



# The Azimuth



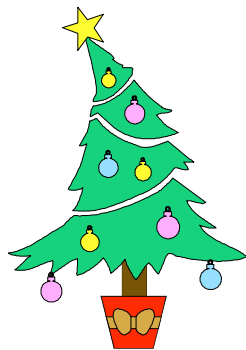
DECEMBER 2002

Volume 7 Issue 2

## Sylvicon 2003 "Protecting our Forests"

New Brunswick's premiere forest event, Sylvicon 2003, will be held at the Fredericton Inn, Fredericton, February 20 to 22, 2003. This year's theme is **"Protecting Our Forest"**. We have assembled twenty experts in their related forestry fields to give an overview of the Maritime forests- past, present and future. The Maritime region is dependent on our forests to provide a livelihood for a large percentage of our population. The forest Industry has the responsibility to protect our livelihood i.e. the forest, for our future generations. For Sylvicon 2003, we have brought together experts from all aspects of the forest to give a snapshot of today's practices of how we are protecting not only the trees but the forests themselves. We will also be looking at past practices and comparing them to what we are doing today for a better understanding of why we have to keep changing and improving our work standards. Fire, pests and Mother Nature are battled on a daily bases to protect today's forest, while we are refining silvicultural practices that will provide a forest in the future that will meet fiber needs. These needs have to work hand in hand with the environmental protection that is necessary to keep our air, water and soil as healthy as the trees we are growing. As public awareness of (see P 4, Sylvicon 2003)

Merry  
Christmas



## Arbor Day May 30, 2002



Last year we started a program to remove and replace dead trees, and maintain healthy trees with approved pruning techniques.

**Trees planted:** This year's new plantings were various species of Oak (9), Ivory silk (3), Red pine (50 seedlings for the children), Austrian pine (24 in a circle) and some shrubs (10). Of these trees two English oaks that were to be planted in memory of Gerald Taylor (recently killed in a car accident), Robert Beaulieu and all retired employees that have passed away. Arbor Day is Traditionally held on the third Thursday of May, which this year fell on the sixteenth, but our planting was held today due to scheduling problems. Ray Brewer was introduced. He is with the Department on Natural resources and gave a great speech on forestry. Jacky Brennan & Judy McNally who are teachers at Bath elementary brought the grade 2&3 class. Jim Allard of NB Power gave us background information about the arboretum and the memorial trees. Also George (see P4, Arbor day)

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## Letters to the Editor

You are more than welcome to send in letters, comments or photos to the Editor for publication. Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want your submissions returned. Articles may be edited for content, grammar, length etc. Please include author's and photographer's name. If possible save your document on a computer disk formatted for PC's and mail it (e-mail or snail). It will make our job easier.

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# From the President's Desk

Rick Doucett, CFT. NBFTA President

I can't believe how fast the summer and fall went by. All the members I talked with, said they were extremely busy this year, as was the NBFTA. I attended the CWF Fall Meeting in Fredericton and was really impressed with the quality of the presentations. Our own Past President, Walter Bidlake, chaired the morning session of the meeting. Walter represented the NBFTA on the CWF planning committee and did an excellent job, as did the whole committee. The meeting was centered on Intensively Managing New Brunswick's Forest Resources and by the end of the meeting it was impossible to draw any conclusions regarding this issue. There was a stark contrast between Industry and Conservation / Environmental Groups presentations, Industry could not find a downside and the C&E Groups could not find an upside to intensive management. It's definitely an issue that will spark a lot of debate in the future.

