

# Forest Forum

Washington County Small  
Woodlands Association

August, 2008

## ***Tillamook State Forest Now Under One Manager***

The Tillamook and Forest Grove Districts of the Oregon Department of Forestry, which previously managed the Tillamook State Forest, are being merged into one management unit. Previously the Forest had been under two managers in two districts: Tillamook and Forest Grove. Andy White is the new District Forester for the new Tillamook District. He described the value of a merger as the result of studies over the past few years, and when the two previous district forests retired (Dave Johnson for Forest Grove) the time was right to make the move. The two district offices will remain open to serve the public from either side of the Tillamook State Forest. Andy White was previously an assistant to the northwest regional manager, as well as a unit forester in Wallowa County.

The first step will be to evaluate how the two districts work, and how they can better function as one unit. The process will be gradual over time – as new ways of doing business are identified and incorporated in

*See "Tillamook", page 2*

## **TFOY – Celebrating Success**



***Ralph Raines, Bob France, and Andy Duyck apply their meat carving skills to the lamb***

The annual Tree Farmer of the Year tour, scheduled for the year following selection, honored Bob and Bonnie Shumaker – Tree Farmers of the Year for 2007. 120 or more people journeyed up Cedar Canyon Road northwest of Banks for the event, which featured a walking (or hay wagon ride) tour of the Shumaker Tree Farm, along with a “mark the stand for thinning” demonstration by Jay Worley of Mike Pihl Logging and several Master Woodland Managers, and chain saw carving by “Bear” of Gales Creek.

The highlight of the day, though, was the roast lamb grown and grilled onsite by the Shumakers for the event. Along with the lamb were a variety of tasty side dishes provided by “outAZAblue”, a relatively new restaurant in Gales Creek.

Tree Farmer of the Year tours are always a premier event for meeting old friends and other tree farmers, and meeting new ones. This event was no exception, as those attending wandered from group to group – learning what’s happening on others’ tree farms and sharing experiences past and present. ***Thanks, Shumakers!***

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## Notes from the President

by Dallas Boge

Summer brings the usual chores for those of us who raise Christmas trees, shearing and other care of the trees. We have used plug seedlings for a couple of years now. This year I saw almost no frost heave, and the trees look good now (late July).

As a follow-up to last month's notes, several have commented about the amount of processing needed to produce the three choices of final product. Since the costs will vary with many factors such as terrain, equipment used, skidding distance, etc., I made no attempt to make those comparisons.

As I stated last month, Sharon and I spent over three weeks in May and June traveling in Canada and Alaska. Lower and mid British Columbia forests consist of Douglas fir and lodge pole pine, as well as poplar and aspen. Much of the lodge pole pine has suffered from beetle attack, resulting in large swaths of brown forests and the occasional intense wildfire.

Northern B C is covered with lodge pole pine, black spruce, aspen and cottonwood. There is very little beetle kill evident. The black spruce is common in the wetter areas and seldom gets over 10 feet tall. The trees are very thick, appearing to be 15 to 20 thousand stems per acre. There is a high incidence of witches broom in the spruce.

From the road from Whitehorse, Y T, to Skagway, Alaska, the trees consisted of cottonwood, aspen, Alaska spruce, and lodge pole pine plus some sub-alpine fir. The trees nearer the coast are larger, but still crowded.

North of Anchorage, the trees consisted of Alaska spruce and birch. In the wet areas, again the spruce are small, in better growing conditions, they are up to 50 feet tall. In much of Canada and Alaska, portable sawmills are seen along side the roads.

Just a reminder, we still have discount coupons for new members courtesy of Stimson.

I close on a sad note. Many of you already know that R N "Chick" Jensen passed away July 7, one day short of his 87<sup>th</sup> birthday. Chick was a regular attendee of our meetings and in recent years faithfully attended the annual awards banquet. Our sympathies go out to his wife Laurel, Dick and Linda Martin and the rest of his family. We will all miss you, Chick.

That's all for now.

