Benton County chapter celebrated our 2019 Tree Farmers of the Year on Sept. 21 at Shiver River Farm with a forest tour and luncheon. Some 43 people attended. Diana Blakney, Sid Picht, & KC Thompson welcomed us to their family forestland located on the eastern flank of Marys Peak. We witnessed the results of long-term family management. Their most recent activities include diversity-focused thinning, and both riparian and in-stream projects.

The 171-acre farm has been in the family since 1921. The three Shiver

Lane couple named state's top tree farmer

By Mike Barsotti
OSWA President

Gordon and Gail Culbertson of Lane County have been named as Oregon’s 2019 Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year. Their efforts were honored by the Oregon Tree Farm System on Oct. 26 during an annual awards luncheon at The Oregon Garden in Silverton.

The Culbertsons’ 72-acre property is in the Coast Range of Lane County, about halfway between Eugene and Florence. They are being recognized for their multiple-use management of the land.

Both Gordon and Gail came from farming families. They purchased the property in 2007 so that they could, along with children and grandchildren, stay connected to the land and the rewards that come from working the land to produce products.

Gordon has worked in the forestry sector for 50 years. He has used his knowledge to improve the health of variously aged forests. The couple’s goals include income, family recreation, and wildlife. The Culbertsons have worked to reduce tree diseases, thin trees, improve bird habitat and eliminate invasive plant species, such as Scotch broom, Japanese knotweed and Himalayan blackberry.

The Oregon Tree Farm System also recognized five other family forest (continued p. 2)

Shiver River is textbook case for managing mixed age stands

By Karen Fleck Harding
Benton Chapter President

Benton County chapter celebrated our 2019 Tree Farmers of the Year on Sept. 21 at Shiver River Farm with a forest tour and luncheon. Some 43 people attended.

Diana Blakney, Sid Picht, & KC Thompson welcomed us to their family forestland located on the eastern flank of Marys Peak. We witnessed the results of long-term family management. Their most recent activities include diversity-focused thinning, and both riparian and in-stream projects.

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

(continued from p. 1)

landowners for their exceptional, sustainable forestry management. The other honorees were:

--KC Thompson, Sid Picht and Diana Blakney (Benton County)
--Alan, Rob, Don, Gary and Tim Guttridge (Clackamas County)
--Tim and Kathy Otis (Linn County)
--Ernie and Linda Rieben (Washington County)
--Harry and Bonnie Roberson (Yamhill County)

For 53 years, the Oregon Tree Farm System has recognized family forest landowners who provide forest benefits and products using sound forestry principles. Partnering with the Oregon Small Woodlands Association and the Oregon Forest Resources Institute, OTFS will be sponsoring a tour of the Culbertson’s tree farm July 25, 2020.

Lane County tree farm honored for outstanding forestry management

Two Lane County families owning forestland companies – Giustina Land & Timber and Giustina Resources – were recognized for 75 years of certified sustainable forestry. The two Giustina families were honored by the Oregon Tree Farm System at its annual awards luncheon.

In the early 1900s, Natale and Maddalena Giustina wanted their sons to have a better life and encouraged them to “Go to America”. They lived in San Vito di Cadore, a little village located high in the Alps of northeast Italy, where at that time

(continued on p. 8)
### OSU Extension Online Calendars

**Benton, Linn, and Polk Extension events:**
https://extension.oregonstate.edu/benton/forestry-natural-resources

Sign up for the *Compass and Needle* mailing list to receive an email notice when an event is scheduled.

Contact Jody Einerson:
jody.einerson@oregonstate.edu
541-713-5000

**Lane Extension events:**
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lane/upcoming-classes-events

Contact Lauren Grand:
lauren.grand@oregonstate.edu
541-579-2150

### Upcoming Events

**Lane County chapter annual meeting:** Thursday January 16, 5–8:30 pm, Eugene Elks - W11th. See p. 5 for details.

**Benton County chapter annual meeting** Saturday January 25, 10:30 am-2 pm, Beazell Forest, Kings Valley Highway, Philomath. See p. 12 for details.

**Lane County chapter annual seedling sale,** Saturday, February 1, 8 am- until sold out, Alton Baker Park, Eugene. See p. 5 for details.

**Linn County chapter seedling sale,** Saturday February 1, 8 am-noon, Linn County Fairground, Albany. See p. 9 for details.

**Lane County chapter board meeting,** Thursday February 13, 4-6 pm ODF West Lane, Veneta.

**Lincoln County chapter seedling sale,** Saturday February 29, 10 am-3 pm, 4-H Building, Lincoln County Fairgrounds, Newport. See p. 11 for details.

**Lincoln County chapter annual meeting,** Saturday March 28, 9:30-3 pm, Peter & Alice Bregman’s Eagle Roost Tree Farm, Bay View Rd., Waldport. See p. 11 for details.


