



News From

North Central Forest Landowners Association, Inc.
Box 141, Port Allegany, PA 16743

McKean, Potter, Cameron and Elk Counties

We're holding tomorrow

January, 2010

www.orgsites.com/pa/ncfla

NCFLA Calendar:

Thursday, Feb. 25

Tax Savings for Private
 Forest Landowners
 6:30 - 8:00 pm Port Allegany
 American Legion Post.
 Call 814-887-5613 by
 Feb 22 to make reservations

Tuesday, March 16

Board of Directors Meeting,
 DCNR office,
 Emporium, PA 9:00 am

Thursday, April 15

**Membership meeting*
 Indian Trail Trees, Lee and
 Donna Ryan, Courtyard
 Restaurant, Smethport,
 6:30- 8:30 pm

Saturday, May or June

Estate Planning for the
 Private Landowner -
 Coudersport Elem
 Auditorium 1:00 - 5:00 pm

Saturday July 17

Annual Picnic, Chain saw
 Safety and Tree Felling,
 Cogan's, Crosby, PA noon to
 4:00 pm

Aug or Sept

Carbon Market and
 Sequestration,
 Red Fern Inn, St. Mary's, PA
 1:00 to 5:00 pm

Tuesday, September 14

Board of Directors meeting,
 DCNR office,
 Emporium, PA 9:00 am

Sunday, November 7th

Annual banquet.
 Invasive Plants Species by
 Art Gover, McKean County,
 noon to 4:00 pm

Tuesday, December 14

Board of Directors meeting,
 McKean Co. Ext. Office,
 Smethport, PA. 9:00 am

Terminal Buds

by Tim Pierson



The terminal buds on most trees provide distinct hormonal signals to the rest of the tree on how things are going. That is what I will try to do as President in the Terminal Buds section of the NCFLA, Inc. newsletter. This will serve as a brief summary of the last decade and a little vision for the future as we start a new decade with the North Central Forest Landowners Association.

First, I want to express our heartfelt appreciation to Larry Schultz for his dedicated and responsible leadership as Past President of the NCFLA. Larry demonstrated what leadership can produce. Even though Larry's residence was across the state, he would always be present to purposely represent the association and provide assistance and direction. Many thanks from all of us, Larry! We look forward to your continued involvement.

The past decade was very successful for our association as demonstrated by the continued and sustained growth in our membership. The NCFLA, Inc. is the largest (with over 200 members) of the now 27 woodland owners associations in the state. Throughout the decade we have stayed true to our overall objectives of promoting sustainable forest management and educating our membership and local forest landowners in McKean, Potter, Cameron and Elk Counties. We have provided educational support for other private landowner groups like Pennsylvania Forest Stewards and the Pennsylvania Forestry Association. We have annually provided conferences, workshops, meetings, picnic/demonstration days, woods walks, and an annual banquet. We have continually provided programs in each county in the association every year. All of these gatherings revolved around an important subject, practice and/or issue to private forest landowners that had an educational focus from Gas Leasing and Taxes to Crop Tree Management and Wildlife Enhancement Practices. We also have a great website thanks to Walt Petrick (www.orgsites.com/pa/ncfla) and are now incorporated thanks mainly to Verda Knowlton. We have also been fortunate to have had an innovative, thoughtful and dedicated Board of Directors, advisors and service foresters. We can all celebrate a very successful decade and look forward to a similar future for our association.



Our recommitted Program Committee has prepared a valuable and practical slate of educational programs for 2010 that is designed to meet the needs of Private Forest Landowners in our membership and throughout our four counties. The committee will more actively promote our programs for all to participate and will follow-up with news articles and a Special Interest e-newsletter to help educate those unable to attend. Hope to see you at a meeting, workshop or woods walk!

Annual Banquet Red Fern Inn, St. Mary's

Larry Schultz opened the business meeting and presented old business for NCFLA. He also served as Chairman of the Nomination Committee. Larry, along with Jane Cogan and Roy Knowlton met in October at the home of Roy and Verda Knowlton to count and record the 108 votes cast by the membership. The only changes to this years officers were Tim Pierson, the new President and Walt Petrick, Vice President.

Tim Pierson presented an award to both Larry Schultz and John Snyder, the outgoing officers.

