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THE STATE OF FORESTRY IN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut Professional Timber Producers Association, Inc. (TIMPRO CT) is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)6 non-profit corporation. Our mission is to enhance the image and understanding of the forest products industry throughout the state through public outreach programs, education, and a commitment to professionalism among its members.

TIMPRO CT NEWS

THE STATE OF FORESTRY IN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

By Brennan Sheahan, TIMPRO CT President

The upcoming 2017 legislative session offers TIMPRO CT an opportunity to advocate for changes in the Forest Practices Act that might benefit our industry. The last time we worked on this we were able to eliminate the requirement for submitting a certified bank check as payment for licensing.

Three major issues affecting us are on the DEEP agenda:

- A. Clarifying appointment authority to the Forests Practices Advisory Board.
- B. Granting the Commissioner authority to give forester certification without examination to a qualifying individual who is currently recognized as a Certified Forester (CF) by the Society of American Foresters.
- C. Creating a 60-day grace period for forest practitioners who failed to submit a complete application for renewal before their application deadline.

In addition, we at TIMPRO CT are concerned about the lack of funding for CT DEEP Forestry and its impact on our industry as a whole. Quite a few state foresters will be retiring soon and there is currently no funding to replace their positions. This lack of funding may reduce the volume of CT timber being managed and put out to bid. For example, any landowner with large stands of white ash should be seriously considering salvaging this timber before the Emerald Ash Borer kills these stands. Is the State of CT taking the time to identify these pockets of timber and getting them out to bid before it is too late?

We have also been told that Jennifer Hockla will be retiring within the next 6 months. Jennifer is the sole individual responsible for running/administrating the CT Forest Practices Act. Over the years I believe that most licensed forest practitioners have dealt one-on-one with Jennifer and a decent rapport has developed. With Jennifer retiring no one is currently being trained for this position. How will this impact the forest products industry? Will licensing of forest practitioners go by the wayside?

Membership in the Connecticut Professional Timber Producers Association

Membership is open to sawmills, loggers, foresters, landowners, supporting businesses and anyone else interested in supporting the forest products industry in Connecticut. Benefits include educational programs, a voice in the Connecticut Legislature, a listing on the TIMPRO CT website subscription to *The Cutting Edge* and more.

The Forest Practices Act was established in 1991 to regulate the forest products industry. The Forest Practices Advisory Board was established at the same time to review these regulations and determine their impact on licensed forest practitioners and the forest products industry. This Board consists of 9 appointed members from various sectors of life within our state. Of all the appointed members, one slot was designated for a "Representative of the Forest Products Industry." Considering that the entire focus of the Forest Practices Act is to regulate our industry, this is a crucial appointment to be filled from within our industry. It makes sense that we would want someone from our industry on this board to ensure that decisions aren't made that would negatively impact us.

That is no longer the case. Until recently Michael Bartlett of Hull Forest Products, Inc. filled this position and he did a great job keeping a lookout for policies that would hurt our industry. Mr. Bartlett stepped down from this appointment at the end of 2015. At that time, a qualified applicant submitted his request to the CT House Majority Leader, Joe Aresimowicz, to be Mr. Bartlett's replacement. Instead, the six-term Representative granted the position to a wetlands commissioner from Berlin, an individual who has no experience with or knowledge of the forest products industry. As a result the Forest Practices Advisory Board has no one from the forest products industry looking out for our best interests.

On October 16, Gerald Bellows and I tried to meet with the Forest Practices Advisory Board to voice our concern over this matter and to let the State know how detrimental we think this appointment would be. Eric Hammerling of CFPA was there as well and asked to work with us on this. The newly appointed Forest Practices Advisory Board member did *not* show up. Jennifer Hockla did attend and informed us that she had not yet formally notified the state of her retirement. I plan to attend a future Forest Advisory Board meeting and will let you all know the outcome.

I invite TIMPRO CT members to comment to me on all these issues facing us.
With your input, we can determine how best to direct our efforts.

