Education

Landowners say Howdy Neighbor! as a First Act to Sustain their Family Forests

As attendees of the first series of Full Spectrum Forestry Howdy Neighbor! events will testify, Oregonian family woodland owners have a lot more in common than you might imagine and are ready to help each other ensure that privately owned family woodlands are a thriving part of Oregon’s landscape in 2050. While conflicts have dominated press coverage over management of our state and federal lands, and ballot initiative-after-ballot initiative try to find a public policy solution to private property and market-based issues, the 31,000-plus family woodland owners in Oregon have quietly gone about their business. (continued on page 3/ Education)

Forest Dan and many new friends have fun sharing ideas, opinions and experiences about owning family forests.

2007 Fireside Review

Good Bye 2007, Hello Future!

As we move toward a new year, it seems a good time to remember all that we achieved in in the past twelve months and how we can continue on our mission of providing opportunity to woodland owners in 2008.

Last Year’s Achievements

January. OSWA geared up for the 2007 legislative session with positions in place on our top issues as directed by your Board of Directors (continued on page 5/“2007”)
The OSWA Vision

To see privately owned family woodlands are a thriving part of Oregon's landscape in 2050.

Our Mission Statement

To provide opportunity to Family Woodland Owner by:

- Educating and informing the owners of forested tracts and the public regarding forestry and family forestland management issues.

- Providing a medium for the exchange of ideas about family forestland by land owners, public agencies, consultants and timber industry personnel.

- Serving as a forum to make recommendations for investigating and solving problems, and for improving forest management, harvesting, and marketing.

- Disseminating information on the establishment, growth, harvesting and marketing of forest crops produced on family forestlands, and to foster the wise use and protection of forests and encourage better forestry practices.

- Representing the owners of family forestlands to the general public and before legislative bodies and regulatory agencies.

- Complying with ORS Chapter 65 and as authorized by ORS 65.061.

President’s Message...

by Mike Barnes

Howdy fellow tree farmers. I thought I should open by using our new “howdy” slogan. The “Howdy Neighbor” events we held in September and October were a real success. We managed to attract quite a few non-members, and even added a few of them to our membership roles. With that success, we look to repeat this format around the state in ‘08.

Have you attempted to sell a log lately? Wow what a shock. The log buyers are hiding behind their desks as prices continue to drop and the boss lets them know how little they can offer for logs during the limited times they can even take logs. But not to worry, this too will pass. We, as long-rangelookers, can understand that log prices will likely climb as time goes by. How much time? Let me know if you have that answer.

I recently attended a conference at OSU titled, Oregon Forests at the Crossroads. I spoke on the perspective of the family forest owner. I reminded those in attendance (some 200) that it is family forest owners who are literally at the crossroads of most rural roads in Oregon. We own the lands that are most visible to our city dwelling neighbors and provide a variety of benefits that those city dwellers “expect” us to provide. We are often looked on as a concern or problem, and as responsible for fragmentation and land change. So be it. We will not disappear and -in fact- there may be more of us as time goes on.

Some of us prefer to live in a rural setting and not compelled to live in a condominium within a quarter mile of light rail and ride our bike to work. The day it is not possible to dream about owning a piece of land and working to make that dream come true, is the day we are no longer at a crossroad but at a dead end. I would hope as policy makers and agency folks work to shape our future that the perspective of private ownership is not lost. OSWA, as an organization, will do its part to keep that perspective alive.

Reminder, mark those calendars for a trip to the exciting city of Florence on April 24-26. I promise you the best annual meeting ever. You will even have a chance to meet the other two Barnes brother foresters! That, in itself, should be enough to warrant a trip to Florence. Watch for a full schedule of events soon.

Until next time.......
And now they are organizing themselves to adapt to the changing face of Oregon. The Full Spectrum Forestry Howdy Neighbor! tours were designed by landowners, for landowners. The aim of the tours was to encourage landowners to take leadership in the conversation about their forests, share knowledge, and organize to act.

The first event in Sandy, at John and Carol Belton’s family forest, attracted 35 people. By the time of a second tour at the Hayes family property on Mount Richmond, near Gaston in Yamhill County, the number grew to 55. The final tour at the Havel Family Forests in Polk County, saw over 90 landowners brave a rainy day to share stories on what works for them.

