

President's message March / April 2013

On March 6th we had our 16th annual General Meeting in Delhi. Again it was very successful with more than 200 people in attendance. Most members came in early to talk to exhibitors, board members and each other. This makes the AGM a social and enjoyable event. We even had the President of the Huronia Woodland Owners Association and his wife come from Orillia to experience how we organize this event. The keynote speaker, Scott Davis from Eastern Ontario Model Forest, told us about the process they went through to get group certification for their regional woodlots. Murray Abbott, agent in lumber sales worldwide, told us about how the market of lumber is changing towards certified wood and wood products. Especially now that the European Union is requiring certified wood it is more important than ever to get certification of saw mills and woodlots in Norfolk County. During the meeting one member was standing for a position of board member at large and 3 members showed interest in participating in board activities and organizing events. *Special Thanks* to our local businesses you generously supplied a great variety of door prizes.

The next day on March 7th some board members met with representatives from lumber trades, lumber mills, Norfolk County, Nature Conservancy Canada, SCOR, LPRCA and Scott Davis. All are interested in the process of group certification. To get started we will work with some larger woodlot owners. As we continue we will include all interested members in the process. With the support of SCOR to obtain financial assistance our group may in the future include Brant, Elgin, Middlesex, Norfolk and Oxford County. We need to work on two objectives; Forest certification to comply with management and sustainability standards; and Chain-of-Custody to trace the lumber back to the source.

Outside winter is still lingering on. Warm weather is slowly melting the last remnants of snow in woodlots. The new arriving birds show the first sign that spring is near. Earlier in March we went to St Williams and Port Rowan to see the first tundra swans. To see and hear 10000 birds gathered in a field is just amazing. Also to hear red winged black birds or robins or to see a turkey vulture fly over the trees makes me realise that the season is changing. I am looking forward to spring and to the tasks lying ahead of us. We will keep you informed about progress as the work continues.

If you have any suggestions or interests that you would like to learn about you can let me know by phone (519-428-1421) or by email (vankleef@kwic.com)

Angelle van Kleef

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting
and the President's Message are attached.
A big Thank You to Mary Scheers for taking the minutes
of the meeting!**



PRESIDENT'S 2012 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT

Submitted by Angelle VanKleef, NWOA President

In 2012 the board of directors of the Norfolk Woodlot Owners Association met 11 times. Both our June and December meetings were held at the Spring View Farm Golf Course. During these meetings we kept informed about the financial position. Most expenses go toward printing and mailing our newsletter. To decrease these expenses we have been working on improving the new website. Through the website members can read the newsletter online. This will save on printing and mailing expenses.

The AGM was held on Wednesday February 1, 2012. Close to 200 people were in attendance. Keynote speaker was Tom Nudds. He spoke about "landowner participation in effective conservation of species at risk". There were 40 tables and booths presenting information to members. Members could sign up to receive an aerial photo of their woodlot.

In 2012 4 newsletters were sent out. We have been working on improving the website. Added to the website was the Great Tree Hunt. This addition mentions all great trees and their location in Norfolk County. The board has been working on Species at Risk. 60 Eastern Flowering Dogwood trees were planted in Trees for Roads program. 300 seeds of Eastern Flowering Dogwood were seeded for 2013 planting.

We have been working with Scotts Canada to provide Scotts Canada with local wood chips for their production plant in Delhi. We have also been preparing Forest Certification. This initiative is supported by SCOR.

Several tours were held:

March 24th Tour at Paul DeCloet's woodlot,
March 15th St. Williams Conservation Reserve,
March 31 Fox Hollow Farms tour,
June 16 Huronia Woodlot Owners Association touring Backus Woods.

Several events were organized:

May 1 Ruffled Grouse Habitat session,
April 21 Tree planting Lions / Nature Conservancy of Canada,
July 12-14 Can Fruit and Veg Tech Exchange,
August 12th Forest Fest.

We have provided an opportunity for a chain saw safety course and will attempt to facilitate another session in the fall.

We have been working on the Great Tree Hunt map as do we on the website.

One Forest Health was identified as a concern European larch needle cast – and a forest health note will be developed by Norfolk County.

Our other partnerships continue to grow and in 2012 we have been working together with St Williams Conservation Reserve, ALUS and Nature Conservancy Canada and look forward to future workshop events together!

**NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION
16TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Date: Wednesday, March 6th, 2013
Time: Door opens 5:00 p.m. ~ Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Place: German Hall, Delhi, ON

President Angelle van Kleef opened the meeting welcoming past, present & new NWOA members along with our local councillors in attendance. She acknowledged the presence of the Huronia Woodlot Association.

President van Kleef spoke briefly including the importance of keeping our Norfolk Forests growing & healthy.

