A Successful 2015 SWOAM/Tree Farm Field Day!

The 61st annual SWOAM / Maine Tree Farm Forestry Field Day took place Saturday, September 12, 2015, under dry skies at Wayne Coleman’s 120-acre woodlot in Baileyville. A healthy turnout of Tree Farmers, SWOAM members, friends and the Coleman clan enjoyed a day of tours, education, and fun in the far reaches of Washington County. With his wife, Peggy, Wayne Coleman has been a two-time Washington County Outstanding Tree Farmer before winning statewide honors for 2015. The Colemans have managed their woodland for recreation, firewood, and high-quality sawlogs since 1987.

Participants enjoyed some good eats from Grampie Bill’s Place food truck, while listening to music from the Burhoe Band, followed by a lunch-time speaker series. Maine Forest Service Director Doug Denico, who flew in to the proceedings in his own plane, formally presented the 2015 Outstanding Tree Farmer award to the Colemans and commended them for their passion in pursuing good stewardship of their woods. Paul Larrivee, Maine Tree Farm Committee Chair and Richard Nass, SWOAM President, followed with additional remarks. A legislative sentiment was then delivered by State Senator David Burns and State Representative Joyce Maker. Rounding out the lunch time speaker series was Kendall Martin of the Maine Warden Service, expressing appreciation to both the Colemans and all private landowners that allow public recreational access on their land, and Steve Follette of Woodland Pulp LLC, commending the Colemans for their good stewardship, and the Tree Farm program for providing a means for small landowners to certify their forest products.

As always, many thanks are due for all the volunteers from Tree Farm, SWOAM, and for the participation and support from the Maine Forest Service. The Maine Tree Farm Committee is especially grateful to the Coleman Family for all the work they have done and keep doing that makes their Tree Farm Outstanding! We look forward to seeing everyone at next year’s field day!

The 2016 Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year

The Pine Tree Camp, a program of the Pine Tree Society, has been awarded the 2016 Maine Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year. Russell Black, “Black Acres Tree Farm” of Wilton, and Ed McGrath, “Musquash Tree Farm” of Grand Lake Stream, are local winners for Franklin and Washington Counties, respectively. The awards will be presented at the Agricultural Trades Show at 12:45 p.m., at the SWOAM Annual Meeting, on Wednesday January 13, 2016. To see more about the meeting agenda, go to http://www.swoam.org/ This article continues on page 3.

We want to hear from you! Have questions about the management of your woodlot or a story about your Tree Farm that you would like to share? Submit stories, photos, and questions to info@mainetreefarm.org or 207.613.MTFP (6837)
2015 Corporate Donors Recognized

As you probably know, the Maine Tree Farm Committee has recently committed to continue as a certified Tree Farm program under the American Forest Foundation. As part of that decision process, it became very apparent that trying to implement a certified program on the ground would require more than just volunteers. Therefore, the part time paid position of Program Coordinator was established to ensure the proper program support was in place going forward. The 2015 Donor Appeal was specifically designed to provide funding for the Program Coordinator position.

Our corporate donors have generously given $16,900 to the 2015 effort. These funds will greatly enhance the ability of the Committee to implement an active and effective Maine Tree Farm Program. Each donor clearly understands the importance of supporting sustainable timberland management among small landowners. Our Tree Farm members will now be better able to continue their forest management and supply the wood fiber, wildlife habitat, water quality, and outdoor recreational opportunities that are so much a part of Maine life.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation and thanks to the corporate donors who participated in this year’s appeal. They are:

- EJ Carrier, Inc.
- Katahdin Forest Management
- Limington Lumber Co.
- Lumbra Hardwoods
- PalletOne of Maine
- Peavey Manufacturing
- Pleasant River Lumber
- ReEnergy Holdings
- Robbins Lumber
- Sappi Fine Paper
- Pleasant River Lumber
- Seven Islands Land Co.

