

Landowner News



August 2005

"Stewards of the Land for Generations to Come"

Message From the President

Landowner News is the official newsletter of the Washington Farm Forestry Association.

State Officers

Ken Miller, President
Don Theoe, 1st Vice President
Norma Green, 2nd Vice President
Bonnie Miller, Secretary
Bill Scheer, Jr., Treasurer

Past Presidents

Bob Playfair
Sherry Fox
Chan Noerenberg
Maurice Williamson
Jean F. Bolton

Chapter Presidents

Clark - Carl Ruestig
Cowlitz - Bob Kiser
Grays Harbor - Dick Atkins
Kittitas - Phil Hess
Lewis - Steve Pedersen
North Central - John Malone
Northeast - Ralph Liguori
Olympic - Samuel Comstock
Pacific - Rex Hutchins
Pierce - Phil Poppleton
Spokane - Bob and Jane Takai
South Sound - Bob Bower
Upper Puget Sound - Bill Woods
Whatcom - Mark Wiegand

Staff

Rick Dunning, Executive Director
Sherry Fox, Forests and Fish Policy Coordinator

Public Affairs

Martin Flynn Public Affairs, Inc.

Edited by Martin Flynn Public Affairs, Inc.,
Olympia, Washington.



I believe we should change our name to Washington Family Forest Association (WFFA) and will share my reasons why I believe we should bring this issue to a vote of the membership.

There is nothing wrong with our current name or the words "farm forestry" as it describes what most of us take great pride in doing and it attempts to convey that we are actively managing our forestland.

But I believe Washington *Family* Forest Association would be a name that immediately conveys a more positive mental picture of "families" and "forests" in a world & industry where public relations are so important.

"Family forestland owners" is becoming the phrase of choice in most forest articles. Everyone has warm feelings for "family", and the public's love of the "forest" is obvious based on their obsession to "protect" our forests (to a fault). We are all a family of at least one and unlike other forestland owners we invest a lot of our resources, energy, and love in our forests, as we would raising a family. We are unique with traditional family values and respect for the land in our care. Being identified as the Washington Family Forest Association would more clearly tell folks who we are and what we care about.

Last fall a WFFA committee determined that there are no legal consequences to a potential name change and there are no significant costs involved with letterheads and literature. Our acronym would stay the same, further minimizing the change over effort.

Our straw poll results last year were mixed, but indicated a lot of support for keeping the current name. It also showed a lot of support for bringing the issue to a vote of the membership. Washington Family Forest Association (WFFA) was the most popular alternate name selected in the straw poll.

I'll be asking the Executive Board to put this name change proposal up for a vote of the membership with our 2006 invoice mailings (no added cost) and I hope you will give it your thoughtful consideration. Words do matter.

It's a real pleasure representing such fine folks doing so many wonderful things on their individual forestlands. Sherry, Rick, Martin, and numerous other volunteers are effectively working on your behalf - the atmosphere is definitely starting to feel better. Hope to see lots of you at the September Forest Practice Board Retreat on Small Landowner issues.

Ken

P.O. Box 7663
Olympia WA 98507
Phone: 360/459-0984
Fax: 360/687-7595
Visit us on the Web at:
www.wafarmforestry.com

Calendar

Mason/Kitsap Coached Forest Stewardship Planning Short Course

Dates: September 13th through November 1st on Tuesday nights from 6:00 – 8:30pm in addition there will be a Saturday workshop on October 8th on a local tree farm.

Where: North Mason School District Board Room – Belfair Washington

Located at 71 East Campus Drive about 3 miles south of Belfair.

This nine-session class is designed to help the owners of private forestlands help themselves by learning and deciding what is best for their individual properties. If you want to identify opportunities and develop strategies to meet your ownership goals this program is for you.

Workshop Fee: \$150

For Additional Information Contact:

Arno Bergstrom at 360-337-7225 or e-mail at awbergstrom@wsu.edu
Jim Freed at 360-902-1314 or e-mail at freedj@wsu.edu
or Mike Nystrom
253-350-0018 e-mail mike.nystrom@wadnr.gov

This course is sponsored by Washington State University Extension, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the Washington Farm Forestry Association.

