



Oregon Women for Agriculture

Working together to communicate the story of today's agriculture

The Cultivator

Volume 34, Issue 1

January/February 2004

One of Our Very Own...Congrats to Carol Marx!

Billings, MONTANA - At their recent convention, American Agri-Women acknowledged Carol Marx of Rickreall, Oregon as their new president. As the group's previous 1st vice president, Marx was committed to step into the Presidency. Officers elected during the annual meeting were for the incoming 1st vice president, won by Yvonne Erickson of Battle Lake, Minnesota and treasurer-elect, Kathy Rhoads of Circleville, Ohio. Quite an honor for Oregon's own agriculture advocate, President Marx is also a member of Oregon Women for Agriculture (OWA), an affiliate of American Agri-Women (AAW).

Marx and her husband, Merle, farm just outside Salem near Rickreall. They grow grass seed and wheat. Marx is an important aspect of the family farm doing the books, and also working part time at the family owned warehouse. They have three grown children, Craig, Keith, and Deanna, and two grandsons.

Marx's advocacy for American agriculture is tremendous. Besides serving as AAW 1st vice president for the past two years, she is also past Oregon Women for Agriculture President, 1st vice president, and former OWA Auction Chair. Marx also served as AAW secretary. She has attended numerous Fly-In's to Washington DC speaking with many legislators and congressmen, and has always attended the many conventions and mid year meetings of both OWA and AAW throughout the nation.

Upon accepting the AAW Presidency Marx stated, "The intellect, ideas and integrity of the membership of American Agri-Women drives this organization to the forefront of agricultural issues." Some areas of concern Marx will address during her upcoming appointment with AAW are reform of the Endangered Species Act and issues surrounding water, both quantity and quality.

American Agri-Women is a national coalition of women's farm, ranch, and agribusiness organizations and individuals formed in 1974. Their motto, "We as women's agricultural organizations and individuals, unite together to communicate with one another and with other consumers to promote agriculture for the benefit of the American people and the world."

~Jana Kittredge

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E-ko-sis-tem\n.

Ecosystem does not appear in an old 1970 American College Dictionary in my library. It does appear in a 1974 Merriam-Webster Dictionary sitting under my computer. Hmmm, 30 years ago it pops up in the common lexicon. Try as I might, I cannot come up with anything but trouble popping up in those days. Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal "Protection" Act, Animal Welfare Act, and the meteoric rise of Federal powers fed by animal rights and environmental religious fervor all came out of the closet then and the "ecosystem" has been a cause celebre ever since.

We are told by government "experts" and animal rights gurus that wolves "must" be reintroduced everywhere because they are "important" to the "ecosystem." We are told by University professors with otherwise insignificant interests that their study of bats or turtles or darters reveals that their interest is vital to the "ecosystem" and nothing short of a Patriot-Like Act and immediate millions of dollars for those interests will save the "ecosystem." US Park Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service land managers ask Congress for billions of tax dollars and new Federal authorities to "fight" Invasive Species that are threatening the "ecosystem of "their" lands. We are told by UN bureaucrats, Federal bureaucrats, and their environmental/animal rights chums that all animal or plant use, all land development, and all animal and plant management in the oceans, Africa, Asia, South America, and rural areas everywhere must be stopped to "save the ecosystem." It is all nonsense, but it has been swallowed hook, line, and lead sinker by millions and it is being taught to children today as though it was written in a holy book.

The term ecosystem is perfectly valid as a description reminding each of us that we should not just focus on "our" deer or oaks or bass when we are concerned about something in our natural environment. We must always keep in mind the effects of other natural things on our concern and the effect of our concern on other natural things. Natural things are all those non-domesticated (by definition) plants and animals throughout the world.

When we choose to raise olives in Spain and durum wheat in North Dakota, those plants and

the birds in the olive trees and the birds nesting in or feeding in the wheat fields; the groves and fields (domesticated plants) and associated plants, mammals, and invertebrates are all an ecosystem. When we net commercially valuable fish or convert African jungle to corn fields, the marine mammals and reefs and fish associated with the harvested fish and the changing animal and plant life year-around near the African fields all constitute ecosystems.

It is a credit to the rich western nations that they nurtured an interest in and concern for ecosystems. The Endangered Species and Marine Mammal Protection Acts were supported initially because of impassioned descriptions of "ecosystem" issues. Whether it was eagles or leopards or snail darters, the dangers of their perilous status was most ominous when it was suggested that the "ecosystem" was in jeopardy. Soon enough such forebodings about "broken" ecosystems became the inarguable justification for government interventions modeled after the political abuses of the discredited dictators of the past century.

