



# Bandinelli Woodswalk— May 30, 2015

Forester Eric Stawitzky presented an overview of the EQIP Program and management plan written for Vic and Deb Bandinelli on Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup> as we toured the Bandinelli property. Vic and Deb hosted our woodswalk on their 37 acre family forest in Bliss, NY. Deb's parents had originally bought the property in 1968 and Deb and Vic have been owners since 2001. Mostly pine woods reforested from farmland in the mid 40's, they are now working on turning the property into hardwoods. Eric, Deb and

Vic spoke about how they started with a fire lane and have progressed along with a barn, expanded a cabin, dug a pond and will soon build a new home. The mostly pine areas have been thinned by hack and squirt in the first phase of their program. They plan on releasing select hardwood and fruit trees.

Eric also gave an enlightening discussion on 480a expanding on some of the changes underway. This would be a great topic of discussion at a future member meeting with

Eric and a representative from the DEC. We will let you know what we can plan for this!!

Thank you Vic and Deb for hosting our spring woodswalk. A good time had by all!!



*Bandinelli Woodswalk, May 2015*

## Rembold Woodswalk

Allegheny Foothills Chapter members John and Gayle Rembold hosted a spring woodswalk on May 9, 2015 at their property in Cattaraugus, NY. After a vigorous hike up the road (got us huffing and puffing!) we crossed into their woods for a tour guided by John. John showed the various areas of TSI he and his family have been working on.



### Are you interested in learning bird and wildlife-friendly management techniques for your property?

Allegheny Region Forest Habitat Workshop: **Saturday, September 26, 2015**, NYSDEC Little Valley Maintenance Center, 5191 Route 353, Little Valley, NY 14755. **Register by September 21** to Suzanne Treyger at [streyger@audubon.org](mailto:streyger@audubon.org) or (607) 254-2122. Arrive at 8:30 a.m. for registration and refreshments. The workshop is from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch and a field trip to view forest habitat from 11:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Free refreshments and lunch will be provided.

# Member's Corner: The First Year

By Wayne Forrest

Our woodlot is located in the Town of Hartland NY on Eighteen Mile Creek. The land has been owned by the Phillips/Forrest family since 1947. It was operated as a dairy farm, vegetable farm, orchard and sand pit up until about 1972 when the operation shifted from a family run farm to rented farm land. In the 43 years since, the woodlands were left pretty much undisturbed except for unauthorized deer stands and occasional timber trespassing. The 85 acre plot consists of about 50 acres of tillable land and the remainder was either wooded or is reverting back to it. About a year ago I found I had more time on my hands (empty nester) and I could see even more time coming my way. So the frequency of visits to the farm increased and gradually I began to get acquainted with the other 35 acres. It had so much to show me I just had to explore a new area each time I went. The land has Eighteen mile creek running through it, a sand pit, numerous red oak at 30" DBH, a few patriarch red oaks at 37.5" DBH, black walnuts, shag bark hickory, ash, black cherry, beech, multiflora rose (ouch!), orchard remnants,



Wayne Forrest

poison ivy, wetlands, cottonwood and wildlife. In early fall I made sure the property was properly posted. Later in October I did a walk-through and laid down all the unauthorized deer stands. This coming season I will be hunting this property. In January I took a co-worker and NYFOA member Joe Coccho on a walkabout. He suggested that I contact the DEC to ask for their help in developing a forest management plan for the site and that I join the NY-FOA. I had the walk-through with DEC Forester Marren in May. The walk might be best described as the

ugly, the bad and the good. We started the walk in the wetlands which have been invaded by multiflora rose and is predominately ash. The multiflora rose limits access and the ash is destined to become food for the emerald ash borer. We then moved to the higher ground adjacent to the wetlands which has a mix of red oak and black walnut. To some extent we could make our way through the understory but the multiflora rose is making its way into this area. We found that cottonwood had taken hold and was consuming the canopy. Finally we made our way to a 3.5 acre area of red oak, beech, ash and shag-bark hickory. The understory here consisted of dead leaves, some trout lily and a small area of beech trees which are sending out suckers. This was by far the healthiest woodlot on the property. I have had a glimpse at the draft forest management plan and I can tell it will provide more insight on how to go about maintaining and improving the forest health in our woodlot.