**Woodland Information Night,** Wednesday March 4, 6:30 pm-8:30 pm, Benton County Library, Corvallis. See p. 12 for details.

**Ed Easterling Forest and Ranch Tour,** Saturday June 13, Wren. See p. 12 for details.

**2020 OSWA Annual Meeting:** July 23,24 & 25, Eugene/Springfield
Fall has brought us pleasant and mild weather but also a shortage of rain, which if it should continue, may lead to problems with our 2020 summer fire season and restrictions on forests operations. We hope for the best and simply will wait out the winter to see what happens. Our hopes are we catch up on the rain and end the season closer to what we consider normal, between 50 – 60 inches of annual rain fall. As the weather has been mild you might say our log market has also been mild. The market is still active; however, prices continue to be lower than the highs we experienced in 2018. Mills struggle with sales, and in some cases have reduced production output to balance demand for their products. We also continue to experience uncertainty over tariffs and how they may impact forest products from manufactured lumber commodities to logs. We will see what summer brings and hope for a positive demand for our logs along with increased values.

The beginning of 2020 also brings another legislative session for Oregon. Even though this session is a short session, we still have bills that could impact us as forest land owners. There are proposals to change the Forest Practices Act along with implementing new carbon reduction regulations. Whatever your position on either one, you should be informed on what their impacts or benefits may be to us as forest land owners. Stay tuned to OSWA this upcoming year, as they will actively follow the legislation and update you as to its status. Fortunately, this past year’s legislative session came to closure with none of the proposed legislation impacting forestry passing. This upcoming year brings about another opportunity for the Lane County chapter to sponsor OSWA’s annual meeting. The meeting is scheduled for late July on the 23, 24 & 25. We have started planning for the event and are looking at providing a variety of subjects covering working forests. Should you have any ideas or interests in a topic, please let us know. We will be finalizing the agenda by March 2020. The tree farm tour will be held on Saturday July 25. It will be held on OSWA’s Tree Farm of the Year for 2019, Gordon and Gail Culbertson’s tree farm off Penn Road near Walton. Should you like to volunteer please let us know.

Also, with the beginning of the New Year, please update your membership in OSWA and pay your annual dues. Your support is critical to OSWA’s success and providing you the support and information so critical to managing your forest lands. Thanks for your past support and involvement.

Lane County Extension Forester: Lauren Grand – Lauren can be reached through the Eugene Office for Extension Service. 996 Jefferson St Phone: 541 579-2150 Eugene, OR 97402 email: lauren.grand@oregonstate.edu

Next quarterly Board Meeting: Thursday Feb. 13 2020, 4-6 pm ODF West Lane, Veneta – Thursday April 9 2020, 4-6 pm, ODF East Lane Springfield; Thursday June 25 2020 West Lane ODF, Veneta


Take care and enjoy your forest. We look forward to seeing you at LCSWA’s upcoming events.  

Lane County Chapter
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Daniel.J.MENK@oregon.gov
Lane County Small Woodlands Association’s Annual Meeting  
Thursday 16 January 2020  
Join us for an evening of fun and information  
Eugene Elks Club, West 11th Avenue

This is an opportunity for a pleasant evening dining out, visiting with Neighbors and getting updated on LCSWA’s current and future activities

LCSWA’s guest speakers will be Christine Buhl. Christine is the State Entomologist and will provide us information on insects that are impacting our forests and what to expect as we move forward. Jim James, Executive Director of OSWA will provide an update on state wide activities impacting our members and what he sees as upcoming challenges and issues for forest lands owners. Members will be given an opportunity to ask questions of, or make comments and or recommendations to your board. Our meeting closes with LCSWA annual raffle of donated items.

LCSWA will have three board seats up for election and should you have any interest in serving on the board, put your name up for nomination during the meeting.

LCSWA would also like to remind all that we will be having the chapter’s annual seedling sale Saturday February 1, 2020 at Eugene’s Alton Baker Park. It will begin at 8am and continue until sold out.

Eugene Elks Club  
2470 West 11st  
Eugene, OR 97402 

Date: Thursday, 16 January 2020  
Times: 5:00 pm - Social  
6:00 pm - Dinner  
6:30 pm - Meeting  
8:30 pm – Adjourn

Dinner will be $15 per person
Please RSVP to Dick by January 15th: 541-687-1854 or e-mail rbeers2606@comcast.net  
Cell: 541-729-2516  
Other Questions: Mike Atkinson  
541-344-4991 or e-mail 1964coyote1963@gmail.com

This is a great opportunity to invite neighbors and friends to experience the benefits of being a LCSWA member. Please feel comfortable bringing a guest, especially anyone who might be interested in becoming a future member.

Your Board looks forward to receiving your feedback on activities, both past and future.

