

# **Forest Forum**

## **Washington County Small Woodlands Association**

January, 2020

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### ***OFRI Focus of January 28 WCSWA Meeting***



Mike Cloughesy, Director of Forestry for the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI), will be the speaker at the January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Washington County Small Woodlands Association. The meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. at the North Plains Fire Hall on Commercial Street in North Plains.

Mike is responsible for the development and implementation of OFRI's forestry education programs for landowners and the general public. Prior to joining OFRI in 2003, Mike served for 16 years as an OSU Extension Forester in Douglas and Lane Counties and on campus. He is proud to still be an affiliate faculty member in the OSU College of Forestry. He has a BS in Forestry from Iowa State University and a Master's degree in Forest Management from Oregon State University.

Mike will review the latest facts on Oregon's Forest Sector as published in Oregon Forest Facts, 2019-20 Edition and the 2019 Forest Report. He will share these publications along with OFRI's newly revised Washington County Forest Factsheet.

Additionally, Mike will provide updates on three important current OFRI outreach initiatives:

- Trees to Tap: Forest Management and Community Drinking Water Supplies;
  - Carbon in Oregon's Managed Forests; and
  - Wildfire Preparedness Special Report
- 

### **Remembering Amy Grotta**



The forest community lost one fantastic personality on December 24. Our dear friend and colleague Amy Grotta passed away. Amy was the FNR Extension agent for Columbia, Multnomah, and Yamhill Counties. Amy had been living with cancer for a number of years which regrettably took her life. Her indomitable spirit had been an inspiration for us all. She will not be forgotten. What an incredible talent and friend to the forest and to those who were touched by her talent, wisdom, energy, and willingness to step in and help us. Among her accomplishments while at OSU, Amy authored numerous Extension publications on a variety of forest management topics. Her "Tree Topics" blog and publications kept us informed on important tree matters.

Amy's family plans a celebration of Amy's life in the spring, and there is work happening to create an OSU Foundation fund in her name that we can use to create an appropriate forestry memorial. In the meantime, cards may be sent to: Dreher Family (David, Anna and Eben), 4706 NE 18<sup>th</sup> Ave, Portland, OR 97211. Additionally, see page 3 for a great idea for sharing memories of Amy.

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**WCSWA Leadership**

**President – Vic Herinckx, 503-645-9434**  
**Vice-President – Debi Lorence 503-858-3636**  
**Secretary-Treasurer – Bob Shumaker; 503-324-7825**

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- 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>

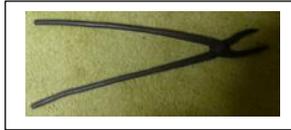
**Forest Forum Newsletter**

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: Antique Pioneer/Logging/Farming Implements – contact Sharyn Simantel 503-648-3318**



Antique Wrought Iron Camping Griddle (large); Antique Wrought Iron camping Kettle, 9 1/2" x 7 1/2" w/ Handle; Antique Farrier Pliers, Circa 1900's; Lifting/Skidding Timber Tongs, 29 1/2" H x 1 3/4" (@ the nexus); Antique iron pulley(s), one steel, one wood (each 10" x 6").

**Wanted: No items this month**

**Event Calendar**

<b>January</b>	28	WCSWA Monthly Meeting OFRI – Mike Cloughesy (see article, page 1)	7:00 p.m. North Plains Fire Hall
<b>February</b>	25	WCSWA Monthly Meeting Carrie Berger, OSU extension agent, (see article, page 8)	7:00 p.m. North Plains Fire Hall

# Leadership Notes

Vic Herinckx

Welcome 2020! The new year is typically when people take time to reflect on accomplishments from the previous year and set goals for the new year. Maybe some of the following are things on your list for 2020:

- Do some thinning\harvesting\reforestation
- Create some wildlife habitat
- Update your management plan
- Further your education
- Share your knowledge and passion for tree farming with others
- Succession planning
- Volunteer more time to worthwhile organizations

Just thinking about this list and all the other things that might be on your list makes it clear that it really is difficult to find the time to volunteer. Even so, within WCSWA you will find many dedicated and passionate volunteers contributing from a few hours here and there to many hours on a regular basis.

