

# **Forest Forum**

## **Washington County Small Woodlands Association**

**September, 2019**

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### **Pacific Fibre Tour**

BY SUSAN SCHMIDLIN



WCSWA members had the chance recently to tour the Pacific Fibre Mill just out of North Plains. It is the mill site that you can see to the south as you travel on Highway 26 to and from Portland. The tall hopper bins are most noticeable with massive log decks out beyond the hoppers. Paul Hadaller and Rob Vance led the tour.

Pacific Fibre Products has three whole log chipping facilities, located in Longview, WA., Molalla, OR and North Plains, OR. They supply wood chips to Nippon Paper and West Rock Paper, both in Longview, WA, and Georgia Pacific Paper in Wauna, OR.

After seeing the basics outside, we were ushered indoors to see the operation from every angle with the use of live camera feeds throughout the facility. Safety first with quality control are constant requirements of this busy mill. With 30 log truck loads a day and six million board feet of logs on site at any given time, it is hard to imagine that there are no large dump bins of refuse created during the manufacturing cycle. There is no refuse. Every bit of the log is used in some capacity for commercial use. They process wood waste/bark and log yard debris into ground covers and soil mixes. PFP's motto is: "Nothing Beats Reliability in Products or People!"



**Portable Chipper**

From this angle the chipper looks anything but portable, but that is exactly what it is. The entire unit on this platform is on wheels, and they are prepared if there is a malfunction that could close the whole mill. Everything would grind to a halt if the chipper were to fail. A backup unit is sitting a few hundred feet away and ready to be slipped into place at a moment's notice.

Large conveyor shafts move the product either up into the large hoppers or underground to be sorted for the other products.

While we were at the facility, the chipper was shut down for a short period while the sharpened blades were replacing the worn ones inside the 10-foot diameter circular chopping wheel. It took efficient workers less than a half hour to dismantle and replace the sharp steel blades that are the heart of the operation so the chipping could resume.

Chips to the paper mills supply 50% of revenue. Bi-products make up the other 50% and include a variety of products.

**See Pac-Fibre Tour, page 7**

## WCSWA Leadership

President – Vic Herinckx, 503-645-9434

Vice-President – vacant

Secretary-Treasurer – Bob Shumaker; 503-324-7825

### Board of Directors:

Pos. #1: Norbert LePage, 503-985-0149

Pos. #2: Marc Ahrendt, 503—928-2083

Pos. #3: Susan Schmidlin, 503-429-7861

Pos. #4: Tony Spiering, 503-680-8112

Pos. #5: Cathy Dummer, 503-703-6573

Pos. #6: Kent Grewe 503-701-2087

**Legislative Committee Chair:** Scott Hayes 503-568-9999

**Membership Committee:** WCSWA Board members

**Program Committee:** John and Cathy Dummer – 503-970-8789, Mike Messier, 503-233-2131, Bill Triest – 503-705-5833

**Tualatin River Watershed Council Representatives:** Tom Nygren, primary, 503-628-5472, Eric Chambers, alternate, 503-647-2458

EMAIL FOR ANYONE ON THIS PAGE: [washcosmallwoodlandsassoc@gmail.com](mailto:washcosmallwoodlandsassoc@gmail.com)

### WCSWA Website

[www.wcswa.com](http://www.wcswa.com)

Website Manager: Michael Morgan

Contact Tom Nygren or Bonnie Shumaker for web postings and information.

### Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>

### Forest Forum Newsletter

Editors: Tom Nygren & Bonnie Shumaker

503-628-5472 and 503-324-7825

Proofreaders: Bonnie Shumaker, Dan Hundley, Tom Nygren, Ardis Schroeder

## The Tree Farm Tradin' Post

*A free service to our members: List tree farm items/land to buy, sell, or trade. Contact Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472. Got a tool or piece of equipment you don't need any more? Or maybe you are looking for tools, equipment, property, or materials? You can place a free advertisement in Forest Forum. (3 month limit)*

**For Sale:** No New Items to List

**Wanted:** No New Items to List

## Event Calendar

<b>September</b>		No meeting or tour in Sept.	
<b>October</b>	22	North Plains Fire Station, 7:00pm	The Future of Forest Creatures – Exploring our Roles and Opportunities. See article page 9
<b>November</b>	23	Annual WCSWA Banquet and Awards Meeting	Meriwether National Golf Club, Hillsboro. Dinner, speaker and awards
<b>December</b>		WCSWA – No Meeting this month	

# *Leadership Notes*

As I write this on August 31, what a great summer it's been in Oregon. The lack of big fires has been a nice change of pace. So far less than 17,000 acres have burned compared to over 400,000 each of the last few years. I was in Brookings visiting with South Coast Lumber on the day many of you took the tour at Pacific Fibre, and it was interesting that South Coast has been able to utilize salvage wood from the 2017 Chetco Bar Fire for up to 2 years now in their plywood manufacturing operation.