As well as seeing a new landowner question-led format, the events unveiled a new forest education character call Forest Dan, (aka Mark Havel). He and other OSWA leaders have noticed a growing need for landowner’s educational efforts that answer practical questions, quickly and effectively.

“I have been touring the country for years talking to family forest landowners as part of my log arch business; most people today don’t have a lot of time to attend classes about one specialized subject or another and have little interest in becoming foresters. They want practical information and an opinion on what will work on their land.”

Attendees commented that these tours are fun and they enjoy sharing experiences and knowledge with each other in a relaxed atmosphere.

Belinda Pearl, of Portland had this to say, “I liked the tours because my husband (Mitch) and I were able to be ourselves. They’re a great low pressure way to have face-to-face conversations, and as a couple, we can follow up on things we have learned when we get home. It’s cool because I can help others, and others can help me.”

She continued “Mitch is much more advanced in woodland knowledge and terminology at present. I’m an extreme novice. I’m a recovering city slicker. I was worried about being perceived as another dreamer with woodland, but what I found was a group who were supportive and committed to a labor of love, despite the fact they do not see a lot of social recognition. The community of woodland owners wants to be tight.”

Belinda finished by saying “With the presentation having differing views and styles of traditional lectures, both of us could follow along. We felt comfortable asking ques-
tions, and the group was not intimidating. Mitch was able to enrich his level of advanced learning. Experts were there to talk to during breaks and walking to the next site. There were multiple ways to learn, and all were really friendly.”

Another bonus of the events is that, given the right kind of support, woodland owners can lead the state in innovative, cost-effective efforts to engage with folks who would want to continue to learn. Steve Russelle thanks tour organizers, “I enjoyed it thoroughly. I want to come to a chain saw operation and safety class. Is the date set for that, and is it too early to make a reservation for the wife and I?”

Mike Barnes, President of OSWA, had this to say about the effort, “We were looking to have fun and plant seeds of knowledge that lead to people becoming engaged. 87 of 125 folks who attended one or more of the tours were non-members. We were very encouraged by the style of the day and the feeling of camaraderie that developed as we shared stories and ideas. This is the first year we, as an association, have organized such an effort. There is no doubt we will be doing it again.”

These events were hosted by:
Volunteers of Oregon Small Woodlands Association, the Oregon Small Woodlands Association state office and Forest Dan.

These events were supported by:
Marion and Polk Small Woodlands Association, Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association, Yamhill County Small Woodlands Association, Yamhill Soil and Water Conservation District, Family Forests of Oregon, Oregon Forest Resources Institute, Oregon State University Extension, Stimson Lumber Company, Managed Forest program. We thank you for your support.

Want to get involved in 2008? OSWA is looking for family forests around the state to host a Howdy Neighbor event. Contact Mike Gaudern at the OSWA state office to sign up today!
2007 Fireside Review

Continued from Page 1/ “2007”

The legislature reviewed Board of Forestry appointments, and we planned an OWSA Membership Day At The Capitol for May. An unusual legislative session is set for February 4-29, 2008. January’s Update also acknowledged the award of 2006 Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year Ken and Karin Faulk of Benton County.

March. The front page held that great photo of Ken Faulk and “his” giant oak tree. We also heard from Kristaina McNitt with a legislative review of the land use hearings and “heartfelt” public testimony; and acknowledged the honor by the Board of Forestry to member Ilene Waldorf by dedicating a ponderosa pine in recognition of her forestry leadership.

April. Susan Watkins (Yamhill County member) gave an update on The Big Look, a governor-commissioned task force to examine the state’s land use laws and recommend changes. We heard news of the Log Arch and Havel Designs of member Mark Havel, and a Committee for Family Forestlands report by members Bill Arsenault and Gary Springer. Kristina McNitt’s legislative corner article reviewed 47 active bills including Senate Concurrent Resolution 4 recognizing member and former Senator Bob Kintigh on the occasion of his award as 2006 National Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year.

June. The successful annual meeting at Adair saw over 200 people attend and Lyn Nichols of Columbia County won the 2007 Riggin Slinger, OWSA’s premier award for outstanding volunteer service. OSWA also hosted a Day At The Capitol, and acknowledgement of the Faulk’s Landowner Stewardship Award granted by The Wildlife Society. Director Gaudern’s discussion of family forest landowner’s “Top 10 Issues for Survival” that stemmed from the Committee for Family Forestlands Symposium at Oregon State University. The newsletter’s forestry memorial segment honored the sudden passing of our Update editor Arlene Whalen.

