

# Timber Talk



## Newsletter of the Iowa Woodland Owners Association March 2013

Editor: Steve Meyer

### Legislative Report

By Dave Bartemes, IWOA Past President

There are three issues being debated by the Iowa Legislature during the current session. All woodland owners should be aware of how these proposed bills will affect them as both property owners and tax payers.

Expanded invasive species bill approved by the senate! On a 48 to 0 vote, the Iowa Senate gave its approval to a bill that would greatly expand the state's list of invasive plant species. Senate File 317 would prohibit the importation, sale, offer for sale, or distribution of oriental bittersweet, Japanese knotweed, Japanese hop and garlic mustard, or their seed in Iowa. The bill has been sent to the House Natural Resources committee for its consideration.

Preliminary senate budget bill doubles forest health funding: The Senate members of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations subcommittee have given their approval to the first salvo in what should be a long battle over natural resources funding. Included in the bill is a 100% increase in funding for forest health programs. The current funding of \$100,000 would go up to \$200,000 for fiscal year 2014. The still unnumbered bill now will need to be considered by the Senate Appropriations Committee, then the full Senate and then wind its way through a similar path in the House of Representatives.

House File 306 requires that a tract of land shall not be accepted into the Forest and Fruit Tree Reserve for tax exemption unless the application is accompanied by a forest management plan approved by a qualified forester with a bachelor's degree or graduate degree in forestry. The bill has been introduced into the Ways and Means Committee. The bill in its present form is good for tree farmers and for Iowa. We do need to be wary of any attempt to amend the bill in a way that would make it more difficult or possibly even repeal the Forest

and Fruit Tree Reserve tax credit. Introduced, referred to Ways and Means.

House File 304 is the most radical bill being discussed that would harm forest and woodland owners. This bill replaces the current forest and fruit tree exemption with a taxation plan for such lands. This bill is also presently in the House Ways and Means Committee and has significant support among some legislators. It is being pushed by some County Assessors and Farm Bureau. Introduced, referred to Ways and Means.

It is imperative that all persons interested in promoting Iowa's woodlands and trees contact their respective Senators and Representatives and voice their opinion regarding these bills. You can locate your legislators and their e-mail addresses by going to: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/Legislators>

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#### Hints on How to Lobby

Be prepared. Read the bills on line so you are familiar with their content. During the week, send e-mails expressing your opinion of these bills. You will probably

get a response indicating how your legislator feels about the bill, save these responses for future review.

On weekends go to your legislator's home (call first) and have an eye to eye conversation with him or her. Don't hesitate to speak your mind in a polite and respectful manner. You will be treated in the same manner that you exhibit. These men and women are "our" legislators; they know it and they want to hear from you.

Most legislators regard the personal call as the most vital and most impressive of a citizen's efforts to inform and educate the legislator. Some won't give a great deal of credence to e-mails unless it is an individually written e-mail. Mass e-mails to multiple recipients are usually discarded. By the same token, most legislators regard 30 or more individually written e-mails to be "hot button," issues that express the will of their constituents.

#### **Day at the Legislature**

April 3, 2013, is the Trees Forever Day at the Capitol. IWOA and the Coalition for Iowa's Woodlands and Trees piggyback on this day so that we have maximum impact by our presence. We gather about 8:00 a.m. and begin to search out our legislators about 8:30. There will be many seasoned woodland owners present to help anyone unfamiliar with the legislative process.

Numbers count! Anyone interested should plan to attend. Wear tee shirts that identify you or your organization. Also, be prepared to address issues such as invasive species and the budget for Iowa's Healthy Forest Initiative. We should be asking our legislators to budget a minimum of \$1,000,000 for this initiative. Remember, last year we got the Healthy Forest Initiative in the budget as a line item. We really need to promote this line item by conversing with our Senators and Representatives.

Last year the Nut Growers Association hit upon an excellent tactic. They brought walnuts, hazelnuts, and candy and cookies made with various nuts and edible forest products. The treats kept the legislators around their display long enough that they heard the messages.

## **\*\*\*\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\*\*\*\***

### **IWOA Spring Field Day Saturday, April 27, 2013**

IWOA member Dave Gossman will host the IWOA Spring Field Day on April 27 from 10 AM to 4 PM. The event will be at Gossman's farm at 19502 159<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Zwingle, IA 52079. The day's activities begin with a visit to Gossman's Oak Savanna restoration project. Over lunch attendees will see Gossman's wood salvage business and after lunch there will be a hike into deep timber and bluffs where mushrooms abound and a wildflower spectacle will be in full bloom. Lunch will not be provided, so pack your own. Gossman would appreciate an RSVP. Let him know you are coming by calling 563-652-2822 or e-mailing at [dgossman@treefarmproducts.com](mailto:dgossman@treefarmproducts.com).

