The Quarterly Bark

April 2014

The Ins and Outs of Selling Logs
By Steve Bowers

Timber prices are up and buyers are buying! Now may be a good time to consider selling logs. Conducting a timber sale can be a complicated process for many woodland owners. Many of you only get one chance, so be sure to get it right! Steve Bowers, Douglas County Extension Forester, will be offering a class on the “Ins and Outs of Selling Logs.” Topics will include easements, logging contracts, purchase orders, what you sell, selecting log lengths & diameters and timing the market. A copy of the legendary Log Buyers Directory and EM 9090, The Scribner Volume & Value Tables: Bucking for Maximum Revenue will be made available to participants.

The classes will be held in Eugene on April 8 and in Lincoln City on April 22. Times and locations are in the “Upcoming Events” calendar on p.3.

Preregistration is required by Friday, April 4 for the Eugene classes and later for the Lincoln City class. Contact information for pre-registration is on p.3.

Linn County Twilight Tour
By Dave Bateman

Dave and Karen Bateman will host a Linn County Twilight Tour at their 50-acre property on Roaring River near Scio on Tuesday May 13, 4:00 - 8:00 pm. Driving directions are given at the end of the article.

Early stand management. The tour will focus on early stand management and three Douglas-fir plantations (origin dates of 1998, 2003 and 2008). Discussion will include:

- Number of trees per acre planted and did they plant the right trees?
- Vegetation management and early seral vegetation.
- Non-timber products: broom sticks, essential oils, furniture poles and firewood.
- Impact trees-per-acre has on tree diameter and limb size.
- When do you have too many trees and need to do your first pre-commercial thinning (PCT), or commercial thinning?

Essential Oil Distillation Demonstration: Jim Merzenich and Dave Bateman recently purchased a still to cook essential oil out of conifer needles. A batch of needles takes about 2-hours to cook. They plan to fire up the still around 2:30. You are welcome to come early and watch or help.

ODF’s new online system for "Notifications of Forest Operations"
By John Westall

Lena Tucker, Deputy Chief of the Private Forests Division of the Oregon Department of Forestry, introduced ODF’s new online system for submitting "Notifications of Forest Operations" at Benton County’s Woodland Information Night in Corvallis on March 4. This was the first public presentation on this project, which is currently on track to go live in mid-2014. Once the online system is up and running, there will be no need to fill out paper notification forms.

The “Notification of Operation / Application for Permit to Operate Power Driven Machinery” is currently a paper form used to notify the State of a planned forest operation or the intent to harvest timber, or to apply for a permit to operate power driven machinery on your land. Currently all of the information on that paper form needs to be re-entered into ODF’s database, plus the map

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A Joint Publication of the Benton, Lane, Lincoln & Linn County Chapters of the Oregon Small Woodlands Association

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“Notifications of Forest Operations” (cont’d)

and geographical information on the notification form needs to be re-entered into ODF’s geographical information system. The new online system will eliminate the intermediate data re-entry, improving efficiency and accuracy in data management and improving communication with the stewardship forester.

The e-Notification process is set up to be very similar to the paper form for the basic data. You’ll have to register once for the system, but once registered, you can sign in to find draft notifications on which you are working, submitted notifications, and messages, formal comments and inspection reports from your local stewardship forester.

An online map will allow you to find your property by township and range, address, place name, aerial photo, street map or topographic map. Once you have found your property, you can use map tools to draw unit boundaries, roads, etc. The e-Notification system will then search a database and let you know of any protected resources such as fish streams that may require a written plan. The system will notify landowner, timber owner, and operator, so all parties are kept in the loop.

ODF is working on ways to smooth the transition for those with limited access to the Internet, for example, setting up computer kiosks at ODF offices.

The e-Notification system has been reviewed extensively both internally and externally. There was a lively Q&A session after the presentation. A number of questions came up about special situations, but so far ODF seems to have considered them and to have incorporated answers into the system. Stay tuned for more communication and future training sessions for the e-Notification system!◆

Twilight Tour (cont’d)

Bring a container like a clean milk jug and you can take some of the hydrosol home with you. Hydrosol is the waste water after the oil has been harvested. Some of the aroma remains with the hydrosol.