July. New OSWA leadership positions announced, Dave Schmidt and Donna Heffernan joined the Executive Committee with Roy Hendrick, III, as reappointed. 2007 membership opinion survey summarized and reviewed. Members had a wide variety of opinions on Measure 37, were interested in more information on fire education, law and insurance, and hope to see OSWA develop a position on carbon trading. There was also a review of the draft spotted owl recovery plan released April 26, 2007, and a reference article for Woodland Fish and Wildlife Group.

August. The OSWA Board of Directors adopts a new strategic plan and public policies for the association based upon membership surveys, social trends and committee feedback.

September. OSWA’s new plan is unveiled to members in The Update. First “Howdy Neighbor Full Spectrum Forestry tours take place. OSWA begins full review of fire insurance and education program.

October. Membership advocacy handbook is sent to all members and other leadership.

Moving Forward
OSWA will host a number of Howdy Neighbor! tours in both rural and urban areas. These tours aim to attract family woodland owners and others, and will be great events for sharing information, finding new friends and enjoying the passion that is family woodland ownership. We will also be represented at the 2008 legislative session. Our annual meeting in Florence is seeing us team with Oregon State University Extension, who are helping develop a tree school program for the Friday events. Over the next twelve months, OSWA will look to continue its proud tradition of leadership, landowner education, advocacy, and development of new ideas. We are always looking for volunteers to help us with our wide range of programs, both at local and state level. If you feel as though your time has come to step up and get involved, please contact your local chapter or state office.

From all of us at OSWA, good luck and enjoy 2008!
The 41st annual Tree Farmer of the Year luncheon was held November 19 at the World Forestry Center in Portland, Oregon, in front of an audience of 150 people. The Mezger (Lake County) and Roberts (Klamath County) families of southern Oregon jointly claimed the 2007 Oregon Tree Farmer of the Year award.

Bob Mezger, a long time OSWA member, commented, “We purchased the tree farm in 1978 and have been adding to it, all along. The first purchase was a partnership, which dissolved and it moved into family ownership. Our current partners are my wife Pat, son Alan, and Donna and Jim Roberts. We will continue to work at controlling stocking, planting and harvesting, some thinning as needed. We will continue the transferal to our children.”

The other nominees for 2007 Tree Farmer of the Year were Lee and Ramona Mohnike-Benton County, John and Carol Belton-Clackamas County, Ace and Margaret Carter-Jackson County, Harry and Kathy McIntyre-Lane County, Gene and Jessie Cooper-Lincoln County, Neal and Valerie Bell-Linn County, Bob and Janice Gasser-Union County, Dirk and Liz Jacobs-Washington County, Bob and Arlene Luoto-Yamhill County. Almost all the nominees are members of OSWA.

The program also included presentations by Matt Donegan of Forest Capital Partners and Peter Dougherty, director of the private forest program, Oregon Department of Forestry.

OSWA would like to congratulate all nominees and winners, and looks forward to working closely with the Tree Farm System in the future for our common benefit.

(Mezger quote on page 15)
The main body that develops rules and regulations affecting family forests in Oregon is the Board of Forestry. Earlier this year, Governor Kulongoski made the decision to replace Chris Heffernan and Diane Snyder. OSWA would like to take this opportunity to thank both Chris and Diane for their sterling work on behalf of family woodland folks over the past few years. We would like to welcome the two new members, Peter Hayes and Cal Mukumoto, and wish them the best of luck as they take up their leadership roles.

One concern OSWA raised during the appointment process was the need to retain institutional memory, given the indication that pressure would continue to be placed on the Governor by the environmental community for more board changes to occur.

OSWA talked to State Forester Marvin Brown on how he has worked to ensure “institutional memory” is passed from one set of Board members to another.

As you will read, OSWA members can continue to provide feedback to the Board and department as we move forward. Thanks to the efforts of a number of members who regularly attend ODF committee meetings, we ensure that a regulatory framework is developed that helps us achieve our vision alongside the vision for the state, set in the Forestry Program For Oregon.

We could always do with more help. If you would like to get involved with promoting OSWA’s issues and policies at ODF or other agencies, please contact our state affairs coordinator, Kristina McNitt, or Executive Director Mike Gaudern.

