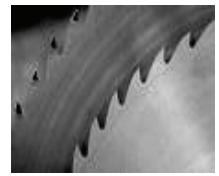


A PUBLICATION OF THE CONNECTICUT
PROFESSIONAL TIMBER PRODUCERS
ASSOCIATION, INC.

JUNE 2017

ISSUE 28

The Cutting Edge



Inside This Issue

P. 2 - 3, TIMPRO News: Annual Meeting, New Members, Workshop Overview

P. 4, Christopher Martin on CT-DEEP, Northern Long-Eared Bat

P. 5, Dr. Jeffrey Ward update on the Gypsy Moth

P. 6, Eric Chamberlain on EAB, ALB

P. 7, Steve Strong on lumber

P. 8 - 9, Senate Working Forest Caucus, Washington Fly-in

P. 10 Bits and Chokers: NELA; FFA trip; Touch A Truck Event

P. 11, Log A Load Offer

P. 12, Calendar

Board of Directors

Brennan Sheahan - Pres.

Henry Gundlach - VP

Trish Laplatney - Treas.

Gerald Bellows - Sec.

Clyde Breakell

Kyle Breutsch

Robert Carrington

Andrew Clark

Michael Gillotti

Peter Hart

Mike Hinman

Douglas Moore

Joan Nichols

David Trowbridge

Shawn Varley

Alternates

Anthony Paradise

Marshall McKenna

Editor Hallie Metzger

Cover photo courtesy of Andrew Clark

FROM THE WOODS TO DC



TIMPRO WORKS FOR YOU

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

FROM WORKSHOPS TO THE DC FLY-IN, TIMPRO WORKS FOR YOU!

There are many ways TIMPRO works on behalf of our industry. As you'll read in this issue, our members are as active out of the woods as in. In this issue, you'll also find the LOG A LOAD FLYER. TIMPRO CT isn't just focused on industry. Our members generously support this fundraising drive for the Hartford Children's Miracle Network Hospital. You can give it an extra boost by ordering a tiny truck or two! Use the order blank in the inside back cover.

Attendees at the Annual Meeting on April 29 voted in officers and new members of the Board. The Officers' slate is unchanged. Kyle Breutsch and Clyde Breakell have been elected to serve on the Board until 2020. Marshall McKenna has moved from the Regular Board to Alternate. Thank you to all the people who work so hard for TIMPRO CT!



We welcome the following new members who were voted into TIMPRO CT at the meeting:

Stephaen Glaszcz

SPG Logging--Belchertown Mass

David LaBombard

Cold River Logging--Essex Ct

Earl Messier

L&M Logging--Windham Ct

Kyle T Bruetsch

Kyle/Janice Bruetsch--Norfolk Ct

Lee B Morsey

Hidden Valley Forestry--New Preston Ct

Ted D'Onofrio

TR Landworks LLC--East Hartland Ct

Despite occasional strong winds, it was a welcoming sunny day as more than 50 TIMPRO CT members gathered for the workshop on Saturday, April 29.

The workshop events took place in an elegant timber structure at Lockwood Farm, the Hamden field test site for the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES). In fact, the timber hall was the subject of one of the workshops. It was built by Stephen Strong, of Strong Timber Framers (featured in the December 2015 issue of *The Cutting Edge*.) Also on hand was Roy R. Hunley, a representative of Schaeffer Specialized Lubricants, who demonstrated his company's products.

As always, TIMPRO provided lunch and dinner.

OVERVIEW:

- ◆ Chris Martin covered many legal and political issues affecting us. Dr. Jeffrey Ward, Chief Scientist at CAES, presented an update on the Gypsy Moth and Eric Chamberlain reviewed the latest on the Emerald Ash Borer.
- ◆ Using a demonstration log that disassembled like a giant puzzle, Stephen Strong pointed out the many challenges of choosing the right sawlogs and cutting them to minimize flaws and weaknesses. For example, the same sawlog will have compression and tension wood, both of which can cause the resulting timber to skew as it dries. Strong said that for this reason he had to reject many timbers for the hall. It is not only a balancing act for construction but a costly one, as he had to purchase replacements.
- ◆ The workshop ended with a discussion of "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly" moderated by Brennan Sheehan who urged us to consider how our logging practices affect public opinion of forestry. Sheehan had asked for pictures of the good, the bad, and the ugly but he mostly got pictures of the good! However, he told of pulling over to talk to a logger who was churning up mud on a damp site. In addition, the logger had left scattered debris visible from the road. This leaves an "ugly" public impression.
- ◆ The workshop ended with a tour of Lockwood Farm's test plots conducted by Dr. Ward. The Annual Meeting followed with the election of officers and an overview of the year's accomplishments.



