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#### CONTACT

Catskill Forest Association, Inc.
43469 State Highway 28 / PO Box 336, Arkville, NY 12406
Phone: (845) 586-3054 / Fax: (845) 586-4071
cfa@catskillforest.org / www.catskillforest.org

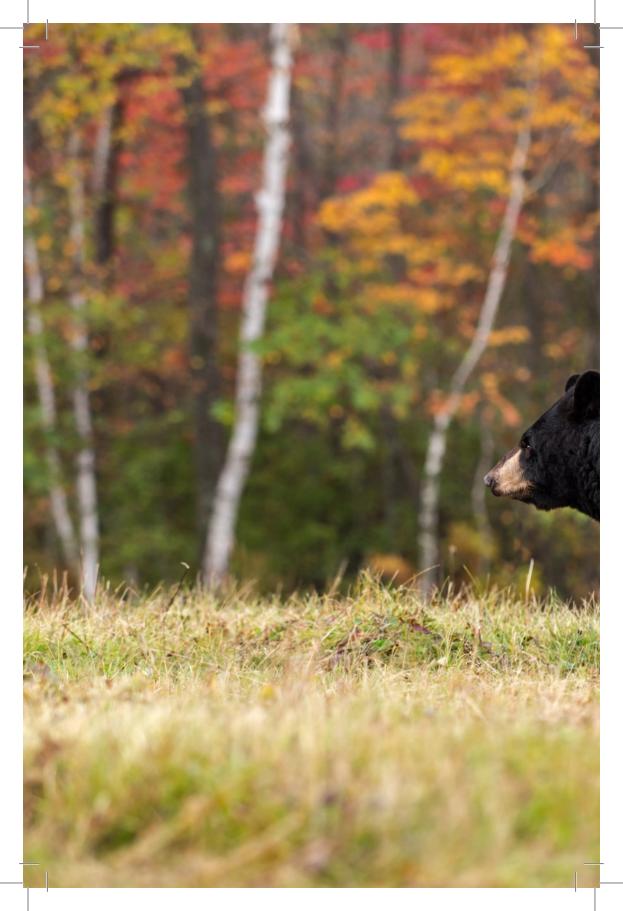
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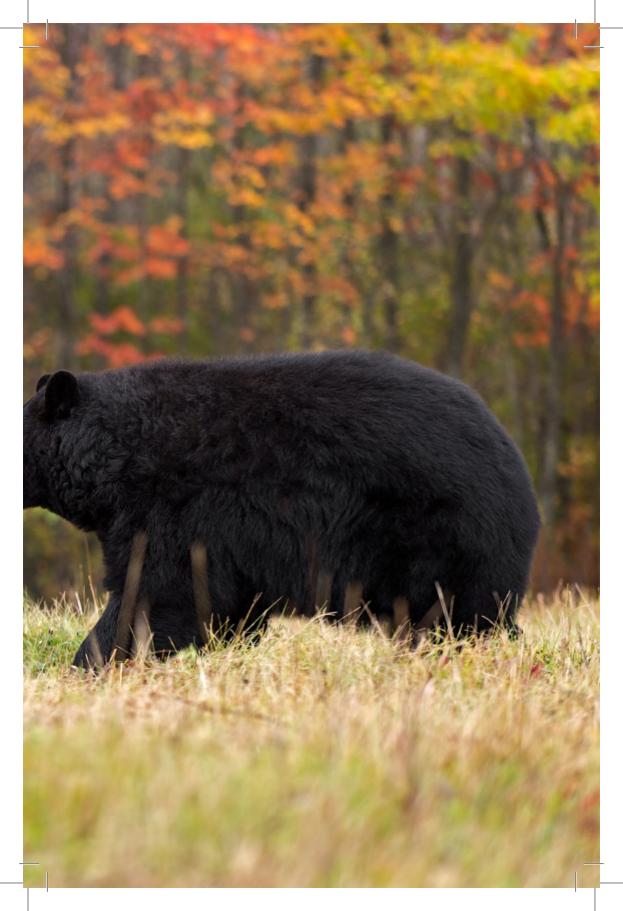
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## Welcome, New Members!

Audrey Evrard • Isabel Goldberg • Zack DeSart • Thomas Moore Evan Jewett • John Carney • Ann Marie Back • Robert Goecks • Celia de Campos • Abby Travis • Christopher Bowser • Jamis Mack • Christopher Allen • Christopher Roeleveld • Jeaine Scinta-Sass • Kate Berring • Liz Sinar • Katherine JayCarroll • Karen Zippler-Ward • Gretel Bachler • Marci LeBrun • Joseph Imhauser • Marianne Mukai • Erik Yazdani • Herb Brooks • Ann Sherrill • Rebecca Daczka • Michael Rosen • Alexis Piela • Paul Strotman • Nancy Raisanen • Page Burkholder • Sarah Crawford • Justin Griffiths • Ted Sheridan • Kate Potters • Jeffrey Peacock • Clare Aronow • Sarah Melissa Arbaugh • Jared Sender • Jeff Gagnon • Jessamine McLellan • Alda Arazi • Aldora Farfalla • David Giles • Jeff Golliher • Bradford Reed • Susan Bodnar • Tatenda Tazarurwa • Steve Wiland • Curry Ford • Mellissa Lim • Fred Divito • Mountain Dog Cafe, LLC • Eve Prime • Ryan Beickert • Susan Penick • Left Bank Ciders • Liz Maloney •Davita Ouellette • Katrina Weinig • Eugene Ruoff • William Guild • Todd Galloway • Joseph Kleinmann • Sahra Motalebi • Mary McKeon • Corey Tatarczuk • Morgan Spurlock • Eric Ulrich • David Aglow • Reynaldo Punzalan • Cornelius Cooper • Daniel Struble • Matthew Schlosser • Donald Green • Andrea Lynch • Melanie Gissen • Roger Wall • Charlotte Nicholson • Tyler Evans • Mary Socolof • Jeffrey Marino • James Montague • Kellen Tucker • David Weiner • Landon Van Soest • Ruth Ann Funari • Shaun Gatter • Mary Ellen Moynahan • Sarah & Daniel Goldhagen • Mai Hariu-Powell • Janice Robinson





## From the President's Desk Fall 2021-

By: Mike Porter

Hello Muddah, Hello Faddah, here I am at Camp Granada. It is raining etc. etc. I am not sure how many of you recognize this musical introduction, but I am actually sitting at a table at said Camp Granada, made famous by Alan Sherman in the sixties. nephews are part owners of this resort on Lake Champlain and we are visiting. Enough nostalgia, let me get to the task at hand and prepare my message for the fall.