State Forester Marvin Brown

In the past several years, the Board of Forestry has been transitioning to what I would call a “new operating model.” Talking to Mike Gaudern the other day, we realized that many people probably haven’t realized this, or the significance it plays in guiding the Board’s work over time.

Previously, the Board had their long term strategic plan, called the Forestry Program for Oregon, to provide general direction, then relied on (ODF) department staff to set board agendas from one meeting to the next. For all practical purposes setting the agenda is the same as setting board priorities and it seemed, to me, that the Board should be more engaged in that process.

In addition, as new members came on, it was very hard for them to know the background, the purpose and the context for anything that came before them. To improve how the Board operates, and to create better continuity when members change, they decided to add a couple of additional steps.

First were the “Work Plans.” Keying off of the Forestry Program for Oregon, members identified the key issue areas that they felt were important for them to work on. Currently this stands at seven broad areas: 1) Establishing the Forestry Program for Oregon as the state’s principle voice for forestry direction in Oregon; 2) Creating and using a more adaptive decision model for state forest management; 3) Connecting to urban populations; 4) Promoting the vitality of Oregon’s forests; 5) Appropriately dispatching their private lands’ regulatory responsibilities; 6) Incorporating concepts of dynamic ecosystems within their policy decision making; and 7) Continued enhancement of the state’s wildfire protection.

Each work plan provides background on the issue, objectives in dealing with the topic, the specific products they expect to deliver, and the timeframe for doing so. The “Timeframe and Milestones” section is pulled out of each plan and combined into an internal document that essentially becomes the set of board agendas for the foreseeable future. When Cal Mukumoto and Peter Hayes were recently nominated to the Board, my first advice to both was to read these plans, as it lets you know what’s currently being worked on, why, and what they can expect to be dealing with, in the near term.

These are intended to be very dynamic documents; the Board can change them whenever they wish. As things are completed, the plans are also revised. And to make sure that they are continuing to address the most important work, the Board also instituted a biennial “Issue Scan,” where broad input is solicited on what they should be paying attention to and
Leadership

why. The second of these will be reported-on at the January meeting.

If you would like to review the current work plans, as well as the recent Issue Scan report, you can access them on the Department's website, http://www.egov.oregon.gov/ODF/BOARD.

The current Oregon Board of Forestry members are:

Steve Hobbs, Chair, Barbara Craig, Larry Giustina, Peter Hayes, William Hutchison, Calvin Mukumoto, Jennifer Phillippi.

Education

ODF Nursery Celebrates 50 Years in Business
Story by Jeff Foreman, ODF Public Affairs Specialist

After doing business for 50 years, it's no surprise that the Oregon Department of Forestry's D.L. Phipps Forest Nursery in rural Douglas County has become an institution.

For the small community of Elkton along Highway 38, the nursery has been a steady source of employment – one that crossed generations. Family members passed jobs along to their sons and daughters.

And many of these workers – present and past – showed up Sept. 28 to celebrate the nursery’s golden anniversary.

And it was a good thing buyers chose to buy from the nursery because the state-owned operation is set up to support itself entirely through the sale of seedlings.

The 261-acre Phipps Nursery initially produced 2.5 million seedlings a year. Crops grew to between 6 and 12 million seedlings annually – mostly Douglas-fir and some pine, cedar, spruce, hemlock, true fir, and other conifers. Hardwood seedlings, such as alder, ash, and maple, are also grown.

For small woodland owners, the nursery has been the go-to place for forest tree seedlings. Some of these long-time buyers also showed up to show their appreciation on the nursery's 50th.

The Phipps Nursery was started in 1957 to provide tree seedlings to family forest landowners. Most sales came without prior contracts because these smaller forest landowners often opted to harvest based on market conditions and short-term needs – not on planned long-term harvest cycles.

So the nursery has spent the past 50 years growing these two-year-old seedling trees, not knowing exactly who was going to buy them. But the buyers always showed up, just like they did for the 50-year celebration. They were thankful someone was looking out for the little guy.

At the celebration, one wall was covered with photos. They spanned from the early years until the present. Those attending were invited to take whatever photos they wanted with them.

The photo wall was a walk down memory lane for many, who paused to ponder photos and talk about friends, relatives and their own experiences at the nursery. They plucked the photos from the wall and, in a sense, preserved a piece of their past.

