



Through The Knothole

a quarterly newsletter of the

HURONIA WOODLAND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Issue # 93

www.huroniawoodlandowners.ca

Fall 2022

Upcoming Events:

Watch your email and the HWOA website for updates

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

WHITE PINE AWARD

**Sat. Nov. 12, 1 pm to 3 pm
at the Elmvale Legion
7 John Street, Elmvale**

**MEET OUR AWARD WINNERS FOR:
WHITE PINE AWARD for 2021
and 2022**

Due to Covid-19 we were not able to have a White Pine Meeting in 2021, so this year we are presenting the winner for each of the 2 years.

Guest speaker will be Graeme Davis from Simcoe County Forests speaking about the mutual benefits of our forestry efforts.

2022 Huronia Chapter Fall Field Day at the Valk Valley Farm

On September 24, 2022 we held the annual Fall Field Day at Valk Farms hosted by Juliana and David Hawke. The weather was ideal for the outing. We socialized during registration over coffee and Smile cookies supplied to us by Vermeer Canada. There was a very interesting montage of photographs taken over the years, for viewing in our spare time.



THANK YOU



We wish to thank Vermeer Canada Inc. for supporting the Huronia Chapter of the Ontario Woodlot Association by supplying the refreshments we have at our meetings throughout the year.

David began with a history of the farm dating back to when Matt Valk owned the property, continuing to the period from when Julie and David inherited the property on Matt's passing.

In the autumn of 2011, Matt and son-in-law, David Hawke hosted the Huronia Woodland

Owners Fall Field Day. Many of the attendees this year remember being present at the 2011 Field Day and enjoyed seeing the difference in the property today.



The walkabout began, and the first stop was at the south-east corner of the property, where three properties, developed in different ways, touched. One showed the natural succession from old field. The second showed informal tree planting. And the third, our host's site, showed formal tree planting. The results were very different to see. Tree species planted on our host's site were white pine, red pine, red oak, and black walnut. Some plantings were done via the 50 Million Trees program. It's been 12 years since planting and we saw a summary of how things are going. David discussed his pruning of the trees, and how he handles the attacks on his plantings by such pests as white pine shoot weevils.

David talked about his successes and failures. We saw huge rocks and David explained how they were moved in days gone by. During our walkabout we saw a stream that tests pure water, and some old large specimen trees; Elm, Ash and Maple. David discussed the history background off these trees.

At noon we had a fun time socializing over our picnic lunch.

At 1 pm we reconvened and Sandy Agnew discussed MFTIP and how it applied to the present property and our own MFTIP plans.

Huronian Chapters Directors Jack McFadden and Doug Frost updated us on the OWA

Community Forest Owners Co-operative Project that the Huronia Chapter is actively involved in. There is much interest from owners of small acreage woodlots who can benefit from joining with others for thinning and harvest.



Lastly David discussed promoting wildlife in the woodlots, and how to attract and enjoy the birds and animals. Many are interested in the proper way of encouraging this for added enjoyment.





In all, everyone agreed that the day was great success, and a big thank you goes to the planning organizers, Directors Craig Drury and Jim Marchand who spent their time over several months planning the day.

Submitted by Jim Marchand

Obituary HAROLD PARKER

Submitted by Jim Laking

Harold Parker - a longtime HWOA member died on Sept. 26, 2022 at the age of 82. He was interred at the Minesing Cemetery where he joined his predeceased wife - Linda nee Winter. He was the father of - Rachel, Adam, and Robert. Harold never accepted a Director role with our Association, but he was repeatedly called upon to use his eloquence when there was a presentation needed or a 'thank you' to a visiting speaker or to pass on a White Pine Award. Harold and Linda hosted an Annual Field Day, at their house and their forested backyard and the sugar shack. Later, Harold and his three children hosted a second Annual Field Day at his 100 acres, located on the edge of the land where the Willow Creek enters the world class Minesing Wetland.

Harold grew up exploring this wetland, and fellow HWOA member, Terry Walton, teamed up to enjoy that big area. Harold quite liked and encouraged the research done by Bob Bowles there and by Chris Evans of Nature Barrie. He liked the change when the Minesing swamp was finally accepted as a qualified world class Wetland. Later, Harold took on the big task of fund raising to convert an old landfill area into a beautiful landscaped look-out site - to see most of the wetland and the miles west and north. Harold inspired many service clubs, other corporations and indigenous groups to finance fencing and a sculpture on top of the highest point.

Harold Parker had political aspirations and won two successful terms as Councillor in the Township of Springwater. He was active in the Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture. He and his sons helped the local village by planting

The day finished with a distribution of door prizes, and Director Chris Ellsmere presented a bottle of his own Maple Syrup to our hosts.



roadside trees. He cared for the fencing needs of the Minesing Cemetery, and supported the United Church. He was a member of a Barrie Masonic Lodge and the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry.

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

Submission deadlines for articles:

Winter issue: Jan 10

Spring issue: April 10

Summer issue: Aug. 10

Fall issue: Oct 10

DIRECTORS (in alphabetical order)

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"Through the Knothole" editor and membership

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OWA Director, HWOA Chapter Rep.

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

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

DOES ANYONE KNOW WHERE OUR MISSING BANNER IS

If you have any ideas, please let one of the board of directors know.

