

# Treelines



Spring, 2016

## Upcoming Events

Details On Page 4 – 5

- Saturday  
April 16 NYFOA Annual Meeting  
SUNY College of ESF,  
Syracuse, NY
  
- Saturday  
April 30 Mushroom Workshop  
Cornell Cooperative Ext.  
Binghamton, NY
  
- Saturday  
May 14 Woods Walk  
Ray Nolan Property  
Lisle, NY
  
- Saturday  
May 28 SOT/CFA Dear Exlosure  
Woods Walk  
Margaretville, NY
  
- Saturday  
July 9 SOT/CFA Woods Walk  
Steam Mill Forest  
Walton, NY
  
- Mon – Wed  
August 1 – 3 Windsor Chair II  
Mecklenburg, NY



## Discover New Ways to Care for and Enjoy Your Woods with MyWoodlot

By Joshua VanBrakle

Every family woodlot, and every woodlot family, is unique. A new website by the Watershed Agricultural Council, a Walton, New York-based nonprofit, helps landowners discover land-based activities that fit them, their woods, and their lifestyle. It's called MyWoodlot.

"Think of MyWoodlot as a 24/7 library of on-the-ground projects landowners can do either by themselves or with professional help," says Tom Pavlesich, the Council's Forestry Program Manager and a NYFOA member.

MyWoodlot starts with 10 broad interests like Nature, Recreation, and Timber Production. Each interest is then divided into goals landowners can work toward, with each goal made up of several specific activities.

"We didn't want to be just another information

[continued page 6]

## We're Growing! Welcome, New Members!

Charles Dando, Vestal, NY; Brian Dugan / Maurica Duett LLC, Pine City, NY;  
Elliott & Judy Reitz, Johnson City, NY.

## Steve Speaks... A Message From Our Chapter Chair



I am always on the lookout for new resources of information that I can share with you that will help you profit from the sale of your timber or add to your enjoyment of your property. These helpful guides are examples of what is available. Members may want to consider purchasing these books if you feel that they will add to your enjoyment of your woods.

If you're not familiar with forest management at all you may find *A Landowner's Guide to Managing your Woods* by Ann Hansen, Mike Severson and Dennis Waterman helpful. The book is available on Amazon in paperback or as a Kindle book. Non-internet users can order this book through Barnes & Noble and many independent bookstores. This book covers many topics that you may want to consider as a landowner. However, it does not go into deep detail on any subject. For example it explains why it's good to have an inventory of plants on your property but it doesn't explain how to create one. Field guides fill that need. Topics covered in the book include managing your woods, forest succession, hiring a forester, identifying different types of logging equipment, planting trees, timber stand improvement, wildlife blinds, making maple sugar, creating wildlife habitat, building trails, invasive plants, understory shrubs, growing Christmas trees and taxes. This book also includes things that I would never think of, like creating snake habitat. The publisher's description can be found at:



[http://www.storey.com/book\\_detail.php?isbn=9781603428002&cat=Nature](http://www.storey.com/book_detail.php?isbn=9781603428002&cat=Nature)

*Know Your Trees* by J. A. Cope and Fred E. Winch, Jr. was originally published in 1927. It was revised by E. A. Cope in 2002. This book is a guide to the identification of New York State forest trees. One of its features is its logical key which helps identify trees under summer and winter conditions. Understanding how buds are arranged on the twigs and the actual shape, taste and form of the buds is as effective as looking at the leaves in summer. A detailed description of 50 New York species is given along with similar looking trees. For example, the section describing White Oak (*Quercus alba* Linnacus) also details the slightly different distinguishing features of the Swamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor* Willdenow). I find that when a book focuses on New York State trees it is less confusing than the books that try to describe every tree in the country. The description for each tree includes the scientific name, a general description of where the tree is likely to be



found, bark shape and color, twig shape, winter bud form, leaf form, fruit, and any other distinguishing features. This book is

available in a spiral bound format from the NYFOA main office for \$5.00. Contact Liana Gooding at (800) 836-3566 or from myself at the meetings. This book can also be downloaded in PDF format for free from a Cornell University's website. Click on the art.pdf file to start the download at: <https://ecommons.cornell.edu/handle/1813/86>

I understand that to win games of chance it's important to understand the odds. If you didn't win the recent Powerball lottery, I can guarantee better odds if you attend the Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 NYFOA annual meeting at the SUNY College of Environmental of Science & Forestry, Syracuse, NY. (<http://www.dolmarpowerproducts.com/>), Dolmar dealer Dave Nielsen (<http://www.nielsensalesandservice.com/>) and NYFOA will be giving away a Dolmar PS-5105 chainsaw, two sets of safety chaps and two chainsaw helmets. You don't want to miss out.