I am going to brainstorm a few ideas for possible new programs for the future of CFA. This is only speculation by me as President of CFA and I am solely responsible for its content. At least, until one or more of these ideas come to fruition.

As a member or potential member scans through the offerings of CFA it is difficult to envision any more being offered than is already there. In my mind the offerings are broad in scope and desirable to all members at the present time.

First, let's look at the possibility of the development of a biofuel future. This would require support of alternate fuel policies being passed and advocated. This is not new though as solar, wind and nuclear are being talked about and implemented to varying degrees. As a sidelight, my home is powered by solar electric through Delaware River Solar and takes any nonrenewable production out of our usage. So, in the event of biofuels becoming part of the discussion for home heating, I bring this idea up for thought. CFA has advocated for biofuel usage in the past through a proposed program to provide Fleischmanns with a wood-burning plant that would provide heat to the subscribing residents of the village. It never went further than the discussion phase but a plan is still out there that would work. CFA also made a proposal to the Catskill Recreation Center for a biofuel heating system when it was in the design stage. That, too, didn't go but a geothermal heating plant was put in to aid in heating the building.

As biofuels are not a new concept, it is conceivable that their importance could again rear its head as a possibility. CFA

could offer a program to help members become a part of this movement by helping with the selection of low-grade trees to be harvested, arrange for a logger to cut and deliver trees to a landing and transportation of the trees to a plant capable of processing the wood to usable form (most likely chips) where a trucking firm would deliver product to the plant. The local employment opportunities would include foresters to mark timber, loggers to cut and move logs out of the woods, trucking firms to move the timber to the processor, more trucks to deliver product to the plant, and plant operators.

The technology would also require adequate processes to convert chips or wood to heat energy, a technology to clean smoke stack emissions, and a means of transfer of heat to subscribing homes. Surprise, these processes already exist so society would not have to invest any money in research and development.

CFA would become a manager for members looking to take advantage of the biofuel industry and, by so doing, improve their forests and make for better growth and forest health. This is what CFA is all about, helping members.

Let's say, for a minute, that forest health becomes better defined and accepted as critical to the future of our forest lands. Included in the definition should be lowering density of trees to slow disease transmission, more vigorous growth of trees left in the woods and the ways that this density would help reduce the impacts of any climate changes as they occur.

With all the talk of the effects of climate change and its impact on forests there is also an aspect of forests that is sometimes overlooked. That is the concept that no fire is a good fire. For the pasts 70 years or so, any fire has been deemed a bad fire so suppression has led to lots of debris accumulating on forest floors and trees have grown in density making fire easier to spread. We have to realize that studies have found that natives to North America used fire as a tool for managing game, nuts and berries and the like. Since a small bear (Smokey) was rescued from a fire in Arizona about 70 years ago people have pushed for fire suppression. Add to the increased density and ground fuels the drier climate brought on by climate change and you have a

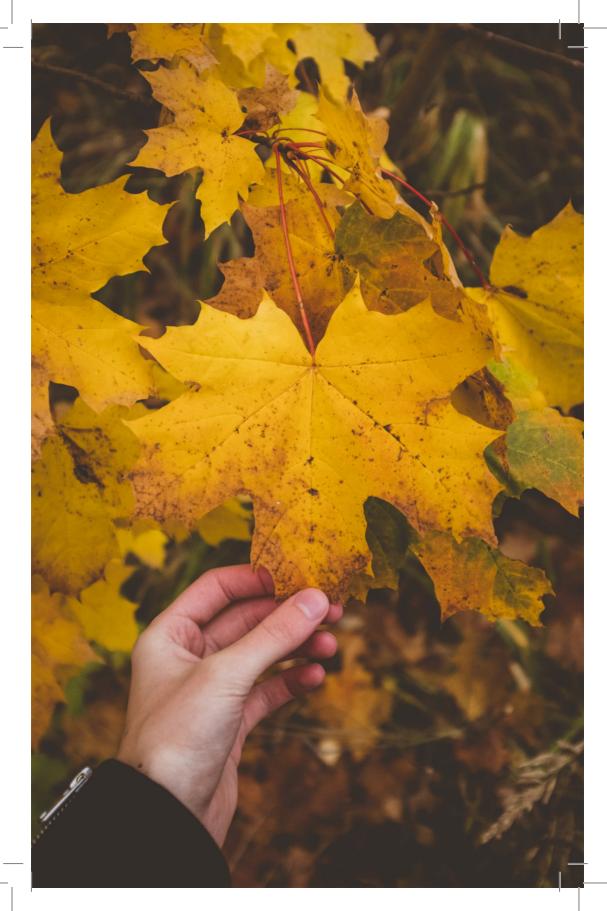
prescription for disaster. Then add to it all the homes built in these forest areas and the disaster becomes even greater. This is mostly a problem of the west as the humid forests of the east are more difficult to set afire. We still have the problems of density and forest health to deal with here in the east and many of these issues are also related to past suppression of fire, more by society both native and colonists.

Management of these crowded timber resources could be a potential program for CFA staff as incentives for improving forest health grow more popular and affordable. CFA could educate for, not just timber harvest and thinning, but landowners to take the initiative to manage their own woods to make them healthier. If the above mentioned biofuel program ever gains a foothold, this forest health worry would most likely take care of itself but, if not, owners will have to go it alone to make their forests healthier and that would be where CFA comes in.

