

# Forest Forum

Washington County Small  
Woodlands Association

May, 2008

## Co-op Annual Meeting May 17 – “Open House”

The annual meeting for the Oregon Woodland Co-op will be May 17th beginning at 10 am at the Kinton Grange located at 19015 SW Scholls Ferry Road, Beaverton. The meeting will have lots of opportunity to learn about the new projects and benefits the Co-op offers its members. Exhibits and short presentations will be made by vendors and consultants with whom the Co-op has developed a working relationship including Wilco and Trout Mountain Forestry.

The event is more than an annual meeting – it is an “open house” for both members and prospective members. This is a chance for small woodland owners to learn how the Oregon Woodland Cooperative operates, what benefits membership offers, and a chance to ask questions about the Co-op, its services and its projects.

The event will highlight aspects of the business plan that have been implemented during the “State of the Co-op” report including value-added firewood processing and

*See “Co-op Open House”, page 4*

## May 20<sup>th</sup> – Potluck and Much More at the Reeher Homestead!

The scouts have reported back! Program committee members Jim Brown and Mel Mortensen have performed a field reconnaissance on the site for the annual WCSWA potluck and field tour. Their assessment is that we have a treat in store for us on May 20<sup>th</sup> at the Reeher Homestead.

The Reeher Homestead is a family heritage site, first settled in the late 1880’s by James and Jennie Reeher, grandparents of Jim Reeher, host of this year’s WCSWA potluck. Over the years, the Homestead lands have been burned by forest fires at least twice, and logged in the 1940’s and 1950’s. Logging is still occurring on some of the replanted lands from those days. Eight members of the extended Reeher family have homes on the property, and twenty-five more enjoy many recreational benefits with summer cabins.

The schedule of events for May 20<sup>th</sup> begins with arrival on the site at 4:30 or shortly thereafter. Our host, Jim Reeher, will welcome us to the Homestead at 5, followed by a potluck dinner from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. A slide program of early settlers in the area followed by a woods camp tour, will provide the evening program. As dusk settles in (7:30 to 8 p.m.), the tour will end.

### *Directions to the Reeher Homestead:*

*The Homestead is located behind Lee’s Camp on Highway 6. Turn right (if coming from the east on Highway 6) on Reeher Road, which leaves the highway just east of the Lee’s Camp Store. There is a large street sign at the end of the road, and a red gate near the road end. Proceed in through the gate, and pass 6 dwellings. Just past the 6<sup>th</sup> dwelling there is a rock monument with a flag pole and pine tree. Park in any of the open areas. We will be meeting in the community hall (original camp mess hall).*

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## Notes from the President

by Dallas Boge

It looks like spring is finally arriving with the arrival of May. This has been a strange winter, but we probably say that about every winter. Snow seemed to come over and over again, even after April 15<sup>th</sup> when there is not supposed to be anymore snow here. April was 3 degrees cooler in Portland than normal, the coldest since 1975. Where is global warming when you need it?

Prior to the main events of the annual OSWA convention in Florence, the state board of directors met. The main topic of discussion was the possibility of OSWA creating a carbon aggregator jointly with American Tree Farm System (ATFS).

Carbon sequestration has become a hot topic. All three of the main presidential candidates have endorsed cap and trade. In a nutshell, cap and trade means that certain industrial operations are allowed to emit a fixed amount of carbon dioxide each year. If they want to emit more, they must purchase those rights from some other entity which is not emitting up to its limit.

Another way is to buy carbon credits. These are demonstrated promises to sequester carbon by various methods. This is where we come in. Small woodland owners have been sequestering carbon for generations, without ever thinking about it, or getting any credit for it.

Carbon credits are now being traded in this country at the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX). Currently they trade for about \$5.00 per ton. In Oregon on good growing sites, Douglas fir 25 years old sequester about 8 tons per acre per year. Since the trading blocks on the CCX are in 10,000 ton units, most of us cannot partake of this source of revenue. That is where an aggregator comes in.

The role of an aggregator is to put together a collection of landowners willing to partake to make up a trading block or blocks. ATFS is willing to fund for three years a project to start a local aggregator. OSWA and ATFS will be forwarding the proposal to headquarters by the middle of May. Stay tuned for more.

