# NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER www.norfolkwoodlots.com

Office Association

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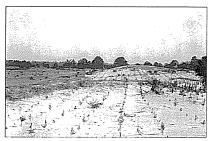
### President's MESSAGE



Can you imagine Norfolk County without forests? Just sand and sandstorms blowing it all around? One hundred years ago that is what Norfolk County for great parts looked like. Clear cutting for farming had been going on for some time without consideration for the fragile stability of the topsoil nor for the variety of habitats. Only 7% of forest cover remained at that time. Some pictures can be seen at <a href="http://swcr.ca/history">http://swcr.ca/history</a>. Fortunately Dr. E.J. Zavitz and Dr. J.H. White recognized the problems and both in their own way helped establish

St. Williams Nursery and reforestation in Norfolk County

and in Ontario. Now forests in Norfolk County cover 25% of the area and major sand storms belong to the past. Their accomplishments were celebrated in a memorial this summer during Forest Fest. Also a book has been written by John Bacher called "2 Billion trees and counting. The legacy of Edmund Zavitz". This is a book very worthwhile reading and it is for sale at the St. Williams Interpretive Centre.



In the weekend of 13 and 14 August Forest Fest was held in St Williams. This event showed a variety of things that forests and wood offer us. Some demonstrations showed on the spot sawmill, chainsaw carving, tree measurement, wooden boat building and local woodcrafts demonstrations and sale. There were tours of St. Williams Nursery and an A.L.U.S. bus tour as well as horse drawn wagon rides and nature walks. All events were focused on a public of all ages. It was a great celebration of all things wood.

In recent times a lot of effort has been put into re-establishing diminished habitats such as prairie, savanna and wetlands. This effort helps to protect our biodiversity. This is necessary because biodiversity creates a healthy environment for all of us to live in. For the past 4 years A.L.U.S. projects have been put in place on hundreds of farms and properties in Norfolk County. Already good results have been booked in creating habitat for a great variety of birds and wild life. With everybody's interest and effort many good things happen.

Angelle van Kleef

President of the Norfolk Woodlot Owners Association



PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE UPCOMING HUNTING SEASONS
BE SEEN WEAR ORANGE!!!

CONTROLLED DEER HUNT ~ November 7 to 13 & December 5 to 11

FALL WILD TURKEY HUNT ~ October 11 to 23

## UPCOMING WOODLOT EVENTS



## Whistling Gardens ~ Garden Tour ~ Wilsonville

## Saturday October 8th, 2011 ~ 9 am

**Whistling Gardens Ltd.** is located in Wilsonville, ON about 15 minutes south of Hwy 403. The 56 acre property features a 1881 field stone home and a one of a kind garden centre.

They focus their attention on supplying and growing some of the rarest, most unusual and newest ornamental tree and conifer introductions. It is also home to Canada's largest conifer collection. It now includes nearly 2,000 species, hybrids and varieties. Their garden centre is focusing more and more on unique plants for collectors and gardeners who want something truly different and not found at more conventional retail outlets.

This doesn't mean they don't carry more commercially available plants. They say "If we don't have it --- ask. I can find just about any tree or shrub needed for any landscape design."

#### HALDIMAND & AREA WOODLOT OWNERS'

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, October, 13th 2011

Join us at our **2nd FALL H&AWOA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** Register at 6:30 ~ mtg. at 7:00 pm

at the Cayuga Mutual Insurance Company - 23 King St. West, Cayuga

#### SPEAKERS & TOPICS:

Canadian Chestnut Council on the American Chestnut Tree Kelly Tonellato on the Cayuga Pike Creek Project Adam Chamberlin - Stresses on Urban / Yard Trees Terry Schwan - White Pine Seed Orchard Update

Lunch will be served mid meeting.

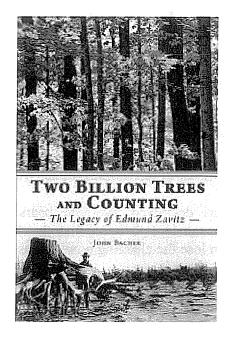
If your membership is due, this is an excellent time to renew and enjoy a great evening of fellowship, food and forestry information! EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

## A BOOK WORTH READING.....

**Edmund Zavitz (1875–1968)** rescued Ontario from the ravages of increasingly more powerful floods, erosion, and deadly fires. Wastelands were talking over many hectares of once-flourishing farmlands and towns.