*Dallas*

### *Tillamook*, continued from page 1

normal work routines. An integration coordinator will be hired to assist in the process. Employees will be involved in the process. An important goal of the process will be to make better use of limited resources while setting broader priorities for the whole Forest.

## WCSWA Leadership

**President – Dallas Boge; 503-357-7688**

**Vice-President – Jim Brown; 503-284-6855**

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

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### 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** Wood Stove, perfect for work shop, storage room, game room, or retreat cabin. Kodiak brand, 17" X 28" firebox with side opening. \$150. John Helmer, 503-222-4614.

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## Event Calendar

**August**            **No Event Scheduled**

**September**      **Tour or Meeting – To Be Announced**  
**24-26 Western Stewardship Summit** – Sunriver Resort, Bend. See agenda at [www.sustainablenorthwest.org/WSS](http://www.sustainablenorthwest.org/WSS), Email: [info@sustainablenorthwest.org](mailto:info@sustainablenorthwest.org)  
Phone: 503-221-6911 x100

**October**            **16-18 National Tree Farm Convention, Portland.** Field Day at the Hanschu's Little Beaver Creek Tree Farm on Saturday, October 18. The convention will be open to family forestland owners, both members and non-members of the American Tree Farm System, as well as industry professionals and others interested in forest land management. For more details, visit the website at:  
**[http://www.treefarmssystem.org/cms/pages/73\\_1.html](http://www.treefarmssystem.org/cms/pages/73_1.html)**

**28 WCSWA Meeting** – Marketing Small Woodlands Products, by Dr. Roy Anderson of The Beck Group, a consulting firm.

**November**        **18 Annual Awards Banquet** – Jennings McCall Center, Forest Grove. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. Details to follow in future newsletter.

**December**        **No Meeting Scheduled**

**8-11 How To Dry Lumber For Quality and Profit** – OSU Extension, Corvallis. Contact OSU Conference Services, 541-737-6439, or toll-free at 800-678-6311

## ***Chal Landgren – Many Thanks!***

Chal Landgren, OSU Forestry Extension Forestry Agent for Washington and Columbia Counties for many years, has moved on to a new position within Extension. Chal is now the Christmas Tree Extension Specialist for Northwest Oregon, and is stationed at the Extension agricultural research center at Aurora.

Washington and Columbia County small woodland owners have appreciated Chal's service for many reasons: for the Master Woodland Management program that he has put many hours into putting on, for his extensive knowledge of technical forestry issues, such as the insect and disease problems brought to him by puzzled landowners (why did this branch die?, or what is this strange insect?), and for his friendly and helpful manner in dealing with all of us.

One of the most important contributions Chal has made, though, may not be known by many in the woodland public. Chal has worked hard to help Washington County Small Woodlands Association succeed, knowing that a strong family forestland owner community benefits all in many ways. Chal has been a "prime mover" in finding opportunities for WCSWA – such as the economic development grants he helped WCSWA acquire a few years ago. Those grants enabled the forestland owner survey that identified the characteristics of our community, what services are needed, and what directions WCSWA should pursue. The grants also helped bring in speakers on non-timber forest products, and helped a number of forestland owners become certified – and even get a management plan developed. The Oregon Woodland Co-op owes a great deal to Chal, as he leveraged the resources of Extension – information, contacts, meeting rooms, clerical services – to enable the Co-op to obtain grants, prepare a business plan, and begin implementing the plan.

### ***2008 WCSWA Member Roster Enclosed***

The 2008 Member Roster is included with this issue of Forest Forum. Information comes from the OSWA member file. Thanks to Mike Gaudern of OSWA for providing the electronic file, and to member Lynn Harrel who edited and formatted the information for printing.