President van Kleef introduced 'Denika Piggott' of the Norfolk ALUS Program who was in attendance.

Steven Scheers (NWOA Advisor) motioned a Constitutional Amendment that Clause 3 be removed:
2nd by Dave Reid
CARRIED

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Eric Ferguson reviewed the NWOA financial statement reporting not too much activity but Grant money had been received through MNR totaling \$36,900. not shown on this December, 2012 Financial Report.

INCOME: \$11,618.40

EXPENSES: 4,817.26

(as of Dec/12) BALANCE: \$10,415.36

Motion to accept Dec/12 financial statement by Mark Sommerville: CARRIED

DISCUSSIONS:

a) Discussion commenced re: proposed NWOA membership fee increase from \$20. to \$25.
MOTION: Iria Lukosius
CARRIED

b) General Meeting be ratified and approved
MOTION: Dolf Wynia
SECONDED: Dave Reid
CARRIED

DAVE REID (DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE)

1. commended the following retiring members for their dedicated years of service to NWOA; Martin Perrin (Secretary Website Ctte); Tom Bradstreet (Director), and Ron Tchorek (Director)

2. Requested Nominations or Volunteers for Directorship Positions:

NOMINATION: Willy Bergen by Mark Boerkamp
Nomination received and accepted
CARRIED

KEYNOTE SPEAKER ~ *Scott Davis from Eastern Ontario Model Forest who is a Forest Certification Coordinator (introduced by Steven Scheers)*

HIGHLIGHTS of his address:

- Model Forest Program, established 1992 considered 'facilitator's' for developing & testing
- EOMF objective areas: pilot ideas/research
- Forest Communities Programs can be found Newfoundland to B.C.
- Spoke on Forest Stewardship Council, established 1993
- 140 million hectares have been certified in 87 countries with Canada world leader in FSC certification
- 10 Principles are internationally followed
- Explained FSC labeling – method of tracing the wood right back to the forest
- Demand for FSC is growing with 400,000 acres of Private & County Forests
- Explained how groups became certified & opportunities - "The Mark of Responsible Forest"
- sdavis@eomf.on.ca

Mr. Davis took questions off the floor.

President van Kleef extended thanks and gratitude

BREAK: 8:10 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

A short overview video on FSC was viewed showing popularity of Canada's certified wood products. Markets are trending upward towards certified wood products.

PRESENTATION: Steven Scheers presented Mr. Davis with a 'Governor Simcoe Walking Stick' & 10 Billion Trees Book in appreciation for his informative presentation.

SPEAKER: Steven Scheers introduced Murray Abbott (Hardwood Exporter)

HIGHLIGHTS of his address:

- exports lumber to small, medium companies
- 50% of Canadian lumber is exported all over the world
- in the future FSC will be the standard – look to certification for 'YOUR' forests

Steven Scheers thanked Mr. Abbott by presenting him with a 'Governor Simcoe Walking Stick' & an Alligator from the North Book.

SPEAKER: Steven Scheers spoke on Forest By-Law 'Enforcement to Certification'

- Endangered Species Act – engage to conserve
- Forest Health
- Trees for Roads
- Eastern Ontario Flowering Dogwood (Sat. April 27th)
- Commitment to Website
- Getting Back to Roots

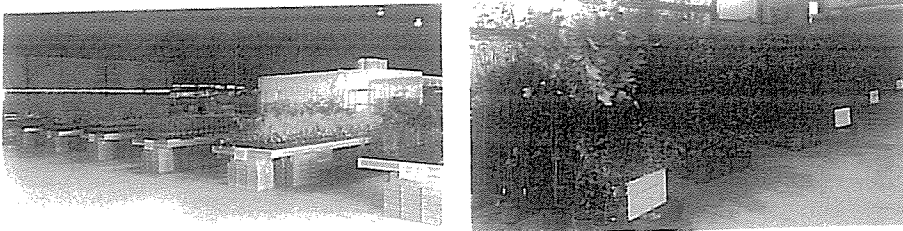
PRESENTATION: OPFA Susan Jarvis presented Dolf Wynia with the Dr. Edmond Zavitz Award for his many years of dedication.

RECOGNITION: Steven Schéers & Dave Reid informed the attending members/guests of the passing of two fundamental pioneers and asked that they support their families at this time:
Mr. Al Spencer and Mr. Doug Townsend

THANK YOU:

1. Mark Boerkamp thanked all the Door Prize Donors and those that displayed a booth in the hall. He announced Louis Kersten as the winner of the Brand New Stihl Chainsaw!!
2. President van Kleef concluded the evening thanking all those in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:20 p.m.



