



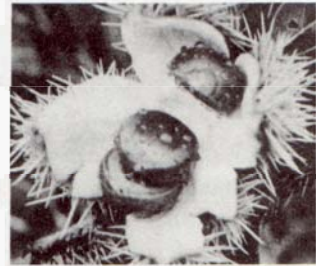
262 Chestnut Trees Planted at Reineman's Wildlife Sanctuary

DEDICATED TO THE RESTORATION OF THE MAJESTIC AMERICAN

# Chestnut Tree



THE CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN CHESTNUT FOUNDATION



VOLUME 1 No. 2

MAY 1995

## 2 Plantings; 318 Chestnuts

### The Chestnut Stump



by Barney Hart

I'm sorry this second newsletter is so late. I got sick — so sick I couldn't attend the **March** meeting, and then my wife got sick, and she's the one who composes and puts these **8** pages together. Add to this **Ann** and Bob Leffel's refusal to make the chapter a full-time job. For them, chestnuts have been an absolute priority since last October when they got into the movement, but right after the **March** meeting our leaders declared a break to take care of a lot of personal matters that had been put on hold.

Well, all four of us **are** back, and here's **the second** edition. We think it's **worth** the wait.

Before we can have a restoration of the American

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The nuts are in the ground. In the East and in the West.

One-hundred and sixty-one Chestnut Trees were planted at Reineman Wildlife Sanctuary in March, and 157 more were planted at Allegheny National Park in April.

A third major planting will take place at the Barnhart farm near Roaring spring when the nuts arrive

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Chapter members and chestnut lovers who planted the 161 chestnuts at Reineman's. A great day was had by all and our cause was advanced a hundredfold. The first fertilizing and general care program is scheduled for May 13 at noon

## Tracking Larger Chestnuts a Must

A recording sheet for tracking the location of larger American Chestnut Trees has been developed by the Science Committee. It was on display at the chapter's **March** meeting, and it should soon be available from area coordinators.

A plan is evolving to locate as many large trees as possible. The chapter is reaching out to enlist the help of environmentalists in locating these large trees.

The trees can be hybridized with pollen from resistant backcross progeny from ACF. They also can be intercrossed with one another and possibly increase resistance among American Chestnuts.

## Finding Flowering Chestnut Trees

Phil Gordon, Connecticut ACF coordinator, writes to help our chapter in its project to locate flowering American Chestnut Trees in Pennsylvania.

**Phil** started such a program in Connecticut. He said that at first he hoped to locate 10,000 trees and tree sprouts, but when a Connecticut ACF Chapter was formed and it enlisted state foresters and other groups, the count went to over **2 million** trees and sprouts. So the chapter concentrated on large trees that survived the blight. Phil couldn't believe so many large trees survive in Connecticut. He's betting a close survey will turn up even more in Pennsylvania.

The immediate challenge is to locate a large flowering American Chestnut Tree in all of the state's **67** counties.

VP Pat Chamberlain and Phil Gordon will help with the verification.

**By** the way, the largest living American Chestnut is located in Cameron County. It is 55' in diameter and is 80 feet tall.



## The Shortest Distance...



Bill Jones

The shortest distance between two holes is on your knees. **Bill** Jones taught everyone that at the Reineman planting. And your knees don't creak, and your back is less of a problem. As was said before, there is a learning process in working with chestnuts.

**Bill** is a retired chemist, and naturalist, and he came up to Reineman's **from** Virginia with Meg Leffel, **Ann** and **Bob's** daughter, where she is a national **park** ranger. Both were volunteers, and what good volunteers they were. The chapter owes these two a vote of thanks.

**Bill** is also **good** at spreading word **about** the chestnut and its restoration. He **does** what **all of us** should be **doing**: He tells **the** story to other publications in the hope that they will pick up on the new work being done and thus give broader coverage to the movement.

## Chapter Follows Up on '88 Planting

Twenty-eight of 52 trees planted in 1988 at the Reineman Wildlife Sanctuary are still alive but in varying stages of health.

