

Chestnut Tree

THE



CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN CHESTNUT FOUNDATION



Volume 2 No. 1

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Presentations Made at Three Arboretums

Bob and Ann Leffel broke new ground recently when they made presentations to three major arboretums in the Philadelphia area.

The first was at Longwood Gardens at Kennett Square where Bob met fellow agronomist Bob Armstrong, head of research at Longwood. The two talked chestnuts, among other things, for several hours. The outcome was a promise of help from Longwood to dedicate space for plantings and to help with nurture, pollination, etc.

American chestnuts are not entirely new at Longwood. Phil Gruyka, head arborist, recently planted four seedlings from the Wisconsin stand.

Next was the Tyler Arboretum in Delaware County. Bob and Ann were accompanied by Al Eelman and Rosina Coltellarro, Philadelphia coordinator. Tyler dates to 1870. While

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Chapter Joins Range-Wide Breeding Program

... testing of the Burnham Hypothesis (backcrossing) is complete enough that we are warranted in beginning to prepare for reintroduction of blight-resistant trees into the forest ... we are warranted in beginning a range-wide implementation of our breeding program, so that we can have a sufficient genetic base for the range-wide reintroduction of chestnut."

— F. V. Hebard, 1995

4 Backcross Plantings Across Pennsylvania

More than 1,100 Nuts in Ground in 13 Months

"Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today, in the sight of the rain, and the wind, the mountains and the trees, to join with one another and with this land in a bond of holy determination. Today we place our feet firmly on the trail that will lead to the restoration of the American Chestnut Tree"

Let us plant!"

—Phil Rutter
Founding President
Meadowview 1989

And plant the chapter did. More than 1,100 nuts in the ground in its first two springs. Several hundred in the chapter's first year, and the rest planted March to May, this year.

All are backcrosses, and many will show blight resistance. It's part of the ACF's program to establish

the American Chestnut in its native habitat. The chapter, of course, will play the key role in bringing this about.

There were two BC₂F₂ plantings. The first was 210 nuts on April 20 at the chapter's first annual meeting held at the Barnhart Farm near Roaring Spring. The other was 102 BC₂F₂ nuts planted in Pittsburgh's Highland Park.

The other two major plantings were of the 273 fourth generation nuts from the chapter's project of controlled pollination of the Ort Tree in York County. Bill Peifer planted 100 of these BC₃ nuts and 20 control nuts on his farm in Northumberland County on March 27, and on April 3 the Leffels planted 170 BC₃ nuts and 27 control nuts at their farm at Brogue, York County.

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Dr. Hebard will be glad to learn his work goes forward in Pennsylvania. The chapter is engaged in this long-range, Appalachian-wide program being directed by Dr. Hebard from the ACF Meadowview Farms in Virginia. The four plantings described in this issue kicks off the breeding-planting program announced by Dr. Hebard in January.

How long-range is this? Well, go back to Dr. Hebard's projections.

The testing will go on for up to 50 years before there are blight-free nuts that will be reintroduced over millions of acres of forests and woodlands. However, blight-resistant nuts should be available for reintroduction in about 10 years. Back cross testing like the chapter is engaged in now will continue for another 40 years until there is a blight-FREE nut available for distribution.

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Care Makes Difference at Reineman's

The planting at Reineman's Sanctuary last spring was relatively successful, but the severe frost on May 14 took its toll, according to Ann Leffel.

Of the 133 Nanking Backcross 1's planted in March, 1995, 120 were alive and growing in September. Eight American nuts were faulty, and none germinated. (They were replanted this year) Eight of eight Chinese germinated and grew and are doing well. The third control nut was the Chinese American F1.

At its first annual meeting in 1988 held at Reineman's, the ACF planted F1 and BC1 seedlings. Those unprotected are gone except for a few short shrublike trees which are still browsed by deer. Of the 52 original seedlings 23 are left. Those remaining have responded well to last year's weed control and fertilization. There was good growth last year. Blight is present on several trees. The planting was neglected in terms of weed control and fertilization until last year. It does make a difference.