**SPRING
PUBLIC SALE EVENT**

SATURDAY, MAY 4TH - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 5 - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**WHOLESALE PRICING ON SPECIALLY SELECTED
SOURCE-IDENTIFIED NATIVE SPECIES**

TREES - GRASSES - SHRUBS - WILDFLOWERS

826 Hwy. 24 West
St. Williams, ON

stwilliamsnursery.com

Our Sharp Field Reporter on Ron Tchorek

March 20, 2013

Norfolk Woodlot Owners Association Chainsaw Maintenance & Safety Clinic

On March 20th, 2013 the Norfolk Woodlot Owners Association hosted a chainsaw maintenance and safety clinic. It was co-sponsored by Norfolk Tractor of Simcoe, and Stihl Canada. The event was very well attended with 30 participants, both young and old, attending this information session.

Stephen Anderson, Field Application Manager for southern Ontario, led the evenings proceedings with interactive discussions, video presentations and informative question and answer periods. His hands on approach to chainsaw safety and maintenance allowed even the novice user to see firsthand how easy and quick it is to do a "circle check" of your equipment, your fuel, and your safety clothing.

Keep your saw well maintained:

The safety features your saw had when you bought it will not continue to work properly if you do not maintain them. The chain brake, the anti vibration features, and the throttle safety switch are all there to keep you safe.

- Duct tape is NOT a fix. There is a delicate balance in the centrifugal braking system on chainsaws and timely repairs is a must.
- Sprockets, chains and bars all wear with use. Don't be fooled into thinking close inspection is an option.
- Most chainsaws today are more fuel efficient and environmentally improved. Fuel is a major consideration in the optimal and safe operation of any saw. Old fuel and poor mixing oil can lead to work disruption and lost power when it's needed most. Put your machine away with an empty fuel tank and start the new year with fresh high octane gas and quality mixing oil.

Bush Safety:

- When the topic of safety gear was discussed, Stephen could not emphasize enough the need for hearing protection, hard hat and face shield, safety glasses, (yes, wear both), quality "safety rated" footwear, good leather gloves, chaps or safety pants with a good protective rating. Always wear visible clothing such as florescent vest, to make you much more conspicuous while working and easier to find in case of an accident.
- Always have a work plan that involves others. Use the "buddy system" whenever possible and try not to go into the bush alone.
- If you are working alone, take a cell phone and keep it on you at all times. It does very little good in your truck if you are in trouble. Leave detailed instructions with family members where you are working and when you should return. Ensure they are watching for your timely return or that you have checked in with an altered plan.

I wish to thank Stihl Canada for coming out to our NWOA chainsaw clinic. I also wish to thank Tim Lyons and Ron Barker of Norfolk Tractor for making their facility available to us. They supplied a great pizza party, offered discounts on some products and made the event a success.

**NORFOLK
TRACTOR**



Our Sponsors!

Please take the time to patronize our generous Sponsors! And a big thank you for once again organizing this part of the meeting



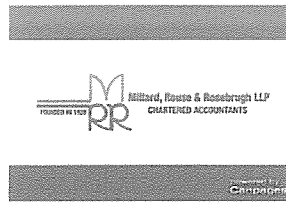
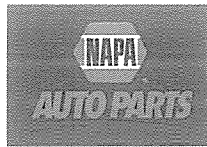
Tracey Boerkamp

We would encourage you to visit the Springview Golf Course and thank Tracey personally!!

Stihl 170 Chainsaw Winner:

LOUIS KEURSTEN

DELHI BUSINESSES



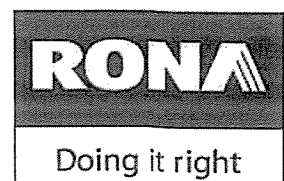
DELHI SUBMARINE

DELHI BUNKHOUSE

YU's Chinese Restaurant



TURKSTRA LUMBER
"ALWAYS ON THE LEVEL"

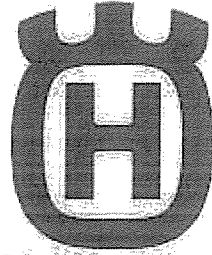


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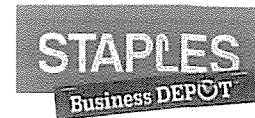
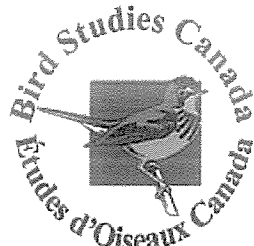
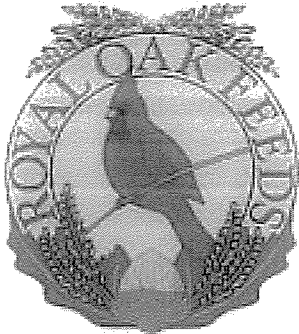
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