



# THE BUR

Volume 22, No. 2

Newsletter of the New York State Chapter of The American Chestnut Foundation

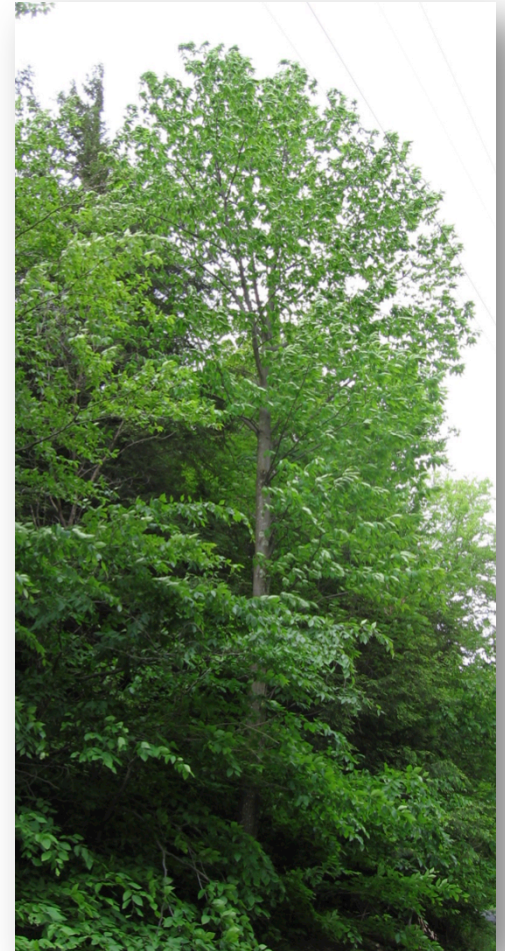
Fall 2016

## \$200 Reward for the Largest American Chestnut Tree Found in New York State

A \$200 reward plus a blight-resistant seedling, pending approval, will be given to the person who finds the largest healthy American chestnut tree over 18" DBH not previously recorded by The American Chestnut Foundation of New York (TACF-NY). A \$50 reward will be given for all trees found over 14" DBH. The tree must be found in New York State in 2016 and the property owner must allow TACF-NY access for pollination and/or seed collection. The tree must also be identified by TACF-NY as pure American chestnut.

*What to look for:* Open burs lying on the ground near the tree. The burs will be light brown with long sharp spines and measure around 3 inches across. The leaves are slender; 6 to 9 inches long with pinpointed teeth that have a fishhook profile. They are similar to a beach leaf, except longer and more pointed on each end.

For further information or identification of a tree contact President and District 4 director, Allen Nichols at 607-263-5105 or by e-mail, [fajknichols.75@gmail.com](mailto:fajknichols.75@gmail.com)



Left to right: John Schallert, Harry Nichols, and David Pringle.

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**The American Chestnut Foundation  
New York State Chapter**

302 Bateman Road  
Laurens, NY 13796

[http://www.acf.org/Chapters\\_ny.php](http://www.acf.org/Chapters_ny.php)

Founded in 1990, the New York State Chapter (TACF-NY) is the oldest chapter of The American Chestnut Foundation, Inc., a non-profit 501 (c) (3) membership organization. TACF-NY, in partnership with the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and

Forestry, is working to restore the American chestnut tree to our eastern forests by developing truly blight-resistant

American chestnut trees through biotechnology. Membership information may be found on the back page of

*The Bur.*

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**Officers**

(Terms End at Annual Meeting of 2017)

President - Allen Nichols

Vice President - Frank Munzer

Secretary - John Neumann

Treasurer - Fran Nichols

President Emeritus - Herbert F. Darling, Jr.

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**Board of Directors**

**CLASS I (3 Year) Directors**

(Terms End at Annual Meeting 2017)

Douglas Campbell*	Fran Nichols*
John Dougherty	Richard R. Radel*
Herbert F. Darling, Jr.*	Dale Travis
Allen Nichols*	Arlene Wirsig

**CLASS II (1 Year) Directors**

(Terms End at Annual Meeting 2016)

James Donowick	Enrico Nardone
Roy Hopke	T. Urling Walker
Ted Kozlowski	

**CLASS III (2 Year) Directors**

(Terms End at Annual Meeting 2016)

Margaret Collins	John Neumann*
Thomas Deacon	Bethany Ruane
Frank Munzer*	William Snyder*
Alec Newlands	Dr. Richard Zander

\*Executive Committee

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Linda McGuigan - Editor

## President's Message



I feel like a child waiting for Christmas or my birthday. The anticipation over approval for distribution of our blight resistant American chestnut is growing. We have had hundreds of people planting orchards with mother trees and many of those trees are already flowering. I have around 100 trees on my property that have been flowering for years and 70 on property owned by my mother that just started flowering this year.

We have also located many wild flowering trees in response to the reward we are offering.

This reward is for all of 2016, so if you are in the woods this fall, please be on the lookout for burs on the ground or any large trees.

