

The Overstory

Volume 23

Issue 1

Fall 2012

New York Forest Owners Association Southeastern Adirondack Chapter

HIGHLIGHTS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Bernie Buttles Jr.

John S. DeGolyer

Diane & Tom Denny

Harry Grey

Per & Cheryl Nylan

Cassus Phillips, Charley Pond Sportsmens Club

Todd & Wendy Waldron

Wilderness Lands LLC

INSIDE

- Members Corner
- Robert Manning receives award
- Pictures from recent woods walks
- Letter from the chair

Save the date!

SAC ANNUAL MEETING

January 19th, 2013

Meeting/Forestry Presentation

More details to follow

A NYFOA Initiative: Restoring New York's Woodlands

By Kelly Smallidge

What's this?

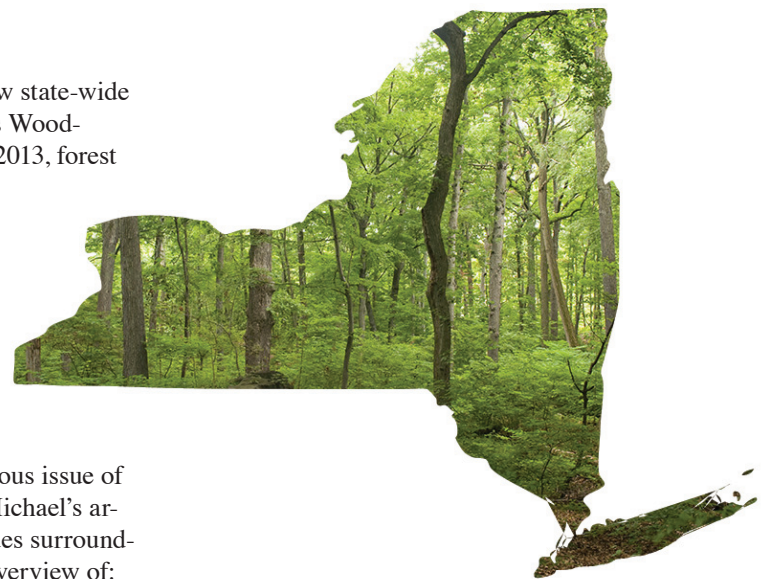
Next spring NYFOA will kick off a new state-wide initiative called "Restoring New York's Woodlands" (RNYW). Between May 11-19, 2013, forest owners and kindred organizations are invited to host woodswalks with the express purpose of bringing the issue of forest health, specifically forest regeneration of NY's woodlands, to the public's awareness.

Background

The topic of forest regeneration in NYS was featured in this and the previous issue of the *Forest Owner*. Specifically, Jerry Michael's articles have highlighted some of the issues surrounding this topic and provide a balanced overview of: the scope and significance of regeneration challenges in NYS; and of practical solutions to address the problem(s) associated with regeneration. Those articles have been the result of careful research and analysis and provide the foundation for the Restoring New York's Woodlands Initiative. I encourage you to review the previous issue, in preparation for this and for future issues.

How can you help?

If you are a seasoned woodswalk host/hostess you may want to host a woodswalk on your property. If you want to support this initiative, yet you don't feel comfortable hosting a woodswalk, then consider reaching out to NYFOA's partners, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Master Forest Owner volunteer(s), in your "neighborhood". Actually, there are many kindred organizations that may be willing to organize a woodswalk on your property and/or help you organize a woodswalk on a mutually agreed upon location, other than your property. In any case the "RNYW" committee is happy to help you make connections with other organizations that can help you. You may contact the "RNYWs"



committee at restoringnewyorkswoodlands@gmail.com or call Kelly at (607) 589-7530.

Ready to make a commitment?

If you are ready to make a commitment, then let us know the date(s), time(s), name of host(s) and who may be contacted for more information. The "RNYW" committee will add your information to the website and will post your woodswalk on the dedicated FB page. Send a note to restoringnewyorkswoodlands@gmail.com or call Kelly at (607) 589-7530.

If not this year...

Try to attend a woodswalk next spring and consider taking an active role next year.