The program committee will be meeting in the Oct/Nov timeframe to plan out next year's program events. If you have heard any speakers or have suggestions for topics that would be interesting for the membership please contact committee chair John Dummer (503-970-8789) before the end of October.

Preparations for the annual native plant sale, the second Saturday in March (March 14), have begun, starting with forming a committee to spread the work out a bit more. Committee roles have been defined and several have been filled. Karen Graham will continue heading up the sale as committee chair with committee members Bonnie Shumaker, Debi Lorence and Bernadette Strand helping out. If you are interested in joining this committee help is needed to coordinate plant delivery and to coordinate the many volunteers needed for the event. If either of these sounds interesting please contact Karen (503-310-3709), Vic (503-645-9434), or Bonnie (503-324-7825) for more information.

*Vic Herinckx*

## **New Member Spotlight**

We welcome new members, Bob and Carol Gutman. We asked Bob and Carol if they would share a bit about their woodland.

"We're happy to share a bit with you about our little spot here on East Fork of Dairy Creek. We are the present owners of about 40 acres, about half of which is forested, with hardwoods in the flood plain and mature conifers on the upper ground. The balance of the property is irrigated farmland. About 20 years ago we planted about 10 acres of Doug-Fir and have been managing them as their age and density require. We enjoy having the woodland in our back yard and don't plan on harvesting while we are here.

Carol and I are both native Oregonians and have been on the property for 40 years, and for most of those years we owned and managed a wholesale nursery, specializing in ground covers and clematis vines. These plants were sold to garden centers in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Today, we are retired from the nursery and enjoy the outdoor projects our property provides for us. Carol's interests include researching local history, and identifying the local plants, wildlife and birds.

Last summer I attended our first Small Woodlands tour, at a neighbor's property -- Rich and Connie Gaebel. Since joining the Washington County Small Woodlands Association, we have attended several meetings in North Plains and look forward to more in the future. For years, member Bill Triest has encouraged us to join, and we are pleased to finally be on board!

**Advertising Opportunity:** The Forest Forum is a monthly newsletter sent out to over 300 members and friends of WCSWA. Advertisers receive free newsletters for the duration of their ads. ADVERTISING RATES (PRICE INCLUDES TYPESETTING & AD PREP)

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anything better for a living.*

Harry Merlo, Jr. quoted in World  
Forestry Center Evergreen  
Newsletter, August 2019

## Habitat Conservation Program HCP

### Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District

The Tualatin SWCD is excited to announce the launch of a new program to assist in the conservation of priority habitats in Washington County.

The Habitat Conservation Program (HCP) was created to fill gaps among the ongoing efforts of partners to conserve and restore native habitats important in Washington County.

This program focuses predominantly on private lands and supports restoration of aquatic/in-stream, oak/prairie, upland forest, wetland and riparian habitats on urban and rural lands.

Ideal candidates for the HCP program are landowners interested in voluntary habitat conservation. Tualatin SWCD provides project management and funds to complete work on the ground.

If you are interested in finding out more, contact Juli Waarvik at [juli.waarvik@tualatinswcd.org](mailto:juli.waarvik@tualatinswcd.org), or 503-334-2288 ext. 108.

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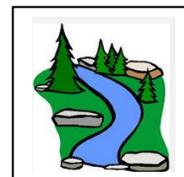
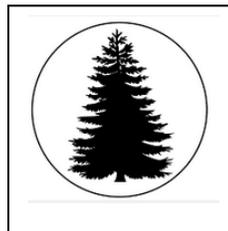
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### Steep ground loggers

Quoted in "Loggers World", August, 2019  
Riggin' Shack Classic, originally published in  
Loggers World, August 2008

**"There is more danger and spice,  
when logging on perpendicular  
ground than on the flatter variety."**

**Pete Rainey of British Columbia  
remarked about his steep logging  
company,**

**"This country is so steep that to get  
out of the rain, all you got to do is  
lean back a little."**



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### Pac-Fibre, continued from page 1

These range from beauty chips (flat 1-inch square chips that are beveled on the edges) for decorative bio-ground cover, sawdust for blueberry farmers, orchid bark for specialty planting, hog fuel (the stuff some people would consider as waste) and can have bits of dust, needles and the like, yet holds together well for paths that are walk-on areas. Even dirt and rock that happens to find its way into the mix from logs is sifted out and recycled for sale. There is no waste at all.