Join us for LSWA’s Annual Seedling Sale  
Alton Baker Park Saturday, 1 February 2020

Alton Baker Park  
501 Day Island Rd.  
Eugene, OR 97401

Species Available -  
Douglas-fir  
Western Red Cedar  
Redwood  
Noble Fir – Grand fir  
Ponderosa Pine  
Mixed Hardwoods  
Native Plant Species

LSWA is expecting to have around 5000 seedlings available. Pricing will be from $1.00 - $5.00 per seedling.

Date: Saturday, 1 February 2020  
Time: 08:00 am – until sold out  
Location: Alton Baker Park  
501 Day Island Road  
Eugene, OR 97401

LSWA Contacts:  
Mike & Connie Atkinson  
Phone – (541) 344-4991  
e-mail: 1964coyote1963@gmail.com

This event is a fundraiser for the Lane County Small Woodlands Association
Members of the Oregon Small Woodlands Association have varied goals for their land. While each may have a piece of paper showing they own property, they are but stewards of that land for a short while. As caretakers, they have an obligation to think of the effects of the choices they make about the land. Also, what about those effects on future generations? More importantly, what about the effects on the wildlife, residents of niches on the land yesterday, today and tomorrow?

“A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers, but borrowed from his children.”
— John James Audubon

While the early-seral Douglas-fir stand might provide some open space for birds and mammals, by the time the crowns close in one has, in effect, a 'desert' under the canopy, bereft of food sources and cover for animals, even for most birds, but especially for the mammals in a forest. I think Professor Jerry Franklin has it right:

"In forestry practices, we can see this emphasis on simplification from the level of the tree, where great efforts are being expended to create genetically uniform material, through the geometrically arranged stand to the landscape, where multiple age classes of conifer monocultures are sometimes cited as evidence of commitment to biological diversity. We must modify our treatments of forest stands and arrangements of forest landscapes to incorporate the objective of protecting biodiversity. This can be done with very little reduction in the production of commodities. Failure to do so will result in immense losses of genes and processes within the temperate zone.”
Jerry F. Franklin, Chief Plant Ecologist, USDA Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Bloedel Professor of Ecosystem Analysis, College of Forest Resources, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

There is a simple remedy:

**Diversity**

Diversity is one key for opening the door to a healthy forest. Different species, as well as multiple ages of trees and shrubs, promote a variety of food and cover for wildlife. Diversification promotes resilience; woodland owners might consider allocating space for big leaf maple, Oregon white oak, vine maple, wild cherry, or red alder. A mixed species stand provides habitat and food for a wide variety of birds, pollinators and animals. To be sure, they take space from more profitable species, but they add value to the forest by becoming habitat for the wonderful birds, animals, and pollinator species we all depend on and enjoy.

"I take a biocentric point of view. I look at things from the point of view of the Earth and the laws of ecology, as opposed to the anthropocentric point of view, where everything revolves around humanity.”
— Paul Watson

Our refuge, Bogwood, has from its inception been managed as a haven for birds, bats, bees, butterflies, bunnies and deer. Production of timber has always been at the bottom of our 'to-do' list. Thinning of conifers occurs, but less for timber production than for forest resilience and fire resistance. Different from many of you, we keep many 'ugly' trees and thin the straight ones. A harvest may someday occur, but certainly not to the detriment of our forest friends.

We leave snags and downed logs. We also build 'bio-dens' from thinning and slash for dozens of species of birds and other smaller animals. Hollows and cavities in standing snags can possibly become a haven for pollinators, or bluebird nests, or even roosts for bats. The tops serve as perches for birds of prey. The tree farmer's friend — bats — eat hundreds of mosquitos by night; barn and tree swallows do the same by day.

These wonderful, free benefits come from a living forest, with diversity as much as possible, adhering to the (continued on p. 7)
The first law of ecology is that everything is related to everything else.”
— Barry Commoner

That buck inhabiting a re-planted stand may indeed browse some small/younger plantation trees. Yet grazing deer also help to keep the understory shrubs and vegetation down, limiting the need for widespread herbicide use. If a landowner is fortunate enough to have a creek, beavers could be fostered. A pond holding winter runoff and replenishing aquifers may be better than having that water run off. Those ponds are also a haven for dozens of other beneficial forest species.

In short: by allowing diversity in wildlife species and maintaining habitat for them, a landowner gets the joy of viewing and receiving the benefits of wildlife on their land. I’d be first in line to call that a big “win/win.”

Finally, I would like to leave the reader with this parting thought; Next time you walk through your woods, take a moment; stop; listen for a birdsong or the buzz of the pollinators, do you see or hear them? If not, you may be growing a desert in the understory.

".....take a moment
stop
listen...." ◆

Visit Linn website

Use of the Linn County SWA website linncountyswa.org is on the rise —for good reason. Besides articles appearing in the Bark, the site has a breaking news component reflecting chapter activities. It is updated regularly. Check it out and tell your fellow tree farmers. ◆

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Linn Deputy Rodney David 541-967-3950 rdavid@linnsheriff.or

Lindberg Brothers Lumber Co., Inc.
Buying DF Logs, Timber & Timberland

Buying all grades of Douglas-fir logs — Prefer 16”+ on small end, no maximum.