Sharon and I will be gone much of May and part of June. Jim Brown has agreed to write the President's Notes next month. In July, I plan to discuss the economics of selling timber for pulp.

That's all for now.

*Dallas*

### What's Your Pleasure – Print or Cyberworld?

Perhaps you've had a desire at some time to be a print journalist, and write up useful and informative articles to your friends and others of similar interest? Or, you really like the idea of providing useful information online, through a website that shares photos, sources, or other types of useful information?

***Either way – here's your chance!***

The ***Forest Forum*** needs your help in finding useful articles – even writing them up if that's something you'd like to do. And, the ***WCSWA website*** needs similar information, but can really use photos and other information of interest to woodland owners.

***If you would like to help WCSWA in either of these two areas, please give Tom Nygren a call at 503-628-5472***

## WCSWA Leadership

**President – Dallas Boge; 503-357-7688**  
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**Secretary-Treasurer – Bob Shumaker; 503-324-7825**  
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Art Dummer; 503-357-4258  
Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472  
Neil Schroeder; 503-628-2344  
Bonnie Shumaker – 503-324-7825  
Wendell Walker, 503-353-0328  
**Legislative Committee Chair:**  
Ron Larson; 503-775-3223

### WCSWA Website

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

**Website Manager: Kathy Scott**

Contact Tom Nygren for web postings and information.

### Forest Forum Newsletter

**Editor: Tom Nygren**

503-628-5472

e-mail: [tnygren@juno.com](mailto:tnygren@juno.com)

### 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. Another way for tree farmers to help each other! (3 month limit)*

**For Sale:** 800-1000 Western Red Cedar potted in 7 gal. cans, ¾" – 1" caliper at base, 3-4' high. \$12.50 each or \$10 each for 6 or more. Neil Schroeder, 503/628-2344.

**For Sale:** About 20 6-8' cedar fence posts, some treated. \$6 each. Neil Schroeder, 503/628-2344.

**Wanted:** We'll recycle your old 5-6' fencing wire (not barbed) to cage seedlings from deer damage. Will pick up at your place. Neil Schroeder, 503/628-2344

**Wanted:** Two cylinder John Deere diesel tractor restored or restorable for display in new museum. Jeff Clevenger (503) 472-2811

## Event Calendar

- May**            **17 Oregon Woodland Cooperative – Open House/Potluck/Annual Meeting –**  
                         See article on page 1  
                         **20 WCSWA Potluck** at Reeher Family "stage stop" and "woods camp".  
                         **29 Starker Lecture Series Field Trip**
- June**            **12 WCSWA Twilight tour** at the Raines Tree Farm to celebrate 50 year anniversary
- July**             **26 Tree Farmer of the Year Tour – Bob and Bonnie Shumaker's**
- August**        **Field tour planned; to be announced**
- September**   **Field tour planned; to be announced**
- October**       **21 WCSWA Meeting – Roy Anderson, marketing specialist for The Beck Group**
- November**    **Annual Banquet, to be announced**
- December –**   **No WCSWA meeting**



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## *Co-op Open House, continued from page 1*

marketing, leveraged purchasing, “custom-cut” value-added lumber merchandising, and expanded forestry consulting services.

Like all organizations, some business will need to be conducted including potential fee changes and the election of new Board of Director members.

The meeting will conclude with a planned potluck and, for those interested, a field trip down the road to Neil and Ardis Schroeder homestead to see a successful riparian restoration along the Tualatin River.

All are welcome and if you wish to join us for the potluck, those whose last names begin with A – H, please bring a salad or fruit dish, J – P please bring a side dish such as a cooked vegetable, potatoes, rolls, etc., R – Z, please bring a dessert (Schroeders and Leathermans are bringing pies and Anne and Richard Hanschu are providing a baked ham sufficient to serve everyone). The Grange has refrigeration and a stove available.

