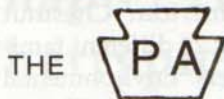


Chestnut Tree



THE CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN CHESTNUT FOUNDATION



Volume. 1 No. 5

March 1996

DEFINITIONS

TRANSLOCATION — the process by which nutrients and water are carried through plant tissues from the roots to the leaves.

PERSPIRATION — the process of sweating by ACF members working to restore the Chestnut Tree.

EXPIRATION — the process of eliminating your name on the newsletter mailing list after this edition. Please join the chapter. Send in your membership now.

REJUVENATION — the process of bringing back the youthful strength that uplifts both tree and working members when all members and friends financially support the effort.

JOIN!!! — RENEW!!!

April 20 at Roaring Spring Election of Officers, Plantings To Highlight Annual Meeting

ACF President Bud Coulter to be special guest

The election of officers and the planting of 200 BC₂F₂ nuts will highlight the PA Chapter's first annual meeting.

Bud Coulter, president of the American Chestnut Foundation, will be a special guest. Mr. Coulter, with a life-long interest in the American Chestnut, is retired from Dow Chemical Co. and has degrees in horticulture from Michigan State University. He resides in Elk Rapids, MI.

(A separate story on the planting will be found on Page 5.)

A complete list of officer nominees offered by the nominating com-

mittee and who have agreed to serve follows. Nominations from the floor will be accepted, providing the nominee agrees to serve.

President — Ann Leffel (incumbent)

Vice President — Dan Heacock

Secretary — Bill Lord (incumbent)

Treasurer — Tracey Coulter

Board of Directors — 2 yr. term

(To be elected) Tom Pugel, William Peifer, Rich Pollini.

(serving second year of term) — Bob Leffel, Chandis Klinger, Dan Heacock.

(Continued, Page 6)

Winter's over; Spring's here

The Time has Come to Think Chestnuts

Winter is over. Spring is here. Up and at 'em. Time to get moving. Show a burst of energy. And direct all that renewed life at restoring the American Chestnut Tree. Or at least give it all you got with all the time you have to spare.

How do you do that? Well, here's a list. Things to do alone or with others.

1. Read member handbook and learn about the Chestnut tree; find an American Chestnut you can observe. See how much you can learn. Invite someone to go with you.

2. Read ACF & PA Chapter publications so you know what's going

on and then you can become a part of it.

3. Encourage other people to join. Pass on your newsletters or request handouts from Chapter to give to others.

4. Come to chapter and regional meetings and activities where you can meet other folks and exchange information. Chestnut people are great!

5. Send us the name and address of your county extension agent in horticulture, the name and address of someone at your county conservation district, local Scout troops, trail clubs, foresters, park rangers, Sierra

Club, your congressman.

6. Borrow our slides and written presentations and make a group presentation.

7. Locate flowering chestnut trees that are American; accessible by road and whose flowers are accessible by 16' ladder.

8. Contact local foresters in your area to learn about location of flowering American Chestnut Trees and to inform them of our project.

9. Learn to pollinate chestnut trees. Take part in the research. High school and college biology students would greatly enjoy this activity — applying the science that they

(Continued, Page 6)

Who's Who in Chestnuts . . .

It's great to see the members stepping forward to serve. Look at some of the nominees. **Tom Pugel** is a planter. So is **Bill Peifer**. Tom, a Penn State grad, is employed by Exxon, doing research in environmental science. He lives in Bucks County and plants his chestnuts in Somerset County with his brother Larry, who also is a chapter member and a grower.

Bill Peifer, with an MS degree, has a career with RCA and IIT behind him. He was born in Northumberland County, and that's where he's planting chestnut trees. He owns a farm near his hometown of Dornsife. Think about it. Here you have two guys with good backgrounds. They're involved. They have land. Chestnut skills. Experience. And, most of all, interest and willingness. The chapter is blessed.

