

# THE OVERSTORY

## “ON BECOMING A MASTER FOREST OWNER VOLUNTEER”

By: Kristie Edwards



### Welcome New Members!

Carolyn & Robert Akland  
Joe Swanson  
Richard Lasselle  
Marti Ohmart

### 3 Open Positions

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- State Board Representative

These positions will be voted on at the NYFOA/SAC Annual Meeting

### Points of Interest

- Important Dates
- Peter Smallidge to receive award
- Letter from the Board
- Pictures from recent woods walk

To fill a void in their lives from the end of many years working in the field of agriculture, Kurt and Kristie Edwards have turned their attention to silviculture. For that they only need to walk out their back door, they own 190 acres of forest land that had not been managed in many years. “This property has been in my family since the late 1800’s and I want to sustain it for future generations” said Kurt. The Edwards called Cornell Cooperative Extension to get a Master Forest Owner (MFO) to walk their property, hired a forester, and became actively involved in NYFOA. Their experience with the MFO, and on the recommendation of their forester, they decided to become MFO’s themselves.

The Master Forest Owner volunteer program provides free, on-site visits to private forest owners. In an effort to help forest owners develop their forest ownership

objectives and find the assistance they needed, the NY Master Forest Owner Program was established in 1991. Since then, over 400 volunteers have been trained through Cornell Cooperative Extension. These volunteers have collectively visited over 1,200 neighbors throughout the state. Currently, there are over 200 active volunteers across the state ready to provide encouragement and information to their forest owning neighbors.

Recently, Kurt and Kristie attended the new volunteer training workshop where they participated in classroom and field exercises on topics such as timber and wildlife management, forest economics, forest ecology, communication techniques and a visit to a logging job saw-mill. In addition to the topics listed above, Master Forest Owners learn how forest-owner needs can be

met with the assistance of public and private agencies and organizations, as well as the services of professional resource managers, such as foresters. “We are so glad we attended this program, we met a lot of wonderful people. It was so well organized, the presenters were professionals and passionate about their work, we left with so much knowledge. It is such a great program!”

The Edwards are now ready to volunteer in their community and provide free, no-obligation visits to discuss whatever management concerns you have. Their experience with their own property, complemented by the 4-day training provided by Cornell Cooperative Extension makes them valuable members of their community.

## NYFOA FALL MEETING & PICNIC FULLERTON’S FARM, THURMAN, NY

By: Erwin Fullerton  
NYFOA /SAC held their annual fall picnic and woods walk at Erwin and Polly Fullerton’s tree farm in Thurman, Warren County on September 24, 2011. The day started

with rain, a terrific crop of mosquitoes, and many colorful mushrooms that were the result of such a wet year.

Fortunately, the rain lasted only as long as the coffee, cider, brownies, donuts,

and visiting inside the small barn/workshop did. We also had a chance to view some interesting tree biscuits, old tools from Erwin’s collection, and Laurel Gailor’s NYFOA display.

