

## September/October 2007 National Edition

*Across the Landscape*

Marcia Summers, Editor

We invite your comments and suggestions.

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### A Guild "Welcome!" to Our New Members

#### Professional members:

Thomas R. Albrecht, Shawano, WI

Edwin Baird, Union, OR

Greg Gunderson, White Fish, MT

Julian S. Hutchinson, Sparta, WI

Edward Lowenstein, Auburn, AL

John Severance, Littleton, NH

#### Student members:

Lisa Cashel, Vancouver, BC

Miriam Davis, Knoxville, TN

Brad Hunter, Carrboro, NC

Jared Nunery, Burlington, VT

Erin Quigley, Burlington, VT

David Ray, Orono, ME

#### Supporting members:

Mark Lorenzo, Montpelier, VT

Rose Paul, Montpelier, VT

Dorothy Lombard, Dekalb Junction, NY

#### Sustaining members:

Edward Binkley, Chama, NM

Bill Christian, Pasadena, CA

Darrow Hoeck, Denver, CO

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### New Student Members to Receive Free One Year Guild Membership

#### *Guild Student Membership Outreach Kicks Off This Fall*

by Marcia Summers

First of all, I'd like to thank everyone who has volunteered to help with the Guild's new Student Membership Outreach Program. We have organized a steering committee whose members are Dave Ellum, Amanda Farris, Brad Hutnik, Rick Morrill, Erica Smith, Ken Smith and myself. We have approved a set of guidelines and an action plan and are planning to officially roll out the program in October.

#### Free One Year Memberships for New Student Guild Members

As part of this program, new student members will be offered a free one year Guild membership. If you know a forestry or an allied resource student, please let them know about this free membership offer.

More information is available on the Forest Guild website at

<http://www.forestguild.org/whatsnew.html#student>.

You can also contact Melinda Marrs, the Guild's membership coordinator by phone at 505-983-8992 x18 or by email at [membership@forestguild.org](mailto:membership@forestguild.org).

Guild members have already offered to serve as volunteer liaisons for Glenville State College, Humboldt State University, New Mexico Highlands University, Oregon State University, Paul Smith's College, University of California, Berkeley, University of Maine, Orono, University of Missouri, University of Oregon, University of Vermont, University of Washington, University of Vermont, University of Wisconsin, both Madison and Stevens Point, Warren Wilson College, and West Virginia University.

#### Volunteers are Still Needed

There is still the need, opportunity, and time for more Guild members to become involved. If your

## FOREST GUILD NE REGIONAL MEETING

### *Over 100 Attendees Discuss Policies and Practices re: Climate Change, Carbon, and Forestry*

by Howard Gross, Forest Guild Executive Director

Climate change and forests are inextricably linked and forested ecosystems in the Northeast will be impacted by regional climate shifts. Thus, The Forest Guild organized its Northeast Regional Meeting, *Carbon and Forestry in the Northeast: Management, Measurements, and Markets* to examine these complex issues of vital regional concern. The Guild held this meeting at Lake Fairlee Camp, VT, on September 10-11, 2007.

#### The Potential for Carbon Credits from Northeastern Forests

Nearly 100 Guild members and other interested parties—foresters, landowners, and representatives of non-profit organizations, government agencies, and academia—came together at the meeting to explore climate change with an emphasis on policies and practices that can be employed in response to it. Presenters discussed the impacts of different silvicultural practices on forest carbon stocks as well as existing and emerging public policy regarding carbon credits and forestry. Discussion in breakout groups allowed attendees to drill down further on these and other issues, including biomass utilization, invasive species, and community forestry.

One take home message from the meeting was that the forestry community must engage in the Northeast-focused Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) with a unified voice if it hopes to influence climate change policies that relate to forests and forest management practices. On one hand, policies could inadvertently focus on maximizing carbon sequestration at the expense of other forest values. On the other hand, they can create an incentive for excellent forestry and preventing forestland conversion. The outcome will be influenced by how advocates for excellent forestry engage in the dialogue and contribute our collective expertise. The Forest Guild is encouraging members and partners to engage in the organization's Climate Change Working Group to further such efforts.

#### Day Two Field Session in the Galusha Hill Forest

Following a stimulating day of presentations and roundtable discussions, a field tour in the Galusha Hill Forest on the meeting's second day featured demonstrations and discussions on carbon sequestration in soils, the role of coarse woody material in carbon storage, new approaches to silviculture and stand structure, carbon metrics, and forest measurements. While the afternoon rain put a bit of a damper on the field tours, the meeting's hearty attendees were undeterred from spending time in the woods exchanging ideas about carbon and excellent forestry.

View PowerPoint presentations from the meeting at <http://www.forestguild.org/whatsnew.html#NEmtg>.

