April 2018

EDITOR: Mary E. Ice

In Honor And Memory Of The Passing Of Mary Ice, We Purposefully Post This Acknowledgement & Remembrance Of Mary's Many Years Of Dedicated Service To NEOFA.

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REMINDER – BANQUET/AUCTION RSVP’s

There is still time to get your reservations in for the 45th Annual NEOFA Banquet And Auction. The deadline for reserving a shirt has passed but we did order some extras just in case. The deadline for sending in your RSVP is April 22nd but we probably won’t turn anyone away with a last minute reservation.

Hopefully you are thinking about donating an item for the auction. This can be anything from a store bought item to something you have handcrafted yourself to home baked goodies. Getting a donation from a local business is also a possibility. We have sent out the official donation request letter, in a previous email, to give to a donating business, but if you need one, please contact Mike Lanave - neofa1972@gmail.com to get a copy.

As you know, the money we generate at the auction goes towards our camp scholarships. At this time we have 4 students that have applied for the sponsorship but we are hoping to get many more to attend. Our members have proven time and time again that they support this effort by generously bidding on the auction items.
Remember, if, at the night of the banquet, you are paying for anything other than an item won at
the auction, such as banquet dinner payment or membership dues, each must be paid for with a
separate check. By doing so, it helps Barb, our treasurer, and her auction team to keep things
straight.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!!

**Kudzu –** The viney, invasive, dominating source of the southern landscape has been found to be
establishing itself in Ohio and it has even been found as far north as Ontario, Canada.
Familiarize yourself with its identification and be on the lookout.
See something. Say something.

**CAMP CANOPY SPONSORSHIPS STILL AVAILABLE**
There is still time to apply for a sponsorship to attend Camp Canopy. As much as we would like
to grant every applicant's request, please be aware our resources are limited. Our priority is to make
sure our members have preference along with first time applicants; however, this is on a first come first
serve basis. **Don’t delay applying for this sponsorship!!**

This year, Camp Canopy will be held **June 10th through 15th** at Camp Muskingum on beautiful
Leesville Lake in Carroll County. Campers arrive Sunday afternoon and head home on Friday
afternoon. The camp is sponsored by the Ohio Forestry Association and is held annually.

Campers spend their days learning about forest ecology, soil and water conservation, forest
management, wildlife management, forest products and tree identification. The evenings are filled with
many fun recreational opportunities.

The sponsorship covers **75%** of the camp fee and the student is responsible for the remainder. The
camp fee is **$375.00** with **$93.75** being the student’s portion.

Any student who has completed the eighth grade through students graduating high school this year is
eligible to attend camp. This year we are proud to direct you to the new camp website, partly funded
with a donation from the NEOFA, for more information at [www.campcanopy.com](http://www.campcanopy.com).

If you know of a student that is interested please contact Mike Lanave for more information – (330)
532-1957 or by email at [neofa1972@gmail.com](mailto:neofa1972@gmail.com).

**DBH – Diameter @ Breast Height**
Tree diameter as measured at 4 1/2 feet above ground.

**MARY ICE PASSES ON – MARCH 30, 2018**
We have some sad news to pass along. Our newsletter editor, Mary Ice, passed away March 30, 2018.
Mary had been a member for many years but was unable to actively participate for the past several
years due to her poor health. She did, however, manage to continue to edit and contribute articles for
the newsletter until recently. You can view Mary’s memorial webpage and express condolences online
at [www.dawsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.dawsonfuneralhome.com).
BUY-SELL OR TRADE --- APRIL

April 18001: Two sets of 42 in. mulching mower blades, brand new, still in the wrappers. Set 1 is Husqvarna Premium; part #532-134149. Set 2 is Xtreme Mulching Blades. These fit Husky and other brands. Each package has 2 blades included. Both sets can be yours for $10.

April 18002: For Sale. Black Locust Air Dried Cants and Boards. The following pieces are for sale. Take them all or take some: 16 cants, 4x6 by 6.5 ft.; 4 cants, 4x6 by 8 ft.; 3 cants, 4x6 by 9.5 ft.; 1 board 2x6 by 8 ft.; 1 board 2x8 by 8 ft. Prices are negotiable.

April 18003: Stihl chainsaw16 in. Rollomatic E bar. Has the Ematic system. 0.050 by 55 links. Slightly used. Make an offer.