## **TREE PLANTING TIPS**

**By Paul Wray**

**Professor Emeritus, Forestry, ISU**

Tree planting success can be improved if several guidelines are followed. First and foremost, order tree stock from the Iowa DNR State Nursery or a reputable private nursery to ensure that you get quality seedlings of the kind and type desired. When the planting stock is received by you, carefully inspect it for damage. Inspect the root system looking for mold or excessive dryness.

For best results, plant seedlings as soon as possible. The longer the time between shipment and planting: the greater the risk of losses. For short term storage of nursery stock, unheated buildings or cellars can be used. Continue to monitor the stock during this period, and if it is packed in plastic rather than a root media such as peat moss, turn the bag daily to dissipate the moisture in the bag. For storage periods longer than one week, cooler facilities (35-42 F) are necessary. Old refrigerators can be used as long as the seedlings are not exposed to freezing temperatures.

Planting sites should be tilled or have the competing vegetation killed in three foot wide strips with a herbicide such as Roundup. Try to plant when the site is suitable for field work. Do not plant when planting sites are wet because soil structure will be destroyed and seedling root growth will be restricted.

Whether planting by hand or machine plant seedlings properly. Best planting methods involve digging a hole that is large enough for the seedling's root system and filling soil back around the root system with sufficient compaction to ensure good root to soil contact. The use of a tree planting bar or a mechanical tree planter can increase the planting rate. Be sure the slit around the seedling is closed to minimize drying and potential herbicide damage from pre-emergent herbicides. With all techniques, plant at the same depth the seedling grew in the nursery.

For all plantings, make provisions for adequate weed control for 2-4 years. Several techniques provide acceptable weed control including mechanical or cultivation, mulches such as wood chips or ground corncobs, and acceptable herbicides. Always follow label precautions and use accepted sprayer calibration procedures to ensure the effectiveness of the herbicide and to prevent damage from excessive herbicide application. Vegetation control in three foot wide strips, or circles around individual seedlings in sufficient.

For more information contact forestry extension, your DNR Forester or your County Extension Office and ask Iowa State University Publications: "Tree Planting: Planning", Pm-1676 and "Tree Planting: Establishment and Care", Pm-1677.

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### Safety Corner

Greetings All

I have mentioned that safety is in large part an attitude. This is most true when working with "Widow Makers". A couple of experiences have given me a greater respect for the dangers of these hazards.

After a storm I was helping a friend remove a large oak limb (12-14 inches in dia. And 20 ft. long) that was hung up in the crotch of an elm tree. Unable to pull the limb free it was decided to cut the elm and let the limb gently swing to the ground with the falling of the elm tree. What actually happened was much different. I notched the elm tree and did a bore cut. I decided to use my power pole pruner to reach in to make the final back cut. As I began to cut the tree suddenly broke and the limb came virtually straight down, hard, in less than a heartbeat. I was glad to be 10 feet away.

I was preparing to harvest a tall, 24" diameter cottonwood tree that had been struck by lightning. I notice a large limb that had broken from an adjacent tree hanging in the top, pointing downward like a giant spear. I made a plan to notch the tree, do a bore cut, then do the back cut and retreat quickly at first sign of movement. It worked as planned. After retreating I watched the giant "spear" stick in the dirt right where I was standing when I did the final back cut.

These examples emphasize how important it is to evaluate all aspects of performing a task, especially when dealing with "widow makers" or other hazardous situations such as storm damage. It also demonstrates the control you have when using the bore cut method for felling trees. Approach all chain saw activities with a "safety attitude", assess the situation thoroughly, consider the alternatives and proceed with caution.

Be Safe and enjoy the woods.  
Larry Wiley

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## Non-Native Tree of the Quarter Chestnut Oak *Quercus prinus*

Chestnut Oak is one of the most attractive members of the white oak family. Everything about it is just pretty in my opinion. Every tree I have is uniformly pyramidal. Its shiny green foliage is as pretty in September as it is in May. The bark on my young (no more than 15 years old) trees is smooth and shiny. Even the acorns are pretty. They are large, up to 1 1/2", shiny and very dark brown.

