

## \*\*IFA Officers\*\*

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IFA Web site www.ilforestry.org

# **The Voice for Illinois Forests**

To act on issues that impact rural and community forests and to promote forestry in Illinois

## **Message from the President**

J.B.Gates (Sawdust)

If you have not checked the Illinois Forestry web site lately, after reading this newsletter would be a great time to do so. It has been modernized. Thanks to Dick Pouzar for all his efforts in making the IFA site a place to go for information. If you want it, you can find it on the site: <u>www.ilforestry.org</u>. This may be a little bit extreme but close to accurate. To tell you about everything on and in the site is not possible, try it out today!

The Annual Meeting is approaching. Now is the time to make plans to attend. The committee has been working hard to make this event one to remember. Circle your calendars for Sept 23rd and 24th; you will find more details on page 2 of this newsletter. Illinois Forestry Association is a sprout [members are the foundation] association. We ask for you to support your association and attend the many functions presented throughout the year. We will be electing officers for the coming year and conducting other business that may come before the membership. We would like to see you.

A new cadre of officers will be taking over. I encourage you to support them and provide feedback to them of things YOU would like to see done or suggestions for things to make forestry in Illinois better.

I thank the officers and directors who worked as a team this past year. Thank you, and because of them and your efforts, IFA has been a 'voice of forestry' in Illinois. I thank you, the members, for the opportunity to serve. Because of you, IFA will continue to grow and mature into a strong association representing forestry in Illinois.

In the coming year I will also ask you to recruit 2 new members. I again state what Ray Herman has said for many years-- that we need to be active in the counties with meetings among neighbors, with neighbors helping neighbors in forestry practices and fellowship. Will you be willing to start such a group in you county? If so, let Ray Herman or myself know of your interest.

A thought for today – Do not pray for rain, do not pray for it to quit raining, just pray for favorable weather. [told to me by a farmer friend] This works in a lot of different situations.

C	alendar of Events	
	August,	
	September,	_
	· _ · _ · _ · _ · _ · _ · _ · _ ·	
	October	

#### September 10

Meet State Senator Tim Bivin, State Representative Jim Sacia, IFA Lobbyist Paula Purdue Heartbilt Homes by Stockton, IL Contact: Dick Pouzar 815-777-8157

#### September 17

Sam Parr State Park Regions 3 & 4 Wildlife-Woodland Workshop Contact: Roy Bailey 618-238-4863

## September 23-24 Annual Meeting

Giant City Lodge, Makanda Contact: John Groninger 618-453-7462

#### September 24

Wildlife in the Woods Schaffer tree farm tour Savanna, IL Contact: Dick Pouzar 815-777-8157

#### October 1

A Complete Novice's Approach to Forest Management Woodbine, Illinois Contact: Dick Pouzar 815-777-8157

For more information on events and meetings go to: <u>http://www.ilforestry.org/</u> <u>meetings</u>

#### Secretary Report Dave Gillespie

Greetings. From my point of view, things are going fine in the IFA. Our membership numbers 660 members this year. We are getting ready to help the IDNR Division of Forest Resources with their biannual contact with IL Forestry Development Act participants to certify compliance with their forest stewardship plans. We usually get more Illinois forest landowners interested in what the IFA is doing and plan to do, and then joins us to help with our goals.

We are patiently waiting for Governor Quinn to sign the Purple Paint Act that we sponsored and helped get through the Legislature this past session. He can either sign the legislation, amendatory veto portions of the act, line item veto portions of the act, veto the entire act, or not sign it and let the act sit for 60 days, in which case it becomes law without his signature. The Purple Paint Act was sent to the Governor on June 26, 2011. Sixty days are up on August 25th. We have contacted the Governor's office and expressed our desire for him to sign the act. We will wait to see what happens.

Our annual meeting is coming up on September 23 - 24, 2011 in Southern Illinois at Giant City Lodge near Carbondale. I always look forward to this meeting each year since it gives me a chance to meet and visit with members I know, and to do the same with members I only know by name and actually meet for the first time. This year I get an added bonus in that this area is my "old stomping grounds" as I was a District Forester there for about 15 years, and I have a Grandson that is a freshman at SIUC that I will be able to visit. So, set these dates aside and join us for a great meeting. Our Region 4 Directors have planned a very informative agenda. See you there.

