



# ECOFA Newsletter

## Officers

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January 2009

## December Meeting Notes

### *Board Meeting*

Tom Cushing, Mike Farber, Chuck Frink, Duane Kienzle, and Brett Stambaugh were present. The board discussed upcoming speakers and making reservations with Atwood for the spring banquet. They also discussed membership dues for the 2009 calendar year.

### *General Meeting*

Attendance was 24 with no new guest. Elections were held and ECOFA would like to welcome Kathy Myers as our new Vice President and Alan Walter as our new Treasurer. All other positions were uncontested. Glenn Waggy let everyone know that he was contacted about sending some split rails to the Wayne county historical society for a live display in Wooster. Also the Forest Heritage Festival was able to donate \$90,000.00 to the Akron Children's Hospital.

Jeremy mentioned that the state has released an unofficial list of private and state nurseries that are able to sell seedlings this spring. He also encouraged the membership that if buying seedlings this year to make sure you ask for the seed source of the trees you are buying. The State Tree Farmer of the Year Tour will be held on September 26 2009 with the exact location to be determined in the near future. There is also a current federal program to collect Ash seeds and keep as a reserve for the future. Ohio has currently quarantined 44 of its 88 counties for EAB.

Dave Myers introduced our speaker for the evening. Lauren Landis from the Stark County Library. Lauren's speech for the evening was the

subject of plat maps and how they were created and could be used for genealogy searches.

Ohio originally was surveyed using Metes and Bounds, Metes meaning a post or marker and Bounds meaning a boundary like a river, road, or stream. The Land Ordinance of 1785 put the federal rectangular survey system into place. This ordinance enacted a rectangular survey to divide the land. Townships were to be 6-mile squares, numbered from south to north and that one section was to be 640 acres. Not all of Ohio used this method. Ohio was said to be the testing grounds for many different types of surveys to see what worked and what didn't.

There are also many different types of maps that can be used to identify such properties like cadastral maps which show boundaries and ownership, topographical which show physical features like hills and valleys, and aerial maps that are actual pictures of land from the sky above. Another interesting type of map is called a Sanborn map which is used in the fire insurance industry to access liability in urban areas it details the build and structure of buildings in these cities.

If you are interested in starting a genealogy search, these plat maps are a good place to start. They will show ownership in properties to narrow your search. The geographic features on these maps may give you a clue as to how or why your ancestors ended up where they did, for example the railroads. These maps will also show cemeteries and old roads that once were. Most of these maps are kept at the county level and are available to the public. Lauren ended her presentation with an interesting fact that Noble county was the last county formed in Ohio in 1851.

## To contact your service forester

### Belmont, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson Counties

*Jeremy Scherf*  
1119 E. Main St., Suite 2  
Barnesville, OH 43713  
740-425-1100, ext 114  
Office day is Wednesday

### Carroll, Columbiana, Mahoning, and Stark Counties

*Dan Bartlett*  
3601 New Garden Road  
Salem, OH 44460-9571  
330-222-1486  
Office day is Wednesday

### Coshocton, Holmes, Wayne, and Tuscarawas Counties

*John Kehn*  
2205 Reiser Ave. S.E.  
New Philadelphia, OH. 44463-3272  
330-339-2205  
Office day is Wednesday

Have you ever noticed that someone has cut timber from your woods? I know that I interrupted a crew that was supposedly under contract with First Energy, while they were cutting up an Oak tree that was **not** in the right-of-way.

Recently, an article written by Josh Jarmin appeared in the Columbus Dispatch. He mentioned that state representative Ross McGregor (R- Springfield) will introduce in January a proposed new law regarding timber theft and any resulting criminal prosecution.

The article mentioned that a 2003 study done by Virginia Tech University estimated that timber theft in a 20 county area of Appalachia resulted in the loss of over \$300,000 of timber in one year. Our own forestry officials in Ohio are currently pursuing 6 cases of timber theft that (I believe) were in the Wayne National Forest.

Foresters have gone to the scene of a missing log and cut a cookie from the remaining stump and then canvassed the local sawmills to find a log that matches the cookie. According to the article the sawmills bar code logs when they are brought in. If a law enforcement officer finds a match for the cookie the mill can tell him when it was brought in, how much the person was paid, and the identity of the person.

Two Knox county men were recently charged and fined with stealing black cherry trees from a state wildlife area near Know Lake. The fine was \$1500 to each of them.

## A Short Biography

Gifford Pinchot 1845-1946 was the first chief of the US Forest Service. He was also the governor of Pennsylvania in 1923-27 and 1931-35. Gifford's father, James, was a financially successful lumberer and land speculator. James evidently felt some guilt in his logging techniques and according to the article in Wikipedia he arranged for Gifford to attend Yale and study forestry.

Gifford worked with forestry on a political platform while his brother managed the family nursery. Gifford was instrumental in developing national forests and creating the camaraderie among the forest service. He introduced in the US the concept of sustainable yield forest management versus cut and run exploitation.

His legacy lives on today within the Pinchot Institute for Conservation. A recent article in "The Pinchot Letter" mentioned that the National Forests are governed by law to be sustainable. On the other hand, the government has developed incentives to make privately owned forestland sustainable also. The Forest Legacy program and other programs that offer incentives for carbon sequestering and water conservation.

We should all keep our eyes on the budgets of these programs and the emphasis they may lose during the current economic crisis. With the billions spent on the war in Iraq coupled with the bailouts that are in our daily news we are going to have a tough time convincing the government of the need to continue to grow sustainable private forests.