Offering the photos was important because the nursery will be closing its doors soon. Private nurseries have become better equipped to meet the demand of speculatively-grown seedlings for family forest landowners. It didn’t make sense for the state nursery to compete with private nurseries if they have the capacity to provide the seedlings. Plus, this competition caused the Phipps Nursery seedling sales to drop to a point where the operation was no longer self-supporting.
While the celebration focused on positive accomplishments – enough seedlings were sold over the years to grow enough trees to build homes for 20 million people – the impending closure hung on the minds of many.

Even though the nursery did not sow a spring 2007 crop, one growing season remains. All existing seedling contracts will continue to be honored and Phipps will have seedlings available for family forest landowners through the spring of 2008.

After 50 years of service to Oregonians in producing more than one billion seedlings, Phipps will soon no longer be in the business of growing seedlings. The department is currently seeking a buyer for the property.

More information about Phipps Nursery can be found at the nursery’s webpage, http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/FIELD/Nursery/aboutNursery.shtml.
WHY REFOREST?

For one, it’s the law. Oregon was the first state in the nation to pass laws to ensure continuous harvest of timber on private lands while safeguarding soil, air, fish and wildlife resources. In 1971, Oregon enacted the Oregon Forest Practices Act, which regulates many activities conducted on forestland, including reforestation.

Oregon law requires reforestation when timber harvesting reduces the number of trees below specific stocking levels. You must complete reforestation within 24 months after you’re finished harvesting. Depending on site productivity, at least 100 to 200 seedlings per acre must be established. However, most landowners plant 300-400 trees per acre.

Beyond the law, reforesting makes good sense for the environment and for the economy. Since nearly half of the state’s land area grows trees, forests can provide multiple benefits. This includes wood products, watershed protection, fish and wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities. Our forests can even make an impact beyond our borders, since trees provide cool shade and absorb greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change.

Today, between 40 and 50 million trees are planted every winter and spring in Oregon. These tree seedlings are carefully planted on government, industrial and family forestlands. It takes good planning and follow-through to assure success in this labor-intensive and expensive work.

Use the guidelines on the back of this sheet to get started replanting, and check the resources on this page for more detailed, step-by-step information on how to replant successfully.

RESOURCES

The following publications are available online at extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog. Click on Forestry, then Reforestation

*Successful Reforestation: An Overview*
Atkinson, Fitzgerald, EC 1498, 2002

*The Care and Planting of Tree Seedlings on Your Woodland*
Elfritz, Atkinson, Fitzgerald, EC 1504, 1998

*Selecting and Buying Quality Seedlings*
Duddles, Landgren, EC 1196, 1999

The following publications are available to order from www.oregonforests.org > publications

*Guide to Reforestation in Oregon*
Rose, Haase, 2006

*Oregon’s Forest Protection Laws: An Illustrated Manual*
Oregon Forest Resources Institute, 2002
**HOW TO REFOREST:**

**STEP 1:**
Carefully plan, evaluate and prepare your site. Consider the condition of the planting site: vegetation present, soil type, aspect (direction the slope faces), wildlife and pests. Site characteristics affect critical site resources necessary for seedling survival and growth, including water, sunlight, temperature and nutrients.

**STEP 2:**
Choose an appropriate site preparation method or combination of methods. Several methods are available to prepare sites for planting. These methods include mechanical, manual and chemical. Costs depend on site conditions, methods used, existing vegetation and amount of logging debris or slash.

**STEP 3:**
Select the proper species and seedling stock-type for your site. Different tree species are adapted to different site conditions. Choose seedlings specifically for your seed zone and elevation. You can get tree seedlings for your site by encouraging natural seeding, by transplanting seedlings growing in the wild, or by purchasing high-quality, nursery-grown seedlings.

**STEP 4:**
Plant conifer seedlings in western Oregon from January through March. In higher elevations or in eastern Oregon, plant as soon as possible after snow melts and the ground thaws, generally late March through April. Keep seedlings cool (34 to 40 degrees F) and moist, and handle them gently at all times. Site conditions dictate the spacing and density of trees. In western Oregon, typical spacing is 10’ x 10’. In central Oregon, trees are generally spaced at 12’ x 12’. Select good planting spots such as areas of exposed mineral soil that are free of weeds.