As you can see, I don't have lots of ideas. I attribute this lack to the really complete set of programs CFA already

offers. I am sure that as the need arises, there will be more and appropriate programs offered. Only time and member needs will dictate what comes up. In a nutshell, CFA provides very complete services to its members and has needs almost covered for now.

Well, as I began this message I will finish. It's still raining and is going to continue to rain for the next few days. I guess my stay at Camp Granada will not end as well as the song did some 50 years ago. So please take me home, oh Muddah, Faddah, please. For now.



## LEARNING FROM DATED LOGGINGS

By: Michael Kudish

We can learn much from dated loggings, i.e. tracts of forest land that had been harvested with the year (or years) known.

#### **STUMPS**

First, we can watch the stumps rot. Knowing the date that they were cut, we can study the changes in their appearance over the years and decades, and then apply the rot rate to stumps whose age we do not know. At the CFA's 2018 Forest Festival, I spoke on this topic after having written an article on the subject for the spring 2014 issue of CFA News.

#### LOG DECKS -

Second, we can watch log decks (also called landings) fill in with forest. Decks, where logs were loaded onto trucks, are small clearings which eventually fill in with forest. The key word here is EVENTUALLY. The fill-in rate is usually very slow because pioneer herbs and shrubs (goldenrods, tall flat-topped aster, blackberries, raspberries, hay-scented fern, climbing buckwheat, and/or meadowsweet) invade the clearing almost immediately and prevent trees from taking over (see Kaatskill Life, summer 2009 issue).

Therefore, the forest must grow in from the side. Overhanging branches slowly shade out the herb-shrub thickets in the clearing - rarely by tree seedlings growing up through the dense thickets.

Some tree species capable of abundant root sprouts can invade the clearing also from the edges, namely beech and sometimes yellow and/or black birch.

Once the pioneer shrubs and herbs are partly shaded out and less dense, tree seedlings begin to grow in the clearing. This will take decades - in some cases a century or more if the deck was large.

Occasionally, instead of herb and shrub thickets first invading the clearing, trees invade first and the reforestation rate becomes much faster. But this is the exception, not the rule.

#### STRUCTURE OF THE FOREST -

Third, we can watch the structure (species composition and age and size of each species) of the forest change over the years and decades after a harvest, but this is a subject for another whole article. If we know when a particular forest was harvested, and we look at the present structure of this forest, we can compare it to the structure of forests whose harvests date we do not know.

#### THE 1960S LOGGINGS -

When I was a graduate student mapping the history of the Catskills forest in 1969 and 1970, I noted that logging on two large private tracts had just been completed. I mapped the extent of the then-fresh roads and stumps. The loggers had used the public DEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) hiking trails which crossed over the private lands as log roads. The four tracts described below were high-graded for hardwoods, not clear-cut, and quite carefully done.

#### WINNISOOK CLUB -

The Winnisook Club, lettered A on the accompanying map, harvested a portion of their lands sometime between 1960 and 1965.

If their tract looks too large on the accompanying map to CFA members familiar with the area today, the tract shown is as it was in the 1960s. In 1980, roughly two-thirds of their lands had been sold to the state.

If there had been no logging ever on Winnisook Club (established in 1887) and prior owners' lands, we would have continuous first growth forest from the Wittenberg-Cornell-Peekamoose Range over Slide Mountain all the way west along the southern range of the Catskills to the point on Mill Brook Ridge where the 1979 Nassau County Boy Scouts harvesting began - a distance of 18.5 miles. Only Ulster County Route 47 would have broken the continuity.

#### **FURLOW PROPERTIES -**

On Furlow Properties, lettered B on the map, the harvest took place sometime between 1960 and 1968.

#### 55 TO 60 YEAR OLD STUMPS -

Today, when we climb Slide Mountain on the Phoenicia-East Branch and Burroughs Range Trails (now on state land), and when we climb Balsam Lake Mountain today on the DEC trail up from Mill Brook Road through the Furlow Properties, we know that the stumps and decks we see are between 55 and 60 years old.

These stumps from the 1960s harvests are now in their last stages, often with a ring of more resistant wood spikes around the periphery and a fully rotted out hollow center. The whole stump crumbles when we touch it. When we compare stumps of unknown age on other mountains, if they resemble these old stumps, they should also date back to the 1960s.

For a short distance from the trailhead on Mill Brook Road towards Balsam Lake Mountain on Furlow Properties, some trees had fallen or had been damaged by hurricane Sandy in 2012. A salvage cut soon followed, about 2013. Thus, hikers will notice stumps of two different ages – the 1960s and the 2013s. What a difference in appearance! In fact, at the CFA's 2018 Forest Festival I showed photos, taken by our photographer David Turan, of stumps of both ages.

#### 55 TO 60 YEAR OLD DECKS -

Log decks tend to fill in with forest at about the same rate that branches of the surrounding trees grow horizontally outward from the trunk – about 8 inches per year. Therefore, if a large log deck were in an acre in area and circular in shape, it would have a radius of 118 feet. At 8 inches per year, it would take about 175 years on the average to fill in with forest. Occasional trees sprout from their roots around the edge of the clearing or seed in into the middle of the clearing; these will speed up the afforestation rate. The log decks on Balsam Lake and Slide Mountains are now about one third to one half their original size.

So when we determine what percentage of the original area remains of a log deck with an unknown date, we better can estimate its age.

#### NASSAU COUNTY BOY SCOUTS (LETTER C ON THE MAP) -

In 1979, the Nassau County Boy Scouts, owners of the former Coykendall Estate surrounding Alder Lake (letter C on the accompanying map), decided to sell their lands to the State of New York. In preparation for the 1980 sale, much of the west end of Mill Brook Ridge was logged in 1979. The harvest followed the ridge line from a point just southwest and above the Kelly Hollow Lean-to all the way west to Cross Mountain Road. When I first hiked on this ridge line in the 1980s, the stumps, skid roads, and decks were fresh and easy to map.