Let Us Plant

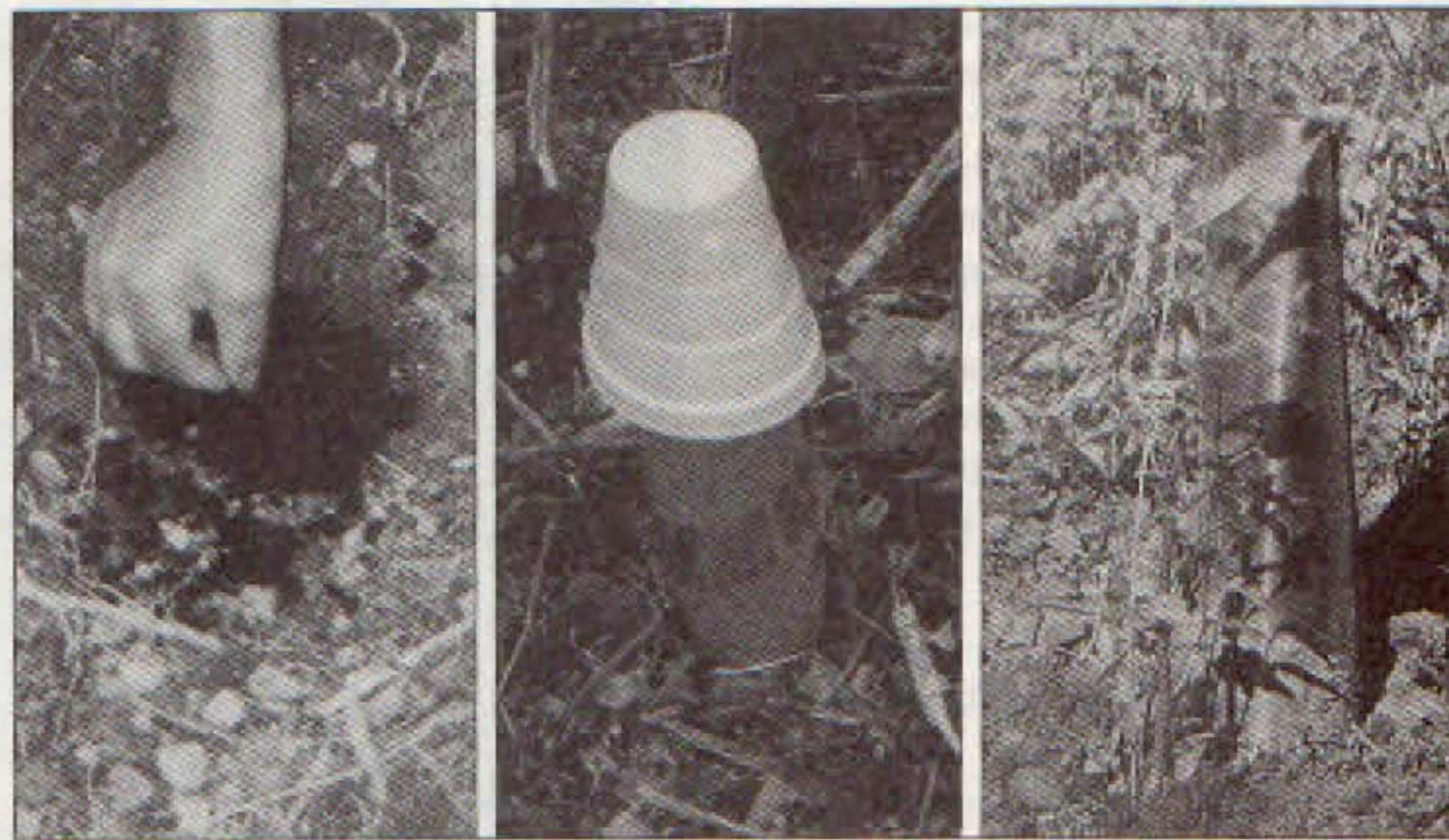
(Continued from Page 5)

plot, are adjacent to the city's forestry building, and the project will be under the care of Dale Vezzetti, city forester. Bill and Larry Patchel, members of the Men's Garden Club, participated at the annual meeting planting and learned the planting and care process to take back to Pittsburgh.