This Eastern US native is fully hardy in Iowa being rated to zone 4. Its native range is from the southern tip of Maine to northern Alabama mainly down the Appalachian Mountains. The tree can attain great size (7' in diameter and 100' tall) and age (1000 years). These old trees lose their smooth, shiny bark. They have instead, very deeply furrowed dark blotchy bark which is deep brown to almost black. The tree is very tolerant of poor rocky ground and may dominate under those conditions, but it actually obtains its best growth in rich well drained soils.

The leaves are 4"-8" long by half as wide. They are generally oval to egg shaped with 10-14 pairs of rounded teeth along the margin. They are dark lustrous green on top and fuzzy lighter green beneath. The fall color is nothing much, fading to yellow brown. The leaves are similar in appearance to our native chinkapin oak. The main difference being the sharper toothed margins on the chinkapin. The leaves also resemble chestnut leaves (thus the name), if that helps.

The acorns, as I mentioned, are dark shiny brown and are the largest of any oak I grow. (I have at least 20 varieties of oak, but not all are producing acorns. The "books" say that only burr oak acorns are bigger, but I've never seen burr oak that large. Burr oak grows from Canada to the Gulf Coast. I read somewhere that it's the southern trees that have these huge acorns. Who knows?) They grow singly or in pairs on a short, stout stem. Like other white oak family acorns, they will send out roots in the fall, so I plant them then.

Oaks in general and white oaks in particular, cross pollinate readily. My state entomologists (yes, we have more than one entomologist) actually calls white oaks "the sluts of the forest", which I thought was funny enough that I had him repeat it to make sure I heard it right. So when I bought my first 5 trees in the spring of 1997, I was annoyed, but not surprised, when they

looked more like burr oak than chestnut oak as they leafed out. I wasn't sure what they were so I bought 10 more in 2000 from a different source. I was relieved when they appeared to be normal chestnut oaks when they leafed out. All these trees are producing acorns. Not reliably or in great quantities, however. Of the original 5 trees I bought, some have what appear to be normal chestnut oak acorns and some unidentifiable acorns. None have normal burr oak acorns, but the trees still look like hybrids. The younger 10 trees are larger. Some are 20' tall. These are nice trees and the "books" say the lumber passes for white oak when cut.

Tom Brady  
IWOA Member



### Tree Owner's Manual for the Northeastern and Midwestern United States



#### About the Tree Owner's Manual

One common issue facing our urban forests is the fact that trees are dying prematurely. Many are planted improperly, setting them up for failure. Many do not receive regular maintenance. And few are adequately protected during construction projects. To help remedy this issue, the Forest Service has created this Tree Owner's Manual.

Just like the owner's manual that comes with automobiles and appliances, the Tree Owner's Manual includes a parts list, instructions for installation, tips for troubleshooting common issues, recommended service, and more.

As a small, black-and-white booklet, the Tree Owner's Manual is inexpensive to reproduce so that it can be

made widely available to garden centers, nurseries, landscapers, and arborists to hand out to customers. And like other owner's manuals, hopefully it will be kept in a familiar spot and used as a reference over the course of the tree's life.

Download a copy of the manual at <http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/detail.cfm?id=9712>.

You may print this either as a compact 5.5" x 8.5" booklet (10 pieces of paper, folded in half) or as an 8.5" x 11.5" document (20 pages, double-sided).

If you would like to print and distribute this publication with your name and logo on the cover, please contact Jill Johnson at 651-649-5253.

For a wider audience the download the Tree Owners Manual—National Edition at <http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/detail.cfm?id=5229>. This edition has the same easy style, same great information, but is broadened to help tree owners in all climates across the United States

**Know someone who you think would be interested in the Iowa Woodland Owners Association and the networking opportunities that come with membership? Direct them to our website at [www.iowawoodlandowners.org](http://www.iowawoodlandowners.org) and have them click on the Membership Link. Better yet, buy them a one-year gift membership!**

## Deer Report

Greetings woodland owners:

On March 7 as your representative for the Iowa woodland owners I went to a DNR meeting in Des Moines. The 2 hour meeting was to get input on the deer hunting seasons for the coming year as to lengthen or reducing them. There were about 10 persons representing deer hunting groups, Iowa DOT, X-mas tree growers, Iowa Farm Bureau, and other organizations.

At first there was the report of 2012 deer licenses sold (378,447), and number of deer killed (115,606) with a success rate of 31%, which I thought was very low as less than 1/3 of the person who had a license brought home a deer. In 2006, 150,552 deer were shot in Iowa. They tried to use this number to show there is substantially less deer in Iowa now than in 2006 but it has no correlation.