## Illinois Forestry Association Annual Meeting

September 23-24, Giant City Lodge, Makanda, IL *by John Gunter, IFA Director* 

Illinois Forestry Association's 2011 Annual Meeting focuses on primary concerns identified by our members: Marketing Timber, Minimizing Taxes, and Managing Invasive Species.

Our keynote speaker is Dr. Deborah Gaddis Gunter. Dr Gunter recently retired as Extension Professor at Mississippi State University, where she served as the Forest Taxation Specialist. She has been a passionate advocate and provider of forestry education for family forest owners for over 30 years. She is now a resident of Southern Illinois, thanks to her marriage to IFA Vice President John Gunter. Dr Gunter will discuss "Marketing Your Timber and Minimizing Your Taxes." Materials she has authored will be provided on timber marketing and federal taxation of timber production.

Integrated management of invasive plant species uses all the tools at our disposal, including understanding the biology of ecology of invasive plants, to both attack invasive plants and prevent further invasion.

Meeting highlights are a tour of Giant City State Park, once described as "The invasive plant capital of Illinois" where Chris Evans will lead us through demonstrations of invasive plant management conducted under his leadership. Chris is River to River Weed Management Area Coordinator where he leads invasive species management activities for a unique cooperative of 12 land management agencies in southern Illinois.

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## Our Web Site Is Being Re-designed

by Dick Pouzar, IFA Director

In the next few weeks, the Association will replace its web site. Our web site's address will remain the same - www.ilforestry.org - but the content and functions will be greatly expanded. There will be a section set aside for members only, with forestry reference material, an index to over 50 hours of archived webinars, and online forums for members to exchange tips, solutions, and suggestions that have worked for them.

The public area, available to members and non-members alike, contains all of the content from our existing web site. It also contains

- forestry videos,
- a section on transferring your land to your heirs,
- an improved event list with online registration,
- a posting area for timber sales, completed bids, and land for lease.

This public area also promotes all of the benefits that our forests deliver to civilization and the environment. In addition to the online event registration, our new web site will offer online membership renewal and online membership application, all with online payment through PayPal.

If we have your valid email address, when we switch over, you will receive a brief introduction describing the web site with instructions on logging in. If members have a new or changed email address, their regional director can update their records, allowing them to login for full access. Another benefit of logging in is that the system will complete your event registrations from your member record, making it quick and easy.

This new web site also has feedback mechanisms to gather your ideas for improvements. We will continue to improve and add to the web content and your input will be most valuable.

We hope you will find the new content informative and the member forums helpful in connecting with others who might have useful advice.

Look for an email introduction in the next few weeks.

## Annual Meeting, continued

On Saturday, Chris will present material on plant ecology and weed identification to complement his field tour. Also on Saturday, Mike Long will discuss invasive species management options for private forest lands. Mike owns Long Forest Consultation and has been addressing invasive species management for forest landowners throughout the Midwest. Friday evening and Saturday events will be held at the historic Giant City Lodge. Saturday lunch will feature the Lodge's famous fried chicken dinner and fruit cobbler dessert. The meeting adjourns Saturday afternoon and leaves plenty of time to enjoy the Park, a nearby winery, or catch an SIU football game at brand new Saluki Stadium.

Registration and program information on page 9

## IFA Technical Advisors

IDNR -Forestry Regions III-IV 217-935-6860 (office) kurt.bobsin@illinois.gov

#### Jay Hayek

University of Illinois 217-244-0534 (office) jhayek@uiuc.edu

#### Wade Conn

State Forester, USDA-NRCS 217-353-6647 (office) wade.conn@il.usda.gov

## Paul Deizman

IDNR 217-782-3376 (office) paul.deizman@illinois.gov

#### IFA Staff

Sherry Finn AISWCD 217-744-3414 (office) sherry.finn@aiswcd.org

#### Paula Purdue

Jenni Purdue Legislative & Political Consultant (office) 217-525-8434 (Paula cell) 217-299-1981 paula@youradvocates.net jenni@youradvocates.net

## Do you have a passion for trees and forestry?

Are you interested in serving on a regional committee?