*Directions: the Kinton Grange is located at 19015 SW Scholls Ferry Road at the intersection of Tile Flat Road which is 1 mile West of Roy Rogers Road or 5 miles West of Washington Square. Coming from the other direction, it is 2.5 miles East of Groner's Corner and Groner Elementary School. Parking is in the back. There is enough space for about 50 cars.*

For additional information about the Annual Meeting Open House, or Co-op programs and membership, contact Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472, one of the Co-op Coordinators at 503-647-7425, or go to the Co-op website at [www.orwoodlandco-op.com](http://www.orwoodlandco-op.com)



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### ***Washington County Eying Rural Reserves***

Washington County and the Metro Regional authority have foreseen the need to reach beyond the current Metro Urban Growth Boundary and begin establishing reserves for urban growth. As part of the planning process, agricultural lands and certain natural landscapes will be identified for protection. Tim O'Brien, senior planner for Metro, presented plans for this process at the January 2007 WCSWA meeting. Mike Dahlstrom, public involvement coordinator for Washington County Department of Land Use and Transportation, has contacted the Forest Forum editor for help in involving rural stakeholders in the identification process. The following e-mail from Dahlstrom provides initial information to help you become informed about this process.

*The Urban and Rural Reserves planning process is underway. This collaboration between Metro and Washington, Clackamas and Multnomah Counties will result in identifying those areas outside the current Urban Growth Boundary which are the most logical and cost effective for growth inclusion over the next 40 - 50 years. **At the same time, the process mandates protecting valuable agricultural resources and natural landscape features from urbanization.***

*I am the public involvement coordinator with Washington County - Planning Division. Much of my focus over the next 18 months will be providing information and soliciting input from potentially affected stakeholders and interested parties in the county. This is a first-of-its kind collaboration to provide certainty regarding areas for expansion and areas to be protected over a long term.*

*The county has set up a website to provide initial background information and we will be posting upcoming opportunities for community review and comment. A series of open houses is being scheduled for mid to late June and will be posted soon. The website:*

*[www.co.washington.or.us/reserves](http://www.co.washington.or.us/reserves). Additional information is available at: [www.metro-region.org/reserves](http://www.metro-region.org/reserves).*

Michael Dahlstrom  
Public Involvement Coordinator  
Washington County - DLUT  
503-846-8101  
[mike\\_dahlstrom@co.washington.or.us](mailto:mike_dahlstrom@co.washington.or.us)

## Contest rewards homeowners who protect their homes from wildfire

Ever wonder what would happen if a wildfire swept through your neighborhood? Homeowners in northwestern Oregon can win up to \$500 in cash to help make their homes survivable in such an event. The 2008 Wildfire Home Awareness Contest is offering contestants in 12 northwestern counties a chance to win cash prizes if they have taken key steps to significantly reduce the fire risk to their home and property.

Beginning May 3, the contest will select four contestant homes each week through June 27 to compete against each other. Each week, the home judged to be the best prepared to survive a wildfire will receive a \$500 cash prize. The three runner-ups will get cash prizes ranging from \$200 to \$50, depending on how their homes score for survivability.

On top of the cash prizes, contestants that earn \$200 or more will be entered into a grand prize drawing for an all-expense-paid vacation to Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort & Casino.

Sponsored by state and local fire officials as well as other public and private organizations, the Wildfire Home Awareness Contest aims to encourage homeowners in the wildland-urban interface to make fire-safe improvements before the 2008 wildfire season.

### Who is eligible

Homeowners in the following counties are eligible to enter: Benton, Linn, Polk, Marion, Yamhill, Clackamas, Lincoln, Tillamook, Columbia, Clatsop, Washington and Multnomah.

### How to register

Contest registration can be completed online, [www.oregon.gov/odf](http://www.oregon.gov/odf), or by submitting the following information by mail or in person to: Oregon Dept. of Forestry, Attn: Wildfire Contest, 801 Gales Creek Rd., Forest Grove, Oregon 97116-1118. Entries will be accepted through June 23. The contest rules are posted on the website listed above.

Four contestants will be chosen weekly from May 5 through June 27. The grand prize winner will be announced on July 5.