More accurate aerial observations and hunter reports show a 5-10% reduction in deer numbers, which seems to me to be about right in my area. Total deer numbers are only listed by the DNR after deer hunting season and before the fawns are born in the spring. This excludes them and all the deer that are hit on the highways in early summer and the fall rut. Adding these numbers into the equation, I believe there is still more than 500,000 deer in Iowa during most of the year damaging and destroying our property and spreading Lyme disease to the citizens of Iowa. The DNR stated their goal is to reduce the deer to 250,000 in Iowa, but to me there seems to be little evidence of this happening.

The DNR tried to say that their goal of reducing the deer numbers is right on track, but no organization that try to grow anything seemed to agree. With the Farm Bureau person saying over 50% of their members continue to have unacceptable damage from deer, which is probably true of over 80% of the woodland, Xmas tree and Nursery owners.

I was the only person who had ever participated in their depredation program but withdrew after only 2 months because of the program not working. They stated they had an 85% approval rating for the depredation program which I do not believe, as I have never had anybody that said the depredation program stopped or even reduced much the damage caused by deer. I stated I have had to remove over 200 deer from my property the last 5 years under my right to protect my property and would never participate in the depredation program again as I have now stopped almost all the deer damage to my property.

I also mentioned the \$175 million in damage caused by deer every year in Iowa from eating and rubbing, deer vehicle crashes (excluding death and injuries) along with the cost of Lyme disease in Iowa, as overpopulations (8 per square mile) of deer are the only cause of Lyme

disease. The DNR never mentions that each deer in Iowa costs us \$350 per year or about \$56 per person. In conclusion nothing was decided as to the deer seasons for this year. I am in favor of every person to have as many deer as they want on their private property. Due to the damage deer cause I remove every deer ASAP and it is amazing how trees can grow when there is nothing eating or rubbing them. Give me a call or E-mail me if you have any questions or comments. Thank You  
Kevin Kelly  
PH 563 452 4300  
ktf@netins.net

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### **31 People Graduate From the Master Woodland Managers Program**

In the fall of 2012, 31 attendees graduated from the Master Woodland Manager Program offered in the Iowa City/Cedar Rapids area. The sponsors of the program are Forestry Extension at Iowa State University, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Bureau, Iowa State University Extension, and the Iowa Tree Farm Committee.

The objectives of this program are to: (1) develop highly-motivated, well-trained woodland owner/manager volunteers to improve and expand tree resources in the state; (2) show you how to better manage your own woodland; and (3) stimulate other landowners (neighbors and friends) to improve management on their lands because of your example, activities, and projects.

The next program will be offered in Chickasaw County starting August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013. There are 30 hours of class time and graduates are required to return 30 hours of community service toward forestry and natural resource education and activities. The program was started in 1988 and since that time the class has been presented 38 times to a total of 967 graduates who have generated over 28,056 hours of community service toward helping and educating folks on Iowa's forest resources. Examples of community service projects that the graduates from class of 2012 have already started include management of invasive species on a variety of privately and publicly-owned properties, forest stand improvement work for a private

landowner, and the development of a web site that chronicles forest management on a private property.

The cost of the program is \$50 for individuals and \$65 for couples. For more information on the program, go to <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/forestry/>.

Mark Vitosh—District Forester

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### **Insect Threat to Missouri's Ash Trees Expanding, Survey Underway** *New populations found in Platte and Reynolds Counties*

(JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.-July 25, 2013) – One of the top threats to Missouri's hundreds of thousands of ash trees has extended its reach beyond the existing quarantine area. The Emerald Ash Borer has killed more than 50 million U.S. ash trees in the last 10 years and researchers have now found signs of the invasive insect near Kansas City as well as signs of an expanding population in southern Missouri.

A single Emerald Ash Borer was identified in the Kansas City area last week by an alert arborist, near Parkville. Staff from the Missouri departments of Agriculture and Conservation and the USDA immediately joined that individual at the site. Emerald Ash Borers were also identified in Reynolds County last week through routine surveillance, adjacent to the known population in Wayne County. The Wayne County population was first identified in 2008.

The Missouri departments of Agriculture and Conservation work with federal staff from USDA Plant Protection and Quarantine and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as well as researchers at the University of Missouri to monitor Missouri's forests and urban areas for signs of the insect, as well as to inspect incoming shipments of nursery stock which may harbor the borers.