Dan Heacock and Chandis Klinger have taken charge of this project. Dr. Fred Hebard at the Virginia farm has advised delay of inoculation for blight testing **until** the trees are larger, and Dan and Chandis have volunteered to **carry on with this project and nurse the trees to a condition for scientific purposes.**

## Chapter Seeking PSU Relationship

The chapter is **seeking** to establish relationships with Penn State. Several exploratory exchanges are reported between President **Ann** Leffel and Dr. James C. Finley, assistant professor of forest resources at Penn State.

Dr. Finley said work is being done in forest genetics, but it is not known if research is going on with the American Chestnut Tree. President Leffel will be meeting with James Lazcek, a PH.D. in forest genetics and a research associate in the School of Forest Resources. **Dr.** Lazcek will explore **shared or potential** research opportunities.

## Good Question

Dan Heacock asks, "Do you think we can find enough volunteers to be at the Farm Show booth all week, day and evening?" Can we?

# Who's Who in Chestnuts . . .

Some of the activities reported at the **March Meeting** included: Dr. Paul and Winnie Ritter couldn't be present but donated a set of the national ACF slides and a complete set of the ACF Journals. A welcome addition to the chapter library.

George Dickum, owner of the local Bedford Nurseries, dropped in for a neighborly visit and described his commercial orchard of chestnut hybrids, Carpathian English walnuts, and European hazelnuts.

The chapter welcomed the attendance of four members of the Pittsburgh Men's **Garden Club**. One of them, **Larry Patchel**, has already submitted for membership.

Ann Leffel described the life cycle and pathogenicity of the chestnut blight fungus. Fungus spores are spread from infected trees by wind, rain, or on the feet of wildlife and penetrate a break in the bark. **Soon** they grow into a parasitic **mass** that encircles the trunk and clogs the cambium layer, depriving the tree of nourishment and effecting a rapid demise.

Bob Leffel described the back cross method of propagation whereby resistance from the Chinese chestnut is introduced into the American Chestnut, through a total of six generations, resulting in a resistant American Chestnut.

Chandis Klinger showed slides on chestnuts he has planted on his land and the methods he uses to protect them from wildlife and weather. He brought examples of tin cans, milk cartons, plastic bottles, plastic pipe, and wire fencing and showed how to use them effectively.

Pat Chamberlain showed specimens of leaf, twig, and bud to differentiate the American, Chinese, Japanese, and European chestnuts. He also gave a very impressive demonstration of stem and of bud grafting.

## Two Active Members



**Dan Heacock** comes eyeball-to-eyeball with the enemy. He was elected chapter director at the **March** meeting, and here he inspects a blighted tree planted at Reineman's in 1988 when the American Chestnut Foundation held its annual meeting there. Dan helped survey that original planting, and also was on hand for the **March** planting.

Another of his projects, with Ann and Bob Leffel, is the State Farm **Show booth**. Some of our smarter geneticists should find a way to clone a guy like Dan Heacock. We'd lick the blight problem a lot faster.



**Tom Pugel** lives in Allentown and plants Chestnut Trees in Somerset County. He's been doing it for years. Tom isn't in any breeding program. Not yet anyhow. His program for the most is to seek and find the Chestnut, grow the tree, and try to keep it alive.

Tom is a most active member. Since the Chapter's beginning, he's been at every meeting and every event. You can depend upon it. He was a great help at the Reineman planting, and not only that, he's learning the right way — and the fun way — to restore the American Chestnut Tree.

### Area Coordinators Needed

This box is part of the chapter getting itself organized. Right now area coordinators are needed. Too many can't travel to Roaring Spring for Chestnut meetings, so we're breaking the state into counties. There is a need for contact members to handle one, two and three county areas.

These people have access to information; they can get your questions answers; and it will be much easier to make personal contact.

