



Through The Knothole

a quarterly newsletter of the

HURONIA WOODLAND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Issue # 78

www.huroniawoodlandowners.ca

FALL 2018

In this issue:

- **Reports on the Fall Field Day**
- **White Pine Award Meeting**
- **Update and vote to adopt the Constitution of Huronia Woodland Owners Association as a Chapter of the Ontario Woodlot Owners Association**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

WHITE PINE AWARD MEETING

Elmvale Royal Canadian Legion
7 John Street, Elmvale

Saturday November 10th, 2018 at 1 PM

Agenda:

White Pine Award

HWOA Constitution as an OWA Chapter

Timber Framing:

Clearview Barn Raising Project
Barn now used for Youth Projects

NEXT SPECIAL DAY

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held again at the Simcoe County Museum, Saturday afternoon at 1 PM, February 9, 2018. More information to come.

FALL FIELD DAY 2018

Chris Ellsmere proudly led a tour through his thinned sugar bush – some members on foot, and some on bales of straw. John Quick was the management consultant he hired back in

Summer 2016, and John explained all the steps that had been taken.

A comprehensive **Woodlot Inventory** sampled more than 5% of the sugar bush with a uniform pattern of plots, then John and Chris used the results to write a detailed list of **Landowner Objectives**.

A Registered Professional Forester read those two documents, then wrote a **Silvicultural Prescription For Tree Marking**. John and Theresa Parent used the Selection Silvicultural System to paint and tally the trees to be cut and sold in a Stand Improvement Thinning. They marked **150 Non-commercial “X” Trees** (with no merchantable volume), **551 Commercial Firewood Trees** (114 Cubic Cords), and only **314 Commercial Sawlog Trees** (43,244 Board Feet).

They adopted a conservative approach of “Mark the worst first” to: remove trees with physical defects, improve the spacing between high quality Future Crop Trees, and upgrade the sugar bush’s gene pool. Their painting decreased the percentage of White Ash from 5.19 to almost 0, lowered Red Oak from 5.92 to 3.69%, and increased the percentage of Sugar Maple from 73.32 to 80.99 ... all improvements in a commercial sugar bush. The Before Cut Basal Area of 26.4 square metres per hectare was reduced to 19.7, and that 25% reduction should not increase the odds of major wind

damage by much. John and Theresa recommend investigating a second thinning in five or seven years to continue removing surplus trees and shaping the sugar bush's stand structure for sustainable yield.

Written by John Quick

ALSO AT THE FALL FIELD DAY

Ed Koski was on hand. Ed was the logger who did the thinning, and he described his work and the reasons he chose to do the tasks in that particular way.

John Williams, who installed Chris's maple syrup pipeline, explained his work and how he went about designing the pipeline to suit the topography of the site.

John Holmes described maple syrup equipment, and what his company has to offer.

Chris Ellsmere gave a demonstration of his saw mill in action, making planks from a round tree.

Door prizes finished off the day.

Written by Jim Marchand

PRESENTATION at the White Pine Awards “the Raising of Clearwater Barn”

Rob Geoghegan-Morphet, Project manager for the Timber Framers Guild Clearwater Farm Barn rebuild, Owner of Black River Timber Framing, London Ontario, will be our presenter this year.

Rob asks : “*How do you rebuild a 17,000 board foot Douglas fir barn frame in 7 days? Join me for a discussion on the design, planning and construction of the barn built in Georgia Ontario.*”

Don't miss this opportunity to hear first-hand all about the project.

Through the Knothole Dates, Jim Marchand, editor

Spring: about April 27 - Summer: about Aug. 24 –

Fall: about Oct 26 – and Winter: about Jan 25

Deadline is 2 weeks prior.

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OWA Chapter Transition Team: Earl Dertinger and Jim Marchand.



Over 50 members enjoyed the Fall Field Day at Chris Ellsmere's property.