2005 FOREST OWNERS FIELD DAY

When:
Saturday, September 24, 2005. Gates open at 8:00 AM, Program presentations from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

Where:
A short distance north and east of the town of Chelan, WA. Specific directions and an event registration form will be sent to all WFFA members soon. Parking will be provided on site. Route to site will be marked with large yellow signs from Chelan.

Educational Programs:
Nine forestry topics, including – (1) Protecting your Property from Wildfire; (2) Wildlife Habitat Enhancement; (3) Marketing Forest Products; (4) Thinning and Pruning; (5) New Riparian Rules, Alternate Plans, Family Forest Fish Passage Cost-Share Program, and Riparian Easement Program; (6) Reforestation; (7) Small Scale Forestry Equipment; (8) Forest Health; and (9) Forest Measurement/Hi-Tech Forestry

Cost:
Before September 16, 2005, \$10 per person, \$15 for two or more. On the day of the event, \$15 per person, \$20 for two or more.

Lunch:
If ordered in advance a Barbecue sandwich lunch will be available for \$10 per lunch.

Event Sponsors: Family Forest Foundation, Washington Farm Forestry Association, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Washington State University Extension, University of Washington College of Forest Resources – Rural Technology Initiative, USDA Forest Service-Cooperative Programs, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Chelan County Fire District #7.

Portable restrooms will be available throughout the site. Wear sturdy footwear and dress for the weather. You may wish to bring sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, insect repellent, and a notebook and pen or pencil.

For Registration and General Information, contact: Family Forest Foundation, POB 1364, Chehalis, WA 98532, (360) 345-1023.

Lodging information in the Chelan area can be requested by contacting the following Website – www.lakechelan.com, or by phone 1-800-4CHELAN.

Sustainable Wood Production Symposium

A synthesis of findings from the Sustainable Wood Production Initiative will be presented at a two day symposium November 30 and December 1, 2005. at the Hilton Hotel in Vancouver, Washington.

Symposium objective: Present key findings from the three year Sustainable Wood Production Initiative (SWPI) which is scheduled to conclude in Fall 2005. Information synthesized on some of the barriers and opportunities for wood production in the region including sustainable markets (timber harvest potential, market opportunities and lumber manufacturing), sustainable land use and sustainable forestry options (riparian management, public perceptions, innovative technologies including wood-plastic composites and potential of red alder for future markets). Agenda details and registration information will be distributed later but please mark the date on your calendar. For more information contact: Robert L. Deal
USDA Forest Service, PNW Research Station
620 SW Main Street, Suite 400
Portland, OR 97205
Phone: (503) 808-2015
FAX: (503) 808-2020
E-mail: rdeal@fs.fed.us

DNR Transitioning to New Water Typing System

Since 2001 DNR has been working on implementation of a new water typing system. DNR has been transitioning to the new system by continuously improving the computer mapping program that identified typed waters and incorporating water type changes submitted by private landowners.

Progress to Date

On July 1, 2004 new draft water type maps were available to the public. The public was invited to comment on map accuracy and these comments were provided to the Forest Practices Board. March 1, 2005, DNR implemented the new maps for western Washington. New maps for eastern Washington will be available for review this fall and implemented March 1, 2006.

Landowners are now able to download Activity Maps from the DNR website for planning on their properties. Landowners are asked to compare the information on the map with what exists on their properties. If there are errors, landowners can now download a new Water Typing Map that can be used to make changes. The type of errors you may encounter are: a) A stream in the wrong location; b) A stream that is not identified (not mapped); and c) A stream with a wrong water type.

DNR has updated the Water Typing website and included helpful scenarios for reviewing and making changes to the water type maps. Those wishing to view the website, visit www.dnr.wa.gov/forestpractices/watertyping.

Future Tasks

DNR is preparing new water type maps for eastern Washington. A public review process of the new maps will commence in December. DNR plans to implement the eastside water type maps March 1, 2006

DNR continues to accept water type changes from private landowners in Western Washington via the Water Type Modification Forms and maps available on the DNR website or at the regional offices.