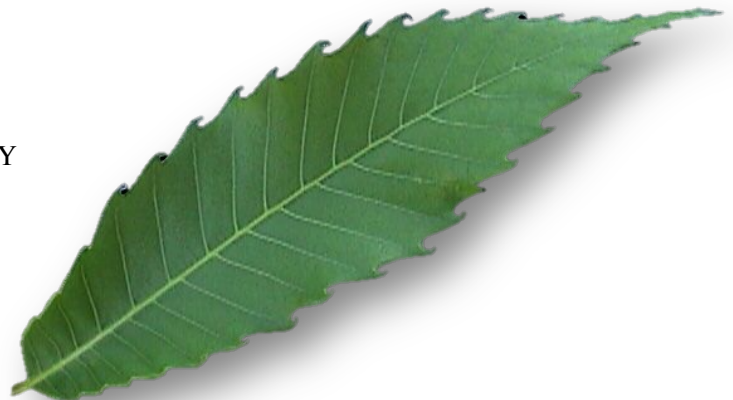
As soon as we have permission to distribute our tree, we will be giving out seedlings, pollen from our blight resistant tree, and material for grafting. That means that as soon as we get approval we can start hand pollinating and/or grafting blight resistant material onto any flowering tree as a permanent pollinator.

Don't miss out on our annual meeting to be held this year at Cornell University in Ithaca on October 29<sup>th</sup>. For details, registration, and accommodation information, check out pages 4 and 5. Our fall meeting is the highlight of our chapter's year. Learn the latest about our blight resistant transgenic American chestnut trees and get free wild-type nuts to plant. It's a great opportunity to meet and talk with fellow members from around New York state, as well as members of the American Chestnut Research and Restoration Project from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. You will be glad you attended and consider bringing a family member or friend along. If we have not met personally, please introduce yourself to me. I look forward to seeing you there.

Anyone not attending the meeting who wants wild-type American chestnut seeds to plant as mother trees (to cross with our blight resistant tree when available), please contact me at [fajknichols.75@gmail.com](mailto:fajknichols.75@gmail.com) or PH 607-263-5105. I send these nuts out free of charge when they start to germinate in the spring.

Allen Nichols

President, TACF-NY



# SUNY-ESF is Ranked #2 of America's Greenest Colleges & Universities

By John Neumann, TACF-NY Secretary

Sierra, the magazine of the Sierra Club, in its Sept./Oct. 2016 issue, released its 10th annual ranking of more than 200 colleges and universities in America for working hardest to protect the planet.

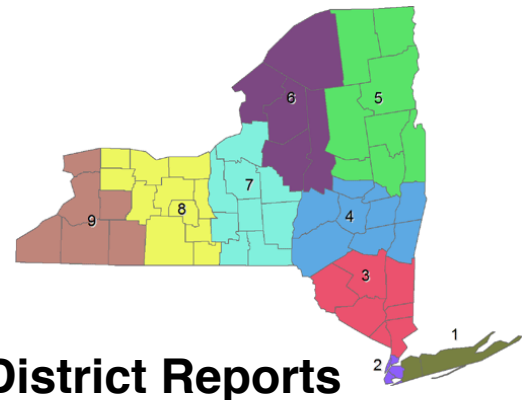
For the first time, the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF) in Syracuse NY, not only made the Top Ten, but finished second. Only the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine, finished with a higher score.



According to Sierra, SUNY-ESF leaped 102 spots from its place in last year's ranking, improving markedly in the categories of water, innovation, and planning. Many students are engaged in campus greening efforts, and 25 percent of classes are sustainability-related, netting SUNY-ESF a high academics score too. Clinching its rise, the school announced last December that it would no longer include fossil fuel companies in its endowment portfolio.

The New York State Chapter of The American Chestnut Foundation congratulates SUNY-ESF on this achievement, and is proud of our 26 year productive partnership with the ESF American Chestnut Research and Restoration Project.

The Sierra Club, one of the oldest and largest environmental membership organizations in America, is dedicated to protecting and restoring the quality of the natural and human environment.



## District Reports

### *Allen Nichols, District 4*

It has been a busy summer as usual. I distributed over 3,000 nuts for mother trees and gave out over 200 seedlings. I had a display at the Otsego county fair in Morris and at the Delaware county fair in Walton that took up two weeks in August. I had a request to have a display at the Woodsmen Field Days in Boonville, but had already committed to the Delaware county fair, so initially declined. But, after a request from ESF to have a display there, John Neumann volunteered to man the display in Walton and Dakota Matthews from ESF helped me with the display in Boonville. Thanks go out to John and Dakota for stepping up so we could get coverage at both venues.

### *Emmett Hoops, District 5*

Many phone and email inquiries from across the district were received, with most wishing to know where to buy "chestnut trees." In most cases, Chinese or some other ornamental is what was wanted; a smaller number were interested specifically in American Chestnuts. As a result, we have over 200 trees now growing in 15 different mother orchards. These growers are all aware of the crucial role they are playing in the rebirth of the American Chestnut.

Outreach continues with Environmental Science teachers across the region. I am in the process of assembling a set of online materials keyed to the New York State learning standards in Environmental Science so teachers can introduce their students to the rebirth of America's forest giants.

