



# Grey County WOODLOT Association ...ON THE LEADING EDGE

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MEMBER'S FORUM

## 2006 EXECUTIVE

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## CHAIR'S CORNER

With winter finally upon us and the Annual General Meeting Feb. 17/07 fast approaching it is now time for a year end review and summary of activities.

First as Chair, I wish to thank, most sincerely, all board members for their excellent efforts of the past year. A major project was realized during the year; to have a Membership database program up to date and operating efficiently. Thanks to Anne Lennox-Brindle and GSCA, this system is now fully functional and responds to our present needs.

### Events

Annual Woodlot conference at Elmwood in March. Tour of Durham Furniture facility at Chesley in June. Tree and Shrub identification at Old Baldy in August. Tour of Hans Brandl's property, and the Chain Saw Demo as well as the annual BBQ in September.

Detailed write-ups of each one appeared in previous news letters and an account of the chain saw demo appears in this edition.

### Past Member Survey

A survey was carried out with those who were members in 2005 but did not renew for 2006. The survey sent to the 37 people who had not renewed resulted in 20 replies. (a 54% result) Of these 20 replies, 16 said they had not received a notice or forgot about it. They then either included a cheque or requested an invoice. 2 others were that

their property was too small, 1 had moved and 1 was ill

### Events Calendar

The Program committee has produced and circulated a list of events for 2007. This procedure will continue in the future to have a list of planned events for the year in question.

### Donations

- \$500.00 donation to a program for apprentice logger/chainsaw operator training.
- \$500.00 to Conservation Authority for Tree Planting Incentives Program.

The new Board of Directors will decide on future donations and under consideration for review at the moment are:

- a continuation of the Tree incentive Program
- a request from the Arboreum committee at Grey Sauble

### Membership Renewal

The membership renewal notices now go out in a timely fashion. The first notice in December with a reminder in January, and a final notice in March to those who have not done so. At this time also a survey form will be enclosed, requesting information as to why they did not renew.

*Please, if you change your mail or email address, LET US KNOW.*

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## My Story

I have been a member of the Grey County Woodlot Association for several years, but am more of a behind the scenes type of person. I have always had a love of the outdoors and have spent a lot of time in the bush, mostly hunting, fishing, and woodlot management. My life before retirement was with the local hydro system. This involved a lot of forestry work around live lines.

I have always been fascinated by sawmills and spent a fair bit of time, watching and assisting a local circular mill operator. Roy Mills was a local genius. He was one of those people who could make anything he chose to. The mill he operated was completely manufactured in his workshop.

A few years ago I decided that I would need something to keep me busy in my retirement. I purchased a bandsaw mill. I purchased my mill in 1994, manufactured by Corcoran Bros. in Ethel, Ontario (near Listowel). I can tell you that there is a lot more to sawing quality lumber than just sawing it up.

I soon had a variety of lumber on hand. I advertised, but there was little interest in green or air dry hardwood. I visited another mill operator to see what he did and his first advice was you need a lumber kiln. I looked at several kilns and settled on one that does about one thousand board feet in a load. It is a Nyle L-50, manufactured in Maine, USA. Next I had to learn to operate it. A few calls to the manufacturer and a bit of trial and error later I had a load of dry lumber.

It is a dehumidifying kiln. The kiln chamber is preheated to about 80 degrees F with electric heat. The refrigeration then starts and is basically a refrigeration unit where moist air is drawn through the lumber pack and then passed over a cold coil where it condenses drips off and is piped out of the chamber. During the drying cycle the temperature usually gets as high as 120 degrees F. The lumber is brought down to six percent moisture at the end of the cycle.

My next problem was that I didn't know the values, or the grades, of the lumber. About this time I joined the Ontario Woodlot Association. In one of their first newsletters, there was an article about an upcoming lumber grading course. The instructor was from the National Hardwood Lumber Association. This is the standard for hardwood grading. This was a very worthwhile course.

I now knew when I saw a board what the grade and quality was before it came out of the log. This is a real advantage as you can sometimes improve the board quality and grade by turning the log to another face. This is called cutting for grade and is where most of the added value occurs.

As I wanted to keep this venture to hobby size, I don't do a lot of advertising, depending mostly on word of mouth. If you keep your quality up, people will come. I keep all the local hardwoods; red oak, ash, cherry, maple, basswood, butternut, birch as well as pine and cedar. A recent addition is some spalted beech, maple and burls.

I think the most fascinating part of sawing is to open a log up on the mill. You are never sure what you will find. Some of the woodgrains are beautiful. After a bit of experience you can bring out the best qualities of the log. Sometimes you also find things that you really don't want. Nails bolts and bullets are sometimes also there.

Thanks for giving me an opportunity to describe my love of wood. Sometimes I think there must be a bit of sawdust in my veins.

Tom Beatty, Dundalk

^^

### Forest -- New

**The forest smells like blooming flowers  
And it feels like April showers.  
I can taste the rain falling from the sky.  
I hear the butterflies' wings flapping by.  
I see that everything is  
fine !**

### Forest - Good Bye

**Everyone, everyone, come here now!  
I have bad news.  
Factories, houses, streets, and more,  
are going to take over the forest floor!  
Run !!  
Help !!**

