Volume 14, No. 2 Fall/Winter 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is time to pick American Chestnuts again. TACF-NY has no more important job to do now than get the nuts from proven American Chestnuts that are not already in our gene pool collections for the TACF-NY orchards across New York State. Each new confirmed tree found during 2008 should be collected and taken to the harvest exchange at the annual meeting and will be distributed at that time.

We have a target of eighty different lines for redistribution with the trees being returned to their native range to prevent problems created by changing areas. One known problem is, cold the southern New York seedling will not survive in Watertown, NY. We have proven this. The Watertown trees do very well in southern New York on the other hand.

We will have to patiently wait for our resistance reports from ESF Syracuse next fall, 2009. This will be our first official indication of how the program is going.

Long Live the American Chestnut,

Herbert F. Darling President. TACF-NY

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

THE OWEGO TREADWAY INN, OWEGO, NY OCTOBER 13,2007

Opening remarks from Herb Darling began with a remembrance of John Ellis. He sent a picture of a good specimen. Presented Jim Donawick a memorial plaque. Chuck Maynard will hang the plaque in the NEW lab at Syracuse.

John Dougherty received the Board of Directors' award. John came into the group originally because of his son's involvement in the chapter in Maine.

Treasurer's Report was read and is on record. Dale Travis put up the initial seed money for the acclimatization chamber.

Fran Nichols was absent but her husband Allen reported that the education project is going through BOCES in their areas. Scouts are working on an award through John Neumann for a badge.

Thanks were said for Stan and Arlene Wirsig for their many contributions in their absence. Arlene was still very instrumental in our location and events and Stan continues to be instrumental in the scientific aspects of our work.

Nominating committee presented the slate of officers which was unanimously approved.

District 3 Report-Lasden Orchard produced over 8000 nuts. Weathersfield is losing to blight battle. It will be cleaned out. Will need a grant this winter to help us get our Transgenic American Chestnut. There is a draft for the funding (handed out) John Dougherty talked about the legal implications of planting in the public. We have 4 sites for research plantings. USDA permit is required. An e-mail master list is needed (a page went round the room for those present to sign up with their e-mail).

District 4-Allen Nichols created a nifty chestnut picker. If interested, please contact him. He tried some grafting. Nat grafting. Iceland tree activity reported that the tree is not viable there due to the cold. Membership call works to get members back. Be interested in them and they will be interested in us.

District 7-Display set up for information. 5 Trees.

Board of Directors' Meeting: Election of officers. Rick Radel moved Bethany Ruane seconded that the slate of officers be elected as slated.

Fencing-\$10,000 already and \$10,000 to come and \$20,000 more needed.

Tentative Transgenic Breeding Plan - one parent tree will get approved and then be bred with as many native trees as possible then test the gene expression and resistance to blight. Then it can go out (still in controlled seed orchards). It will have two pedigrees (one from transgenic and one from the native tree). Then after that step it can go out and cross openly with release permit.

Growth Chambers-Room being prepared. new control panel. tested at manufacturer, Mid-November expected.

Orchard information is needed-Slope, Aspect, Site Description, Soil. Etc.

2009 Goals-Put additional section with Transgenic on DVD. Positive PR once we have permits.

It was voted that TACFNY members would be paid by the chapter for meeting expenses, travel, etc while on TACFNY business approved by the officers.

36 TACFNY members were present.

In the afternoon we went to a nature tour to Wilderness Way. Michael S. Head put on a great show on ancient skills for earth living. He was invited to next year's meeting at Syracuse, NY with his family and their choir to sing at the meeting.

