



Southern Finger Lakes Chapter Forest Owners Assoc. Newsletter

January 2012

Chairman's Message

As this year's chair for the Southern Finger Lakes Chapter, I have the honor of introducing this newsletter. The Chapter will offer you timely information, resources for you and your forest, and finally references for deeper interest in "using" your forest resources. The Steering Committee is happy to restart this newsletter, so that you and your forest are benefited.

We often introduce the topic of forest care by introducing ourselves, as a way of showing the variety of trails of life that lead us to our woods. I retired from a Navy research lab in underwater acoustics, an engineer who developed research projects for our Fleet. We retired to my wife's 100 acre farm in the Finger Lakes, which just happened to have 45 acres of woods, returning from fields. Fascinating topic, this forestry, which I had never really known about. After MFO/V training and numerous excellent seminars, I now realize how little I know about forestry. It is now a quest.

So the newsletter has a good purpose...offering ideas, fascinating woods walks, workshops like the one in February in Spencer, the latest topics of research and forestry economics, and the opportunity to join with diverse people who share their interest in their "woods."

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FOURTH ANNUAL PETER LEVATICH WOODLAND MEMORIAL SEMINAR

Sponsored by

New York Forest Owners Association
Southern Finger Lakes Chapter

Saturday, February 11, 2012 9:00 – 12:00 pm
Spencer-VanEtten High School
16 Dartts Rd., Spencer, NY

Making Our Forests More Resilient to Environmental Change

- 9:00 – 9:15 **Welcome by Robert Barton**
Chair of SFLC Steering Committee
- 9:15 – 9:45 **Feral Hogs by Dr. Paul Curtis**
What does this mean for our woodlots?
- 9:45 – 10:45 **Impacts of Marcellus Shale development
on Pennsylvania's forest land by
Dr. Robert Hansen (PSU Extension)**
- 10:45 – 11:00 Break
- 11:00 – 11:45 **Climate Change and How it Effects Our
Forests by David Wolfe**

President's Message continued

Topics in the future will likely include: invasives, forest opportunities, climate effects, silvopasturing, succession planning for your forest, and the challenges to the future of forests in the state, to name a few.

The Steering Committee has a number of connections to affinity groups, such as NYSDEC, Cooperative Extension, etc, who can be useful resources as well. Your thoughts are always appreciated, so feel free to contact us (and join the committee if you can!). NYFOA is here for you.

Robert Barton - Chair

New York Forest Owners Association SFLC Steering Committee

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GAME OF LOGGING

This training presents the Game of Logging program, re-designed for private forest owners, firewood cutters, and homeowners wishing to gain a more thorough knowledge and practical, hands-on experience with safety and productivity. No experience is required for Level I

participants. Participants learn increasingly advanced techniques during Level I, II, and III for directional felling, safety, and saw and chain maintenance. Each level builds on skills from previous training

levels, so advanced levels require participation in earlier levels. Registration includes hands-on training with a Game of Logging Certified Instructor, handouts, light refreshments, and a certificate of completion. Participants personally fell a tree under the guidance of a certified instructor. All sessions start at 7:30 AM and conclude at approximately 4:30 PM, though occasionally longer. Trainings are held regardless of weather so please dress accordingly. The program is offered at Cornell University's [Arnot Forest](#)



Pre-registration required via this [secure site](#).

Level I includes: Using and maintaining safety equipment, safety features of the saw, how to hold and handle a saw safely to reduce fatigue, understanding parts of a tooth for sharpening, understanding the reactive forces of a running chainsaw. We will learn the proper way to do a bore-cut. Participants learn the mechanics and physics of hinge wood, directional felling to a plan, and how to identify the lean in a tree.

Level II includes: Saw maintenance to reduce downtime and improve the performance of your chainsaw, Safe handling of spring poles, felling to a plan with more precision, introduction to limbing, and safe removal of hung trees.

Level III includes: use of the GOL "Pro-sight" tool to calculate tree height, understanding hinge length to control side lean, advanced felling and wedging techniques, limbing techniques for side hill and tension wood, trees will be felled against the natural lean. Some limitations in felling will be identified.

