

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
CLARK COUNTY FARM FORESTRY ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 1537, Battle Ground, WA 98604
January 22, 2010**

Members Help Needed Again!!!!!!

Our Members Seedling Sale Program is doing better at this point than last year. We've sold out all our Western Red Cedar but still have thousands of Douglas fir!

The main purpose of our program is to make seedlings available to members locally in small quantities as well as to those that need them by the thousands. Without CCFFA's program members would have to drive to nurseries much further away (increased time & transportation costs) and quantities as small as some of ours may not be available.

As of this writing, 1/22/10 we have just over 10,000 Douglas fir Seedlings which is 15,000 less than this time last year. We're in much better shape now than last year but still need HELP. Two years ago, CCFFA contracted to grow 50,000 seedlings. Harvesting has dropped dramatically, and hence demand for seedlings. Normally, we are able to satisfy our members' needs. As of the first of the year, our member orders for fir have been filled and we're taking orders from non-members. We must finish paying for the 50,000 seedlings whether they are sold or not. We are selling at cost, - \$29/bag of 100. We have dropped our crop to 30,000 for next year so hopefully we won't see this situation again.

What you can do to help.

Please look around your property and try and find a place for some more seedlings and order more. If only 100 of our over 200 members bought just 1 bag of 100 that would eliminate our surplus. To date we've received a total of only 61 orders from both members and non-members.

Contact non-member friends & neighbors and encourage them to buy and plant this year. The larger the order, the better -- there's no limit.

Copy or use the order form on Page 7 of this Newsletter. Our goal is to clear our surplus by our first pick-up date of February 12th but we have until March 5th which is our last pick-up date.

Please help the CCFFA Seedling Program recover our costs so we can continue to have low cost seedlings in small quantities & up, available locally. Surplus of 10,000 x \$.29/seedling = \$2900 loss to our program.

Thanks in advance. Your efforts last year did the job for us! Walt

TREE FARMERS – THE ENDANGERED SPECIES? DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT!!

Many of us, Clark County Tree Farmers, have long recognized that the “Fish and Forest” laws and regulatory rules increasingly hamstrung us. Subsequent laws and rules later attempted to give us relief, but failed and resulted instead, in a declining number of us still tree farming. We do want to pass our beloved forest land on to our children and grandchildren, but need changes to do so by being unburdened from unnecessary and unproductive restrictions and inheritance taxes?

WELL, SOMETHING INTERESTING IS HAPPENING!

On January 14, 2010 the Washington State House of Representatives, Agriculture Subcommittee held a hearing on proposed House Bill, HB 2505, which attempts to turn a new page to encourage survival of us, Small Forest Landowners with our careful, site-specific, and inventive, ways of managing our forests.

Able presented by our tree farming officers, WFFA President Bob Brink, Secretary Michelle Blake and Executive Director Rick Dunning, this proposed legislation would offer us small tree farmers and our families a new option. This option would allow reduced and somewhat simplified buffer requirements if our Harvest Application is for 20 acres or less and the board-feet meet certain new restrictions.

The terms of HB 2505 may open some much needed doors for tree farming, at least as a welcome first step. The major significance, however, is that some of our legislators recognize the need for much overdue, urgent relief for small tree farmers, if our benefits to society are to continue.

At this writing, HB 2505 is still being worked on. Meanwhile, Senate Bill SB 6354 is being introduced with similar goals. For a perspective, please read your Nov/Dec issue of the WFFA Landowner News. You will find articles by President Bob Brink, Executive Director Rick Dunning, Martin Flynn and Steve Pedersen, that give a picture of the issues. Added information is also given on how you may help matters by contacting your Senators and Representatives. It is important that we learn about these bills, and give our legislators our considered and timely views.

Let’s call our legislators and support these bills!

GOOD TOOLS WAITING TO BE BORROWED AND USED!

Dave Mann has been starting a list of CCFFA members who are willing to lend some of their tools to each other. It sure beats buying your own for a few weeks or so and letting it rust in the out-building useless the rest of the time. With the list, Dave can get lenders and borrowers to know of each other. So, if the idea strikes you as a good one, let Dave know by calling him.

It’s a time for opportunities! Give Dave a call on (360) 883-9391 and tell him about that good old treasure in the out-building that you’d let someone use for a while.

ATTN: CLARK COUNTY FARM FORESTERS – FROM BOB BRINK

As many of you have heard, the governor's proposed budget calls for closing Larch Mountain Correctional Center. We feel this is short sighted and dangerous as the DNR work crews from that facility provide the first line of defense for forest fires in the upper Lewis and Washougal River drainages. They also save the DNR millions of dollars by planting trees, pre-commercial thinning the state owned forests, trail maintenance and a host of other benefits.

All of our legislators in the area are concerned about this issue and support our cause.

However, you can assist by directly writing or calling the governor's office to voice your concerns. The contact info is:

By phone: call the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000 and leave a message for Governor Gregoire and your Legislators.