The planting was on May 6 and Bill reported that on May 29 thirty-six of the 102 nuts had germinated.

— The chapter has T-shirts. All sizes \$12.00. Chapter profit is \$5.

It Works! Try it Sometime



Seed! Germination! Miracle! This was repeated 210 times at the annual meeting at the Barnhart farm. The time lapse here was from April 20 to May 28. Five weeks from seed to tree pushing out the top of the cylinder. But it's not the whole story. The 3 cylinders surrounding this beauty were empty on May 28, and a week later only one more toothpick-slim stem in the other-three. Why? Who knows? But the big picture was good, the experts said. One hundred and seventy of the 210 nuts planted have a good chance of becoming trees.

Presentations Made

(Continued from Page one)

there were no American chestnuts, Tyler does boast wonderful old specimen trees.

Gerry LaFerriere, head groundskeeper, filled in for Jim Janczewski and showed great enthusiasm for the ACF program. He informed that the restoration of the American Chestnut is a part of Tyler's mission and expressed a willingness to set aside acreage for a sizeable planting and to aid in the care and pollination.

The third visit was to Scott Arboretum on the grounds of Swarthmore College. Head Arborist Andrew Bunting could only meet with the group very briefly, and it was learned that Scott has neither space or resources to help the ACF.

The two large American Chestnuts on the campus turned out to be something other than the arboretum indicated. Ann and Bob took leaf and twig samples to give a proper identification.

Chapter Joins

(Continued from Page one)

BC3 nuts were planted at Brogue and Northumberland; BC2F2 nuts were planted at the Barnhart Farm and Pittsburgh Highland Park.

The BC3 is a fourth generation nut. Two more backcrosses will complete the planting cycle required to produce a blight-FREE nut.

According to President Leffel, the BC3F2 plantings have the potential for producing a number of blight-free nuts. It is figured that 13 of the 210 nuts planted at the Barnharts could be blight-free.

The 40 chapter members and guests who participated in that planting on April 20 may some day be able to say they took part in producing the first blight-free American Chestnut Tree. Who knows? So, today's work is as important, and stimulating, as any other work to be done in the future. The time is now to learn all you can about the breeding program.

Chapter Receives Mobile Display

The PA Chapter has received a generous donation of a mobile display unit from John Keierger and P R Hoffman Machine Products of Carlisle.

The unit was on display at the chapter's annual meeting in April. It is blue fabric-covered and expands to a 9" x 10" curved wall complete with display lights. It all fits in two cannisters that are three feet tall and one foot wide. Once the display is completed, it will be available to volunteers for use throughout Pennsylvania.

The theme of the display will be a chronicle of the American Chestnut in Pennsylvania from its significance in the settlement of the state; the effects of the blight and present the efforts to restore the trees to Pennsylvania forests.

Anyone wishing to donate materials, expertise or suggestions should contact Tracey Coulter at 717-486-8935 or tcoulter@epix.net. Her address is 403 N. Baltimore Avenue #2, Mt. Holly Springs, PA 17065.

New Memberships Far Short of Goal

The gain in chapter memberships is encouraging, but the current lag in joining could leave the chapter short of its 1996 goal.

Memberships went from 170 on Jan. 1, 1995 to 257 on April 20, 1996. The goal by the end of this year is 340.

New memberships should not be a hard sell. The best approach is for members to bring in new members.

Membership brochures and newsletters are available upon request, or send names and addresses of prospective members to P.O. Box 7, Brogue, PA 17309.

—Membership dues are not enough to finance the backcross breeding program. Think gifts and grants.

Tom Pugel Receives Second Exxon Grant

For the second year in a row Tom Pugel was successful in earning a grant from the Exxon Research and Engineering Company.

Tom is a newly-elected board member and has been planting American Chestnuts in Cambria County for a long time. This \$1,000 grant will be used to establish a

backcross tree nursery in Southwestern Pennsylvania. It also will purchase an orchard ladder for controlled pollination.

Tom is an activist. Besides being an officer and planter, he recently manned an exhibit at the Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia.

