Movie" -- narrated by Jamie Lee Curtis -- brings to life the environmental, economic, social and political impact that the soil has. Trailer can be seen at <http://www.dirtthemovie.org/the-film/>

### December 12 at 8:30 a.m - Maple production the beginners workshop from Cornell Cooperative Extension -

"Steve Childs, Cornell Maple Specialist, will be joining us on Saturday, December 12 at 8:30 a.m. for the 2015 Onondaga County Maple School. We will be meeting at the DeWitt Community Room, 148 Sanders Creek Parkway, East Syracuse. Steve will discuss maple production for the beginner: why make maple syrup, what trees give you sweet sap, tapping, collecting sap, boiling, equipment, knowing when its finished, filtering, canning, storing and using maple syrup." For more information and to register go to : [https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/Maple2015\\_23](https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/Maple2015_23) or contact Kristina Ferrare at (315) 424-9485 ext. 231 or [kaf226@cornell.edu](mailto:kaf226@cornell.edu).

### January 5 @7 pm- with snow date of January 7

CNY-NYFOA Board of Directors' meeting, election of officers, and planning for 2016 program. Cornell Cooperative Extension Building at Morrisville Community College.

Are you 21 to 50 years young? Most of us on the Board are 70+/- and we'll keep on going another 70. But, new ideas fuel our imaginations. So, you are all invited to the January Board Meeting. Also, we need to identify woods with 10 plus acres for 2016 Woods Walks...got some?

**April 16, 2016** - State NYFOA Annual Meeting for 2016 which will be held at SUNY-ESF - details in future newsletter

Please welcome new members Dave Antos and Peter Tonetti

*Recent Chapter Woods Walk: Black Maple to Bladdernut*

This year's summer picnic and August and October Woods Walks were outstanding. We did it : we broke out of Onondaga and Madison counties for our walks. August 29th we started at Brookside Lumber Co. in Moravia. Guy's Garnsey's red oak logs were sawed and we followed them to finished graded boards. We then headed to the Garnseys's woods in Scipio Center for a guided tour by forester Daniel DeLucia and a discussion of current eco-sensitive lumber harvest. We also saw a Black Maple tree. Do you have any in your forest?

We went on to the Garnseys' home for our summer picnic. This included a tour of the largest outdoor train layout you've ever seen, a walk-through of their large barn containing Guy's woodworking shop and air-drying lumber collection as well as a stable for Kathy's horses and a riding ring.

Our October 3 Woods Walk was at the Crosby's woods in the Auburn area. Their woods contain the finest Black Walnut that I've ever seen and White Oak to 42 inch DBH. What a woods! We then found the Bladdernut bush. After this we went to the Crosby's home and were treated to an outstanding lunch, and friendship.

**Ralph Meyer, Chair**

Did you have an apple carpet in your woods this year?



**KNOW YOUR DEC Forester**  
**who can help forest owners create or update a Forestry Stewardship plan**

**Onondaga and Oswego** County now have their own DEC Forester in Dan Sawchuck and he welcomes inquiries from forest owners. You can reach him at... 2133 County Rt. 22, Altmar, NY 13302, Phone: (315) 298-7467

In **Herkimer and Oneida County**, Justanna Bohling is the DEC forester whom you can contact at justanna.bohling@decny.gov, 225 North Main Street, P.O. Box 89, Herkimer, NY 13350-0089 Phone: (315) 866-6330

The DEC forester in **Cayuga County** is John Graham, 1285 Fisher Ave., Cortland, NY 13045-1090 Phone: (607) 753-3095

In **Chenango and Madison** counties, the DEC forester is Paul Romanenko, 2715 State Highway 80, Sherburne, NY 13460-0594 Phone: (607) 674-4017

According to the Private Forestry web page at [dec.ny.gov](http://dec.ny.gov) "There are two types of financial help available for New York landowners, 480-a forest tax law, and the EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) cost-share program."

"**480-a Forest Tax Law** - Created to encourage the sustainable management of New York's timber resource, 480-a Forest Tax Law provides property tax savings for landowners who are enrolled in the program

**EQIP**- A voluntary cost-share program for private landowners that provides financial and technical assistance to pay for implementing conservation and management practices that will improve their forests. EQIP is funded by United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service with technical assistance provided by DEC forestry staff.