Spread the word about "Restoring New York's Woodlands" ("RNYW")

Meanwhile, encourage your friends, family, neighbors, elected officials, and NYFOA's kindred organizations to host, help organize, or attend a woodswalk in your area in May 2013.

Adirondack (only) Stumpage Price Report

Summer 2012/#81

The Stumpage Price Report is published semi-annually (January/July) by:
New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Division of Lands and Forests
Forest Utilization Program
 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233
www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4963.html
 (518) 402-9425



International 1/4" Rule

Species	Low Price Range (Median)	Average Price Range (Median)	High Price Range (Median)	<p>Sawtimber Price (including Veneer & Poles) Dollars per thousand board feet</p> <hr/> <p>Cordwood Price Dollars per standard cord</p>
Most Common Species				
Ash, White	20-170* (100)	75-300* (180)	100-1500* (400)	
Cherry, Black	50-300* (170)	200-590* (395)	500-6000* (1100)	
Maple, Red (Soft)	30-175* (65)	70-650* (150)	100-1500* (350)	
Maple, Sugar (Hard)	50-300* (125)	95-575* (325)	250-5000* (625)	
Oak, Red	40-170* (80)	125-360* (255)	200-1200* (525)	
Pine, White	40-180* (75)	20-200 (110)	100-300* (150)	
Less Common Species				
Aspen	NR	35-115* (75)	90-100** (100)	
Basswood	20-100** (50)	35-200* (90)	65-350** (185)	
Beech	430-170** (100)	50-150** (70)	100-200** (175)	
Birch, Yellow	90-275* (125)	100-400* (250)	225-3000* (450)	
Birch, White	NR	70-120* (90)	NR	
Butternut	NR	NR	NR	
Elm, American	NR	NR	NR	
Hemlock	40-125** (65)	25-200* (80)	90-250** (105)	
Hickory (spp.)	40-275** (125)	90-275** (100)	100-1000** (360)	
Oak, Chestnut	40-170** (105)	NR	1110-170** (140)	
Oak, White	30-170** (100)	45-150** (100)	95-250** (175)	
Pine, Red	40-50** (45)	20-110* (80)	95-100** (100)	
Spruce (spp.)	50-50** (50)	50-130* (95)	70-95** (85)	
Tulip Poplar	50-100** (75)	75-225** (100)	95-350** (225)	
Walnut, Black	NR	NR	NR	
Cordwood Price				
Aspen	8-10** (9)	8-12* (10)	8-12** (10)	
Birch, White	NR	10-12** (10)	NR	
Hemlock	5-10** (8)	4-15* (10)	8-15** (12)	
Mixed N. Hardwoods	8-14** (10)	4-19* (10)	13-18** (14)	
Pine	5-14** (10)	2-14* (7)	10-14** (12)	
Spruce/Fir	12-14** (13)	4-15* (12)	12-14** (13)	
Firewood	8-10** (10)	5-16* (11)	10-20** (11)	

This chart contains a portion of the most recent stumpage price report as compiled by NYS DEC. The report is printed twice per year and the full report is available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/> or at your local DEC office.

SAC Woodswalks, 2012

By Barbara Hennig 🌿 Photos by Bob Manning and Kristie Edwards

The Fall Woodswalk and Annual Picnic was held on September 22 at the home and surrounding forested property of our Chapter Chair Kurt Edwards and his wife Kristie, in Mayfield. Mayfield is in Fulton County, and is likely the first time we've had a woodswalk there. At least in many a year.

Some 40 people attended, including DEC and CCE representatives. DEC Forester Marcus Riehl spoke first and fully explained the state's 480a Tax Program. This is a method for reducing one's real estate taxes, but appropriate in limited situations, mainly for long-term land owners who continue to have periodic harvests done on their property and who own at least 50 acres of forestland. Marcus emphasized the penalties if one chooses to withdraw from the program. Both Kurt, and John Sullivan (former Chapter Chair), had said that 480a worked well for them.

We then entered the woods, first to a 4-acre white pine section, which is scheduled to be clear cut for biomass use. Kurt and Kristie's forester, Mike Federice, CCF, of Finch Forest Management explained how the job was to be done. Kurt's goal is to regenerate hardwood forest and enhance wildlife habitat.