The 2008 plantation and the still are at the house. The other two stands are on a grassy loop road (no rock). The view from the porch is good and the hummingbird feeder gets a lot of use. So you could hang at the porch and not walk the loop.

Directions: Fish Hatchery Drive intersects Oregon 226 about 5 miles south of Scio. The Batesmans live about a mile beyond the fish hatchery at 42755 Fish Hatchery Drive. At the end of the pavement on Fish Hatchery Drive take the left fork uphill for a half mile to the driveway on the left at the top of the hill. If you can see Weyerhaeuser’s gate, you just missed the driveway. Phone 503-394-2051.

Bring a sack dinner and Linn County will provide beverages and dessert. There will be running water, flush toilets and a porch with a view. The tour will be held, rain or shine.◆
Upcoming events

Starker Lectures Series at OSU. The theme for this year’s lecture series is “Working Forests across the Landscape.” Working forests are actively managed, but, within a large landscape, diverse owners have diverse management objectives. This diversity provides challenges and opportunities in providing both economic and environmental benefits from these forests. Events are free and open to the public. Lectures will be held in 107 Richardson Hall from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm. Lectures will be streamed live for those who can’t be present. See http://starkerlectures.forestry.oregonstate.edu/ for more information. The series is sponsored by the Starker Family in honor of T.J. and Bruce Starker and is supported by the Oregon Forest Resources Institute and the OSU College of Forestry. The two remaining lectures in this year’s series are:

April 10 “Forestry Diversity: A Key to Oregon’s Future.” John Gordon, Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

April 24 “Beyond Boundaries: Social Challenges and Opportunities in Forest Landscape Management.” Paige Fischer, PNW Research Station, USDA Forest Service, Prineville, OR.

The Ins and Outs of Selling Logs – Lane County Extension Office, 966 Jefferson St., Eugene. Tuesday, April 8, both at 9-11 am and at 6:30-8:30 pm. Pre-registration required by April 4: call 541 344 5859 or e-mail christina.bixel@oregonstate.edu. For more information see OSU Extension’s Benton-Linn-Polk website below.

Web Soil Survey & Other Internet Tools for Ag & Forest Landowners – Tillamook Bay Community College, April 16. For more information see the Tillamook County Extension link at the end of this article.

Discover Your Forestland — Learn where to find online aerial photos, topographic maps, soils maps, species, etc. pertaining to your land. LBCC Lebanon Center Room LC-219A April 22, 7-8:30 pm. Free, registration not required. Class in computer lab. Co-sponsored by Linn County Small Woodlands Association and OSU Extension.

The Ins and Outs of Selling Logs – OSU Lincoln County Extension office, April 22. For more information see the Lincoln County Extension link at the end of this article.

How Wood Behaves When Cutting, Shaping & Drying – OSU Lincoln Extension office, May 3. For more information see the Lincoln County Extension link at the end of this article.

Linn County Twilight Tour on early stand management and essential oil distillation, 42755 Fish Hatchery Drive, Scio, Tuesday, May 13, 4:00 - 8:00 pm. See p. 1 for more information.

Managing Woodland Roads – Tillamook Bay Community College, May 14. For more information see the Tillamook County Extension link at the end of this article.

Non-timber Special Forest Products — Yachats Commons, May 24. For more information see the Lincoln County Extension link at the end of this article.

Lincoln County TFOY and Howdy Neighbor Tour, Waldport, Saturday, June 14. See p. 6 for more information.


OSU Extension Online Calendars. For events in and around Benton, Linn and Polk Counties check http://extension.oregonstate.edu/benton/forestry/events. Also, you can sign up for the Compass and Needle mailing list to receive an e-mail notice when an event is scheduled: send a request to jody.einerson@oregonstate.edu or phone Jody at 541 766 6750.