Contact an IFA officer today to find out how you can help!

## **Call Before You Cut**

By Kurt Bobsin, IFA Technical Advisor

It's October, the corn is ripe, the field is loaded and ready for harvest. A contractor pulls up to your house with his combine, ready to go. He knocks on the door. There is an offer to harvest your fields, haul the grain to the elevator, let you know what it makes and split the money 60/40... he gets 60 percent and you get 40 percent. Sound like a good deal? Most landowners would never sell their corn crop like. However, in many cases, that is exactly the kind of deal landowners agree to when it comes to selling timber. Let's talk about "Call Before You Cut."

Last year Illinois landowners received \$19.3 million dollars in timber sale revenues. It has been as high as \$20.1 million [2008]. Approximately 3,000 - 3,500 timber sales occur annually. It is estimated that most [~90%] of the timber sold in Illinois is done without the guidance or assistance of a professional forester. A solid timber sale contract is often lacking in these situations. Landowners can find themselves in legal battles in order to receive payment for the timber being harvested. Improperly conducted timber sales can also lead to less profit for the landowner. Studies have shown that forester-assisted timber sales yield forest landowners 25 - 250 percent greater financial returns.

There are numerous other things that can go wrong during a timber sale, an activity that most landowners will only be involved in once during their lifetime.

This situation is not unique to Illinois landowners. A multi-state project is underway entitled "Call Before You Cut."This program will connect landowners with foresters who can assist them in selling their timber. A professional forester can guide you through the entire timber sale process: from tree selection, value determination, bidding process and contract development to administering the timber sale and monitoring the logging operation. Oh yes, and don't forget about determining that timber basis!

A call to the Illinois hotline number 217/782-3376 will provide you with an information packet about conducting a successful timber sale and how to contact a forester for assistance. If you are thinking about harvesting timber in the near future or your management plan is calling for a timber harvest, don't become a statistic by going it alone. Additional information is available through one of the web sites listed below.

National "Call Before You Cut" www.callb4ucut.com/

Illinois Division of Forest Resources: <u>http://dnr.state.il.us/conservation/</u><u>forestry/</u>

Illinois Consulting Foresters: www.illinoisconsultingforesters. com

> U of I Extension Forestry: <u>http://</u> web.extension.illinois.edu/ forestry/timber\_harvest/index. html

Photo Courtesy Joe Newcomb

## New Membership Renewal Policy

Effective September 1, 2011, the IFA will begin a new policy regarding membership renewals. This new policy clearly defines your membership period and our contact methods for your renewal.

## **Renewal Date**

Previously, all members' renewal date was January 1. Now, all members' anniversary renewal date will be based on their last payment date. For example, if you last paid on January 15th, 2011, and you had renewed for one year, your next renewal payment will be due January 15, 2012. Similarly, if you paid early on November 19, 2010, your next renewal payment will be due November 19, 2011.

## **Grace Period**

The grace period will be 60 days beyond your missed renewal date.

## Reminders

Email members will receive:

- reminders 14 and 7 days before
- their renewal date;
- a final reminder on the day of your renewal date;
- a notice that your membership has expired 30 days after your missed renewal date;
- a notice 60 days after your renewal date canceling your membership if we have not received your dues.

Non-email members will receive:

- a reminder 14 days before their renewal date;
- a notice that your membership has expired 30 days after your missed renewal date;
- your membership will be cancelled 60 days after your renewal date if we have not received your dues.

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## **Regional News**

## Region 1

## Directors

Jay Markuson 2N 158 Saddlewood Dr. 2303 W. Cording Rd Maple park, IL 60151 630-365-5392- Home 630-751-5780 -cell Jmalm1@att.net

Dick Pouzar Galena, IL 61036 815-777-8157- Home pouzar@yahoo.com

#### **Regional Happenings**

by Dick Pouzar, IFA Director

The tour of Kevin Oetken's land and kiln operation was well attended and the weather cooperated - sunny and not too humid. We saw an amazing large walnut tree, a fantastic 20-year old stand, some beautiful terrain, a forest of tomorrow (in about 40 - 60 years), and his kiln operation.