Sylvicon 2003 has come together nicely and the program looks excellent. I hope as many NBFTA members as possible will participate in the full program this year, as we are the sponsors and all that participate will benefit from the presentations. One of the items that we will be discussing at our AGM in February, is "Dues"! Our Association was formed in 1996 and the current dues structure was set then. It is the feeling of the Executive that after 7 years it may be time to look at an increase in dues. As it will take voting on an increase at our AGM and then implementing it the following year, the increase should be significant enough to make the process worthwhile. Some of the numbers discussed were \$45 and \$75, replacing the current \$30 and \$60, or maybe a more graduated system where dues are increased by small amounts every year. The Executive has significantly reduced the projected deficit for this year, but the reality is that it cost money to run an or-

ganization. Just this newsletter alone costs \$700 to \$800 per issue to produce and mailout. This is something all members should think about before the next AGM. Another thing to think about is the election of officers for next year. Although all offices are up for grabs, the current executive has indicated that they are willing to move along up the line, as was the case last year. Mike Boucher has indicated that he will be stepping down as secretary and with everyone moving up there will also be an opening at 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. If anyone has nominations for any Executive positions or questions regarding the process, they can be forwarded to Walter Bidlake, Chair of the nominating committee. This is a great opportunity to put some fresh faces in the Executive, remembering that an election is a sign of a healthy organization.

Another item that has arisen this summer is "The New Brunswick Forestry Hall of Fame" and the NBFTA's role in the institution. After considerable debate, over most of the summer, an agreement was reached with the Association of Registered Professional Foresters of New Brunswick to form a new joint committee were 1 technician, 1 forester and 1 other can be admitted to the Hall of Fame each year. The details on how exactly this new group will operate are being hammered out in mid-October, so for the time being please continue to forward your nominations to Allie Degrace, Chair of the PR Committee, in the usual fashion. The make up of our part of the committee will be Past President, President and Chair of the PR committee. The ARPFNB sponsored a banquet for all the members of The Hall of Fame on October 26, 2002 and we sponsored our members from last year to go to



the banquet.

The NBFTA was asked to sit on a selection committee for a new award that the ARPFNB will be presenting to one of its members. The award is called The New Brunswick Professional Foresters Achievement Award and we have accepted the invitation to participate in this committee. Infor Inc. has formed an advisory committee and I have been approached to sit on this committee as a representative of our association. I have agreed, as it will to be a worthwhile venture and The NBFTA has stated its support for Infor Inc. since the beginning.

On a personal note, I find myself becoming more and more disgusted by the actions of some of my fellow New Brunswickers when it comes to the treatment of our woodlands. As an individual who can't spend enough time in the forest just looking around, I find the pastime becoming more and more stressful. The natural beauty that we usually enjoy is being marred or destroyed by that actions of individuals that have lost all respect for nature. I am referring to illegal dumping and ATV damage to wetlands and watercourses. Both of these activities have reached epidemic proportions in this province and there is no sign of them decreasing. Almost every road around my neck of the woods has had garbage dumped in it, some resemble dumps themselves. The type of waste is all over the map, ranging from construction waste, appliances, furniture, oil drums, to household garbage. As for ATV damage, I have found the damage to

brooks streams and wetlands in my work area to be at an unprecedented level. Entire stream banks have been destroyed to the point that every time it rains the stream fills with silt. There are peat bogs that have been converted to "Giant Black Holes" and they will never recover in our lifetimes or our children's lifetimes. Although I feel some sympathy for anyone that cannot see the beauty that they are destroying, I feel more contempt towards the actions of these pathetic people. I would like to see the NBFTA express it's profound disapproval of the actions of these people and work towards solutions to these growing problems. If anyone has any feelings towards this, I would certainly enjoy hearing from you.

Now that I got that rant out of the way, I would like to conclude with one item. That being that some of the Regional reps have found themselves swamped at work and have not been able to devote anytime to their regional duties. I am therefore soliciting names for regional reps for regions 2, 3, and 4, as I do not want these areas to continue to go without representation. If anyone in these regions would like to take up the challenge please contact me as soon as possible. It is very important to have active regional reps throughout the province, as they are a critical part of the NBFTA Executive.

Hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing you next year at Sylvicon 2003!