**Editor's Note:** Pac-Fibre owns 15 acres of adjacent land which they would like to use to expand their log-sort yard, but are having problems with Washington County approval since they are zoned as industrial rather than agriculture. Pac-Fibre is our only local market for logs that don't meet sawmill specs. As a small woodland owner, feel free to contact your County Commissioner to let them know you respect this company and value its importance in the log-supply chain.

## Two Remembrances

**Stanley Ernest Adams**, Jan 23, 1932 – July 29, 2019

*Contributed by Stan's wife, Jolene Adams*

Stan was a native Oregonian and was an OSWA member since its early days. He married Jolene Audrey Milliken in 1953 and was an excellent father to two daughters, Elizabeth (deceased in 2007) and Kathryn, who loves the tree farm as much as he did.

Two things he loved – his family and his trees. Nowhere on earth did he love and wanted to be more than on his property NW of North Plains, working his trees, armed with hard hat, chain saw and Dresser TD7G dozer. He graduated from Oregon State College in 1954 and was an electrician by trade. He worked for Electrical Construction Co. for 33 years. In 1985, he bought Fouch Electric Manufacturing and sold it in 1997 when he lost his central vision due to a genetic condition.

Stan met the Bighorn Logging Co. crew when they were planning to log a neighboring property and needed road access. In 2013, Stan had Bighorn do a 20-acre project. Harve Dethlefs, Bighorn owner, said of him, "Stan listened to our suggestions. He was great to work with. He thanked us for our input and had a satisfactory result." Mark Standley, Jr, Operations Manager commented, "He was straightforward and very knowledgeable about the industry and markets. He was great to partner with because he knew what it takes to do a harvest and efforts that go into it."

In 2003, for their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Stan wanted to give Jolene pearls. She replied that she didn't want pearls, she wanted a fire wagon. They named the fire wagon, "Jolene's Pearls." In September, 2017, a tree fell on a power line causing a fire. The "Pearls" put out the fire. Now the Pearls are known as the Murtaugh Road branch of the Banks Fire Department.

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**Edward J. Kamholz**, noted forest and railroad historian and author has died. Kamholz, age 72, a longtime Vancouver, Washington resident, passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends on July 3, 2019, of complications from ALS.

Kamholz was the driving force behind the research and writing of "*The Oregon-American Lumber Company: Ain't No More*," an award-winning Stanford University Press book published in 2003 that chronicles the rise, operation and demise of one of the West Coast's busiest mills and lumber companies, based in Vernonia, OR between the mid-1920s until the 1950s.

Kamholz launched and led the Oregon Historic Railroads Project, an effort to map every mile of railroad in Oregon to better understand the evolution of transportation corridors and early development of Oregon. Kamholz traveled throughout Oregon and Washington as a guest lecturer and researcher on railroad history. He fully mapped the rail corridor that runs along the Nehalem and Salmonberry rivers in northwest Oregon, and in his final days established a framework to complete mapping of all rail lines in northwest Oregon.

Ed Kamholz spoke at a WCSWA meeting several years ago, and he was fascinating. Many of our members knew exactly where he had researched, as they had a feature—trestle, old train track bed, etc., on their property near the Sunset Highway tunnel.



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## **WCSWA October 22 Meeting – 7:00pm, North Plains Fire Station**

### **The Future of Forest Creatures – Exploring our Roles and Opportunities**

We know that animals and plants, in addition to trees, are important parts of our local forests. In so many ways we help them and they help us.

This knowledge and appreciation raise questions such as:

- What roles do native animals play in the health and productivity of our forests?
- How are these forest-dependent animals doing in our northern Coast Range forests?
- What are we doing – and could we do – to help them – and how might they benefit us?

During WCSWA's monthly meeting on October 22, scientists Lori Hennings, of Metro and Sean Matthews of OSU's Oregon Biodiversity Information Center with support from Peter Hayes, of Hyla Woods will lead an exploration of these questions.