So the first year has been one of assessment, getting to know the forest and learning how to make the forest the best it can be. I am looking forward to receiving the final forest management plan so I can begin to implement the recommendations.

## Upcoming Members Meeting

The October 3 Chapter meeting will be held at The DEC Reinstein Woods Environmental Education Center 92 Honorine Road off Como Park Blvd. in Dewey starting at 10am.

We will have a brief meeting and election of officers, followed by a presentation on **Whitetail Food Plots**— Start to Finish by Jason Engel from Shamel Milling, Springville NY. Bring a bag lunch; the chapter will provide bottled water.

After lunch we will be having a steering committee meeting to plan out our 2016 calendar which you are invited to attend and share your thoughts and ideas or you can hike the many trails and view the displays at this remarkable facility.

## NFC Steering Committee 2015

*Feel free to contact any committee member with suggestions, articles or general information that can further enhance the Chapter and its members.*

**Bob Glidden**-Chairman/State Delegate 795-3305 [rkglidden@verizon.net](mailto:rkglidden@verizon.net)

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**Eric & Eleanor Randall**-Program 585-547-3596 [randall-maple@msn.com](mailto:randall-maple@msn.com)

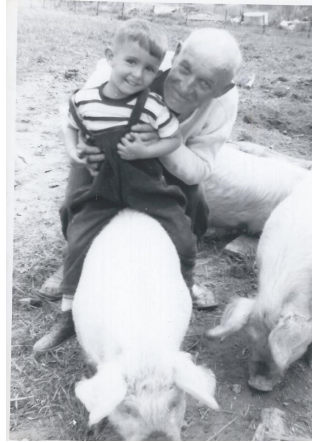
## Chairman's Corner

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*By Bob Glidden*

Well it was sure great to finally get outdoors and start to plan my food plots for this year. As I walked our property I started to wonder what got me interested in nature and resource management. I guess the time I spent as a young boy in the late 50's early 60's when my parents would send me to Uncle Fritz's farm (East Otto) for a week or two to help out with the haying and any other farm chores that needed tending, and about the same time I joined the Boy Scouts so I guess the combination of the 2 planted the seed. I remember planting trees with the Scouts on Uncle Fritz's farm, learning to hunt and respecting the land. I guess we all have an Uncle Fritz in our lives that got us started.

On April 22 we had a presence at the Earth Day festivities at Niagara University and on May 7 we had our NYFOA display at the Niagara-Orleans Envi-



*Bob and his Uncle Fritz on Fritz's farm*

rothon held at Bonds Lake Nature Park. We talked to many interested students at these events.

We attended 2 great woodswalks this spring one at John & Gayle Rembold's in Cattaraugus (Allegheny Foothills Chapter) and at Vic & Deb Bandinelli's in Bliss (NFC), picked up a lot of good tips, good food, made new friends and had great weather. It was interesting to witness the many different management strategies and objectives members have chosen to enhance their properties.

Hope to see more of you at the upcoming events. If you have an interest in hosting a woodswalk let me know and we will get you scheduled.

Chairman, Bob Glidden

## EQIP Program Update

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For the last three years, NYFOA has been represented on the Forestry Sub-Committee for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in New York State. In this capacity, we have been able to influence the forest management practices eligible for reimbursement under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). I am pleased to report that, during the Sub-Committee meeting on July 21st, we were informed that the construction of deer enclosure fencing to support forest regeneration will be eligible for EQIP reimbursement starting in 2016. We know that there will be circumstances where deer populations cannot be reduced to levels that will permit forest regeneration, so this is great news for anyone concerned about the future of the forests we love.

If your woodlot is at a stage in its life cycle where regeneration is a concern, meet with the NRCS District Conservationist serving your County. You may want to apply for EQIP funding to cover the preparation of a Forest Management Plan that specifically includes practices required to establish the regeneration of desirable tree species. If your application is approved, your plan could be prepared and reimbursed next year, and the practices (including fencing and control of interfering vegetation, if required) could be approved for reimbursement in the following year.