As we look forward in 2020 to continuing the success of our existing programs and events, there are several areas that need your careful consideration about where you might contribute.

The First is the program committee. Have you heard any good speakers or have ideas for topics that might be interesting and educational for the membership? Are you interested in joining the program committee? Contact committee chair John Dummer for more information at 503-970-8789.

Second is the Tree Farmer of the Year (TFOY) committee. This committee has 2 primary tasks – selecting and awarding the annual TFOY and helping plan the tour and BBQ. For several years this committee has included Dallas Boge and Richard Hanschu. It would be great to add a couple of new committee members now and have Dallas and Richard transition out by the end of the year. Contact Dallas, 503-357-7688 Richard, 503-357-2551 or myself, Vic Herinckx, 503-645-9434 for more information. Or email any or all of us at: [washcosmallwoodlandsassoc@gmail.com](mailto:washcosmallwoodlandsassoc@gmail.com)

Third are “day of event” volunteers that help make our events run smoothly. These include the seedling pickup, native plant sale, potluck, TFOY and annual meeting. Volunteer signups for these events are either during monthly meetings at the North Plains Fire Station or through more informal channels. Could volunteer signups be managed on our website? Probably. Another thing to add to the list...

## Memory Book for Amy – send your contributions

*by Debi Lorence and Delilah Marville*

Amy was known and respected by so many of us. She loved her work and cared about everyone's success as a landowner. To help us show her family how much she meant to us, we are putting together a memory book.

We need your memories in letter form and photos too. Her husband and her two children will be able to reflect on her passion and her as a professional for years to come. A memory book will no doubt will bring a whole different meaning to her work and her life by what we all put together.

We have a google link for you to use to upload letters and photos that will help explain her work to her family and how much Amy meant to you. If you have issues using the link please contact Debi Lorence, [debilorence@gmail.com](mailto:debilorence@gmail.com) or Delilah Marville, [delilah@delilahmarville.com](mailto:delilah@delilahmarville.com). All of your memories are important and we want to help make this book special for Amy's family and you too! Here's the link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Dclw38i0p0s-73F2Y0CxFeQLcPc3QoCq?usp=sharing>

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*“They say it takes light eight minutes to travel from the sun to the earth, and it is worth the journey because when it lights up this valley, it takes your breath away.”*

**James Rebanks, The Shepherd’s View**

# Farms Need Good Tractors

by Ryan Poteet, Board Member CFFA

*Editor's Note: This article first appeared in CFFA "Forest-Tree Leader, Winter 2020. Used with permission*

When we bought our farm the list of things that we needed was long, and while we knew we immediately needed a tractor the budget for the perfect one wasn't there. After putting the word out with family and friends and constantly checking Craigslist, bulletin boards and newspapers, I quickly learned that some folks were pretty proud of their old tractors. Eventually we settled on a 1948 John Deere Model M. Not exactly the ideal tool for the job. We got by with the antique farm machinery for a few years, but it was a constant chore keeping it running and it never really fit our needs.

In the Spring it came time to thin a couple acres of overly stocked 18-year-old Doug firs. It became a priority to get a tractor that was up to the task of yarding trees out of the woods. I sold the 1948 tractor and began to seriously plan my next purchase. This was going to be a big expense and I wanted to be sure I made the right choice. I did my research online, read the reviews, watched the videos and started writing down my requirements. I knew that I wanted a diesel engine, four-wheel drive, a front-end loader and no less than 35hp. Finding a machine new enough to include roll over protection and some modern safety features was also a must.

Here's some things I learned along the way. The bigger the tractor the bigger the implements. This allows more work to get done, but it also increases the cost. We have some patches of timber that are still pretty tightly-spaced, so I wanted a machine that could move between trees. Each of the big manufacturers offered a tractor that would work, but how do you decide?