*Rich*

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- **Ball caps**
  - Black w yellow under peek and NBFTA crest \$15.00
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## Sylvicon 2003 (Cont. from Page 1)

environmental issues increase and new legislation is introduced, it is the forest industry's responsibility to keep current on changing issues. Sylvicon 2003 gives the forest professional a chance to see, hear and ask the questions that need to be addressed. During the two-day technical session we will look how new technology has changed how we combat forest fires with the new Air tankers, advances in silvicultural practices and new computer programs that will give better budworm and forest pest forecasts. Climate change and petroleum spill prevention is becoming part of our workday in the forest. These issues plus new legislation will be hot topics during the panel discussion.

All day Friday, Feb 21 will be dedicated to technical session. You will be able to accumulate 4.5 Category I credits. NBFTA open house will be from 7:00 to 9:00 in the evening at the Fredericton Inn. This will be a great chance get to talk to old friends and meet some of our newer members. Saturday, Feb 22, the NBFTA will have our Annual General Meeting in the morning. This will be an important meeting as we are trying to adapt to changing times- such as a new name and program adjustment for MFRS. There will be with 4 more hours of



**Walter Bidlake at the 2001 AGM**

technical session to wrap up the Sylvicon program with another 3.6 hours of Category I credits available. Look for more information and program packages to be available mid December or contact your own organization's Sylvicon representative. For phone numbers for ARPFNB, CIF, NBFPA and NBFTA see the "CONTACT:" section for more detail.

**Walter Bidlake, CFT. Past President**

## Arbour Day (Continued from Page 1)

Kelly, the Senior Tech of the Beechwood Dam. After a bit of background information about the history of Arbor Day, and why one is held each year, we moved on to our memorial planting, our speeches, kids poems, and the handing out of Red & Austrian Pine seedlings to the children. During the Juice & Tim bits break there were a number of questions about the arboretum. In all, a successful event.

**Danny Lapointe**



**Jim Allard talking about memorial**

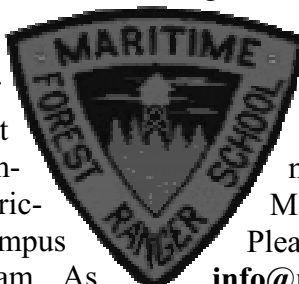


**Ray Brewer of DNR & E**



## Goodbye Maritime Forest Ranger School, Hello...???

As the saying goes, nothing remains the same forever, and the Ranger School is no exception. Many students entering into the MFRS program are poorly prepared for the intense pace of studying required to pass the one year program. Therefore, the MFRS board of Governors has opted for a two-year Forest Technologist program, beginning September 2003. This only applies to the Fredericton Campus, - for now. The Bathurst campus will continue to offer the one-year program. As the program changes, so will the name of the school. The board feels that the original name should be reserved for those who graduated from



the intensive one-year program. The board also believes that the word "College" better denotes training at a technologist level than the word "School".

MFRS would like suggestions from former graduates of an appropriate name change. Three names are being considered: 1) Maritime College of Forest Technology. 2) Maritime College of Forestry 3) Maritime College of Forest Resources.

Please e-mail your suggestion to:

**info@mfrs.nb.ca attention Steve Hoyt.** Time is of the essence, they need your suggestion by December 31

### A Forest Etched in Time

**When I feel the Fall coming,  
My trigger finger starts to itch.  
I've got to get my chainsaw,  
And cut myself a twitch!**

**There's a crispness in the air,  
That makes you feel alive.  
It gets your blood to surging  
(I am always up by five!)**

**I get my tractor rolling  
And swamp myself a road.  
I pick out all the poor ones  
And start myself a load.**

**Working 'round the young ones,  
Cutting Spruce and Pine.  
Leaving for my children,  
A forest etched in time!**

**Dan Phillips. C.F.T.**



### NBFTA sponsors Envirothon competition

The NBFTA helped sponsor the NB Envirothon competition again this year, as it is an excellent forum for high school students to examine environmental concerns. We would like to congratulate Moncton's Harrison Trimble High Team for coming out on top of a very tough competition. Student's Zachary Everett, Chris Hughes, Jennifer Edmonds, David Wadden and Jesse Henwood will be representing New Brunswick at the international 2002 Canon Envirothon at Amherst College in Hampton, Massachusetts and we wish them the best of luck. If anyone is looking for more information regarding the Envirothon competition they should contact the Tree House at (506) 452-1339.