I also encourage members to contact Mr. Aresimowicz directly at Joe.Aresimowicz@cga.ct.gov or House Majority Leader, Legislative Office Building, Room 4110, Hartford, CT 06106 about our lack of representation.

For a complete review of the issues, read the minutes of this Forest Practices Advisory Board meeting:

(http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2697&Q=454508&deepNav_GID=1631#minutes)

In addition, contact Christopher Martin, Director of CT DEEP Forestry, directly about these issues at Christopher.Martin@ct.gov or CT DEEP Forestry Director, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106.

2016 LOG A LOAD BREAKS RECORDS

By Joan Nichols

TIMPRO CT broke all previous fundraising records for the 2016 Log a Load campaign. We did the best ever on Saturday – over \$900 in cash and check donations from the drawing plus checks that came in the mail. Thanks to all donors and to Mike and Deb Hinman and to Julie Fontaine for tending the booths, selling raffle tickets, and handling the drawing among many other jobs on Saturday. Special kudos to Jerry Bellows for all his hard work. The total raised this year comes to \$3900 for the Hartford Children's Miracle Network Hospital.

SEE OUR LIST OF DONORS, PAGE 10

KICKING OFF 2017 LOG A LOAD FUNDRAISING

We're kicking off fundraising now for 2017 with a special offer you'll find on the inside back cover. Donate now and get either the wooden Big Rig or the Little Logger as a premium.

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN SEPTEMBER:

Rod Fitch, Logger-Firewood Producer
Gaylordsville Ct

Jim Byrnes, Logger -Trucker
Bob's Land Clearing
Plymouth Ct

George Aniki, Logger
Bob's Land Clearing
Thomaston Ct

Scott Bassette, Logger
Bob's Land Clearing Member
South Glastonbury Ct

Louis Cimalore Jr, Logger
Thompson Lumber
Hope Valley RI

Matthew Yard, Logger-Firewood Producer
Cedar Ridge Landworks
Farmington Ct



FAREWELL, STEVE TALLMAN

A recent Board meeting provided an opportunity to honor Steve Tallman's many years of service as Treasurer. Taking his place is incoming Treasurer Trish LaPlatney. Read about this woman who has a firm grounding in the woods and in the account books. She'll cover all of that and more for us!

MEET TRISH LAPLATNEY

Ask Trish LaPlatney, TIMPRO's new Treasurer, how she got into woods work and she laughs. "It's really a funny story. I dated into it," she explained in a phone interview.

Her date, TIMPRO member Andrew Clark, was launching a new division of his already existing business, Limb-It-Less Logging in Essex, CT [featured in *The Cutting Edge*, Winter 2014]. Trish, who went to Middlesex Community College for accounting, has been doing bookkeeping since she was 18. And she also loves the woods, having grown up on family acreage in Ivoryton. "Originally I was going to do the office work. Then Andy asked me to help in the yard – and I never left!" she said. She added, "I like it. The guys are so nice. I've always been willing to admit when I don't know something. I go marking with Andy, which gives me a better idea of what the standing timber looks like before it gets to our yard to scale. The only thing I don't do is cutting." Her commitment has grown over the years and she would like to take her test to become certified as a supervising forest practitioner so she can buy timber.

In addition to being outdoors a lot, Trish likes the fact that her workdays vary. "Some days I'm scaling. I use the forwarder. I oversee making loads that will be put into containers for shipment over-

seas. In addition, I dispatch loads to be picked up from loggers and also to be picked up at the yard. My favorite job is going marking with Andy. In the Fall, out in the woods, there is nothing better than not being stuck at a desk. Then at the end of my day, I come home and log everything into Quickbooks."

At home, Trish and Andy relax with their blended family of three teenage girls aged 15, 14, and 13. They also have a 14-year old pitbull mix name Springer "who's not so springy anymore." "Our kids are getting to the age when they can be on their own. But we spend so much time outdoors that we relish being inside with them all

together when we can," she said.