A brief update was given by Tim Pierson, on the past 2009 NCFLA programs:

- *Carbon Sequestration & Carbon Markets* —What It Means for Private Landowners—held in February at the American Legion in Port Allegany, was the first meeting in the state on this topic and had 51 participants. Matt Smith, FORECON and Paul Roth, DCNR Bureau of Forestry were the presenters.
- *Two woodswalks were held at Matt Miller's Cow Hollow Farm.* In June, Marie Petrick's son, Joe Snyder, gave a layman's presentation on how to grade lumber and then the 35 participants walked to the woods to look at TSI and crop tree management brought on by blowdowns. During the second woodswalk in September, Matt used a team of horses to demonstrate horse logging, followed by log grading and estimating lumber yield.
- *Summer Meeting & Picnic at Ken & Jane Cogan's* in July, was attended by 42 people. Controlling

invasives was discussed followed by a tour of the property to see the practices being carried out by the Cogan's. Stan Hess also presented information on the eastern tent and forest tent caterpillar.

- *Woodswalk at Ken Comstock's* in Oct. with 41 participants. A tour of their new home highlighted how they utilized wood from their property in the house. A forestry 101 handout provided definitions of various terms and was followed by property tours and a hot dog roast on the top of the mountain overlooking Sartwell Creek valley.

• *Other 2009 activities*

Walt and Marie Petrick sent out the first electronic newsletter featuring pictures from the Comstock woodswalk.

A Program Committee has been appointed, to be chaired by Tim Pierson, co-chaired by Walt Petrick and members Marie Petrick, Ken Comstock, and Rick Smith.

Jim Herzog said they had achieved a major milestone in McKean County in stopping an increase in the Clean and Green assessment which saved about \$1,000,000 for property owners. He also mentioned that he has a personal property tax appeal which has been on-going for 12 years and which has now been appealed to Commonwealth Court.

There were many door prizes, mostly donated by members. We acknowledge and appreciate their generosity. The two members below are shown winning two of the NCFLA donations.



NCFLA Annual Banquet Door Prize Winners

← *Leaf Blower
Jane Cogan*

Chain saw Wolf →
Rick Smith

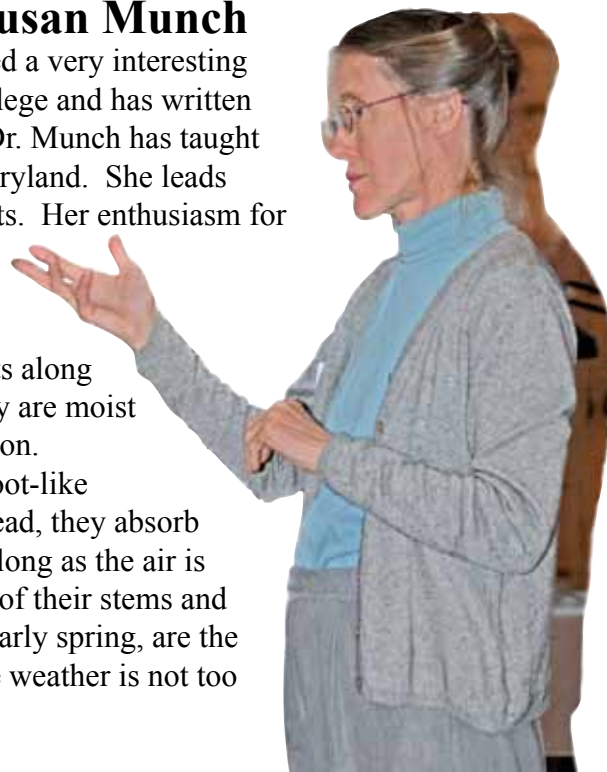


Mosses and Liverworts presented by Susan Munch

At the Annual meeting this year, Susan Munch, PhD., presented a very interesting talk on mosses and liverworts. She is a professor at Albright College and has written the first color field guide for mosses in the Mid-Atlantic states. Dr. Munch has taught botany for many years at colleges in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Maryland. She leads nature walks and holds workshops on ferns, mosses and liverworts. Her enthusiasm for these overlooked but fascinating plants is contagious.

There are over three hundred species of mosses in Pennsylvania and over one hundred of liverworts. Generally, the largest diversity of mosses and liverworts is found in damp forests along streams or near bodies of water. Identification is easier when they are moist and thriving. It becomes more difficult identify during a dry season.