April 18004: Kubota RTV 500. Gas powered. 830 hours. Put in service on Dec. 30, 2009. Well maintained (all service records are available). Has some cosmetic blemishes as would be expected. Heavy duty tires, not ATV. Price $4250. I liked this one so well, I bought another one just like it.

Reply to neofa2@aol.com with the reference code if interested in any listing. Include your name and phone number if you would like a call-back.

To post an item send info and price to Mitch Cattrell or send it to the above email address.

Girdling – Killing unwanted trees by cutting through the bark and an inch or two into the living tissues to complete an uninterrupted continuous cut completely around the tree. Herbicide can be applied to the cut.

FOREST MUSINGS

In this issue, I get to vent a little about one of my pet peeves. It seems like almost weekly we see groups of people releasing ballons in memory of someone or some event. Well, these balloons have to come down somewhere. Our woodlot is on a line of west to east from Lisbon. Since early January, I have picked-up 4 foil balloons and 1 latex balloon with lots of ribbons. A fifth foil balloon is still fluttering in the wind high up in the branches. I can appreciate the good intentions of folks, but please remember that your balloon becomes my litter.

Firewood season is coming to an end soon. We have cut mostly ash this winter. Occasionally, we get into a little “Chelm.” If you are a regular firewood cutter you probably know exactly what I am talking about. Chelm is a cherry tree that splits like a stringy piece of elm. Hence, Chelm. Usually, any cherry tree growing under some kind of structural stress from being a leaner or a big arching bow gets pretty tough. It still makes good firewood. But, you really earn your pay when you split it.

We would love to have any of our members share your random thoughts about your woodlot. Any humorous stories or close encounters with wild trees or wild animals make for interesting reading. Really, anything of interest is welcome. Contact Mitch Cattrell. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Diffuse porous species like maples, beech and sycamore require deeper girdles, up to 3 inches, as opposed to 1 ½ inches for ring porous species like oaks.
MARCH MEETING REPORT

Their interest in treasure hunting began to surface, such as their discoveries back in the 1970’s. Mark and Randy Ohlin weren’t quite teenagers when this interest began to take shape and old buried treasures were found.

Mark and Randy were our guest speakers for our March 15, 2018 meeting but you would never have known that it was their first ever speaking engagement. The large collection of old bottles and other relics on display along with their presentation left the packed room of members very interested. The initial search began on their family property which consisted of 50 acres. It went from the farm house then to the dump on their property. Their search then progressed to the city dump and then on to privies. A few of the localities involved were Youngstown, Steubenville and Akron and by using atlases from the 1800’s and 30-year old maps, these helped them to locate and broaden their hunting grounds.

They made their own prod with a metal rod from a car trunk and attached handles to it which made it possible for them poke the ground area around the privy. Privies were either lined in wood or were brick-lined and a “Honey Dipper” would lime a privy for maintenance. The location of the bottle finds are at the bottom of the privy having been dumped there many years ago. Sanitary sewers came into fruition in the 1920’s.

Once Randy and Mark have determined where the next dig will be, they acquire the needed permission. Items they’ll need for the job include the prod, the map or atlas, a tape measure, a grate, hand rake, metal detector and a camping shovel. They do not recommend that anyone who doesn’t know what they are doing to attempt this.

Some of their finds include an 1890 whiskey bottle which is worth $3.00 or 4.00 if it is aqua in color. A clear glass one would be worth more. Other items they have found include a part of a shaving cup dated between 1900 and 1905, clay pipes (some with reed stems, long stems, some with faces or pineapples). A lamp shade from 1875 was found and would have had a brass bottom from the civil war era. On one of their digs they located a canal that had been buried by a railroad. They found part of a teapot with a woven pattern on it that dated back to the 1880’s. Another find was a revolver from the 1860 civil war era. Various types of bottles found could include soda, medicine, beer, whiskey and ginger beer. Ginger beer was a non-alcoholic beverage (circa early 1900’s) during prohibition. When prohibition occurred it caused many breweries to go out of business.

Randy and Mark described some identification factors not only on the bottom of bottles but also by the top of the bottle that can help in determining its age and whether it was glass blown or machine made and where it originated from. Mold or finished- top bottles would not have been machine made, nor would a blob top that would have had a wire with a ball to seal it. A crown top bottle is what is used today for beer bottles. Another factor when determining value may involve the color of the glass.

Information is out there to help you identify your find either by googling or researching different sites. There is also a book that Mark and Randy brought which is updated and available at Ohio Bottle Book.com. There is also an antique show in Portage County, Ohio in late August. Our Thanks to Mark and Randy Ohlin!