Rosina Coltellaro — 215-625-2482 — Phila., Delaware and Montgomery  
 Eugene Dougherty — 717-467-2303 — Schuylkill, Luzerne, Carbon, Monroe  
 Chandis Klinger — 727-837-0457 — Snyder  
 Pat Chamberlain — 814-756-3197 — Erie, Crawford, Warren  
 Dan Heacock — 717-957-2733 — Perry and Dauphin  
 Bill Lord — 412-793-0255 — Allegheny  
 Tom Pugel — 610-346- 6198 — Bucks  
 Ann and Bob Leffel — 717-927-9557 — York and Cumberland  
 Herb Gedmark — 717-774-7313 — York  
 Rod Clapper — 814-842-3307 — Bedford  
 Doris Goldman — 717-762-0755 — Franklin

## Importance of Record Keeping

by Chandis Klinger

Everyone of the 161 nuts we planted at Reineman's has a designated location and the parentage is recorded. Yearly records are kept on each tree and will continue to be, whether it lives or dies. The tree's growth rate is recorded. So is its blight experience, flower and nut production, fertilization, and what happens to any nuts that are produced. A complete history, stored in a data base preferably, is a must.

If a chestnut tree is all an individual wants, any nut from any unidentified chestnut parenthood will satisfy the requirement. If anyone asks what are the genetics to better understand the true characteristics; the answer is "unknown" because there are no records.

It is easy for us to get caught up in the enthusiasm of planting nuts to grow chestnut trees. The genetics may be known when the seed or seedling is planted, but will the genetics be remembered years later for cross pollination. The only sure way to know is to record what and where the planting occurred.

This may seem trivial. All that is being done is crossing a Chinese chestnut with an American Chestnut and backcrossing to the American Chestnut. But it is more complex. There are different strains of Chinese chestnuts just as there are different strains of oaks here in America. Different strains of oak include: Red, white, black, pin, scarlet, swamp, chestnut (yes, chestnut), and many others. Each have their own characteristics. The same is true of the Chinese chestnut.

Dr. Fred Hebard at the ACF farm in Virginia is keenly aware of the various Chinese chestnut strains. When he does pollinations, the genetic data is carefully recorded. If he had only a few trees to track, remembering them may be possible.

## New Members

The way it is going now the chapter may soon need a membership committee. Thirteen new members joined the last quarter of 1994; and nine joined in January.

A welcome letter was sent from the secretary. Until a committee is named, Charlotte Barnhart now keeps the membership list and handles all the mailings, including the newsletter.

## Reports Needed On Seed Kits

Thirty people in Pennsylvania have purchased seed kits from the American Chestnut Foundation.

Twenty-one kits were purchased from 1989 to 1992. The 21 purchased have been contacted about the status of their projects.

The chapter wants to know if the older plantings were successful and if the trees are flowering and producing pollen. The pollen will be needed in the backcross breeding program. When growers have a need for American pollen, as will be the case with the Reineman's '88 planting, there will be a need for that pollen from seed kit purchasers.

Seed kit purchasers are asked to continue to send annual reports to the Vermont office.

But considering there are 6,000 young trees, as of this spring's planting, of different strains with various backcrosses, the remembering task becomes mind boggling. Records become important for future cross pollination. Otherwise, we will not know what we have or where we are in the American Chestnut blight resistance program.

## Chapter Resources Library Growing; Slides are Donated

The chapter's resource library is growing.

Paul Ritter donated a complete set of the ACF Journals, and a complete set of the ACF slide program which gives an overview program to restore the Chestnut Tree.

ACF Director Bill MacDonald at West VA U. donated "1978 Proceedings of the American Chestnut Symposium" and "Proceedings of the International Chestnut Conference." He also loaned slides which the chapter will copy. The slides will help understand chestnut blight.

Dr. Hebard at Meadowview donated a large number of Past President Phil Rutter's handbook on planting chestnuts, and News Printing printed a supply of identification and planting guidelines. The handbook and guidelines will be made available to members. He also loaned slides, a set of which have been duplicated for our use at meetings, sportsmen's group and any other group interested in learning about chestnuts.