## Semi-mechanized precommercial thinning introduced to New Brunswick

In New Brunswick, precommercial thinning is currently done motor-manually by workers equipped with brushsaws. The main disadvantage of this approach is that worker productivity is very sensitive to stand density and difficult terrain conditions. UPM-Kymmene Miramichi Inc. is operating under this kind of difficult conditions (often more than 50 000 stems/ha) and will continue to do so for several years. The company is thus seeking to develop new approaches and methods for performing precommercial thinning under difficult operating conditions while reducing costs and improving safety for the workers.

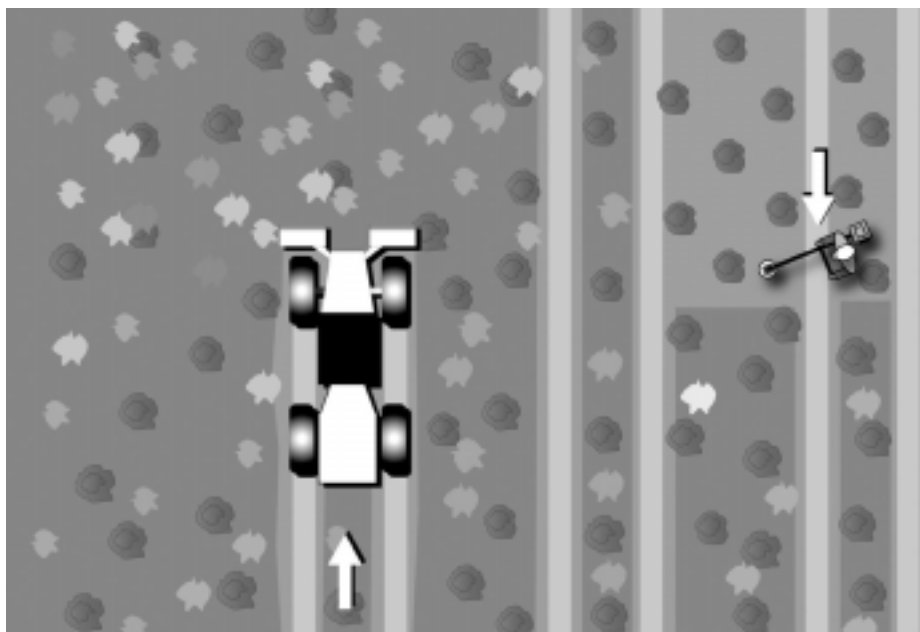
In cooperation with FERIC, UPM tried a semi-mechanized approach this past summer that seems to offer good potential for reducing treatment costs and that provides acceptable work quality. The system consists of two passes: in the first, a machine mows strips within

the stands, and in the second, a motor-manual operation with brushsaws thins the leave strips. The machine generally removes fewer than 40% of the stems, depending on the original stand density and the distance between passes of the machine. Motor-manual teams subsequently perform the final selection and spacing of the crop trees in the residual strips (Figure 1).

The machine used for this treatment was the Nokamic two-row

strip-thinner (Figure 2). This strip-thinner was developed by Les Équipements Nokamic Inc. of Dolbeau-Mistassini (Quebec) with design assistance provided by FERIC.

The machine uses two Bull Hog mulching heads mounted on a six-wheeled articulated carrier with 1.3-m ground clearance. The machine cuts two 1.8-m-wide strips in a single pass while straddling a 1.7-m-wide residual strip (Figure 3). The high ground clearance theoretically permits the treatment



*Figure 1. Illustration of the two passes used in the strip thinning technique.*

of stands 3.0 to 3.5 m tall without causing excessive damage to the straddled trees. The use of horizontal-axis mulching heads allows the felled stems to be chopped up in the same pass, and not get pushed into the leave strips. The Nokamic strip thinner is equipped with a GPS navigation system to help the operator maintain the desired spacing between passes.