Lasdon Seed Orchard Progress Report 2008

Craig R. Hibben

- 1. Most of the remaining original (planted 1963) American chestnut trees have been removed because of blight. The seed orchard has reverted to mostly young trees, consisting of rapidly growing sprout clusters plus replacement seedlings. The current tree count is 262, representing ca. 45 genetic lines originating from nuts harvested throughout New York State.
- 2. Despite tree attrition from blight over the years, loss of genetic lines has been minimized because sprout trees are saved for replacements. Blighted older chestnuts produce basal epicormic sprouts. These are thinned to the best 3 or 4 and allowed to grow along with the blighted mother tree, which is finally removed, leaving the fast growing sprout clusters. To protect from wind damage, the older sprout clusters are cinched together with rope or bungee cords.
- 3. Efforts continue to remove branches and trunks with sporulating cankers, thereby reducing the spread of *Cryphonectria parasitica* spores which produce new infections of young trees.
- 4. A sudden frost in late April severely scorched emerging young leaves of most chestnuts in the seed orchard. The injured chestnuts produced a new crop of leaves and no trees were lost. Notable were 14 chestnuts (ID 90005) that were uninjured by the April frost because their buds did not open until early May.
- 5. In an attempt to replace mudpacking to control blight cankers, excised cankers and large pruning wounds were painted with fungicide followed by coverage with tree wound compound. So far this treatment appears to be effective in minimizing additional infection.
- 6. Three guided tours of Lasdon chestnuts by visiting groups were conducted during the summer and fall.

Weathersfield Seed Orchard Report 2008 Kevin Malloy

Last year this time we had two 20 foot trees with the remainder of our seedlings from sprouts from 1964 and later plantings. When the trees were in good condition we had a harvest of 2,000 + nuts. This past year we did remove all the old dead and wood much of which was loaded with cankers. Learning from Lasdon that blighted trees and branches must be removed from the orchard as soon as possible to keep the spread of of the

blight down. At his Septembers inspection we found one of the two 20' trees alive but with a good spread of blight. All sprouting and young trees had blight on them and there so not one chestnut to be harvested. It was a sad site compared to other years when we had over 200 trees producing seeds.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS & THE AREAS THEY SERVE

DISTRICT 1

Mr. Enrico Nardone

Phone: (631) 581-6908

E-mail: <u>EGNardone@Seatuck.org</u> Nassau and Suffolk Counties

DISTRICT 2

Ms. Margaret Collins

Phone: (718) 445-6436

E-mail: NYCChestnut@afc.org

New York City

DISTRICT 3

Mr. Frank Munzer

Home: (845) 266-5138

E-mail: fwmunz@optonline.net

Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam and Rockland Counties

DISTRICT 4

Mr. & Mrs. Allen Nichols

Phone: (607) 263-5105

E-mail: fajknichols.75@frontiernet.net

Otsego, Rensselear, Schenectady, Schoharie, Albany, Columbia, Delaware, Greene and

Montgomery Counties

DISTRICT 5

Mr. Adrien Gaudreau

Phone: (518) 882-9424

Hamilton, Saratoga, Warren, Washington, Clinton, Essex, Franklin and Fulton

Counties

DISTRICT 6

Mr. T. Urling Walker

Phone: (315) 782-3153

Oneida, St. Lawrence, Jefferson, Herkimer, and Lewis Counties

DISTRICT 7

Mr. Chris Lyons

Phone: (607) 656-9996

E-mail: c.c.lvons@att.net

Onondaga, Oswego, Tioga, Tompkins, Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, and

Madison Counties

DISTRICT 8

Mr. Chip Leavy

Phone: (585) 453-5179 Office: (585) 453-5179

E-mail: Jleavy@Rochester.rr.com

Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Yates, Chemung, Genesee, Livingston. Monroe,

Ontario, and Orleans Counties

DISTRICT 9

Mr. William Snyder

Phone: (716) 839-5456

Erie, Niagara, Wyoming, Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua Counties

TACFNY 2007 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OFFICERS 2007

H. F. Darling, Jr., President

Frank Munzer, Vice President

Richard Radel, Treasurer and Secretary

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Herbert F. Darling, Jr. Jack Mansfield, Chairman Frank Munser Stanley Wirsig Arlene Wirsig

NOMINATIONS

Any member may submit suggestions for nominations to the Board of Directors to be voted on at the next Annual Meeting. If you know of someone who might be interested in our mission, send his/her name by October 10 to the Nominating Committee Chairman, Jack Mansfield, 349 Roycroft Blvd. Buffalo NY 14226 or by e-mail to sonjack@Roadrunner.com

DIRECTORS, CLASS OF 2008

Jim Donawick; John Dougherty Adrien Gaudreau; Craig Hibben Ted Kozowski; Leonard Lampel Robert Nowack: Dr. John Potente

DIRECTORS, CLASS OF 2009

Frank Munzer; Margaret Collins Allen Nichols; Chris Lyons Chip Leavy; William Snyder Wayne Cooper; Thomas Deacon John Neuman; Bethany Ruane Dr. Richard Zander

DIRECTORS, CLASS OF 2010

Douglas Campbell; Herbert Darling, Jr. John Gordon; Jack Mansfield Richard Radel: John Spagnoli Arlene Wirsig; Stanley Wirsig

AMERICAN CHESTNUT PEOPLE:

You must register by OCTOBER 3, 2008, to enjoy the informative annual meeting with Dr. Maynard giving a tour thru our latest and greatest facilities at the School of Environmental Science and Forestry.