#### PERSEK TRACT ON PAKATAKAN MOUNTAIN

(letter D on the map) -

One small logging job had just been completed on the Persek Tract on Pakatakan Mountain, outside Margaretville. The Dry Brook Trail followed along the northeast boundary of this tract when I hiked by in 1969. In 1980, these lands were sold to the state so we now can freely roam the tract and map the extent of the log road network and examine the stumps. See letter D on the accompanying map.

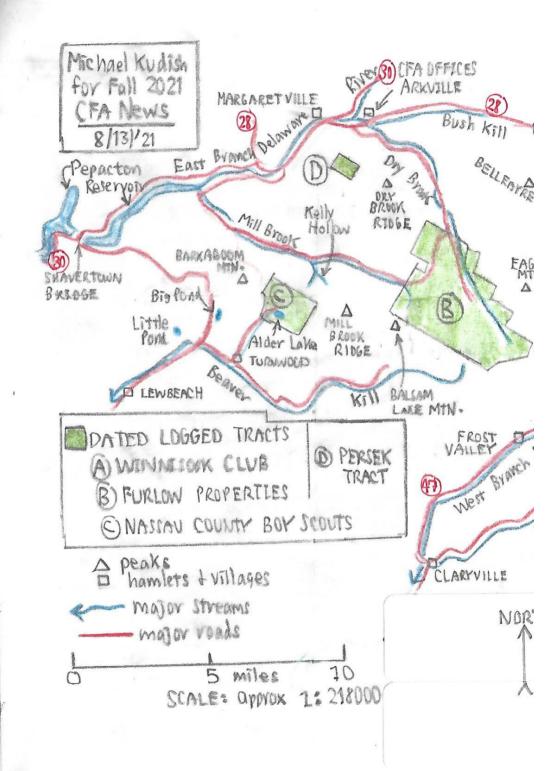
#### HARDENBERGH PATENT LOTS

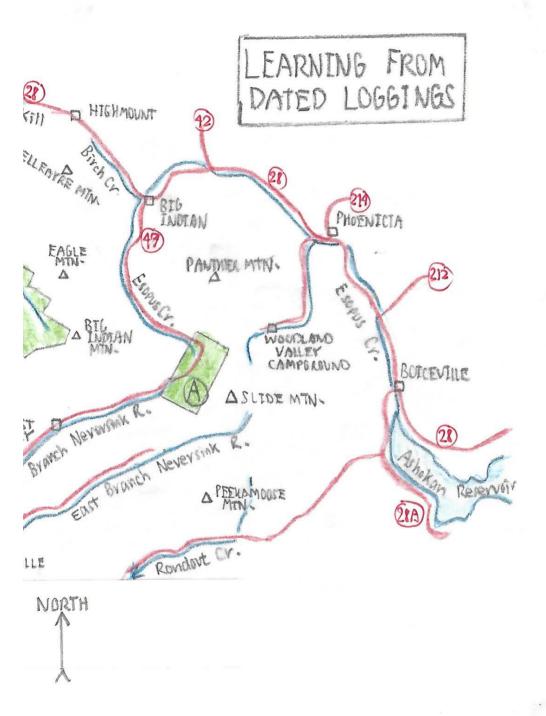
If one knows what lots of the Hardenbergh (or other) Patent were sold to the state by a land owner following a timber harvest, one has an even better grasp of the boundaries of the harvest.

#### OTHER LOGGINGS

Often, as I hike by on public lands following common boundaries with private tracts, I look inside the private lands. If the private lands are either in the process of being logged or where logging has just been completed, I include these observations in my field notes. In case folks in the future ask when a certain tract was logged, we then have the history recorded.

When I visit private lands and the owner describes their history, that's even better because we can look further into the past to previous harvests.





# REINSERTING MAN IN THE FOREST

By: Ryan Trapani, Director of Forest Services

Regeneration. It's important. Just the utterance of the word makes me feel better. Normally "regeneration" refers to growing something back that is worthwhile or important. Those who suffer from arthritis encounter a word that surely doesn't make them feel better – "degeneration" – or the opposite of regeneration. When we're younger, our body tends to regenerate cells more readily and abundantly. And as we age, cells and tissue are damaged over time. With damaged human parts, it seems one is left with 3 different options. (1) Protect the area where the injury has occurred from damaging activities; (2) Surgery to correct what has been broken; or (3) Regenerate through the insertion of cells (stem cells). The last method is in its infancy but shows promise.

In any case, I've been active my whole life and have used all the above options to mitigate injuries; Each has its place in its time. Of course, I'm going to relate this to the forest. I've written before about the phenomenal resurgence of forests in the Catskills and eastern North America over the last 100 years. I don't take this for granted, and believe this regrowth is sorely under-rated due to sustainable pessimism within natural resources management that I no longer share. Although forests have re-grown, their regrowth isn't without injury. Just as you and I may be overall healthy individuals, parts of our bodies are in better condition than others. Ironically, the forest is in best condition in its middle-aged and older parts, or trees in this case. For instance, where I live in Ulster County you will encounter a wide variety of trees: red oak, sugar maple, red maple, tulip poplar, pitch pine, black gum, eastern hemlock, white pine, black and yellow birch, American beech, bitternut and shagbark hickory. Most of the ash trees have succumbed to emerald ash borer, while hemlocks are dying a slow death from hemlock woolly adelgid and elongate hemlock scale; The others are mostly fine.

However, just about all the trees I mentioned above are growing in the overstory and represent trees greater than 60 years old; Some are older than 115 years old! From above – or from a bird's eye view – the forest would seem densely stocked. It is true that a thinning of the overstory would help increase this forest's health by adding sunlight to the best quality trees, but the forest isn't regenerating beneath, or near the forest floor. It is there where degeneration is most noticeable, and regeneration of younger plant parts is suffering the most.

