

NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION SOUTHERN TIER CHAPTER

WINTER 2011 NEWSLETTER

ANNUAL POT LUCK SUPPER TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 20TH !

Join us for what has become our best-attended event of the year. Bring your own table service and a dish to pass; we will provide beverages, and a sheet pizza to supplement your offerings. As those who attended last year's supper can attest, Tree Farmers make pretty good cooks too!

It has been our custom to offer a program with our annual dinner that departs from the nuts and bolts of tree farming, but is still important to everybody interested in natural resources. Our January 20th program will be on the subject of **Bees and Beekeeping**. Earl Vellecco and Sue Garing, who serve as President and Vice President of the Southern Tier Beekeepers Association will be with us to share their vast knowledge of the subject. We will learn about the complex working society of the beehive; how the bees communicate and reproduce, and the variety of jobs they hold during their lifetime. We will learn about the crisis faced by honeybees from disease, invasive species, pesticides and other threats. We will learn what we, as forest owners, can do to help protect the honeybee population and their habitat (did you know how important locust and basswood trees are to the bees?). Why should we care? I'm told that three out of every five mouthfuls of food we eat are attributable to pollination by the honeybee. For more information, visit SouthernTierBeekeepers.org.

DOORPRIZES !

We will have a free jar of honey for the longest-standing NYFOA member attending, and one for the newest member and for the one who traveled the furthest to the meeting. There will be samples of honey for tasting, and local honey available for purchase from the presenters.

The pot luck supper will be held in the auditorium at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Broome County, 840 Upper Front Street, Binghamton. Doors will open at 6:00, we'll have supper at 6:30, and the program will begin at about 7:30. Bring your family and friends! Please call Jerry Michael at (607) 648-2941 by January 17th and let me know how many are coming so we can set the room up and order pizza and beverages accordingly.

HAVE QUESTIONS ON FOREST MANAGEMENT?

Visit www.ForestConnect.info/forum and register. You can post a question on a wide variety of forest management topics and receive a reply from Dr. Peter Smallidge, New York State Extension Forester at Cornell University. Other Forum users can also post comments and practical advice regarding your question. This is a really neat resource!

We will be co-sponsoring a workshop on wildlife habitat with Broome and Chenango County Cooperative Extension in April, and have tentative plans for a woods walk in May. Details will be forthcoming in our Spring Newsletter.

The New York Forest Owners Association (NYFOA) was founded in 1963 to promote sustainable woodland practices and improved stewardship of privately owned forestlands. NYFOA's educational mission is pursued through its bi-monthly publication "The New York Forest Owner", workshops and woods walks sponsored by its ten regional Chapters, and through partnerships with Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE), the DEC and numerous kindred organizations with similar objectives.

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

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