By the time Erwin formally



# Adirondack Stumpage Price Report Summer 2011/#79

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



*International 1/4" Rule*

Species	Low Price Range (Median)	Average Price Range (Median)	High Price Range (Median)	New York State Stumpage Price Re- port Summer 2011/#79
<b>Most Common Species</b>				
Ash, White	10-170 (100)	80-275 (100)	100-450 (200)	
Cherry, Black	60-450 (250)	200-550 (395)	400-4030 (700)	
Maple, Red (Soft)	30-170 (55)	50-250 (105)	100-375 (150)	
Maple, Sugar (Hard)	20-350 (180)	175-650 (330)	300-3000 (600)	
Oak, Red	80-220 (105)	200-600 (240)	230-850 (325)	
Pine, White	20-140 (60)	45-150 (95)	100-160 (125)	
<b>Less Common Species</b>				
Aspen	20-140 (30)	10-190 (50)	40-100 (75)	<b>Sawtimber Price (Including Veneer and Poles) Dollars per Thousand Board Feet</b>
Basswood	20-100 (40)	5-180 (75)	80-250 (140)	
Beech	25-170 (45)	20-200 (50)	30-60 (45)	
Birch, Yellow	50-200 (105)	125-500 (200)	150-1500 (350)	
Birch, White	35-170 (50)	60-250 (110)	100-275 (165)	
Butternut	40-250 (110)	70-275 (270)	80-400 (240)	
Elm, American	NR	20-120 (40)	NR	
Hemlock	10-45 (25)	5-80 (45)	30-110 (65)	
Hickory (spp.)	20-200 (60)	20-300 (65)	60-400 (115)	
Oak, Chestnut	NR	170-350 (260)	NR	
Oak, White	50-200 (115)	25-300 (140)	250-300 (275)	
Pine, Red	30-50 (30)	40-100 (60)	50-100 (80)	
Spruce (spp.)	30-90 (50)	40-105 (75)	50-135 (100)	
Tulip Poplar	NR	70-120 (75)	NR	
Walnut, Black	NR	NR	NR	
Aspen	2-8 (4)	2-10 (5)	5-18 (11)	
Birch, White	3-10*8 (7)	4-12 (10)	6-15 (11)	
Hemlock	8-15 (8)	6-18 (10)	10-25 (15)	
Mixed N. Hardwoods	4-13 (8)	5-16 (10)	6-18 (13)	
Pine	2-13 (3)	1-18 (5)	5-18 (13)	
Spruce/Fir	3-10 (3)	4-12 (7)	5-18 (13)	
Firewood	4-10 (7)	4-15 (10)	6-25 (15)	

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.

## ONLINE INFORMATION OF INTEREST

The following is the new link to the Cornell Forest Connect web site FORUM  
 ~ please join if you haven't already ~  
<http://cornellforestconnect.ning.com/>

Peter Smallidge to Receive Technology Transfer Award from SAF  
 read more at <http://nyfoa.org/docs/SmallidgeSAFaward.pdf>

Check out NYSDEC Division of Lands and Forests new e-newsletter at:  
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/74205.html>



Can you identify this fuzzy critter??  
 See bottom of page for answer

## IMPORTANT DATES IN 2012

### January 14, 2012~ Forest Finances 2012

**Good Stewardship is Good Business ~ Good Business Practices Yield Better Forests**

*The Business of Stewardship ~*

Eric Carlson – President & CEO of The Empire State Forest Products Association, will discuss a businesslike approach, and various systems to help it along -- Tree Farm, forest certification systems such as SFI and FSC and why they are important to the landowner as guides to action and validation of current management strategies.

**Income and Property taxes** ~ There are trouble-free strategies to lower your tax bill, but each involves weighing the benefits and burdens. \_

Steven Bick, consulting forester and principal in Northeast Forests, LLC, guides us through the process. Bick holds a Ph.D. in Forest Management and Economics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

**Succession Planning ~ the human side of estate planning.** Call it "human stewardship" if you will.

Dr. Shorna Broussard Allred of Cornell's Department of Natural Resources and Cornell University Cooperative Extension focuses on maintaining family ties to the land from generation to generation, building awareness of the key challenges facing private woodland owners, and motivating families to address the challenges.

**Conservation Easements** ~ This could be one way for a landowner to do a public good while benefiting his family's future.

Steven Bick, of Northeast Forests, LLC, has written about easements and consulted with many forest owners. Here, he will lay out the pros and cons for family owners.

**Bring it All Together: Q & A Panel**-The day's speakers will sit on a panel to answer your questions. Pre-registration will be required for this workshop.

**For further information, call Cornell Cooperative Extension, Warren County**  
 518-623-3291 or 518-668-4881.

### January 28, 2012 ~ NYFOA-SAC Annual Meeting/ Woods Walk

See page 5 for more information on the Annual Meeting

### February 4, 2012 ~ Annual Maple Producers School

For further information or to receive information regarding registration, contact CCE Warren County at 623-3291 or [hkh26@cornell.edu](mailto:hkh26@cornell.edu).