#### Competing Vegetation, Lack of Sunlight, & Deer

The lack of forest regeneration has been well-studied and reported in forestry literature. The lack of sunlight from maturing and densely stocked forests leaves less room for younger plants to grow. There is also competing vegetation too. But the last variable in this degenerative triangle is deer. If I had to pick one that is having the most immediate impact on plants, it would be deer. Despite lower deer densities than a decade ago in the Catskills, deer impacts are more severe on forest regeneration than before. Although it's not entirely the fault of deer. As forests mature, fewer plants grow on the forest floor, but fewer deer can keep up or mow down the less vigorous growth. The plants that deer don't like, are left behind and multiply. Many of these are the prickly plants that we now call "invasive." Some are not, like the native NY fern, hay-scented fern, American beech or white pine. Perhaps if deer were placated by better habitat, they would have less impact on forest regeneration since their herbivorous bellies would be satiated? Another long conversation into absentee forest management, for sure.

Okay, so deer impacts have been creating a void or degenerative state in our forests for decades now. Many native plants that are palatable simply can't compete with the white-tailed deer. Consequently, some areas like where I live have an understory filled with Japanese stiltgrass, multiflora rose, Japanese barberry, and NY fern. But how do we know – for sure – that deer or herbivory is creating this phenomenally arthritic forest condition?



#### Fences as Equalizers

To properly treat our arthritic forests, we must first isolate variables to know the culprit. Behind my house serves the purpose of an accidental study-plot. I have an 8-foot high-tensile woven wire fence to protect my apple trees from hungry deer. Outside the fence, nothing seems to grow barring plants that deer find unattractive. However, even plants that were once considered "deer-proof" are now browsed too – i.e., autumn olive and spruce. Freshly planted azaleas? Forget about it. Inside the fence is a mound of dirt that was placed in the center after a French-drain was installed to improve drainage for young fruit trees. I have planted blueberry and raspberries on this hill. However, most of my weed-issues is with native tree/shrub seedlings that keep regenerating – red and sugar maple, witch-hazel, oak, and cherry. Recently, I discovered a little yellow poplar growing amongst the grapes, which I might try and transplant to the yard, under protection of course.

The point here is that USDA Forest Service Biologist – Tom Rawinski – was right. He contends that native plants will win most of the time, if given an equal playing field with deer browse. The non-natives just can't compete inside the fence. So, now that we have diagnosed deer as the main variable, now what? We know that if we "do nothing", the prognosis or long-term outcome of forest degeneration will continue and worsen, perhaps until native "seed banks" fail? Maybe, but this is unknown. Although, palatable plants like the American yew have already been extirpated from browsed over areas like Pennsylvania, and ginseng in many areas of NYS is rare – in my opinion – beyond hungry humans, but rather by deer. Therefore, we can assume that if we want to reduce degeneration, we must control or treat deer. Either forests must be protected from deer by lethal means or fencing, or deer must be "paid off." I'm not talking about money, but perhaps the insertion of something else. We'll get to that.

#### Insertion of Sunlight – Humans in the Woods

The question is, why are deer starving so much? Why are they so unsatisfied? Why have they resorted to dumpster-diving on

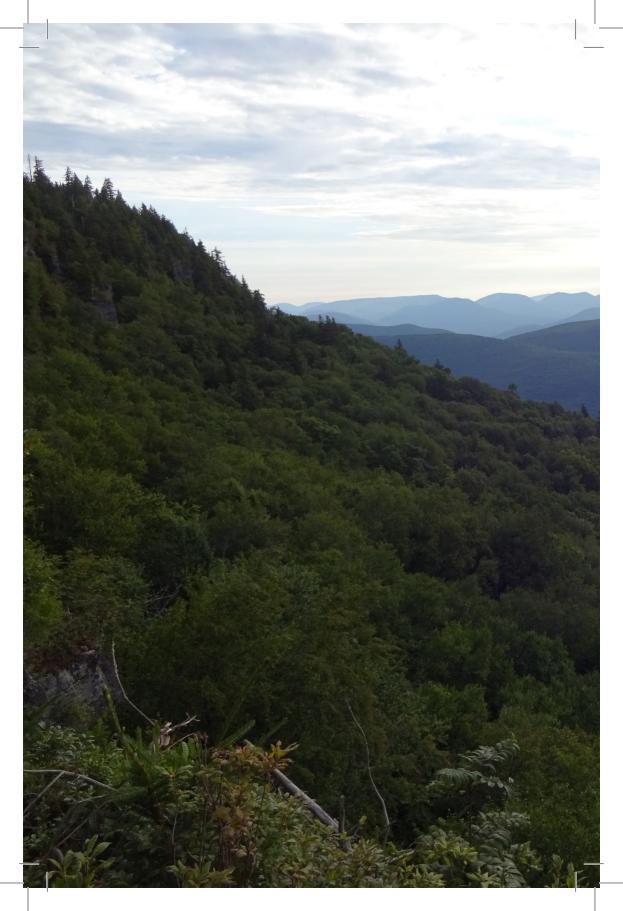
spruce and other plants that barely provide sustenance, especially since our forests have grown back? And the answer might not be what you would expect. Forests are just too old for deer, and deer don't have step ladders to reach their buds. Forests - in a way - are old and arthritic, and need injections of sunlight, which previously humans provided for thousands of years via burning, cutting, and afterwards, shooting of deer. Think about it. Where humans are most involved "in the forest", there are less issues with deer and deer impacts. I'm not talking about making parking lots here; I'm referring to rural land uses surrounding timber, hunting, woodsburning, etc., where humans are a part of the forest ecosystem. Anecdotally, in areas where humans are least in the forest - i.e. Hamptons, southeastern Connecticut, eastern MA, southeast NYS, etc. - there are the most deer, deer impacts, and "invasive" plants, and The Nature Conservancy's map on forest regeneration and deer browse shows this.