We continued on to several areas where beech had largely taken over (because of repeated high-grading in the past). Much of the small and larger beech had recently been cut. Peter Smallidge, State Extension Forester, CCE at Cornell, spoke of three ways to eliminate beech, demonstrating two of them. Roundup (glyphosate), for example, can be applied to the cut surface of a beech stump, immediately after the tree has been cut. This soon enters the root system, and also affects nearby beech trees. We saw a prime example of this technique that had been done earlier.

Upon a request by Laurel Gailor, CCE Natural Resources Educator out of Warrensburg, Peter spoke movingly about the Game of Logging. This is a national timber harvesting training program, giving hands-on-training in a friendly competitive environment (you lose more points by safety errors than you gain in doing something right). NYFOA chapters can schedule this



ABOVE: Peter Smallidge discusses methods to control and manage American Beech. BOTTOM, RIGHT: Mike Federice, of Finch Forest Management, describes the upcoming bio mass project



program on available woods, generally giving only the first two levels in chain saw use in one's own woodlot, applicable to our members. Ed Welch volunteered his tree farm as a site for a Game of Logging training this coming spring.

After further touring of the woods, we gathered for the potluck picnic/chicken barbeque, always a great treat. A fun raffle of donated goods showed that we have one very lucky member. Nearly every ticket she purchased was drawn for a prize. Since she declined to choose an item each time, other members did get a chance.

Earlier, on June 9, 2012, an unusual two-location woodswalk was held in the Saratoga County Town of Providence, followed in the afternoon in the Schenectady County Town of Glenville

(West Glenville).

The morning program was at the Hennig Preserve (owned by Saratoga P.L.A.N., a local land trust), consisting of 600 acres of very old woods. The Preserve is open to the public. No harvesting had been done since the 1950's, and then only in limited areas. A recent (2002) easement on the property is set up to continue with the philosophy of no cutting.

Some 14 SAC members and guests toured the property, and the range of skills and knowledge was apparent, given this unusual place for a woodswalk. Prior to heading out on the trails, Donna Welch presented Bob Manning with his 2011 Service Award for numerous offices he has held in the past, and continuing as Chapter treasurer, and communicator.

In the afternoon, 9 of the morning participants went to Walt and Jean Hayes's property in West Glenville. This 15-acre wooded property had undergone three major windstorms in the previous 10 months. First, Hurricane Irene, followed a week later by a tornado resulting from Hurricane Lee (both in 2011), then a major wind and rain storm less than two weeks prior to their hosting the woodswalk. They successfully soldiered on, allowing this demonstration of mother nature's wrath. Clearing of this massive damage slowly continues, in part with professional help.

**NEEDED:
Woodswalk Hosts**

SAC members willing to host
a woodswalk in 2013,
please contact
Donna Welch
at (518) 861-6038 or
trautwei@nycap.rr.com



Woodswalk at the Inzinna's in Thurman, NY

By Lou Inzinna 🌿 Photo by Larry Burks

The plan for this installment of the NYFOA SAC Woodswalk was to be a Snowshoe Trek around the Inzinna's property in Thurman. This winter season did not cooperate fully with the plan and sufficient snow was not available for snowshoes. However a light snow cover and temperatures in the low 30's made a nice background for a great 2 hour winter's day hike. About 16 people ventured out through the Inzinna's trails enjoying the sights and sounds of the southern Adirondacks. Many stories were discussed about wildlife, personal experiences in the woods, trail maintenance, favorite places along the trail and "names" of trees.

The group shared their ideas of how they use their property. A discussion of accurate property lines and good neighbors brought out many different ideas on how to maintain the boundaries. Different signs of the history of the property were discussed. This included possible sheep farming and evidence of an old maple sugarbush. We discussed logging that was performed about 15 years ago and how quickly forest regeneration has occurred. We saw a few examples of how blow downs can occur after logging operations. Many exposed tall trees with



shallow root systems were uprooted and some snapped off. There was a good discussion on how to treat tree snags and "widow makers." Even experienced woodsmen have different opinions of how to tackle these potential killers. Are they worth the danger of removing them for a few days of firewood? Also when is a good time to consider a new logging operation? Is the return worth the disturbance in the woods? As Steve Warne said "many times the answer is Do Nothing!"

