

The Overstory

Volume 27

Issue 2

Summer 2016

New York Forest Owners Association Southeastern Adirondack Chapter



HIGHLIGHTS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

John Farrar
Warrensburg, NY

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- Upcoming Events
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ADIRONDACK STUMPAGE PRICE REPORT

New York State Dept.
of Environmental
Conservation

www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5259.html

NYFOA Rewards its Members—With Cash!

by Dean Faklis

Thanks to an idea advanced by NYFOA's Charlie and Sarah Stackhouse, NYFOA now has a special program called NYFOA Rewards. The benefit program is designed to offer substantial discounts to members when they make purchases at participating organizations. It was launched in March 2016, and while it's still in its infancy, it's growing nicely.

There are now eight firms partnering with us and in the first three months of operations, NYFOA members have saved somewhere in the neighborhood of \$1,000. Not bad for just getting started! One of our partners, David Williams, is also on the NYFOA Board of Directors and has already provided cumulative member discounts approaching \$500. The members that have done business with Dave are earning discounts well in excess of NYFOA's annual dues payment....they are getting paid to be members.

It's easy for our members to participate in NYFOA Rewards. The details of the discounts are

located on the NYFOA webpage at:

www.nyfoa.org/docs/about_nyfoa_docs/Business_Offering_Big_Discounts.pdf

That's a long link, and rather type it in, you can access it from NYFOA's Home Page at www.nyfoa.org.

NYFOA Rewards is small and we want it to grow. We're working to add more and more participating vendors. The NYFOA Membership Committee has set a goal so that our members can have access to discounts, which are more than sufficient to pay NYFOA's annual dues. Kind of a free lunch!

If you know of a business or organization that would be a good fit for our members, please send me a detailed note (dfaklis@frontiernet.net) and I will reach out to them.

Please be sure to check the NYFOA Rewards webpage at least monthly for updates. And, to help us improve the program, tell us about your experiences, including how much you saved!

NYFOA Rewards Vendors

FORESTRY SUPPLIERS

Jackson, MS;

<https://www.forestry-suppliers.com/>

NYFOA members receive their best price. Online or phone ordering or use these exclusive NYFOA code letters at checkout: FNY for an automatic 10% discount.

VOSS SIGNS

<http://www.vosssigns.com/products/>

NYFOA posted signs (aluminum and polymer) are available at a big discount.

DAVID ABEEL

Traverse City, MI;

abeeldavid@hotmail.com

10% discount on Windsor chair workshops.

FINGER LAKES BOATING MUSEUM

607-569-2222, <http://www.flbm.org/>

Save nearly 30% on admission to this great museum in Hammondsport, NY. Bring your current copy of NYFOA's Forest Owner magazine to be eligible for \$5 admission, limit 2. Youth admission is free.

ARBORCHEM

Mechanicsburg, PA;

<http://www.arborchem.com/>

NYFOA members receive contractor pricing on select products. Contact: Todd Hagenbuch, thagenbuch@arborchem.com; 570-401-7098.

FTD FLORIST

<https://www.ftd.com/58251/>

Enjoy 20% discount on all flowers, plants and gifts!

SPRINGWATER FOREST PRODUCTS

Springwater, Livingston County, NY;

dciperluma.com

\$500 discount on timber frame kits (cabins, sheds, studios, sugarhouses, tiny houses)
10% discount on green firewood, custom lengths available, pick up only.
20% discount wood shipping/storage crates (fine art, furniture, valuables, heavy items)

DAVE WILLIAMS, SAWYER

Bainbridge, Chenango County, NY;

kdwillmill@gmail.com

10% discount on portable bandsaw milling. Discount does not apply to damaged blade fee or mileage charge for travel beyond 15 miles, one way.

Mapleland Farms/Beane Hill Farms Spring Event

By John Hastings 🍁 Photos by Bob Manning and John Hastings

From 5,400 gallons to 12; that's the range of production we saw from Mapleland Farms, a major New York maple syrup producer, to Beane Hill Farm, a hobby class producer. But most maple producers start small and continue to enlarge over the years. Dave Campbell, owner of Mapleland Farms, was making syrup by the age of 12 and has continued to expand the business for most of the last 40 plus

years. Along with his brother Terry, they now make many specialty products such as maple coated peanuts, BBQ sauce, mustard, pancake mix, as well as the traditional maple syrup, cream, fudge and candy.

