



CNY Chapter NYFOA

August 2015

COVERING CAYUGA,
HERKIMER, MADISON,
ONEIDA, ONONDAGA
& OSWEGO COUNTIES

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2015 CNY-NYFOA-related Events

TIME critical news:

NYCAMH is sponsoring a level one Game of Logging Course at the Heiberg Forest on July 31st. There are still spots available, \$25 per participant. Please contact NYCAMH at (800) 343-7527 for more information or to sign up. NYCAMH=New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health

*Upcoming Woods Walks - Keep your eyes open at both sites to see if you can identify American bladdernut (*Staphylia trifolia*) in one of them...Ralph offers a \$20 guide to managing your woods if you are first to ID (no asking owners !)*

August 29 - 10AM - 3PM. Our Summer Picnic Sawmill Tour and Woods Walk at Brookside Lumber in Moravia. Meet at the mill - Brookside Lumber Company 4191 Duryea Street, Moravia, New York 13118. Tour of logs-to-lumber automated operation including discussion of buying standing timber. Then a short drive to Guy Garnsey's (cell 315-345-3210) woodlot and sugar bush located at 3648 Black Street, Scipio Center, New York 13147 for the woods walk and discussion of current eco-sensitive lumber harvest, and afterwards our CNY-NYFOA summer picnic which will be at the Garnsey's home where there will also be a tour of woodworking shop & lumber air-drying.

Bring a dish to pass and your silverware, plate/bowl/cup napkins etc. Garnsey's are treating us to hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks. You will learn some interesting things on this woods walk!

October 3 - 10 AM Woods Walk at Chet and Bonnie Crosby's in Auburn area. Note their woods are not at their home. The walk is at 6016 Town Hall Road, Owasco, New York. Go 200 yards south of this address - at mailbox on the west side of the road look for our sign or balloons. Town Hall Road is about 2 miles east of Auburn on Route 20 (Genesee Street). Look for Locust Hill Nursery on the corner and turn south on Town Hall Road about 1 mile. Watch for white farm fence on west side of road & you are almost there. Chet tells me he has 36 inch black walnut and 48 inch white oak trees. Do you believe him? Bring your lunch & a chair. Crosby's have a shed where we can meet & eat if it's bad weather. We will have some kind of outhouse. Chet Crosby's cell (315 252 6638)

December 4 - Christmas Party at the Babcocks in Cazenovia - details to follow

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR WOODS?

Micro-forests, Micro-breweries, Micro-businesses

In New York State we have gone from large lumber and paper companies owning millions of acres, international beer companies like Anhauser Bush, and businesses like General Electric employing a hundred thousand people to today when people in NY are purchasing up to 50-acre lots and running microbreweries and micro businesses from home.

When Mary Jane and I purchased our farm/woods (186 acres) in 1968 there was a 200-acre farm east of us. On the minor road which is our frontage there were just three 400-acre farms, with a total of five families. In the last five years the 200-acre farm to the east was purchased by a company like Land Vest and split into 30 to 50-acre lots which are now owned by people from New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York City, and one local family. Two of the three farms on our minor road were sold in pieces and are now owned by nine different people. The third farm went up for sale this June.

Graduating from college in forestry in 1956, I was drafted into the Army. After basic and secondary training I was processed for overseas duty. The World Soil Group was looking for a forester and after interviewing with them I was accepted. I was assigned to Germany to work with them for the next two years. There I worked with and studied under foresters from many different European countries. I also obtained my German hunting license and hunted and worked with game managers. European forestry and game management is micro-forestry and micro-game management. Today NY is trending toward micro-forestry and land use. Many small forests are being managed for ginseng, ramps, bloodroot, mushrooms, wildflowers songbirds, wildlife, firewood etc. The woods are looked at through the lens of micro-forestry similar to European Forestry.

I go to my computer or cell phone or iPad to manage my woods and grow the best 100 timber crop trees per acre. Then we harvest firewood and control invasive species looking to obtain maximum growth rate and prune branches, i.e. Micro forestry. The pole stands and trees planted today will be producing the finest lumber we've ever seen in the future years. With new timber harvesters and robotics we have minimum land impact erosion and damaged trees in harvesting.

This is why

- (I.) We need to attend Woods Walks to broaden our knowledge.
- (II.) You need to belong to New York Forest Owners Association, as do your neighbors

Ralph Meyer, Chair

In Ralph's article, he refers to the subdivision of properties he has seen in his area over the past few years. "Fragmentation" of forests and land has many consequences besides the need to apply "micro" forestry and "micro" land use practices. Habitat loss through fragmentation has severe consequences for all native species, plant and animal alike.

If you do not already do so, find out more about this or other topics by going to the www.nyfoa.org web site and "Search the entire NYFOA site..." for more on fragmentation (or any other forestry related topic).

In a way, the document Rich Taber has shared with us "A Guide to Starting Legacy Conservation Planning" deals with another aspect of this topic. If you do **not** have a plan for passing on your property at your death, subdivision i.e. fragmentation is often the result.