For events in and around Lincoln County, see http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lincoln/forestry/news. For events in Tillamook County see http://extension.oregonstate.edu/tillamook/forestry-classes-amp-events.
**Annual Meeting.** The New Year, 2014, is off and running. LSWA held its annual meeting on January 16 at the Eugene Elks and had over 80 attendees. The evening was a pleasant opportunity for LSWA members to come together for dinner, socialize and visit with friends and folks of common backgrounds with similar interests. We were fortunate to have Jim James, OSWA Executive Director update LSWA members on what OSWA has ongoing at the state level. Jim Welch, Political Coordinator for The Oregon Cattlemen’s Association gave us an overview of current issues with water and private lands that are affecting not only cattlemen but all land owners. Mr. Welch encouraged all to stay involved and informed on political actions concerning water and the rights of private landowners.

Mike and Connie Atkinson, on behalf of the Oregon Tree Farm Association, recognized a select group of LSWA members who have had certified tree farms for over 25 years. These members were then presented 25 year tree farm signs. Recipients were: the Kintigh Family LTD Partnership (Dan Kintigh), Rosalind Rutherford, Robin Rutherford, Petersen Forests LLC (Leroy Petersen), Weeldreyer Properties (Kathe & Harry McIntire), Ford Farms Inc. (Mickey Ford), Richard Mentzer, and the Lamb Family Trust (Katherin & Paul Lamb). Bob Johnson, a recently retired ODF stewardship forester who has worked graciously with LSWA over his career, was recognized for his support of and services provided to LSWA members.

Dick Beers, Mike and Connie Atkinson, Lindsay Reaves, Tom Bauman, Dave Rankin and Jim Christian deserve recognition for all they did organizing and making our annual meeting the success it was. To all who contributed items for the evening raffle, especially True Value Hardware Distribution Center, Springfield, OR, LSWA appreciates your support and thanks you for your donations.

**Seedling Sale.** February started off with LSWA’s annual seedling sale. This year the sale was once again held at Alton Baker Park on Saturday morning February 1, and was a success. Mike and Connie Atkinson provided the lead with assistance from fellow LSWA members. Douglas-fir, grand fir, ponderosa pine, incense cedar, western red cedar, noble fir, redwood, and red alder seedlings were sold to the public.

**Upcoming events.** As 2014 moves forward the LSWA board is in the process of planning for upcoming events. Note the class on “The Ins and Outs of Selling Logs,” April 8, in Eugene, which is described on p.1. The pre-registration deadline for this event is April 4. We are working on a summer tree farm tour,
a fall family gathering on the Baum-
man tree farm and a training session
for land management planning. So
please stay tuned in for further infor-
mation on these upcoming activities.

Riparian buffer management
areas. LSWA board members are
concerned about an ongoing review
of ODF riparian management prac-
tices, and we will continue to follow
the process as it evolves. ODF cur-
rently is reviewing the forest practic-
es act and considering whether or
not changes are needed to protect
water temperatures for fish. Recent
studies within the Coast Range have
shown water temperatures in fish
bearing streams are increasing by
about 0.7 degrees after approved
logging operations occur within des-
ignated riparian zones on private
lands. The question being proposed
- Do current rules governing forest
operations need to be changed? No
decision has yet been made, but
proposals will be put before the
Board of Forestry sometime this
summer. The LSWA board will keep
you informed as this may impact all
of us.

Valuation of forest lands. LSWA
Directors would also like to make all
aware of mailings or solicitations
that land owners may be receiving
for the sale of their land or timber
rights. These mailings may provide
an opportunity for quick income, but
you must understand what you are
selling and its value. Your challenge
is to be aware of what your forest
and logs may be worth.

Ask questions and check with neigh-
bors about the offer and what might
be appropriate values for your hold-
ing. Feel comfortable checking
with LSWA members and directors
for any opinions and knowledge they
might have about such offers. If it is
within your means it might even be
beneficial to contact a consulting
forester. The final decision is yours,
but you should have the best infor-
mation available on log markets and
land values as you determine what
may be the most appropriate deci-
sion for you and your forest lands.

In the last issue of The Quarterly
Bark, I wrote about the value of
marking property boundary lines
where there is no good fencing or
posts or survey markers to maintain
the line. With this issue, I will con-
voy my experience with signage and
its importance.

My 200-acre property has one main
road with branches going in either
direction from it. This layout simpli-
fies identifying each road. I thought
about naming or numbering these
roads for a long time because I felt
value in letting my wife know where I
might be working for safety reasons.
Except for ridge tops, cell phones
are useless here.