The DuPage "Managing for the Understory" was cancelled for too few attendees and too many mosquitoes.

Contact your Regional Directors anytime with questions, suggestions and assistance needs.

On August 20th, Cory Ritterbusch of PrairieWorks, Inc. led a tour of a restoration site in Jo Daviess County where his crews have had to use herbicide, fire, and mechanical means over three years to remove the invading weeds and brush and return the land more akin to its presettlement ecology. The tour was sponsored by the Northwest Illinois Forestry Association (NIFA) and open to the public.

On September 10th, the IFA and NIFA are hosting a meeting with State Senator Tim Bivins, State Representative Jim Sacia, and IFA lobbyist Paula Purdue at 1 pm at Heartbilt Homes just east of Stockton, Illinois. We hope for some good conversation about the importance of forestry to Illinois and what these legislators might do for forest landowners. All members are welcome.

On September 24th, near Savanna, Illinois, IDNR Wildlife Biologist Scott Schaffer will lead a NIFA tour of his tree farm and discuss his management objectives which, not surprisingly, include wildlife habitat. Time and directions will be posted on our website in early September. This is open to the public.

On October 1st, near Woodbine, Illinois, Bill Hawes will lead a NIFA tour of his tree farm that he calls "A Complete Novice's Approach to Forest Management". He will explain his success and failures, and may show off his woodworking shop and sawmill if time permits. This will be at 1 pm with directions on our website.

## **Region 2**

Directors Lee Rife

124 Basswood Road 217-529-9498 - Home Springfield, IL 62443 217-562-2634 - Cell lee.riFe@comcast.net

Dan Schmoker #5 Greencastle Circle 217-529-0061 - Home 217-416-1587 - Cell schmoker3@aol.com

## **Regional Activities**

by Lee Rife, IFA Director

Region 2 hosted two events, one week apart in late June. Attendance was light, but those who were there indicated that they learned from the event. Regional directors are looking at some other options, including a Timber Tax School to be open to ALL IFA members in two locations. Stay tuned for details.

## **Thousand Cankers Disease**

by Lee Rife, IFA Director

As if we don't have enough to worry about already, we now have the Thousand Cankers Disease in black walnut. According to Guy Sternberg of the Starhill Forest Arboretum, this disease is the result of a beetle (pityophthorus juglandis) and a fungus. Unlike other problems, this one started in the Southwestern U.S., and has spread into several western states. If not contained, it will come here.

Apparently, a number of states have implemented restrictions against the movement of walnut wood. At present, Illinois is not one of these

states, although Missouri is. This may result in a problem for Region 2 members having black walnut ready to be cut, since the majority of mills processing walnut trees from Illinois are in Missouri. (Sawdust from Illinois sawmills is often marketed for bedding at racetracks, and black walnut sawdust is extremely toxic to horses. Thus, walnut logs are often moved to Missouri for processing as that state does not have racetracks.)

If it does get into our black walnut trees, it will always be fatal. This can be very devastating, as there are several walnut plantations in the state. I believe that this disease will be a topic at our annual meeting in September.

## **Region 3**

Directors Ray Herman 154 Lake Road Seymour, IL 61875 217-687-2712 – Home 217-377-7568 – Cell brherman@gmail.com

Roy Bailey 8479 E. 250<sup>th</sup> Ave. Mason, IL 62443 618-238-4863 – Home 217-821-9778 – Cell baileytrees@frontiernet.net

Director at Large Stan Sipp 211 E. Illinois, Box 111 Mansfield, IL 61854 217-489-9003 – Home 217-714-1855 – Cell sksipp@uiuc.edu

## Wildlife – Woodland Workshop Set

by Roy Bailey, IFA Director

IFA members in Regions 3 and 4, mark your calendars for a workshop set for September 17 at Sam Parr State Park. Details will be announced before the end of this month.

Sponsors are the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF), Lincoln Heritage RC&D, and IFA. Expect an information-packed program that allows interaction during a half-day program ending with a free catered meal.