Contact: Derek Lee, Timber Manager
541-935-2231 (office), 541-521-8352 (cell)
PO Box 309, Noti, OR 97461 www.swansonbros.com
Linn Outstanding Forestry Scholars

By Katie Kohl, Scholarship Chair

Our four scholars are amazing academic and in-the-field leaders as well as caring and thoughtful young people. We are grateful and proud and pleased they’ve chosen to study and work in the woods.

Gracie Olson Stutzman, Sweet Home, OSU Forestry Engineering junior, says, “School is great, I have a 3.93 GPA and love the classes I am taking this term: forest mensuration, watershed management, fluid mechanics and harvest operations.” Gracie enthusiastically worked at Cascade Timber Consulting in Sweet Home last summer doing inventory timber cruising and some sales layout, and she looks forward to more this summer. She’s now Gracie Stutzman after her marriage in July. She’ll help with our seedling sale February 1.

Daniel Virtue, Sweet Home, OSU Forestry Engineering Pro-school junior, “enjoys school, especially now since all my classes are directly related to forestry and forest engineering.” He also continues to achieve a 4.0 GPA. During the past two years he has been working for Cascade Timber Consulting and plans to continue at CTC this winter break and summer. He expresses his appreciation for LCSWA’s scholarship which “allows me to focus more on school rather than paying for college.” We can usually learn more of Daniel’s experiences at our annual meeting.

Jonah Nicholas, Albany, OSU Forestry Engineering senior, maintains a 4.0 GPA and took classes in forest policy analysis, linear programming, endangered species management and cartography which “confirmed my interest in forestry.” He also is working part time “doing both forest engineering and research and will continue working at the OSU Research Forest, maintaining the forest roads, keeping track of property boundaries, and preserving the infrastructure of the forest.” Working with Dr. Kevin Bladon and Dr. Catalina Segura on their hydrology research, now and through the summer, Jonah will focus on two projects: one analyzing the effect of stream buffers in timber harvests; the second looking at modeling the high-water level during winter flows.

During the summer, Jonah and a partner performed field work for the stream-buffer research project in California. Working with 18 streams in the Coast Range, they installed 22 sensors in each stream, measured the trees in the buffer zone around each stream, and used a high-resolution camera to measure the canopy closure. He’s eager to talk with more woodland folks about these experiences so come find him at our seedling sale!

Mikaela Gosney, Brownsville, our 2019 OSU Forest Management and Natural Resources graduate, “first worked for Olympic Resource Management in southern Oregon as their forester for four months before Hancock Resource Management’s Medford office recruited her as their silviculture forester, managing all things reforestation.”

Linn 4-H Scholars

By Fay Sollee
Education Chair

The 4-H members this year entered their record books at the Linn County Fair record book contest. They all did very well and qualified for our Linn County SWA chapter awards.

This year, 14 members applied for $1,600 in scholarships.

The candidates were: Jonathan Leever, Andrew Leever, Leeland Prock, Alister Prock, Emily Kinkade, Ryan Henry, Haley Tye, Conner Tye, Kaden Holt, Katie Fortner, Tristan Prock, Elizabeth Kinkade, Gabriel Bradford and Andrew Bradford. Scholarship amounts will be announced at the January 18 LCSWA annual meeting.

Their interviews were held on November 20. Our interviewers, Mary and Bob Brendle, and Larry and Nancy Mauter did a great job. They were impressed at what the members have been doing in the 4-H forestry project.

They worked hard to come up with the following awards: 1 Gold +, 5 Gold, 3 Silver +, 3 Silver, and 2 Green.

Chapter members will get a chance to meet some of the 4-H scholars at the potluck supper annual meeting. They will present a power point slide show, highlighting what they have done this past year in the 4-H forestry project. Unfortunately, most of the older members will not be able to attend, as they will be at the 4-H High Desert Leadership Conference. They have prepared statements that will be presented as part of the slide show by the members that can attend the annual meeting.

OSWA Honorees

(continued from p. 2)

there were few opportunities for a better life.

Their six sons emigrated to the United States. They eventually developed a woods products company known as Giustina Brothers Lumber Company, the predecessor of today’s Giustina Resources and Giustina Land & Timber.

The Giustinas realized that timberland values were going to increase over time, if managed well. Terms like “sustained yield,” “regeneration,” and “perpetual yield” appealed to their long-term perspective. In August 1944, Giustina Brothers Lumber Company certified some 5,200 acres in the Gate Creek area as sustainably managed forest land.

In 1990, Giustina Brothers split into two companies: Giustina Land & Timber and Giustina Resources. The ATFS certification stayed with each of the properties. Today, both companies maintain the stewardship, civic responsibility, and spirit of the Giustina family who have left their mark on the wood-products industry in Oregon.