The tour started at the Mapleland Farms sugar house where we got some information on the current sugar bush of nearly 13,000 taps and all the work that goes into tapping, collecting, boiling and

finishing. Our first stop was to one of the main collection areas west, and down slope from the sugar house. Two, one thousand gallon tanks collect the sap from the three thousand taps flowing downhill, and aided by a commercial pumping system that can produce vacuum of up to 20-25 inches of mercury.

From here we traveled to nearby Hebron where Mapleland Farms has

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Top: Sap Collection Area at Mapleland Farms. Middle: SAC members at Beane Hill Farms. Right: Mapleland Farms Sugar House.



Spring Event, continued from page 2

recently purchased approximately 300 acres to expand their operation. Previously part of this area was leased, but as a result of the recent purchase, Dave hopes to expand the operation by another 3 to 4 thousand taps. Current logging by Steve Newton is thinning the woodlot to promote the maple crop trees, with forestry advice and marking provided by forester Gary Hill.

After our short walk in Hebron, we returned to the Mapleland Farm sugar house for a little warmth and for our noon lunch break. At this point, Lou Inzinna presented Steve Warne, retired DEC forester, with SAC's Outstanding Service Award. This is an award well deserved for all of Steve's contributions and support for so many of SAC's woodwalks and other activities. He was there for our first woodwalk in Pack Forest in 1991, and his service has continued for most of the last 25 years.

In the afternoon we traveled down the road about a mile and onto Joe Beane Road where the Beane Hill Farm is located. Owners, Brittany Hastings and Eric Jenks, purchased the 13 acre property in December of 2014, which includes a small sugar house, a barn and a 1760 brick colonial home. Part of the 13 acres include two acres of Allegheny hardwoods (maple, ash and black cherry) which has an approximately 30% west facing slope. The woodlot will provide future firewood and maple syrup. Recent research in maple tubing have found that using small



Above: The landing with Newton Forestry logging equipment. Below: Panoramic view of Southern Washington County.

diameter (3/16 inch) tubing where you can get a drop in slope of 20 to 40 feet, from the last tap to the mainline, will provide significant natural vacuum. These lines were thus installed in the summer of 2015. Although 2016 production was 12 gallons, future production could be in the 20-30 gallon range for this 80 tap sugar bush.

The woodwalk was finished with a short hike up the hill through the Hastings/

Jenks woodlot to the open field above. This provided some excellent views of lower Washington County.

For more information go to;

- www.uvm.edu/~pmrc/3-16%20Tubing%20-%20Wilnot%20%20Maple%20News%20Dec%202014a.pdf
- www.maplelandfarms.com/shopping/shopdisplaycategories.asp
- <https://beanehillfarm.com/>



NYFOA Chapter Service Award Presented

Steve Warne has been an active participant in the Southeastern Adirondack Chapter for decades. He was a NYS Environmental Conservation Service Forester for 33 years and advised many land owners during that time. Over the years he has been an active member of the community. He was a volunteer advisor, chaperone and instructor with the 4-H Adirondack Guide Program sponsored by the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County. He has also been a volunteer Tree Farm Inspector.

Steve maintains his own forest property utilizing many of the techniques he has shared with forest owners. Since his retirement from DEC, Steve continues to be very active in forestry related projects. Steve advises all forest owners to have our timber property evaluated by experienced professionals before taking action. During our chapter woodswalks and events Steve



Lou Inzinna presenting Steve his service award.

shares his “words of wisdom” with regard to what may be the best options for the landowner based on their long term plans. His knowledge and experience in the woods has been a gift to many of our members

during these woodswalks. A chapter event is not the same if Steve isn’t there to field our barrage of questions. His long term service to our chapter has made this recognition long overdue.



Online Forestry

Protective Measures for Northern Long-eared Bats When Engaging in Forestry Practices:
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/106090.html>

Frost Damage: What's With the Trees?
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/65577.html>

Ticks are among us-check out this updated information:
<http://www.cdc.gov/ticks/>



Third Annual Invasive Species Awareness Week: **July 10-16**

New York State will celebrate its third Invasive Species Awareness Week July 10-16, 2016. This annual outreach campaign is a collaborative effort of the Invasive Species Council agencies, Advisory Committee organizations, and the eight Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management. There will be numerous invasive species-related public events held during Invasive Species Awareness Week (ISAW 2016), including invasive species removal projects, guided hikes and paddling events, presentations by subject matter experts, informational webinars, citizen science trainings, film screenings and more!

For more information on ISAW 2016:
<http://www.nyis.info/blog/>

Invasive Species Information:
www.nyis.info

MEMBER'S CORNER

Why should anyone join the New York Forest Owner's Association—NYFOA?