Blake Lilly (pictured below), an IFA member and consulting forester, will demonstrate an AWESOME machine that loves to chomp invasive exotics and small non-crop trees.



## **Region 4**

Directors Jim Kirkland 1259 Fritts Rd. Stonefort, IL 62987 618-695-3383 – Home 618-994-4006 – Cell 1984kirk@gmail.com

John Groninger 1205 Lincoln Dr., Mail Code 4411 Carbondale, IL 62901 618-453-7462 - Home 618-967-7318- Cell <u>groninge@siu.edu</u>

#### Director at Large Wes Beyers 1868 Ferrydale Rd. Odin, IL 62870 618-775-6521 – Home 618-339-0927 – Cell wesbeyers@yahoo.com

#### See Annual Meeting articles

#### Wildlife-Forestry Workshop by Roy Bailey & Ray Herman

Region 3 IFA joined hands with National Wild Turkey Federation Biologist Kent Adams and COE Forester Lee Mitchell in sponsoring a Wildlife-Forestry Workshop at the Corp of Engineers Visitor Center at Lake Shelbyville on July 23. About 50 participants enjoyed an informative indoor-outdoor exchange of ideas while listening and learning about what makes turkeys happy and thriving, and how to make the woods more appealing to wildlife while managing woodlands for recreation, wildlife and economic returns.

Leading the outdoor group were Lee Mitchell and Consultants, Ken Hoene and Blake Lilly. This part of the gathering centered on invasive exotics identification and control (particularly bush honeysuckle & autumn olive), TSI and Chainsaw safety techniques. A key point made was to start with a management plan that clearly defines your objectives and goals, and directs your future actions. Since all of the participants had varied experience of invasives and their control, the exchange of question and answers

## Proposed Changes to IFA BY-LAWS

John E. Gunter, Vice President and Chairman, Membership Committee

The IFA Membership Committee has recommended and the IFA Executive Committee has endorsed the following changes to the IFA bylaws. Following procedure as stated in the IFA by-laws for such changes, this newsletter mailing serves as notice to the membership of the proposed changes. The final step in the process will be an up or down vote at the upcoming September annual meeting.

The by-law changes are deemed necessary to better distinguish membership categories; to reflect cost differences between those members who interact with IFA via e-mail and those who prefer paper; to offer a discount for multi-year payment of dues; to have dues payable on the member's anniversary renewal date, rather than on January 1; and to be compatible with the new Wild Apricot association management software.

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was free flowing and meaningful. The continued involvement of a forester or consultant is essential if you want to achieve the best end results.

Indoors we heard NWTF Biologist Kent Adams review a variety of natural habitats that benefit turkeys and many other wildlife species. Next it was the USDA show with District Conservationists Doug peters of Shelbyville and Andy Brantner of Sullivan.

Roy and Ray had a few minutes to brief the group on IFA and key reasons to think about membership with us. Mainly we discussed our effort with our lobbyist, our regular newsletter, and efforts to promote improving our forest resources via workshops and field days.

## Meet the New Pheasants Forever Biologists

Pheasants Forever's Farm Bill Biologist Program, with more than 70 positions in 13 states, has come to Illinois with three positions focused on providing technical assistance to private landowners interested in establishing and improving wildlife habitat on their lands. These wildlife biologists are trained to help landowners identify and enroll in the conservation programs which best fit their lands and provide important habitat components for wildlife.

## **Brandon Beltz** is located out of the USDA office in Champaign and works primarily with landowners in Champaign, Vermilion, Ford, Iroquois

and McLean counties.

bbeltz@pheasantsforever. org 217-853-0801



**Brady Wooten** is located in the USDA office in Fairfield and serves landowners in Wayne, Clay, Richland, Hamilton, Jasper and White counties.

bwooten@ pheasantsforever.org 217-853-9621 or the local USDA office number at 618-842-7602



**Chris Hiher** is located in the Forbes State Park Office near Salem and serves landowners in Marion, Fayette, Washington, Clinton, Effingham and Jefferson counties.

chiher@pheasantsforever.org 217-853-9967



For more information about the Farm Bill Biologist Program, contact: Aaron K. Kuehl Director of Conservation Programs akuehl@pheasantsforever.org, 217-341-7171

## PROPOSED CHANGES TO IFA BY-LAWS continued

**Note:** deletions to the existing by-laws are struck through, while additions are *italicized*.

# ARTICLE III -- MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. Membership in this organization shall be open to any person or entity (such as an organization, company firm, or unit of government) engaged or interested in furthering the mission of the Association, is willing to subscribe to the By-laws of the Association, and the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors.