I finally settled on a numbering sys-
tem where the main road is the Main
Line (M/L) and spur roads are 10,
20, 30 etc., with spurs from these
roads becoming 11, 12, or 21, 22
etc. This system has been valuable
not only to us, but also to loggers
and truckers, and for logging opera-
tions, as falling timber can easily damage or
destroy water drainage systems.
Culvert pipes are expensive and
even more expensive to install.
Since these signs have been
placed, one culvert has been saved,
although the sign had to be re-
placed, which by far is better than
having to replace a culvert.
I mark the culvert with a steel T-post
painted with white rust-o-leum paint
on each end of the post. On the
upstream end, a vertical white sign,
pointed on the bottom like a down
arrow, and emblazoned with a large
“C”. These are fastened to the post
with a “U” clamp. One may not want
to get carried away like this, howev-
er, I encourage that culverts be
marked, since they can be nearly
invisible, but very vulnerable to dam-
age.
The Quarterly Bark

Lincoln County News

2014 Lincoln County Tree Farmer of the Year and Howdy Neighbor Tour — June 14, 2014
By Joe Steenkolk and Peter Bregman

The Lincoln County chapter of OSWA has plans for a 2014 Lincoln County Howdy Neighbor Tour. The reasons for this event are that the LC chapter members are friendly and enjoy the company and camaraderie of their neighbors, and they enjoy hosting informational forestry tours where everyone can learn more from each other.

This year’s event is planned two weeks before the annual OSWA meeting so it will help you get excited about forest issues before attending the state meeting. It will be at Peter and Alice Bregman’s property. Peter is the chair of the Lincoln County chapter. He bought the property from Mo Bergman in 2004. The place is easy to find. It’s located on the north side of Alsea Bay just north of Waldport at 1679 N. Bayview, 1.7 miles off Hwy 101.

Peter and Alice bought the property as a second home and a place to live and escape the hot summers in California. They both love it here and have had two of their grandchildren here to help during part of summer vacations.

Peter came to Canada from the Netherlands in 1961 to become a dairy farmer. Later, he and Alice ventured to California where he landed a job in dairy food processing, the career for which he had studied. In California he also found great opportunities in real estate, and, being a farm boy, invested in cattle for about 15 years. He started to diversify his real estate investments and wanted to find an easier type of farming, thinking that tree farming was going to be that much easier.

The property the Bregmans purchased had been high graded in the 1930’s. The giant spruce was used for light airplanes and other light weight construction projects. It was never planted the way it would be now. In 2004 there was about 15 acres of alder that was fully mature and needed harvesting. The alder was sold to Weyerhaeuser and 30 full truck loads left the property.

After his first timber sale there were a lot of blow downs. Peter started to cut and sell firewood as a sideline on his 300 plus timbered acres. He sells about 50 cords a year, keeping him in good physical condition. The firewood will keep him busy for many years to come.

Peter and Alice have a great place overlooking the Alsea Bay and Waldport Bridge. You will not want to miss this tour. Please join the LC chapter and OFRI for a great tour, great company and great food. For more information call Joe Steenkolk, 541-875-1541 or Peter Bregman at 541-563-6428 or 209-604-7306.

Lincoln County Chapter Directors
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Nick Dahl, Membership 541 444 1379
Joe Steere, Past President 541 966 3842
Jim & Betty Denison 541 875 2753
Andy Kittel 541 961 6461
Joe Steenkolk 541 875 1541
Jim Reeb 541 574 6534

Lincoln County annual meeting
By Joe Steenkolk & Peter Bregman

The Lincoln County chapter of OSWA held its annual meeting on February 1 at the Eddyville Community Church. It was well attended with over 50 people present. After coffee and donuts
Lincoln County seedling sale

By Joe Steenkolk

March 1 was our annual seedling sale held at the Lincoln County fairgrounds in the 4-H building adjacent to the Saturday Farmers’ Market. The Market helped in drawing a more diversified group of people to our sale. In addition to tree seedlings we also sold native plants which were very well received by the public. We also had bulbs of snowdrops and Jack-in-the-pulpit from a local source that did well.