— Steve

# Mushroom Inoculation Demonstration

Photos by Ken Semanovich

Here's a sneak peak of what you'll get to do in Mushroom Inoculation Workshop, April 30th. See page 4 for details.

This is the grinder with special adapter and bit that makes the drilling process so easy.



First, we covered tools



needed, which include chainsaw, and safety equipment for cutting logs.



A drill with wire brush for cleaning logs of lichen and dirt.



A simple work station made with notched lumber set on saw horses.



Here are pictures of the inoculator and inoculation. Then the holes are sealed with "hot" bee's wax.



Logs are labeled with date and

strain of mushroom spawn.

Logs for Shiitake can be beech, ironwood or hop horn beam, and should be 4-6" diameter logs that are 40" long.



## Turning Sawdust Into Gasoline

– Excerpted from report at Reuters.com

A research team at the Catholic University at Leuven, Center for Surface Chemistry and Catalysis in Leuven, Belgium has successfully converted sawdust into building blocks for gasoline. Using a new chemical process they were able to convert the sawdust into hydrocarbon chains. These hydrocarbon chains can be used for making gasoline or can be used in the production of ethylene, propylene and benzene — the building blocks for plastic, rubber, insulation foam and nylon.

Researcher Sander Van Den Bosch told Reuters that wood has three main components - lignin and two carbohydrate fractions, cellulose and hemicellulose. The cellulose is the key ingredient of these for making

gasoline, but the lignin can also be converted into valuable chemicals for plastics or medicines. He added: "There are now already processes on a large scale that use the carbohydrates, such as the production of paper or the production of bioethanol, but lignin is still undervalued, so most of the times it's just burnt for energy. What we invented in our process is the simultaneous extraction of the lignin from the carbohydrates in the wood and at the same time we convert the lignin very selectively into chemicals."

Colleague Wouter Schutyser said woods from birch, poplar, and conifer trees work particularly well, and that by converting waste woods the environmental impact is minimized.



According to researcher Aron Deneyer, the CO2 produced by their biomass-produced gasoline was less problematic for the atmosphere than that produced by petrochemicals.

"When we produce our light naphtha we

*[continued page 6]*



## 54<sup>th</sup> Annual NYFOA Members Meeting

Saturday, April 16, 8:15 am – 4:30 pm  
Marshall Hall, SUNY College of ESF  
Syracuse, NY

Our annual meeting is coming up soon! Plan to meet fellow woodlot owners and loads of forestry experts at this all day event. Program details are as follows:

- 8:15 am Registration and refreshments. Check out the displays from NYFOA Chapters and forestry oriented exhibits in Nifkin Lounge.
- 9:00 am Welcome: Charles Stackhouse, President NYFOA and David Newman, Chair, Faculty of Forestry, SUNY ESF.
- 9:15 am The Green Lie: Problem Plants in Forest Regeneration and a Process to Manage Them. Peter Smallidge, NYS Extension Forester, Cornell University.
- 10:00 am Keynote Speaker: America's Third Phase of Forest Conservation: Family Forests. Brett Butler, Research Forester, US Forest Service.
- 11:00 am Status of the Young Forest Initiative. Katherine Yard and Sandra Van Vranken, Wildlife Biologists, NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation.
- 12:00 pm Annual Membership Meeting
- 12:30 pm Luncheon and NYFOA Annual Awards Banquet
- 2:30 pm NYFOA Board of Directors Meeting

## 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Starts Off SOT's Spring Events

### Mark your Calendars Now!

### Mushroom Inoculation Workshop

Saturday, April 30, 10 am – 2 pm  
CCE, 840 Front St.  
Binghamton, NY

By popular demand! SOT members Ken and Sharon Semanovich will be leading a hands-on mushroom workshop. Each participant will leave the workshop with an inoculated log. Check out their photo album on page 3 for a sneak peak at the process. The workshop is limited to 24 participants and going to press it was getting pretty full, so hurry to preregister and get ready to inoculate some logs!

Please pre-register prior to April 9th by calling Ken & Sharon Semanovich at (607) 204-0101. The cost of the workshop is \$5.00 for NYFOA members and \$15.00 for non-members. Send your check payable to NYFOA-SOT to Ken & Sharon Semanovich, 2 Airport Road, Binghamton, NY 13901.