Where the resource library will be set up has not been determined. When it is, it will be passed along.

If you have need for materials please send or call your request to chapter headquarters at Brogue, PA.

### Seeks Information

Jane Umstead, Tri-Centennial Book Committee for Upper Providence Township in Delaware Valley is seeking historical information on Dutch elm disease and chestnut blight in the Delaware Valley area.

If you are aware of sources of information contact her at 501 N Providence Road #703, Media, PA 19063.

## Chapter Activities Are Listed for '95

The chapter will hold various meetings and activities here and there throughout the year. The next Chapter meeting, May 13, will probably be past by the time you read this. It's at the Reineman Wildlife Sanctuary.

Other meetings are:

**June 12 - 17**

A trip to Meadowview Research Farm in Southwest Virginia is planned. The purpose is to assist Dr. Fred Hebard during the pollinating season.

**August 19, 1995**

**1030 A.M. - 230 P.M.**

A chapter meeting will be held at the James Schuettrumpf farm in Quakake, hosted by members of the coal region counties, Schuylkill, Luzerne, Carbon and Monroe. There is a fine stand of hybrid and American Chestnuts on Bear Mountain in Delano township.

Dr. Joseph R. Newhouse, pathologist, has been invited to the meeting. Other activities are being planned.

For overnight travelers contact Pines Motel along Route 309 in village of Gintners, PA (717-668-0100).

Eugene Dougherty, coordinator, (717-467-2303), 34 Walnut Street, P.O. Box 89, Delano, PA 18220 may be contacted for further information about this meeting

**October 21 and 22**

The annual meeting of the ACF will be held in Wisconsin this year where those attending will visit the last large stand of American Chestnut trees. The blight is present in this stand.

**March 1996**

The chapter's first annual meeting will be held in March at the Barnhart farm near Roaring Spring, PA.

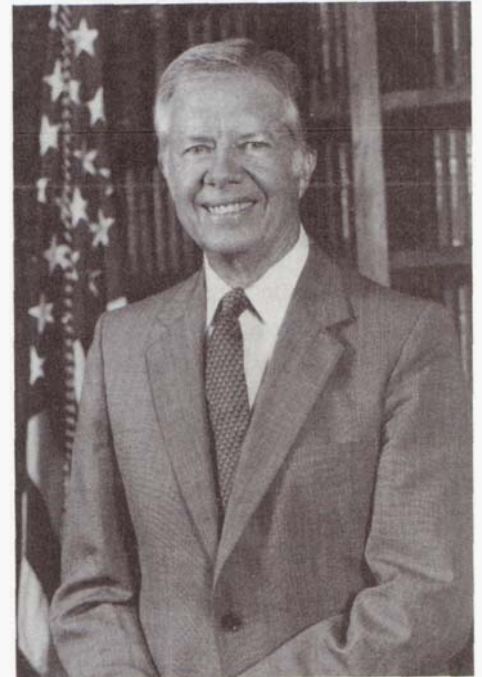
## President Carter Joins Chestnut Tree Revival

Jimmy Carter is on board with the revived American Chestnut movement.

Former President Carter will take an honorary chair among the American Chestnut Foundation's board of directors. He wrote in a letter earlier this year, "...I am pleased to lend my name if it will be helpful in attracting support for this important effort."

A member of ACF for several years, Carter first contacted the ACF staff last spring to offer support and assistance above and beyond his regular membership.

"I am quite interested in the success of the growing effort to restore the American chestnut to its former habitat, and have been pleased to learn of progress being made. If there is anything specific-



ly that I can do to be of help to this project, please let me know," Carter wrote.

## HELP!

### Chapter Needs it

Do you have a business or belong to an organization that can pick up the tab for the printing and mailing of this newsletter?