Representatives from those organizations, as well as other members of Missouri's Invasive Forest Pest Council, will be collaborating on possible changes to Missouri's Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine as a result of finding the insect in two new locations within the state this month. The group has already begun work on a survey to determine the extent of infestation in Platte and Reynolds counties. Those surveys will be ongoing throughout the summer and fall in a cooperative effort by local, state and federal agencies.

Wayne County is currently under [federal and state quarantines](#), which prohibit moving hardwood firewood and living or cut ash trees and ash wood to prevent the accidental spread of the borer.

Although the Emerald Ash Borer can fly short distances on its own, much of its spread is due to humans transporting it burrowed under the bark of firewood, logs and tree debris. Consumers are encouraged to use other native tree species, rather than Ash trees, in their landscape plantings and to purchase firewood harvested near their destination when traveling and camping. Individuals can also check their trees for signs of the Emerald Ash Borer using the online guide available at [eab.missouri.edu](http://eab.missouri.edu) and report concerns about their trees by calling (866) 716-9974.

Researchers have not been able to determine exactly how or when the Emerald Ash Borer came into Missouri, but it's believed the insect hitch-hiked into the state in a load of firewood carried by a vacationer from another area, as signs of the insects were first found at a campground in Wayne County near Wappapello Lake. The Emerald Ash Borer was first discovered in the U.S. in 2002, in Michigan. It has since spread to more than 15 states, including Missouri and Illinois, and Canada.

For more information about the Emerald Ash Borer, as well as the Missouri Department of Agriculture's other programs, visit [mda.mo.gov](http://mda.mo.gov).

Nick Kuhn  
Community Forestry and Communications  
573.522.4115 x3306  
Missouri Dept. of Conservation

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## Forest Carbon and the Full Value of Iowa's Forests

Another article about carbon sequestration projects may be nothing new to Iowa Woodland Owners. But I'm here to say that carbon sequestration projects deserve a good look. What has changed? Most importantly, there is strong new demand for carbon sequestration projects on privately held forests in the lower 48. The state of California decided it would pay forest owners to help meet its energy efficiency and renewable energy goals. Forest owners in North Carolina, Maine, California and elsewhere have already completed projects under this program, and many more are in development.

This article lays out the 'how' of forest carbon projects - what it takes to develop a project, and what are the benefits,

costs and risks to landowners. As you consider this opportunity, the key factor is this: the higher the standing timber stocks on your land today, the more attractive a carbon project will be. A long-term perspective on forest management and stewardship – along with an interest in diversifying your revenue beyond the cyclical timber markets – is also important.

My background: I've helped several landowners develop forest carbon projects both here in the States and internationally. Before that, I worked in Minnesota as a forester for Potlatch.

### Basic concepts of forest carbon projects

- Modest changes to a forest management regime can dramatically increase carbon sequestration with only a moderate effect on timber harvests.
- Sustainable forest management practices are highly valued by a range of buyers, including individuals who value biodiversity, downstream municipalities who know that upstream forest management affects water quality, and corporations that support environmental conservation.
- A forest owner who is willing to commit to a slightly modified management regime can be rewarded for their efforts, especially when they go above and beyond common practice.
- Savvy owners practice the timber-carbon trade-off to maximize revenue. When timber prices are down, reduce harvest levels and sell carbon. When timber prices are up, harvest to capture timber value and promote carbon sequestration. In Iowa, the addition of carbon revenue could add up to \$80 or more of income per acre per year.

### What does it mean to develop a carbon project on your property?

Forest owners may continue to harvest timber, but simply need to show (through an ongoing forest inventory) that their management practices increase carbon sequestration. The most frequent management change is extending rotations, though usually forest owners implement a combination of approaches to increase carbon sequestration. As one example, The Pacific Forest Trust implemented selective logging to promote uneven-aged forests in California. Depending on market conditions, tree selection can be modified to capture premium pricing while still increasing carbon storage. In this example, revenue is diversified from timber (approx. 60%) and carbon (40%). As a result, the Pacific Forest Trust is insulated from fluctuations in timber price and demand.

A different approach favored by some commercial landowners involves growing specific types of timber that are ultimately used to manufacture long-lived wood products (e.g., dimensional lumber, plywood) and create carbon storage in their end use. Forest owners interested in carbon storage should consider a variety of these approaches.

These management changes are complementary to those promoted by sustainable forestry programs; the Forest Stewardship Council, Sustainable Forestry Initiative and Tree Farm System provide access to timber markets and special pricing just as forest carbon projects provide access to the carbon credit market. A property in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan successfully combined a carbon project with Forest Stewardship Council certification.