Tim and Kathy Otis, Linn County 2019 Outstanding Tree Farmers

Linn County landowners Kathy and Tim Otis were recognized by the Oregon Tree Farm System for exceptional sustainable forestry management. They were honored at the Oregon Tree Farm System’s annual awards luncheon.

The Otis family owns 212 acres southeast of Lebanon. The property has been in Kathy Otis’ family for more than 150 years. Kathy’s great, great grandfather homesteaded a portion of this property, raising sheep. The land was mainly grass lands at that time. Over time, the land reverted to forests.

The Otis’ have planted more than 80 acres, thinned to improve stand health, and clearcut small patches.

Tim is a master woodland manager, active in the Linn County Small Woodlands Association. He has served as president, has served on the Calapooia Watershed Council, and is a Brownsville volunteer firefighter.

(continued p. 9)
Linn County 2020 Seedling Sale

By Bonnie Marshall

The Linn County chapter is proud to announce its 25th annual seedling sale. Proceeds will be used to fund Linn County 4-H forestry awards and college scholarships for students seeking a degree related to forestry or natural resources. What a great investment in our forestry future!

The sale will be held Saturday, February 1, 2020, from 8 am-noon, at the Linn County Fair & Expo, in Albany, just off I-5 at exit 234. There will also be seedling protector tubes with sticks, available on a first-come, first-served basis.

For the best selection, use the pre-order form. Your pre-paid order will reserve the seedlings for you, and they will be ready for pick-up on sale day between 8 and 11 am. Make checks payable to LCSWA, c/o Bonnie Marshall, 705 SW Larkspur Ct, Sublimity, OR 97385. All pre-orders must be in by January 18, 2020.

Seedlings listed as ‘plug’ were raised in a nursery and may come in a small, medium or large plug. Seedling sizes such as 1-0, 1-1, and 2-0 indicate years grown in their original seed bed (the 1st number) followed by years in a transplant bed (the 2nd number).

An information table will be set up at the sale, where you can view plant samples, see pictures, and read additional information about the seedlings. An OSU-trained Master Woodland Manager will be there to answer questions and identify which trees may be best suited for a particular location.

The Local Woods Fair will be held in conjunction with the seedling sale again this year. Artisans will be selling their wooden wares and various organizations will be present, providing useful information to small woodland owners. For more info about the Local Woods Fair, contact Mary Brendle at brendle@wildblue.net or (541) 367-2845.

For questions about the seedling sale, contact Bonnie Marshall at bonniem@wvi.com, (503)...

Benton County Tree Farmers of the Year honored

Sid Picht and sisters Diana Blakney and KC Thompson were selected Benton County’s 2019 Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year for the stewardship of their 142 acres of forests southwest of Philomath.

The siblings are carrying on the management vision for the forest developed by their mother, Emma Picht. The property has been in the family since 1921. Emma, who worked for the U.S. Forest Service, began the forest management in 1964 when her parents retired from farming. Sid, Diana, and KC inherited the property with the death of their mother in 2010. Emma worked with forest consultant Scott Ferguson.

The forest is being managed in uneven-age stands. Special attention has been given to improving fish habitat and the riparian areas along Rock and Griffith creeks that flow through the property. The streams are part of the Mary’s River watershed. The three siblings left Oregon to pursue professional careers. All are now retired. Sid and Diana returned to the area in 2017 and are working to learn how to carry on their mother’s legacy. Diana has recently completed OSU’s Master Woodland Management program. She and husband Bill are active members of the Benton Small Woodland Association. KC lives in Colorado but makes frequent trip back to the property. ✦

(continued from p. 8)
The Lincoln Co SWA annual tree farm tour on September 21 was hosted at the Don and Frieda Kessi timber and cattle ranch in the Coast Range in Harlan.

The tour began with everyone arriving at Don and Frieda Kessi’s property lying below the west slope of Mary’s Peak. Originally owned by Don’s father Delbert Kessi, the current farm has been operating for over 40 years, producing timber and cattle under Don’s management and ownership. We always look forward to OSWA annual tours. It was a fun day for getting together, and the weather was perfect. The tours are usually educational and this one was no exception.

Joe Steenkolk, with the help of Don Kessi, took charge of organizing the event. Sack lunches were provided by the chapter with the help of Jan Steenkolk. Transportation was provided to various parcel locations in the area. A special thanks to the family of Don and Frieda Kessi for spending many hours getting the roads and other details of the tour ready.