Volunteers Needed for Reineman Plantings

Volunteers are needed to help with maintenance at the Reineman Sanctuary. The chapter planted trees at Reineman's last year and in 1988.

Tracey Coulter needs an assist with bi-weekly fertilizing and record-keeping.

The planting is in a lovely location just west of Carlisle off Route 74. It's a short hop for Perry, Dauphin, Cumberland, Adams and Franklin Counties.

Please call Tracey at 717-486-8935 or contact her at tcoulter@epix.net.

Pledges and Contributions Needed for New Tractor

The chapter is short of its \$1,000 pledge to help buy a new tractor for Meadowview. The price of the tractor is \$29,200.

To date \$650 has been collected. Additional pledges or donations should be sent to the Tractor Fund, PA Chapter.

President Relates

(Continued from Page 3)

Don't over water your chestnuts. They are somewhat drought resistant. They can tolerate a lot of water if area is well drained, but they won't tolerate wet feet.

Report your progress to us. Send us your questions. We'll try to provide answers.

Mill Grove Sanctuary Has Planted Chestnuts

The Mill Grove Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary in Montgomery County near Philadelphia is restoring native plants to their natural locations, and PA chapter is participating in the program. The chapter provided a variety of 50 seeds for an American Chestnut grove. Information about the American Chestnuts is being included in the sanctuary's educational program. They are looking forward to adding other trees and possibly entering in the breeding program when the trees flower.

Mill Grove was the first home in America of John James Audubon, artist, naturalist, author. The 175 acre estate is the Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary. The chestnut trees will add to the collection of native species.

Newsletter on Internet

The newsletter you're reading is now listed on the Internet Newsletter Library. Check it out.

You and the world, can survey newsletter topics and request sample copies of those of interest. Names and addresses are forwarded to the PA Chapter. A newsletter, a letter of invitation and a membership brochure are then sent.

In April, 12 prospective members were contacted.

"Let Us Plant"

(More than 1100 Nuts)

(Continued from Page one)

Bad weather, including a killer frost, delayed the plantings at Peifer's and the Leffel's? And the report is that an unusually cold spring has delayed the germination of the nuts. Bill Peifer was joined by his brother, John, his sister, and nephew Steve, along with Bob and Ann Leffel. For the Leffel planting, Bob and Ann were joined by the Peifers, Eugene Witmeyer and Don Nunemacher.

The Roaring Spring meeting and planting was quite an event. Forty-five members and guests attended the meeting, and 40 volunteered for the planting. It took them all. The first chore was rolling and taping of 222 aluminum cylinders to protect the seeds and seedlings as they emerge. With all but 60 of the holes pre-drilled, the planting went well. The 60 holes on a hillside too steep for the tractor were hand-dug, and with the hard part out of the way, three crews were formed for the three rows of 70 nuts each to be planted. Forty people on a fairly steep hillside scrambling to plant 210 nuts is a sight to see. An anthill couldn't provide as much action. There were the diggers, and those who filled the holes with topsoil; and those who moistened peat moss; and those who cut the narrower holes with bulb planters for those placing the nuts, followed by those placing the cylinders, and packing the soil around the cylinders, and putting a styrofoam cup atop the cylinder. Until the new technology invents a chestnut planter, it's the way to go. The planting was done in about two hours.

Led by ACF Director Bill Lord, the Men's Garden Club of Pittsburgh planted 102 BC₂F₂ nuts in Pittsburgh's Highland Park.

The planting, on a 100 by 65-foot

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Roaring Spring Planting — The chapter's planting crews are growing. Forty-five members and guests attended the annual meeting near Roaring Spring and 40 (not all shown) volunteered to plant 210 backcross chestnut trees. And it was done in two hours, including cutting and wrapping the cylinders.



Northumberland County Planting — 100 BC₃ nuts from the pollinated Ort Tree were planted at Bill Peifer's farm at Dornsife. It was a Peifer affair, with Bob Leffel assisting. From left, Steve, Bill's nephew, brother John, Bob Leffel and Bill Peifer.