By Ed Welch

When my wife and I purchased a parcel of land in the Adirondack Mountains we knew nothing about what to do with this vacant woodlot. It was just trees, most of which we could not identify. We knew about pine trees, could identify a maple tree, an oak tree (by their leaves) and white birch trees. All others were just a guess. It had recently been logged which lowered its market value and made it more financially feasible for us.

The property had no buildings or visible structures that would indicate it was ever occupied by anyone other than animals. We saw some scat but had no idea what animal it came from. My very first thought was that the land was never occupied. In short we were as naive and uninformed as anyone could be.

But we loved the "out of doors" including camping, hiking, canoeing, etc. When we applied for a mortgage from a local bank the bank manager asked us what we planned to do with the property. Did we want it for our retirement plans, lumber production, wood pulp, recreation, private camping, serenity, our children's future, etc.? We answered YES!

All we knew was that we loved the woods and wanted to live in this wonderful environment. So where do we start? Fortunately, a friend suggested that we join this organization of forest owners called the New York Forest Owners Association – NYFOA.

NYFOA is an association of like-minded people who either own a woodlot, or simply appreciate the woods and the contributions forests and forest products make to the quality of our lives. Forests provide us with clean air, clean water, massive amounts of building products, and an abundance of wildlife as well as a place to get away and enjoy the serenity of life.

We had a lot to learn.

And learning, as we soon discovered, is the essence of our NYFOA experience. The educational experiences came to us through both formal and informal sources. Key faculty members from Cornell University College of Forestry and Cooperative Extension provide us with classroom instruction and "hands on" training in the woods. In addition we learned from each other through informal interactions with our friends in NYFOA. We learned about ways to save money through existing State Law, how to identify invasive tree species on our land, the value and education through interactions with skilled foresters, how to plan for our transfer of our woods to our children, selecting loggers for tree harvesting and a variety of other pertinent materials through ongoing seminars from Cornell.

One of our favorite learning activities is periodic "woods walks" wherein we as a chapter (or chapters) implement a group walk on a member's property. This is a chance to have an "in-the-woods" cross discussion on the history of the property, the owner's personal goals, and the unique characteristics of the land and implementation strategies. This is often a time for input from professional foresters, other land owners, loggers, wildlife personnel and users of our wood products. It is also a wonderful social experience where many friends are made.

The State organization is comprised of ten chapters that offer a complete localized representation for everyone in the state. These

chapters are connected to a centralized office that provides a State voice for NYFOA members about forest issues in general throughout the state. It is this organizational component that ensures that our legislators are aware of the needs of our members and the woods they are responsible for.

With the exception of a few State level administrative assistants, NYFOA is essentially a volunteer not for profit agency. As such we need each other to provide support for the individual chapters and support for each other. We hope that you can become a member and, if you can, become an active volunteer.

Membership dues are a very reasonable \$45.00 yearly. The benefits to you, your children, and your grandchildren and the woods we love are enormous.

Join us. We guarantee you will learn, meet new friends, develop a greater appreciation of our forests in New York – and have fun doing it.

This member's corner is open to anyone willing to share something with the other members. Submissions can be mailed or emailed to Kristie Edwards at edwardsk922@gmail.com or 411 Beech Street, Mayfield, NY 12117.

Coming Events...

August 22 – 28

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR

*If you would like to volunteer to work this event call
Jane Jenks at (518) 532-1825*

September 24th

ANNUAL PICNIC/WOODSWALK

**Hosted by Joe & Cathy Tennyson
59 Art Tennyson Road, Chestertown, NY 12817**

*Morning refreshments on arrival 9:30 am
Saw Mill demonstration/woodswalk 10 am
Picnic approx 12-12:30 - Meat and beverages provided,
bring a dish to share. Bring lawn chairs.*

*If you would like to donate an item
for our auction please bring one along.
Proceeds to benefit our chapter event mailings.*

July 19 – 24

SARATOGA COUNTY FAIR

*If you would like to volunteer to work the NYFOA SAC booth
please email Bill Burke at liamsb46@gmail.com*

Ask a Forester: The Black Locust

By Michael R. Bridgen  Reprinted from the *NYFOA Forest Owner* November/December 1992



Black locust has a “French Connection”.

Henry of Navarre, son of Anthony of Bourbon, the duke of Verdome, and Jeane d’Albret, Queen of Navarre, was formally crowned King Henry IV of France in 1594.

While struggling with the growing demands of religious tolerance at home, Henry encouraged exploration in the new world, such as those of Samuel de Champlain.