**A reminder about farm/ranch insurance.**

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Learn more and view the draft agenda:  
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 Email: [info@sustainablenorthwest.org](mailto:info@sustainablenorthwest.org)  
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- Who Should Attend the Summit?
- Leaders of restoration, conservation, and stewardship efforts in the West
  - Nonprofit organizations involved in collaborative restoration
  - Environmentalists working in Western natural resource issues at the local, regional, or national levels
  - Ranchers, farmers, wood products producers and manufacturers, foresters, and private landowners

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### *Where the Tall Trees Grow*

“Where the Tall Trees Grow” is the theme for the American Tree Farm System's National Convention which is to be held this year in Portland on October 16-18. It is open to members of ATFS as well as any other interested parties. You can learn more about the convention at [www.treefarmssystem.org](http://www.treefarmssystem.org).

The Field Day for the convention is to be held at WCSWA members Anne and Richard Hanschu's tree farm. Attendance at Field Day is expected to be between 400 – 600 people from all across the USA. It will be exciting to show off Oregon's fantastic tree growing country to fellow tree farmers. In order to make this a wonderful success, many volunteers are needed. I already have the beginnings of a volunteer list, but I need more. If you would like to be part of this fun event and have not already contacted me, please do so now. Call or email Bonnie Shumaker, Field Day volunteer coordinator at [bandbshu@aol.com](mailto:bandbshu@aol.com) or call (503)324-7825.

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# Tree Talk

by Bonnie Shumaker

While preparing for our Tree Farmer of the Year tour and picnic last month, Bob and I took time to write down as much history of our place as we knew. For those of you who could not attend the tour, I share it with you here.

## Shumaker Tree Farm – A History

One can only imagine what our tree farm looked like historically. Likely, it was forested for much of the time, although we know the dynamic nature of forests. What we do know is that in 1886 the land was homesteaded by Ludwig and Lena Kahler who had six children. They must have laboriously cleared the flattest of the land without the luxury of chain saws. In 1893 they deeded ½ acre to the Hayward Cemetery as did the neighboring Hayward farm. The cemetery is still in use and the gravestones tell a bit of history themselves. A booklet, “The Hayward Story” compiled by Anne Laemerman (whose family also homesteaded in the area) was published in 1997 and tells of the school and post office that was part of this community seven miles west of Banks.

We understand that over the years, the ground yielded strawberries, prunes and grazing land for cattle and horses. The original house burned down in the 1920’s and the current “big house” was built in 1929. When we bought the first forty acres in 1977, approximately 30 acres were cleared with the rest in brush and a bit of timber. We had been looking for more acreage than our five acres in Scholls. The ad we answered was for “40 acres and a barn”, but when we went to see the place, there was a house! It had been neglected and vacant for more than a year, but we kept saying to each other, “It’s livable. We can fix it.” And fix it we did. It needed a foundation, roof, re-wiring and re-plumbing for starters. It was built on balloon framing as a small two story saltbox, 400 sq. ft. on each floor. Besides repair, we added 12 feet across the front of both stories. It was hard to get workers to come out this far since 1977 was a booming time for building, so we did all we could ourselves while living in a camper. The process took six months. Our boys were eight and ten at the time and loved the camping experience. Bonnie missed having a bathroom, but with kind neighbors like the Harrel’s who offered us their shower whenever we wanted, the adventure yielded good memories.

We were very happy in our rebuilt house (and barn, shop and fences) and acquired sheep. We had as many as 50 ewes to keep us occupied and enjoyed the learning curve associated with sheep ranching. Lambing time was always exciting and we miss that miracle of birth. Bonnie’s parents were granted permission to move onto the place in 1978 after a Washington County hearings officer declared that “extended families living and working together should be encouraged for the public good.”

As we neared retirement, we cut back on sheep and started replanting pastures to timber. In 1997, we had a chance to buy the 40 acres to the south of us as a clear-cut. It was at this time that we became serious tree farmers and joined OSWA and WCSWA. We had replanted five acres of brush to trees in 1980 with some success, but discovered there was much more to learn and have enjoyed the process, especially the people who have helped us along the way. We became Master Woodland Managers in 2002.