Brogue Planting — Another 173 nuts of the same BC₃ Ort lot were planted April 3 at the Leffel Farm. The story reports some results of the plantings.

Pollinating and Bagging can be Hit or Miss Affair

By Chandis Klinger

The backcross breeding program to breed blight resistance into the American Chestnut requires controlled pollination. This is done with the use of bags that prevent unwanted pollen pollinating the burrs.

The timing to bag the burrs is critical in the pollinating process. Bag the burr too early, and the young burr will drop off the limb and be in the bottom of the bag when pollinating the burr. Bag the burr too late, and it may already be pollinated with pollen from the surrounding area. The result would not be the desired cross.

The best time to bag the burr is when the styles are fully developed and the burrs are at least the size of a pea, but no larger than the size of a small grape. Even though another tree is required for pollination, the bag helps prevent blocking by the tree's own pollen.

The time to bag is mostly dependent on weather and average temperature of the surrounding area. Obviously there is a difference between Middleburg PA and the Meadowview Research Farms in Virginia, but even at each latitude there is a variation. Even though the Meadowview Research farm burrs were all bagged and pollination had been completed when I arrived, there were more trees to be bagged and pollinated at the farm's latitude at higher altitudes. The farm's altitude is 2000 feet, but the burrs at the 4000 foot altitude were the right size to bag.

Near Middleburg there were two trees a few hundred feet apart on the same contour of the mountain. One tree had burrs much larger than the other. They were both along a logging road and both were partially shaded. Interestingly, when the burrs were collected in the fall from the two trees with the large burrs

Pollinating Season Begins in Mid-June

It is not too late to take part in a pollinating program. The three-week pollinating program at Meadowview Farms begins June 17.

All who participate will be trained by Dr. Fred Hebard in pollinating and inoculation techniques.

Send your name, address and phone number immediately to Elizabeth at ACF, P.O. Box 4044, Bennington, VT. 05201-4044 or phone (802) 447-0110. Elizabeth will forward you information about room and board opportunities. Also contact Ann Leffel if you are interested in possibly car pooling with other Pennsylvanians.

Those interested in Meadowview should keep in mind the schedule there. The first week is bagging and inoculating; the 2nd week, bagging in the mountains; 3rd

(which were believed to be past the receptive stage were pollinated) produced 5 nuts from 6 bags. On the tree with the smaller burrs, two bags had the burrs drop off into the bag after they were pollinated. The remaining three bags had a total of four burrs that produced two nuts. The larger pollinated burrs produced more nuts per burr.

Seventy miles to the south of Middleburg is the Ort tree. This tree had been bagged and pollinated by the time the Middleburg trees had their burrs bagged.

Pollinating is a hit or miss affair, there seems to be a chance that there will be a bumper crop and then there is the chance that it is a near failure. In fact, it can be a complete failure. If the pollinated tree dies, there is nothing to show and you simply try again next year. However with a few years experience, one begins to get the hang of it.

week, pollinating at farm and mountains.

Bob Leffel will again be in charge of pollinating of the Ort Tree in York County. If interested, call Bob at 717-927-9557.

The Ort Tree schedule will be: Bagging from June 19 to 25; pollination, two weeks following the bagging.

Bill Lord will pollinate a new-found surviving American Chestnut in the Pittsburgh area. He will be assisted by two fellow gardeners, Pat Johnson and Larry Patchel.

Bill will attend the pollination training sessions at Meadowview before taking on his own tree. The tree is near Zelienople. Anybody wishing to participate should call Bill Lord at (412) 793-0255.

Calendar

June — Locate, Identify, and Report native flowering chestnuts in your neighboring woodlands

June 17 - July 5 — Volunteers for Pollinating at Meadowview

June 17 - July 5 — Training on Pollinating Techniques — PA Chapter

July 20 — PA Chapter Board meeting

September 25 - 27 — PA Chapter meeting — Ambridge Springs, PA

October — Chestnut Harvest

October 19-20 — ACF Annual Meeting

Newsletter (Chestnut Tree) — Submit articles & pictures - August 10

Mail Date — September 3

President's Message

Ann Leffel

Gardeners amaze me. Each spring they go out, work the soil, and plant their annual seeds or young plants knowing full well that at the end of the season all the plants will die. Come spring they must plant again — year after year after year. Yet they are not discouraged by the known outcome of death. They enjoy the challenge and the beauty of their efforts.