Recreation and family enjoyment was a key theme in many of the discussions. "A good day in the woods is better than any cruise in the Mediterranean." At least that is what the host believes.

We enjoyed having the group share our trails, experiences, stories and a wonderful day in the woods. Many thanks to everyone that organized and participated in this event.

MEMBER'S CORNER

SAC: A Warm & Welcoming Group

By Kristie Edwards

When my husband first informed me that he wanted to join NYFOA I had no idea what it was or why he wanted to do it. We sent in our membership form and shortly afterwards we started receiving a magazine and newsletter. He loves to read, hunt, cut firewood and spend all his free time outdoors. Before long he announced he had registered us to go on a woodswalk. I remember just shaking my head and thinking he lost his mind (again.) Mind you, this woodswalk was in January. I am not a winter person although I enjoy communing with nature in "good" weather. To top it all off, since it was January, we were going on snowshoes. I had never been on snowshoes in my life and preferred the warmth of my cozy wood fire at home. I had to borrow snowshoes from a friend and hope not to make a fool of myself at this winter woodswalk.

After scrounging around for some warm winter clothing I readied myself for this day of trying to stay upright, so not to embarrass myself in front of strangers. As I have matured (better than saying aged) I am more apprehensive when meeting new people. I am not the outgoing young lady I once was, so I stayed in his shadow letting him blaze the way, introducing us to this new group. Everyone was so welcoming, striking up conversations with us trying to get to know the "new members", they made us feel so comfortable among them. The day went smoothly, the sun was shining to help with the chill. I did end up on the ground as I had feared. Our first experience with a woodswalk was wonderful, we really enjoyed ourselves. On the way home I thanked my husband for such a great day.

Since that day we have become more involved and have attended a number of woodswalks and events with our chapter. We have made many new friends with the same interests as us. We all think differently and have different goals for our forest land and varied knowledge of the subject. As a group you learn from each other and take home new insights each and every time. I wanted to share with you my personal experiences as a relatively new member of this group to urge more of our members to become active members. I truly believe you would enjoy the people within the SAC chapter. There are the veterans who have been members for many years who try to make every event. There are those, like us, who wish to be there for every woodswalk, but can't always attend. And there are the members who enjoy getting out occasionally. All are welcome and wanted so consider coming to our next event and judge for yourself. We would love to meet you!

Growth of a Tree

Each spring and summer a tree adds new layers of wood to its trunk.



The wood formed in the spring grows fast, and is lighter because it consists of large cells.

In the summer, the growth is slower, the wood has smaller cells and is darker.

So when the tree is cut, the layers appear as alternating rings of light and dark wood.

New York Logger Training Trained Logger Certification Program

By Laurel Gailor



What is Trained Logger Certification (TLC)? We have spoken about it at the various woodswalks; it has been mentioned when talking about chain saw safety; and often a logger may mention that they have their TLC certification.

In many other states, this type of program is regulated by the state, and is mandated for every timber harvester within that state. In New York State, the logger training effort began in the late 1980's and was voluntarily developed by a group of loggers under New York Logger Training, Inc. These individuals recognized the importance to develop a program that would increase their technical skills, increase productivity, support the use of best management practices (BMP's), and to provide for a safer work environment.

The TLC program includes three core components for initial certification: First Aid and CPR; Chainsaw Safety and Productivity (Game of Logging Level I); and Environmental Concerns (Forest Ecology and Silviculture). The initial certification is good for only three years, and once certified, individuals seek out continuing education courses to maintain their Trained Logger Certification. Of the core component courses, the environmental concerns course in the initial certification probably has the greatest direct impact



A group of loggers during a forest ecology & silviculture class at Pack Forest.

on forest owners and the forest resources. This day-long course addresses the basics of the forest ecosystem and the interactions within this system. The second part of the program focuses on the various management practices that a forester may implement in order to ensure continued productivity and vigor of that forest stand for the long-term. The afternoon part of this workshop is in the field, generally at a managed forest stand that can show and discuss the principles covered during the morning presentation.