#### **What makes a project feasible?**

Many factors affect a project's viability, but the *most* important factor is how your current standing timber stocks compare to other landowners in your region. The most basic way to think about the carbon sequestration value of your forest is how your actions compare to the average forest owner who is not actively managing for carbon sequestration. If you're already maintaining higher-than-average stocks, the rules of the game reward you for going above and beyond. Project viability also varies by species mix and site productivity.

#### **Landowner Pros and Cons**

Pros: Diversify revenues, gain recognition for stewardship efforts, help prove Iowa's forests produce a lot more than timber.

Cons: long-term commitment, upfront costs (for inventory, documentation, verification), ongoing monitoring costs.

- Kyle Holland (CF #3770, California #2951)  
ecoPartners Carbon – Berkeley California

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## **IWOA BOARD MINUTES**

*IWOA Board Meeting  
Saturday, July 7,, 2012  
Ox Yoke Inn, Amana, Iowa*

President Bartemes called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Members answering roll call were Al Rathje, Kevin Kelly, Dave Bartemes, Al Wagner. Also present was Treasure Joanne Mensinger.

Minutes of the April 7<sup>th</sup> board meeting were accepted.

Joanne shared the treasures report; we had a net profit of \$4300 and a cash reserve of \$18,000. Our physical year ends Sept. 30th. Joanne is concerned with the excess cash balance. Our newsletter costs are shared with the tree farm committee. 501C3 and 501C5 tax exempt status options were shared.

Joanne asked Board approval to check into 501C3 status. It was determined that IWOA does have an EIN number. Discussed 1120 Federal Tax Return requirements for our corporation.

A motion by Kelly and seconded by Rathje to authorize up to \$750 for legal opinion to look into 501C3 and requirements. Motion carried.

Need a resolution from the board for First Gateway Credit Union deposits. Semler moved and Al Wagner seconded. Motion approved.

Spring field day: 40 attendees. President Bartemes contacted local Farm Bureau, talked it up at local Stop & Go. Locals also provided hay rack. We had eight new members and two renewals.

Membership-Keven Kelly called a number of IWOA members who's memberships had lapsed, he provided web site info and some had indicated that they didn't realize that their membership had expired.

The Fall Field day was discussed. Since our field day was to conflict with the Tree Farmers field day it was decided we would join them on the 29<sup>th</sup> of Sep and huddle at lunch for our business meeting.

Paul is to arrange for a 6 pm meeting place on the 28 for the board meeting,

President Bartemes shared Legislative activity this year, and the success of our lobbyist. We were Successful in getting the "Study" of the Forrest Preserve pushed back. Dave also shared the Nut growers got involved and Tom Wahl helped.

Al Wagner reported on the Master Woodland Managers the Web Page, Pay Pal is up and working. Al is looking at improving search parameters to improve internet search hits our web site.

Nominating Committee, Chuck, shared that we will have three vacancies. Al Wagner and Robert Jefferson have agreed to run again. We have an individual from the Charles City interested an Ann Slussenger (sp). Al Rathj moved and Paul seconded to accept this slate of candidates.

Larry Wiley has us signed up for Amanna Woodfest and the Tri State Conference.

After this year Tom Brady and or Ed Gross will do the next two fall field days 2013 and 2014

Spring field day proposed for May 2013 President Bartemes to put out a note on our Yahoo group soliciting someone who would like to host this event.

National Woodland Owners Association requested our mailing address list for member to allow them to provide our member with a free one year membership, after discussion President Bartemes said he put a note



out to our membership to determine if there were concerns in sharing this information.

11:40am Al Wagner made a motion to adjourn, motion carried

Paul Millice Secretary

*IWOA Board Meeting  
September 27, 2012  
Luigis Italian Restraint Oelwein*

VP Al Wagner called the meeting to order at 6pm

Present: Al Rathje, Robert Jefferson, Paul Millice, Kevin Kelly, Ann Schneckloth

Absent: Semler, Rouse, Bartemes

Motion by Jefferson and second by Rathje to accept 7 July Board Minutes.

Treasurers Report reviewed (Joann Messenger absent) Motion by Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jefferson to accept. We also discussed tax exempt status

Timber Talk; Cathy Wilkie needs articles, would welcome any help she could get.

Membership report was reviewed. Larry Wiley worked the Amana Wood Fest and signed up 8 new members. Wagner to coordinate with Dr. Randall to provide 2013 comp memberships to those that completed the Master Woodland Manager Program.