While coffee and donuts were served, everyone gathered in the yard next to the Janai and Caitlin Kessi home, and Don described aspects of the tour. Then the bus, vans, and trucks loaded up, and the caravan proceeded to the first stop about 3 miles up a winding road to the Sweet Home Ranch named after the Sweet Home Creek that flows through the narrow short valley. We viewed a recently harvested area that was predominantly a stand of alder. The plan is for this unit to be converted from alder to conifer, especially on the riparian management portions of the unit. Adjacent to this area is a 10-year old unit which received successive plantings consisting of California coastal redwoods (boomers can’t kill them), Douglas-fir, and Sitka spruce/red cedar planted side by side. Indications are that the spruce provides reasonable protection for the cedar from wildlife browsing before the spruce eventually is thinned from the cedar.

The second stop was at Klickitat Lake near the old lodge site. This small lake was created as result of a landslide many years ago and is a well-known fishing destination with an interesting history.

The next stop was an area of Sweet Home Ranch that had been thinned by Miller Timber in a cut to length operation 15 years ago. This part of the property consists of various tree stands ranging from 35 to 50 years of age. Questions were answered about costs and gross revenue realized from the cut to length operation. These stands of timber seem to be growing very well.

The last stop was some 2.5 miles away from another parcel known as the Burma Trail (Road) property. Elevation here is close to 1700 ft offering a spectacular view of the ridge tops and Marys Peak. Here in this setting, we grabbed our sack lunches and refreshments supplied by Jan Steenkolk. We enjoyed good conversations and were entertained by Delbert Kessi's and Thad Springer's first hand stories of the “Good ol’ Days” of the area. Many thanks to Gene Cooper and all others who attended and contributed to make the tour successful. ☻
Lincoln County Chapter News
By Judy Pelletier, Lincoln County Secretary

LCSWA Annual Tree Seedling Sale on Saturday, February 29, 2020
Location: 4-H Building, Lincoln County Fairgrounds, Newport
Time: Sale hours are 10 am – 3 pm or until supply runs out.
This annual event is designed to provide the public with affordable native tree & shrub seedlings. Joe Steere will manage the sale along with help of members. For questions and orders, please contact Joe Steere jsteere@miami-corp.com.

LC Chapter Annual Meeting
Location: Peter & Alice Bregman’s Eagle Roost Tree Farm, Bay View Rd., Waldport
Date: March 28, 2020.
Time: 9:30 am coffee and donuts, lunch at 12 pm – 3 pm.
The meeting will feature a luncheon, speaker, and a tour of the tree farm.
Registration for this event is to Judy Pelletier: RSVP judyp2530@gmail.com

A Letter of Recognition will be presented to Alan Fujishin & Joe Steere for leadership on the overturn of the Aerial Spray Ban. The measure encouraged vandalism, frivolous lawsuits, and fear because of misleading claims and uninformed political agendas.
Technically, herbicides are regulated by the state under OR Pesticide Control Act (ORS 634). Alan Fujishin is credited for the win, having served as Director of the Coalition to Defeat Measure 21 with the help of Joe Steere, Rex Capri, & Peter Bregman.

Sympathy cards with condolences were extended from the board and members to:
--Betty Denison & Family. Jim was a lifelong member of LCOSWA.

Extension Forester Dan Stark addresses forest health concerns with course participants
photo credit Pete Angwin USFS

Basic Forestry Short Course to be offered in April in Newport
By Dan Stark, Lincoln Co. Ext. Forester

Woodland owners, living-on-the-landers, and everyone else interested in learning more about basic forestry principles and practices are invited to attend a four-course series that will explore mapping your own property, assessing forest health, creating a defensible space to improve your property’s chances of surviving a wildfire, and more. The course series will conclude with an optional Saturday field trip (date to be determined, most likely May 9).

All courses will take place at the OSU Extension office in Newport, 1211 SE Bay Boulevard, on consecutive Wednesday evenings, from 6 to 8 pm, beginning April 15, 2020. The cost for this four-course series is $50 per person and $60 per couple.
Registration will begin on Monday, February 3. The Lincoln OSU Extension office is a wheelchair-accessible venue and prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials. For more information, contact Dan Stark, OSU Extension Forester, at 503-325-8573 or email dan.stark@oregonstate.edu. You may also call the Lincoln County Extension office at 541-574-6534.

A Letter of Recognition will be presented to Alan Fujishin & Joe Steere for leadership on the overturn of the Aerial Spray Ban. The measure encouraged vandalism, frivolous lawsuits, and fear because of misleading claims and uninformed political agendas.
Technically, herbicides are regulated by the state under OR Pesticide Control Act (ORS 634). Alan Fujishin is credited for the win, having served as Director of the Coalition to Defeat Measure 21 with the help of Joe Steere, Rex Capri, & Peter Bregman.

Sympathy cards with condolences were extended from the board and members to:
--Betty Denison & Family. Jim was a lifelong member of LCOSWA.

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For information about Northwest Hardwoods, please visit: northwesthardwoods.com
Dave Ehlers takes helm this January

By Karen Fleck Harding, Benton County Chapter President

At the January Benton annual meeting, I will be turning over the reins to Dave Ehlers to serve as our Benton Chapter President for 2020-2022. Dave will most assuredly bring thoughtful and progressive energy to our Board and membership. Dave served as President-Elect over the past year and was instrumental in developing the great program for the annual OSWA meeting that we hosted here in Corvallis last June.