By mail: Governor Chris Gregoire, Office of the Governor, PO Box 40002, Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Website for more information and options: <http://www.governor.wa.gov/contact/default.asp>

Thanks for your help.

Bob Brink
WFFA President

MORE POWER TO YOU – OR THROUGH YOU...???

Quite a few of our CCFFA members and many other land and home owners in Clark County were contacted by Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) about their planned "I-5 Corridor Project" which is to provide relief from forecasted power overloads on existing high tension power lines between Castle Rock, WA and Troutdale, OR. The new parallel power line is to be a 500 Kv (Kilovolt) high capacity system using 150 ft high tower structures, located east of the current lines.

Land under the new power line requires 150 foot easements (75 ft on each side of the power line) to be clear-cut of trees. Outside of the easement, any tree, that could fall on the power lines or the tower structures, may be removed if judged to be "danger tree". Our forest trees grow well over 150 feet tall. Therefore, we need to think through whether and how to plant, manage and harvest our trees in the area beyond BPA's easement and extending 150 feet or more into our tree farm on both sides. That's a swath of $(150) \times 2 = 300$ feet or more taken out of normal forest management on our tree farm. And where, exactly, might these new lines and their access roads be located? For more information see:

The Reflector article and map in their October 21, 2009 issue. BPA offers more available information that they keep updated, on the Internet: (www.bpa.gov/go/i5), or by phone call to: (800) 230-6593.

CCFFA'S 2010 ANNUAL MEETING & AWARDS BANQUET -- known as the -- ANNUAL WINTER POTLUCK will be on FRIDAY, February 26, at 6:30 p.m.

EVENTS OF THE EVENING WILL INCLUDE:

- Time to visit and have a good time with fellow tree farmers, loggers, and other forest friends
- The **FEATURED SPEAKER WILL BE JEFFREY KLINE, RESEARCH FORESTER** with the USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. His presentation is titled:

Maintaining Forestry and Farming in a Changing Socioeconomic Landscape,

a timely topic for these challenging times in family tree farming .

- ◆ Announcement and celebration of **CLARK COUNTY'S TREE FARMER OF THE YEAR**
- ◆ A brief CCFFA Business Meeting with **ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**. The nominees are:

Vice President: Floor nominations are invited for this and all other offices below

Treasurer: Betty Davenport

Secretary: Georgia Goff

Members, Board of Director: John Straub, Larry Plitt, Jared Larwick

- ◆ **PRESENTATION AND VOTE FOR AN AMENDMENT TO CCFFA'S BYLAWS:**
ARTICLE IX Duties of Officers, Section 4. last sentence -- to read as follows:
When changing Treasurers, ((Upon retirement from office)) the Treasurer shall turn over to the successor in its position, or to the President, all funds, books, or accounts or any other Association property in his or her possession and an ((audit)) internal review shall be ordered by the President, or at the option of the Board, an independent review can be ordered, prior to the new Treasurer taking over the Treasurer's responsibilities. There shall be an annual ((audit)) internal review.
- ◆ **A GREAT DINNER --CHICKEN AND REFRESHMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED BY CCFFA PLEASE BRING YOUR POTLUCK DISH AND YOUR OWN TABLE SETTING(S)**
- ◆ As traditional, **DRAWINGS (RAFFLE)** will be held for some great tools and other items – don't miss out on a chance for winning.
- ◆ **INFORMATION TABLES** with helpful subject material and **KNOWLEDGEABLE FOLKS** to address your questions. Come, ask questions and browse!

LOCATION: Battle Ground High School Cafeteria, West Main Street, Battle Ground

WATCH FOR CCFFA SIGNS:

QUESTIONS? Call: Betty Davenport: (360) 687-3415, or Carl Ruestig: (360) 263-4402

The CCFFA TREE SALE TO THE PUBLIC THIS YEAR WILL BE ON SATURDAY, MARCH 13. at Albertson's Parking lot at the east end.

Come join us volunteers in getting the place and our seedlings ready. Meet our Clark County neighbors and help them buy our little trees. As usual, we will start about 6:00 to 6:30 a.m. and run till noon. This is our great fund-raising event for CCFFA's educational, community and membership activities. So, please sign up to volunteer when you come to the Potluck on February 26, or call John Straub on (360) 834-2584. Thank you!!

TREE FARM CERTIFICATION/RE-CERTIFICATION

Getting our tree farms Certified is becoming a more important matter under pressures of competition, being able to sell our timber and other forest products, issues such as climate change, carbon sequestration, etc. After a backlog of certification for several years, we in Clark County did very well, catching up, with just a few left to carry over. Many thanks to Bob Burns, Jim Vandling and Tony Sachet, our Clark County Certifiers!

If you have not yet taken steps to get Certified or Re-certified, but wish to do so, please call Bob Burns on (360) 576-1914.

WHO IS THAT SPECIAL TEACHER? PLEASE LET US KNOW!