The chapter is not developing rapidly enough to support a regularly-published newsletter, and without it there is little hope of establishing the Chestnut movement across Pennsylvania and beyond.

The chapter has to come up with some money. It doesn't have to be a bundle. The immediate goal can be to raise the cost of the mailing. The editing, preparation, composition and printing can continue to be donated for the time being. But let's concentrate on raising enough to pay for the mailing.

Without financial support, we may have to cease publication.

**YES!** I want to help bring back the American Chestnut **Trees** to our forests. Enclosed is my check to support the effort:

Regular membership \$40.00

Student membership \$15.00

I do not wish to become a member at the present time, but wish to support the new Pennsylvania Chapter with a contribution in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Please make checks payable to:

Pennsylvania Chapter

American Chestnut Foundation

Audrey Chamberlain, Treasurer

RD. 2, Box 119

Edinboro, PA 16412

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

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## Stump

(Continued from Page 1)

Chestnut Tree, we must have a revival of the American Chestnut movement.

There's a difference, you know. The restoration **has** to do with a tree. The revival has to do with people — you and me, and a lot of others.

The way I see it, the restoration **goes** better than the revival. We're licking the blight. Backcross works. Genetic backcrosses were brought to bear, and there's light at the end of a very long tunnel. There will be an American Chestnut Tree again.

**So** the question is: Why is the revival **so** slow? Why the skepticism? It is **so** difficult to rally support for the blight fight. The interest is lacking, which means **so** is the **funding**. There's a certain finality about the blight. Most believe the tree is lost and gone forever. Why would I make such a statement?

Because it's a fact. The American Chestnut Foundation was organized in **1984**, and in any year since then barely **100** Pennsylvanians have been members. About eleven million others simply are oblivious of the American Chestnut Tree.

**So** isn't it fair to say there can be no restoration of the tree until there is a revival of the people's interest in that tree?

Somebody may want to check the final step in the planting procedure passed out at Reineman's.

It read:

*"10. Chant incantations and prayers and clean up."*

I got a call from a member.

"It don't work," he said

What do you mean?

"That chantun' stuff. I was at it long after the sun went down. Put the flashlight down that there tube a dozen times, and there never was nothing there but dirt. **So** I washed my hands and went home."

## 2 Plantings

(continued from Page 1)

from the Meadowview farm. Meanwhile, two other plantings were reported in the state.

Chapter member Doris Goldman, of Waynesboro, reports planting 26 backcross American Chestnut seedlings in Renfrew Park in Franklin County. The **seedlings** were provided by Pat Chamberlain.

Eugene Dougherty, area coordinator for the state chapter, reported planting seeds from **100** burrs at Locust Lake State Park near Delano. Gene reported that all of the seed was from a 25-foot American Chestnut Tree that is showing signs of blight resistance.

The planting at Allegheny National Forest was the super project of Vice President Pat Chamberlain, working with Andrea Hille, **ANF** forester. Of the **157** chestnut seedlings, **99** were first backcrosses and the rest were various chestnuts for research control purposes.

With Forrester Hille, Pat flagged the plot plan and Pennsylvania prisoners drilled the planting holes in advance. A total of **18** people, including a local Boy Scout troop, completed the planting. The Boy Scouts cooked and served a spaghetti dinner at the site.

The establishment of a breeding orchard on public land provides long term availability of hybrid pollen and access to research trees without concern of a change in property ownership. We welcome Allegheny National Forest into active participation in our restoration work. The chapter thanks Robert White of **ANF**, his staff, prison laborers and Boy Scouts of America for their service to the chestnut cause and state community\*

It was a perfect planting day, especially for mid-March, at Reineman's where **13** people, ranging in ages from **15** to **86**, put **161** nuts in the ground. No one present

had ever planted Chestnut Trees before.