In 2002, Bonnie’s mother, now a widow, was living in Forest Grove and our son Dan, his wife Melinda and their two children, Chelsea and Bridget moved from Hermiston into the “big house” while we moved into the “little house” or “old folks home”. We are delighted that both our boys share our love of trees and want to learn more. Trees take two or more generations to grow and we rejoice with having those generations right here.

**SEEDLING SALE 2008 -2009  
SEASON – by Bob Shumaker**

WCSWA has contracted with Lewis River Reforestation for seedling delivery for the 2008-2009 planting season. We have two pounds of Vernonia Elite Douglas fir seed contracted which will yield approximately 40 to 50 thousand 1 + 1 seedlings. Vernonia Elite DF seed is from ODF's Vernonia Seed Orchard and is the second generation of their breeding program. These seedlings have superior growing characteristics and are intended to maximize the growing potential of your site. They are not genetically modified organisms, but are the result of breeding parent trees with superior growing characteristics from trees selected from our area.

In August, we will inspect the seedlings and get an approximate number of available seedlings which meet our specifications. Lewis River has grown our seedling needs for many years and does a wonderful job.

This year may be a challenge to sell all of our seedlings because of the low price of logs resulting in a low cut on small woodland properties.

A seedling order form will be included in the September newsletter so now is a good time to look at your seedling needs. Think about fill in areas from your last year's planting, etc.

In addition to Douglas fir, Lewis River provides Western Red Cedar to us which might provide opportunities for diversity on your property.

The seedling sales provide a benefit to landowners as well as a revenue source for WCSWA.

***Fire Season's Here – Have You Thought About Your Liability?***

For information about Oregon forest owner's fire liability, go to [www.oregon.gov/odf/fire/fire](http://www.oregon.gov/odf/fire/fire). Insurance is available to reduce your exposure and increase your peace of mind.



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## ***What's Going On With The Co-op?***

The Co-op continues implementing their business plan. Here are some of the current activities:

- *Ecosystem Opportunity Day, June 21<sup>st</sup>* – A good crowd showed up for the first Co-op educational seminar. The seminar focused on ecosystem services, and included presentations on potential for payments to members for carbon sequestration, watershed quality, wildlife habitat, and other non-timber values (including non-timber forest products). There was enthusiastic response from the participants, with interest in the potential for the Co-op to host future pertinent educational events.
- *Bundled Firewood Project* – The Co-op has obtained a tentative agreement with a chain of markets to purchase bundled firewood. The intent is to deliver bundled dry firewood this fall, using member firewood supplies. The added value of bundling will yield an improved return to members over the return for wholesale firewood.
- *Custom Cut* – FSC certified wood – A custom cut operation produced about 240,000 board feet of lumber that was marketed to value-added markets. The result is a 10% added return to the participating members.
- *Special Milling* – A special milling project was initiated to produce cedar products. A portable mill is being used to mill cedar that otherwise would have been uneconomical to market.
- *Wilco membership* – The Co-op has joined the Wilco Co-op, enabling members to obtain an enhanced discount on certain chemical and other agronomic products. Members will get reduced prices, and the Co-op will obtain a periodic share return as well.
- *Membership increase* – Seven new members have joined the Co-op since spring making a total of 45 land ownerships. A membership drive is being initiated to attract new members. The drive will rely on members to help identify and encourage non-members to join. Information about the Co-op's progress and planned activities will be provided. The goal is to build an outreach from members to non-members, and to reach leaders in the small woodland community who may be able to help in the recruiting effort.

### ***"Where the Rubber Meets the Road" – September 13 - Marketing Educational Event***

All members and interested potential members are invited to attend the next Co-op educational event about marketing. It is scheduled for September 13 beginning at 9 a.m. at the Oregon Department of Forestry Forest Grove District Office in their conference room. The purpose of the event is to present important market information for woodland owners, and discuss how Co-op members (and interested potential members) can participate in current and existing Co-op projects.

John Krier, marketing specialist, will present current and future market prospects for woodland owners. He will discuss the interrelated causes and effects of local, regional, national, and international markets, and how they financially affect this timber region and a Co-op member's personal forestland opportunities in the near and distant future. Following John's presentation, the Co-op coordinators will discuss how Co-op members (and interested potential members) can participate in existing Co-op projects, including another planned custom cut, special milling opportunities, the bundled firewood program, and others.