If you have any questions or comments, contact: Dennis McDonald, Water Typing Project Manger Dennis.mcdonald@wadnr.gov
(360) 902-1849

Webster Nursery Seedlings

Family forest owners who wish to order tree seedlings from DNR's Webster Nursery for 2006 planting are advised to:

- 1) obtain seedling list and order form in August.
- 2) order on, or as soon after, Sept. 1 as possible.

Many small landowners were unable to obtain seedlings from DNR's Webster Forest Nursery last fall because a few larger landowners purchased all of the publicly available seedlings early in the season.

To help ensure small forest owners will have seedlings available this year, Webster Nursery will limit the number of seedlings per customer to no more than 50,000 until October 1.

If you need trees for planting in early 2006:

- 1) The list of available seedlings will be posted on the following website effective August 1:
www3.wadnr.gov/dnrapp3/webster/
- 2) If you want a seedling list and order form sent to you in August, call or e-mail the nursery to be added to their mailing list:
1-877-890-2626(toll-free) or webster@wadnr.gov
- 3) **SEEDLING SALES START September 1, 2005 --- Order on, or as close to that date as possible, for best selection and availability.**
- 4) Remember that the 50,000 maximum limit applies ONLY during September. After that, it's first-come, first-served without limit.

Family Forests: A Vision for Washington State

WFFA President Ken Miller has been working over the last several months to assemble a document that presents a detailed picture of what Family Forest Owners want and need to keep small working forests on the landscape. He consulted WFFA members from all over the state and produced this document.

Overview

Concerned citizens, groups and public agencies across the state of Washington are beginning to understand the unique contribution made by family forest landowners to the conservation of clean air, clean water, wildlife habitat and our state's quality of life. For most family forest landowners, maintaining their working forest is a labor of love, and often a low-return investment that demands significant time and hard physical work.

And yet, regulations adopted over the past few decades have made it much more difficult for small forest landowners to remain working on the land. Small forest landowners often feel under siege, inundated with regulations and bureaucracy that seems designed to hinder rather than help them maintain their working forests.

Family forest landowners are working hard to preserve this quality of life by managing their forests through responsible forest practices that do no harm to public resources. Family forest landowner

Family Forests: A Vision for Washington State (Continued)

representatives are working closely with tribes, and state and federal agencies to achieve this goal.

Society tends to overlook the fact that if we want to keep the forests, we need to keep the owners. We need to find better ways of keeping forest ownership an attractive option that engenders public support and respect.

Public Awareness and Appreciation

The public demand for tougher laws and regulations to preserve the environment has had the unintended consequence of faster rates of conversion of family forestland to other non-forested uses.

If the public better understood the public benefits of active forest management, especially the benefits of family forestland owners who manage for widely diverse goals, their greater appreciation would lead to better policy decisions and more accommodating regulations. Greater public awareness and appreciation would enhance our pride of ownership, which in turn would also help lead to slower conversions; legacies of family stewardship for more generations; and increased conservation of forestland in perpetuity.

Just imagine the power of a paradigm shift if public opinion considered the practice of forest management an honorable profession (or even a calling), attracting more families to

“do their part” by becoming stewards of their own parcel of forestland as a way to give something back to society!

State Agency Recognition and Promotion of the Ecological Benefits of Working Forests

Washington’s Legislature and regulatory agencies have taken significant steps forward in the last half dozen years to address concerns raised by family forest landowners and the communities that support them.

These steps include the creation of the small forest landowner office in the Department of Natural Resources, a Forest Riparian Easement Program, revised road maintenance and abandonment plan statute and regulations with the creation of the Family Forest Fish Passage Program, and an Overstocked Stand Template.

Despite generally good agency intentions, Washington State’s formula for small forestland regulation remains invasive, prescriptive, and mistrusting of stewards of private forestland. These adversarial relationships are ultimately lose-lose for the landowner and the public. This stands in stark contrast to the regulatory scheme of the state of Oregon, which is far less adversarial.