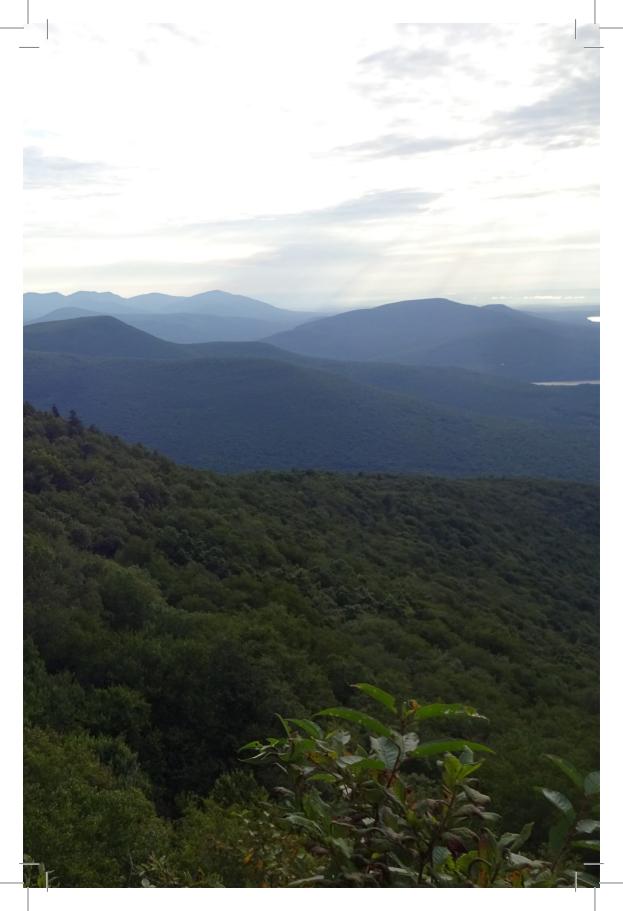
Areas that seem to be regenerating the best with young plants are those where people shoot deer, cut trees, and would burn (where needed) if they could. It is time that conservation move forward from the notion of humans as boogeymen in the forest, and instead as one of its creatures and one significant disturbance missing in the forest. You might ask, "How did the forest make it before humans?" The answer is, we've been around for a while and have evolved together. Sure, forests would go on without humans, but can we improve matters? Will an apple tree still bear fruit without pruning? Yes, but it can be improved.

Let's first look at one of our most famously tragic of trees, the American chestnut, and then the white-tailed deer itself. What you probably know about this tree is that it died out in North America due to human mis-management when a blight was accidentally brought over from the Old World. Some are still around, but most are gone, and there is promise that it will be back someday. Nonetheless, this is an example of a man-made mess-up for sure. However, what you might not know is that the American chestnut was so abundant in eastern North America due to humans in the first place. This tree

– like oak and hickory – needs human fire to gain a competitive advantage over maple, beech, and birch. Humans needed chestnut because it brought both edible nuts and the white-tailed deer. To this day, chestnuts continue to sprout from old roots in areas that were most burned in the past by humans; Ashokan High Point is a perfect example, with acres of chestnuts growing to this day as a pyrogenic legacy.

Now, let's look at deer, the animal that Foresters, Ecologists, and Environmentalists like to hate and blame for the degenerated state of forests. But, maybe there is more to it. Maybe, deer are really waiting for us to fulfill what we've always done, in the past. I think of Leonard Lee Rue's book, "The Deer of North America." Inside, he explains the colors of the white-tail – it's brown coat and white fringes that seem to disappear on a forest edge. Mr. Rue believes humans and deer evolved together over millennia. Just who do you think created the forest edge? In the northeast, fires aren't natural. It is humans that Rue believes, have something to do with that deer coat, and I agree with him. If the deer isn't given young forests mixed in with older forests to munch on, he will "make the mountain fear it" from eating it all. Aldo Leopold (American Naturalist, 1949) was referring to what occurs when a deer's main predator - the wolf - is exterminated and deer begin to over-browse. However, I think he underestimates that humans have been the prime predator of deer, but also the one who can manipulate vegetation. In this manner, humans must bring deer their dinner - via young plants - before they can get theirs. I think we're learning or finding out the hard way, that if the white-tail's belly is empty, so will our forest.





## HIGH IN THE CANOPY STRATUM

By: Ryan Trapani, Director of Forest Services

A week ago, I had about an hour to myself. I try and use my "free time" as best I can, since it is scarcer than it once was due to four kids. In the past, I would have killed an hour or so driving somewhere and back and another three hours hiking to some mountaintop or fishing stream. Since I didn't have that kind of time, I thought about doing something close to home, with no driving. Normally, I take the rod and fish the local stream or go for a walk in the nearby woods, but I had been doing a lot of that recently and wanted something else.

It was a hot day. One of those "tropical" July days that are uncomfortable unless your skin is wet from water or sweat to take away some heat. Milling around – for me – feels worse. Adding insult to injury were plenty of mosquitoes that seemed at home in such conditions. One thing I like about hiking on a hot day is that working up a sweat – if you have enough water – feels good, and most mountaintops seem breezier and cooler than the humid valleys. So, what to do? Where could I go, that was close to my home, where I could be alone, with a "cool view" that might gain my interest?

Just beyond my boundary line on my neighbor's property is a 90-foot tall smoothbark hickory tree (Carya cordiformis). I've been eyeing that tree for awhile since I figured it must offer a unique perspective of my property and the surrounding Rondout Valley and foothills. So, I went over there, and installed my climbing line for my ascent.

#### Getting Away Up in a Tree

Climbing a tree – in some ways – is kind of like climbing a mountain. At the bottom there seems to be more mosquitoes buzzing around, and surely more "still" air. About half-way up, and things begin to change. The wind begins to kick up a little bit, cooling your body. Even if there are some bugs, they get blown about by the wind.

