Greetings OSWA members, families and friends  Summer  2015  May, June & July

Two Big Days; June 6th and June 20th  Please save these dates!

Our chapter annual meeting, 12 noon, June 6th,
at the Scottish Rite Temple in south Salem, 4090 Commercial St. S.E.  We will be having our yearly social (and culinary) get together. As years past, the meal is only $5 with the chapter picking up the rest. This is a great meal and a great time to bring family and friends. There will be door prizes and reports of what our chapter has been up to, if you haven’t been along on all of our great tours and events, and we will discuss the next event, which is…

The even bigger; Oregon Forest Fair!

At Chemeketa Community College, June 20th  9am to 5 pm
A Free event, open to the public, held in Building #6, the auditorium building, nearest the parking lots, which is easiest to reach from the back of the campus from 45th Ave, SE and Silverton Rd.

About the time you get this newsletter in the mail, the Oregon Forest Fair poster will be up on the front page of the state OSWA website! We, yes our chapter, is putting on this fabulous event on June 20th, at Chemeketa Community College. This is something we can all get involved in, as your directors have been, as well as a more direct Annual Meeting–Oregon Forest Fair committee! If you have a little volunteer bone that has been itching in your hip, or arm, please let us, your directors, know. Call any of the folks above, especially the bottom three, and we will be grateful.

We will put out a call for volunteers for the Oregon Forest Fair at our annual meeting on June 6th, but please don’t be afraid, as these are fun things to do and not very demanding. The whole event is well planned, most folks will know what they are doing and our volunteers will be mainly greeting and directing folks coming into the event and of course herding them like cats at important times.
You may or may not realize that our chapter of OSWA, in just two short months, is putting on the most progressive, all-inclusive forestry event anywhere in our wonderful country. The Oregon Forest Fair is in conjunction with the OSWA statewide annual meeting that is held on the 18th (day at the capital) and 19th (Butts Family Tree Farmer of the Year forest tour, annual meeting and awards banquet). You will be getting more information about the statewide annual meeting from the state OSWA office in the regular publications, including the venue for the meeting and awards banquet. The Oregon Forest Fair will be showcasing all that is Oregon Forestry; forest management, wood products, wood-based business’ and everything in-between. We (your pres and other volunteers) have been signing up interesting companies and individuals in NW Oregon as exhibitors, and are setting up 4 fabulous panel presentation groups to cover 4 big topics. The first #1) Large Oregon Forest Landowner Policy and Projections. The feds, state and industry talk about what they do and why. #2) Education, of all kinds for all people; K-12, adult and professional. #3) Valuation of Forests and Forestland, in buying, selling and owning. Which will be similar to the very successful event we held for just our chapter a year ago, and #4) Forest Markets and products, traditional and non-traditional. Each of the presentations will have at least 4 individuals, representing and presenting their different viewpoints on the overall topic, followed by facilitator questions and then questions and comments from the audience. Be There! The panel presentations will be held in the fantastic 430 seat auditorium, while the 50 or so exhibitors will rooms and halls in the same building and one of the nearby parking lots. Food will be available on site all day, and if you must head out for something special, the great strip of Lancaster is just a block away.. If you or anyone you know would have interest in being an exhibitor, PLEASE give us a call right away and make sure you are on that list as the exhibitor sign-ups are already closed, though we will fit you in.

This will be a fantastic event, which is free and open to the public. We have been telling people and companies that if you have anything to show, tell or sell, this will be the show for you. This will be one great show of anything and everything forests, forestry, wood products and other related topics. Viva la Oregon Forests!

For those of you that aren’t convinced yet, here is yet another way to look at the Oregon Forest Fair;

This little chapter of the Oregon Small Woodlands Association wants to spark curiosity, promote learning and encourage a deeper appreciation of our region’s natural wonders and the role that forests play in our social and biological web. In bringing you the Oregon Forest Fair; we want to help new landowners learn to be thoughtful stewards, raise awareness of the value of sustainable wood products, share educational resources and work with foresters, teachers, conservation groups and landowners to keep forests intact and thriving. This is in everyone’s best interests. Please share this event and invite everyone you know through any social networks you might employ – digital or real.

This is the Summer issue of our newsletter and boy, is it ever! Working in the garden today brought about the first sunburn of the year. This editor has been watching the seasons for many years, and this year is at least a couple weeks earlier than any in memory. Tomatoes will skip the indoor transplant stage and go straight from the starting trays to the garden, in cloches, the first of May rather than the first of June. Yikes.

We’ll see you on June 6th and again on June 20th!