### **November 23rd: Leadership Changes Coming**

The Annual WCSWA Banquet is coming up on Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Meriwether National Golf Club. At the Banquet, we will elect Officers and two Board Members for 2020. The following people have agreed to be considered for election. Nominations can also be made from the floor at the Banquet:

***President:* Vic Herinckx**

***Vice President:* Debi Lorence**

**Secretary-Treasurer: Bob Shumaker**

#### **Board of Directors:**

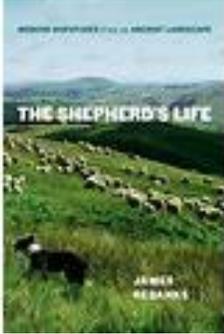
***Position #3:* Susan Schmidlin**

***Position #4:* Tony Spiering**

# Tree Talk

by Bonnie Shumaker

When I retired from being President of this great organization, Washington County Small Woodlands, a Chapter of Oregon Small Woodlands Association (OSWA), I informed readers that on the months that I was editor of the Forest Forum, I would revert to the old format I used to write called "Tree Talk," to tell about woodland related experiences or insights.



You may question the forest relationship in the following book review. Bob and I both enjoyed reading "The Shepherd's Life" by James Rebanks. It tells the story of many generations of farmers and shepherds in the Lake District of England who love the land. Rebanks felt the necessity to tell that love story from the point of view of those who toil on the land to others who also love this land for its beauty and recreation and cherish it as a scenic playground for the rest of Britain.

The story is wonderfully told of his centuries-old kinfolk with old wisdom and new changes. While it deals mostly with sheep, which Bob and I know from previous experience, the story applies to forestry or anyone who loves and manages land. We all have a story to tell, and it needs to be told to increase understanding.

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## Root Cause – How tree stumps live on indefinitely

Excerpts from an article in "The Economist", July 27, 2019

A living stump sounds like something out of a horror movie. In fact, it is not unusual for a tree, deprived of its trunk and foliage by lightning, disease or a lumberjack, but still possessed of roots and an above-ground stump to continue a zombie-like existence. This has been recognized since 1833, but never subjected to detailed scientific scrutiny.

The scrutinized stump was the remains of a Kauri tree in Waitakere Ranges Regional Park, New Zealand. It and two neighboring Kauri trees were investigated by Martin Bader and Sebastian Leuzinger of Auckland University of Technology who have just published their results in *iScience*. They started with the suspicion that living stumps are sustained through their roots by nearby, intact trees of the same species. More than 150 tree species, Kauris among them, are known to have roots that sometimes fuse with those of other members of the same species.

The question the researchers asked was: If a tree in such a network were reduced to a stump, would that remnant quickly be cut loose. Their study, carried out over nine days, proved that the stump under scrutiny was still a participating member. Sensors fitted to the two intact trees and the stump showed that on sunny days, when the intact trees were photosynthesizing extensively and drawing a great deal of water up their trunks, there was almost no water movement in the stump. At night, when the trees were no longer transpiring, water flooded into the stump and sap flow reached a maximum, indicating that it was receiving a burst of resources.

Biologists know of two ways cooperation between organisms can evolve: Kin selection, which requires the collaborators to be related and works if sacrifices by one bring reproductive benefit to others. The other route is reciprocal altruism and requires a stump's neighbors, which are feeding it, to benefit directly from the arrangement. The suggestion Dr. Bader and Dr. Leuzinger make is that they do – the stump's role extends at minimal cost, the root network of its intact neighbors.

If this is what is going on, however, it is a good illustration of the dangers of anthropomorphic terminology. The arrangement might look reciprocal to human eyes, because it is keeping the stump alive. But since the stump cannot reproduce it might as well, in Darwinian terms, be dead anyway, for it garners no evolutionary benefit. Unless, of course, to go back to the idea of kin selection; the neighbors it is sustaining are its kin and it is tendering nepotistic assistance to them from beyond the grave.

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## Bats and Small Woodlands – Excerpts from Woodland Fish and Wildlife, 2019

Authors: Ken Bevis, Washington Department of Natural Resources, Barbara Garcia, United States Forest Service, Susan Barnes, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Eliana Pool, Cafferata Consulting. Read entire article at <https://woodlandfishandwildlife.com/>



Bats are small flying mammals that come out at night, emerging from crevices in rocks, trees, caves, bridges and buildings with the ability to fly in complete darkness! Bats are a remarkably diverse and widespread species group, with important ecological roles. In the Pacific Northwest, bats are best known for providing insect control. A nursing little brown bat can consume her weight in insects in a single night (WDFW, Living with Wildlife), which calculates out to about 2,800 mosquitos per bat, per night! Colonies, typical of the Pacific Northwest, may contain many hundreds, or even thousands, of bats. It is estimated that the pest control services provided by bats save farmers more than \$3 billion annually.