18TH ANNUAL MEETING

The Genesee Grande Hotel (under separate registration not included here) & SUNY ESF, October 17, & 18,2008 1060 East Genesee Street Friday 6 pm - Saturday 10 pm Syracuse, NY 13210 Tel: 1-800-365-4663 Web site www.geneseegrande.com

e-mail: hospitality@geneseegrande.com

Reservations must be made prior to September 17th, 2008 to be at the rate of \$99 per (single queen bed) room per night. Ask for "American Chestnut Room Block".

Meetings and facilities touring will be at SUNY School of Environmental Science and Forestry. Check out the website http://www.esf.edu/outreach/chestnut for more detailed information.

Registration Form	
Name(s)	
Address	
City	State Zip
E-mail	
pm. Saturday Continental Break tours of facilities all included in Genesee Hotel with speaker and en	Exchange room 112 Genesee Hotel, 6 pm to fast & lunch at SUNY-ESF, with meetings and the registration fee. Saturday night dinner antertainment as follows:
Fees prior to October 3,2008	-
MEMBER REGISTRATION FEE @ \$65 each # Totals	\$
Dinner Reservation @ \$30 each # Totals	<u> </u>
Please circle	<u>. </u>
#(chicken cordon bleu) # (Total Registration	grilled salmon) # (vegetarian) \$
STUDENT REGISTRATION FEE @ \$35 each # Totals Dinner Reservation @ \$15 each # Totals Please circle # (chicken cordon bleu) # (g Total Registration	\$ \$
LATE REGISTRATION	
(after October 3,2008) Member Registration Fee	
@ \$85 each #Totals	\$
Student Registration Fee @ \$55 each # Totals	\$
I expect to bring nuts I would like to have n Please have exhibit space for I would like to help at theMe I would be interested	uts to plant. r me.
Make checks payable to: TACl Mail before October 1 st , to Richard R. Radel Secretary/Treas 23 Carriage Circle Williamsville, NY 14221	

See you there!

The BUR
The New York State Chapter of the
American Chestnut Foundation Inc.
c/o Buffalo Museum of Science
1020 Humboldt Parkway
Buffalo, NY 14211

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID BUFFALO, NY Permit No. 2964

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100000	Newsletter of the	e New York State C	hapter of the America	an Chestmat Four	ndation, Inc.	

IF YOU HAVE FRIENDS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN OUR GOAL OF RESTORING THE AMERICAN CHESTNUT, PLEASE GIVE THEM THIS APPLICATION.

services portion of your contribution (valued at \$1.5), your gift is tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

	Welloci simp reprietation	
Enclosed is my membership support of	Enclosed is an additional contribution in the amount of \$in support of the New York State Chapters' activities.	
	Name:	
☐ Gold leaf, \$1000		
☐Silver leaf, \$500	Address:	
☐ Bronze leaf, \$250		
☐ Green leaf, \$100	City/State/Zip:	
☐ Regular, \$40	Telephone: E-mail:	
☐ Student, \$15	Telephone. E-man.	
☐ Other \$	☐ This is a gift membership from:	
☐ Special Gift to NY		
State Chapter \$	Address:	
Total Amount \$	Membership includes subscriptions to The Bark and Journal of the American Chestnut Foundation and enrollment in the New York State Chapter. The Chapter publishes the BUR, helps guide research at CESF, and includes nine Districts for loc-involvement in maintaining the American chestnut gene pool. Please make check payable to The American Chestnut Foundation. PO Box 4044. Bennington, VT 05201-4044. TACE is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Except for the member.	

Membership Application

The American Chestnut Foundation, 469 Main Street, PO Box 4044, Bennington, Vermont 05201-4044