Rich Pollini, is a newcomer, and all the reports from the top are that he will hold his own with any of them. He's a doer and a worker. Then there is **Tracey Coulter**, treasurer nominee. She'll function first-rate in administration and public relations where the chapter seems awfully shorthanded. Tracey has already volunteered to handle the traveling chestnut exhibit.

Patrick and Audrey Chamberlain are stepping down as officers this year. Pat, as vice president contributed so much to our meetings. He is the most experienced ACF chestnut breeder in the state. Audrey served as treasurer and assisted at meetings. We hope to visit their breeding nursery at the fall meeting. With four youngsters, all involved in sports, finding time to travel from Erie for PA Chapter is difficult.

Pat led an important planting in Allegheny State Park and we're sure he'll be keeping an eye on that and making periodic reports. Don't get too far away from the chapter,

Pat and Audrey. We want you back. Thanks again for everything.

Doris Armstrong Goldman — Doris, a long-standing member, is a 46 year old country doctor's wife (he sometimes makes house calls on his Harley). Their three children range in age from 3 to 15. Doris, a PhD in plant ecology, voluntarily manages the circa 1790 kitchen garden of the Pennsylvania German homestead at Renfrew Historical Park in Waynesboro. Last year on Earth Day she organized a chestnut demonstration planting at the park. She serves as our contact person or coordinator for Franklin, Adams, and Fulton Counties. She developed a great coloring book for the chapter, which tells the story of the American Chestnut, and a helpful American Chestnut tree identification guide for our handbook. She is willing to organize a regional meeting in the Tri-County area. Give her a call if you wish to participate.

Ray Hopke is a consulting Forester from Chenango Forks, NY. He is also a district director (we call them coordinators) for a nine county area in the New York State Chapter, ACF.

Roy has been responsible for planting 270 American Chestnut trees representing 26 different families at the Rogers Environmental Center Plantation. This will provide a diverse population of American trees at a single location for breeding and research purposes. New York Chapter was organized 5 years ago and has native American plantations all over the state. Thanks to Roy for coming to our March meeting as a speaker.

Elizabeth Szczesniak — ACF Chapter/Member Relations works at our Vermont ACF headquarters in the winter and is a naturalist at Jamaica State Park in Vermont during the summer season. Elizabeth graduated Summa Cum Laude from Southern Vermont College in Bennington in May of 1995. Her degree is in environmental studies. She brings great experience and vitality. She possesses strong leadership and organizational skills and is making great strides in improving the communication among chapters and between chapters and ACF. Elizabeth charmed the PA Chapter Executive Committee at the February meeting. She drove all

(Continued, Page 3)

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 — 717-837-0457 — Snyder, Union
 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, Somerset
 Tracey Coulter — 717-486-8935 — Cumberland
 Herb Gedmark — 717-774-7313 — York
 Rod Clapper — 814-842-3307 — Bedford
 Doris Goldman — 717-762-0755 — Franklin, Adams, Fulton
 Jim Koenig — 814-539-8632 — Cambria

Thanks, Ann and Bob Leffel

Chapter Gifts Cherrypicker to Meadowview

This cherrypicker, which you posed in front of without being told why, was given to Meadowview in your names.

It was given as a token of the chapter's appreciation for what you do toward the restoration of the American Chestnut Tree.

Bernie and Tom Monahan, both ACF members and Pennsylvanians, lined up the new pollinating equipment, and Bernie made a sizeable contribution toward acquiring it. Barney and Charlotte Barnhart put up the rest of the purchase price, and Dr. Hebard soon had his new toy. The truck has a 35-ft boom and the bucket is self-operable. It not only will be a labor-saving device; taking the place of ladders, the boom will remove the danger of falling. Expediting pollinating is something that has been needed for a long time. The chapter's participation in this project is another fulfillment of its chief mission — the total support of Meadowview and the work of Dr. Hebard.