A highlight of the TIMPRO CT event on April 29 was special recognition of Jennifer Hockla. Andy Clark presented her with a plaque in honor of her years of service at CT-DEEP. She will be sorely missed!

Photos courtesy of Hallie Metzger, Joan Nichols

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, current information on issues affecting the forest products industry, discounts from area businesses, a free subscription to *The Cutting Edge* and more.

Dues are \$150/year. \$25.00 for student memberships.

Applications are available by calling TIMPRO CT at 860-948-0432 or visiting the website at www.timproct.org.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

CHRISTOPHER MARTIN ON STAFFING, CERTIFICATION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Chris Martin opened the workshop with an update on CT DEEP staffing and programs. Starting with staffing, he noted that FTEs have been reduced 30%, from 24 to 17. He also explained the provisions of Senate Bill 834: An Act Concerning The Forest Practices Advisory Board and Grace Periods for the Renewal of Certain Professional Certifications Issued by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection:

- ◆ A Sixty-day extension, or grace period, for certification by those who failed to apply by the expiration date of their existing certification provided they have all their required CEUs, have no "bridge" between expiration and renewal, and that they pay a Late Fee still to be determined. *
- ◆ An Alternative Forest Practitioner Certification meaning Connecticut will accept the SAF "Certified Forester" exam or a similar professional organization as a partial substitute for the state's Certified Forester exam. However, the applicant must demonstrate knowledge of Connecticut's Forestry laws. This provision will somewhat change current reciprocity rules but means that SAF certified foresters would not need to wait to take the state exam before practicing in Connecticut.
- ◆ Appointment Authority to the Forest Practices Advisory Board to ensure industry representation. The Bill states that vacancies "shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments" and authorizes the appointment of a forest industry representative by the House Majority Leader.

* With Jennifer Hockla's retirement, the CT-DEEP will no longer have the staff to send reminders to individuals due for recertification.

Martin also described how the status of the Northern Long-Eared Bat, now officially listed as Endangered due to the spread of White

Nose Syndrome, could affect logging operations. Because these bats roost at night under loose tree bark (L), the following rules have been formalized to protect them.



- ◆ You MAY remove bats from human structures.
- ◆ You MAY remove hazardous trees to protect human life or property.
- ◆ You MAY remove trees UNLESS such removal results in removing a known occupied maternal roost tree.
- ◆ You MAY NOT remove trees from 0.25 miles of a hibernaculum at any time of the year.
- ◆ You MAY NOT carry out removal activities within 150' of a known occupied maternal roost tree from June 1– July 31.

A map on the CT-DEEP website identifies the following counties as areas of concern: Bridgewater, East Granby, Greenwich,

Morris, New Milford, North Branford, Roxbury, Salisbury, and Winchester.

DR. JEFFREY WARD ON THE GYPSY MOTH

Dr. Ward's lecture brought a measure of horror but also of hope regarding the recent resurgent gypsy moth infestation.

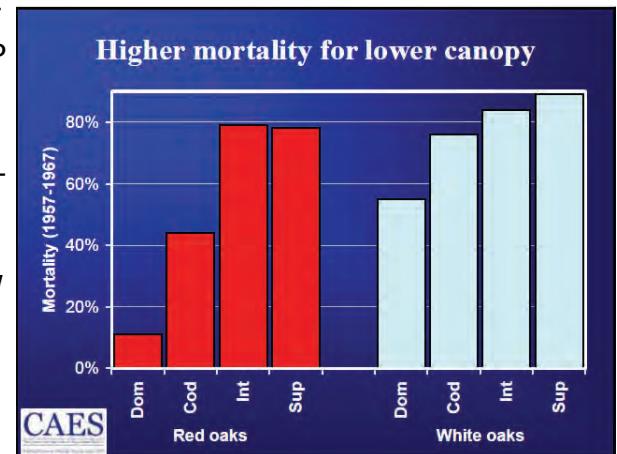
His opening slides documented the gypsy moth's relentless spread and fruitless efforts to eradicate it since it was accidentally released by E. L. Trouvelot in either 1868 or 1869. After trying everything from hand-scraping egg masses off trees to blanket spraying of pesticides such as DDT, the CT-DEEP has focused on the proper application of a fungus but one that needs damp weather to be effective.