Poem by Devin

**Grey County Woodlot Association  
Financial Statement 2006**

**Statement of Revenue and Expenses**

	<b>2006</b>		<b>2005</b>
<b>Revenue</b>			
Membersh	\$ 4,475.00	\$	3,450.00
Events	\$ 280.00	\$	175.00
Hats	\$ 50.00	\$	40.00
Signs	\$ 300.00	\$	-
Mugs	\$ 10.00	\$	7.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,115.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,672.00</b>
 <b>Expenses</b>			
Web site (E	\$ 288.54	\$	253.83
Newsletter	\$ 796.00	\$	-
Elmwood V	\$ 150.00	\$	-
Web site d	\$ 37.45	\$	-
Events Sup	\$ 567.63	\$	860.55
Postage/er	\$ 861.72	\$	539.04
Post Box re	\$ 116.60	\$	111.28
Hats	\$ 331.89	\$	-
Signs	\$ 1,006.25	\$	317.95
Mugs	\$ -	\$	138.00
Cheques	\$ 29.44	\$	-
Harvest Wc	\$ 500.00	\$	-
Grey Bruce	\$ 500.00	\$	500.00
Advertising		\$	88.27
Books for Library		\$	244.82
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,185.52</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,053.74</b>
 <b>Balance</b>	 <b>-\$ 70.52</b>	 <b>\$</b>	 <b>618.26</b>



## Botanical Names

You're probably aware that while we almost always refer to trees by their common names; "maple", "oak", "beech", "pine", etc., scientists and botanists have a system that more precisely designates plant names and ensures that a species has a name universally understood. After all, one person's "white walnut" is another person's "butternut", while *Juglans cinerea* means the same to all (if they're familiar with it).

This binomial system of naming is recognized by botanists everywhere, and consists of generic names, derived principally from Greek, and specific names, derived principally from Latin. These form the two basic parts of scientific names that are applied to all living things. It's just like having a first name and last name except reversed somewhat. It's like being called Doe John.

The generic names are generally nouns which are capitalized and which define the genus, and the specific names are generally adjectives which are not capitalized and which define or describe the species. Not all species names are descriptive however, since they are sometimes taken from the name of a person or a geographic locality. Just as a species is one of a group of organisms that share a certain characteristic or suite of characteristics that has been decided by botanists to be sufficiently significant for that group to be considered a genus, so is a genus one of a group that shares certain characteristics and makes up a family. Species, genus, and family are the three most significant taxa that most people interested in botany seek to know and try to remember.

Let's start with one of the most dominant and well known trees of the forests in Grey County, sugar maple. Botanically, maples are *Acer*, which evidently means sharp (leaves or used as lances) or Celtic "ac" (hard). The species name *saccharum* is also from the Greek: "sakharon" – sweet or sugar. For silver maple, the species name *saccharinum* derives from the same root (no pun intended). The other common one, red maple, is *rubrum*, which, logically, is the Latin for "red". Slippery, or red, elm, *Ulmus rubra* shares a similar species name. *Ulmus* is simply the Greek name for elm. White elm's species name *americana* is a self explanatory geographical term while rock elm, *thomasii*, is from David Thomas, a 19<sup>th</sup> century horticulturalist.

Pine plantations are common in the county as well. The genus name *Pinus*, for pines, comes from the Greek "pitos". The "strobilus" of *Pinus strobus*, white pine, is Greek for "cone". You might now predict that red pine's species name would be "rubrum" or "rubra" but you would be wrong. It is *resinosa*, meaning resinous. Just as ob-

vious, no? Scots pine is *sylvestris*, from the Latin "silva", meaning forest. You can see this word used in other contemporary ways applying to trees and forests: "sylvics", "silviculture" etc.

Spruces are *Picea*, from the Latin "pix" (pitch-producing) from Greek "pissa" (pitch). white spruce is *Picea glauca*, the species name meaning waxy whitish bloom. Black spruce, *mariana*, apparently means "of Maryland". Why the one of the most common and widespread trees of the primarily Canadian boreal forest was named after a small American state is very curious. Balsam fir is *Abies balsamea*, *Abies* a rising or tall tree, a name for the European fir; *balsamea* meaning balsam producing. *Larix laricina* is tamarack. Both words refer simply to the Latin term pertaining to Larch, another name for the same tree. The other very common conifer in Grey County is White Cedar. It is *Thuja occidentalis*; Greek "thyia" (for a juniper or a fragrant-wooded tree) from "thyo" (perfume) and Latin "occidere" for western (to set, as the sun. Compare this to "orier", meaning to rise, as the morning sun – east – and the root of "oriental"). Finally, to close off the common conifers, try this one on: *Tsuga canadensis* for the eastern hemlock. The genus name is from the Japanese. If you've followed along this far I'm sure you can accurately guess the meaning of the species name.

The ashes as a genus are *Fraxinus*, simply their Latin name. As for the species, white ash, *americana* is self-explanatory as is *pennsylvanica* for red ash. Black ash is also self-descriptive; *nigra* is Latin for "black". The Oaks are *Quercus*, again simply the Latin name for Oak. White oak becomes *alba*, Latin for "white" (which can also be seen in, "albino" for example). Red oak, you might guess by now, is *rubra*. Bur oak gets a different treatment; it is *macrocarpa*, Greek "macro" (large) and "karpos" (seed).

The venerable beech is *Fagus grandifolia* Latin name from Greek "phagein" (to eat - edible nuts) and *grandifolia*. Basswood is *Tilia americana*, Latin name of Linden and, of course, of America. Remember *Prunus serotina* - black cherry, Latin name for plum trees from Greek "prunos" (plum or cherry) and Latin "serus" (late) - late maturing fruit.

*Betula*, for birches, is Latin from pitch - bitumen is distilled from the bark, or Sanskrit "bhurja", "to shine" (the bark). The well know white or paper birch species name is *papyrifera* – paper bearing, Egyptian for reed, Greek "papyros" (paper) and Latin "ferre", "to bear". Yellow birch, *alleghaniensis*, means of the Alleghany region.

Poplars are very common across the world and one of the first trees to arrive in an old field. The Latin genus

