



# Through The Knothole

*a quarterly newsletter of the*

**HURONIA WOODLAND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION**

Issue # 89

[www.huron Woodwardowners.ca](http://www.huron Woodwardowners.ca)

Fall 2021

**Upcoming Event: MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

## **2022 AGM**

**April 23, 2021 from 1 to 3 pm**

**Watch your email and the HWOA website for updates**

At the time of this newsletter, we are hoping for an in person live event like in the age before Covid-19. All COVID protocols in place at the time of the event will apply, so a ZOOM meeting may be necessary.

Topics being planned:

Annual General Meeting; Scholarship winners; White Pine Award winner; Special Speaker and also Election of Directors.

**We are hoping to have the meeting at the Simcoe County Museum like in the past.**

## **NOMINATE YOUR CHOICE FOR: WHITE PINE AWARD for 2021**

Send an email with the name of your nominee along with a brief description to Jim Marchand ([jimmarchand5@gmail.com](mailto:jimmarchand5@gmail.com)) or email it to any member of the Board of Directors (contact info on page 2) before Dec 31, 2021.

## **LOOKING FOR SOME NEW FACES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

We need members to step up and give us the benefit of their wealth of experience and ideas. Many hands make light work as the old adage goes. Please consider helping out. Send an

email with your name or the name of your nominee suggestion to Jim Marchand ([jimmarchand5@gmail.com](mailto:jimmarchand5@gmail.com)) or email it to any member of the Board of Directors (contact info on page 2) before Dec 31, 2021. Expect a call from a member of the Board in early 2022 looking for candidates before the AGM.

*Submitted by Earl Dertinger*

## **In Memoriam to Mattheus (Matt) Valk**

Matt passed away November 21, 2021. Matt was a contributing member of our organization for many years. Matt attended meetings and events regularly. He was particularly supportive of the provincial Forest Health reviews that were held in Orillia. Matt attended the one-day conference with pad and pencil in hand and provided a full report for us all in our newsletter. Matt also reforested part of his property in Oro-Medonte as part of the 50 Million Tree Plant program. Those of us that have been with Matt in his plantation know how proud he was of the trees and the results of his hard work. Matt was the recipient of the annual White Pine Award in 2009. Our sincere condolences go to his family.

## **REMINDER**

### **It is time to renew your OWA/HWOA membership**

Some of you have allowed your membership to lapse. Call Joanne at 613-713-1525 or online at [www.ontariowoodlot.com](http://www.ontariowoodlot.com)

# **HURONIA CHAPTER** **Fall Field Day**

Submitted by Jack McFadden, Director

*This article was also submitted to the OWA Woodlander.*

“Absolutely fantastic weather and excellent speakers”. That is how hosts, Jack and Janet McFadden, attributed the success of the September 18<sup>th</sup> Huronia Chapter Fall Field Day held on their property in Tay Township near Midland, Ontario. In recognition that Covid19 continues to be a very real issue, all participants were screened and asked to bring their own lunch and lawn chair.



its initial members. Both men have been members of the Huronia Chapter (HWOA) for 50 years!! Congratulations!!

Jim Laking



and



Chris Ellsmere (long time Board of Director)

In the morning sunshine Graeme Davis, County Forester for Simcoe County, talked about the history of the Simcoe Forests program and how they will be celebrating Simcoe County Forests' 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2022. He reminded those present of the severe soil erosion that existed in the county and the fact that the first provincial Agreement Forest was in Simcoe County, at the Hendrie Forest Tract northwest of Barrie. Graeme also announced that Simcoe County Forests has been awarded the Forest Capital of Canada designation for 2022 by the Canadian Institute of Forestry.

In recognition of the Huronia Chapter's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, long term members Jim Laking (former Board member and editor of the Knothole newsletter) and Chris Ellesmere (Huronia Chapter Director) spoke about the early days of the organization and the efforts of

Doug Frost (Hurononia Chapter Director) described a pilot project called the Hurononia Community Forest Cooperative that was initiated this year. It mirrors a similar initiative in the Kawartha Lakes area where small conifer plantations that have not been actively managed are evaluated and potentially grouped with other nearby properties so that the total acreage is large enough to interest the industry and local loggers. Jim Eccles of Eccles Forestry has come on board as the Project Lead for the Hurononia Pilot. Jim talked about details of how the Hurononia project is set up and what best management practices might be employed. Interested woodland owners can get more details from Jim at (519) 270-2938.



The morning finished up with Jack providing an outline of the stops for the afternoon tour. He explained that while most tours feature positive attributes of a site, the theme of this field day was Forest Health and Invasive Species. So he planned on showing that even managed forests can have invasive species and some examples of diseased trees.



John Pineau, Executive Director of the OWA, brought greetings and spoke about how pleased he was to be able to join the local forest owners at this event.



The afternoon consisted of a walkabout on the property which consists of about 23 acres of hardwood forest and about the same in a



lowland hemlock/cedar forest. Jim Eccles did an excellent job of answering questions and pointing out invasive species and forest pests. He had recently marked the property for a thinning under the Huronia Co-op pilot project and provided a professional explanation of why various trees had been marked.



He identified that cattle pasturing in the past has and still is causing dieback in the hard maple bush used for maple syrup production. Emerald Ash Borer damage is highly evident and many beautiful specimens had to be marked for removal. LDD Moth (gypsy) damage had been severe this spring but fortunately natural native fungi and viruses were able to kill off the invaders and very few egg masses are evident now. There were about 40 attendees at the event and several expressed an interest in coming back to see the results after the thinning.

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### **Through the Knothole**, Jim Marchand, editor

Our members would like to see stories about our members, their properties and projects. Please consider sending me an article, from you or a friend.

**Send submissions to: [jimmarchand5@gmail.com](mailto:jimmarchand5@gmail.com)**

#### **Submission deadlines for articles:**

**Winter issue: Jan 10**

**Spring issue: April 10**

**Summer issue: Aug. 10**

**Fall issue: Oct 10**

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#### **DIRECTORS** (in alphabetical order)

**Chair:** rotating among Directors

**Craig, Neil:** Forest Health (705-726-1334)  
[neil@greylands.ca](mailto:neil@greylands.ca)

**Crawford, John:** Treasurer (705-487-3373)  
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**Douglas, Cam:** Secretary,  
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**Ellsmere, Chris:** (705-726-8479)  
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**Frost, Doug:** Website (705-487-5723)  
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**McFadden, Jack:** (705-534-0138)  
[jimcfadden@sympatico.ca](mailto:jimcfadden@sympatico.ca)  
2021 Fall Field Day

**Marchand, Jim:** (705-835-0094) Communications,  
"Through the Knothole" and membership  
[jimmarchand5@gmail.com](mailto:jimmarchand5@gmail.com)  
OWA Director, HWOA Chapter Rep.

Directors Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month except June, July and December.

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*The Huronia Chapter of the OWA (HWOA) has a 50 year history of involvement in good forestry guidance, management and practices.*

Please feel free to share this newsletter with anyone who might be interested in joining our association.