The presentation underlined some of the subtle factors in assessing the impact of defoliation, such as tree species and canopy level. For example, a study of the literature shows white oak mortality has been higher than red oak, although red oaks of low vigor did suffer. Also, multi-year defoliation events have an important impact. Severe defoliations depressed oak basal area by about 23% - equivalent to a light thinning - and prompted a surge of birch and maple. While oak Dbh recovered over time, there was a real impact on sapling density and composition.

Dr. Ward ended his talk saying: "To cut or not to cut. That is the question." He listed the following points to consider:

- ◆ Is a tree vigorous?
- ◆ Is it a red or white oak?
- ◆ How many years has it suffered defoliation?
- ◆ Can I market it?
- ◆ Dead trees don't resprout!

Between the Workshop and the Annual Meeting , Dr. Ward led us on a tour of the Lockwood Farm test fields. We began by walking through a garden of ornamentals with paths and benches. At a nearby orchard (R), Dr. Ward explained the experiments being carried out on different varieties of apple. We then walked through a test stand of hybrid chestnuts. Extensive sprouting demonstrated the continued impact of blight on many of the trees. Beyond the chestnuts, at a vineyard, he explained the different ways the grapes were being supported by posts and wires. A final stop as we turned back around to the meeting hall was a field test of hops. Microbreweries are a growing business in Connecticut. That growth is driving the demand for locally-grown hops and, in turn, field tests of different varieties and growing methods.

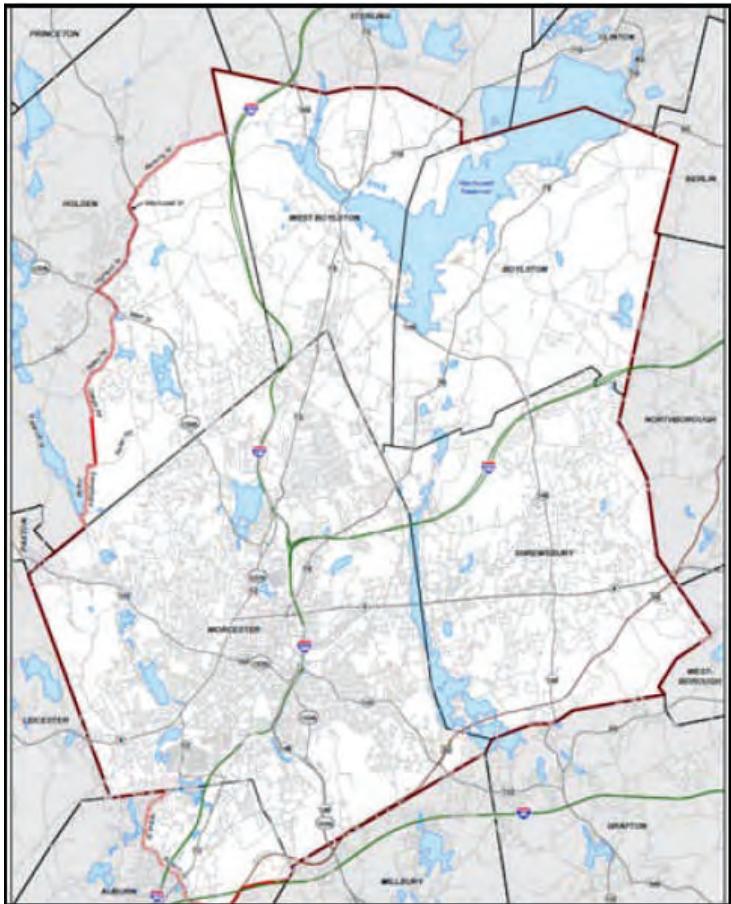


He emphasized that there are always specific questions to ask depending on the site and other factors.



Top image courtesy of CAES. Photo courtesy of Hallie Metzger.

ERIC CHAMBERLAIN ON THE ASIAN LONGHORNS BEETLE & EMERALD ASH BORER



Dots indicate trees infested in 2016 in the Worcester MA study area.

well as: firewood, all species of *Fraxinus*, nursery stock, green lumber, and logs. Also covered: any material living, dead, cut, or fallen such as chips, stumps, branches, roots, and debris. Regulated materials may move freely within the federal quarantine area. But everyone must know and obey any additional state laws. Movement from quarantine to non-quarantine areas requires a Certificate (granted after approved treatment) or a Limited Permit if untreated material is being moved to an approved treatment facility — but only if moved during the non-flight season from October 1 to April 30, and a Compliance Agreement.