These tiny plants attach themselves to stones and trees with root-like structures, but do not derive nutrients from these structures. Instead, they absorb their water and nutrients from the air over their whole surface as long as the air is moist. Under these conditions, they continue growing at the tips of their stems and stem branches. The cooler seasons of the year, autumn through early spring, are the best times to search for these plants when rain is plentiful and the weather is not too hot.



Pennsylvania Woodland Owners Conference November 21, 2009, State College

This year, twenty-one out of the twenty-seven Woodland Owners Associations in the state were in attendance, including the two new groups, Tri-County (Lancaster, Berks, and Chester Counties) and Blair WOA. Ninety-three people

were registered for the conference. NCFLA was represented at this conference by Verda and Roy Knowlton and Marie and Walt Petrick.

A poster display representing the individual groups was a new feature that was added to this years conference. Each group was asked to make a poster sharing events and activities of which they are most proud. The posters were a huge success. The photo on the left, features the poster illustrating our North Central Forest Landowners Association, Inc. group. It was printed three feet by four feet and in full color.

The conference speakers were Jim Stiehler “Programs for Private Forest Landowners in the 2008 Farm Bill”, Gerry Mich “Engaging Unengaged Landowners, Examples from Wisconsin”, and Rita Neznek, “Advocating for Woodland Owners”. Conversation evolved around engaging youth in WOA activities and programs, at the conference.

Ken and Jane Cogan receive Maurice K. Goddard: Resource Management Award

Ken and Jane Cogan were honored with the Maurice K. Goddard: Resource Management Award for excellence in demonstrating and promoting sustainable forest management. The award was presented at the North Central Forest Landowner's Association, Inc. Annual Banquet, Red Fern Inn, St. Marys, Pennsylvania on Sunday, November 1, 2009, by Kenneth Manno, Program Director of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative of Pennsylvania in cooperation with DCNR Bureau of Forestry and the Pennsylvania Forestry Association. Also participating in the presentation were Dr. Tim Pierson, Penn State University's Cooperative Extension Adviser and Forester and John Levasseur of Hancock Forest Management Inc and Chairman of the Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative Implementation Committee.

Ken and Jane Cogan exemplify the spirit of the Goddard Award. They own and operate Cogan's Tree Farm located in Crosby, McKean County and have utilized their tree farm to educate other forest landowners statewide. The Cogan's were instrumental with other core leaders in the establishment of the North Central Forest Landowners Association, Inc.

in 1998 that serves forest landowners in McKean, Potter, Cameron and Elk Counties and is now the largest forest landowners association in Pennsylvania. The Cogan's have hosted the Pennsylvania Forest Stewards Annual Statewide Meetings and have served as Forest Stewards for many years. Annually, the Cogan's host a NCFLA Picnic and Demonstration Day in cooperation with DCNR Bureau of Forestry and Penn State Cooperative Extension where forest landowners share and demonstrate proper forest management practices.



From Left to right: Kenneth Manno, Ken Cogan, Jane Cogan, Tim Pierson and John Levasseur

Electronic Newsletter

In an effort to maintain contact with our members, but keep our postage costs down, we have created an e-newsletter that is sent to members e-mail addresses. Through this publishing method, we are able to share more information, and photos from various events. Mailing the newsletter to our membership is expensive, but the e-newsletter offers more information and it is sent without cost to NCFLA.

If you do not presently receive the e-mail version of this newsletter, but would like to receive it through your e-mail, please share your e-mail address with us at ncfla2@gmail.com. E-mails will also be used for program announcements and reminders. If we have your e-mail address and you wish to continue receiving the hard copy, please contact us to let us know. We never share personal information with outside sources. Suggestions are always welcome and we hope you will enjoy this new venture.

Officers:

President: Tim Pierson, PhD
 Vice President: Walt Petrick
 Secretary: Verda Weder Knowlton
 Treasurer: Marie Petrick
 Advisor: Tim Pierson, PhD

Board Members:

McKean County: Rick Smith
 Cameron County: Dave Lombardo
 Potter County: Ken Comstock
 Elk County: Linda Pontzer

Service Foresters:

McKean, Potter: Stan Hess
 Elk, Cameron: Toby Herzing
 Editor and Web Service: Walt Petrick
 Newsletter layout: Marie Petrick