Unfortunately, funding for EQIP is limited, and not every worthy application for reimbursement will be accepted. The best way to ensure that forestry practices receive an equitable share of available EQIP funds is to attend the EQIP Local Working Group meetings that will be taking place at seventeen regional locations from August through October. During these meetings, EQIP funds available to Counties in each District are allocated among water quality, grazing, wildlife and forestry interests. Historically, forestry's share of EQIP funds has ranged from 5% to 30%, and is influenced by forest stakeholder presence at these meetings. So call your NRCS District Conservationist and get yourself on the invitation list for the Regional Working Group meeting that includes your County. Then invite a neighbor woodlot owner and a consulting forester to accompany you.

Best wishes and enjoy the waning summer,  
Charles Stackhouse  
NYFOA President

## September 12, 2015 Woodswalk

Join us on September 12 for a fun and informative woodswalk on the property of Jim and Maryanne DeLellis in Northern Allegheny County. Jim has owned this 75 acre woodland for 30 years and has actively managed it for 27 years. The property is at 7911 Trall Road, Freedom, NY. Directions can easily be found by using MapQuest on your computer or by using a GPS.

Participants will learn about various timber management techniques and view the results of a recent sawlog harvest. Anyone who attended the woodswalk which Jim hosted three years ago is sure to see some distinct changes!

Attendees are asked to dress for the weather and wear boots or shoes appropriate for walking on woodland trails. The terrain is moderately sloped and there will be a shallow creek crossing. Please plan on arriving at 10 a.m. as introductions and background information will start promptly at 10:30 followed by the woodswalk. Afterwards everyone is encouraged to stay for lunch and socialize. A five dollar per person fee will be collected to cover the cost of pizza and wings from a local eatery with beverages and dessert provided by the host. Door prizes will be donated by the Transit Road Lowe's store. Hope to see you on September 12<sup>th</sup>!

**Directions - take Route 400 south. This becomes Rt. 16 -continue south to Yorkshire Corners and turn left onto Route 39 - take Route 39 E to Pike, NY - a right turn onto Water St. takes you into Pike -turn right onto Main St. in Pike -continue straight on Main St. which becomes Dewitt Rd.**

**-take the 1st left onto Bank Rd. about 1.5 miles out of Pike -Bank Rd. ends at Trall Rd - turn right  
-7911 is .5 miles on left**

**Or Google:** Follow I-90 W, NY-400 S. take NY-78 S exit and follow to NY-362 S in Wethersfield Turn right onto NY-362 S, turn left onto Route 39. Continue on NY-39 E, turn right onto Co Rd 50, turn right onto Main St, Pike. Continue straight to stay on Main St which becomes Dewitt Rd, take Dewitt Rd (which becomes Pike Rd.) turn left onto Pochuck Rd which slightly bears left to Trall Rd in Hume (1/2 mile on left: 7911 Trall Rd.)

## Gutchess Sawmill Plant Tour, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

We had a tremendous turnout of both NFC and AFC members on Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup> for the Gutchess Sawmill tour in Freedom, NY. The Freedom, NY location is one of 5 Gutchess manufacturing facilities in NY and Pa.

Ryan Marrs, from Gutchess, led our tour starting in the "yard" where he showed us the sorting, identifying and tagging of all the logs in their current inventory. He explained the logs are sorted softwoods (maple, bass wood, poplar, hickory) and the hardwoods (oak, cherry, ash, red maple). The hardwoods are sprayed periodically with water to keep them longer in the yard enabling the sawmill to go through the softer woods sooner. The watering also keeps the logs from checking.

We started our plant tour where the de-barking is done, continuing on to the actual sawmill operation where the logs are turned and sawed through a much automated system. Ryan explained that the average is 95-100,000 board feet per day which equals 1000-1200 logs per day. The boards are then conveyed to the inspection deck where they are manually inspected then continue on to the sorting and piling. The lumber is rough finished and either goes on to the final customer as green

(approximately 20-30% sold green) or on to their kilns (in Cortland, NY or Latrobe, Pa.) for drying.