Henry IV was also interested in agriculture. Two of his herbalists, a father and son team, Jean and Vespasien Robin, introduced into France plant specimens they had collected in North America. One of the new species was black locust. *Robinia pseudoacacia* L.

France began importing seedlings soon after the Robin’s findings. Plantings were established across Europe. Large quantities of seed were imported into England during the early 1800’s. Seedlings were established on the Great Hungarian Plain for soil stabilization at the beginning of the 19th century. Other countries currently cultivating the species include the Republic of Korea, Hungary, the former Soviet Union, Romaina, France, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and China. Next to *Eucalyptus*, locust is probably the most widely planted broadleaf tree species in the world today.

Locust also has a “New York” connection. It has been planted throughout the state, even in the most northern counties. It does very well on Long Island and in the Hudson River Valley. A variety, Shipmast locust, was first introduced into New York around 1686. (This variety probably originated in Randolph County, West Virginia.) Farmers used it for fence posts, lumber, and shipmasts. Stands of trees would be established at the birth of a child to provide a daughter’s dowry or a son’s initial lumber supply. Locust tree nails used in the American fleet’s ships were instrumental in bringing about the British defeat on Lake Champlain during the war of 1812.

Also called yellow, white, red, green, post, or honey locust, or false acacia, it is a medium size tree. Although individual trees have been recorded over 100 feet tall, 40 to 60 feet is an average height. Black locust can be easily recognized by its leaves and thorns, or spines, on the branches. The leaves are about ten inches long. They are compound, made up of 7 to 19 oval or elliptical leaflets, each about one to two inches long. Pairs of thorns develop at the leaf base. The thorns may remain on the stem for several years, and falling into a locust thicket can be a painful experience!

Locust flowers develop after the leaves. They form clusters of white, fragrant, perfect flowers. Honey produced from them does not crystalize.

A member of the Bean Family, locust produces seed pods. Each pod is four to eight inches long and contains four to eight seeds. Like other legumes, its roots maintain a symbiotic association with *Rhizobium* bacteria, which convert atmospheric nitrogen into an organic form available to plants. Locust trees usually “fix” more nitrogen than they use. The annual shedding of leaves, twigs, and fine roots increase soil fertility wherever they are grown.



Jan Samanek/Phytosanitary Administration/Bugwood.org

Black Locust flowers (*Robinia pseudoacacia*.)

Black locust produces a heavy, or high-density wood fiber. Chemical extractives in the wood give it both a yellow-brown appearance and resistance to insects and fungal decay. The wood is frequently used for fence posts, mine timbers, railroad ties, and stakes. In Europe, locust is cut into lumber for building construction. It burns well and is highly desired for firewood. There is growing interest to use locust in fuelwood or biomass plantations.

Although it grows best on a low acid, or near-neutral soil, locust can survive on very acid soils. Sites which are too exposed or which have soils too compacted for other species may successfully be planted to locust. Surface mine lands in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Kentucky are frequently planted with locust seedlings. Not only does it survive the harsh sites, it improves soil quality, allowing natural succession of other forest trees.

Ecological value, fast growth rate, and useful wood products make black locust a desirable tree. So why isn’t it used more extensively in the United States? Most people who know locust often consider it ugly, deformed, maybe even grotesque. This appearance is caused by insect damage. Here in its native country, locust is attacked by several insect pests. Locust borers are the most damaging ones. Borer larvae drill into the sapwood and heart wood, leaving openings for heart rot fungi. Trees affected by these borers will often have large, decaying openings on the main stem where it will often break. Two other damaging insect pests are the locust leaf miner and the locust twig borer. Although less destructive than the locust borer, they can cause deformity, loss of aesthetic value and growth loss. Fortunately, these pests have not been introduced to Europe or Asia.

Proper silviculture practices can help insure good growth in a locust stand. A planting site should have a good supply of moisture, but be well-drained. Weeds and other competition must be eliminated or controlled. Phosphorus fertilization usually gives a positive response, as it does to all leguminous species. When these conditions are met, black locust may out-grow insect damage and develop into useful and physically attractive trees.