Membership <del>categories</del> levels include: Individual, Family, Individual or Family with e-mail address, Individual or Family with no e-mail address, Not-for-Profit, Business, Supporting, Sustaining, Student, Associate, Hunting Group, and Life.

**Section 2.** Each membership <del>category</del> *level*, except Student *and Associate* members who have nonvoting status...

**Section 3.** The annual dues of the Association shall be set by the Board of Directors. Dues are payable in-January for the calendar year. on the member's anniversary renewal date. Hunting Group memberships are renewable for one year only; Life Memberships obviate renewal.

**Section 8.** Supporting and Sustaining Members can add Associate Members linked to their membership by payment of dues for themselves and their Associates, and by supplying a valid e-mail address for each Associate.

## **Timber Market Update**

by Bill Calvert; Consulting Forester

The markets seem to be fairly good. A lot of the mills are low on logs because of the wet spring and summer weather throughout Illinois. Black walnut seems to still be hot and white oak is doing ok. Black cherry is currently in low demand (\$250 Mbf [1000 board feet] average stumpage price) but occasionally there is some interest. Red and black oak are fairly flat (\$200 Mbf average stumpage price). There is a bit of a market for ash right now with roadside prices as high as \$400 - \$500 Mbf. Also, hickory seems to be selling. Crane mat logs are steady with roadside prices averaging \$300 Mbf.

I had a bottomland timber sale last week that averaged \$260 Mbf on the stump. This sale was primarily blocking grade guality but there was a little bit of grade swamp white oak. The rest was silver maple, green ash, pin oak, etc. The highest bidder said he was rained out down south and wanted something close to the mill that was dry. He also wanted the timber because of territorial reasons. I have maybe one more timber sale coming up this summer/fall, but that's it. I think the hot summer has kept people from sticking their noses out. Also, many landowners are not facing cash flow issues at the moment due to the favorable agriculture market pricing and don't have to or are not thinking about selling any timber.

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Illinois Forestry Association

A non-profit, tax-exempt organization under IRS 501(c)3

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# He's an IFA Member Because of the Guy on His Left

by Dick Pouzar, IFA Director

I was standing next to my friend Tim Burr at a recent woodland thinning demonstration for forest landowners. We were learning how to select the trees to keep, while the ones not selected would be cut to provide more room and resources for those remaining. This was an interesting session - not only did we learn, but we gained the courage to go home and thin our own trees.

At the end of the session, everyone was standing around asking questions. Tim turned to me and asked, "Do you know why I belong to the Illinois Forestry Association?" I told him it was because we represent his interests in Springfield. He said, "Nope." So, I told him that it was because we give him sessions like this one. He said, "Not quite."

He went on, "You and I and everyone here attends these things for free. We don't have to join the IFA. In fact one of the great things about the IFA and other forestry groups is that they teach everyone, not just members. But the real reason that I'm an IFA member is the guy on my left." He nodded his head at the guy next to him. I asked if he knew that guy. He said, "Never met him."

Seeing my strange look, he continued, "This guy is here for the same reason that we're here. We want to learn how to grow healthy stands of valuable trees. But if I'm the only one in my county growing valuable trees in healthy stands, I'll have a much harder time of it."

"If the guy on my left, and the guy on his left, and everyone in the county grows healthy stands of valuable trees, that will do two things. First, it will attract more log buyers. Those fellas go where they can make money. And they also know who else is buying trees in their area. If my timber sale attracts only one buyer, I will get the second worst bid for my trees. The worst bid is nothing no bid. The second worst bid is the smallest amount the buyer thinks I will take. If there are 20 log buyers bidding for my trees, though, I'll get the best possible bids because they will feel the competition."