Once you arrive at the top 1/3 of a tree's canopy, you might literally be the only person to have ever been there, less traveled than most remote peaks. If it's a nut tree – like this hickory – cool things to see are claw marks from black bears throughout the years. Squirrels are probably the most interested in you since they must feel that their "monopoly on tree climbing" is being broken. They often will seek an adjacent tree and associated branch to curiously view what you're up to.

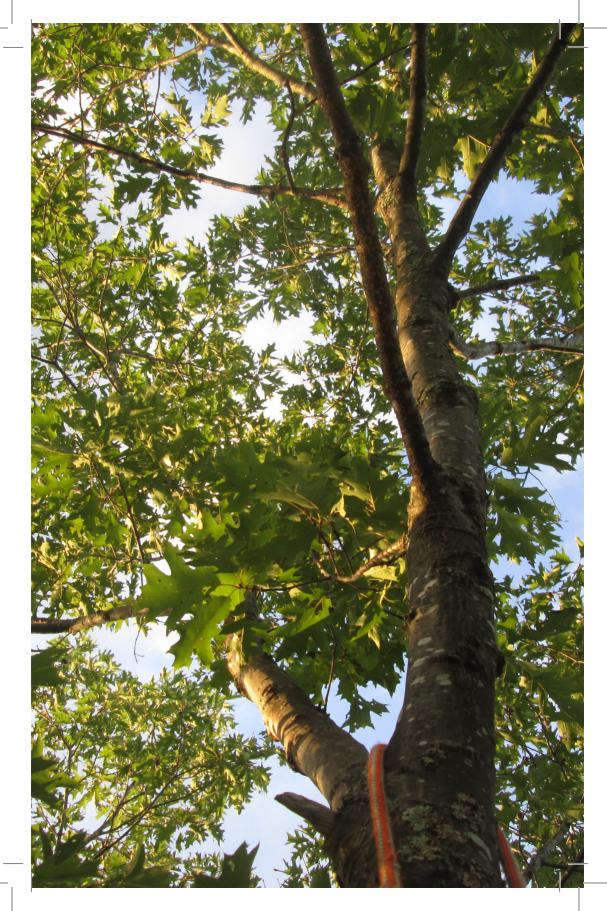
When climbing a Catskill mountain – and gaining elevation - tree species composition changes significantly. For instance, below 2,500 feet one might see beautifully tall sugar maple and hemlock. But on top are more stunted trees or those that can tolerate poorer site quality, such as red spruce and balsam fir. In climbing a tree, there are also dramatic changes as each foot higher is made on the tree itself; mainly in growth and age. At the bottom or trunk-flare, are the tree's oldest parts; It's bridge to the sky and the sun and to the earth and its water via its mysterious roots. Mid-way on the tree, and you might encounter a portion half as old. As we branch from the trunk and exit to smaller primary, secondary, and tertiary branches, we are encountering the youngest portions of the tree and its most living parts. It is here where an old tree is most alive and converts the sun's energy into food and storage to survive winter and structurally hold itself firm to the earth for many decades. In this way, trees are unique in that they grow literally younger as they branch out, until their older parts often fail. And the climber can see this.

#### At the Top

Once you're up at the top and your breathing subsides – and the squirrels forget you're there – is when you might sneak a peek at what goes on in the woods when no one is around. At 70 feet, almost nothing is aware of your whereabouts, while the tree offers an excellent camouflaged 360-degree view. Deer, rabbit, fisher, people, and more can now all be seen plainly, while you might seem invisible. After all, how often do we think to look up into a tree to see what's there. Even deer that make a living in the woods, often fail to look up at hunters in trees each season.

One more unique aspect of being high in a tree is its canopy perspective. Often, when we see a forest from the ground - especially with mature trees – we are looking at mainly their main-stems or trunks scattered throughout a section of space. In other words, we fail to see the tree's most living parts, its crown, or live branches. Each tree's live branches make up its crown, which is how the tree literally "eats." Since trees cannot go and get their food, they must make it via their foliage or leaves. As a Forester the crown tells me more about which trees are doing well, and which are not. At 70 feet I have a much better 3-dimensional view and understanding. I can see through and over the canopy. It's kind of like comparing the pruning of large apple trees from the ground vs. from the top. From the ground offers a better perspective of the tree canopy's 2-dimensional appearance and balance. However, from the top I can more easily see how sunlight filters down through it, feeding the tree. Looking down on a tree in this way can better indicate which branches to remove or reduce and allow more sunlight in. We're seeing how a tree literally "eats" and "breathes."

In any case, the high forest canopy is a world unto itself that few humans get to experience. If you're looking for some "alone time" in an arboricultural or forest setting with a work-out, then recreational climbing might be for you. I don't know if "tree-bagging" will catch on like "peak-bagging", but for me it offers another interesting aspect of the forest unveiled before my eyes that keeps me interested.



### **Business Member Spotlight!**



Amex Bois Franc—Hardwood Inc. CP 186 succ Bureau-Chef Plessisville, Québec, Canada (819) 998-0520

Arkville Caboose LLC (845) 586-1122

Ashokan Turf and Timber Chainsaws - Logging Supplies - Maple Sugaring Eq. (845) 657-6395

Catskill Mountain Forestry Services 607-330-5701 catskillmtnforestry@yahoo.com

Coldwell Banker Associate Broker Sue Doig 845.706.4311



## COLDWELL BANKER TIMBERLAND

Coldwell Banker Timberland Properties info@timberlandproperties.net 845-586-3321



DELAWARE BULLDOZING CORP. (607) 538-1185 klafever@delawarebulldozing.net



EMPIRE HOME

Empire Home Inspection & Consulting LLC empirehomeinspector@gmail.com 845-532-8224Field & Stone