And no one has made a greater contribution in guiding this 10-month-old chapter than Ann and Bob Leffel. All who serve here say without hesitancy that Ann and Bob



Bob and Ann Leffel (and Barney Barnhart) with the cherrypicker given by the PA chapter to Meadowview in their name

are the two who make the chapter go. They can do it all. And with great success. They plant the nuts; they pollinate the trees; they harvest the nuts; and they prepare and publish the guidelines that show others how to do the field work. That ain't all. Their home is the chapter office. They prepare most of the information for the newsletter (not this piece). They write letters. They correlate all chapter business with the ACF office, Meadowview Farm, other directors, etc. They fill speaking engagements. And all of this — ALL — at their own expense. The chapter had no money this first year, not even a shoe string, and Ann and

Bob used their own, and they have not sought reimbursement. This only highlights their contributions; one can easily imagine the infinite details involved in launching a state chapter.

In a very small way, giving the bucket truck to Meadowview tells you how the chapter feels about the great service you provide. Because of people like you, Pennsylvania will get back its blight-free chestnut tree sooner than anyone thought.

Thanks again, Ann and Bob.

Who's Who . . .

(continued from Page 2)

the way from VT to attend and brought her 71-year-old father with her for company.

Violet Klinger, Chandis' wife, says she's not active in chapter activities. Oh, no! You should have seen her at the Executive Committee's February meeting at the Barnharts.

She set the tables; served the meals; did the dishes, etc. We call that active. A big thanks from Charlotte, the hostess.

Member **Lewis Santini** sends a great story about an early chestnut farm that peaked at the turn of the century and was closed by the blight by 1916. The farm, with a once magnificent barn (still standing, it's assumed), is in Irish Valley, near

Shamokin. The story tells of a "nut hulling machine." (Wow! Wouldn't that, if it still existed, be a conversation piece for display at Meadowview.) And more, much more, 115 Italians were employed just for grafting of trees. The story, from weekly newspaper clippings, needs research. Barney is going to follow up on it.

(Continued, Page 5)

President's Message

Ann Leffel

Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt recently spoke on "why save endangered species?" I know the American Chestnut Tree isn't on the endangered species list, but I was struck how his words fit the work this chapter is doing.

Secretary Babbitt told how a group of children were asked to write down their answers to the basic question

Why save endangered species?

"One child, Gabriel, answered, 'because God gave us the animals.' Travis and Gina wrote, 'Because we love them.' A third answered, 'Because we'll be lonely without them.' Still another wrote, 'Because they're a part of our life. If we didn't have them, it would not be a complete world. The Lord put them on earth to be enjoyed, not destroyed.'

"Now, in my lifetime I have heard many, many political, agricultural, scientific, medical and ecological reasons for saving endangered species. I have in fact hired biologists and ecologists for just that purpose. All their reasons have to do with providing humans with potential cures for disease, or yielding humans new strains of drought-resistant crops, or offering humans bioremediation of oil spills, or thousands of other justifications of why species are useful to humans. But none of their reasons moved me like the children's . . .

"Whenever I confront some of (the) bills that systematically eviscerate the Endangered Species Act, I take refuge and inspiration from the simple written answers of those children. But I sometimes wonder if children are the only ones who express religious values when talking about endangered species. I wonder if anyone else in America is trying to restore an ounce of humility to mankind, reminding our political leaders that the earth is a sacred precinct, designed by and for the purposes of the creator.

"I got my answer last month. I read letter after letter from five different religious orders, representing tens of millions of churchgoers, all opposing a House bill to weaken the Endangered Species Act. They opposed it not for technical or scientific or agricultural or medicinal reasons, but for spiritual reasons. And I was moved not only by how such diverse faiths could reach so pure an agreement against this bill, but by the common language and terms with which they opposed it, language that echoed the voices of the children . . .

"I conclude here tonight by affirming that those religious values remain at the heart of the Endangered Species Act, that they make themselves manifest through the green eyes of the grey wolf, through the call of the whooping crane, through the splash of the Pacific salmon, through the voices of America's children. We are living between the flood and the rainbow: between the threats of creation on the one side and God's covenant to protect life on the other.