### Nolan's Woods Walk

Saturday, May 14, 9:00 am  
240 Oliver Road, Lisle, NY 13797

Join us for a woods walk hosted by Ray Nolan, a retired NYS DEC wildlife biologist. Located at the headwaters of Nanticoke Creek, this 153-acre Broome County property features a mixture of northern hardwood forest, wetland, meadow, shrub-scrub and open field habitat types.

The current ownership began in 1989 following 6 ownerships traced back thru the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. As is the case with the greater share of rural Southern Tier properties, previous human activities,

Some fabulous door prizes are being offered as additional enticement to attend! A Dolmar PS-5105 chainsaw, two sets of chainsaw safety chaps, and two chainsaw helmets will be given away. Dolmar Power Products has donated the chaps and helmets and in conjunction with Dolmar dealer Dave Nielsen of Nielsen's Sales and Service in Penn Yan, they have subsidized NYFOA's purchase of this great saw. It has an 18" bar, 50cc engine with 3.9HP and weighs only 11.9 pounds. List price is \$470. Someone is going to leave the annual meeting with a big grin and a great chainsaw and four members will leave with some important protective equipment! NYFOA thanks Dolmar Power Products and Dave Nielsen for their generous support.

Please register by April 4<sup>th</sup>. Registration fee is \$20, \$15 for students. For registration form, more information, driving/parking instructions see the home page of [www.nyfoa.org](http://www.nyfoa.org).



*Dolmar PS-5105 chainsaw*

including an early version of silvopasture, have significantly modified this property without recognition of long term consequences. The current owners have carried out various treatments since 1989 aimed at improving productivity of the hardwood forest, diversifying wildlife habitat and addressing problems such as soil erosion caused by previous activities. USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service stewardship programs have been, and continue to be, supportive of these ongoing efforts. Our walk will allow us to visit and discuss the various habitats and treatment areas as well as examples of areas that remain in need of continued efforts. This will be a moderate walk, starting off downhill and finishing on an easy uphill trek. Wear appropriate boots for a wet hike and bring along some water.

Directions: 240 Oliver Rd., Lisle. From the hamlet of Lisle travel west about 5 miles on NY Route 79, and in Center Lisle turn left on to Caldwell Hill Road. Take the second left on to Mount Hunger Road and follow it for about 1.7 miles and bear right on to Oliver Road. Park on the right side of the road across from the house.



## Deer Exclosure SOT/CFA Woods Walk

Saturday, May 28, 10 am – 12 pm  
Margaretville, NY

The Catskill Forest Association (CFA) teamed up with SOT to construct a deer exclosure demonstration fence on a member's property near Margaretville, NY. Prior to constructing the fence the forest canopy was opened up to a minimum of

50% sunlight in a ¼ acre area to simulate a timber stand improvement project. The additional sunlight helps to ensure that the tree regeneration process will take place. The landowner used the removed trees for firewood. The fence itself took up 1/10th of an acre and took only three hours to build with CFA and NYFOA members pitching in to help. We expect the area inside the fence to regenerate a variety of tree species and herbaceous plants, while the outside will remain looking browsed like the rest of the surrounding forest.

On this woods walk we will view the project and get instructions on its construction. This is a beautiful time of year for a walk in the Catskill Mountains of New York State! For directions and to pre-register call CFA at (845) 586-3054.

## SOT/CFA Steam Mill Forest Woods Walk

Saturday, July 9, 10 am – 1 pm  
Steam Mill Forest  
near Walton, NY

Once again SOT and CFA team up to offer a fun and informative woodland stroll! Nathan Funk from the NYS DEC will lead this woods walk in harvested areas of the Steam Mill State Forest. Steam Mill is a 5,618 acre state forest located in Delaware County. Nathan will explain how the harvesting plan contributed to forest regeneration. Email Ryan Trapani at RTrapani@Catskill.net or call (845) 586-3054 to get the exact meeting place.

## Windsor Chair Camp II

Build an heirloom this summer!  
Mon, August 1 – Wed, August 3  
Mecklenburg, NY

Back by popular demand, Windsor Chair Camp II will be graciously hosted this year by member Don Schlafer. Participants will have 5 Windsor projects to choose

from: tall stool, side chair, armchair, rocking chair, or settee. Class size will be limited so hurry and contact Dave Williams as soon as possible to reserve your spot.

No prerequisite skills are required, however, youth under 18 must have parental permission and approval of the instructor to participate.

David Abeel will again lead our work. David has 20 years experience teaching Windsor craft in Michigan

most notably at the shaker box workshop of John Wilson and the Oliver Arts center in Frankfort: [www.shakerovalbox.com](http://www.shakerovalbox.com).