Level I - May 7th (Mon) or May 19th (Sat) 2012

Level II – May 8th (Tues) or May 20th (Sunday) 2012

Level III – June 16th (Sat) 2012

<http://CornellForestConnect.ning.com>

Passionate about Silvopasture

By Troy Bishopp

Watkins Glen, N.Y---

The Northeast Silvopasture Conference, “Bringing the woods into the pasture or bringing the pasture into the woods” is the pastoral brainchild of an idea for adding value to farms and woodlot owners which has been on the minds of the Cornell University Cooperative Extension’s organizing trio of Brett Chedzoy, Jim Oughterski and Nancy Glazier for some time.

Schuyler County’s own grass-farmer/forester and CCE educator, Brett Chedzoy inspired the group to consider, “combining woodland and pasture management together utilizing animals and timber to add value to an existing land base”. This long term agroforestry practice was aptly covered throughout the two day event by a cadre of Silvopasture experts ranging from scientists, researchers, foresters, grazing specialists, economists and farmers.

John Hopkins from Forks Farm in Bloomsburg, PA and Dr. Tatiana Stanton from Cornell’s “Goats in the woods” study showed the group how animals have enhanced their woodlands and scrub pastures using a variety of timed disturbances like rotating pigs and goats with electric fencing through the understory to control invasive plants like multi-flora rose and buckthorn. These controlled eco-brush trimmers open up the canopy for further enhancements like planting different grass and tree species.

In the segment, “A vision to expand Silvopasturing in the Northeast”, New York’s NRCS Grazing Specialist, Dave Roberts and Eastern Region National NRCS Forester, Tom Ward teamed up with Nancy Glazier, Small Farms Educator from the Northwest NY CCE and Cornell’s NYS Extension Forester, Dr. Peter Smallidge to explain the possibilities. They discussed what every grazier needs to know about forestry and what every woodland manager needs to know about grazing in addition to exploring suitable land evaluations and learning about current resources and technical assistance for burgeoning Silvopastoralists. It was reiterated that Silvopasture is not grazing livestock in unmanaged woodlots or pastures.

The large group then traveled to Brett and Maria Jose’ Chedzoy’s Angus Glen Farms, LLC bordering the Watkins Glen State Park to see first-hand, 20 years of Silvopasture on the ground and overhead. Brett brought a wealth of practical knowledge on tree species, placement, thinning strategies using a variety of tools, understanding canopy percentages and integrating cattle and goats into the woodlots or woods into pastures on their 250 acres of owned and leased land. He humorously said it will take decades to fully implement the dynamic “vision”. These grazing entrepreneurs used their locust groves to supply all the fence posts for the farm, have adopted tall and winter grazing strategies throughout the farm and manage timber sales in a holistic approach to long term sustainability.

The conference was made possible by the USDA National Agroforestry Center, Natural Resources Conservation Service, US Forest Service, Penn State University Cooperative Extension, Cornell University Cooperative Extension, Finger Lakes Sustainable Farming Center, The Cornell Small Farms Program, NYS Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative and the Upper Susquehanna Coalition. For more information contact Brett Chedzoy, Schuyler County CCE at (607) 535-7161 or go to www.silvopasture.ning.com

Condensed from an article written by:
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<http://mysare.sare.org/mySARE/ProjectReport.aspx?do=viewProj&pn=ENE10-115>



On-Line Resources and Upcoming Events:

ForestConnect – forestconnect.com

Connecting forest users to the knowledge and resources needed to ensure sustainable production and ecological function on private forestlands.

CornellForestConnect - <http://CornellForestConnect.ning.com/>

A “web summary log” of assorted news stories where questions can be asked about forest related issues. Managed by Dr. Peter Smallidge, Senior Extension Associate at Cornell University.

WORKSHOP -- Ties to the Land: Planning for the Future of Your Family Farm and Woodland.

Saturday, March 10th, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. NY Grange Hall; 100 Grange Place; Cortland. A Succession Planning workshop for keeping family lands *in* the family. *Succession Planning* -- the human side of Estate Planning -- focuses on the key challenges that farmers and woodland owners face, and the communication and legal planning tools needed to maintain family ties to the land. For registration and workshop details, please check <http://SuccessionPlanning.ning.com> , or email/call Maureen Mullen: mlm394@cornell.edu, 607-254-6556.

Come and join our group of New York Forest Owners, a not-for-profit organization which supports sustainable forestry practices and improved stewardship on privately owned woodlands. Regular annual dues are just \$30.00 for an individual or \$35.00 for a family.

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