## FALL WOODS WALK (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

welcomed the group, and Laurel Gailor and Steve Warne oriented us to what we were doing, the rain stopped. We had only to liberally apply the bug dope and we were off. The twelve-stop tour, led by Steve Warne (Erwin and Polly’s forester), included seeing the growth patterns of pines damaged by a 1942 fire, chemical control of beech, and the results of three log harvests. Erwin and Steve talked with us about the history of the area and different periods of forest growth, from mature forest to more recent thick natural seeding of pine and hardwoods, and how this affects wildlife habitat.

As we walked through the rocky portion of the land, we were im-



Erwin Fullerton

pressed to see remains of wire fences that indicate that this “unusable” area of the property was pastured, probably for sheep, many decades ago.

Our final stop was to see the results of this year’s May 28th flood on culverts and a wooden bridge. On the way back to the cabin, we admired the fast flowing streams,

and Erwin and Polly’s large forest pond and the dam they had built. The pot luck lunch and hamburgers cooked by Ed Welch back at the cabin were as delicious as they usually are, and gave us a chance to gaze at the beautiful pond and visit again with the wonderful new and old members of our chapter. At the end of lunch, we held a raffle of items donated by local businesses and group members where we earned enough money to pay for a postcard mailing to remind us all of the next woods walk.

What started out as a wet, drizzly morning had changed into a warm and pleasant day.



Great year for snails...

## Things great and small seen on the woods walk at Fullerton’s Farm.

*Pictures courtesy of Laurel Gailor*



Fullerton’s Pond



Mushrooms galore!



## FREE HELP NOW AVAILABLE TO LOCAL FOREST OWNERS

By :Gary Goff; Cornell University Cooperative Extension~ Dept. of Natural Resources

Just as a mind is a terrible thing to waste, a forest is a terrible thing to squander! Over 13 million acres of woodland in NY State are privately owned by approximately 500,000 families. Just a fraction of those lands are purposefully managed despite the variety of educational programs and technical services available. The NY Master Forest Owner volunteer program provides free, on-site visits to private forest owners.

In an effort to help forest owners develop their forest ownership objectives and find the assistance needed, the NY Master Forest Owner Volunteer Program was established in 1991. Since then, over 400 volunteers have been trained through Cornell Cooperative Extension.

These volunteers have collectively visited over 1,200 neighbors throughout the state. Currently, there are over 200 active volunteers across the state ready to provide encouragement and information to their forest owning neighbors.

Kurt and Kristie Edwards are two such volunteers who are available for a free, no-obligation visit to your to discuss whatever management concerns you have. Their experience, complemented by the 4-day training provided by Cornell Cooperative Extension, makes them valuable members of this community.

Recently, Kurt and Kristie attended the new volunteer training workshop where they participated in classroom and field exercises on topics such as timber and wildlife management, forest economics, forest ecology, communication techniques and a visit to a logging job and sawmill. In addition

to the topics listed above, Master Forest Owners learn how forest-owner needs can be met with the assistance of public and private agencies and organizations, as well as the services of professional resource managers, such as foresters.

The NY Master Forest Owner Program is sponsored by: New York Forest Owner Association, Robert H. Wentorf Foundation, Inc., USDA Renewable Resources Extension Act, and Cornell Cooperative Extension with cooperation from NYS DEC's Division of Land and Forest.

For more information about the program's benefits and opportunities, contact

Gary Goff,  
Cornell Cooperative Extension,  
B20 Bruckner Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853,  
call him at (607) 255-2824,  
or email him at [grg3@cornell.edu](mailto:grg3@cornell.edu).

If you have forest ownership questions or want to schedule a visit by Kurt & Kristie, write them at:

Kurt & Kristie Edwards,  
411 Beech Street,  
Mayfield, NY 12117 or  
give them a call at  
(518) 661-5685.



