

# Leaves

## Newsletter of the Michigan Forest Association

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**Web site: [www.michiganforests.com](http://www.michiganforests.com)**

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### Association News

**Vice president Dave Wright** sends greetings to all. Dave is fighting a **cancer in the brain**; his wife, Joan, sends the following: "The first chemo treatment lasted six days in the hospital. Then David got a viral infection that caused him to run a fever for ten days, delaying his 2nd treatment by five days. Finally he got that one in and cut one day off the process. His MRI showed excellent response to the first two treatments which encouraged him greatly. He is in the hospital now having no.3 of the first eight treatments, every other week in the hospital. Thanks again for the prayers, plant, cards and calls!

Dave's address is: 4598 E. Shore Dr. Caledonia, MI 49316-9617

### Thanks

Many thanks to the volunteers who staffed our displays at various events in February and March. At the **Outdoorama** show in Novi, **Pete Klink, John Van Dyke, John MacInnis, Ted Reuschel, Ron Bullen, Keith Abrahamson** Alice and Bill Botti all pitched in and helped. What a show! Lots and lots of people came through the Wanigan. There was a good exchange of information and several people joined MFA as a result. Thanks, also to Pete and Ron for transporting the Wanigan to and from the event.

On the same weekend, the **Quiet Water Symposium** took place in East Lansing and we had a booth there. **Keith, Karen and Amanda Abrahamson and Ron Bullen** designed the display and staffed the booth there. This, too, resulted in a couple of new members.

On March 6, 7 & 8 we were at the **Michigan Science Teachers Association** annual conference in Lansing. Again, **Ted Reuschel** stepped in to help. We gave out a great number of applications for scholarships for teachers and students. Our Michigan Forest Foundation has agreed to fund selected teachers to attend the Temperate Forest Foundation's teachers' tour at Escanaba in July and has also elected to fund up to 50 high school students who might be interested in natural resources careers to attend the Trees for Tomorrow camp at Eagle River, Wisconsin next fall. If you know of people who might fit these categories, please contact the MFA office.

### Volunteers needed

We are still in need of people willing to transport the educational trailer, the "**Wanigan**", and staff it at various places around the state. To tow the trailer you should have a vehicle rigged for electric trailer brakes. To staff it you need to enjoy talking to people. We will do some on-the-job training if needed. Trust me; this is a lot of fun.

Occasionally, there are openings on our **boards of directors** of the association and the foundation. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact us at the MFA office in Eaton Rapids. Each board meets 4 times a year.

We have been asked if we have members who would be willing to **allow school groups** or other groups to visit their forest property and show them their management activities, and other things of interest. If you would be interested in hosting a group, please contact us.

## Annual Meeting August 15 & 16

The annual meeting program is shaping up nicely for our visit to Hartley Outdoor Education Center at St. Charles, MI in Saginaw County. The Hartley Center is one of a very few such facilities in Michigan that has resource management as a component of its curriculum. Our host, Jim Blaschka, an MFA member himself, will orient us to the Center, its 200-acre grounds and its programs.

Kids' activities will be offered Friday afternoon. Voyageur John Paul LeFranc will visit Friday evening.

Dr. Patrick Rusz, of the Michigan Wildlife Conservancy, will speak about cougars and wild boars in Mich.

We will tour the Hartley Center and its many components at our own pace on Friday afternoon. Points of interest include the coal mine, cable bridge, timber sale area, Murphy farm with live animals, pioneer cabin, one-room schoolhouse and walking trails.

On Saturday we will visit the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge and two historic county parks. We will discuss forest management strategies and options with Dr. Don Dickmann, professor emeritus at Michigan State University.

A registration form is included with this newsletter. A list of area motels is provided on page 3 of this letter. Please note there is an old tractor show the same weekend near Oakley, so rooms may go fast.

### Bovine TB Down in 2007

The Department of Natural Resources reports that the incidence of bovine tuberculosis in deer in the northeastern Lower Peninsula dropped from 2.3 percent in 2006 to 1.4 percent in 2007. Dr. Steve Schmitt, DNR wildlife veterinarian, cautioned, "While we have made much progress in controlling and eradicating this disease, we still have much work to do. Baiting and feeding remain problematic in the core TB area – and this creates situations where the disease transmits easily from deer to deer."

We now have a confirmed incidence of bovine TB in a deer in Shiawassee County.