### ***Annual Meeting – Marking Our Progress***

The Co-op annual meeting, held on May 17<sup>th</sup>, was attended by quite a few members and a number of friends and cooperators. We discussed some important Co-op proposals (summarized in this newsletter) to provide services and products to the membership, heard some interesting presentations by vendors and friends of the Co-op, and shared a lot of good food!

By vote of members, the following decisions were made:

- Barrett Brown and Neil Schroeder were elected to the Board of Directors. Paul Bishop, who stepped in to admirably fill an unexpired term on the Board, stepped down.

- The Co-op officially changed its name from “Oregon Woodland Management and Sales Cooperative”, to “Oregon Woodland Cooperative”. The new name has been filed with the Secretary of State.
- The Co-op established a new membership class: Affiliate Member. This membership class will allow supporters, vendors, and others to officially participate in Co-op activities.

### ***Co-op, TRWC Work Toward Mutual Goals***

The Tualatin River Watershed Council and the Oregon Woodland Cooperative have an important goal in common: a healthy watershed. A healthy watershed involves more than just the land and the water that flows through it. It also involves the people who live and work in the watershed. Family forestland owners, including Co-op members, comprise an important segment of the watershed’s population because they are stewards of the land they own, and the land they own and manage provides many benefits to all the people in the watershed. Maintaining the ability of these on-the-ground stewards to continue to live on and manage their land requires that they have economic viability – someone has to pay the bills!

The Co-op and the Council have identified three immediate areas where working together can pay dividends: **outreach** to the rural, suburban, and urban population in the watershed to help them understand how caring for the land and providing economic benefits to landowners are mutually interdependent goals, assistance to forestland owners who need resources to accomplish important restoration activities through the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board’s **Small Grant Program and other grant opportunities**, and bringing together other **partners** to help achieve common goals.



### ***Woodland Community Loses A “Master”***

The woodland community lost one of its most colorful and knowledgeable spokesmen this summer with the passing of Master Woodland Manager R.N. “Chick” Jensen. Chick, who was 86, had been in ill health for several years, but that didn’t stop him from attending woodland events and sharing his experience and wisdom with others. Chick authored several informative articles on logging and safety in the woods, as well as sharing his knowledge about past logging experiences at gatherings of those interested in woodlands. In the past, Chick had worked for Sunset Lumber Company, Smithwick, and Crown Zellerbach. He earned his Master Woodland Manager certificate from Oregon State University Extension, and provided a constant source of historical perspective to the classes.

Chick and his wife Laurel established their tree farm on the Nehalem River south of Vernonia sixty years ago, and were Tree Farmers of the Year for Columbia County in 2000. Chick’s knowledge of woods ways, and the use of machinery to do the work needed on the tree farm, were evident in the quality of the tree farm. The tree farm will continue to be operated by the family, under the leadership of his daughter Linda and her husband, Dick Martin.

## Camp Doneen Field Day – An Oregon Award Winning Logging Fly Camp

**Brain Buckets, Corked Boots, Stagged Pants, Stanfields, Tin Pants, Muck Sticks, and Jewelry** are just a few of the many terms that characterize logger lingo spoken at logging camps *"Where Tall Trees Grow"*. Participants at the 2008 National Tree Farmer Convention Field Day will be transported by **Speeders** to "Camp Doneen", a logging **Fly Camp** located in the Tualatin Valley foothills of the Oregon Coast Range Mountains.

The day will begin with a logger's breakfast followed by a hearty noon lunch where no **Bait Cans** will be allowed as Camp Doneen is not a **Nose Bag Show**. The **Brains** tell us they have asked their **Mulligan Mixer** and **Gut Robber** assisted by several of their **Bean Burners** to serve the best meal they have ever dished up. **Mud** but not **Tar** will be served.