You can find more information about regulations and approved treatments on the USDA APHIS website.

Eric Chamberlain, USDA APHIS, reported the status of a Worcester, Massachusetts Asian Longhorned Beetle Eradication Program.

The program included a year-round survey of host trees within a regulated area. Infested trees were removed. USDA APHIS also set up trap locations. A 2016 survey found the following trees most heavily hit, in descending order: Norway maple, red maple, and sugar maple. Identified host materials include firewood, green lumber, and other material 1/2" or more in diameter from the following species: maple, horse chestnut, mimosa, birch, katsura, ash, golden rain tree, sycamore, poplar, willow, mountain ash, and elm. Treatment applications were evaluated each year.

Chamberlain illustrated the dramatic spread of the Emerald Ash Borer with an animated map. At first, there was just a tiny patch of red in Michigan in 2002. By 2017, there was a blanket of red over Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and much of Illinois, Wisconsin, New York, and West Virginia. Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee, and Georgia also showed blotches of red.

To halt the further human-assisted spread, APHIS is now regulating transportation of all life stages of the Emerald Ash Borer itself as

Image courtesy of USDA APHIS

STEPHEN STRONG ON CHOOSING AND USING THE RIGHT LUMBER FOR THE TASK

Stephen Strong introduced his presentation at the podium but quickly shifted to a hands-on demonstration.

He moved to a large sawlog outside the hall. At first glance it looked as solid as the original trunk. But it was actually cut up like a mammoth jigsaw puzzle.

Taking it apart piece by piece, slab by slab, Strong illustrated the many pitfalls that a builder encounters moving from a living tree to sawn timbers.

Pointing to the compression and tension wood, visible in the butt end of the log, he explained what can happen when the timbers hewn from this kind of trunk dry and begin to skew away from true.



STEP TWO: Lifting plank after plank, he exposed changes in the timbers as he neared the heartwood.

Deconstructing a log as if taking apart a giant 3-dimensional puzzle, Strong gave a detailed explanation of all the flaws that may not be evident from the exterior of a sawlog.



STEP ONE: He lifted away the bark.



STEP THREE:
With all the resulting timbers laid out, he discussed issues affecting use such as quality and grade.

Images courtesy of Hallie Metzger, Joan Nichols.

TIMBER CITY: FORESTRY ISSUES IN WASHINGTON DC



Before the caucus launch, Senators King (L) and Risch (center) toured the National Building Museum's exhibit, Timber City, with David Tenny (R), Founder and CEO of NAFO (National Alliance of Forest Owners). Photo courtesy of NAFO

that support and encourage responsible, active forest management.”

Senator King added, “Like many states, Maine’s forest products industry has always been a rich part of our heritage, and today, it remains a critical part of our economy. Generations of Maine families have made their living by working in the forest, and it’s crucial that we continue to support policies that will foster growth in the forest products sector for years to come. I look forward to partnering with Senator Risch and our colleagues to advance the interests of forest workers and strengthen rural communities through the work of this caucus.”

Private working forests support more than 2.4 million jobs nationally, including equipment suppliers and service and transportation providers. Through the Senate Working Forests Caucus, members will work to advance policies that support active forest management, restore national forest lands into healthy, fire-tolerant forests, and help bring much-needed natural resources into the marketplace. Joined by two additional senators, the caucus has already introduced the Timber Innovations Act to promote the use of wood in high-rise construction.

“This is a vital forum for members of the Senate to educate their colleagues on the importance of working forests to constituents and communities in every state,” said Dave Tenny, founding President and CEO of NAFO, an organization devoted to promoting the benefits of private forests in federal policy. “We are grateful to Senators Risch and King for their leadership and to their colleagues for supporting our nation’s working forests, the communities they support, and the good men and women who work so hard to manage them responsibly.”

U.S. Senators Jim Risch (R-ID) and Angus King (I-ME), joined by a bi-partisan group of senators, launched the new Senate Working Forests Caucus. The Caucus of 11 inaugural members will serve as a forum for policies that promote and preserve America’s working forests. “Most working forests – over 70 percent nationally – are privately owned by families, who have passed down their operation from generation to generation” said Senator Risch, a graduate of the University of Idaho’s College of Forestry. “This caucus will serve as a resource to those families and communities who rely on working forests, while advancing policies

On March 29th and 30th, TIMPRO CT members Andy Clark, Henry Gundlach, and Robert Thurber attended a Fly-In to meet with legislators about forest industry issues. Their trip was sponsored by the American Loggers Council which asked the three to go as members also of NELA.