We did better financially this year than last year so are very pleased. We would like to thank everyone who volunteered to help out, especially Joe Steere for purchasing and delivering the seedlings to the Toledo ODF cooler, and Jim Reeb for help in obtaining the 4-H building, getting notices in the paper and answering the many questions from customers during the sale. Also many thanks to Sherm and Faye Sallee for their extra help with adding to their pre-orders on the native shrubs so we had a supply. The Lincoln County Chapter is fortunate to have so many members willing to help out!

Linn County Forestland Sheriff Deputy Program

Linn County is fortunate to have an active forestland law enforcement program with the Linn County Sheriff’s Office. The Linn Forest Protective Association (LFPA) contracts with the Sheriff’s Office to fund a deputy whose primary duty is to help protect private forestland in Linn County. The program is funded through assessment of LFPA member lands. The Linn County Small Woodlands Chapter also provides funds annually to help support the program.

Mary Brendle organized an evening seminar on January 29 at the Lebanon campus of Linn-Benton Community College to familiarize forest landowners with the program. The current forestland deputy, Brandon Fountain, and his supervisor, Sergeant Duncan attended. Deputy Fountain provided a slide presentation, which described his activities on the private forestlands. He highlighted the forest products that are commonly stolen — moss, boughs, mushrooms, bear grass, burls and firewood. He also stated that drugs in the form of marijuana and poppies are found on private forestland. Other common problems on our county forestlands are trespass and littering.

Deputy Fountain answered many questions from the audience of about 25 interested forestland owners. He advised that posting signs that say "No Trespassing" help when the landowner wants to prosecute incursions on their lands. Other things that help are active presence on the property, gates, fences, cameras and even signs that say "Under Video Surveillance". If a landowner sees a vehicle that is suspicious, he suggested providing a license number and vehicle description to the Sheriff’s Office.

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By Sherm Sallee

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The Benton County Chapter held its annual meeting Saturday, January 25, 2014 at the Beazell Forest Education Center under bright sunshine and beautiful blue skies. More than 60 attended the event. 

Jim James, Executive Director of OSWA reviewed OSWA activities over the past year. Paul Lorenz was presented a jacket as Benton County TFOY. Rita Adams was presented a plaque in recognition of being selected as Benton County “Outstanding Volunteer of the Year.” Mike Albrecht was re-elected president, and Karen Fleck-Harding and Nancy Hathaway were elected Co-Chairs of the Tree Farmer of the Year committee. The position of Program Director is now vacant. 

The speaker for the meeting was Dr. Klaus Puettmann, a faculty member in OSU’s College of Forestry, who grew up in Germany working in a forest that has been in his family for several centuries. Klaus described historical and current forest management in Germany, with comparisons to forest management in the Pacific Northwest. 

Forestland in Germany has been intensively managed for centuries. Land ownership over the years has had a complicated history, but currently the ownership of forestland in Germany is about 30% state, 44% private, 20% city or community forest. There is practically no industrial forestland as we know it in Oregon. 

The "average" forestland ownership by individuals is 10 acres. Much of this land is in Cooperatives, the purposes of which are to promote sustainable forestry, enhance production of forest products, support rural communities and improve marketing. In Klaus’ home state, 427 cooperatives manage 62% of the private forest land. Often a consulting forester is hired by the co-op to work with landowners on project management. 

In Germany, the public has a right to walk, collect berries and gather mushrooms in privately held forestlands. These rights are maybe best understood as effective easements, as lands were transferred centuries ago from the state to private ownership. However, one important restriction is that these rights pertain only to people on foot, not to motor vehicle access. 

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Benton County Chapter Officers

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Education, Rita Adams  541-752-3324  rjadams@comcast.net
Membership & OSWA Rep, Marsha Carr  541-424-3882  marshae.carr2@gmail.com
Forest Deputy, Brent Iverson  541-766-6237  cell 541-740-4290

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Woodland Information Night

By John Westall

The Benton County chapter hosted the 2014 Woodland Information Night on March 4 at the Corvallis-Benton County Library. Four speakers provided overviews followed by questions.
A field workshop on management of forest roads in the rainy season was led by Mike Albrecht of Benton County Small Woodlands Association, Karen Fleck-Harding of Marys River Watershed Council, Jennifer Beathe of Starker Forests, Brad Withrow-Robinson of OSU Extension and Bill Mahr, Oregon Department of Forestry Stewardship Forester.