We also got see their maintenance team sharpening and leveling the huge saw blades which get sharpened at approximately 10 hours of run time.

A great overview of a state of the art sawmill operation, enjoyed by nearly 50 members. More pictures in the next issue!!



## Featured Website

For those of you unfamiliar with Peter Smallidge's CornellForestConnect website, you owe it to yourself – and your forest – to spend some time at <http://cornellforestconnect.ning.com/>. While principally a product of Cornell University and Cornell Cooperative Extension, CornellForestConnect also includes NYFOA and the DEC as key partners in this collaborative effort. As the site itself notes, its goal "is to support the sustainable production of private woodlands in New York (and beyond) through the provision of educational assistance" and is "intended to provide an opportunity for those who are interested in private woodlands to learn about woodlot management, share what they know, and connect with others who support the sustainability of private working woodlands." Notably, it is **not** a commercial site, and you won't be inundated with ads or other annoyances. In addition to listing upcoming forest-related events, the website features blogs and forums dedicated to topics spanning the gamut from woodlot management to forest health to maple syrup production to improving deer habitat. The content of blog posts is equally diverse, ranging from the practical to the technical to the newsworthy to the philosophical, often including links to archived materials and outside resources. The site is word searchable, and users are able to pose questions to the community-at-large if their particular issue is not already addressed on the site or if they have a new "twist" on old topic. In addition to asking questions, members (it's a breeze to sign up) are also able to post other content. Peter Smallidge does a great job of moving everything along by posting pertinent questions and items of interest himself.

Give the website a try – if you are anything like me, you will find the answers to questions you didn't even know you had!

-Mitch Banas

## Reading Material and Other Resources

### My Land Plan:

Don't know where to start managing your woodlands? Try <http://www.mylandplan.org/>. You're just one click away from mapping, planning, recording, and other tools to help you both enjoy and profit from your forest.

### DEC:

The DEC's website has a wealth of information helpful to forest owners, including how to find a forester (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5230.html>), timber harvesting (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5242.html>), and additional topics and resources (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/93912.html>).

### Master Forest Owner

#### Program:

Need to know more about New York's highly successful Master Forest Owner's Program, sponsored by the USDA Renewable Resources Extension Program, NYSDEC, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and our own NYFOA? Go to <http://www2.dnr.cornell.edu/ext/mfo/>.

### Cornell ForestConnect:

Many of you know of the excellent resources available at Peter Smallidge's Cornell ForestConnect website <http://cornellforestconnect.ning.com/>, but do you know about his monthly one-hour webinars which each month highlight some important aspect of forest ownership? You can register for the webinar e-mailings at <http://www2.dnr.cornell.edu/ext/forestconnect/web.htm>.

### Penn State Extension:

Just like Cornell, Penn State has a wealth of resources available to forest owners on its website at <http://extension.psu.edu/natural-resources/forests>.

### Stumpage Report

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5259.html>

*\*In lieu of including the full stumpage report, please follow above link to provide you the most current pricing information. If you miss seeing the report please let us know.*



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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Sept. 12th– NFC DeLellis Woodswalk
- Oct. 3rd– NFC Member Meeting
- Spring 2016– Randall Maple Operation Tour

## Spring 2016 Event

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NFC Chapter members Eric and Eleanor Randall are pleased to invite members and their guests to attend a late Spring 2016 field day/ woodswalk at their sugarhouse facility located at 10307 Smithley Rd., Alexander, NY 14005. The Randalls are fifth or sixth generation sugar makers and have records showing that maple syrup has been produced in their family all but



two years since 1848. Their maple operation is centered at their southeastern Genesee County location, just a few miles east of Darien Lake Amusement Park, and serves as the processing facility for their 3,200+ tap operation. Confirmed date and more details in future newsletters!! Visit [www.randallsmapple.com](http://www.randallsmapple.com) for a look at their history and maple processing!!