Dave Bartemes to coordinate fall field days 2013 & 2014 (Tom Brady & or Ed Gross)

Spring Field Day Dave Bartemes to follow up. It was suggested that we may want to bring in Vendors, i.e. Portable saw mill, chippers chain saw sharpening. At one they remember the exterminator or rodentator where they put LP down gopher holes and then set it off. Also, more from Tom Wahl. Hands on demonstrations, planting trees.

Web site, Wagner to follow up with web work needed.

Officers for next year President Semler, VP Wagner Sec Millice Treas Mensinger

Motion by Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rathje carried

Discussed display; Millice has a nice 10x10 we can use/borrow he just needs to find some new panels for it.

Discussed other public events, Farm Progress Show wants \$5,000 for space.

Discussed State Fair, Options 1. Go in with Christmas Tree Growers (Kelly to look into) 2. Get Coalition involved 3. Partner with DNR/ nut growers (State Fair is 11 –twelve hour days)

Jefferson suggested we invite representatives from other organizations to our board meetings to open lines of communication

President Bartemes met with Dr Randall, asked for help suggestions for articles for Timber Talk.

Next board meeting scheduled for 12 Jan at Ox Yoke Inn, Amana 10 am

The subject of scholarships was tabled until Jan board meeting

Discussed how to handle the sales tax on items that we sell.

Millice suggested we may want to have some “nice” shirts available for those who are out front representing IWOA to the public. Wagner will check as he is getting some more hats made.

Ann Schneckloth moved we adjourn.

Adjournment 8pm

Paul Millice Secretary

*IWOA Board Meeting  
Saturday January 12 2013  
Ox Yoke Inn Anana*

Present: Ann Schneckloth, Al Wagner, Paul Millice, Robert Jefferson, Chuck Semler, Al Rathje, Kevin Kelly, Dave Bartemes

Also in attendance was Shannon Ramsay representing the Coalition and Larry Wiley

The minutes of the September board meeting were read, motion by Bartemes second by Rathje approved.

Change to bylaws, to add the definition of a Woodland Owner. “A person who owns at least one acre of land that has no buildings or structures, and at least 200 actively growing trees/acre where domestic animals and livestock are excluded.” Approved

Spring field day will be at the Ed Gross farm Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup> Mark Webb consulting forester will present.

IWOA to pay for porta potties and meal. We need to get his district Forester on board. He has three sites that have been managed.

There was discussion on purchasing shirts, we would like to have shirts for those that staff our booth at events and for the board at public functions, as well as for sale. Initial bid seemed to be a little high and we will investigate other suppliers.

There was discussion around charging vendors at field days, it was determined that they are providing a service to us and that their efforts were adding to our field days. If we thought it appropriate we could let them provide a donation.

Membership numbers were discussed. When speaking with legislators they ask how many folks we represent and all we have is X number of memberships when in fact we have many more folks in our Woodland Owner families.

Timber talk was discussed. Cathy Wilkie has indicated that she can no longer serve as editor. The board would like to thank Cathy for all of the hard work and effort she has put forth to make the Timber Talk a first rate news letter. The board will be actively looking for a replacement. A motion by Semler and seconded by Bartemes to pay up to \$1,000 for four issues a year, motion carried.

Bonding of treasure was discussed. Motion by Bartemes and seconded by Rathje motion carried Robert Jefferson to handle.

Coalition News Dave attended an Iowa Department of Revenue public hearing looking at property taxes. If proposed changes are made it will adversely affect timber land in Iowa where it will no longer be economically feasible to leave in timber. The Iowa Heritage Foundation also spoke against these changes. It was also stated that if we lose the Forrest Reserve Program that woodland owners will have to charge deer hunters to help cover the tax bill. Free deer hunting will be a thing of the past in Iowa.

It was suggested the board members talk with our local elected Officials.

Other Coalition issues: Motion by Millice and seconded by Kelly to support the Coalitions 2013 legislative goals, carried.

Discussed a Woodland Owners Scholarship Dave Bartemes to coordinate with Dr Randall's supervisor to work out details.

State Fair Christmas Tree Growers not interested in going in with us.

DNR has a stage available for presentations.

Discussed a float in the State Fair parade motion to table by Bartemes second by Semler carried. To talk about float for April

Deer Damage: Kelly to post a link to deer damage web site on our list serve.

DNR to pull together a study group DNR contacted Al Wagner. Kelly will represent IWOA

Kirkwood in CR is having a Garden Fair Feb 16<sup>th</sup> Tom Rosenberger will have our display and Millice will help.