Beside the assistance that a DEC forester can provide you, [dec.ny.gov](http://dec.ny.gov) refers to Consulting Foresters as "independent individuals and small businesses provide a wide array of forestry services to landowners"

Dan Zimmerman is a forester who works at McDonough Hardwoods. He is willing to assist NYFOA members in finding a consulting forester in their area and other questions. You can reach him at his cell phone: 315-404-7069 or office :315-829-3449.

Dan describes "McDonough purchasing policy: We will walk the woods with you, mark the timber your way after an engaging discussion concerning objectives and good forestry practices, provide you with: 1) timber cruise, 2) lump sum offer, 3) silvical and ecological narrative with future ramifications that would be a result of the present marking regime. No cost to you. Qualified Forester with 38 years experience and certified timber harvesters that we are very proud of!"



## How familiar are you with the Master Forester Program? Below is an extract from an article about the Master Forester Program by Sarah Stackhouse

If you have trees, either a small woodlot or a large wooded parcel, you should know about the Master Forest Owner Volunteer Program. Master Forest Owner Volunteers (MFOs) are for woodland owners what Master Gardeners are for home gardeners. The MFO program provides, for free, private forest owners of New York State with information and encouragement necessary to manage their forest lands. Over 200 experienced MFO's are available, ready to assist neighbor forest owners with the information needed to manage their forest land to meet their objectives. All MFOs are graduates of an intensive 4-day training program, where they learn about saw timber and wildlife management, forest economics and ecology. They also have the opportunity to attend annual refresher courses. NYS forest owners may contact an MFO for information about the program and discuss opportunities for obtaining more satisfaction from one's woods, whether it is hunting, cutting firewood, growing saw timber, watching birds and wildlife and enhancing their habitat, or just enjoying a peaceful walk. At your request, an MFO will arrange a visit with you at your woodlot to get a first-hand look and discuss your priorities and sources of assistance and information. They can give you information on wildlife habitat improvement, cutting firewood, timber stand improvement, timber theft, conducting a timber sale, as well as invasive plant and pest identification and control. MFOs are experienced and knowledgeable individuals who can put you in touch with the right people to help you meet your goals. The MFO can also be instrumental in helping you to develop a management plan for your property. Why manage your forest land? Over 14 million acres of woodland in NYS are privately owned. That is over 80% of NY's forest land! Dividing large holdings into smaller and smaller parcels and rapid turnover of ownership have created a large number of new and inexperienced forest owners who are neither aware of their management opportunities, nor know how to achieve their ownership objectives. There are over 500,000 forest owners statewide; the average woodlot size is 35 acres. Much of the woodland in NYS has grown up on land that was open fields and pastures in the early 1900's. The trees are around 75 years old and are beginning to have some commercial value as saw timber. They are also at the stage of development where a selective thinning of the woods by removing diseased, damaged and less desirable species, as well as trees that are crowding each other, will greatly benefit the more desirable and healthier trees and result in a healthier and more valuable woodlot and forest. This is known as a timber stand improvement thinning. In addition, forest management can help to improve wildlife habitat by encouraging growth of trees beneficial to wildlife for food and cover, retaining den trees, providing brush piles for cover for birds and small mammals, and providing diverse habitats to support a variety of wildlife species. A healthy forest also encourages water infiltration and reduces runoff, which are vital to reducing flooding and minimizing erosion on the steep hillsides of the Finger Lakes. If you have questions and would like to improve the quality and your enjoyment of your woodlot, contact an MFO to help you to attain your objectives.

Kristina Ferrare from Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) in Onondaga County is now working with the Master Forest Owner program in Onondaga County and Central and Western Adirondack regions. Check out other CCE programs at [www.extendonondaga.org](http://www.extendonondaga.org) or other county extension offices such as [www.cceoneida.com](http://www.cceoneida.com), [madisoncountycce.org](http://madisoncountycce.org), [www.cce.cornell.edu/herkimer](http://www.cce.cornell.edu/herkimer), [www.thatiscooperativeextension.org](http://www.thatiscooperativeextension.org) ( Oswego)



CNY-NYFOA  
c/o Randi Starmer  
7022 Bush Road  
Jamesville, NY 13078

CNY-NYFOA event dates to remember - December 4, January 5



### Who visits your woods?

If you have news, articles or photos of general interest to share, please forward them to the newsletter editor, ([randi.starmer@gmail.com](mailto:randi.starmer@gmail.com)) to put into future newsletters .

We hope you can join us for future events. Email or Write Ralph ([meyerralf@yahoo.com](mailto:meyerralf@yahoo.com)) with ideas.