Gundlach and Clark met with Connecticut legislators, Thurber met with those from RI. Gundlach reports, "Andy and I got to meet with aides of Representative Elizabeth Esty (Fifth Congressional District) and of Senators Christopher Murphy and Richard Blumenthal. Representative Joe Courtney (Second Congressional District) met us himself. That was very impressive. But everyone we talked to had heard of our concerns, such as weight and trucking issues. When the meetings were done, we got a tour of the Capitol."



Congressional briefings for attendees

legislators. In all, 32 states were represented at the Fly-In.

That meeting with Joe Courtney wasn't planned. "I was walking through the halls when he passed," Clark said. "He recognized me and talked with us. He's a great guy and he wants to follow up with me when he gets back to Connecticut."

Both Gundlach and Clark stressed how important these one-on-one meetings are. Clark summed it up: "People shouldn't complain unless they're willing to invest the time into making things better."

Photos courtesy of Andrew Clark



It was Clark's first attendance at the Fly-In and, he says, "It was an eye-opening experience for me on many levels, one was as a forest industry representative and the other was as an American citizen. I got to see how complicated it is to pass a bill."

He was especially impressed with how well the American Loggers Council distills the concerns of so many individual members into a broader perspective to share with



Timber City: The American Loggers Council headquarters



BITS AND CHOKERS

TIMPRO GOES TO NELA EXHIBIT IN BANGOR



Kevin Massey, Henry Gundlach, Robert Thurber, Andy Clark, and Trish Laplatney as well as Chris Casadei of Hull Forest Products attended the NELA Expo in Bangor, Maine this May. "It was a long drive from Connecticut but overall I thought it was worth it," Massey says.

"Thursday night we went to the North East Loggers Association dinner and that was very motivational for me. One man noticed how young I was. He came up to me and wished me the

best and said he was excited to see my generation showing some interest in the field. On Friday, I went to the show which was impressive - very different from Boonville last year, which I felt was more geared towards the homeowner/woodsman with smaller equipment to show like portable saw mills. My brother actually has one and I'm trying to convince him to go there this year. Bangor was more geared to businesses with large equipment which was, needless to say, impressive to see. We had several conversations with representatives from Waratah, Cat, Rottne, as well as others from sawmills. It was a good chance to view the latest machines and talk one-on-one with people from the companies. I am very glad I went and hope to go back." (See the profile of Massey in the March 2017 *The Cutting Edge*)



Trish Laplatney (Right) with NELA's Wendy Farrand.

Photo courtesy of Andy Clark.

Over 400 people came to the Willington Library Touch A Truck on May 20. Helping to make the day a success, Kenny Blackmer and his cousin Ronnie Blackmer drove Hull Forest Products trucks, including a tri-axle Kenworth log truck, to the event. "It was a nice day and we had a lot of fun," Kenny said. "The kids and families loved seeing the real thing. We'll do it again next year."

FFA GOES TO UCONN



Gathering at CDE event.
Photo courtesy of Mary Fairchild, Regional #7

Gundlach says, "It gave me a chance to listen to these young people and learn from them."

Henry Gundlach drove the bus for Region #7 FFA students attending a Career Development Event (CDE) in UConn at Storrs. Yes, it meant taking time out of the woods. But, Gund-

TOUCH A TRUCK EVENT DRAWS A CROWD

Over 400 people came to the Willington Library Touch A Truck on May 20. Helping to make the day a success, Kenny Blackmer and his cousin Ronnie Blackmer drove Hull Forest Products trucks, including a tri-axle Kenworth log truck, to the event. "It was a nice day and we had a lot of fun," Kenny said. "The kids and families loved seeing the real thing. We'll do it again next year."

Photo courtesy of Brittany McDougal Jensen, Willington Library



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

PROFESSIONAL TIMBER
PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

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

August 5 CT Plant Science Day at Lockwood Farms, Hamden.
Volunteers needed to set up, staff display.

September 23 The Agricultural Fair at the Woodstock Fair Grounds 9-3 as well as our annual Log A load Fundraiser. See Log A Load Flyer inside this newsletter.

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.