Looking back at the past few years, Trish sums it up: "You go into this business because you like it and you get sucked in. It's a good life. We're lucky."



At home in the Yard.



Trish and Andy enjoyed a family trip last summer to the White Mountains in New Hampshire

Photo above right courtesy Andy Clark

2016 First Aid and CPR Workshop

By Brennan Sheahan

Thursday September 15 brought together a contingent of safety conscious loggers ready to either renew their First Aid and CPR license or to get trained on this life saving response mechanism for the first time. TIMPRO CT once again invited Jason Race, of **Do You Know CPR**, to come out to the CT Forest and Parks Association headquarters in Rockfall to train our membership.



The packed room of 33 loggers started the day off right with delicious Mrs. Murphy's donuts and coffee provided by TIMPRO CT. Mr. Race quickly dove into the details of medical emergency response techniques, appropriate methods to handle most crisis situations, and the importance of having a well prepared/stocked emergency response kit. Mr. Race suggested to all of us that we should start from scratch when building this emergency response kit and fill it up with the tools necessary for most incidents.

"The store-bought premade first aid kits that contain Band-Aids and finger sized bandages might as well be thrown away. If you encounter a real emergency, then there isn't going to be a use for a Band-Aid!" says Mr. Race.

Mr. Race has put on these first aid courses for TIMPRO CT for over 3 years now, an opportunity to really start to understand what it is like to be a self-employed, one-man show logging operator. He knows the elements that we battle every day, the type of equipment that we run, and

the dangers that we face day in and day out. He recognizes that we are for the most part separated from the conveniences of everyday life and that help isn't necessarily just around the corner. With this understanding and knowledge of a logger's lifestyle, Mr. Race teaches the class of otherwise dry material and keeps it very entertaining.

For the lunch break, TIMPRO CT provided well-received sandwiches, salads and dessert from the local favorite deli, Nardelli's of Waterbury.

The fun began after lunch when Mr. Race dragged out the "Dummies" and every participant had his chance to pound on its chest and practice the appropriate CPR beats per minute to be effective in keeping the blood flowing throughout the injured patient (above left). We all quickly realized just how hard a thing this is to do for a very long period of time.

The rest of the afternoon was focused on the use of AEDs and the great benefit that these small compact devices have in keeping a patient alive. The cost of these portable units has dropped to around \$900.00 thus making it much more affordable for a small logging crew to keep one on hand .

Throughout the day we all made jokes, told stories, and, most importantly, gained a little more knowledge regarding what to do in case of an emergency. Thank you to all of those that attended and rest assured that this class will be offered again in the near future.

Emergency Kit Items:

- Big gauze pads
- Adhesive tape
- Ibuprofen
- Hard candies
- Bottled water
- Tourniquet
- Safety gloves
- Bandages in all sizes
- Compresses
- Cold packs
- Scissors
- CPR Barrier mask.

Photo courtesy of Brennan Sheahan

2016 Stormwise Conference

By Dr. Jeffrey Ward, Chief Scientist,
Department of Forestry & Horticulture
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