Birds consume vast numbers of insects too, but they mostly work the day shift. Many insects only come out at night (think moths). Nocturnal bats, therefore, are the primary predator of numerous forest damaging species such as defoliating moths and cambium eating beetles. All of the bat species in Oregon and Washington are insectivorous (eat insects). Bats also assist in nutrient cycling by widely distributing droppings (guano). Bat guano is rich in nutrients, phosphorous and nitrogen in particular, which are important for tree growth and plant productivity. Note: Though some bats are pollinators, we don't have any bats in Oregon and Washington that are considered pollinators. Globally, bats are the second most diverse mammalian species group (Order Chiroptera – behind Rodentia), with approximately 1,300 species worldwide ([www.batcon.org](http://www.batcon.org)). Oregon and Washington provide a wide array of habitats supporting ecosystems where bats thrive. In general bats use a variety of habitats both natural and human constructed.

**Bat Boxes** Please see [http:// www.batcon.org/resources/getting-involved/bat-house](http://www.batcon.org/resources/getting-involved/bat-house) for construction tips

Installing a bat box can be a great way to attract and maintain bats on your property or forest. There are two common types of bat boxes. The “standard” boxes are roost boxes, providing crevices and mimicking loose bark. “Maternity” boxes are larger, multi-chambered structures. If you know you have substantial bat activity, consider a maternity box.

The best way to install a bat box is to mount it on a pole or building. Resist mounting bat boxes on live trees as they generally do not receive enough sunlight to keep bats warm. When installing a bat box, look for an area that receives 6-8 hours of direct sunlight and is facing south, southwest, or southeast. Bat boxes should be painted flat black or dark brown and mounted in areas at least somewhat protected from the weather and mounted at least 12-20 feet off the ground. In addition, they should be near water sources such as streams, rivers, lakes or ponds.

You can determine if bats are using your boxes by simply looking inside with a flashlight from below during the day, watching for bats leaving at dusk, or looking for droppings below the box by way of a board or smooth surface. Sometimes it takes a while for bats to find boxes, particularly in settings with alternative habitats. If no bats find your box after three years, move it to a new location.

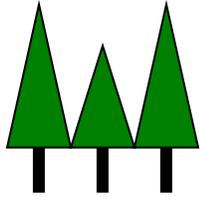
*About the Woodland Fish and Wildlife Group: The Woodland Fish and Wildlife Group is a consortium of public agencies, universities, and private organizations which collaborates to produce educational publications about fish and wildlife species, and habitat management, for use by family forest owners in the Pacific Northwest. Currently available publications can be viewed and downloaded, free of charge, at the organization's website: [www.woodlandfishandwildlife.com](http://www.woodlandfishandwildlife.com). Woodland Fish and Wildlife publications are not copyrighted and may be reproduced with appropriate credit to the organization and the author(s).*

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## Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE  
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS  
ASSOCIATION

### Potpourri

**New Members:** Welcome to **Brian and Connie Dixon** of Beaverton, **Marcus Bigsby** of Banks, **Steven and Karen Kiss** of Banks, **Gil and Viv Carreon** of Hillsboro, **Lew Batchelder** of Hillsboro, **Bill and Tami Thompson** of Newberg, and **Alvin Greener** of North Plains. We are here to help members achieve their management goals. To get the most out of your membership, come to the meetings and tours that are scheduled throughout the year. (You're always invited to the WCSWA meetings!). You'll find many kindred spirits among our diverse membership – and many opportunities to learn and share together! If you have any questions or need help, contact any of the Directors, Officers, or Newsletter Editors listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

**Reminder:** In September, there is no meeting or tour. Our next meeting is at 7:00pm on October 22 at the North Plains Fire Station. The topic is "The Future of Forest Creatures – Exploring our Roles and Opportunities." See article on page 9.

**OSU Extension** has published 3 pamphlets to help family forest owners find or hire professionals including:

- Finding the right accountant/preparer <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9169>
- Choosing the right logging contractor <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9170>
- Choosing the right chemical applicator <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9171>

### Helpful Links:

- <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/treetopics> to read Amy Grotta's "Tree Topics" blog
- [www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com](http://www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com) to learn about the Oregon Woodland Cooperative
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