"Why should we save endangered species? Let us answer this question with one voice, the voice of the child at the expo, who scrawled her answer at the very bottom of the sheet: 'Because we can.'"

We will do it because we can . . . with the help of those who care about the tree, the future of our forests, the future of our economy, the future of our environment, the future of the generations of people to follow us.

At our meetings and through our newsletters we have told you about the nature of the majestic Chestnut Tree — its history, the story of the many efforts to conquer the blight, and the ACF and PA Chapter plans to restore the tree. This issue will focus on what you as a member or prospective member can do to help. Read about what our members

Report Given on Memberships More Needed

The chapter now has 216 paid-up members. One hundred and seventy-one paid \$40 or more, and 45 paid less than \$40 for a one-year membership.

With its own database information, the chapter now has a true picture of who belongs and who doesn't. Good information was not immediately available from the home office, and it could not be determined how many paid-up members there were in Pennsylvania when the chapter organized. It was determined that there were a number of expired memberships being carried when the chapter assumed membership control. These are being removed from the mailing list. This will be the last issue of the newsletter for these members, so please send your renewal now. We need you; we need all the help we can get.

And how! One doesn't have to be a math wizard to figure it out. With 171 members getting \$15 a piece from a \$40 ACF membership, it doesn't cover half of this year's budget, and experience says most will be paid toward the end of the year, so there is barely a dribble of operating income. So it was the first year, and so it will continue.

Unless there are benefactors, which is just another word for you — the members, it's simple: Pennsylvania members must make all additional contributions to the work of the Pennsylvania Chapter.

New memberships are important, of course, both from the standpoint of revenue and numbers needed for broadened field work. The goal is to double the membership in the chapter's second year.

are doing, what needs to be done. Choose what you would like to do in joining the ranks of volunteers dedicated to restoring the American Chestnut Tree.

Tree Planting Planned at First Annual Meeting

With a long, hard winter behind and up to a month to forget, it is time for spring-like thoughts. How about planting American Chestnut Trees and learning how to pollinate them? And stuff like that?

It's time for the chapter's first annual meeting. On April 20. Same time; same place. At the News Printing Farm on Route 36 between Hollidaysburg and Roaring Spring.

The Barnharts will again host the meeting in their chestnut-antique setting. After a donut and coffee social, registration, and a brief business meeting, including the election of officers, all who want to can help plant 200 BC₂F₂ seeds on a site near the meeting place.

These BC₂F₂ seeds will be a performance test of the breeding program. Since they have undergone only 2 backcrosses (BC₂) they will be on the average 7/8 or 87.5% American. The backcross progression was interrupted; and intercrossing was done to obtain resistance. One-sixteenth of the 200 trees should be fully blight resistant.

The purpose of the planting is to grow and observe the trees. What will be their physical attributes, how American will they look, when will they get the blight, how severe will it be, when will they die; which ones will be resistant? It will give us the opportunity to observe the result of the years of work that has taken place at Meadowview.

There are about 3000 of these seeds. Seven hundred will remain at Meadowview. The rest will be planted at about 12 sites throughout the natural chestnut range from Maine to Georgia. Pennsylvania will receive 300 seeds. Two hundred will be planted at the Barnharts and 100 will be planted at Highland Park in Pittsburgh.

So now you have a first hand opportunity to take part in a chest-

nut restoration planting. Bring your work gloves, a bulb planter, or a dirt shovel, or a maul to drive stakes. Bring a half-gallon waxed milk carton filled with potting soil to plant your very own American Chestnut Tree. If you can't help plant, help Charlotte prepare lunch. Bring a dessert. It is a day to celebrate! Celebrate Earth Day! Celebrate Chestnut Tree Planting! Celebrate Spring!

(see page 8 for location map)

Who's Who . . .