Various learning opportunities at Camp Doneen will attract the attention of city slickers and their Tree Farmer country cousins. Camp Doneen **Buckwheters** can observe a **High Lead Candy Side Logging Show**, a **Gypso Side** but nowhere in sight will there be a **Haywired Side**. Learn how railroad logging was important to Western timber harvesting by visiting with the **King Snipe** or perhaps **Gandy Dancers** at the abandoned Camp Doneen RR grade. Learn how loggers cut lumber in the woods at the old sawmill site located along Little Beaver Creek. Observe stumps with **Springboard** holes and learn why **Bull Buckers** required **Hand Fallers** to stand on these boards to cut trees. Catch **Crummies** along the **Haul Road** to restfully ride between logging shows. **Fernhoppers** will be available to answer West Coast silvicultural and forest management questions.

**Boomers** with *The Fred Scheer Lumberjack Show* traveling from Wisconsin and sponsored by *Stihl USA* will stage competitive events such as **Spar Tree Highrigger** climbing, **Chasing and Setting Chokers**, and **Log Birling**. They will also use **Misery Whips, Swedish Fiddles, and Logger Can Openers** in other events. A slug of **Dynamite** tucked between these **Bush Ape** cheeks keeps them **Catty**. All competitive events performed by *Stihl USA* **Boomers** were routine **Bush Ape** and **Swamper** work assignments around logging camps.

The **Bull of the Woods** does not tolerate any of his **Ranchers Pulling the Pin** but one thing is certain; by the end of the day all **Buckwheters** will be ready to **Bunch It** in order to **Hit the Pike**. Camp Doneen **Bonebreakers** will be available to assist those needing medical attention. The **Brains** and their **Bull of the Woods** wish that no one be committed to **Section 37**.

Come to Camp Doneen *"Where Tall Trees Grow"*, learn to speak "logger lingo". Enjoy!!!



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### CUSTOM SEEDLING STOCK

Container Grown (plugs) and Transplant Service (plug + 1)

David Gerdes    [inquiries@silvaseed.com](mailto:inquiries@silvaseed.com)    Mike Gerdes

F O R E S T E R S



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

*Note: The above display of "logger lingo" conveys two messages:*

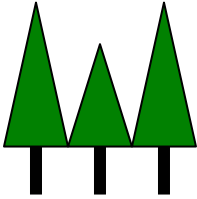
*First* - There is a lot of history expressed in the language of the loggers who preceded modern tree farmers. Thanks to Dick Courter, who provided this informative look at our logging past.

*Second* - this is only an example of the learning - and the fun - that you can have at the American Tree Farmer Convention Field Day - October 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Hanschu's Little Beaver Tree Farm.

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## ***Forest Forum***



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE  
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS  
ASSOCIATION

### ***Potpourri***

#### ***WCSWA Members Take On LNG***

Richard and Anne Hanschu, and Terry Howell, of the Gales Creek area have joined with others in the area in a lawsuit challenging NW Natural for the trespass by pipeline surveyors on their properties. NW Natural is proposing the Palomar pipeline to transport liquid natural gas (LNG) from the Northern Star LNG port on the Columbia River to a California-bound pipeline in eastern Oregon. Others in the suit include Columbia Riverkeepers, Oregon Citizens Against the Pipeline, NW Property Rights Coalition, and Sandi Fitts-Freeman.

The LNG controversy has created significant concerns among landowners and others concerned with the potential damage to the land and resources along the proposed transmission route. According to Columbia Riverkeepers, over 500 miles of farm and forestland would be affected, including 40 miles through the Mt Hood National Forest.

#### ***Jacobs: Wildfire Home Awareness contest winners***

Dirk , Liz, and Karl Jacobs of Gales Creek recently were honored as one of the weekly winners in the Wildfire Home Awareness Contest. The contest was based on survivability in case of wildfire, and was sponsored by state and local fire officials, as well as other public and private organizations. The contest was aimed at encouraging homeowners in rural areas to make fire-safe improvements. Congratulations to the Jacobs!