Sites like the Oak Ridges Moraine were well on their way to becoming a dust bowl — and all because of extensive deforestation. Zavitz held the positions of chief forester of Ontario, deputy minister of forests, and director of reforestation.

His first pilot reforestation project was in 1905, and since then Zavitz has educated the public and politicians about the need to protect Ontario forests. By the mid-1940s, conservation authorities, provincial nurseries, forestry stations, and bylaws protecting trees were in place. Land was being restored.



Just a month before his death, the one billionth tree was planted by Premier John Robarts. Some two billion more would follow. As a result of Zavitz's work, the Niagara Escarpment, once a wasteland, is now a UNESCO World Biosphere. Recognition of the ongoing need to plant trees to protect our future continues as the legacy of Edmund Zavitz.

### **About the Author**

John Bacher received his Ph.D. in history from McMaster University in 1985 and has taught at McMaster and the University of Toronto. A co-author of *Get a Life: An Environmentalist's Guide to Better Living*, Bacher is a passionate supporter of environmental preservation. He lives in St. Catharines, Ontario.

## **AVAILABLE AT AMAZON.CA for \$16.92**

~ put this with a Norfolk Woodlot Owners Association Membership and it is the PERFECT Christmas Gift!

## WEBSITE OF THE MONTH



# www.whistlinggardens.ca

A local supplier and grower of some of the rarest, most unusual and newest ornamental tree and conifer introductions – found right here in Norfolk County.

Check out Badger Photos!

# Don't Move Firewood



Throwing a few pieces of firewood into the trunk of the car before a camping trip might seem like a good way to plan ahead, but those logs could destroy a forest.

Firewood can carry small but harmful hitchhikers that are often hidden in the bark or wood. The damage caused by invasive species such as the emerald ash borer can expand exponentially when they get rides from families on vacation—even if it is only a few kilometres away. In fact, the emerald ash borer has killed millions of ash trees across Canada.

When forests are destroyed, everyone bears the consequences. Workers who depend on the lumber industry can lose their livelihoods. Animals and birds can lose their habitat. And our environment can lose the cleaning power forests provide for the air we all breathe.

The solution is easy: leave your firewood at home and pick some up locally instead. If everyone takes care of our forests we will be able to enjoy them for years to come.

# NWOA Directors -2011 \* year indicates the term the year expires, the (number) indicates the number of terms served

Name	Position	Term *	Phone	E-mail
Dolf Wynia	Past President		875-3350	wynia@kwic.com
Angelle van Kleef	President	2013 (1)	428-1421	vankleef@kwic.com
Clen van Kleef	Vice President	2013 (1)	428-1421	vankleef@kwic.com
Eric Ferguson	Treasurer	2014 (2)	443-7928	emferguson@silomail.com
Martin Perrin	Secretary Website Ctte	2012 (1)	875-2481	mkperrin@kwic.com
Mike Rothery	Director	2014 (2)	586-9535	wmrothery@hotmail.com
Paul Beischlag	Director	2012 (2)	426-8591	pbeischlag@hotmail.com
Vic Janulis	Director	2013 (1)	443-5828	vicj@kwic.com
Joe Stechly	Director	2013 (1)	428-0374	
Tom Bradstreet	Director	2013 (1)	426-3405	tom.bradstreet@natureconservancy.ca
Ron Tchorek	Director	2013 (2)	426-5708	tchorek@kwic.com
Brett Schuyler	Director	2014 (1)	427-9696	brett@schuylerfarms.ca
Paul DeCloet	Director-at-large	2014 (1)		p.decloet@bell.net
John Morrissey	Director-at-large	2014 (1)		drjohn@xplornet.com
Garret Reid	Director-at-large	2014 (2)	429-9288	garretreid42@hotmail.com
Gunther Csoff	Director-at-large	2014 (1)		gandhcsoff@execulink.com
Mark Sommerville	St. Williams Conservation Reserve Community Council	Advisory	426-3762	markruth@flarenet.com
Tracey Boerkamp	Annual General Meeting Chairman	Advisory	443-8754	springview@simcom.on.ca
David Reid Stewardship Co-ordinator	Norfolk Land Stewardship Council	Advisor	426-4259	dave.j.reid@ontario.ca
Steve Scheers Superintendent	Norfolk County Forestry Conservation Service	Advisor	426-5999	steven.scheers@norfolkcounty.ca



**Paul Beischlag** and his wife Cindy moved back to Norfolk County in 1990. They live near Walsh. Here they own 7 acres of Carolinian forest. In 1991 they bought a 47 acres farm near Port Reyerse. This farm had a 5 acres woodlot.