(Continued from Page 3)



Thanks a lot to **Matt Bretz** and **Pam Lambert** for this beautiful chestnut sign. Black and white doesn't do this well-crafted sign justice. Matt and Pam's shop is in the Johnstown area where they do authentic replicas and antique decoys. The number is (814) 255-3859

Rosina Coltellaro supplied the delicious lunch for more than 40 at a recent district meeting in Philadelphia. Bean soup, beef and vegetarian, with ham and cheese on fresh-baked Italian rolls was the menu. Good food and chestnut talk. That'll keep'em coming. Thanks Rosina.

Short stuff on others spreading the word on chestnuts: Bill Lord, chapter secretary and ACF director, will man an exhibit on the American Chestnut at the

Calendar

April 20 — Annual Meeting in Roaring Spring

April 27 — Chapter Exhibit at Morris Arboretum, Chestnut Hills, PA.

May — Watch for Chestnut leaves, then catkins to emerge.

June — Locate, Identify, Observe and Report flowering chestnuts in your neighboring woodlands — volunteers to Meadowview and PA locations to learn pollinating techniques.

July — Pollinate. Executive Committee Meeting

September — Fall Chapter Meeting, possibly in NW PA. Begin chestnut harvest.

October — Chestnut Harvest ACF Annual Meeting (tentative date Oct. 19 & 20)

Newsletter (Chestnut Tree) — Submit articles & pictures - June 30

Mail Date — July 15

Special Note on Annual Meeting

For those who want to make a weekend of it, spend the night in Roaring Spring, and visit Meyersdale Sunday for the Pennsylvania Maple Festival (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) Phone (814) 634-0213. Featured are maple sugar demonstrations and live entertainment. The Haven Reste Motel, old Rt. 220 at Roaring Spring Exit, offers an ACF discount. Phone (814) 695-4401 or 1-800-932-6834.

For those who enjoy golf, Barney will make the course available to as many as possible on Saturday.

Forest Stewardship Landowners Worksho in Monroeville. Bill keeps foresters and landowners well informed in the Pittsburgh area . . . Tom Pugel will have a public exhibit on chestnuts at the Morris Arboretum public exhibit in the Philadelphia area on Saturday, April 27.

Farm Show Exhibit Hit by Blizzard; Lots of No-Shows

The chapter's chestnut booth at the Pennsylvania Farm Show hit some pretty tough sledding after opening day.

Dan Heacock, who put it all together, reported good weather for first-day Saturday with 80,000 people attending, and good interest in the American Chestnut, and especially in the word "restoration." It really fetched them.

But Sunday was something else. Was it ever. Sunday brought the "Storm of the Century" and two-and-a-half feet of snow, a state of emergency, and even the governor declaring all roads closed Monday except to emergency traffic. The state, with four more inches of snow falling, was still digging out on Wednesday, with the Farm Show closing the next day.

Oh yes, back to the Farm Show and Dan Heacock. Briefly put, attendance was knocked in a cocked hat — down under 50 per cent of normal. So a good reading on chestnuts and Farm Show crowds will have to wait for another year. And, according to Dan, that will be next January.

Chapter members staffing the booth and answering questions (and braving the elements) were; Chandis Klinger, Rich Pollini, Rosina Coltellaro, J. Edward Wilson, Tracey Coulter, Tom Pugel, Eugene Witmeyer, Ann and Bob Leffel

Election of Officers

(Continued from Page 1)

Committees:

Tree Location — Jan Dudt, Chandis Klinger, Pat Chamberlain

Breeding & Planting — Bob Leffel.

Education and Publicity — Dan Heacock (Farm Show); Tracey Coulter (Traveling Exhibit).

Coordinators — (see box on page 4) need volunteers.

Fund raising — help needed!



Dan Heacock, exhibit chairman, and Tracey Coulter, volunteer, wait for chestnut lovers at the chapter's booth at the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

PA Chapter Meets in Philadelphia Area

The PA Chapter ACF held a March meeting at the Green Valleys Association Meeting House in Birchrunville, Chester County. The area response to a Philadelphia Inquirer story which featured the PA Chapter was so good, that a meeting was deemed necessary.

Clyde Hunt, a retired forest geneticist with the U.S. Forest Service, spoke on the history of chestnut blight research by the U.S. Forest Service. No research is being done currently.