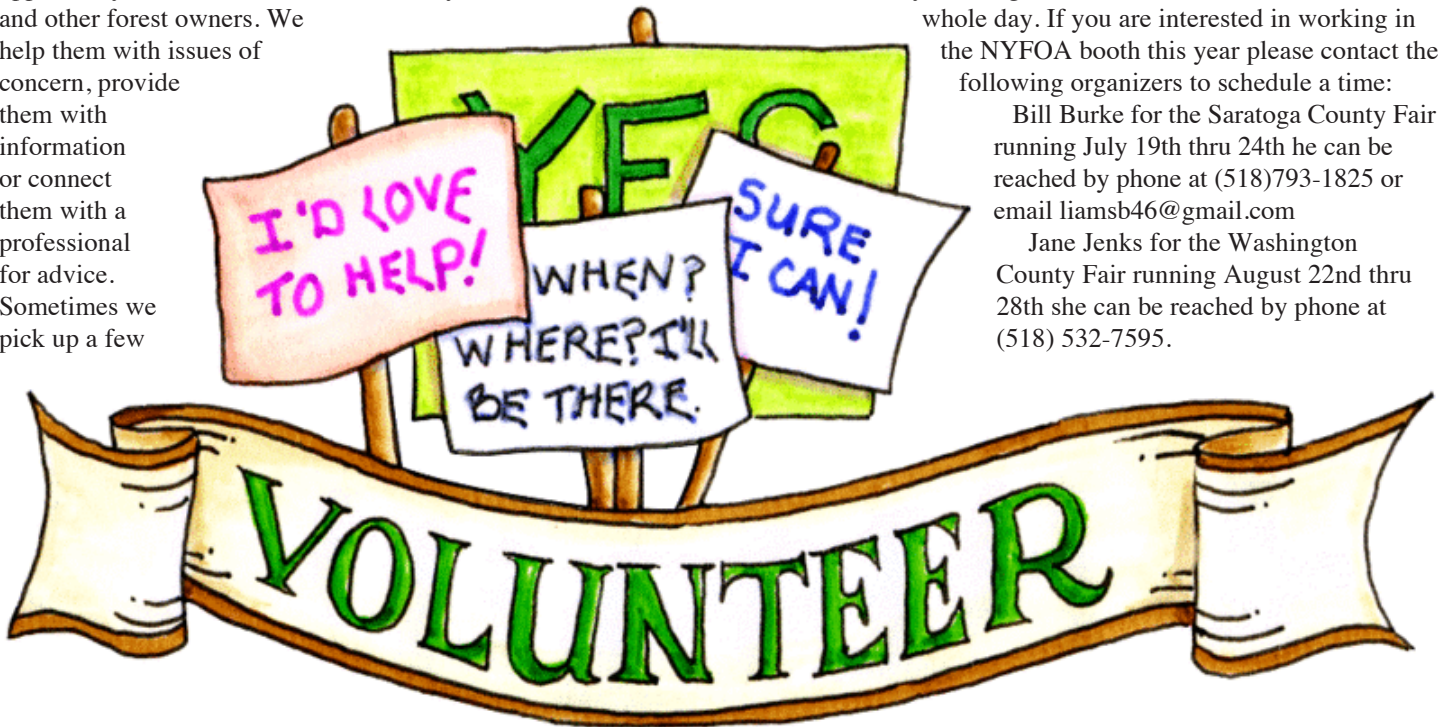
Let's go to the Fair!

It's that time of year again, the sun is hot, the water is calling our names and every county is planning for their summer fair. People come from all over to enjoy what a county fair has to offer. There is fun for the kids, shows and attractions, competitions, a variety of foods and vendors advertising their products and businesses. Our NYFOA booth provides us the opportunity to reach out to our community and other forest owners. We help them with issues of concern, provide them with information or connect them with a professional for advice. Sometimes we pick up a few

new members and we hand out over 100 free tree seedlings provided by the NYS DEC Tree Nursery in Saratoga Springs. This year we will have a new display, today's technology, a flat screen TV monitor streaming forestry related videos and informative excerpts. Please help your chapter organizers and volunteer to staff the booth this year. Keep in mind if you work the booth you will get FREE admission to the fair for the whole day. If you are interested in working in the NYFOA booth this year please contact the following organizers to schedule a time:

Bill Burke for the Saratoga County Fair running July 19th thru 24th he can be reached by phone at (518)793-1825 or email liamsb46@gmail.com

Jane Jenks for the Washington County Fair running August 22nd thru 28th she can be reached by phone at (518) 532-7595.



Are you interested in hosting a woodswalk?
Do you have an suggestion for a chapter event?

If so please contact Kurt Edwards at
(518) 661-5685, or at edwardsk922@gmail.com.

**New York Forest
Owners Association**



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Vice Chair: Vacant

Secretary: Bill Burke

Treasurer: Bob Manning

**NYFOA/Southeastern
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