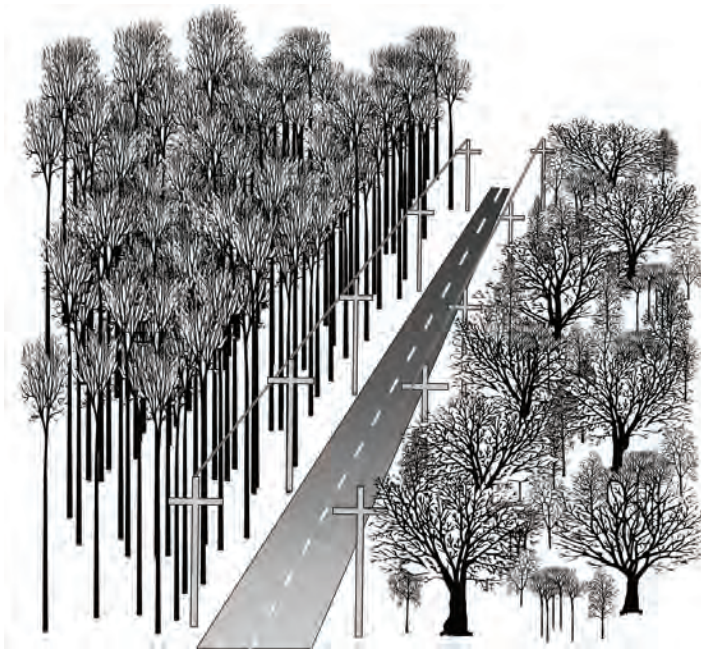
Foresters, loggers, arborists and tree wardens are a hardy lot. In a steady cold pouring rain, approximately thirty seven (my quick head count) attended a November 15 workshop on roadside forest management. Eric Hansen (Ferrucci & Walicki) spoke about how he incorporated roadside forest management into a commercial harvest on the Connecticut Forest and Park Association's Field Forest. Tom Worthley (UConn Cooperative Extension) provided the rationale for selecting which trees to

leave and which trees were at risk of falling across the road during severe weather. He also detailed how removing at-risk trees near roads and utility lines could increase yields from the harvest - defraying

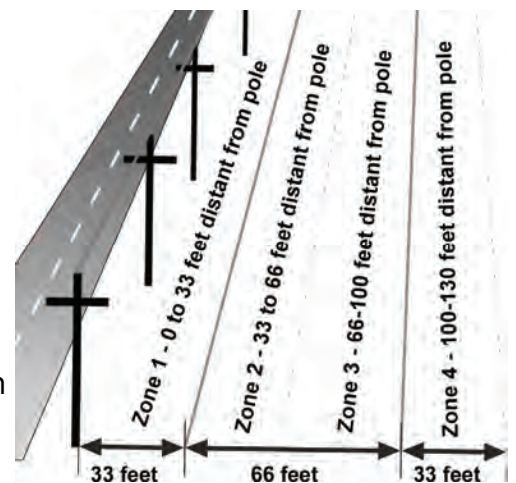


Tom Worthley (above right) suited up to demonstrate directional felling but skipped the demonstration because the cold rain made for unsafe conditions.

some of the costs associated with topping off overhanging branches. I spoke on how this management technique combining arboriculture and silviculture requires a non-traditional collaboration among utility companies, foresters, loggers, and landowners, but can result in an aesthetic forest that is more storm resistant.



Diagrammatic view of a roadside forest above. Forest zones, far right. Illustrations and photograph courtesy of Dr. Jeffrey Ward.





BITS AND CHOKERS

GAME OF LOGGING 2016

It was a family sweep at the Southern New England Regional Game of Logging competition this past September. Jeremy Bellows took first place and his father Gerald (Jerry) Bellows took second place. Third Place winner was Paul Burke. Both Jeremy and Jerry will represent Connecticut in the national competition in June. The competition was held at Celebrating Agriculture in Woodstock, Connecticut. A special thanks to Bill Gerard for once again bringing the GOL to us.



Above: Gerald Bellows, Jeremy Bellows, Paul Burke. Above Left: A TIMPRO teammate gets his back into it. Left: The whole group with instructor Bill Gerard on far left; on far right is instructor Bill Lindloff.

Photos courtesy of Joan Nichols

TIMPRO CT VICE PRESIDENT HENRY GUNDLACH'S ROAD TRIP WITH NWR 7



TIMPRO CT V.P. Henry Gundlach (above center) joined the Northwestern Regional FFA road trip through 4 states this October. The trip included tours of facilities representing the four curriculum areas of the Agricultural Education program: Animal Science, Plant Science, Natural Resources/Food Science, and Ag Mechanics. It ended in Indianapolis at the National FFA Convention. "I attended the public speaking contests," Gundlach said. "The kids were very impressive. And it was really something to see some 50,000 kids in their blue jackets."