*Sponsors of the Wildfire Home Awareness Contest include: KPTV Fox 12, Keep Oregon Green, State Farm Insurance, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, Office of State Fire Marshal, Oregon Department of Forestry, Clatsop County Firefighters Association, and the Fire Defense Board Chiefs of Benton, Clatsop, Columbia, Clackamas, Linn, Washington, Yamhill and Polk counties.*

The Trout Mountain Forestry logo features a black triangle with the text "TROUT MOUNTAIN FORESTRY" inside. To the right of the logo is a vertical diagram with four upward-pointing triangles, each followed by a text label: "A balanced approach", "TIMBER MANAGEMENT", "ALTERNATIVES TO CLEARCUTTING", and "FOREST PLANNING AND RESTORATION". Below the diagram is the text "Forest stewardship for productivity and diversity". At the bottom left of the diagram is the FSC logo and the text "These forests have been independently certified as well managed." At the bottom right is the FSC trademark information: "FSC Trademark © 1996 Forest Stewardship Council A.C. SCS-FM-COC-00062GN".

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## ***The Watershed Research Cooperative – New Studies***

***Editor's note: The April Forest Forum introduced the topic of paired watershed studies with an overview of the Hinkle Creek study, and two new studies being initiated by the Watershed Research Cooperative – a consortium of federal, state, and private research organizations. This month the focus is on the Trask River and Alsea River studies. The three studies complement each other by conducting research using similar designs and methods, in different watersheds. Hinkle Creek is in the Cascades, Trask is in the Northwest Coast, and Alsea is in the Mid-Coast.***

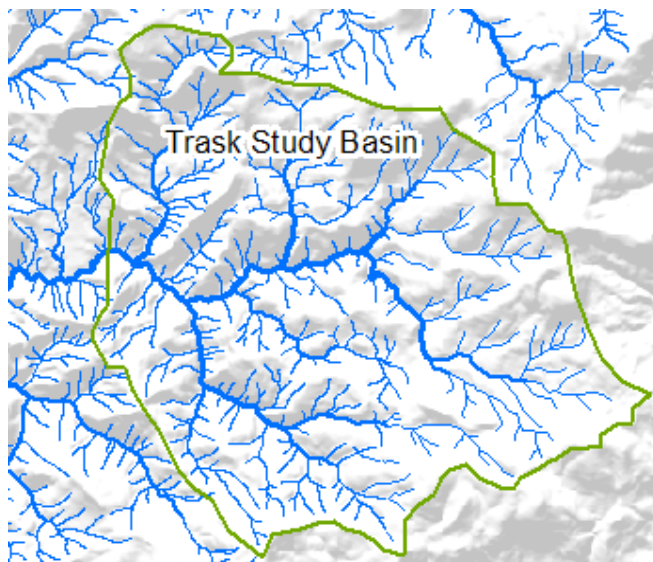
### **The Trask Study: What are the Effects of Forest Management on Fish and the Aquatic Environment at a Watershed Scale?**

This question is being addressed with a collaborative watershed-scale study in the Trask River. Several watershed processes are being researched. The research is conducted at two scales- within the immediate area of harvest treatments and at downstream locations throughout the watershed. The study will provide important information for adaptive management processes on state, private, and federal forests, and will provide greater ecological context to address forest management effectiveness questions.

#### ***The study objectives are:***

- 1) Determine response of non-fish streams to harvest:
  - Clearcut with buffer
  - Clearcut without buffer
  - Thinning with buffer
- 2) Determine downstream response to multiple harvest
- 3) Measure physical, biological, and chemical changes
- 4) Improve understanding of processes responsible affecting biological characteristics and function of stream ecosystems

Road construction on the treatment areas will begin in 2011, and harvest in 2012. Data collection occurs for 4-5 years before and after treatment.



#### ***Oregon Family Forestland Facts***

Acres of family forestlands – 5 million acres

Number of family forestland owners – 70,000  
(own 10 to 5,000 acres)

Three-fourths live on their land

Four out of ten owners are female

Two-thirds have owned it for more than 25 years

Family Forestland amounts to 40% of Oregon's private forestland

## WCSWA Scholarships Awarded

WCSWA's seventh annual Native Tree and Plant Sale netted enough money to award two scholarships, each for \$1,000. The committee consisting of Sharon Boge, Bonnie Shumaker, Don Moore and Mike Heath met on April 10<sup>th</sup> to examine the five applications that were submitted. It was hard to choose from such worthy applicants. To address this difficulty, we use a point system based on the thoroughness with which the application is filled out, the student's academics and experience, how well the essay addresses the areas requested and the sponsor's and other recommendations.