## Ohio to Host 2009 Ohio River Valley Woodland & Wildlife Workshop

Ohio will host the 2009 edition of this tri-state workshop effort. Sat., April 4, 2009 at Diamond Oaks Career Development Campus in Cincinnati, OH. Explore woodland and wildlife topics. Check the website at <http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu>.

## The OSU Extension Small Farm Program Announces "Opening Doors to Success" Small Farm Conference & Trade Show

Sat., March 14, 2009

Are you a small farm landowner wondering what to do with your acreage? Are you interested in exploring options for land uses but not sure where to turn or how to begin? Come to the conference, over 35 different seminars taught by Extension professionals and industry leaders on wide variety of agricultural and natural resources enterprises. For info contact Dave Apsley at [apsley.1@osu.edu](mailto:apsley.1@osu.edu) or 740-710-33009.

## 2009 Maple Days Workshops

Jan. 29, Lutheran Memorial Camp, Morrow County

Jan. 30, Kidron Livestock Auction Spurnger Build.

Wayne County.

Jan. 31, Joe's Window Shop, Geauga County.

**Eastern Ohio Wildlife Management  
Conference for the Private Landowner  
Saturday January 10, 2009  
8:30 AM-4:00 PM  
Buckeye Career Center  
New Philadelphia, OH**

**Schedule**

8:30 *Registration and Refreshments*  
9:00 *Welcome and Introductions*  
9:15 *How I manage my property for wildlife*  
10:00 *Using Antler Restrictions to Manage Deer*  
10:45 *Understand Ohio's Forest Tax law*  
11:30 *Where have all the Grouse gone?*  
12:15 Lunch  
1:00 Break Out Sessions  
*Becoming an Outdoors Woman*  
*Reforestation of Mined Lands*  
*What's happening with Deer management*  
2:00 Break Out Sessions  
*Doves in Ohio- Food Plot development*  
*Heard about Herbs?- managing reptiles  
and Amphibians*  
*Deer CSI, Understanding genetic  
Differences in Ohio's deer herd*

3:00 Break out Sessions  
Establishing & maintaining Food Plots  
Using GPS to manage Your Property  
The new Farm Bill & Wildlife management  
4:00 Adjourn & Evaluation

Registration must be made by January 6<sup>th</sup>.  
For a registration form or a flyer  
Contact OSU Extension Tuscarawas Co.  
419 16<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
New Philadelphia, OH 44663-6403

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**From The Wilderness Center**

\*The first artificial Christmas tree was made by Addis Brush Co., who made toilet brushes. So, the first artificial tree was really just a big green toilet bowl brush!  
\*For every REAL Christmas tree harvested, up to 3 seedlings are planted in its place the following spring  
\*Each acre provides the daily oxygen requirements of 18 people  
\*There are approximately 30-35 million Real Christmas Trees sold in the US every year.

**From Wild Ohio Magazine-Winter 08-09**

\*Red foxes are found in all 88 counties of Ohio. The best chance of seeing them is in rural areas where open space is interspersed with woods. Farmland with woodlots and brushy areas near marshes and swamps are ideal. If a den site is located, the young can often be seen playing outside the den. The red fox can be found on many of our state wildlife areas where suitable habitat exists. Good locations to search for red foxes are Blacklick Woods Metro Park, Delaware State Wildlife Areas, Fowler Woods State Nature Preserve, and Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge. They are also occasionally seen along rural roadways.

\*You can make your own homemade suet log!  
You will need:

- 1 wooden log 1'-2' long and 3"-4" in diameter
  - 1 screw on hook
  - 1 drill & 1 ¼" drill bit, smaller bit for perches
  - perches (can be sticks collected from outside)
  - Suet, you can either buy it, grind raw suet & slowly melt it, then cool, and boil twice. To any suet you can add raisins, peanut butter, nuts, cornmeal, rolled oats, dried cranberries/apples or wild bird seed.
1. Drill 3 or 4 holes in sections of log, ½ to ¾ deep for the suet.
  2. Insert perches in the holes.
  3. Screw the hook at top of the log for hanging.
  4. Fill the holes of your feeder with suet. Freeze left over suet in cupcake holders.
  5. Sit back, relax, and watch the different kinds of birds visit your backyard. Keep a journal of the birds that come to visit.

\*For the first time in more than a century, common ravens have nested in Ohio. The nest was discovered last spring at Fernwood State Forest in Jefferson County. This largest of all songbirds was last known to have nested in Ohio during the late 1800s in a once heavily forested area of the Great Black Swamp in northwest Ohio. Once abundant statewide, the loss of nesting habitat due to the destruction of woodlands caused the population to decline. By 1900, ravens could no longer be found breeding in Ohio.

ECOFA  
PO Box 486  
Carrollton, OH 44615

Jan. 7, 2009 - Meeting agenda: Jim Braun from The Wilderness Wood Carvers Club

Feb. 4, 2009 – Meeting agenda: Greg Miller President of The American  
American\_Chestnut Assoc.

March 6 and 7, 2009 - OFA Annual Meeting, Embassy Suites, Dublin, OH

March 27, 2009 – Chainsaw Level 1, 8 hr. class. Through OFA, Seneca Lake Park

June 14-19, 2009 – Forestry Camp

What's a tree's favorite drink? Root beer!