GHG IMPACT OF WOOD PELLET HEATING

Katie Fletcher writing for *Biomass Magazine* reports on a study recently released by The Northern Forest Center, a New England-based forestry advocacy group. The study analyzed the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions impact of heating buildings with state-of-the-art wood pellet boilers. The study found a number of benefits such as reduction of GHG emissions by more than half compared to fossil fuels. However, Eric A. Johnson noted in his *The Northern Logger* November 2016 editorial column that using wood pellet fuels requires careful siting and infrastructure to accommodate transporting and storing wood pellet fuel.

A SOFTWOOD TRADE WAR LOOMS?

As of this printing, there is still no agreement between the USA and Canada regarding softwood stumpage prices. Complaints lodged by American mills about artificially low stumpage prices for Crown (public) timber resulted in a ten-year deal signed in 2006. That deal, including a one-year cooling-off period, expired in October. The U. S. Lumber Coalition wants a quota but the National Association of Home Builders claims American producers cannot meet US demand. If negotiators cannot reach an agreement, the Canadian government may be ready for a trade war. The issue may also end up being resolved by NAFTA or World Trade Organization panels.



LOG A LOAD DONORS 2016

Can-Am Trading & Logistics LLC, Old Lyme, Ct \$1000

Hull Forest Products Inc, Pomfret Center, Ct \$500

Perma Treat Corporation, Durham, Ct \$250

GB Firewood & Logging DBA, Sterling, Ct \$200

Robert & Debra Carrington, Northfield, Ct \$200

Ct Mulch Distributers Inc, Enfield, Ct \$100

Brian & Bridget Park, Preston, Ct \$100

Leopold & Beverly Szczygiel, Lebanon, Ct \$20

DONORS OF ITEMS FOR LOG A LOAD DRAWING

Girard Custom Cut Hardwood, Lanesboro, Mass

Bobs Landclearing, Northfield, Ct

Gibson Hill Forest Products, Sterling, Ct

Beaver Brook Saw Shop, Scotland, Ct

Nichols Forestry, Franklin, Ct

Mike Hinman, Burlington, Ct

Clyde Breakell, Goshen, Ct

SUPPORT THE HARTFORD CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK HOSPITAL

2017 LOG A LOAD DONATION FORM

RECEIVE 1 BIG RIG FOR EACH \$50 DONATION OR 1 LITTLE LOGGER FOR EACH \$40 DONATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

INDICATE QUANTITY:

SEND ME _____ "BIG RIG."



SEND ME _____ "LITTLE LOGGER."



ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK FOR _____ .

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TIMPRO CT. INDICATE "LOG A LOAD" ON THE MEMO LINE.

SEND CHECKS TO TREASURER, TIMPRO CT, PO BOX 508, ONECO, CT 06373



PO Box 508
Oneco, CT 06373

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2016

CT Professional Timber Producers Association

Look for mailings or check the website for further details and any changes to the Calendar of Events.

Ideas for classes you would like offered?

Contact TIMPRO CT:

PO Box 508

Oneco, CT 06373

860-948-0432

info@timproct.org

Articles, ideas, pictures
you'd like to see?

hallie.metzger@rcn.com

Check calendar on TIMPRO CT website for any changes.

For more information, contact TIMPRO CT 860 948-0432 or info@timproct.org

Get Involved

The Board of Directors is seeking members who are interested in helping out with various activities throughout the year such as CEU programming, fairs, Ag Days at the State Capitol in March, Plant Science Day in August in Hamden, programs at the Agriscience Centers and more. The Board, made up of business owners, just like yourselves, is keenly aware of the demands on your time. Any amount of time, no matter how minimal, is greatly needed.

Contact TIMPRO CT for more information:

860-948-0432 or e-mail: info@timproct.org.