

NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.norfolkwoodlots.com

Volume 1 Edition 33

September 2017



President's Message

I spent September long weekend picking Baco Noir grapes grown in my backyard, for my first attempt at winemaking from grapes. It's turning into quite an education ... my conclusion so far is that it is much cheaper to buy wine from one of our great local wineries. I shall keep you updated on how it goes.

The Board started another year by holding a NWOA meeting on August 28. We continue to lay out plans for some great tours this fall and continue our efforts to interact with our members via telephone, printed newsletter, email newsletter, website and now especially Facebook. Watch for announcements on upcoming tours and specifically notices from fellow members.

Planning for NWOA Annual General Meeting (AGM) on February 28 is in full swing. Mark your calendars for an information packed evening. We are currently deciding on which two of several speakers would be of most interest to you. As usual, there will be many information booths hosted by businesses, wildlife and plant management groups for you to chat with about your specific concerns or curiosity. We welcome all of you to come out.

If you have or if you know someone who has ideas on how to help NWOA grow and improve as an organization, then put your name/their name forward to the nominating committee (I'm on that committee and my contact info is below). Or you can attend the AGM and put the names forward during the Selection of new Board members. We have a couple of Board members retiring so there will be a space or two available.

We would love for you to send us interesting pictures of your woodlot. It could include all kinds of flora and fauna. By posting our woodlot ideas and woodlot pictures on <https://www.facebook.com/norfolkwoodlots/> we all can share and learn.

We welcome your comments, thoughts and ideas for our Facebook, website, newsletter, workshops, tours and Annual Meeting. You can post them on our website www.norfolkwoodlots.com or call me at 519-426-2782 or email me at johndewitt@kwic.com

John de Witt

Long Point Phragmites Action Alliance (LPPAA) Meeting Report

On June 23, 2017 the LPPAA held a meeting to review and inform members and the public of the actions and results of last year's program and to look ahead to this year. The intent of the meeting was to update everyone about the initiatives in the Long Point area and elsewhere along the Great Lakes.

Dustin Veenhof is the new Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry representative and he gave a report on the efficacy of the spray program. Dustin reported that the 2016 aerial spraying and ground spraying has been largely successful. The Glyphosate spray that was used did not have a toxic effect on aquatic life and the treated areas had very little regrowth of phragmites up to June. The high water levels this year have also helped keep down the phragmites by drowning it. There was no prescribed burn last year in winter but some mowing was done by the Marsh Master.

For 2017, approval was gained to treat an additional 1,000 ha in the Long Point, Turkey Point and Rondeau areas. Focus in our area is to include more of the Crown Marsh in the lower Big Creek and Turkey Point wetlands and the north shore of the Inner Bay.

Kristen Bernard from NCC announced that the Nature Conservancy of Canada is partnering with a sub group of the LPPAA with funding from a Trillium Foundation grant to develop a landscape-scale approach to control phragmites in the larger watershed area of Long Point. They are working with McMaster University in the development of strategic mapping, education and awareness plans, and identifying training needs and evaluating various control methods.

Our Norfolk County Roads Department will continue the roadside spray program this year and have had staff training for phragmites management and clean equipment training. The Norfolk County Drainage Department is also mapping the municipal drains so that a management plan can be established. This department is working with the Norfolk Federation of Agriculture to inform farmers of control plans and will be asking for feedback.

If any NWOA members notice phragmites in or along the edges of their woodlots, please inform a member of the LPPAA and work on controlling this invasive species so it can be hopefully be eradicated.

By Betty Chanyi

&

Dan Marina,

Resource Management Technician / Bylaw Enforcement Officer

NWOA Member Site Visit

The Dukelow family woodlot on the 8th Concession Road, Charlotteville, will be the site of a tour on Sat. Nov. 18/17 starting at 1P.M.

The lot is located on the south side of the 8th Concession Road, Charlotteville, 1 Km. West of the East quarter line and 4 Km. East of the Turkey Point road. Look for the orange gate. There is no identification number.

The woodlot is 50 acres containing mixed hardwood with a portion of mixed pine plantation. There has been no commercial activity on the property for 40+ years. We recently had tree marking completed by Triple D Forestry Consultants and are planning a harvest to bring the forest into line with current best forestry practices.

With this tour, we hope to demonstrate the choice making process a forester must go through before putting paint on a specific tree. An after harvest tour will be arranged at a later date so we can see the effect of a carefully planned cut.

David Holmes will be our resource person. With his depth of knowledge and experience, this should prove to be a very interesting and informative outing.

All are invited. The trail system is basic to nonexistent so come prepared for a real hike.

Sat Nov. 25/17 at 1 P.M. is the rain date alternative.

Book Review

“My Life with Trees”: A Sylvan Journey

“My Life with Trees” is the autobiography of a Canadian Forester who made his career in the Maritime Provinces. **Gary Saunders** worked mostly as an extension forester, promoting responsible forest management among private landowners. He was also an accomplished painter. As a good communicator, he explains the relationships amongst trees and between trees and people in an entertaining and educational way. He lives the way many of us would like to live on a small farm in Nova Scotia, using everything that his woodlot has to offer. Reading his story, you will get a short course in forestry and the uses of almost all of the species of trees that we have here in Southern Ontario.

The book is published by Gasperau Press Ltd.

Note: I worked with Gary in “The Bogs and Barrens” of Central Newfoundland when I was a student and I am pleased he used his talents to help Maritime landowners appreciate their woodlots.

Dolf Wynia

WEBSITE INFORMATION

WEBSITE UPDATE

We would encourage all our Members to explore the various sections of the website. We welcome any feedback as to what could be added, changed, updated or removed.

For more information, and access to Newsletters, visit our Website - www.norfolkwoodlosts.com

No Password Required.

Current Newsletters are posted in the ‘Members Area’ of the website.

Once on the website, select **Members Area**, then go to **Current Newsletter** page. Once there, you can select the latest or any newsletter you would like to read.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Members can renew their membership, online, using the NWOA website and pay online with PayPal.

Go to the website and then to **Members Area**, then to **Member Renewal**.

You may also print the membership application form and renew by mail.

Members who renew early would be eligible for the AGM prize draw.