The thinned corridors facilitate access to the stand for the motor-manual teams and offer more room for felling undesirable stems. The block layout and supervision of the motor-manual second phase are also easier. By reducing treatment costs and increasing productivity, it is possible to treat more area annually with a semi-mechanized operation and with the same number of workers.

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Louis-Philippe Nault  
E-mail: lpnault@nokamic.com



**Jacques Lirette**

C.F.T., MFRS '88, Forest Technician, e-mail: jacques-l@mtl.feric.ca



**Figure 2. The Nokamic two-row strip-thinning machine.**



**Figure 3. An example of the machine straddling the leave strip and producing two thinned (mowed) strips.**



**Atlantic Chapter International society of Arborists (ISA)  
AGM & tree Climbing competition Moncton, NB September 12 – 14  
By Danny Lapointe, CFT**



This year's event was kicked off on Thursday with a Golf tournament in the afternoon and a Public information session at City Hall in the evening. This session was geared to the conflicts that occur when ornamental street and yard trees come into close contact with Utility wires. There was good representation by the industry but unfortunately no attendance by the general public or politicians. This would have been a great opportunity to educate people about the reasons and costs associated with these activities.

On Friday there was a great turnout for the AGM. Out of a possible 79 member's, over 50 Arborists attending from NB & NS, but none from PEI or NFLD. Budgets, Certification & Directors reports were discussed, as well as the on-going work that has been done in the development of "codes of practice" for tree care work in Nova Scotia. Respective agencies in the other Atlantic Provinces will be contacted, and if accepted will be published.

Stan Kochenoff gave a great slide presentation of a community in Nova Scotia that came together and turned a bare asphalt covered lot into a beautiful area full of trees, grass and new playground equipment. Stan is also an expert in estimating the value of trees and has helped out in several court cases in the past.

Melinda Jones from Detroit, Michigan gave us a report on ISA on the International level, as well as how to put plans together for having "Emergency preparedness during catastrophic events". She has had many years' experience working with Detroit-Edison.

Scott Roberts of Vermeer equipment demonstrated the newly developed safety features being incorporated

into their products. They have a lot of experience selling/ servicing chippers and stump grinders as well as a full line of climbing gear and associated pruning tools.

Dean Weaver of Lucas tree experts gave us information about how their "Loss prevention program" became established and the success they have had by offering incentives for working safely and no lost-time accidents.

That evening a banquet was held where a prize was awarded for the Golf tournament. After this, an equipment inspection for the tree-climber's competition was done, and T-shirts were given out to competitors, judges and timers.

Saturday started bright and early at Victoria Park, getting areas cordoned off and bleachers put in place. Not too many people walking or driving by could not help themselves from stopping to watch the eighteen Arborists try their best. The throw-line, secured footlock

climb, aerial rescue, speed climb, and work climb events had the competitors racing against the clock as well being judged on their skills.

A kiddy climb was also set up to introduce this interesting profession to young children. Vermeer equipment had all sorts of tools, saddles and ropes on site and also provided a BBQ lunch for everyone involved.

The top four made it to the Master's challenge. This involved getting to the top of a huge hardwood tree, ringing two bells (without ringing one on the ground), getting over to a second smaller tree to ring the third bell and then get their climbing gear out of the trees. The top gun received prizes as well as moving on an upcoming competition in Montreal.

This was my first time participating in such an event and was impressed with the way it was so well organized and well received by the people of Moncton. I would encourage that anyone involved with Urban Forestry, over-all tree care or with a Utility attend one of these events in the future. This is a refreshing hands-on aspect to Forestry and is a fun way to gain continuing education credits.