FIELD & STONE

FIELDANDSTONENY.COM

Field & Stone 607.832.4488



Flowering Sun Ecology Center floweringsunecology@gmail.com (802) 303 3745



Freshtown Supermarket (845) 586-4384



Frost Valley YMCA (845) 985-2291



Gardens by Trista, Inc. (607) 588-6762

#### LEFT BANK CIDERS

Left Bank Ciders 150 Water Street, Catskill, NY 12414 leftbankciders@gmail.com www.leftbankciders.org

Ginger Works -High Meadow Catskills (917) 371-7386 WINSTONSHIH212@GMAIL.COM



Hardwoods Unlimited (607) 588-6449

Jeffrey Keiter Landscape Architect jeffkeiter.rla@gmail.com (917) 723-8810



Mountain Dog Cafe, LLC 5 Harper Street Stamford, NY 12167 (607) 214-4324



Margaretville Telephone Company 845-586-3311 mtc@catskill.net

NYS Chapter American Chestnut Foundation (828) 281-0047 https://www.acf.org/ny/



Part 2 Events (845) 244-0353

PKL Logging, Inc. (607) 326-6923 pklogger242@hotmail.com

Rose Mountain Cottages (718) 208-3399

Rush Brook Lodge rbl@actorsart.com



Sluiter Agency, Inc. (845) 586-2641



Sundial Studios Architecture & Design, PLLC (718) 852-6708 kyle@sundial-studios.com



The Hunter Foundation, Inc. / Fromer Market Gardens 518-589-4143

Upper Delaware Welcome Center (845) 252-3100 contact@narrowsburgunion.com

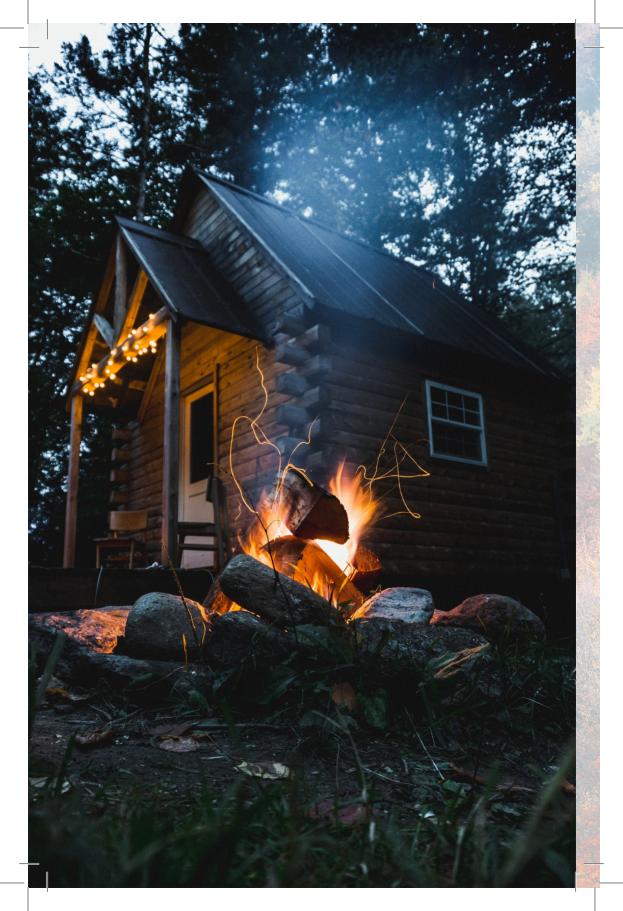
Wagner Hardwoods, LLC. (607) 687-5362



White Feather Farm dallas@whitefeatherfarm.org



Wolf Hollow Camp (917) 497-7670 mail@gfeazell.com



# Programs & Services Learn more at catskillforest.org/programs

Program	<b>Description</b>	Time
Consultations	One-hour property visits by field staff to help you learn about what your property holds	All Year
Apple Tree Pruning	Pruning helps keep apple trees healthy and improves quality and quantity of yields	Jan March
Apple Tree Grafting	A horticultural technique to help bring old, neglected trees back to fruition	April - May
Forest Bird Program	High-Nesting Bird Boxes for ducks, owls, etc. and/or Canopy Bird Feeders that protect against squirrels & bears	All Year
Invasive Species Management	Care for trees against invasive insects, and care for forests against invasive plants	May - Sept.
Portable Sawmill Program	We bring a state-of-the-art portable sawmill directly to your property and mill your logs to lumber, on the spot	Spring - Fall
Property Mapping	Custom property maps highlighting the property features you want to see	All Year
Trail Camera	Ever wonder what wildlife is around when you're not?	All Year
Tree Care Program: Cabling	Preserving large-sized individual trees that contain structural defects that are prone to failure	Spring - Fall
Tree Planting	CFA will find prime placements for up to 3 trees	Spring - Fall
Wildlife Habitat Management	Forestry practices to help improve your woodlot for wildlife	All Year

CATSKILL FOREST
ASSOCIATION, INC.
PO BOX 336
43469 State Highway 28
Arkille, NY 12406

845) 586-3054



#### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Become a member at www.catskillforest.org/membership or send a check/cash with this application to: Catskill Forest Association, Inc. PO Box 336, Arkville, NY 12406.

NAME:				
PROPERTY ADDRESS:				
PHONE:	EMAIL:			
TOTAL ACRES:	_ FORESTED ACRES:	POND [	] STREAM [	] RIVER [

#### **CATEGORIES (PLEASE CIRCLE)**

#### ADDITIONAL DONATIONS

	CONTRIBUTING (\$175)	BASIC (\$75)
OPE	SAME AS BASIC +	Events free or discounted;
ĘĮ	20% Discount on Services; CFA Totebag	CFA News Subscription; CFA Member Property Sign; Access to CFA Programs
sc	SUSTAINING (\$500)	BUSINESS (\$200)
	SAME AS BASIC +	SAME AS BASIC + 10% Discount on Services:

GENERAL OPERATING FUND	\$
ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND	\$
SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$

Total Amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_