Roy Hopke, a forest consultant from New York and a NY Chapter ACF district director shared valuable experience in the planting and care of native American Chestnut Trees.

Chandis Klinger spoke about the plans of the PA chapter and what folks can do to participate. Philadelphia chapter coordinator, Rosina Coltellaro, provided the group with refreshments.

American Chestnut seeds were planted in 1/2 gallon milk cartons and taken home by those in attendance.

The Green Valleys Association is committed to protecting the envi-

ronment in the community. At a time when the area is under pressure of development and growth and state and federal agencies are reducing their role in environmental protection the GVA seeks to address environmental problems through education, services and action.

Winter's over

(Continued, from Page 1)

study.

10. Forward us possible gift and grant sources. Many employers offer community grants. A grant of \$1000 will help us plant and maintain several hundred trees.

11. Get young people involved. This is a long-term project which will continue beyond some of our allotted years.

12. Office and clerical help is always needed.

13. Hold a bake sale or yard sale.

14. Send names and addresses of interested prospective members to our membership chair, Charlotte Barnhart.

15. Help with building our travel exhibit, structurally, with pictures, news articles, artifacts, whatever you find that might direct people's attention to chestnuts.

16. Support us financially!

You need not do them all. Do what interests you.

Regional Volunteers Needed to Broaden BC₃ "Families"

By Bob Leffel

The ACF backcross program conducted by Dr. Fred Hebard at Meadowview has progressed to a stage requiring the establishment of regionally adapted, blight-resistant American Chestnut BC₃ lines (families). One hundred seeds per PA line are needed. A BC₃ line is defined as the seed produced on one or more confirmed PA American Chestnut Trees within a local area when pollinated with pollen from a selected moderately resistant BC₂ tree from Meadowview.

Such seed will provide the different lines for the ACF-PA Regional Nurseries. We now have one line (family), the seeds from the York County Ort tree which will be planted in three locations in southeastern PA this spring. We need 20 lines from across the state. The plan is to establish regional nurseries in 6 areas, southeastern, northeastern, south central, north central, southwestern, and northwestern.

Each participant in the program should attempt to establish one line in 1996. The BC₃ seeds of all lines in a region can then be combined to add to the 1996 BC₃ nurseries or to establish new BC₃ nurseries depending on location of seed source. All resulting trees will be 1) screened for blight resistance by inoculations; 2) selected for both resistance and American qualities; and 3) allowed to intercross to produce seeds for BC₃F₂ nurseries. The purpose of all this is to avoid inbreeding, to develop genetic diversity, and to produce resistant seed producing trees adapted to the local region. Participants must sign the "Agreement to Receive and Not to Distribute Hybrid Chestnut Genetic Material" with ACF.

Training will be available at Meadowview (see article) and by our experienced PA hybridizers.

Biology, Genetics and Ecology students . . . now is your chance to apply that book learning to a real problem. You can be part of the solution. Contact Bob Leffel, P.O. Box 7, Brogue, PA 17309

More Needed to Get Involved in Chapter Funding

Finances, like memberships, is another big problem. For example, it's noted that currently there is a total of \$5,539.90 on hand. But 1996 expenses to date are projected at \$6,610 with this appended:

"Upcoming expenses will increase as our work of extending the breeding program increases."

It is interesting to note where the \$5,539 came from. Here's how it came about, according to the report: "All of these expenses (last year's) plus many others were donated by a few members so that the treasury would build for 1996 activity, thus the entire \$5,539.90 remained as of Jan. 31, 1996."

Unless there are some generous donations, that isn't going to work this year. Last year there were two plantings at small cost. This year there will be four larger plantings at much higher cost. And that's the way it's going to go. Each year more and more plantings; higher and higher costs.

The chapter now has two grant proposals in progress. And Member Larry Patchel has begun a list of potential grantors. Other members are needed to suggest and locate additional prospects. Members of the Executive Committee will supply information on grant procedures once prospects are determined.