Overmaturity – That period in the life cycle of individual trees, or as applied to the general forest population when growth and/or value are declining.
FORESTER'S FIELD NOTES – By Jim Elze, LZ Forestree Consulting

We got into a pretty major afforestation project for a client last spring (2017), and again this spring, and thought it worthwhile sharing the experience. We planted 7,500 hardwood tree seedlings on 14 acres of brushy old field habitat during the spring of 2017. That’s over 500 trees to the acre. A planting machine and tractor would have been the way to go on so many acres, but a tractor and machine would have had to be rented, so we planted them all by hand. When I say we, it was varying combinations of 7 of us over a 7 day period to get it all done. We started on March 23rd and finished up on April 2nd. Anytime you can get the trees in that early, before the ground starts to get too dry, the trees should do well. Not always.

The field had been “brushing-in” over the last 8-10 years. We had underestimated the amount of multiflora rose bushes that had invaded the site over that fallow period of time. Once spring started heading towards summer, there were rose bushes popping up all over the place. One thought was that the trees would eventually grow taller than the rose bushes, but those thorny pains in the everywhere would constantly remind us of the consequences of ignoring them. So…. we returned with backpack sprayers to knock the population back. The hunt was tedious and slow. We may have won the battle, but the war is yet to be determined. It will take both determination and persistence.

While on the hunt we noted a lot of the tree seedlings we had planted were doing quite well in the lower lying parts of the field, but not so well in the upland part. Depending on where you live in NE Ohio, some of us experienced dry summer conditions while others of us didn’t think it was all that bad. We were fighting enemies on different fronts one of which we couldn’t do anything about. But at least that enemy wouldn’t keep mounting charges at us year after year.

So, anyway, to make a long story short, this spring (2018) we replanted the 5-6 acre upland area that suffered greatly during the droughty summer months of 2017. Since not all of the trees died, we chose to replant at a lesser density of 300 trees per acre – 1,800 hardwood seedlings. I proposed to the owners to this time utilize tree shelters to protect and enhance development of at least some of the seedlings. The other trees would have to fend for themselves.

Tree shelters are not cheap. We installed shelters on 1/3 of the seedlings. At nearly a $5.00 investment, it wouldn’t be prudent to shelter every seedling. Giving an advantage to well-spaced seedlings makes sense if you have the extra money to spend. The $5.00 includes a 5 foot shelter, a 5 foot pointed white oak stake, and the shipping cost. The tree shelters we used are the Cadillac of the industry. Shorter shelters and shelters with less enhancing features can be purchased to lessen the investment cost.

Stay tuned for the rest of the story. Though I am no Paul Harvey, I will report on the status of this tree planting and the effects of the investment in tree shelters later this growing season.

NEOFA MEMBER ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to our very own Jim Elze for receiving not one but two awards at this year’s Ohio Forestry Association’s (OFA’s) Annual Meeting. Jim received the Tree Farm Inspector of the Year along with the OFA Outstanding Individual in Private Service award. From his days as a Service Forester to his work as a consulting forester, Jim has long been the go to person for all things forestry related and has been a huge help to those seeking help with their woodlot questions. Jim has served as an advisor to the NEOFA board and has helped guide the organization and build our membership to make it what it is today. Great work Jim and thanks for all you do for the NEOFA!!!
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, April 27th @ 6:30 pm – NEOFA Annual Banquet & Auction

- Social Hour – 5:30 to 6:30 pm
- Celebrating 45 years!!!!
- Location – Al A Cart Catering, Canfield, Ohio
- Fast approaching. Get your RSVP’s in ASAP.
- Please be planning for your auction donation items.

Thursday, May 17th @ 7:00 pm – NEOFA Regular Monthly Meeting

- Presenter – Steve Ohman – Bonsai Practitioner
- Topic – Bonsai - The Art & Method of Limiting the Growth of Trees & Shrubs
- Location - Mill Creek MetroParks Farm – McMahon Hall, across from the Canfield Fairgrounds

May 12th – 9:30 am – 3 pm – Pennsylvania’s Tree Farm of the Year Tour

- Perkey Tree Farm – Owned by Arlyn & Marial Perkey
- Location – Greene County; SW Pennsylvania, near Rutan, PA
- See News Release included in this issue of the NEOFA newsletter.
- See Tree Farm Field Day brochure that will soon be emailed to all NEOFA members who have shared their email addresses with us.