About 20 people attended the event along Woods and Enos Creeks just west of Philomath on February 21. The diverse cast of speakers covered the subject from many different perspectives: landowner considerations on dealing with legacy roads, a fish’s perspective of what constitutes a healthful environment, and how management can influence that environment, Forest Practices requirements for water management along forest roads, and engineering considerations in maintaining road surfaces, ditches and culverts.

Nancy Taylor of Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife focused exclusively on damage caused to trees by wildlife. Circumstances vary considerably, but a consistent message was, if you have an animal damage problem, consider consulting ODFW about possible remedies.

Next Lena Tucker from Oregon Department of Forestry introduced ODF’s planned system for online submission of “Notifications,” described on p.1.

Darrin Sharp of the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute (OCCRI) at OSU discussed climate change and potential effects on Oregon’s forests. He began by reviewing the heat energy budget of the earth and how the “greenhouse effect” works, and then showed data illustrating just how drastically the carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere has been increasing over the last 100+ years. Although it’s obviously very difficult to predict the climate in NW Oregon for the next 100 years, general trends are towards an increase in temperature, decrease in snowpack, somewhat drier summers, and increased likelihood of drought.

Mike Totey, ODF District Forester, concluded with an overview of landowners’ responsibilities for fire prevention. He began by describing the lands protected by ODF and subject to the fire rules. He then distinguished between industrial fire rules that apply to forest operations and “regulated use” rules that apply to public use. Besides following the rules and exercising common sense, landowners should be aware that most of the really bad fires in our area occur under dry, east-wind conditions, and should exercise extra caution when these conditions prevail.
An article by Amy Grotta, OSU Extension forester for Washington, Columbia and Yamhill counties, on “early seral” forests recently caught my attention. What exactly is it, and should I be doing something different in managing our trees are two questions that have been bouncing around in my head since reading Amy’s article. The term “seral” wasn’t a term I could define.

The formal definition I found on the Internet in the Wikipedia stated, “A seral community is an intermediate stage found in ecological succession in an ecosystem advancing towards its climax community. In many cases more than one seral stage evolves until climax conditions are attained” A less formal and easier to understand definition stated that a seral community is the name given to each group of plants within the succession from beginning to end.

I couldn’t find agreement on how many seral stages there are in moving bare forest land to an old growth forest, but this didn’t much surprise me. I still remember my ecology class at OSU where we learned that Western Hemlock was the climax species for our west-side Pacific Northwest forests. In theory that’s right but in reality, we most often see Douglas-fir as the predominate species in our old-growth forest.

It appears that one’s interests determines the exact description each seral stage and the number of seral stages from beginning to end of a forest. The definition for “early seral” that made the most sense for me was the period from bare land to crown closure. I found that this phase of a forest is important to a lot of bugs, birds and other critters that depend on the habitat provided by that stage.

Twenty or thirty years ago articles I found were by biologists interested in this forest stage, i.e., early seral, for what it provided deer and elk which they were managing. As we all get smarter over time, early seral is now also seen as very important for song birds, some plant species and for a host of other reasons too numerous to list, and for me to understand. I have come to appreciate that the forests we manage are complex, and there is a lot to learn about the role they play in having a healthy planet. And for me, that’s a fun part of being a tree farmer. Leaving our forestland better than we found it is one of the most common goals I hear from other tree farmers.

There’s a lot of research dealing with early seral forests, and the Oregon Forest Resource Institute, OFRI, is hosting a workshop in November to highlight what the researchers are finding. Stay tuned as more information is provided on this workshop.

In closing, one of the neatest things I learned in my quest to find more about early seral is that my messy young plantation should be seen as a good thing, not an embarrassment. After planting in 2006, I spot sprayed 5-foot squares around the trees for two years, and then cut the brush, mostly Scotch Broom and alder, out of the plantation in 2010 and 2011 to make sure the trees were free-to-grow. The Doug-fir and redcedar are looking good but there’s a lot of “junk” in between. It seems that if I can continue to control the invasives, Scotch Broom, and let the rest grow until crown closure takes over, I’m managing a healthy forest stand. That is until our collective growth in knowledge tells me differently.◆
The Scio Odd Fellows Hall hosted the annual Linn County Small Woodlands potluck and business meeting. Over 85 people attended the popular event. A fantastic array of homemade food covered the tables.

