



*An Association of Small
Woodland Owners Dedicated to
the Protection, Management,
Use, and Enhancement of
Oregon's Forest Resources
...and having a good time doing it*

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**Greetings OSWA members, families and friends! Summer 2012 (Aug, Sept, Oct)
and greetings new member John Shea of Olymic Resource Management**

Time slips by and summer is half over, veggies are piling up and things are drying out in the woods. Your directors would like to wish you the happiest of summer evenings, early mornings and family times around the BBQ.

Last quarter we had quite a few events, and here in one of our directors words (Gene Henshaw) we have a description of our trip to the

Magnificent Valley of the Giants.

The tour really began at Falls City as we carpooled up a gravel road through various age stands of timber on private land. The road forked past the old route to Valsetz and around what was once Valsetz Lake, but has since been drained and while the river runs through it, it is now covered with brush and trees. This lake was once used as the log pond for the Valsetz mill.

Once we arrived at the trail head for VOG, Mark Havel described for the group the nature and history of the forest lands that we had just traveled through. We had a rather large and diverse group so Mark took a head count and we all ventured out into what was really "The Valley of the Giants". Standing trees that were 300 to 400 years old. Some downed trees had been cut through with what must have been a Paul Bunyan chain saw. These cuts revealed rings that truly verified the age of the stand.

Once we reached the bottom of the canyon, we enjoyed a lunch break by the river bank. From there the group seemed to head off in all directions to explore the wonders of this forest of huge Doug Firs. (Incredibly no one got lost) Bob Feldman added narrative to the tour as he explained how he had actually worked in the nearby forests when Valsetz was a vibrant mill town. He added that the Valley of the Giants was spared because there was no way to get the logs out of the canyon at the time. Now the BLM owns and preserves this area for the public to enjoy.

This quarter we have some new items for you to contemplate, including an event ***just days from when you got this newsletter***, there is a program titled; **Optimizing the Economic & Ecological Potential of Small Woodlands, An introduction to *Northwest Certified Forestry* Tuesday, August 14th** 1:00—4:00 pm Zena Forest, 4550 Oak Grove Rd. Rickreall, OR 97371 For more info. and to RSVP: Kirk Hanson, kirk@nnrg.org, [360-316-9317](tel:360-316-9317)

on Friday September 14th We will tour the Frere's Lumber mill in Lyons OR, 9 am. This is a great chance to see one of the progressive mills that buys logs from private owners like us. We are told that markets are picking up a bit and we may be able to see the centerless veneer mill running. Frere's has several operations that we have seen on earlier tours; including the veneer, lumber and electrical co-generation plant. Owner Rob Frere's is an OSWA member and always very helpful with tours and great explanations of the mill side of the equation. We forest owners are the other side. Take Hwy 22 east from Salem, past Stayton to the Mehama Jct. Turn right there on 5th, go into Lyons and turn left on Main, drive east on Main to 14th and Frere's Lumber mill will be on your right.

Then on September 15th from 10am to 4pm, there will be an event titled; A Learning Fair and BBQ; Income Opportunities from Family Forests, put on by the Oregon Woodlands Co-op, near Brownsville OR, just a few miles south on I5 This event requires registration at <http://www.orwoodlandco-op.com/owcfair/> or by phone at 541 505 1870 The Oregon Woodlands Cooperative is based out of Washington county, with affiliates or satellite operations cropping up around the state. Neil Schroeder gave a presentation about the OWC at our annual meeting last quarter, and told us about many income opportunities that the OWC helps with. Your newsletter editor and pres. will be at this event demonstrating firewood efficiencies

Then one more event to round out the quarter, will be a tour of Lamers Forests near Monmouth, OR on September 29th. Terry and Lee Lamers are well known in our chapter for their involvement with OSWA, their long and continued management of Lamers Forests and the diversity of their operations. Please come for an informative tour and discussion of all things forestry, including roads, ponds, mechanized harvesting operations, firewood production and many and any questions. Lamers Forests is our Tree Farmer of the Year candidates for 2013 (Bob and Kay Felman are off to the races as our 2012 candidates)

To reach the Lamers property; The address is 11300 Monmouth Hwy, From light on 99W, go West on Main, South on Whitman, turns into Monmouth Hwy. approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile west of town, driveway is south, or left off the Hwy as you climb a hill, and is almost a mile long. Look for OSWA signs.