Sometimes it's the little things that are easy to overlook. Where is the fuel filler cap located? Several manufacturers have their fuel tank down low for easy filling. When you're filling your tractor with 5-gallon cans it can be a challenge to reach high on the hood to fill with fuel. Check how implements are attached and adjusted, some tractors make changing 3-point implements much easier than others. When you're swapping the brush hog over to the rear blade by yourself when it's dark outside, you'll understand. Ergonomics are another thing I thought I would never consider when looking at tractors. However, all tractor seats and controls are not created equal. Even the fit and finish of control levers and knobs should be looked at. If you're going to sit on your machine for potentially hours at a time going in circles mowing fields or rows between crops you've got a lot of time to realize how uncomfortable you are. When you're looking at tractors, climb into the operating position and reach for the different controls to see how they fit you.

Good tractors really hold their value on the used market. If you're looking for a tractor that's only a few years old, it may be worth looking at the cost of purchasing new as well. I was very surprised to learn how little the difference in cost was. There were many other reasons why new started sounding better. Financing options available through dealerships were far better than borrowing through my longtime credit union. The new machine would come with a warranty and be delivered with any and all implements or parts we decided to add. Moving tractors on your own can require a bigger truck and trailer than some of us have.

When looking at the place of business to purchase from there's lots to consider. I calculated the distance from dealership, years they've been in business, hours of operation etc. I knew parts would need to be purchased for regular maintenance, and I prefer to buy OEM when possible. I then created my list of various dealerships, placed a phone call, spoke with a salesperson and told them what I was looking for. This is where good old-fashioned customer service starts to show itself. Does the salesperson show interest in listening to what you're looking for, or do they try to tell you what you need to purchase? I was amazed at the number of call-backs I didn't get, even when promised "I'll call you

this afternoon” or “let me get right back to you.” I’m trying to purchase a multi-thousand-dollar tractor and it’s all I’m thinking about night and day. Yet on their end, you’re just another sale they may or may not get. I can tell you the ones that provided poor over-the-phone customer service never saw me in their lot to even consider their brand or dealership.

I finally narrowed it down to the brand that fit my needs, budget and reputation for quality. I used the manufacturer’s website to find the three nearest dealers and started negotiating price, upgrades and implements. I knew that I needed a brush hog, rear blade and a couple upgrade items added to the tractor to increase productivity and safety. Filling your rear tires with a liquid ballast really helps when doing loader work and increases traction. When you start upgrading and adding implements it’s easier to negotiate a deal. They have a little wiggle room on everything, although some more than others. Each dealer provided a verbal quote over the phone followed up by an emailed copy. After reviewing each one I carefully narrowed it down to two choices.

Up until now all of this prep work was done from the comfort of my couch. Now I basically knew what I needed and just wanted to close the deal. I think it’s important to bring your other half with you when deciding on those big purchases. The salesperson did a good job walking us around the tractor, fired it up and offered us to take it for a drive and try the various controls.



**Tractor lifting**

Once happy with the tractor, we looked at implements. There is a big difference in build quality here as well. The gear boxes and deck thickness on brush hogs plus overall construction design can really determine how long this tool will last for you. Whenever possible it’s nice to buy the middle grade or higher on most implements for longevity and good operation. It’s important to size implements appropriately as well. If you try using too large an implement, you may lack power to operate effectively and possibly damage your tractor. Too small, and your jobs take longer than they needed to, and it can be frustrating. Once again, a good dealer will help you decide which implement is right for you. Even if you don’t buy a tractor

from them, they should be helpful in selecting the right tool for your tractor.

We shook hands on the negotiated deal and arranged a setup and delivery time. The day that shiny new tractor came down our driveway was such a beautiful sight. When you finally get



**Tractor and firewood**

the right tool for the job you know it. The difference it has made in our daily chores and eliminating the stress of trying to keep the old antique tractor going was all worth it. For us it was one of those decisions that once made you think to

yourself “how did we ever live without this tractor?”