"Second, we know that a lot of insect pests are attracted to unhealthy trees - those that are stressed and crowded. If my neighbor has an unhealthy stand, there's not much I can do. If you start coughing, I'll move away, but you can't move your trees. So I want my neighbor to grow a healthy stand of trees. I want all of the guys on my left to grow healthy stands of valuable trees. I want everyone in the county, and the state to grow healthy stands of valuable trees."

"Healthy stands of valuable trees seem to do those two things. They attract log buyers, and they discourage insect pests. So, the more healthy stands of valuable trees, the better for my trees."

"I belong to the IFA because it teaches the guy on my left to grow healthy stands of valuable trees. The lobbyist is just the icing on the cake."

As Tim and I started to leave, the guy on his left was asking another question.

## New Membership Renewal Policy continued

We hope that this policy in conjunction with our soon-to-beavailable online renewal system will make things easier for you, our members. If you have any questions or concerns about this new policy, please contact your regional director.

## Timber Market Update continued

I think overall the market is going to stay steady but not grow much. I don't think we will see the prices and demand that existed up until Dec 2008 - Jan 2009. That's ok. Steady is better than large gains and falls. Domestic grade log markets, mostly red oak, are going to remain flat as long as housing is slow. Pallets and blocking are tied to manufacturing and will remain steady as long as manufacturing remains steady. However, most businesses are just hanging on and not doing any expanding because of difficulty in attaining loans and uncertain stock markets. They are also worried about income tax increases. Export markets are driving white oak and walnut prices. China remains a big export market for almost all types of logs. Market conditions can be variable depending on geographical location and proximity to mills with orders to fill. These localized conditions can cause demand spikes for a particular grade of log or species. Using a professional forester to assist with your timber sale will not only help you zero in on these market conditions but will yield you a better price for your timber. Cut with care and planning.

## **Tentative Schedule - Annual Meeting**

#### Friday, September 23

- 1:00 PM Invasive Species Field Tour: Meet in the parking to on the east side of Giant City Lodge dressed for the woods and ready to carpool if necessary. The tour will encompass Giant City State Park and Trail of Tears State Forest. In case of emergency contact John Groninger (cell 618-967-7318).
- 5:00 Happy Hour (cash bar) Giant City Lodge

#### Saturday, September 24

8:30 AM	Registration
9:00	Welcome and Remarks: J.B. Gates, President IFA, Dr. James Zaczek, Chair SIUC Department of Forestry
9:15	Invasive Species Management: Options for Your Land. Mike Long, Long Forest Consultation.
9:45	Ecology of Invasive Plants - Chris Evans
10:30	Break
10:45	Small group discussions among members led by IFA board members to address how IFA can best serve member needs
	and how member engagement can play a bigger role in IFA function.
11:15	IFA business meeting
12:00 PM	Lunch Family style chicken dinner
1:00-2:00	Marketing Your Timber and Minimizing your Taxes - Dr. Deborah Gaddis Gunter
2:00	Closing remarks, announcements

## **Directions and Lodging**

Giant City Lodge, 460 Giant City Lodge Rd, Makanda, IL 62958-3218, phone (618) 457-4921

Giant City Lodge is Accessible from IL 13 or IL 51

- Rt. 13: Take Giant City Road South from RT 13 on the East side of Carbondale. Proceed 12 miles to Giant City State Park and follow signs to the Lodge.
- Rt 51: Take the Makanda exit and proceed east 3 miles to the main entrance of the park.

Nearby lodging is at a premium on fall weekends and those coming from out of town are urged to make reservations early, considering options in Carbondale, Marion, and Anna.

## Registration

Registration fee is \$25 per person to cover meal and facility costs. Registration should be sent John Groninger, Department of Forestry-4411, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4411. Make checks payable to IFA. Alternately, RSVP to John by COB September 19 (email groninge@siu.edu, phone 618-453-7462).

Name	ı
Number of Persons attendingx \$25 = \$	
Address	
Best phone #	
Email	

Illinois Forestry Association P.O. 224 Chatham, IL 62629-0224

IFA - To act on issues that impact rural and community forests and to promote forestry in Illinois