We believe many of today’s forest practice regulation issues will be minimized when family forest landowners are rightly seen

as a major part of the solution to environmental issues, rather than part of the problem. Regardless of management intensity, forestland inherently provides more habitat/resource protections than any other land use! State agencies owe it to their constituencies and their mandates to advocate for and facilitate public understanding of the importance and public benefit of retaining working forests.

Most landowners believe that we should be able to rotate our crops to the edge of most streams and believe we can do so without impacting public resources. Many of us believe that science will eventually support some level of streamside harvests. We believe agency folks should be more helpful keeping us on the landscape with creative options to harvest more, while protecting significant resources. Rather than being encouraged to do more good, we tend to be forced to prove the negative, or face ever increasingly complicated rules designed to cover every contingency.

We believe the state has a fiduciary and environmental responsibility to be the lead in educational outreach efforts intended to promote economic viability on private and public forestlands. Economic viability is key to long-term sustainability of all private forestland. Economic viability is also key to the intergenerational ownership most family forestland owners strive for.

We further believe the state has a fiduciary and

environmental responsibility to be the lead in advertising to the public and wood product buyers that our strict forest practice regulations should make all forest products from Washington State worthy of environmental “certification” without further regulations/restrictions. Promoting the environmental benefits of our forest practice regulations/protections could help retain forest resource businesses (better markets) and the tourism climates for Washington.

In addition to greater public and agency support, our vision for the future of Family Forests in the State of Washington includes changes in two broad categories – Regulatory and Legislative.

Regulatory and legislative visions will follow in future newsletters. Anyone wishing advance copies via email should send a request to: president@wafarmforestry.com



“Figured” Maple Can Yield Musical Instruments

Whale Bay Woods is part of Western Green, an environmentally conscious company supplying the green building industry with sustainable cellulose insulation and reclaimed and certified wood products.

Whale Bay Woods supplies musical instrument manufacturers and custom luthiers around the globe with quality figured maple, which is found in large Western Big-leaf Maple. A recent news article featuring figured maple was authored by a reporter from the Kitsap Sun and then carried by other papers and news broadcasts in the Pacific Northwest. *Whale Bay Woods* was noted as a buyer of this prized wood. As a result of the articles, hundreds of people in the area with ‘big maple’ on their property are calling *Whale Bay* and hoping their trees hold the hidden treasure that can put dollars into their pockets and valuable wood into the musical instrument supply stream.

Only a small percentage of large maples contain figure, and only a small percentage of those with figure will ‘make the grade’ for this market. So...what is

‘figure’ and how can you tell if this treasure is in your tree?

Figure is the term used to describe the rare and visually alluring 3D effect found in many varieties of wood. The two main categories of figure found in Western Maple are quilt and flame. Flame is sometimes referred to as ‘fiddleback’ or ‘curly’ maple. Grading of these woods involves rating the figure depth and consistency, color consistency, and presence of any pin knots or other defects.

The first step is to determine if your tree is large enough to yield pieces suitable for musical instruments. A diameter of 28" or larger in a clear section without limbs or knots is needed.

If your tree is large enough, use an axe or hatchet to cut open a chunk of bark (about 4" x 4") at about eye level. Peel the bark back and look at the skin of the tree underneath. If you find ripples, ridges, or bumps you may have found some treasure! Before you start planning a vacation, investigate a bit further. Check under the bark in a few more places above and to the sides of the first spot. If figure continues to show, your tree is a good candidate.

If you have a digital camera, please take close-up pictures of the sections under the bark and some pictures of the tree. Email the pictures, along with your location and a contact phone number, to maple@westerngreen.com.

If you are not able to do the under bark test, or are unable to take digital photos, please call 360-765-3806.

PLEASE **DO NOT** start **cutting** the tree into sections without advice from someone with experience cutting for MUSIC wood! The type of figure determines the type of cuts required for this specialized market. Valuable wood can be destroyed and/or the yield can be significantly reduced due to inexperienced hands guiding those first cuts.

**NOTE: Taking off a section of bark can be damaging to the tree after a period of time. If the tree is going to remain standing, it is important to fold and press the bark piece back into place, or cover the exposed part with ‘Tree Heal’ or tar after it is viewed by an experienced eye.