# New York State Chapter of The American Chestnut Foundation, Inc. 26th Annual Meeting Agenda



Where: Cornell University  
Fernow Hall  
Ithaca, NY

When: Friday, October 28, 2016  
Saturday, October 29, 2016

## Meeting Agenda

Friday (10/28) – *Best Western*

6:00 pm Dinner – On your own  
Meet in lobby to discuss dining options  
7:30 – 10 pm Harvest Exchange

Saturday (10/29) – *Fernow Hall*

8 am – 9 am Registration  
(Become a member or renew membership)  
Coffee, tea, Danish  
Silent Auction/50:50 (all day to 4:45 pm)

9:00 am Welcome & President’s report by Allen Nichols

9:15 am Annual Meeting Minutes by John Neumann, Secretary

9:20 am Treasurer’s Report by Fran Nichols

9:30 am Election of Board - Richard R. Radel, Nominating Committee Chair

9:35 am District Director’s Reports

District 1	Enrico Nardone
District 2	Dale Travis
District 3	Frank Munzer
District 4	Allen Nichols
District 5	Emmett Hoops
District 6	Urling Walker
District 7	Roy Hopke
District 8	Alec Newlands
District 9	William Snyder

10:00 am Coffee Break



10:30 am 3BUR Status – Lisa Thomson & Bill Powell

11:00 am Science Reports – SUNY-ESF Staff & Students

12:00 pm Lunch (catered by Manndibles)

1 - 3 pm Lab Tour – Cornell’s World Class Ornithology Lab

3:15 – 3:55 pm - Session 1 Workshop

4:05 – 4:45 pm - Session 2 Workshop

4:45 pm Announce winners to silent auction/50:50

5:00 pm Afternoon session closes

6:00 pm Dinner - Joe’s Restaurant  
602 W Buffalo St, Ithaca, NY 14850  
(607) 256-3463

After Dinner Closing Remarks

# New York State Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation, Inc. 26th Annual Meeting Agenda

**Where:**

Best Western  
1020 Ellis Hollow Rd.  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
607-272-6100

and

Cornell University  
Fernow Meeting Room  
Ithaca, NY

**When:**

Friday, October 28, 2016  
Saturday, October 29, 2016

To make your room reservations, call the Best Western at 607-272-6100 and ask for the American Chestnut Foundation rate. Reservations must be made prior to September 28, 2016 to receive the rate of \$179 per night. This includes standard accommodations with two queen beds, as well as complimentary breakfast each morning.

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## Registration Form

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Meeting Agenda:**

Friday night includes the Harvest Exchange from 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm. Saturday morning begins early with coffee, tea and Danish at Fernow Hall with meetings lasting until 11:45 am. Lunch at noon followed by afternoon activities from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm. Saturday night dinner is at Joe’s Restaurant.

	<u>Cost</u>	<u># Attending</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
<b>Friday</b>			
Nut Exchange	Free	_____	Free
<b>Saturday</b>			
Regular Registration Rate	\$20 each	_____	\$ _____
Student Registration Rate	\$10 each	_____	\$ _____
Dinner Reservation	\$35 each	_____	\$ _____
		<b>Total Registration:</b>	\$ _____

\_\_\_\_\_ I expect to bring \_\_\_\_\_ nuts for Harvest Exchange.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ I would like \_\_\_\_\_ nuts to plant.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ I would be glad to help at the Annual Meeting.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ I would be interested in the following  
 Member Sharing Topics \_\_\_\_\_ .

*Make checks payable to:*  
 TACFNY  
*Mail before October 7<sup>th</sup> to:*  
 TACFNY C/O Fran Nichols  
 302 Bateman Road  
 Laurens, NY 13796



THE BUR  
 The American Chestnut Foundation  
 New York State Chapter  
 C/O Fran Nichols  
 302 Bateman Road, Laurens, NY 13796

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Become a member of The New York State Chapter of The American Chestnut Foundation at <http://acf.donorshops.com/products/joinnow.php> or fill out the following Membership Application and return to:

The American Chestnut Foundation Inc.  
 50 North Merrimon Avenue, Suite 115, Asheville, NC 28804

Enclosed please find my \$40 membership in support of TACF-NY. I would like to make an additional \$\_\_\_\_\_ gift to the New York State Chapter. Total amount enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

All memberships to TACF include TACF publications, a car decal, membership to one of the state chapters as well as opportunities to participate in local chestnut activities. Visit [www.acf.org](http://www.acf.org) or call (828) 281-0047 for more information.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed       Please bill my credit card (Visa/MasterCard/Amex/Discover)       This is a gift

Please make check payable to The American Chestnut Foundation

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVV# \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

NY Chapter membership includes the Newsletter *The Bur*. The NY Chapter helps guide research at SUNY-ESF and maintains plantings to keep the American Chestnut gene pool. TACF & TACF- NY Chapter are 501 (c) (3) non-profit organizations. Except for the membership services portion of your contribution (valued at \$15) your gift is tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.