



## 2019 WCFFA Annual Meeting Highlights

**New Board Members** – Congratulations and welcome to *Helen Arntson* who was elected Secretary, *Karen Bellingar* Treasurer and *David New* Director. Congratulations as well to *Don Assink, Herb Barker, Dick & Jan Vollmer and Sharon Westergreen* who were reelected.

**Nourse Tree Farm** – *David & Darlina New* and Family who were named as 2018 Washington State Tree Farmer of the Year have been named Western Regional Tree Farmer and are now up for National Tree Farmer. If you are interested in seeing a video about their tree farm, click [here](#).

Special Recognition and thanks was given to *Doug & Maralee Smith, Sara Brown, Liz Wiegand* and *Don Ruhl*.

**Whatcom Conservation District (WCD)** – Jenny Coe, our program speaker, told us about the history of the WCD which was formed in 1937 in response to the Dust Bowl to conserve soil and water. Today there are 3,000 CD's in the U.S. with about 45 in Washington state. The WCD is a non-regulatory political sub-division of Washington State government. Their mission is to empower landowners to be good stewards of their land and natural resources and help landowners address concerns such as water quality & quantity, habitat loss & degradation and the potential negative impacts of climate change.

WCD has a Community Wildfire Resilience program which offers a neighborhood chipping program and risk assessments & mitigation for wildfire risk. They will be joining forces with our organization and the Department of Natural Resources to present a free **Wildfire Risk Reduction Workshop for Small Forest Landowners May 18<sup>th</sup>**. See Upcoming Events for more information.

**Committee Reports** – We have a healthy bank balance of \$57,499. The Tree Sale generated \$9,598 in profit with 18,299 trees sold by 73 volunteers including 16 Boy Scouts. We have 87 members total with 5 new members. Volunteers are needed to help with the bagging of 500 trees since WCFFA provides one to each student attending the annual Conservation Tour. Volunteers are also needed during the Tour dates – see Upcoming Events for more information.

**Tree Farm Tours** – if anyone is interested in allowing a tour of your trees or forest land for members, please contact any Board Member.

**New Members** – everyone was asked to encourage friends and neighbors who have tree farms to join WCFFA. Find out more information by clicking “Join” at the top of the Whatcom Chapter website page or the Washington Farm Forestry Association website.

**Door Prizes** – many door prizes were awarded to attendees. Thanks to the many individuals and companies that donated.