For more information contact:

Lana Massa
PO Box 643
Amboy, WA 98601
r1m1984@tds.net
360/607-1542

Timber Thieves Target Big-Leaf Maples

The thieves typically come at night, sometimes illuminating their work with headlamps or muffling the sound of chain-saw exhaust by attaching a hose that runs into a bucket of water. The targets often are big-leaf maples between 60 and 100 years old, which offer a chance at valuable wood prized by craftsmen. Such timber — known as “figured” wood — displays a special

three-dimensional grain that is coveted by guitar and fiddle makers around the globe.

One recent incident involved thieves cutting down several maples along Highway 104, removing chunks a few feet long in their search for the special grain.

In eastern Jefferson County, maple poachers cut a half-mile of vehicle trails through a fragile state wetland and stole as many as 50 maple trees. Despite the illegal side of figured wood supplies, specialty wood dealers are finding a ripe market for such products.

The domestic demand for electric guitars grew 43.5 percent last year, while the acoustic-guitar market climbed 38.6 percent, according to the International Music Products Association. Officials hope a new law taking effect July 1 will help curtail illegal tree harvesters.

The measure requires a permit for transporting “specialty wood,” which includes logs of less than 8 feet, free of knots, which can be turned into musical instruments or ornamental boxes. The permit must be signed by the owner and identify the person’s property. It also must be endorsed by the sheriff’s office and kept with the wood during transport.

When the law goes into effect, any person transporting specialty wood without a permit would be in immediate violation of the law. Officers may seize the wood along with the vehicle and tools.

Outstanding Washington State Tree Farmers

Washington State tree farmers are among the very best in the nation. And members of the Washington Farm Forestry Association have reason to be proud of our members who continue to take important honors.

At the WFFA Annual Meeting in late April, John and Pat Malone were chosen as 2005 Washington Tree Farmers of the Year by the American Tree Farm System.

The Malones were honored for their hard work applying excellent silvicultural treatments to enhance forest health and reduce catastrophic fire damage on their 40-acre tree farm in Chelan County.

Also recognized at the Annual Meeting were the efforts of the other nominees for outstanding tree farm of the year, including:

Charles J. Chambers who has 15 parcels totalling 450 acres in Lewis, Pacific, Cowlitz, Mason and Grays Harbor Counties.

For 40 years Mr. Chambers has managed all of his property to maximize timber production. He has championed management of small acreages to encourage landowners to practice good forestry on acreages less than 20 acres.

Michael and Anne Spiger and their 45-acre Webster Homestead Tree Farm in Pierce County

The tree farm consists of a variety of habitat, stand structure and intensive management. The Spigers have shown good forestland management by example to their family, friends, neighbors and the public.

John and Lois Sutherland Family and their 100-acre tree farm in Snohomish County

The Sutherland property has been used as a forestry demonstration areas for family, friends and neighbors. The tree farm has been used as an example of harvesting methods in forest stewardship seminars.

National Honors

Tom and Sherry Fox, 2004 State Tree Farmers of the Year have been selected as Regional Tree Farmers of the Year and are now finalists for 2005 National Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year.

The Foxes and their "Tagshinny Tree Farm" in Lewis County have the opportunity to join 2003 National Outstanding Tree Farmers **Bob and Lynette Falkner** and their "Custer Creek Tree Farm."

WFFA member **Albert Deishl** of Spokane was named National Tree Farmer of the Year in 1979 and WFFA members **George Nelson** (Aberdeen, 1988), **Doug Stinson** (Toledo, 1993)

and **Walt Wheaton** (Salem, 2000) have all been named regional title winners.

The Washington Farm Forestry Association salutes all of these outstanding tree farmers for their dedication to the values we all share.

Best of luck to Tom and Sherry Fox!

Gypsy Moth Fight

Each June and July the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) hangs thousands of small cardboard traps on trees and shrubs around the state to identify where new introductions of gypsy moth have occurred or old introductions have become active. More than 24,000 traps will be hung statewide this year. Traps will be placed in all 39 Washington counties. About \$1 million is spent each year in Washington state on gypsy moth control.