The Legacy article is being emailed as another attachment with this newsletter. If you only receive the PRINTED NEWSLETTER, you should be able to read and/or print out the article by going online at home or at a public library or requesting a friend to do so. It is available at

<http://extension.psu.edu/natural-resources/forests/private/legacy-planning/talking-points/conversation-starters>

Please welcome new members: John Rybinski & Olin Stratton

Recent Chapter Woods Walk

On May 23, Sandy and Maria Babcock led us on a delightful woods walk on their property in Cazenovia. Besides the knowledgeable Babcocks, we had an additional guide to wildflowers and other vegetation in Bettina Frisse who shared her extensive knowledge of native plants. We were greeted on arrival with a spread of delectable treats as only Maria can master from delicious sliders, salads and fruit to coffee cake and cookies and accompanying coffee!

Fueled up, our group started our route through the Babcocks beautifully landscaped yard with its many flower beds and cool shade from numerous trees, including many old apples. We walked a winding trail into their woods where we followed forest roads through the mixed hardwood stands that the Babcocks have managed for two generations.

In addition to the many maple and other trees that have been managed for firewood and occasional timber sales, there was a small Norway spruce plantation that was never thinned or harvested. Along the road we passed a sizable American elm that was still quite healthy and a good sight to see. Other lovely sights included the many spring ephemerals that make spring so beautiful in central NY; a rare trillium, trout lilies, may apple, skunk cabbage etc. A couple patches of hellebore found in moist areas had a dramatic architectural quality. Crossing over to another part of their property which was mostly old ag field, with a few scattered old apples, we were all duly impressed with the neatly stacked cords of firewood that Sandy has processed this past year. In his own words :

"ALL 42 CORDS !!!all cut last year and this for the upcoming heating season, which approacheth way too fast. Each of my face cords contains about 250 pieces of wood.... That is 10, 500 pieces, each one of which gets handled at least five times before it thrown into the boiler. Now we are up to 52,250 opportunities for smashed fingers. And that assumes that none of the piles tip over, not a realistic assumption."

Returning back to the homestead, we found that the repast available before was still plentiful and we all enjoyed refueling on Maria's delicious fare and discussing what we had seen. What a nice excursion on a spring morning! Would you like to host a woods walk in the future? Our board would be glad to hear of your interest.

Reading Corner...check out...

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/07/22/nyregion/salvaging-a-long-lasting-wood-and-new-york-citys-past.html?smprod=nytcore-iphone&smid=nytcore-iphone-share>

Another interesting tree article

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/24/us/tree-project-aims-to-put-the-oak-back-in-oakland.html>

Hot days in August are a good time to view this "cool" photo of winter logging by Brookside Lumber Inc. You can go to their Facebook page to find more photos and videos of what they do there, and, of course, see for yourself on August 29 when CNY-NYFOA visits their Moravia mill



Speaking of Logging, and logging training (see page 1 for Game of Logging training), did you know there is a logging training organization website that allows you to look for certified loggers in your area?

<http://www.newyorkloggertraining.org/Home/>

The NY logging training web site indicates *"New York Logger Training certifies individual loggers and not logging firms. NYLT does not endorse loggers or businesses, but certifies that the participants have completed the training protocol as described in [GET CERTIFIED]."*

I don't know relation of this organization to all the other training organizations out there, but it looks useful for someone looking to hire a logger



**Do you have questions on invasive species?
Check out these DEC websites for more information.**

Emerald Ash Borer

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7253.html>

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7250.html>

Sirex Woodwasp

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7248.html>

Asian Longhorned Beetle

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7255.html>

Tent Caterpillar

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7111.html>

Invasive Plants

Invasive Weeds to Look for in the Woods or Nearby... (Brochure)
http://www.nyis.info/user_uploads/files/Forest%20Invasives.pdf

Do you have any of these invasive or nuisance insects on your property? How many out of the five do you know you have or had recently? We know we have had 1 of these in past years, not sure of others

- Emerald Ash Borer
- Hemlock Woolly Adelgid
- Sirex Woodwasp
- Asian Longhorned Beetle
- Tent Caterpillar (the Forest Tent & Eastern Tent are actually native....although a nuisance)

What about invasive plants? How many of the fourteen do you know you have, or had recently? We know we have had 7 or 8 of the following - some in great numbers, others, single or a few individual plants

- Japanese Barberry (Berberis thunbergii)
- Winged Burning Bush (Euonymus alata)
- Oriental Bittersweet (Celastrus orbiculatus)
- Shrub Honeysuckles (Lonicera spp.)
- Buckthorn (Rhamnus cathartica & Frangula alnus)
- Norway Maple (Acer platanoides)
- Knapweed (Centaurea)
- Garlic Mustard (Alliaria petiolata)
- Japanese Knotweed (Fallopia japonica)
- Multiflora Rose (Rosa multiflora)
- Giant Hogweed (Heracleum mantegazzianum)
- Wild Parsnip (Pastinaca sativa)
- Poison Hemlock (Conium maculatum)
- Black & Pale Swallow-wort (Cynanchum louseae and C. rossicum)

*****reprinted from NYFOA - Southeastern Adirondack Chapter, 2015 Summer Newsletter*



*These bird houses are selling for 50 to 100 dollars.
What are you doing with the unique deformed woods in your forest?
Learn more on our two upcoming Wood Walks.
Ralph*



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c/o Randi Starmer
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Important CNY-NYFOA event dates to remember - details inside

August 29, Oct 3

If you have news, articles or photos of general interest to share,
please forward them to the newsletter editor, Randi Starmer
(randi.starmer@gmail.com) to put into future newsletters

We hope you can join us for our future events.
Email or write Ralph (meyerralf@yahoo.com)