Without their donations, the Maine Tree Farm Committee would not have been able to provide such a strong program. As landowners, please thank our donors whenever you get a chance. Let them know you appreciate their generosity!

Reminder: Switching to an electronic version will help us save on printing and postage costs, and stretch our limited budget even further. You can access the online version and subscribe today at: www.mainetreefarm.org/newsletter.html
Inspector Recognition Event—Educational and Fun!

On October 16, the Maine Tree Farm Committee (MTFC) held its third Inspector Recognition event in Dixmont. Over a dozen Tree Farm Inspectors gathered for a field tour of Mike Dann’s Tree Farm. Mike led a walk around the woodlot, focusing on recent harvesting sites, best management practices, and some invasive plant issues. After the tour, Mike and his wife Judy invited everyone in for refreshments. The group took the opportunity to complete a Tree Farm Inspection 004 Form, which brought the Tree Farm up to date with the new American Tree Farm System Standards.

After the field tour and 004 form review, attendees headed over to the Dixmont Goldcrest Riders snowmobile clubhouse, where the Riders provided a prodigious amount of incredibly delicious food. All attendees received Tree Farm Inspector travel mugs and ceramic coffee cups. In addition, three Cabela’s store gift cards were raffled off, with the winning Inspectors being: Jake Maier, Mitch Kihn, and Don Winslow. These Inspector Recognition events are a “thank you” to the Tree Farm Inspectors who donate their time and expertise to support the program and promote responsible forest management. The event was underwritten by a small grant from the national office of the American Tree Farm System, and by the generosity of the Dann Family. The MTFC hopes to continue these events on a regular basis in the future.

Upcoming Events

The Maine Agricultural Trades Show will be held January 12-14, 2016 at the Augusta Civic Center. The Maine Tree Farm Committee will have an informational booth at the event and we need volunteers (that’s you!) to help staff the booth for a couple of hours at a time. Volunteers will receive a thank-you gift for helping staff the booth. Please contact Gretchen, Program Coordinator, at 207.613.6837 or info@mainetreefarm.org to volunteer! Thank you!

Continued from page 1 - The 2016 Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year

The Pine Tree Camp manages 285 wooded acres in Rome. The Camp is a long time Tree Farm, first certified in 1993. It would have been very easy for them to adopt a hands-off attitude towards their forest, using it only as a buffer from the rest of the world. Instead, they have embraced sustainable forestry as a means of enhancing their mission. The Camp provides an outstanding example of healthy, multi-use forestry. Their eagerness to involve the community at large also sets them apart from the typical forest landowner. Working along with foresters John Starrett and Andy Shultz, the PTC is a true woodland steward.

A longer version of this article, with additional information about all of the 2016 OTFY candidates, is available online.

3 - Fall 2015
Oops! Corrections:

In the last newsletter, we listed the most recent Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year, as well as the all-time winners from Washington County, which is where our 2015 OTFY winner is located. We inadvertently forgot to include the 2009 OTFY winner, John and Marie Dudley in Alexander. We are sorry for this oversight.

If you notice other items which need a correction, please feel free to contact Gretchen, Program Coordinator, at 207.613.6837 or info@mainetreefarm.org Thank you!

In Memory

Family and friends of Tim Scott have established a scholarship fund at Presque Isle High School in his honor. For those who did not know him, Tim was a long time Aroostook County Tree Farm Chair. He also worked on making the 1997 National Tree Farm Convention in Ogunquit a resounding success. The scholarship is a fitting way to commemorate Tim’s life-long love of his home town and the County and his dedication to education through his work with Tree Farm, Project Learning Tree, Envirothon, and the school. Tim’s family will be working with the school to set criteria for the recipients. Tim made a great contribution to many lives.

If you would like to make a donation to the scholarship fund, please send a check to:

SAD#1
P.O. Box 1118
Presque Isle, ME 04769
Attn: Joy Duncan

On the memo line of the check, please put: Tim Scott Scholarship Fund