The first gypsy moth was caught in Washington in 1974. The state's first eradication treatment took place in 1979. Since then 82 successful treatments have been conducted. For more information on WSDA's gypsy moth control program, visit the WSDA Web site at www.agr.wa.gov, and click on "gypsy moth;" or call the WSDA's toll-free hotline at (800) 443-6684.

"Think Like a Tree" Seminar

On Saturday August 6th, over 50 small forest land owners gathered at the Forest Grange in Chehalis to discuss, listen and learn of the benefits and complications to developing a forest legacy. The seminar was the product of a partnership between the Family Forest Foundation (FFF) and the Washington Farm Forestry Association. Steve Stinson, executive director of the FFF introduced the panel of six financial, legal, tax, charitable giving, and estate planning experts who gave advice on the steps needed and tools available to create a forest estate plan. He then introduced Steve Webster and Doug Stinson, who have put together such plans, and who explained them in tree farmer terms.

Sharon Rocket, a financial planner from Raymond echoed others when she said: "Do something". The collective advice was to protect your growing forest land assets through planning and the sooner you start the better, and that spending a little now to save a lot down the road just makes good sense. Breakout panels gave an opportunity for personal questions to be answered and an open Q & A time provided some thoughtful discussion.

After a BBQ lunch provided by the Foundation, Tom Fox, President of the FFF, gave an update on the Lewis County HCP process. For more information or contact numbers for the panel of presenters or for future family forestland estate planning seminars, contact the Foundation at (360) 345-1023 or www.familyforestfoundation.org.

County Document Recording Fees Increase

Forest Practices Applications/ Notifications Affected

During its most recent session, the state legislature increased county document recording fees through the passage of House Bill 2163 and House Bill 1386. These fees apply to most documents the public files with county offices as well as documents collected by state agencies for county purposes.

On July 1st, 2005 the county recording fee that must be paid when landowners submit a "Notice of Moratorium on Non-Forestry Use of Land" with their Forest Practices Application/Notification will increase from \$20 to \$33.

When a landowner submits a Forest Practices Application/Notification for conducting an activity on their forestland, a "Notice of Moratorium on Non-Forestry Use of Land" may be required that certifies the land will not be converted to a use incompatible with growing timber within six years after the approval date of the activities permitted in the Forest Practices Application.

The Notice is required to be submitted with all Forest Practices Application/Notifications except those associated with either a conversion, lands a county has designated as "Forestlands of Long-Term Commercial Significance", or when a landowner submits a

county approved Conversion Option Harvest Plan.

By law, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources is required to collect the recording fee when a landowner submits a Forest Practices Application/Notification. The fee is then sent to the appropriate county where the forest practice activity will occur after the Application/Notification is approved.

The fees for a Forest Practices Application/Notification have remained the same. Generally these fees are \$50 for a standard timber harvest to \$500 if a landowner intends to convert their land to a use other than timber growing.



WFFA Legacy Book Goes to Print

After years of work, the history of the Washington Farm Forestry Association will be printed in a book called "Stewards of the Land" Family Forestry for Generations to Come. With text and photographs by Cheryl Easter with support from Char Easter, the book has recorded the stories of many of those who founded our association. The book has histories of both the state organization and each chapter as well as over 60 stories of tree farmers from across our state.

The book is scheduled to arrive in early November. Because this project was funded by members of the WFFA, as a member, you will be able to purchase your copy for \$20 from your local WFFA chapter. You can contact your Chapter President for more information. Others will be able to buy them at the \$29.95 list price and have them mailed for \$34.95 which includes shipping and handling, by sending your name and mailing address along with a check payable to: **WFFA Legacy Book** P.O. Box 7663 Olympia, WA 98507. Books will be sold on a first come, first served basis. We will refund your money if we run out of copies.

The book has nearly 200 pages of professional photos and stories and has been touted as "one of a kind" by the publishers and printers. By the way, it will make an excellent, "just in time" Christmas gift.

