



Through The Knothole

a quarterly newsletter of the

HURONIA WOODLAND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Issue # 82

www.huron Woodwardowners.ca

Fall 2019

Upcoming Event: MARK YOUR CALENDAR

WHITE PINE AWARD MEETING

Elmvale Royal Canadian Legion
7 John Street, Elmvale

Saturday Nov. 9, 2019, at 1 p.m.

Presentation of the 2019 White Pine Award winner.

The guest speaker, Cathy Walton, author of "Vanishing Barns" will talk after the refreshment break. Learn about those beautiful barns in our countryside.

OWA GOODWOOD SUMMIT

By Jim Marchand

Janice Napp and Jim Marchand attended the Summit, where Chapter Representatives from around the province and members of the Provincial Board met to discuss the results of the OWA Survey. Watch the OWA Woodlander for developments arising from the result of these talks.

New HWOA Website Launched!

by Doug Frost

Based on member input received via the recent survey, the board decided that it was time to modernize the HWOA website. The new website is now live! The domain address remains www.huron Woodwardowners.ca

Major enhancements include:

- Direct links to educational material on other website (e.g. OWA and Simcoe Forests)
- Video postings of past presentations
- Refreshed pictures
- Current event information
- Scholarship program details and online application forms
- Past AGM materials

2019 HWOA Member Survey

by Doug Frost

Many thanks to the 27 members who took the time to complete our short online member survey. A summary of

the results for each question can be accessed from the Archives page on the new website.

The board was really pleased with the number of responses received and the high level of member interest in our programs. Your input will help us plan the future of our chapter.

HURONIA

WOODLAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION

FALL FIELD DAY by John Quick

John and Nancy Cameron kindly hosted this year's event on Saturday, October 5th, and we met on their Oro-Medonte farm under spectacular sunny skies. Jim Marchand welcomed everyone, outlined our itinerary, then we were off to their 17 acre hardwood bush to study tree marking and woodlot management.

Previously, Bluewater Timber Products of Huntsville had marked the majority of The Camerons' mature Sugar Maples for removal, and John and Nancy feared Highgrading, so they invited John Quick in for a free Site Inspection. He confirmed their fears, and they decided to pursue Stand Improvement For Sustainable Yield instead. Quick conducted a Forest Inventory with 6.48% sampling that was representative of the entire bush, and then he met with The Camerons to examine the field data and set realistic long term land use objectives. Afterwards, Quick sent the field data and land use objectives to Gerald Guenkel R.P.F. who wrote a Silvicultural Prescription For Tree Marking which Quick used to paint trees for removal in a different colour than Bluewater Timber Products had.

On October 5th conditions were ideal for our members to compare Highgrading with Stand Improvement For Sustainable Yield ... orange paint on a relatively small number of mature high quality trees vs yellow paint on a much larger number of trees (ranging from small diameter firewood stems to large diameter sawlogs). Quick explained how the Forest Inventory had revealed the diameter classes where surplus trees existed, and how important it was to reduce and prevent overstocking when managing for Sustainable Yield. Field data also revealed the ratio of Unacceptable Growing Stock (UGS) to Acceptable Growing Stock (AGS), and Quick discussed

how the woodlot's gene pool would be improved by his marking 354 UGS trees for removal and only 107 AGS trees. In many areas Bluewater's orange paint was immediately adjacent to Quick's yellow, and his closeup bark photographs illustrated the differences between High, Medium, and Low Vigour Trees... characteristics all tree markers need to recognize. Quick had flagged out a network of timber extraction trails, and a satellite imagery handout showed our members how efficiently they will allow Witter Logging of Stayner (Stand Improvement specialists) to access the entire bush. John and Nancy had permitted their woodlot to become very overstocked during their years of maple syrup production, and Quick's tree marking will not be able to reduce its Basal Area down to an optimum level, due to his concern for post-harvest wind damage. A second thinning will be conducted in ten, eight, or even six years when the trees will have tightened up. It will be preceded by another Forest Inventory, revised long term land use objectives, another Silvicultural Prescription For Tree Marking, and the approach will again be *Cut The Worst First* for Stand Improvement.



John Quick led the morning tour. After a tasty hot lunch (prepared by Bev Ellsmere and Deb Douglas) site owner John Cameron, showed us his workshop, Pine plantation and also his Fir plantation. We were told of his next step plans for these plantations, which included liberating the maples invading the Fir plantation.

Through the Knothole Dates, Jim Marchand, editor

Submission deadlines:

Winter: Jan 10 - Spring: April 10 - Summer: Aug. 10 - Fall: Oct 10

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