**Tractor logging**

I think most folks who own machinery would agree, you always wish you had 10 more horsepower. It’s just one of those things that happens to everyone at some point. However, for 99% of what we do, our choice of tractor is just right.

## 2019 Storm Revisited: Reported by Susan Schmidlin

December 14, 2019, Schmidlinangusfarms.com

*Editor's Note: The following is excerpts from a report by Susan Schmidlin after she attended the REAL Oregon December meeting in Roseburg.*

Last February's storm damaged a lot of infrastructure in the lower Willamette Valley. further south into the Rogue Valley and down into California. Timber grounds were impacted with the need to remove damaged, dead and dying trees before infestation issues and an overabundance of fuel increased fire danger from a concern to an inferno.

It took time to get the cities of the corridor between the Coast Range on the west and the Cascades on the east back up and running after the storm scoured out. It took a couple of days before the fallen trees that surrounded the stuck passenger train had a crew make it to the tracks to clear the tangle of snow, ice and trees. Sno-Cats finally made it past the jammed and shut down Interstate 5 Freeway to unload from the trucks hauling them and got to work scaling the mountain peaks where vital communication towers were located in order for power to be reconnected. The city dug out of the heavy and now frozen-solid snow. It took time before the forest could be evaluated as to the extent of damage.



**Tract below stump has been clear cut and the yarder is drawing the fallen trees from this canyon**

Throughout the spring and summer, logging plans changed in this area of Oregon. Scheduled harvests were put on hold while damage control took precedent. Those stands that had planned pre-commercial thinning or commercial thinning were shelved until damaged areas were addressed.

Since then, timber companies have been cleaning up areas as quickly as possible to capture the wood before infestation and rot diminish value and create a forest full of fuel for devastating fires. The cleanup is not completed and will need to continue well into the next year and possibly longer, but the clock is ticking and every day the fiber is left in the woods the less value there will be in each stick.

The REAL Oregon class was able to visit an active logging site being run by Lone Rock Resources. Lone Rock owns and manages 130,000 acres of land that vary in large and small disjointed parcels throughout the wide range from Roseburg to Medford to the Coast. Their cleanup of the forest is a massive undertaking and they are attacking the issue with several crews scattered in varying locations.

Standing upon a windy ridge, the class had a 360-degree view of the overall vista. Large tracts of the forest have been harvested with clear cut procedures because of the amount of damage, and the replanting has already begun for the next generation of wood to begin the growing process. Many areas could be seen that had various ages of stands from cuts that were done fairly recently in the past and some that were nearing harvest. Most interestingly, we saw the tracts that had not yet been started on the cleanup efforts. Those areas are strewn with dead and dying trees. It was easy to see why Lone Rock and other timber companies are rushed to put the forest back into healthy production.



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## New Blog Site

Want to read fun and interesting happenings on the farm and forest of Mike and Susan Schmidlin? Susan Schmidlin has a new site for her blog. Go to:

[SchmidlinAngusFarms.com](http://SchmidlinAngusFarms.com) and click the follow button.

## February 24, WCSWA Monthly Meeting

### New Fire Program, 7:00pm North Plains Fire Station

Carrie Berger, OSU extension agent with expertise in forest management, fire, and communications, will be our featured speaker on February 25. Ms. Berger's presentation will include an overview/update on the new Fire Program within OSU Forestry & Natural Resources Extension and how it might benefit small woodland owners. She will also share her own Firewise story. You won't want to miss it!

### Sauter Timber Picks Estacada for CLT Fab Facility

Portland Business Tribune, Stephanie Basalyga, Dec. 18, 2019

An effort to establish mass timber as a cluster industry in Clackamas County is about to take a giant step forward. County officials, along with city leaders from Estacada, announced this week that Sauter Timber, recognized nationally as a leading second-tier manufacturer in the mass timber sector, will open an Oregon production plant in 2020.

The company, which is based in Rockwood, Tennessee, has purchased five acres of land in the Estacada Industrial Park located off State Highway 211 and plans to build a manufacturing facility expected to bring at least 25 new jobs to Clackamas County.

