



*An Association of Small
Woodland Owners
Dedicated to the Protection,
Management, Use, and
Enhancement of Oregon's
Forest Resources
...and having a good time
doing it*

	Joe Moore	541-993-0522	Terry Lamers	503-930-3946	Ed Miller	503-787-3727
<u>Directors</u>	John Hettwer	503-873-6583	Jock Dalton	503-623-2817	Erik Lamers	503-931-7751
	Pat Wheeler	503-838-1436	Mark Havel	503-876-2197	Ryan McBride	503-983-8478
	Secretary/treasurer		President, Newsletter editor		Vice President	

Greetings OSWA members, families and friends; Winter-Spring 2021, Feb, March, April

These early spring days are so nice to see develop. First the buds of January, and the floods and blowdown, but then the first openings of a new year. Your friends here at OSWA, the directors in the letterhead and all the other members that are reading this I'm sure, are all wishing each other a new and developing season, year and growth ring. We have some new things coming up and new ways of getting some value out of our membership.

But not so fast, of course, as the virus still rages in the US and we have to be careful with how we interact as an association and members. I've probably mentioned in earlier newsletters that I feel almost guilty for being affected so little by the Covid virus and perhaps you are in the same position as I am, going about my not so crowded life, outside of the city.

So much has changed in how organizations work together, or don't, and it is especially critical for groups like ours where most of the benefit of our association is in getting together. Meetings are held remotely and via the computer or hand-held palm brains and the amount of online information is staggering, such as the two links below. Much of the information a person needs to graduate is easily available, but what about in practice?

<https://knowyourforest.org/TreeSchoolOnline>
<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/forests>

The directors on the letterhead met remotely a few days ago, and as in the days when we used to do it together at a restaurant somewhere; we shared ideas and ways to go about getting a good experience planned for our members to gain from and enjoy. Many of the other chapters are having meetings and presentations by one or more of the conference call Zoom-type programs and everyone can participate to the limits of their ability to stare at the screen. As we talked, we found that while most of us do Zoom around to some degree, it is less than our ideal way of getting together or even getting anything done. Those that do it more are of course more comfortable with it, and really, the world will probably not be the same again, with folks 'working' from home. Bla bla bla, bla, bla.

The main things we discussed at the directors 'table' were having something to do together this quarter as well as discussion of how we can hold our annual meeting. Last year you will remember, as the Covid situation was just taking a good grip, we sort of punted on the annual meeting and just put some of the

details into a newsletter and called it good. This year we must do a little better we feel, and so will either cave into a Zoom meeting around our normal meeting time of May, or wait another quarter and see if enough of us have been vaccinated for us to hold a real meeting, or yet another possibility is having it in the summer, would be to have it outside.

But, on Saturday February 20th at 10 am we will meet in person, outside, under the generous overhangs at your pres' shop for a **Book and Puzzle Swap** event. This may be the **First Annual** event of its kind or it may just be a flash in the pan, as we haven't had something like this before, so that we might know if it is worth doing again! Bring a bag of books and puzzles and leave with that same bag full of different books and puzzles. **We will all be issued a Covid Stick** approximately 6 ft long with which to remind each other how far apart we need to stay. A poke in the ribs is worth at least 100 words. If you want to attend and haven't been to the Havel place, please call the number on the letterhead for directions. **This will be outside with any weather possible but sheltered from rain or snow, with coffee, hot chocolate and some pastries most likely.**

The other ideas that have been floated but will remain on the list of things to do when we can do it safely, are tours and presentations on the fires in Marion County, tours of some mills that pay high log prices for high quality logs, presentations by economists on the repercussions of last autumn's fires, as well as fire rigs, seedlings and treatment of slash by burning and other methods. We may also work with our extension foresters Brad and Glenn in discussion or appreciation of the videos that OSU extension provides.

We are all individuals, or couples or families that have our places and our projects, and as in a couple of the last newsletters we have a short article by one of our OSWA member couples; Chris and Kathy Jensen

Our First Harvest

We've been OSWA members for quite a while, attending tours and meetings, mostly here in the Marion-Polk county area, learning from others. Our property, however, is 200 miles away in Coos County, two miles from the beach. We realized for a long time that we would need help with planning and executing harvests so, in 2017, we had a plan written for our 72 acres. It is now certified by ATFS and we had our first harvest in 2020.

We completed two separate operations. First, we needed access to the eastern half of the original 30 acre parcel which my parents purchased fifty years ago. It is bisected by two fish bearing streams. In the second operation, we thinned seven acres of Douglas fir on the adjacent parcel that we purchased in 2007 which never had any management. Both the thinning and road construction involved harvesting trees up to 65 years old. We harvested just over 100 mbf of saw logs and over 200 tons of pulp logs. A side benefit of the road building was salvaging a bunch of dead Port Orford cedar and having a portable mill come in and make us a mountain of high grade lumber. The mills did not want it.

We made the right decision to hire consultants to make all of the arrangements. The company we worked with was able to design our bridge and road and get everything blessed by ODF and ODFW as well as filing all of our NOAPS for the logging. We learned all about getting the trees from the stand to the mill and the forestry lingo that goes along with it. We were on site every day and enjoyed getting to know the crew and the truckers. We also learned that two people in their 60's shouldn't burn 80 slash piles in one day. Maybe 15 or so would be about right. We will continue with our plan and have another unit thinned this summer. In the mean time we are still cleaning up brush and will probably be interplanting some shade tolerant species in parts of the thinned unit.

We look forward to the time when we can all meet together again for more great OSWA tours (and barbeques) 😊.

Chris and Kathy Jensen