American Chestnut Tree enthusiasts have so much more to look forward to. Yes, it will take six generations to produce a tree that has the means, the genes to fight the blight. Yes, we will lose most of what we plant along the way. Should we not continue the battle against cancer because generations of people have died from it?

In early March 1995 the PA Chapter had one neglected 1988 planting of 28 surviving trees and

several plantings by individuals. As a chapter we now have over 1,100 trees and seeds planted as chapter projects and hundreds of American trees started by individual members who wish to help with this project. Nearly 300 of the seeds planted this spring are fourth generation trees. Yes, only one of 16 of the fifth generation trees (a mere 5 or 6 years down the road) will be fully resistant 95% American. Instead of focusing on the 15 that will meet an early death, focus on the tremendous potential of that one. It will have the potential to reach maturity and live 500 years. It will have the potential to produce seeds all of which will be blight-free American Chestnut Trees. And it will happen sometime close to the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the blight devastation. Out of death comes new life. Look forward and toward the renewal of life for the American Chestnut Tree.

The Reader Writes

Readers write, and here's what they are writing about:

After praising, thanking and complimenting Bob and Ann Leffel, Coy Willis, of Lauren IN, adds "Many are willing and many are capable, but few are both." We all concur with that if he's talking about Ann and Bob.

Mr. Willis has good news and bad news. The bad first: He didn't vent the plastic bag he put his Wisconsin nuts in. That's a no-no. He lost them all to mold.

The good news: He has 600 acres of land in southeastern Indiana he's offering the ACF. "I wonder if Fred and his group might be interested in a site in Indiana." He also expressed an interest in the back-cross program and said how much he appreciated the growing instruc-

tions.

How nice he has such an affinity for the PA Chapter. Mr. Willis closed with "... I would like to make a contribution..."

Frido Buschmann wrote from Durham PA. He too is high on our two ambassadors for unblighted chestnut trees. He's been interested in the American Chestnut since the late '60s, and his wife Carol has a degree in landscape architecture. Both are members and have taken the pledge to do what they can to restore the tree.

(Space does not permit printing the full letter. But continue to write anyhow. Ask your questions. Pass along information. Tell us what you're up to. Relay all your chestnut experiences. We'll give answering our best shot.)

President Relates Chestnut History; Seeking Answers

There is a long rich history of people working to solve the chestnut blight problem. The USDA attempted to locate sources of resistance to *Cryphonectria (Endothia) parasitica*. This was done by distribution plant introductions from China and Japan. Thousands of such seed and seedlings were distributed to Pennsylvanians for testing.

Sandra Anagnostakis who has worked with chestnuts all her career at Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is the keeper of those USDA files. She entrusted me with those records for a couple of months. The difficulties of tracking those many seed accessions through the years became quite apparent. Some growers were very successful and reported progress regularly; some experimented immediate failure; some gave part of their stock to others and kept no records. One entry was quite amusing. A professor at a college near Philadelphia received 25 Chinese chestnut seedlings in 1925. Seven years later an inquiry was made by USDA. The report came back. A professor was somewhat absent-minded and the seedlings were "misplaced." After a search the trees were found where they had all been checked-in in a compost pile and forgotten. Twelve were still alive and 12-feet tall. The trees would be planted out immediately. The next inquiry by USDA was sent in 1936. There was no reply.

Much of the planting was to no avail because records were not kept or not communicated to USDA. There could be a treasure of resistance somewhere out there in PA.

Yes, record-keeping is important. Many of you have received American Chestnut seed. We are anxious to hear how you do with them. We need to know about your successes and your failures. What works, what doesn't.

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Who's Who in Chestnuts . . .

It was great to have the president of ACF at the chapter's annual meeting. **Bud Coulter** drove all the way from Michigan, and accompanying him were his wife **Elaine** and two grandchildren. The movement has had top leadership from its beginning and Bud Coulter now in his second year as president, continues it. He's putting it together for the ACF, and his interest and involvement in the PA Chapter is needed and appreciated.