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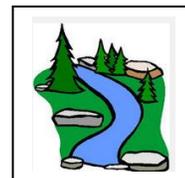
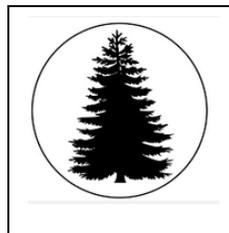
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### Oregon State University has named a new dean for the College of Forestry.

By [GEORGE PLAVEN Capital Press](#) Dec 9, 2019

Thomas DeLuca, who currently is dean of the University of Montana's College of Forestry and Conservation, will make the move to Corvallis beginning June 30. DeLuca replaces Anthony S. Davis, who has been acting dean since Jan, 2018.

At OSU, DeLuca will oversee a college with six undergraduate programs, four graduate programs and more than 1,200 students. He has spent the last three years as dean of the forestry college at the University of Montana,

DeLuca holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and master's degree from Montana State University, both in soil science. He earned a doctorate in soil science and biochemistry from Iowa State University in 1993.

DeLuca's career includes more than a decade overseas in Sweden and the United Kingdom. He has held research positions at the University of Montana, the Wilderness Society in Bozeman, Mont., Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pa., and five years as director and professor at the University of Washington School of Environmental and Forest Sciences. (*continued next column*).



**Marcus Bigsby (503) 828-2047**

**P.O. Box 388**

**Banks, Oregon 97106**

With DeLuca on board, Davis will return to his previous role as executive associate dean, which he held under former Dean Thomas Maness, who died in July 2018 following a lengthy illness. "Dean Maness had a broad, inclusive and inspiring vision, and while the unique capacity of this individual will not be duplicated, there is much that he set in motion that I'm excited to help push to fruition," said DeLuca.

## Tree Talk

By Bonnie Shumaker

Recently a dear friend of mine was asked to write an article on Gratitude to put in our church bulletin. Bev is 80++ , I loved her words and felt they would resonate with our woodland readers. Enjoy.

### My Treasures

Sometimes, like a child  
I still need to go climb a tree,  
find a green place in the woods for my head,  
just let the answering machine  
deal with the world.

There I can savor my treasures.  
Like holding a grandson on my lap  
the first time he smiled.

And the look on our two-year old's face  
when she first set foot in the snow, and oh,  
how I treasure my father telling us stories,  
my sisters telling me the facts of life,  
our tiny grandmother yelling, *'Hush Up'*.  
(We were all bigger than her, everybody was)

And, my, how I treasure the great friend  
I've found in you, yes you, because,  
in the midst of conflict, disease, many-sided  
clamoring, guilt-ridden, demanding ideas,  
amid war, fear, and loss of every kind  
you showed me

Jesus never preached a religion.  
In everything he said and did he just  
taught the brother/sisterhood of us all.

And so do you.

That somehow set me free.  
Like, amidst a tree, the whole thing in bloom,  
every blossom, like every person, a treasure,  
never forgetting its seeds, but  
promising so much more!

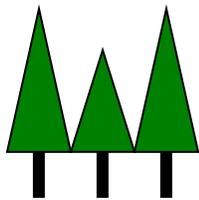
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## Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE  
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS  
ASSOCIATION

### Potpourri

**New Members:** Welcome to new members **David, Ada and Brayden West** of North Plains, **John Schmidt** of Kalama, WA, **Carl Schmadeke** of Cornelius, and **Marian Jamieson** of Sherwood, 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'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.

**Mark your Calendar Now for a Free Weed Watcher Workshop!** • Talk with weed experts; Discover how to help; Learn from live samples; Bring in mystery plants for identification; Receive a free field ID Book. Dates: April 21, 29, May 12, 20, 27 at various Washington County locations. Information and registration at <https://www.swcd.net/events/list/>

**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 OSU Extension's "Tree Topics" blog
- [www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com](http://www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com) to learn about the Oregon Woodland Cooperative
- <https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>
- For E-Notification: : <https://ferns.odf.state.or.us/E-Notification> or visit ODF Office