And the winners are: Nicholas Dummer and Mark Nygren.

Nicholas is sponsored by his grandfather, Art Dummer. He will graduate from Liberty High School in Beaverton this June and has held leadership roles in his high school marching band as well as doing volunteer work and having an after school job. He gained valuable business experience on his grandfather's farm with a Christmas tree project. His educational goals are to complete a degree in Computer Graphics Designing, first attending community college and then DeVry University. Congratulations Nick.

Mark is sponsored by his grandfather, Tom Nygren. He is also an award winning musician and has worked at after school jobs as well as doing volunteer work. A summer job after his freshman year at Montana State University allowed him to work with an autistic child and this defining experience led him to pursue a degree in education. He plans to teach history at the high school level. Growing up in Montana has instilled in him a love of the outdoors and he values the backpacking, hunting and forest stewardship experiences his father and grandfather have given him. Congratulations Mark.

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**Thank you for supporting Washington County Small Woodlands Association!**



## **Tree Talk** by Bonnie Shumaker

We just returned from our morning walk. The final leg was highlighted by an exhibition of our local meadow hawk flying his undulating, zigzag pattern through our converted alfalfa field of five year old trees. According to "Familiar Birds of NW Forests, Fields and Gardens" by David Marshall, this bird is officially a marsh hawk, but we've always called it a meadow hawk. Further reading informs me that it is quite common in farmer's fields and the fact that our friend is almost white means it must be an adult male. This hawk's favorite food is voles (yea!). He has been patrolling this field since the time when it was planted to alfalfa and he has always found plenty to fill his belly. I like to think it has been the same hawk year after year and I'm especially proud of him that he has learned to serpentine between the trees to surprise his prey. Since voles are reportedly in a population explosion this year, I wouldn't mind if he'd call in reinforcements to keep those pesky critters from nibbling our tree roots.

In April, we had two school field trips to our tree farm from Beaverton School District's Rachel Carson Environmental Middle School. We like to have a chance to inform people that woodland owners can be good land stewards and still supply wood for its many useful purposes in a sustainable manner. These sixth and seventh graders seemed fairly well educated in natural resources and not too radical in their interpretation, but one student had a question for which Bob didn't have a ready answer and we discussed it at length afterwards. The student asked, "Is it true that you have to plant three trees for every one you cut?" Bob didn't feel he gave him an adequate answer when he said that you have to have one living tree to replace a cut one and sometimes that means planting more than one.

In discussing it afterwards, we felt we came up with a better answer which would be, "It depends on why you cut the tree?" If you cut the tree to thin out a crowded stand to enable the rest to grow well, then you wouldn't replant at that time. However, a mature stand would have approximately fifty trees per acre, and after harvesting such a stand you would typically replant at 400 per acre or eight trees replacing each one cut. As in so many things, the answer doesn't lend itself well to sound bites such as the student's "three for one" rule. I'm reminded of my granddaughter's comment that she made after being told in school not to waste paper so she could "save a tree". Her comment was, "We don't need to worry about saving trees because we always plant more". My answer to her was that she was right, but it's never okay to waste things. I'm still trying to come up with a slogan to counteract "save a tree" with its implication that it is mean to cut one down. The slogan should still encourage conservation. The best I can come up with is "Use trees wisely", but I'm afraid that falls short. Any ideas?

## **Hat's off to OSWA and the Folks of Florence for an Excellent Event**

*Reported by Bob and Bonnie Shumaker*

OSWA's Annual Meeting was held in Florence April 24- 26. If you arrived early enough (we didn't) you loaded into boats to dig clams up the Siuslaw River. We have to confess to missing the Board Meeting as well, so read the "Update" for that information. We did arrive in time for the delicious chowder feed served up by the Barnes family.

Friday offered "Tree School West". Steve Bowers taught us how to estimate the height and board feet in a doug fir and then he cut it down and we measured again and bucked it for the most value. In the afternoon we toured some Davidson Lumber Company land. Dick Beers was our van driver we got a fun dose of area history.