**STEP 5:**
Once seedlings are planted, additional maintenance often is needed to ensure their continued survival and growth. The first two years following planting are critical for survival. New seedlings may require protection from animals, weeds or drought. By the sixth year, your new stand must be “free to grow” (able to outcompete surrounding grasses and brush).
Advocacy

As members would have read in the October Update, OSWA policy supports a strong, robust forest products industry to provide knowledgeable support for good forestry practices and purchase of a wide range of primary forest products at fair prices and fair standardized measurements.

As part of that policy, OSWA recognizes that a strong, diverse forest products industry is beneficial for producing income from their forest lands and for the active management of timberlands. Most restoration work would not be feasible without a market for the low-value products produced. A good market for non-merchantable and commercial-size trees lowers costs of silvicultural treatments necessary to restore or keep healthy forests.

The infrastructure that is required for a viable forest products industry relies on a continuous source of raw materials (sawlogs). All forest owners (large and small) are needed to contribute to this source of raw materials. When their sources diminish, mills and supporting services such as logging contractors disappear. It is essential that mills remain open and supporting services continue to be available in order to maintain viable market options for all landowners to include the small woodland owners.

Therefore on November 15, 2007 OSWA offered the following comments to John Kaufmann of the Oregon Department of Energy regarding BETC Rulemaking, relating to Green Building Standards.

Dear Mr. Kaufmann,

The Oregon Small Woodlands Association (OSWA) represents private, non-industrial family forestland owners in Oregon. You may know that 61% of all timberland in Oregon is owned by the public. The remaining 39% is privately held. These lands are split in ownership between the industrial sector and the family forestland owner. Family landowners alone are responsible for the care and stewardship of about 4.4 million acres across Oregon.

During the 2007 legislative session, several bills and proposed amendments were brought forth to specifically list LEED as an itemized, statutory standard against which to measure the progress of Oregon’s efforts to build green. OSWA joined a number of other interested parties in strongly opposing and defeating the LEED-only concepts at each opportunity. OSWA remains opposed to specifically identifying one green standard that, in our view, clearly discriminates against the wood products and jobs that are sustainably created under Oregon’s progressive Forest Practices Act.

LEED is not the only nationally recognized green building standard. In fact, many forestland owners today already operate under national certification and green standards including FSC, SFI, Green Globes and American Tree Farm System. (continued on page 13)
Advocacy

Any green standard adopted into state policy, either through legislation or most certainly by rule, should identify outcomes in order to specify green building standards. Not, in other words, to encourage one particular brand name program over any other.

I would encourage the vigorous evaluation of a multitude of green programs such that Oregon’s standards set criteria to achieve outcomes rather than establish a preferential state bias for one private program. Any credible program that meets Oregon’s standards would then qualify. And Oregon’s green goals would benefit.

I respectfully request you do not adopt LEED-only green building standards under the BETC rules currently contemplated in favor of a work group to evaluate current programs, identify Oregon’s goals and standards, and develop rules that meet shared expectations.

Very truly yours,

Kristina McNitt
State Affairs Coordinator
Oregon Small Woodlands Association

Editor in Chief’s note: For more on OSWA policies and issues that affect family woodland owners, please visit www.oswa.org, and click on the “advocate” button.

OSWA members are encouraged to participate in policy development via our government affairs committee. The next government affairs committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 5, 2008, at the OSWA state office. Conference call services are available. Check the OSWA website “Coming Events” section for more details.

SILVASEED COMPANY

Site Selected Seed Sales For
Alaska • Washington • Oregon • No. California • W. Idaho

CUSTOM CONE COLLECTION & SEED PROCESSING
Complete Progeny and Seed Orchard Processing Services Preferred Sources of Christmas Tree Seeds and Seedlings

CUSTOM SEEDLING STOCK
Container Grown (plugs) and Transplant Service (plug + 1)

David Gerdes inquiries@silvaseed.com Mike Gerdes

FORESTERS

SILVASEED COMPANY
P.O. Box 118 • Roy, WA 98580 • (253) 843-2246

"Serving Many of the Reforestation Needs of the World From This Location Since 1889"
**MAILBAG**

*Letter to the Editor*

"In the September issue of the 'Update' was an article titled sawmills. Why weren't the circle mills included? I am a logger with my own equipment—I have worked in mills, I’ve had lumber grading classes. I have a tree farm and I have a circle blade type sawmill and a tractor with a fork life to handle logs and lumber. The feature item about the bandsaw was thin kerf. They do not cut higher grade lumber as stated. The circle mill has several advantages. Very few problems with the saw—dirt isn’t near the problem. The lumber is easier handled. Edging is much easier.