### New Product to Protect Trees from Deer

Called a "Bud Cap", this lightweight plastic strip wraps around the terminal bud and is held around the tree top by its own adhesive. It's designed to protect the terminal bud in the winter and spring, when deer are most likely to browse it; then in summer deer should have plenty of more appealing food while the tree is growing. The Bud Cap is good for one season and would have to be replaced annually until the tree is out of the reach of deer. Price last summer was 6 or 7 cents apiece. They are available from IFA Nurseries, Inc., 463 Eadon Road Toledo, WA 98591 (360) 864-2828 (ifanurseries.com)

### Biological Control of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

"Forestry researchers at Oregon State University have discovered two likely candidates for biological control of the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid – two species of *Chamaemyiidae* flies, which are similar to species that have successfully been used for biological control of pests in Hawaii and Chile. It appears that the flies prey only on adelgids and have a life cycle that is closely synchronized with that of the pest."

The E Forester

### Kentucky Considers Timber Theft Law

The Kentucky Legislature is considering a timber theft law that would require landowners to notify their neighbors before logging adjacent property. Logs would need to be branded to show their place of origin.

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### Scholarships Available

The Ben Meadows Company is offering two \$2,500 scholarships for students enrolled full-time in a natural resources curriculum. Students must be entering their junior or senior year. Applications are due by June 30. Find instructions and application form at BenMeadows.com.

The E Forester

### Poplars to the Rescue!

Purdue University and Chrysler, LLC are working on cleaning up pollutants from a contaminated site in Indiana using planted poplars.

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### Forest Certification

During the year 2007 more than ten million acres were certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), and the Canadian Standards Association (CSA). Worldwide, 65 percent of the land certified by SFI and CSA and 35 percent of land certified by FSC is in North America. Nearly a third of that (29%) is in the Great Lakes Region. The Great Lakes Region may have achieved that "critical mass" of certified lands that might attract forest products customers.

Also, MFA industrial member **Verso Paper** has achieved certified chain of custody status by the FSC.

### Prehistoric Forest in a Farmer's Pond

A crew from the Michigan Department of Transportation was to take some fill from Dennis Myllyla's property near Arnheim, MI in the Upper Peninsula for a nearby construction project. In the process, they were to create a pond for Mr. Myllyla. As they dug, they encountered a hardwood forest about 15 feet below the surface of the ground. Consulting forester Justin Miller was there working on a management plan for nearby woodlands and saw the first logs to emerge. He notified Jim Schmierer at Michigan Tech, who came down to have a look. Schmierer and a colleague, Michael Hyslop, speculate the trees were either transported or mowed down by the last glacial advance, which happened about 10,000 years ago. They plan to carbon-date some samples of the wood.

### Geomagnetic Reversal Due – watch your compass!

There's still a thing or two we don't understand about planet Earth. One of them is what causes the periodic reversal of its magnetic poles. Scientists are pretty sure it has something to do with the molten iron core 1,800 miles below the surface. The geological record shows that these reversals have occurred at intervals ranging from 50,000 to tens of millions of years. It has been 800,000 years since the last one, so we can expect a reversal any time now. That would be a bad time to get caught in the woods. Natural History

### Global Markets and the Health of America's Forests: A Forest Service Perspective

In the January – February, 2008 Journal of Forestry is a very enlightening discussion of what's happening to our forest products industry and our forests in turn. Forest Service officials Sally Collins, David Darr, David Wear, and Hutch Brown tell a "Tale of Decline" followed by "A Tale of Opportunity"  
<http://saf.publisher.ingentaconnect.com/content/saf/jof/2008/00000106/00000001/art00012>

### Interesting Meetings

- March 29, Marcellus, MI. MFA Chapter 13 helps host **MAPLEFEST** at Fred Russ Research Forest 7 1/2 miles west of Marcellus on Marcellus Highway. Pancake breakfast, wagon rides, hardwood management discussion. Contact Pete Klink 517-238-4048.
- April 4 – 6, Petoskey, MI. **Ornithological Congress** sponsored by Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative. Contact Richard A. Wolinski (MDOT) 517-335-3014 or Karen Cleveland (DNR) 517-241-4250.
- April 12 -14 Myrtle Beach, SC. **Bio-Energy Wood Supply Chain** Conference sponsored by Forest Resources Association Inc., Rockville, MD. Contact Neil Ward 301-838-9385. [nward@forestresources.org](mailto:nward@forestresources.org)
- May 9, Trout Lake, MI. **Michigan Forest Association** board of directors meeting. Contact MFA 517-663-3423, or [miforest@acd.net](mailto:miforest@acd.net).
- May 30 – June 1, The **Master Woodland Steward** Program will be offered at R.A. MacMullan Conference Center at Higgins Lake, Michigan. Contact Roscommon County MSU Extension Office 989-275-4670 or log onto [www.for.msu.edu/mws](http://www.for.msu.edu/mws)
- June 23 -25, Madison, Wis. **Crisis or Opportunity?** Sustaining and Strengthening Forest-Based Industries in the Great Lakes Region.

For a more thorough list of upcoming events, visit <http://www.miforestpathways.net/1-calendar.htm>.