Senator Murray Visits Family Forest Owners

For the past several years, representation from the Washington Farm Forestry Association (WFFA) and the Family Forest Foundation (FFF), have been traveling to Washington DC to deliver a message of concern and ideas of hope, to our states senators and congress concerning family forest owners. On Wednesday August 4, 2005 we were honored when United States Senator, Patty Murray paid us a visit here in the "other" Washington.

Senator Murray stopped to congratulate the WFFA and the FFF for receiving a \$500,000. Interiors Appropriations request for 2006. The request is for the development of a state-wide data base to establish the number of small forest land owners in the state and to provide the funding needed for a pilot project to develop Family Forest Management Plans, which would provide longer term alternatives to the current State Forest Practice Rules, for tree farmers.

The FFF will use the money to contract with county governments and Rural Technology Initiative at the University of Washington School of Forestry to develop the dataset. Family Forest Management Plans will be developed through a partnership with state agencies and local contractors

Welcome New WFFA Members!

Membership Chair **Donna Loucks** reports the following new members. Best wishes that joining WFFA makes your tree farm an enjoyable part of your life.

AT LARGE: Cascade Land Conservancy
CLARK: Charlie & Nancy Hales
Karel & Dianne Miller
PACIFIC: Randy & Sharion Coady
PIERCE: Sylvia Korte
Marilyn Nelson
Linnea Weimar
WHATCOM: Robert & Kaz Barker

Former President Loren Tucker Passes Away

Former Executive Director **Nels Hanson** reports that **Loren Tucker**, a former president of the WFFA, has passed away at the age of 91.

Mr. Tucker served as WFFA president in 1983 and 1984. Our condolences to the Tucker family.

From the Executive Director's Desk



Summer is my favorite season as a tree farmer. Summer is the season when things slow down. It is a time of potluck picnics and twilight tours, a time to visit with other

like-minded folks and see their good work. It is when I spend more time outside on our farm doing the small chores of mowing the skid trails and taking the time to knock the brush off some young seedlings and when I get to take stock of my winter harvests and spring plantings.

Yet, fall is coming and it will be an interesting one for our association, with an impact on our future. I feel it is a time when years of work by many of our members are going to come together. First we are working with the Department of Natural Resources on a Forest Practices Board Retreat focused just on small forest land owners. It will be held in Clark County on September 14th and 15th. There will be a tour of four tree farms on Wednesday followed by the Board's meeting in Vancouver on Thursday. The retreat is open to the public. This will be an opportunity for us to ask the Forest Practices Board to consider our association's suggestions on ways to provide flexibility, and reduce the cost of practicing forestry, for tree farmers. The

key element will be a long term (15 yr.) management plan and forest practice permit. We continue to try and find solutions to our state agencies' mission of keeping the "bad guys" from damaging public resources while allowing the "good guys" a process that will keep them on the landscape.

Then in November, the Northwest Environmental Forum will reconvene. As mentioned in an earlier article, the Forum is about "Saving our Working Forests" and has brought together academe, conservation, and forestry groups with its focus on three key topics: 1.) Regulatory flexibility for forestry, 2.) Market based ecological services, 3.) Public education of the public good provided by private forestry.

The Washington Farm Forestry Association is proud to represent you in these important processes and will remember the objective of our bylaws: "To promote active stewardship of family forest lands to sustainably manage for economic return on all forest products, improved wildlife habitat and other special forest uses." We hope, in your eyes, we meet that mark allowing you to be "Stewards of the Land, for Generations to Come."

Treefully,
Rick Dunning

Washington Farm Forestry Membership Application

Name _____

Renewal New Member

If this is a family membership:

Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

Local Chapter _____

City, State and Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____

E-Mail Address _____

Dues Level (Please check One)

- General \$50
 Sustaining \$100
 Benefactor \$250
 Lifetime \$1200 (onetime payment)
 Associate \$50 (non-land owning)
 Additional Chapter(s) @ \$10

Name of Additional Chapters(s) _____

Additional Voluntary Contribution to Support WFFA .
Amount \$ _____

Please cut off this form and mail with a check made payable to "WFFA" to:

Washington Farm Forestry Association
P.O. Box 7663
Olympia, WA 98507

Share this
with a
friend!