The Forest Guild staff would like to recognize the following members and partners who helped make the Northeast Regional Meeting a success (listed alphabetically): Tim Abbott, Jason Benoit, Barrie Brusilla, Rob Bryan, Charlie Cogbill, Brenda Courtemananche, Richard Donovan, Peter Ellis, Andy Fast, Laura French, Ehrhard Frost, Bill Keeton, Rick Morrill, Andy Schultz, Jeff Smith, Michael Snyder, Robert Turner, Thom Villars, and Sandy Wilmont.

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### UPCOMING: October Forest Guild Pacific Northwest Meeting

#### *Free Registration for October 12-14 Meeting*

The Forest Guild Pacific Northwest Meeting will be held in the foothills of the Cascades near North Bend, WA from Friday evening through Sunday at noon, October 12th - 14th, 2007, at the Cedar River Watershed Educational Center. The distinguished Dr. Jerry Franklin will be the

school is already on the list, you can work with the current volunteer in an effective team effort. If you'd like to volunteer as a liaison with a school that is not currently on the list, please let me know by email at [marcia@forestguild.org](mailto:marcia@forestguild.org) or call me at 505-983-8992 x 20. We're definitely on the way to reaching our goal of 200 new student Guild members in the next year and with your help I'm optimistic that we can get there.

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### **Kenneth Baldwin Tapped as Pacific West Region Director Baldwin Committed to Advancing Excellent Forestry**

The Forest Guild hired Kenneth Baldwin of Douglas City, CA, to serve as its Pacific West Region Director, effective September 10th. A founding member of the Forest Stewards Guild (now the Forest Guild), Kenneth brings a wealth of forestry expertise to the Guild's regional efforts. He is a California Registered Professional Forester with 41 years of experience, the past 35 in the forests of Northern California. He has been involved in all aspects of land and resource planning and management. As a SmartWood consultant he has participated in certification assessments, audits, and peer reviews in California and Oregon.

Kenneth is also a founding partner of Baldwin, Blomstrom, Wilkinson, & Associates (all of the founding partners are Guild members). Kenneth is particularly proud of their work in the Weaverville Community Forest (WCF), on public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The first in the nation between BLM and a community, the WCF is managed under a stewardship contract held for the community by the Trinity County Resource Conservation District. Kenneth and his partners prepared a 200-acre fuels reduction project that was a thinning from below and removal of submerchantable fuel ladders. Kenneth summed it up this way, "The community is very pleased with the results."

Asked about his philosophy of forestry, Kenneth responded that it's "really much the same as my philosophy of life: to leave this life having benefited as many beings as possible... So I practice a style of forest management that I trust is economically, ecologically, and socially sustainable, and that wisely manages forests for future generations, in order to maintain or increase their intrinsic value." Excited to be assuming the responsibilities as Forest Guild Pacific West Region Director, Kenneth added, "I would like to advance a model of excellent stewardship forestry by supporting people – Guild foresters, resource managers, community members, and government employees - who can make that happen."

If you are interested in learning more about Kenneth's plans for the next six months, please contact him by phone at 530-623-3208 or by email at [kennethforestguild@gmail.com](mailto:kennethforestguild@gmail.com).

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Here's another photo from the NE Region Meeting

keynote speaker and will also lead attendees on tours around the Cedar River Watershed and Tiger Mountain State Forest. Presentations by local members will touch on sustainability indicators for foresters, personal forest profiles, forestry consulting, value adding to harvests, and carbon credits update. Guild Executive Director, Howard Gross, will also speak at the meeting to discuss Guild national and regional programs.

This is a free event with no registration fee. Our special thanks to Seattle Public Utilities for helping to make this meeting possible. For more information, contact Forest Guild Northwest Region Coordinator Jean Shaffer at [jeanforest@cco.net](mailto:jeanforest@cco.net).

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### **Forest Guild Embarks on Biomass Research Project Goal: Analyze Case Studies to Identify Successful Strategies**

by Zander Evans, Forest Guild Research Director

Using fire wood and other biomass from forests has been going on since before the science of forestry existed, but recently "biomass removal" has become a new buzz word. For some it means using low-quality material for renewable energy or as a way to return fire to forests adapted to it. For others biomass removal just seems to be a new term for rapacious logging. Part of the Forest Guild's strategic plan calls for the Guild to be actively involved in the discussion of biomass removal, and promote practices that are compatible with Guild members' excellent forestry.

### **Forest Guild Awarded Biomass Case Study Grant**

In order to advance this strategic goal, the Guild pursued a grant from the Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP), a federal interagency partnership for research, development, and applications for fire ecology and management. The Guild's proposal to examine case studies of biomass removal from across the country was one of only four proposals funded from a competitive pool of 27 projects. This project demonstrates a recognition of the Guild's positive role in national forestry research as well as a validation of the Guild's focus on biomass projects that are ecologically, socially, and economically responsible.