It has been a pleasure to serve as President over the past two years. This is primarily due to our great board members, who rise to each occasion, taking responsibility and making things “happen”. And we made a lot of things happen. My many thanks to all of you for making my job so easy and enjoyable. If you would like to be part of this great team, be sure to come to the Benton annual meeting on January 25 (see details in upcoming events) and volunteer! We meet the first Monday of each month at 4 pm at the Benton Extension Service office.

"....our great board members, who rise to each occasion....."

One of my goals during my tenure was to improve our information sharing through our web page. I think we’re almost there. With OSWA’s recent revamp of their site, we can now more easily post and manage our chapter’s page and keep it up-to-date and interesting. Be sure to check it out at https://www.oswa.org/blog/benton/. Let me know what you think and what more you would like to see there. And while you’re there, if you haven’t already done so, you can renew your membership for 2020 online now. I tried it and it was fast and easy. —

Benton County annual meeting January 25

By Pat Boren Program Chair

Benton Chapter SWA 2020 Annual Meeting
Saturday, January 25, 10:30 am to 2:00 pm
10:30, coffee and conversation ; 11:00 meeting
Location--Beazell Memorial Forest and Education Center,
37283 Kings Valley Hwy, Philomath, OR, 97370

Program will be “The Art and Design of Sustainable Trails”
Presented by Matt McPharlin, OSU Research Forest, Recreation Field Coordinator & Volunteer Coordinator
Meeting will include business meeting, awards, election of officers, door prizes, and log report. Lunch $15.00
RSVP by January 17 to Benton County Extension office, 542-766-6750 or jody.einerson@oregonstate.edu for a head count for lunch. Pay at door.

Got Weeds? Controlling Grass and Weeds with Herbicides
There are many approaches to vegetation management, beginning with keeping new weeds out, mechanical or physical controls such as mulching, mowing or pulling, and the use of herbicides. Many people use a mix of two or more of these approaches.

This day-long work shop will focus on control of grass and weeds with herbicides. It will cover the basics of the safe and effective use of herbicides for grass and weed control (we will not address brush control). Topics will include relevant rules, key herbicides, how they work, and correct application methods. There will be some pre-work reading assigned before the work shop.

Date-Saturday, February 15, 2020
9 am to 3 pm, Cost $15, Lunch on you own
Location-Benton County Fairgrounds, Solar Building
Registration deadline Monday, Feb 10 or when full
For more information contact: Jody Einerson (jody.einerson@oregonstate.edu) or call Benton County Extension office 541-766-6750, Attendance will be limited.

Woodland Information Night
March 4, 2020
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Benton County Library Meeting Room
Topics:
-GIS Tools Available to Woodland owners by county services
  Doug Sackinger-Benton County Public Services
-Species Selection in a Changing Climate
  Glenn Ahrens -OSU Extension
-Drones in Forestry- uses, types, regulations and more
-Log Report
This event is free and open to the Public. Benton SWA coordinates this information night. See you there!
Contact person- Pat Boren  borenwood99@gmail.com

Tour at Ed Easterling Forest and Ranch
June 13, 2020
The tour of this interesting property will include Forest diversity, Forest thinning projects, Agroforestry and more.
Watch for more details. —
a perpetual forest on the property that can be enjoyed by succeeding generations of the family.”

In 1964, Emma began working with consulting foresters to ensure that her vision of sustainable forest practices became reality. Scott Ferguson of Trout Mountain Forestry has been a part of the property’s forest management since 1984. Scott joined us for the forest tour to share his knowledge and history of the property.

Scott described Shiver River timber as stratified into nine stands of similar forest composition and age. A 2010 cruise showed a total of over two million board feet of timber, with about 60% of the volume in Douglas-fir and 30 percent in grand fir.

The owners generally harvest every two to five years, returning to any one stand no more frequently than every 10 years. Since 2010, they have conducted three harvests. Depending on the stand conditions, thinning may consist of cutting the larger trees, or the smaller trees, or a mix. The owners and their foresters believe that creating or retaining a balance of variable aged trees and variable density is a sustainable management approach. This includes creating openings of one to three acres with at least 10 percent of the prior stand retained as legacies. Legacy trees may include older trees, the largest individual trees of each species, hardwoods, uncommon species, snags, or wildlife trees.

We looked at a stand that was thinned over a two-year period in 2013 and 2014. The stand was 40 acres with a well-stocked mix of Douglas-fir and grand fir that was previously thinned in 1997. The most recent thinning was a single tree selection that resulted in single tree openings and a few three tree openings. It yielded 333 MBF.