April 3<sup>rd</sup> the board will be at the State Capital to meet with legislators and will hold a board meeting after lunch.

Paul Millice Secretary

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## At the Woodpile

A few words from your new editor

My thanks to the IWOA board for asking me to serve as your newsletter editor. I look forward to working with all of you and know I am going to enjoy this because woods and trees are very close to my heart. Please send me any article submissions, newsworthy items or story ideas you may have.

I appreciate and thank Cathy Wilkie for the work she has done on this newsletter. I don't know how long she has done this, but her newsletters were always informative and professionally done. She has already provided me with a lot of information that will help me continue to provide a quality newsletter for IWOA members.

Now: a little about myself. I'm 56 years old and live in Garrison Iowa where I own 55 acres of ground, most of which is managed woodland. My woods were devastated by the July 11, 2011 Derecho windstorm that swept this area. My dad's farm where my youngest daughter and I have a cattle operation raising registered Miniature Herefords was also severely damaged. The situation inspired me to invest in a track loader and undertake my own logging operation. I ended up doing a lot of work for other people in other damaged woodlands around here.

I have been a professional writer for as long as I can remember and have been the editor of several different

newsletters. Currently I operate a grant writing and emergency management consulting business.



I am a 32 year member Garrison Volunteer Fire Department and have served as Fire Chief for 28 years. Our station was leveled by the July 11 windstorm so I've spent an overwhelming amount of time dealing with that situation since then.

I have a BS degree from Iowa State University in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology and a BS Degree from the University of Cincinnati in Fire Service Administration. I am also one of the few volunteer Fire Chief's in the U.S. to graduate from the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer Program.

My wife of 34 years, Teresa, is a career agent with Farm Bureau Insurance. We have two daughters, Amy age 24 who married Matt Cline a year ago; and Emily age 20. Amy and Matt are missionaries with Campus Crusade for Christ in Ames and Emily is a junior at UNI.

I am an avid deer hunter. When I'm not writing grants for someone, taking care of my cattle or taking care of my Fire Chief duties I spend all of the time I can in my woods.

Visit my website at [www.stevemeyerconsulting.com](http://www.stevemeyerconsulting.com) or see my profile on LinkedIn to find out more about me and my company. I also have a blog about grant writing at <http://stevemeyerblog20131.wordpress.com/>.

For what it's worth, I intend to lend my own commentary and reflections in my "At the Woodpile" column in every newsletter.

Please send me your stories, story ideas, events of interest and any photos you feel should be included in Timber Talk. My e-mail is [gfdchief@netins.net](mailto:gfdchief@netins.net). My mailing address is Steve Meyer, PO Box 247, Garrison,

IA 52229. My phone numbers are 319-477-5041 (office) and 319-640-8735 (cell).

An area of particular current interest for me is uses of native wood or natural woodland products that are out of the mainstream. I'll explain why in a subsequent column. If you have developed or know of a unique niche market for woodland or other natural products I'd like to hear from you. I may even travel to you and do a full feature story on your products!

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Your ad will not be printed until payment is received. Make your check out to the IWOA and send to Steve Meyer, PO Box 247, Garrison, IA 52229

Dear Iowa Tree Farm Members,

### Become a Member of IWOA

We invite you (or someone you might know) to become a member of the Iowa Woodland Owners Association

If your mailing label on this newsletter reads "ITF" after your name, you receive our newsletter via Iowa Woodland Owner's Association joint newsletter mailing effort with the Iowa Tree Farm Members.

If you are an ITF member, and would rather receive your copy of Timber Talk via e-mail rather than receive a paper copy in the mail, please e-mail Cathy Wilkie, IWOA Membership Secretary at [cathywilkie@yahoo.com](mailto:cathywilkie@yahoo.com), and put "ITF MEMBER REQUESTING ELECTRONIC COPY" in the subject line of your e-mail. Include your current mailing address in the body of the e-mail so I make sure I get the right person signed up for the electronic mailing.

We appreciate the Iowa Tree Farm folks taking the time to read Timber Talk, and we would also like to ask you to consider becoming more involved in IWOA by becoming a full-fledged IWOA member.

If you'd like to join, please fill out the form on the right, and send in with your dues payment.

- Member \$20—woodland owner, voting
- Associate Member \$20—non-woodland owner, non-voting
- Contributing Member \$50—woodland owner, voting
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Number of forest acres you own \_\_\_\_\_

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204 Park Rd.  
Iowa City, IA 52246**



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