The Guild's year-long biomass research goal is to uncover strategies and techniques that managers from across the country are using to successfully implement ecologically sound biomass projects. The investigation will be based on case studies of actual, on-the-ground projects. The Forest Guild will engage partners from communities, non-profits, conservation groups, private industry, and federal agencies in order to collect biomass removal case studies that represent the full range of projects. When we have collected 20 to 25 case studies we will analyze them and draw out themes and lessons. The final results of our research will be a series of detailed case studies and a summary that identifies strategies that land managers can use to implement responsible and successful biomass removal projects.

### **Do You Have a Case Study to Share?**

If you are interested in sharing an example of biomass removal from your own work, please contact me at [zander@forestguild.org](mailto:zander@forestguild.org) or 505-983-8992, ext. 36. News and information on the Guild's biomass project is available at: <http://www.forestguild.org/biomass.html>.

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### **Guest Opinion Forest, Culture, and Sustainability** by Bruce Spencer

The "Northern Forest Biomass Energy Initiative Action Plan"\* explains how the Northeast's Northern Forest can play a significant role in meeting part of our renewable energy goals in New England. What I felt was missing in the

report was a message to our New England citizens that renewable energy has a limited long-term potential and is the opposite to our current unlimited consumption of fossil fuels that are endangering lands and waters, climate, and economy. So how do we raise the awareness that renewable energy is only a part of the solution and that energy conservation through efficiency and reduced use has a far greater potential to collectively reduce our carbon footprint?

This will be difficult because petroleum (being the best fossil fuel) is such a seductive energy source. It has been plentiful, easy to move about and use, plus packs a huge amount of energy by weight and volume when compared to coal and biomass. It's no wonder that our prosperous consumer-oriented culture is totally dependent upon oil. It has become our opium which allows Americans to think that biomass can somehow be the answer to dwindling oil supplies.

I think it is dangerous to mention that forest can be a partial solution to the looming energy crises without a discussion of the magnitude of our current energy use and the possibilities of alternatives that are based on an annual solar budget. I have a bumper sticker that reads TREES ARE THE ANSWER. As I drive along people sometime holler, "What is the question?" and I respond "What is your problem?" We have an energy problem and a discussion of trees and forest can be helpful to this problem.

Before we experience an energy crisis, which will happen sooner or later, I think it is imperative for all Guilders to tell the forest story. The story can be told in infinite ways, but one that capitalizes on the universal good thoughts people have about trees and forest. Most important to this story is the co-dependency of forest and culture on sustainability.

**\*Editor's note:** In July of this year the Biomass Energy Resource Center, the Carsey Institute, and the Northern Forest Center jointly published the "Northern Forest Biomass Energy Initiative Action Plan." The Forest Guild was asked to endorse it, and in August the Membership and Policy Council voted to do so. If you would like to share your comments about this piece with Bruce Spencer, he can be reached by email at [treeworks1@yahoo.com](mailto:treeworks1@yahoo.com).

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## **Do You Search or Shop Online?**

**If you answered yes**, here are two easy ways that you can help the Forest Guild to raise more money.

### **1. Use "GoodSearch" as Your Search Engine**

Last year search engines generated close to \$8 billion in revenue from advertisers. GoodSearch.com has developed a way to direct some of that money to the charitable causes you support, and Forest Guild is listed as a charitable organization on the GoodSearch website. So every time you search the Internet through the GoodSearch.com homepage, and designate Forest Guild as your charity, the Guild receives a donation. The more you search, the more the Guild will receive.

Search engines make most of their money from companies that pay an advertising fee when users click on links during a search. GoodSearch has developed a way to track and direct these search-generated proceeds to charities. In other words, a portion of the advertiser dollars earned as a result of your search through GoodSearch can be passed along to the organization you've chosen to support.

This is a legitimate website: its search engine is powered by Yahoo!, and currently a minimum of fifty percent of the revenue that GoodSearch generates from advertisers is shared with the nonprofit organization you designate (in our case, Forest Guild). Please go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) for more details about how you can easily make GoodSearch your default search engine; or add GoodSearch to your Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari toolbar.

### **2. Use "GoodShop" as Your Online Shopping Mall**

Every time you use GoodShop, the GoodSearch Shopping Mall, you can also raise money for the Guild. When you click through to one of the partner merchants from the GoodShop site and then make a purchase, Forest Guild receives a donation. The amount donated is different for each retailer but it averages approximately 3% of the total sale and can sometimes go up to 20% and beyond (the percent donated is indicated below the merchants logo on the GoodShop website). The experience of online shopping through GoodShop is exactly the same as going to the online retailer directly – you receive the same prices and level of service. The retailers handle your payment, shipping, and returns.

Just remember, every time you shop and buy something through GoodShop, a donation will be directed by that retail business to Forest Guild. Please check out the website [www.goodshop.com](http://www.goodshop.com) and look through their list of participating online retailers. There are a wide variety of goods and services available including books, clothing, electronics, music, and travel.

If you have any questions, please contact Marcia Summers, the Guild's Development Director, by phone (505-983-8992 x 20) or email at [marcia@forestguild.org](mailto:marcia@forestguild.org).