The article talks about cutting defective logs—it’s very rare to get fir logs I can’t ship so that means it’s hardwood or cedar, so if they are cull logs I don’t worry about the kerf. The article talks about 200% over-r8n, that’s not from cull logs. The sawmills pay at least double for logs over the future price of lumber so you would have a hard time doing better in construction lumber besides your labor and mill expense.

Both mills have their advantages, but I’ll stick with mine. I bought the mill for my own use and have a wood shop with 9 machines for finishing the lumber. I have built several out-buildings, provided maple flooring for my daughter’s new log home. One I made and installed a maple wainscoting for our church. All of this should have been written in the past tense because I’m over the hill now.

After installing a maple V-groove wainscoting with a custom molding on top to one side of our sanctuary I gave this testimony concerning the work.

I fell the tree, made it into boards, dried, trimmed, planed, etc., etc., until I figured I’d handled each piece perhaps 50 times. I got to know each one individually and they took on various personalities. Because they were to be installed in a church building I called them my congregation. Early on I discovered that it didn’t matter what I said to them they were still board (bored). (continued on page 15)
MAILBAG

Letter to the Editor (continued from page 14)

- Their best side was put forward.
- A beautician added three coats of cosmetics.
- Some were heavy, and others light.
- Some were darker complexioned than others.
- Some were hard to work with -- if they went through the planer the wrong way the grain was raised up, so there were some you wouldn't want to rub the wrong way.
- Some have black lines indicating old age.
- Some had overcome various stresses in life and developed beautiful grains (personalities).
- The tongue and groove is only nailed on one side so they are inter-dependent upon one another.
- Maple tends to be unruly so they were disciplined on the back side with saw grooves to control their behavior (to break their will).
- Just as we are each one unique in God's sight, these boards are not standard and cannot be replaced by boards from a board store. The molding is also custom made.
- These were all developed from the rough stage similar to the way the Master carpenter would have done, but many with knotty problems refused refinement and did not qualify, so were cast out.

R. N. Jensen
OSWA Member
The UPDATE

The Update is the official publication of the Oregon Small Woodlands Association - 8 issues published during 2007

OFFICERS

President   Michael Barnes
tel: (503) 860-6723 (cell)
mbarnes@viclink.com

First Vice President  Mark Copeland
tel: (541) 469-6254
milepost@harborside.com

Second Vice President  Roy Hendrick, III
tel: (541) 469-6254
milepost@harborside.com

Second Vice President  Dave Schmidt
tel: (541) 758-5510
milepost@harborside.com

Second Vice President  Nancy Hathaway
tel: (541) 758-5510
milepost@harborside.com

Second Vice President  Donna Heffernan
tel: (541) 758-5510
milepost@harborside.com

Past President  John Poppino
tel: (503) 653-1678
john@lazyrb.com

Secretary  Nancy Hathaway
tel: (541) 758-5510
milepost@harborside.com

Treasurer  Lyn Boniface
tel: (541) 247-2479
bonilyn@starband.net

STAFF

Executive Director  Mike Gaudern
oswaed@oswa.org

Editor-in-Chief  Mike Gaudern
oswaed@oswa.org

Welcome New OSWA Members!

We encourage you to take full advantage of your local chapter activities and share your experiences with your new friends and neighbors. And, remember to have fun as you protect, manage, use and enhance your family forest resources!

October 1-November 25

At Large
Veronica Schmitt

Baker
Greg Sackos

Benton
Greg Blythe

Clackamas
Carl Pelz
Robert Kahl
Patricia Nightengale
Bryant McGrew

Lane
Richard Huff Logging
Timothy Gurton

Linn
Monte and Linda Ellison

Marion-Polk
S&S Precision
James Fessler

Multnomah, Hood River, Wasco
John Eskew

Tillamook
Donald Kilgore

Washington
Grant Davis
David Hughes
Charles Merten
Michael Deisher
Triple C Ranch
Ernest and Linda Rieben
Jim and Lynda Hertel

Yamhill
Charles and Melda Montgomery
Craig Fanshier
New Beginning Tree Farm
William Ehlers
John Seiser
LeRoy and Elizabeth Fordyce
Richard and Linda Melhoff