Lee Shull, of Reineman's is the site manager, and he had done a good job of marking **off** the planting rows. President **Ann** Leffel was in charge of the over-all project, and **Ann** followed the planting plan to a "T" spelled out by **Dr.** Hebard at Meadowview. Every detail was checked and double-checked, and anyone there who was paying attention should have no problem planting chestnuts in the future. It was a learning experience for **all**.

A special thanks to the Shull family — Lee, Marla and Amy — who pitched right in and worked alongside of chapter members in **getting** the job done. The same to Meg Leffel, Bob and **Ann's** daughter, and Bill Jones, a retired chemist and volunteer. The two of them came up to help from Virginia where Meg is a park ranger. **All** are good people and **good** workers and, best of **all**, chestnut lovers. Then there was Margaret Green, **Ann's** Mom, and Charlotte Barnhart who contributed food and helped serve it and did a lot of other **things** beside. A good day was had by **all**.

And more are coming up. As this newsletter **goes** to press, Chapter members and friends of chestnuts **are** planning to meet at the Reineman planting on May **13** at noon. **On** the agenda will be the inspection, care, weed control, fertilizing, etc. of this large planting. The meeting will include a bag lunch and also there will be discussions on how to proceed with the work on 28 surviving Chestnut Trees planted at the same site by the ACF in **1988**. Reineman's is sure to be the future site of many chapter activities, and those who have been there agree that nature provides no better setting for the restoration of the American Chestnut Tree.

### Fragile Roots

Sprouting roots on a Chestnut are very fragile. If a root is cracked **off**, the nut will probably survive, but will grow slowly for a year or so.

From the

**PRESIDENT**

Ann Leffel

Bob and I have never been to Meadowview Farm and we've never pollinated Chestnut Trees, so we hope to enjoy the beautiful ride down the Shenandoah Valley on I81 on Sunday, June 11, work a few days and return. We'd like to see the Americans, Chinese, many hybrids, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd backcrosses all in one location. I say hope to because it depends on us getting the first-cut hay crop completed by then. If we can't, then only one of us will be able to go. Which is easier, baling hay or climbing ladders? A working vacation! Just what I need!

Our chapter is approaching the end of its second hundred days since reorganizing. It has been a joy for us to meet and talk to so many different and interesting people. We greatly appreciate the favorable response to chapter requests for help, and information. We are slowly but surely learning about our membership of about 180 people across the state. There are still many members from whom we have not heard — no criticism, no encouragement, no suggestions, no questions. That of course leaves me with questions about the direction we are following and whether or not the membership supports it. What can we do for you? What can you do for the chapter?

Our immediate focus is surveying state forests to see what's out there, getting a backcross breeding program started to develop resistant trees adapted to Pennsylvania, providing information and direction to our members interested in restoration, educating the public, seeking younger generations involvement to carry on this long term project and developing the financial resources to make it go. We've made a lot of progress through the efforts of a few dedicated members, but most members remain uninvolved.

# Meadowview Needs Pollinating Help

Dr. Fred Hebard, director of research at the ACF Meadowview Farm in Virginia, will need chapter members the week of June 12 to help with pollination.

With thousands of trees in bloom, Dr. Hebard will need lots of help to prepare trees for pollination and to pollinate the trees. It also will give members the opportunity to tour the farm and to see Chestnut Tree research in progress. It will also help advance the chapter's research and planting programs.

Meadowview is at Exit 24 off Interstate 81 in southwest Virginia about 24 miles north of the North Carolina border. It's a day's drive passing through the beautiful Shenandoah valley and close to Mt. Rogers, the tallest peak in Virginia. Folks from Pittsburgh area travel interstate 79, 77 and 81.

Also, please be patient awaiting responses to your inquiries and requests. Sometimes, if a personal reply does not come forth, the information will come forth in the newsletter. Remember, we have no staff. Just a bunch of volunteers who have schedules to keep with work, family care, etc., just like you. But all in all, in our 200 days much has been accomplished and there is much to do.

I hope to meet and hear from many more of you, and I hope to sit in the shade of a blight resistant American Chestnut Tree by my 85th birthday, just 25 years down the road.