Save the Date! ~January 28, 2012~

Annual Meeting

Thurman Town Hall 10:00am

Followed by a potluck lunch at 12:00pm

And a snowshoe woods walk nearby at

Lou and Jean Inzinna's property

61 Charles Olds Road

Thurman, NY 12810

Please RSVP at [trautwei@nycap.rr.com](mailto:trautwei@nycap.rr.com)

(518) 861-6038 or (518) 225-0629



New York Forest  
Owners Association



PO Box 541  
Lima, NY 14485  
1-800-836-3566

Chair: *Open position*  
Vice Chair: *Open position*  
Secretary: Barbara Hennig  
Treasurer: Bob Manning

**Cornell Cooperative  
Extension  
of Warren County**  
Phone: 518 623-3291  
Fax 518 668-4912

**The Overstory**  
377 Schroon River Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

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Edited by : Laurel Gailor

Message from the Board ~

December 2011

A recent article in the New York Times talks about the effects of climate change on northern New York and predicts that by the end of the century, the climate of the Adirondacks will resemble the climate of the North Carolina Mountains.

As forest owners, we already are experiencing some of the warming trends that the article mentions. Many of our members' home communities were hard hit by the heavy rainstorms this year. Those of us who are gardeners have observed how late in the year the hard frosts come. We had tomatoes through much of September, and other crops right through Thanksgiving. At a Master Forest Owner training session in mid October, we were told it was still warm enough to use glyphosate on the stumps of the beech we need to clear.

The weather affected the volunteers who manned our displays at the Saratoga and Washington County fairs. The rain and extreme heat kept the number of attendees down for some of the days in Saratoga, and Tropical Storm Irene closed down the Washington County Fair early.

Nonetheless, we had an extremely good year at the fairs. The concept of lots of people each doing less work is gaining traction. We had many volunteers this summer to organize our participation at the fairs, to call volunteers, and to staff the displays. Thanks to everybody who took the time to help!

Over the past few years, we also have observed that the woods walks have become the best attended programs that we offer. Therefore, this winter we are trying something different. The Annual Meeting, in combination with a winter woods walk, will be held January 28, 2012 in Thurman. The meeting and lunch will be at the Thurman Town Hall, followed by a woods walk nearby at Lou and Jean Inzinna's property. The meeting will begin at the Town Hall at 10:00 a.m., followed by a pot luck lunch at noon, and a snowshoe walk to work off lunch. Everybody is encouraged to come, even if you'd prefer to skip the walk and visit inside instead. Please RSVP so that we'll have an idea of number of attendees since this is a new idea: [trautwei@nycap.rr.com](mailto:trautwei@nycap.rr.com); 518-861-6038; 518-225-0629. As always, family members and friends are welcome.

At the annual meeting last year, Ed Welch completed his term as Chair of our Southeastern Adirondack Chapter. The Vice Chair had resigned earlier in the year. Currently we have neither position filled. The members of the Board would welcome expressions of interest for either position.

Bob Manning, Treasurer	<a href="mailto:bobmanning@frontiernet.net">bobmanning@frontiernet.net</a>	518-251-4638
Barbara Hennig, Secretary	<a href="mailto:bhennig@capital.net">bhennig@capital.net</a>	518-587-1413
Kristie Edwards, Membership	<a href="mailto:kedward1@nycap.rr.com">kedward1@nycap.rr.com</a>	518-661-5685
Donna Welch, Woodswalks	<a href="mailto:trautwei@nycap.rr.com">trautwei@nycap.rr.com</a>	518-861-6038

*We also wish to note the loss of long time member and former newsletter editor, Bob Morrison. Bob passed away October 22, 2011 after a brief struggle with cancer.*

And finally, we wish you all a happy holiday season filled with health and happiness and look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting/Woods Walk in January.

*Members of the Board.*