They got advice from Dave Miller and planted 32000 trees from St William's Nursery. In 1992 bought a 97 acre property from a retiring farmer with a 7 acre woodlot. Here 92 acres were planted with advice of Rick Lambert. At that time MNR got involved and planted 1500 Carolinian species on 5 acres and 3000 oaks on another 5 acres. For

providing the trees MNR wanted access to the property for 20 years. The oaks got eaten by deer but grew back in the following years.

The mixed hardwoods acres are now in the MFTIP tax program.

They enjoy their woodlot recreationally through hiking, biking, cross country skiing and golfing.

They became members of the NWOA in 1996 at the AGM

Paul is a retired engineer of Ontario Hydro. He worked in Thunder Bay, and Nanticoke.

He is the secretary of the Lynn Valley Trail Association.



#### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

## Fomes Root Rot / Red Pine Decline Workshop

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources together with Simcoe and Norfolk counties will be hosting two workshops on Fomes Root Rot (*Heterobasidion irregulare*).

### Come and learn how to identify and manage this destructive pathogen.

These free full day workshops will be held rain or shine, and will consist of in-class and in-field discussion led by Dr. Richard Wilson, Forest Program Pathologist for OMNR. Both workshops will be oriented towards forest managers, industry and private woodland owners interested in learning how to identify and reduce the impacts of Fomes Root Rot in red pine plantations. You will also obtain an update on local forest health conditions.

Pre-registration is required:

## October 20, 2011 9:00 - 3:30 Turkey Point

Long Point Waterfowl's Research and Education Centre 546 Turkey Point Rd. Turkey Point, ON Register: Adam Biddle by October 14, 2011. Adam.biddle@Norfolkcounty.ca (519) 426-5999 ext. 2224

#### November 3, 2011 9:00 - 3:30 Midhurst

Ministry of Natural Resources
White Pine Board Room 2284 Nursery Road
Midhurst, ON,

Register: Al Winters by Friday, October 28, 2011 al.winters@ontario.ca (705) 725-7557

**Note:** The workshops will be limited to 25 participants on a first come basis. A field lunch will be provided. Please advise us of any food allergies. We will be car-pooling so come prepared to share your vehicle or to travel with others. Please come dressed for the field.

# CHAINSAW CERTIFICATION

Are you interested in receiving chainsaw training?

Please contact

Ron Tchorek at 519-426-5708 / tchorek@kwic.com for more information

This is a 2 day workshop -1 day in class and 1 day in the field.

Required working chainsaw with operating chain break plus safety equipment – including hardhat with face shield and hearing protection, chainsaw pants, work boots and chainsaw gloves (latter optional).

If there is enough interest the NWOA is willing to coordinate a chainsaw certification course. Enrolment is limited to 8 participants – allowing for one on one instruction in the practical field session.



www.greatlakestrailtreesociety.org

The Trail Marker Trees as well as the Marker Trees in general, were part of an extensive land and water navigation system in our country that already was in place long before the arrival of the first European settlers. While the Native American's had a widespread trail system in place, the Trail Marker Trees served as exit signs off of these land and water routes bringing them to areas of specific interest and then directing them back to the main route, much like the exit signs off of our major interstates today.

Some of these trees would have brought them to fresh water springs, the preferred source of water used by the Native Americans and settlers alike. Other Trail Marker Trees would have guided them to areas with exposed stone and copper deposits needed for their adornments, hunting implements, and everyday tools. Yet, others would lead them to the areas where they could gather medicinal plants as well as plants used to make their dyes and paints. The Trail Marker Trees would have taken them to ceremonial sites and occasionally the burial sites of their ancestors. Also, in relation to the rivers, these trees would indicate areas of portage and safe crossing (fords). All of the above mentioned reasons for the Trail Marker Trees made them a necessity to some of the Native Americans' way of life and survival. The widespread trails

created by animal migration that they followed never would have taken them to these many specific sites of human interest and necessity.

The necessity to be able to identify an actual man made Trail Marker Tree versus a tree simply deformed by nature would have been extremely important. The many different shapes of these Trail Marker Trees were distinct in their appearance, and always followed some specific guidelines. Typically, the types of trees chosen for this purpose came from the hardwood species, known for their longevity and their flexibility while young, followed by their permanence to retain these shapes long into the future. However, the Trail Marker Trees shaped by different Native American Tribes in different regions of the country would have some variability.

If you know of any such trees please contact Angelle VanKleef at vankleef@kwic.com.