## Next Chestnut Tree

The next newsletter will be published in September. Please forward your letters to the editor or other articles to Chapter headquarters by August 21, 1995.

Unfortunately Fred does not have accommodations at the farm. He offers the following information on food and lodging:

Camping sites are available in Jefferson National Forest about 20 miles from the farm.

Economy Inn, Glade Springs, Exit 29, (703-429-5131), \$35/night.

Empire Motor Lodge, Abingdon, Exit 19, (703-628-7131), \$45/night.

Swiss Inn, Glade Spring, Exit 29, (703-429-2233), \$45/night - excellent gourmet restaurant.

In order to coordinate, please let us know if you plan to go and if possible, travel days, and volunteer work days, and if you are interested in car pooling.

Contact: Rosina Coltellaro (215-625-2482) or Ann Leffel (717-927-9557) by June 7.

## Letters from Dr. Burnham To the Leffels

Dr. Burnham has replied to recent inquiries by Bob and Ann Leffel. Bob received a copy of "Restoration of the American Chestnut — A brief explanation of the current American Chestnut Foundation's Breeding Program and the Reasons we can predict it will succeed," by Charles R. Burnham, revised May 1994, as well as other comments on past and current efforts on breeding blight-resistant, timber-type chestnut trees.

In a letter to Ann, Dr. Burnham expressed thanks for Vol. 1, No. 1 of the chapter newsletter  
(Continued, Page 8)

## Locating Large Trees Important

Locating large flowering American Chestnut **Trees** is an ongoing project of the **ACF's** state chapter. The chapter has reached out to enlist the help of **state** foresters and environmentalists.

Responses to a letter campaign are encouraging. The chapter has heard from Tioga, Potter, Cameron, Erie and York Counties. A report came in from **Roy Hopke, NY** chapter **ACF** forester, who knows of large trees around Hallstead, PA in Susquehanna County. A member will have to be sent to check out each report as it comes in.

### The Largest

The largest living American Chestnut **Tree** in Pennsylvania is in Cameron County. It is **55** inches in circumference at breast height and **85** feet tall, according to "Big **Trees** of Pennsylvania".

Pennsylvania Society for the American Chestnut Foundation  
P.O. Box 7  
Brogue, PA 17309

Working to restore the **American Chestnut**



**Lumber Tree**

**Ecological Link**

**Abundant Food  
for Wildlife**

**Forest in good  
health & balance**

## Dr. Burnham Dies

Dr. Burnham died April 19, 1995 at age 91. There will be a memorial service at the University of Minnesota on May 20, 1995. Memorial contributions may be made to:

American Chestnut Foundation  
469 Main Street, P.O. Box 4044  
Bennington, VT 05201-4044

## Letters

(continued from page 7)

inquired on the status of the trees in the 1988 planting at the Reineman Wildlife Sanctuary. Dr. Burnham suggests not introducing hypovirulence if it is not already in a nursery, as we need to identify trees with genetic resistance.

He queries as to why the mud-pack method of blight control works — Will a wet-sand pack work as well, enhancing callus tissue formation? Our thanks to Dr. Burnham for his continuing scholarship, wisdom and interest in our chapter's activities.

— Bob and Ann Leffel

## Large Chestnut is Found in York Co.

David Ort of York County has a large isolated Chestnut **Tree** that has great potential for the chapter's breeding program. The tree is the lone survivor of a long row of Chestnut **Trees** growing there when Mr. Ort's grandfather purchased the farm in 1907. The tree has six significant sprouting stems which range up to 20" **DBH**.

Chapter members will visit Mr. Ort and inspect the tree on May 13. They'll evaluate its condition to determine its suitability for pollination, which Mr. Ort has agreed to.

The followup activity will be pollinating the tree late in June. If interested, call Herb Gedmark (717-774-7313) or Ann Leffel (717-927-9557).

This work could lead to a new planting in the spring of 1996.

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