First on the program was information about the results of the college scholarship recipients over the latest school session. All of our students are doing well. Katie Kohl read letters from the students and then introduced one student, Nate Melcher, to the group. Nate told about his studies and expressed his appreciation for the scholarship. Next, Fay Sallee introduced ten 4-H forestry students who had received scholarships for their studies and activities over the last year. Each student described a portion of what they had been doing over the last year and thanked the association for their support.

Officers and a director were elected to lead the organization over the next year. We are fortunate to have a dedicated membership that provides significant volunteer time to keep the chapter active and viable.

Ann and Rod Bardell were recognized for their 2013 Tree Farmer of the Year award. They were the runner up for the Oregon Tree Farmer of the Year in 2013. Joe Holmberg presented Ann and Rod with Tree Farm jackets.

Tim Otis presented a slide show on a very interesting bridge project on which he worked last summer. Very large logs were used to build a structure across a stream leading to a mine restoration project.

Jim James, OSWA Executive Director, presented a review of OSWA activities over the last year. He described the results of the 2013 legislation season, which included several bills that will help tree farmers. One bill allows a forestland owner to build a pole barn on their tree farm under the same rules followed by agriculture farmers.

The always popular door prizes were drawn throughout the evening. Thanks went out to all the people that donated items.

The annual seedling sale and Goods-from-the-Woods fair sponsored by the Linn County chapter was held on February 15th at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center in Albany. About 200 - 300 people attended the event. As in prior years, we sold out of almost all species and made a lot of seedling buyers very happy. Our pre-order sales constituted about 75 to 80% of the total orders; the pre-orders are important to allow us to adjust supplies to meet demand.

This event would not be possible without the strong support by many of the chapter's members helping with picking up the seedlings from the nurseries, packaging of the pre-orders and customer interaction on the day of the sale. Also the college scholarship recipients and the Clever Clovers 4-H club members and their families provided lots of help.

We are looking for Linn Chapter members that would like to be on a committee to help us plan and prepare for the 2015 seedling sale. Our first meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2014, 7:00 pm at the Sallee’s home. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please call Fay or Sherm at 541-451-5322 or e-mail at sksallee@yahoo.com. Our first order of business is to select the seedlings we wish to offer — early ordering is a must for several of the species.

The 2015 seedling sale date is moving to the first Saturday in February to accommodate the availability of the fairgrounds and to avoid a conflict with people's Valentine Day plans.
Cooperators sought for wildlife study
By Amy Comstock

Researchers at Oregon State University are seeking forest landowners to cooperate in a study of Purple Martins in and near the central Oregon Coast Range (Benton, Lincoln, Polk, Yamhill and Linn Counties). The Purple Martin is neither a threatened nor an endangered species, but its population trend and nesting distribution are not well understood. The Purple Martin is the largest among North American swallows. It feeds exclusively on airborne insects.

The objectives of the study are to estimate the size of the population nesting in snags of the forests of the central Coast Range, to determine what features of a habitat make it attractive to Purple Martins, and to determine whether Purple Martins reared in an artificial nest site will return to a natural snag to nest.

The researchers are seeking landowners anticipating clearcuts of 20-80 acres, who can leave some very large snags among the leave trees required by the Forest Practices Act. Ideally the very large snags would have a DBH of at least 20 in and a height of at least 60 ft, topped, not girdled, and there should be at least one of these large snags per five acres cut, well distributed over the entire cut area. The very large snags should be at least 150 ft from the edge of the clearcut. The study would not interfere with site preparation and planting after the harvest. The need for access to the land for monitoring is expected to continue for about 6 years. Obviously there would be details to work out for any particular site.

The research is led by Amy Comstock and Joan Hagar. If you are potentially interested in cooperating in this study, please contact Amy Comstock at comstoca@gmail.com or 971 322 9008.