

KNOTHOLE NEWS

July 27, 2009 Newsletter of the Upper Puget Sound Chapter of the Washington Farm Forestry Association

COMING EVENTS

July 31 & Aug. 1; Western Washington Family Forest Field Day

Information at:

<http://snohomish.wsu.edu/forestry/2009FieldDay.htm>
or at 425-357-6017

Directions: From I-5: Take Exit 232 (Cook Road), go 4 miles east to State Route 20 in Sedro Woolley. Follow State Route 20 east for 16 miles to Lusk Road. Go south for 0.2 mile to Field Day site. Anyone willing to volunteer can call the number above or show up there.

Aug. 29; Basics of Timber Cruising, 9:00 A.M.
At this field day you will learn how to read aerial photos, how to measure tree heights, how to drill

increment cores and what you can determine from them. Also you will learn where you can buy the equipment used in doing this and how much it costs. We will also go into methods to measure forest density and determine volume estimates. Bring a clipboard and something to write with. Feel free to bring an aerial photo of your property and any gear you have pertaining to this. Lunch will be served. Invite your forest land neighbors.

We will meet at 9:00 A.M. at the Crystal Lake parking lot. **Directions:** From State Route 522 near Maltby, go east on Paradise Lake Road, take the first right on Bostian Road, go a half mile, turn left on Crystal lake Road, go to parking lot by gate.

PRESIDENT'S WORDLOT

Greetings,

There's a few things to mention since the last meeting. First of all, congratulations to Bill & Erin Woods for being chosen as one of the three finalists for the Tree Farmer of the Year award at this year's annual meeting in Ellensburg. Bill & Erin have put a major effort into maintaining their forest land to keep it in a natural environment despite being surrounded by suburbia over the years. They have also done a lot for WFFA and the UPS chapter over the years. Also thanks to Chuck Holland, Kevin Zobrist, and especially J.D. Fernstrom for putting on a great chainsaw safety and maintenance workshop.

WFFA is going through a transition stage, having to weather the economic fallout and the timber industry in particular. Due to budget cuts, starting next year two of the staff at the Chehalis office, Sherry Fox and Martin Flynn are having their contracts suspended. Hopefully, this will only be temporary. In having to downsize, WFFA has gone to contracting out Landowner News. This was also done to improve

the newsletter, having someone with professional editing skills doing the writing. To reduce costs it would help if anyone with Internet coverage could switch to receiving Landowner News via email, and then print your own hard copy if you wished. It's estimated this would save currently almost \$10 per person annually for the six issues, in production and mailing costs. To make the switch, just email a notice to info@wafarmforestry.com or call 360-736-5750. Anyone with dial-up Internet may want to visit www.wafarmforestry.com and try the link under Newsletters for May/June (this is the file you'd open for future Landowner News issues) so you can be sure receiving it goes smoothly.

WSU Extension Services has survived recent budget cuts by shrinking only a little. The DNR forest stewardship program wasn't as lucky. We've lost some stewardship foresters who've been longtime allies to small forest land owners. They will be greatly missed, more than we know. WSU has some things coming up. The fall Coached Planning Class is scheduled for

President:

Phil Swanson; 425-985-9639
PO Box 2822
Redmond, WA 98073-2822
E-mail: philipswanson@gmail.com

Vice President:

Jim Owens; Phone 360-422-5024
22496 Amick Road
Mount Vernon, WA 98274-8270
E-mail: jvobiglake1@msn.com

UPSFFA E-mail List: wwwbike@comcast.net

Secretary-Treasurer:

Chuck Holland; Phone: 206-763-1130
PO Box 3736
Seattle WA 98124-3736
E-mail: dahcah@centurytel.net

WFFA Website: <http://www.wafarmforestry.com>

Sep.22- Nov.17. In this class you get aerial photos to your property and various site maps. Also specialists from fire department personnel to foresters cover specific topics. Even if you've spent a lot of time in the woods this class will likely be a learning experience. Having taken this class, I recommend it. On September 17&19 there is a Restoration Planning Workshop in Carnation. Oct. 1&22 there's a Ties-To-The-Land succession planning workshop in Arlington. Information for these can be found at <http://snohomish.wsu.edu> or at 425-357-6017.

WFFA is talking about looking for new members to join. This will be addressed at UPS chapter

meetings soon. Anyone willing to volunteer 2-5 hours a month would be appreciated. Our chapter has discussed holding work parties. If any members have work they'd like to have done on their land you could contact Jim Owens or me. Also if any members have access to a print copier and/or a color photo copier and would be willing to allow use of it, please call me at 425-985-9639. You'll be saving our chapter some money. Don't forget to invite your forest land neighbors to any events coming up. I hope everyone is having a good summer.

Phil Swanson