# Atlantic Forestry

Review



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## **Certification Exams:**

**Anyone who wants to apply for his or her CFT designation should contact**

**Eugene Mattinson: [emattinson@mfrs.nb.ca](mailto:emattinson@mfrs.nb.ca)**

**Exams will be held as requested**

# NBFTA Membership Application/Demande d'adhésion à L'ATFNB

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Membre nouveau                      Renouvellement                      Autre

First Name *Prénom* : \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: *Nom*: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Adresse:*

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Technical Institution Attended

\_\_\_\_\_

Nom de l'institution fréquentée

Year of Graduation *Diplômé (année)* \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail your cheque or money order along with your application to:**  
**Poster votre chèque ou votre mandat de poste et votre demande à :**  
**NBFTA/ATFNB**

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Drummond N.B  
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Att : France Roussel

# ATFNB/NBFTA

## Application For Certification

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**Last/Famille                      First/premier                      Middle/ autres**

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## **Forest Technical Education / *Éducation Forestière***

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		Degree, Diploma, Certificate <b>Bach, Diplôme, Certificat</b>
		Degree, Diploma, Certificate <b>Bach, Diplôme, Certificat</b>

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Employer / <i>em- ployeur</i>	Dates	Supervisor / <i>superviseur Clients</i>	Telephone numbers <i>numéros de téléphone</i>

**Note:** Please send 2 letters of recommendations from Certified Forest Technicians  
**Noter:** S.V.P. inclure deux lettres de recommandation de Techniciens (ne) Forestiers(ère) Agréés.

## **Proposed Constitution and By-law changes**

### **Constitutional changes**

5.1-4 Life Members - Any member who has been a member in good standing with the Association for a period of ten years and has reached their 65th birthday shall be classified as a life member with all the privileges of a regular member and be exempt from dues.

5.1-5 Certified Life Members - Any certified member who has been a member in good standing with the Association for a period of ten years and has reached their 65th birthday shall be classified as a certified life member with all the privileges of a certified member and be exempt from dues. Certified Life Members will be required to meet the CFE requirement to maintain this certification.

5.1-6 Hall of Fame Life Members - Any technician/technologist receiving Hall of Fame status shall be a life member of the Association with voting privileges and be exempt from dues.

We the undersigned propose these changes to be voted on at the next AGM

Michael Boucher, CFT

Eugene Mattinson, CFT

#### **To be add to the constitution:**

6.4 N.B Graduates of the Maritime Forest Ranger School or recognized Forest Technologist program shall receive a complementary membership for the year following graduation.

Eugene Mattinson CFT

Danny LaPointe CFT

### **Bylaw Change**

11.3-1 Twenty-four months acceptable post graduation , forestry experience pre-requisite for applying for CFT status (in place of the current 36 months)

*These proposals will be voted on at the AGM, February 22 2003*

## **Technician of the Year Award**

The New Brunswick Forest Technicians Association (NBFTA) will annually recognize a member of the Association for outstanding achievement. The award will recognize achievement or contribution of a forest technician to forestry. The Award shall be awarded only once to an individual.

### **Selection Committee**

A committee of three, including the chair of the publicity committee who will act as chair of this committee, a former recipients of the award, and a non-member of the Association shall have the responsibility of collecting nominations and determining the winner of this award. They shall also have the responsibility of making sure that the winner is present at the AGM to receive the award.

### **Nominations**

Any member of the NBFTA may be nominated for this award. A member of the Association or a member of the public may make a nomination for this award. Nominations shall be sent to the chair of the publicity committee by December 31, prior to the AGM of the Association. In order for a nomination to be accepted it must be signed by two members of the NBFTA. A resume of the individual being nominated must accompany the nomination.

### **Promotion**

A picture of the winner shall be published in the Azimuth. A suitable permanent location has been established at the Maritime Forest Ranger School to display award winners.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

A nominee for the Technician of the Year Award shall exhibit the following:

- A member in good standing of the NBFTA
- Demonstrate adherence to the code of ethics of the NBFTA
- Demonstrate initiative in progressing forest technical/technology
- Be recognized by her/his peers as a leader in forestry
- Demonstrate a commitment to continuing education
- Demonstrate a commitment to the NBFTA

### **Recognition**

The recognition will consist of a plaque and the personal award to be presented at the AGM of the NBFTA.

Please send your nomination to: [degrace.allie@jdirving.com](mailto:degrace.allie@jdirving.com) with "Technician of the year" in the subject line