It is time again to recommend teachers for the Temperate Forest Foundation's Forestry Tours for Teachers this summer. For the last few years, you members have made a wonderful contribution by submitting names of those special teachers that would benefit from these worthwhile tours on forestry and who will pass on that knowledge. Gradually we are increasing the number of teachers on local faculties who have attended these forestry tours. The knowledge they absorb and incorporate in their teaching helps many of the children in the community appreciate tree farming and the countless beneficial uses of wood products.

CCFFA is planning on sending 4 teachers again to the Pacific Northwest Teacher Forestry Tour, July 13-16, 2010, which is based in Corvallis, Oregon. This location provided an excellent tour last year for the teachers we sent. If you have a teacher to recommend or any questions about these tours, please call Jane Revesz, 687-5651. Jane will be at the annual meeting with information about the tour and will be glad to get your recommendations there as well. Thank you for helping.

TWILIGHT TOURS IN 2010

We are getting together our 2010 list of TWILIGHT TOURS. As most of you know, our TWILIGHT TOURS have been those really helpful occasions when we invite our fellow tree farmers and friends to show, share, discuss and compare notes about our tree farming experiences.

Your offers to host a Twilight Tour, or your suggestions for topics of interest for Twilight Tours, will be most welcome. To let us know, please call Larry Plitt on: (360) 892-1142, or e-mail him on: plittlk@wa-net.com, or buttonhole him at our upcoming CCFFA Annual Meeting on February 26 (see above).

OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>FAX</u>	<u>e-mail address</u>
President	Carl Ruestig	(360) 263-4402		carlruestig@hotmail.com
Vice President	VACANT			
Secretary	Betty Davenport	(360) 687-3415		davenport@owt.com
Treasurer	Walt Sweyer	(360) 225-7562	(305) 723-2662	lvtrees@cni.net

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jared Larwick		(360) 907-8732		jared.larwick@dnr.wa.gov
Dave Mann		(360) 883-9391		
Larry Plitt		(360) 892-1142		plittlk@wa-net.com
John Straub		(360) 834-2584		straub3462@comcast.net
Robert Zumstein Sr.		(360) 225-7124		
Rhidian Morgan First Past President		(360) 887-3531	(503) 228-3115	mmorgan@plasnewydd.org
	cell phone	(503) 317-2658		

COMMITTEES' & TASK FORCES' CHAIRS

Membership	Lana Massa	(360) 607-1542		lgww@toledotel.com
Nominations	Dick Easter	(360) 247-5236		
WFFA Exec. Dir.	Rick Dunning	(360) 687-7377	(360) 687-0466	rdunning@wafarmforestry.com
Member seedling Sale	Walt Sweyer	(360) 225-7562	(305) 723-2662	lvtrees@cni.net
Public seedling sale	John Straub	(360) 834-2584		straub3462@comcast.net
Tree Farmer of Year committee	Walt Sweyer	(360) 225-7562	(305) 723-2662	lvtrees@cni.net
	Bob Zumstein	(360) 225-7124		
	Charlie Swift	(360) 686-3430		
Newsletter	Peter Revesz	(360) 687-5651	(360) 687-2264	pjrfir@q.com
Twilight Tours committee	Larry Plitt	(360) 892-1142		plittlk@wa-net.com
	Jared Larwick	(360) 907-8732		jared.larwick@dnr.wa.gov
Education	Jane Revesz	(360) 687-5651	(360) 687-2264	pjrfir@q.com
Budget	Walt Sweyer	(360) 225-7562	(305) 723-2662	lvtrees@pacifier.com
Washington/Oregon	Alan Thayer	(369) 254-2902		athaycbl@attbi.com
Historian	Bob Zumstein Sr.	(360) 225-7124		
CCFFA Inventory.	Dave Mann	(360) 883-9391		
Public Relations	Tony Ruestig	(360) 600-0206		aruestig@twinstarcu.com
Certification	Bob Burns	(360) 576-1914		woodchuc@earthlink.net

WANTED: YOU. We need a new Vice President, Task Force Members.

Have you run into regulations that set you on your ear? Do you want to keep some nonsense from happening? Do you think we should initiate some good idea? It is a time of changes, new ideas and new ways of doing things. Your fresh approaches and shoulders to the wheel are more than welcome. So, come, attend some of our Board of Directors meetings, bring an idea, join a task force or start one. Get the flavor of Clark County Farm Forestry in action. Call Carl Ruestig, our President, on 360-263-4402 about our board meeting times.

**Clark County Farm Forestry Association
SEEDLING ORDER FORM FOR 2010**

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ **e-mail address:** _____

Douglas Fir orders must be in 100-tree lots.

Number of 1+1 DF Green Mt. Seedlings @ \$29.00 per 100: _____

Total amount enclosed (made out to CCFFA): \$ _____ Payment must be remitted with this order.

**Please choose your 2010 seedling pick-up date: Feb. 12 ____ Feb. 26 ____ Mar. 5 ____
between 9:00a.m and 1:00 p.m. at Lewis River Reforestation, 1203 NW Hayes Rd. Woodland, WA.**

Please send this form as soon as possible with your check, covering your order to:

**Walt Sweyer
P.O. Box 423
Woodland, WA 98674**