Bud, a professional horticulturist, is retired from an illustrious career with Dow Chemical. At 75, he still does it all. Credit him the changes that have increased efficiency, momentum and communication. Add to that he is quite a chestnut culturist. He has experimented with a planting of over 500 American and 1,000 Chinese Chestnut trees. He has been active with The Chestnut Alliance that envisions chestnut trees as a part of a system of agriculture involving sustainable food and fuel production which would also positively effect a wide range of ecological imbalances.

Come back Bud whenever you can. Now that you met Pennsylvania members you know we're organizing behind leaders like you to restore the American Chestnut Tree.

The Ort name is familiar to members. Meet **Joy Ort**, daughter of **David**, a member who provided the famous Ort Tree in York County that was successfully pollinated by the chapter. Joy is graduating from high school with honors, and is on her way to Shippensburg. An excellent genetics student, she helped pollinate the Ort Tree last spring. Her career interest is medicine. With her interests, it's hoped the fire was lit for chestnut restoration.

Stay with the program, Joy; we

need all the young people we can get.

The ACF welcomed **Dr. Yan Shi** to the Meadowview Research Farms in Virginia. He joins **Dr. Fred Hebard** there to increase restoration input. Dr. Shi comes to the farm from the University of Arkansas. Look for his story in the summer issue of the Bark.

Tom Pugel continues to spread the word. He recently manned an exhibit at the Morris Arboretum in the Philadelphia area . . . also, **Bob** and **Ann Leffel** were guest speakers at the Young Farmers Banquet of the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association in Montgomery County . . . and, **Bill Lord**, chapter secretary, was in charge of an exhibit on the American Chestnut at the Forest Stewardship Landowners Workshop. Bill is very active in the stewardship program and, of course, in the chestnut restoration movement. He's becoming the chapter's lead person in Western Pennsylvania . . . **Chandis Klinger** was doing his usual good work — this time at West Snyder High School near his home town at Middleburg. He had a young audience of four 10th grade biology classes and three seventh

grade science classes. As mentioned before, focus on the young is so very important. And Chandis relates that, surprisingly, some do have knowledge of the loss of the American Chestnut Tree. Most learned from their parents or others; not in the classroom. The chapter needs to educate the educators.

Al Eelman is a new director working out of Chadds Ford. Al has a good background for joining the chestnut movement. His father was a farmer and tree lover, and his uncle owned a large landscape company. Al is an active member and a lover of the American Chestnut. He'll be a good officer.

The new coordinator for Cambria County is **Jim Koenig**. He plants his seed collected from native trees in the fall. This spring, however, he and **Gary Scott**, district forester in Gallitzin, planted eight American seedlings in a fenced plot on forest land . . . Coordinator for Schuylkill and surrounding counties, **Eugene Dougherty**, planted 60 F1 hybrids from **Pat Chamberlain** and about 15 Delano Township native Americans in Tuscarora State Park this spring.

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 Coltellarro — 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

Chapter will Meet With PA Foresters

The chapter will hold its first meeting in the northwestern part of the state Sept. 25 to 27.

The highlight will be a cooperative meeting with the Pennsylvania Forestry Assn. in Cambridge Springs. It also will include a tour of member Pat Chamberlain's chestnut experimental nursery at Edinboro.

More information will be carried in the next newsletter to be printed early in September.

Leaf Samples

When collecting leaf samples of trees you wish to verify as American, select twigs with no flowers emerging and those growing in sun. Place the length of twig in 9 x 12 brown manila envelope and mail. Do not enclose in waxed paper or plastic. Leaf molds.



American Chestnut Trees? Yes they are. Over 30 years old and very productive. More than 250 nuts were provided the chapter from the 1995 crop. The nine trees are in Carl Huff's backyard on Sidler Hill in Danville. With Mr. Huff is Don Barnhart (Barney's brother) who collected the nuts for the chapter. The trees are only slightly blighted. Mr. Huff said he cut the trees back several times the first years they were in the ground.

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

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