Ort Tree Nuts Survive Winter; 273 are Planted

The pollinating success story with the York County Ort Tree is ongoing.

The 273 B₃ nuts harvested were successfully nursed through a very severe winter. It wasn't easy. Ideal storage is 32 degrees, and the nuts were put in a refrigerator in an out building at the Leffel farm.

Ann and Bob write: "Can you believe we took the temperature of those nuts all winter long? During extreme cold we had to put a kettle of hot water in the refrigerator to keep the nuts from freezing. Now when we leave the farm in winter we not only have to provide dog sitters, we have to get nut sitters too."

By the time this is read, all of the third backcross nuts will have been planted. In two locations — some by Bill Peifer in Northumberland County and the rest by the Leffels in York County.

Others will be added to these nurseries next year, including the new lines developed by pollinators Bill Peifer, Rich Pollini, Tom Pugel, Chandis Klinger and Bob Leffel in the southeastern region. The nurseries will then each have six new lines for this region for intercrossing later.

Chapter Seeking Gifts and Grants

Members are reminded that membership dues are not sufficient to finance the state's backcross breeding program. All must be on the lookout for gifts and grants.

Chapter T-Shirts

PA Chapter T-shirts will be available at chapter gatherings. The price is \$12, and they come in all sizes. The \$5.00 profit on each shirt helps further the work being done by the chapter.

Can You Help?

An American Chestnut Tree grows near Pittsburgh, and ACF Director Bill Lord wants to put it to work. He wants to pollinate it and harvest the nuts. The tree owner has given permission. A team is ready to go. But there's one problem: the tree is 46 feet tall, and the branches are high. Bill needs a very tall ladder or a cherrypicker (bucket truck). If you can help, call Bill Lord (412)793-0255. The tree is in the Zelienople area.

Join! Renew!

The PA chapter has 216 paid-up members at the end of its first year. Its goal is to double the membership in its second year. Increased contributions are suggested, and the chapter is seeking grants.

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

Dedicated to resorting the **American Chestnut**



- Lumber Tree
- Ecological Link
- Abundant Food for Wildlife
- Forest in good health & balance

Become a life giving leaf of the American Chestnut Tree with your membership dues or donation.

June 10-19 Volunteers Needed to Pollinate

Volunteers to pollinate are still needed at Meadowview from June 10 to 19. But visits must be controlled so the work is spread out over the pollinating period. Only six volunteers can work at the farm at a time so scheduling is important.

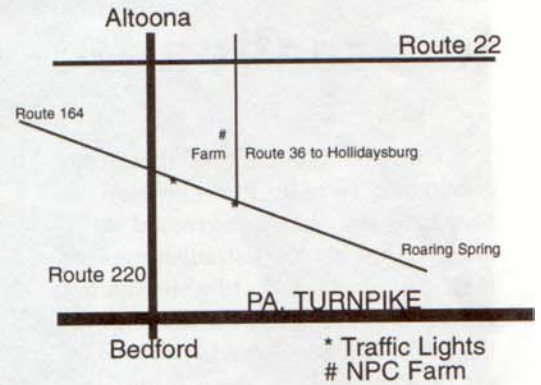
It requires a great deal of coordinating between the ACF and chapter office for proper scheduling.

Complete details are available from the ACF home office. Call Elizabeth at 802-447-0110 or write:

American Chestnut Foundation
 469 Main St., Suite 4
 Bennington, VT 05201

Six chapter volunteers helped out last year. Anyone interested in carpooling should contact:

Ann Leffel, President
 PA Chapter, ACF
 P.O. Box 7
 Brogue, PA 17309



Directions to Farm

Take the Roaring Spring Exit off Route 220. Go east toward Roaring Spring. Turn left at second traffic light onto Rt. 36 north. Proceed 1.6 miles to News Printing Co. Farm on left (across from Nelson's Nursery).

See you on April 20th

Nonprofit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Claysburg, PA 16625
 Permit No. 45