

NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION SOUTHERN TIER CHAPTER SPRING 2014 NEWSLETTER

ANNUAL POT LUCK DINNER WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 19TH

Join us for one of the most popular events of the year. Bring a dish to pass and your own table service. We will provide beverages and a sheet pizza to supplement your gourmet offerings.

We always look for something other than a “nuts and bolts” program for our annual dinner, and this year we are pleased to have **renowned naturalist, writer and photographer Rick Marsi** join us. Many of us have followed Rick’s weekly column in the Press & Sun-Bulletin for many years, and have enjoyed his books and photo-essays. The subject of Rick’s talk will be **“A Day in the Life of a Wetland”**. This will be a great program for the entire family, so bring the kids and grandkids! In the meantime, check out Rick’s website: www.rickmarsi.com

Our Pot Luck Dinner meeting will be held at Cornell Cooperative Extension, 840 Upper Front Street, Binghamton, 13905 this year. Doors will open at 6:00, dinner served at 6:30 and the program will begin at 7:30. Please call (607) 648-2941 to make reservations so we can plan for seating and beverages.

WOODSWALK PLANNED FOR May 10th – “A REGENERATION LABORATORY”

In support of NYFOA’s “Restore New York Woodlands” initiative, Chapters will continue to host at least one public woodswalk each year with a focus on the forest regeneration crisis. This year’s RNYW woodswalk will be at Jerry Michael’s tree farm in Whitney Point, where regeneration has been the primary management objective for more than 10 years.

Participants will observe where an early- succession forest has developed in the wake of a 2003 ice storm that leveled the original ten-acre red pine plantation. Natural regeneration has been supplemented by oak, maple and cherry seedlings planted and protected by either plastic tube shelters or deer enclosure fencing.

In an established mature hardwood stand, we will see where desirable natural regeneration has flourished after interfering vegetation was controlled with herbicides, the canopy was opened up, and small deer enclosure fences were erected. Participants will be able to compare the results of management on this property as contrasted to an adjoining property still dominated by large “weeviled” white pine, soft maple culls and diseased American beech. (cont.).

The woodswalk location is 3192 State Route 206, which is 1.3 miles East of Whitney Point, on the top of the hill and on the right (South) side of the road. Parking will be on the shoulder of the highway. Carpool if possible and look for signs. Whitney Point is Exit #8 from I 81.

The woodswalk will start at 9:30 and finish by 11:30. We will walk about a mile on both level and sloping terrain with some wet spots. Please call (607) 648-2941 to sign up so that we can arrange for additional parking if required.

NYFOA's 52nd ANNUAL SPRING PROGRAM SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2014

Marshall Hall, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, NY

8:15 a.m. Registration and refreshments. Check out the displays from NYFOA Chapters and forestry oriented exhibits in Nifkin Lounge.

9-9:15 a.m. Welcome: Jim Minor, President NYFOA and David Newman, Chair, Faculty of Forestry, SUNY ESF.

9:15-10 a.m. Silviculture and Regeneration, Perspectives for Landowners. Dr. Ralph Nyland, Distinguished Service Professor, SUNY-ESF.

10-11 a.m. The Return of the American Chestnut, Dr. Chuck Maynard, SUNY-ESF

11:15-12 p.m. Wildlife Species of Conservation Need. Gary Goff, Cornell University, Rich Taber, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and Jonathon Cohen, SUNY-ESF

12-1:30 p.m. Luncheon and NYFOA Annual Awards Banquet Keynote Speakers: Jerry Michael Co-Chair, NYFOA Restore New York Woodlands Initiative.

1:30-2:20 p.m. Tours of the new ESF Gateway Building and other campus highlights TBA

2:30-3:15 p.m. NYFOA Annual Membership Meeting

3:30-5 p.m. NYFOA Board of Directors Meeting

Registration details: See NYFOA website at NYFOA.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The following new members have joined NYFOA Southern Tier Chapter since our last Newsletter: Rodney Gould, Unadilla; Derek Semanovich, Towaco, NJ; Ken & Melinda Wiley, Windsor. Hope to see you at a future event!

MUSHROOM FORAY/WOODSWALK, JULY 26, 2014, 9:30

When mushrooms enthusiasts say "foray," they're talking about organizing a group of people to go into the forest to look for fungi. Myron Swartz, who is a member of the Susquehanna Valley Mycological Society, will lead us in the hunt for edible mushrooms in a red oak forest owned by Steve Kutney. Harvesting mushrooms is a great way for landowners to take advantage of the bounty of their woods. Myron will show us mushroom varieties that can be clearly identified and taste great.

This red oak forest will be ready for its second harvest in a few years. This stand of red oak has had four timber stand improvement projects. The first was started about 1968 the last about 1993. We will examine oak regeneration and some invasive beech treatment which will hopefully be completed by July.

The property is located at 460 Hunt Hill Road, Port Crane, NY 13833.. If you're going north east from Binghamton on I88 take the Sanitaria Springs exit. Go left from the exit ramp and under I88. Turn right on Hunt Hill Road at the "T" in the road. Continue on Hunt Hill road for about 2.1 miles. The property is located on your right as you pass the top of the hill. Look for the NYFOA sign. Turn into the woods road with your SUV or truck just after you pass a field on your right. If you have a car, it would be best if you parked on Hunt Hill Road. The walk up the woods road is short. If you see a sign that says Vincent Hill Road then you have gone too far on Hunt Hill.

Message from the Chapter Chair

The process for sending out the newsletter is involved. We have copies printed at Cornell Cooperative extension. Each issue must be folded, stapled and stamped. Time is spent traveling. It's a necessary expense because it's our communication of local events to you. I have looked into several ways of making it either less expensive or easier.

ClicktoMail.com seems to be the best option. It's used by several other chapters. The cost is about the same but without the hassle.

Jerry Michael has been our newsletter editor for many years. He has expressed a desire to be relieved of this task. It seems like now is a good time to transition this job to someone else. I'm sure that Jerry would help with the transition.

ClicktoMail has a newsletter template. The newsletter writer would need to put together the content and place it on the website. The current address list of members would need to be uploaded to the ClicktoMail server. I could help anyone who is unfamiliar with computers. Once the send button is pressed ClicktoMail does all of the processing.

This is your chance to get involved. It would be nice if the newsletter editor could attend one of our planning meetings but it's not necessary. You can do this job even if you live in New Jersey or Florida. Call me at 607-862-9152 or send a note Stephen_Kutney@yahoo.com.

On a related subject, because we only publish three or four Newsletters per year, we send an Email reminder of events that were announced in our Newsletter about two weeks prior to the event. However these reminders only go to members we have current Email addresses for. If you would like to receive Email reminders of Chapter events, send me a note. In addition to event reminders, we infrequently forward messages of particular interest to forest owners, such as where the latest Emerald Ash Borer infestation was reported. We will never share your Email address with anyone else, and will blind copy you on any forwarded messages.

Steve

The NYFOA Southern Tier Chapter (SOT) includes Broome, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware and Otsego Counties. SOT sponsors several workshops and woodswalks each year, often in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension offices. SOT publishes a Fall, Winter and Spring Newsletter to announce programs and other educational information for members.

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MEETINGS & PROGRAMS
POT LUCK DINNER MARCH 19TH