



Partners News

Partners in Forestry Landowner Cooperative Newsletter

September/October 2004

Partners in Forestry 3rd Annual Membership Meeting

5:00-8:00 PM, October 5th, 2004

at the Holiday Inn Express, Rhinelander, WI

Registration fee: \$10

Please RSVP by October 1st.

Annual Meeting Agenda

- 5:00-5:15—Registration and social
- 5:15-6:15—Annual Business Meeting
- 6:15-7:00—Dinner
- 7:00-7:30—Hans Schmitt, Kretz Forestry
- 7:30-8:00—Bryan Pierce, NWLT

Our featured speakers will be Hans Schmitt of Kretz Lumber Company, and Bryan Pierce of the North Woods Land Trust.

Hans Schmitt is a forester with Kretz Lumber Company, a forest consulting and hardwood manufacturing firm in Antigo. Hans will talk about the economic and marketing advantages for selectively harvested wood, and the opportunities that landowners can take advantage of.

Bryan Pierce took a full-time position as executive director of the North Woods Land Trust on January 1st of this year, after more than 11 years on the faculty of UW-Extension in Vilas and Oneida Counties. The NWLT works with landowners to perpetually protect forestlands with conservation easements, permanent

(annual meeting, cont'd)

restrictions placed on the deed that outline the landowner's intentions for protecting their land.

All PIF members and other interested individuals are encouraged to attend the annual meeting

Business Meeting

The existing PIF board has made several changes to the bylaws of Partners in Forestry. These will need to be commented on and approved by the membership during the business meeting. The election of PIF's board of directors will be held upon the conclusion of the business meeting.

Election of Board

Two additional positions on the board are available, in addition to the two positions that are up for election this year. Present board members June Jones and Bob Dunbar have served their terms, and their positions, with the two new positions, are available for two-year terms.

The election will be held at the annual meeting. If you are unable to attend, please use the enclosed ballot to make your selection, and return it by October 4th. All members with ten acres or more are eligible to cast a ballot in the election of the board of directors.

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Meeting Highlights

PIF members are welcome at all board meetings. For those unable to attend, the Partners News will begin featuring a summary of minutes from the board of directors meetings. Following are highlights from the August 2nd and September 7th board meetings.

August 2nd:

This meeting featured two guest speakers, Pete Lundgren, District Conservationist with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), and Jim Baughman, DNR Forester for Vilas County. Pete Lundgren discussed cost sharing practices for woodland owners, and said the Environmental Quality Incentives Program is the primary tool for private landowners who want to initiate soil and water conservation practices on their land. Landowners with at least ten acres and are producers of food or fiber (wood) are eligible for cost sharing from this federal program for conservation practices that include road building, erosion control, forest site preparation and improvement, and planting. Lundgren encouraged private landowners who actively manage their forest land to determine if they are eligible for EQIP funds by visiting the website, <http://wi.nrcs.usda.gov>, or by calling the local USDA service center, listed in the telephone book under "U.S Department of Agriculture. An application and contract are required for the program, and can be obtained at your county District Conservation Office.

Jim Baughman expressed that the DNR wants to work with smaller landowners to advise on management or write management plans. The county DNR staff can spend up to three days, or 24 hours, assisting the landowner free of charge. Approved management plans are required to be eligible for cost sharing, and cost-sharing practices can either be written into new plans or amended to existing plans.

The PIF board also discussed upcoming workshops.

September 7th:

The PIF board decided on the date of October 5th for the annual meeting, and designated an Annual Meeting Committee.

Upcoming Events/Workshops

September 25 - What's Your Tree Worth?
Irma (Lincoln County),
WI

Pre-registration is required for all of these workshops and the deadline for registration is three days before the workshop date. If you would like more information about these workshops or are interested in attending, please call Bill Klase at 715 365-2658.

What's Your Tree Worth? - This workshop will help woodland owners understand how tree and log values are determined from stump to finished lumber. Participants will follow selected trees as they are chosen for cutting, felled, bucked, and sawn into lumber. Instructors will provide insights into why trees are chosen for harvesting, and how to get the most value out of trees and logs. The cost of the workshop is \$10 for PIF members and \$30 for non-members and includes lunch, snacks, and handout materials.

Change of Contacts

The contact information for Partners in Forestry has changed. Please take note of these changes, and feel free to contact PIF with any questions or suggestions.

PIF Contact Information:

Partners in Forestry
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