The final event was a "Howdy Neighbor" tour of the Ellingson Family Farm, LLC. The sun shone warmly on this event as we rotated through three stations and shared with each other tree farming experiences.

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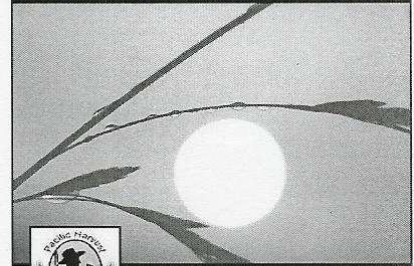
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[www.trwc.org](http://www.trwc.org) – Tualatin River Watershed Council

[www.swcd.net](http://www.swcd.net) – Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District



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### ***Wildlife Diversity – Wildlife Neighbors***

Susan Barnes, Wildlife Diversity Biologist for Northwest Oregon, was the featured speaker at the April 22<sup>nd</sup> WCSWA meeting. Susan has extensive background in different types of wildlife management in Oregon, including habitat inventory for a variety of species – including some threatened or endangered species – as well as access management for hunting and fishing. Her current job, however, is the “dream job” as she works with a variety of habitat situations and interested people. She works directly with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife mission: To protect and enhance wildlife habitat for present and future use and enjoyment.

Susan focused on three aspects of her job: implementing the Oregon Conservation Management Strategy, limiting and controlling invasive species, and living with wildlife.

The Oregon Conservation Strategy – a broad strategy for managing wildlife habitats in Oregon, defines ecoregions (habitats) and conservation opportunity areas (which can be oriented to individual species, or to broader habitats). Invasive species of the wildlife type range from the common nutria and bullfrog, to species which are not yet established in Oregon, and hopefully won't be. The latter includes such species as zebra mussels. Living with our wildlife neighbors can be stressful, and Susan discussed some of the wildlife-human conflicts such as beavers plugging culverts.

There are opportunities for woodland owners to directly address the ODF&W mission, however:

- Understand and meet basic “critter” needs for food and habitat security
- Manage the “limiting factors” affecting those basic needs
- Manage for multiple vegetative successional stages
- Minimize fragmentation of habitat
- Increase habitat diversity

Following Susan's presentation, there was a lively discussion about personal wildlife situations and concern about the effect of T&E species listings.

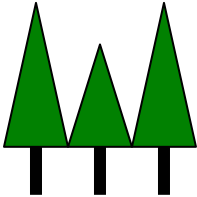
Dallas Boge presented Susan with the “traditional” Madrone pencil box and pen.



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## ***Forest Forum***



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE  
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS  
ASSOCIATION

### ***Potpourri***

#### **The Billion Board Foot Club Takes a Hit**

The housing market and other economic woes have had an impact on large lumber producers when comparing the number of “billion board foot” producers over the past year. The number of companies that belong to this exclusive club shrunk from 22 to 15 over this time period. Still on the list are 6 Canada-based companies, 4 U.S.-based companies, 4 European companies, and 1 company in the Southern Hemisphere.

Weyerhaeuser led all companies, but its volume was off by 10%. West Fraser (Canadian) moved into second place, Canfor (also Canadian) into third, and Stora-Enso (European) into fourth place. Rounding out the top 5 is Abitibi-Bowater. Chile’s Arauco came in at number 11. Plantation forests (pine and eucalyptus) sustain 96% of the industry in Chile – and 50% of those plantations were established in the last decade. *World Markets Monthly International Report, April, 2008*

#### **Oregon Woodland Co-op Website**

Have you checked out the Co-op’s new website? It can be found at [www.orwoodlandco-op.com](http://www.orwoodlandco-op.com). Along with a weekly market report by Scott Zimmerman, the site contains information on Co-op projects and activities.

#### **Got Maple?**

If you have a lot of maple, this may perk your ears up. There is a growing bigleaf maple syrup industry in British Columbia. A recent Bigleaf Maple Syrup Festival in Duncan, B.C. was expected to draw 200 or so interested paying attendees. The organizers were overwhelmed when over 1400 people showed and paid to participate. The Festival featured demonstration of maple tapping, syrup production and products. How far south can this industry move? Some say that northwestern Oregon might be possible!