Classes are efficiently designed so they start and finish in two or three days depending on the complexity of the project chosen. Hotels are readily available in nearby Watkins Glen or Ithaca.

All turned parts and materials will be provided. Cherry will be used for legs and spindles, white pine or basswood for seats, white or red oak for spindles, oak, ash or cherry for bending into chair combs. If participants have wood they would like to bring from home to incorporate into their project, they must contact the instructor well before class to ensure it will work into their chair's design.

Chair making tools including travishers, spokeshaves, hand planes and drawknives will be provided however participants are encouraged to bring tools from home. An extra rechargeable drill or orbital sander is always welcome.

The course objective is that participants will take their stool or chair home assembled, leveled and ready for finishing.

Contact Dave Williams at [kdwillmill@gmail.com](mailto:kdwillmill@gmail.com) or 607-563-3156 for class sign up and more details.







## Timber Time – A Kid's Perspective of the Northeast Timber Growing Contest

Dear Readers,

My name is Oscar Williams. I am eleven years old. I live in Waverly, Tioga County, New York. The way I got involved in the contest is, I went to the Northeast Timber Growing Contest Workshop last March and learned the rules and about all that good stuff. I helped measure three timber plots on my family's property.

During the contest I have learned a lot. I can now identify the types of trees much better than I used to be able to. I can also

identify if the tree is any good for lumber or not. I have learned about how to estimate the volume of a tree with a cruising stick, and learned how to measure trees with a diameter tape. I also learned about board feet and basal area.

Since I'm so young, I have the chance to see the trees now and will have the chance to see the same trees in 30 years. Now that's cool because my kids will get to see those same trees and we will get to see the difference in growth.

I would like kids my age or all ages to go and take care of our earth and forests. Trees provide the air we breathe and we only have one earth. – Oscar Williams

*Above left: The Contest promotes interaction with foresters and landowners. In this photo the writer is getting some pointers for selecting crop trees from forester Pete Smallidge.*

*Above right: Oscar Williams was a delightful participant in last year's Timber Growing Contest Workshop.*

### ... My Woodlot.com

source," Tom explains. "We wanted everything to be actionable."

Every activity includes links to how-to information to help landowners complete it. That information takes a variety of forms including factsheets, photo slideshows, videos, professional contact lists, and even a few smartphone apps.

Once landowners find activities they want to do, they can save them to a profile for easy future access and to track their progress. They can also ask questions and learn from each other through the site's forum.

MyWoodlot is available free for anyone to use thanks to funding from the US Forest Service and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection. To get started, visit [www.mywoodlot.com](http://www.mywoodlot.com).

### ... Sawdust into Gasoline

burn it in our car and we get some CO<sub>2</sub>, but this CO<sub>2</sub> can be used to build new biomass and so we have a very short cycle, while crude oil has a very long cycle to replace it," Deneyer said.

They reported their findings in the journal of Energy and Environmental Science. For more information look at: <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-belgium-sawdust-petrol-idUSKCN0UZ19D>.

# A Tree's Travail

Here we languish,  
our biological clocks ticking,  
our opportunity to reproduce  
nearing its end.

Our seed, cast today,  
suppressed by invasive vegetation.

Our saplings stripped by deer,  
or starved of needed sunlight.

Will humankind restore  
the ecosystem balance  
before we are no longer here  
to cast our seed?

– *By Jerry Michael*



For information about the plight of northeastern forests, go to [www.NYFOA.org](http://www.NYFOA.org) and click on "Restore New York Woodlands".

Travail by Jerry Michael, [GoTreeGo@stny.rr.com](mailto:GoTreeGo@stny.rr.com).

Art by James Browne.

<http://www.JamesBrowne.net>



## About Us

The Southern Tier Chapter News is published for its chapter members of NYFOA, three times a year in early spring, fall, and winter. NYFOA was founded in 1963 and is organized to encourage the wise management of private woodland resources in New York State by promoting, representing and serving the interests of woodland owners. The Southern Tier Chapter was founded in 1985 and encompasses Broome, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware and Otsego counties. For information on becoming a NYFOA member visit [www.nyfoa.org](http://www.nyfoa.org), or contact Liana Gooding, NYFOA Secretary, NYFOA, PO Box 541, Lima, NY, 14485 or at 1-800-836-3566. Annual

membership is \$45 and includes: subscriptions to this newsletter: to the bimonthly NYFOA state wide publication, The New York Forest Owner, attendance at chapter meetings and statewide meetings.

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**Register Now for Spring Events!**  
 See pages 4-5 for details ...