A current first aid and CPR card is not only required for the loggers through the TLC program, but also meets the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirement for them as well. Additionally, over the three year period, loggers need three continuing education credits in a range of approved courses in areas such as small business management, forest pests including invasive species,



A skidder bridge construction workshop for loggers.

advanced chain saw safety and productivity courses, stream and wetland BMP's, skidder bridge construction, and introduction to GPS to name a few. A course lasting for five or more hours is considered a full credit; anything under five hours is only a half credit.

The Trained Logger Certification program is valuable in several different facets. It provides benefits to the logger, forest owners, and the rural communities that include New York's woodlands. The true strength of the program is the cooperative effort on the part of timber harvesters, forest industry, state government, and the various universities throughout New York State. Currently, the program has over 650 trained certified loggers, and over 230 in the Eastern Adirondack region alone.

For more information regarding the program visit: <http://www.newyorkloggertraining.org/>

NYFOA Service Award Recieved

Robert Manning was awarded the 2011 Chapter Service Award for the Southeastern Adirondack Chapter. Bob, a long time NYFOA member, has held numerous positions within SAC including vice-chair, chair, and is our current treasurer and communications director. He typically volunteers for work on woodswalks, county fairs (he was coordinator for two years for the Satatoga County Fair) and other chapter activities. He is a quiet support person we can count on for almost every chapter need.



Robert Manning (left) and Kurt Edwards, Chairman (right)

Are you receiving our emails?



Many emails on our member distribution list are coming back undelivered.

If you are not receiving our SAC Chapter emails please update your email address. Just send an email including your name and email address to:

bobmanning@frontiernet.net

New York Forest Owners Association



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Message from the Chair

I lot has happened since I became the chairman in January. It has been quite some time since our last newsletter you will find information and stories dating back to our annual meeting and winter woodswalk. I need to start by thanking our woods walk hosts. In February after our annual meeting Lou and Jean Inzinna welcomed us to their camp property, in June we had a dual woodswalk hosted first at the Hennig Preserve and then moving on to Walt Hayes' property. Just last month we were first time hosts for our fall woodswalk and annual picnic. You will find a full report and photos throughout this issue.

The county fairs were a success again this year we had a number of repeat workers to staff our booths at the Saratoga and Washington County Fairs. We owe a huge thanks to our fair organizers; they spend a number of hours on the phone contacting members to staff the booths. Thank you so much Bill Burke, for all your hard work on the Saratoga County Fair. Thank you also Jane Jenks and Melinda Durrler for your organization of the Washington County Fair. Last, but not least, the booth needed to be set up and taken down and for that we need to thank Ed and Donna Welch and Laurel Gailor. Without all of your hard work our presence at the fairs would not be possible. Being visible to the public is very important for our organization and the private forest owner. Our booth at the fair can be a valuable resource, a place where one can get information on issues or questions they have about their forest land, or at least be directed in the right direction.

Declining membership is a big concern at state level right now; I am on a membership committee. Our committee is working on ways to increase membership. One way is to raise awareness of NYFOA and sustainable forestry for the family forest owner. I have some articles that can be printed in local newspapers that would help raise that awareness, so if you have contacts with your local newspapers and can help me get some print space please let me know. A simple idea to raise membership is for every member we have to entice one other new member, our membership would double. Think about it, you must know someone who could benefit from what NYFOA has to offer.

We just started a pine thinning /chipping project our property, it began October 15th. It should take less than two weeks to complete. We previewed and discussed the project during our September woods walk. Members that were there got to see the "before" view. If any of you are in the Mayfield area and would like to see the completed or "after" effects of the cutting stop by to check it out.

One last thought. While we were visiting our son in Washington DC earlier this year we wanted to tour the Federal Bureau of Printing and Engraving. It is by the US Holocaust Museum. We came across the US Forestry Service, it is part of the Department of Agriculture. It's a small exhibit and doesn't take long to view, it's worth a stop if you are ever in the area.

Kurt Edwards