Another stand was salvage-logged in the 1960s after damage from the Columbus Day storm. The site has naturally regenerated a structurally diverse timber stand. A short meander out into the woods showed us how lush the forest floor is with organic matter and understory vegetation. They have only infrequently had a need to replant due to the retention of multiple age classes and variable density that encourages abundant natural regeneration. However, one 5.7- acre, well-stocked stand of Douglas-fir that had suffered blowdown, so it was clear-cut and replanted in 2018.

Because of historical sustainable forest practices, the property exhibits one of the best examples of uneven-aged forest structure in northwest Oregon. The property also had one of

(continued p. 14)
the first FSC certified harvests in Oregon.

We carefully tiptoed across the rocks in Griffith Creek (no one slipped in!) and hiked down to the banks of Rock Creek. In August 2014, the owners participated in the Rock Creek Fish Habitat Project with the Marys River Watershed Council. In my time working with the Watershed Council, this was one of my favorite projects and I was asked to share its story with the group. Rock Creek originates from Marys Peak and is one of the coldest sources of streamflow in the Marys River watershed. To help retain the cool water temperature, and to support salmonid habitat on Rock Creek and Griffith Creek, Douglas-fir logs were placed at 15 locations on Shiver River farm and another 25 locations upstream on Corvallis watershed lands. Each site was selected for its low terraces that could support gravel accumulation and floodplain interaction. Besides supporting spawning habitat, deep gravels help the stream stay cooler as water flows below the surface rather than fully exposed over bedrock. In time, the logs will collect debris that will trap the gravels. But in the short term, much of the debris is being trapped by the most upstream log placements.

Western redcedar and native hardwoods were planted in riparian areas where blackberry were removed. Large stock nursery trees have given them a head start in competing with lush riparian vegetation – they’re growing vigorously. While the log placements are a short-term fix, the planted trees will provide the future large wood for the stream.

Scott shared some of his thoughts on the effects of climate change on our forests. As we all know, the productive forests of Oregon are some of the best natural ecosystems for capturing carbon and removing CO2 from the atmosphere. Scott thinks that the most important thing forest owners can do to combat climate change is to grow trees longer. Growing our conifer forests and plantations to older ages (60-to-80 years old) would increase carbon storage because total annual wood production (MAI in forester jargon) is maximized by growing forest stands to ages of more than 50 years. Also, clear-cut areas actually “give off” CO2 for the first 10-to-20 years after harvest (from decomposing slash and increased breakdown of organic matter in the soil).
What I found most intriguing was Scott’s discussion of the role of forest soil humus and complex lignin. Older trees in our forests provide future organic material for soils that is qualitatively different from that produced by the decomposition of young trees. The soil humus that is produced by young trees is less stable or less durable than that produced by older trees, which have more complex lignin molecules. Another way of saying this is that young trees decompose more rapidly than older trees. Shorter rotations in our forest stands will, over time, result in the loss of humus in our forest soils, particularly where the soils are exposed to sun and increased temperatures. Also, soil humus is really good at holding moisture and resisting soil erosion – crucial attributes as our forests become drier in the summer and experience heavier rainfall events in winter.

".....soil humus is really good at holding moisture......."

None of the three Shiver River owners have a background in forestry. They unapologetically rely on the expertise of Trout Mountain’s foresters, including Scott Ferguson, who assisted their mother in achieving her vision. They also take advantage of the trainings available through the OSU Extension Service, and the many resources available through Oregon State University, OSWA, Marys River Watershed Council, Marys Peak Stewardship Group and others. Diana and her husband Bill have been active in OSWA and have attended many of its sponsored tours. They are also working hard to improve their forestry skills by taking advantage of the OSU Extension workshops. Diana is a recent graduate of the Master Woodland Manager course!

Diana maintains the family’s farm blog: https://www.shiverriver.net. Created by Sid before their mother died, it is now an important communication tool that provides an ongoing historical record, complete with photographs of farm projects and other goings-on to keep the three siblings and the next generation fully engaged.

The siblings’ stewardship exhibits a deep commitment to the land that has profoundly shaped their family for nearly 100 years. Building on that legacy and on their love for each other, this property will likely continue providing pleasure for the family, diverse habitat for fish and wildlife and a vigorous forest with income to support their sustainable forest practice.

"Building on that legacy..... this property will likely continue providing pleasure for the family, diverse habitat for fish and wildlife and a vigorous forest with income to support their sustainable forest practice"
**Woods Words**

*Knothead*—A man whose head is as useless as a knot in a board.

*Knows more tricks than a monkey on a clothesline*—A smart logger.

*Knuckle*—A joint on a piece of machinery.

*Lag a drum*—To bolt on wooden or metal slats to build up the diameter of a donkey drum and hence get greater speed in line handling.

*Donkey*—An endless variety of steam, gas, diesel, or electric power plants, plus drums to hold wire rope; all used to haul logs from the woods, to load at landings, move equipment, rig up trees, and in the old days, to lower cars down inclines.