Governments and their powers in the developed nations and the UN have grown tremendously in these areas over the past thirty years due to these "ecosystem!" cries of alarm. State governments, property owners, animal and plant users, and businesses based on natural resources have all lost powers and authority to the growth of Federal and International bureaucracies. Behind all this is an army of animal rights and environmental cliques utilizing sympathetic lawyers and University professors raising funds, influencing bureaucrats and politicians, filing lawsuits, and intimidating opponents by threats and terror. All this, to "save the ecosystem."

The next time you hear some "expert" wax poetic about why we need to save this plant or animal because of the "ecosystem"; grab your wallet and your copy of the Constitution. The next time some bureaucrat says a dangerous or destructive animal like wolves should be reintroduced where people live or earn their livelihood or recreate because it is "important for the ecosystem;" tell them they are full of baloney. The next time some politician says he or she will give the Federal government more

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Educating the Public: Talking to our children

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money or more authority in order to do something for the “ecosystem;” tell them that you will oppose their reelection.

If your children come home from school talking about how important something is to the “ecosystem;” Tell them the following. We are fortunate to live in a rich and educated society that can afford to consider and care for all the plants and animals in our environment. There are plants and animals that are good for all of us and our environment throughout the world. There are plants and animals that cause harm to poor people and to the environment. It is a credit to all of us that we keep some of the harmful plants and animals in OUR ecosystem. Today, more than any other time in our history we can manage the numbers and distribution of these harmful plants and animals so that we can still grow crops, live in the countryside, and lead our lives secure from harm and disease. Herbicides, pesticides, hunting programs, fishing regulations, logging, grazing, combined with experienced managers utilizing computers, satellites, a wide range of new technologies, and the cooperation of concerned citizens have combined to make the ecosystem of the United States the envy of the world.

If the child ever mentions how something like wolves “needs” to be reintroduced or whales and seals must be “protected” because their unmanaged populations are “good” for the “ecosystem;” tell them that is just plain silly. There are good reasons for protecting or managing any plant or animal based on their impacts on other plants and animals or to increase or maintain other desirable plants or animals for the good of human societies. Saying that wolves belong somewhere because they are “good for the ecosystem” (actually only because they occurred there long ago) is like saying that the Pre-Columbian Ecosystem suffered because it lacked the beauty of tulips, the food value of Holsteins or Herefords, or the benefits of honey bees. Today’s ecosystem supports far more people in far more comfort than “experts” forecast for centuries or even as recently as thirty years ago.

The fact that we have the wherewithal to capitalize on plants and animals from all over the earth is being denigrated by radicals hoping to change Endangered Species, Marine Mammal Protection, and proposed Invasive Species authority creation at the Federal and International level into the power for them to control society. Tell everyone who will listen that the “ecosystem” is what we make of it and if we continue to eradicate the value of plants and animals in the name of an ephemeral concept of the “ecosystem;” our environment will not become “better” it will gradually become worse. When we keep American oil in the ground or cause African children to be trampled or starved by elephants or refuse to manage whales or seals because they are necessary for the “ecosystem,” we all lose.

Native ecosystems or Pre-Columbian ecosystems are chimeras. There is no “perfect” or “right” ecosystem, only what exists now and what we choose to manage for in the future. If we continue to be hoodwinked by the Orwellian use of a word helpful to biologists, what hope can there be to open the eyes of our children or the millions of urban residents and others who have bought into this bogus concept? Simply coming to grips with this phony notion is one step back from the brink of loss of all liberties and rights that we are steadily approaching. Continued acceptance of all that is being perpetrated in the name of helping the ecosystem leads only to disaster. Rejecting claims of environmental/animal rights activists based on the “ecosystem” could lead us to the other steps needed to set us back on the path to an ecosystem that once again benefits us all.

~Jim Beers

Around the State

Central Oregon County

After taking December off, the Central Oregon chapter of OWA resumed meeting on January 26 in Redmond at the Farm Credit office. We were pleased to have Arlene join us to talk about several issues, including the 2004 auction. It was great to have her

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Central Oregon: A To Do List

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come and encourage our group to continue doing what we've been doing and to give us some direction as far as our donations to the auction. We also explored options to get the Romance and Reality book out in the public where it can get read and where we can possibly sell more. Since February is "Free Beef" month at Les Schwab Tire Centers we thought this would be a good opportunity to approach several of the local stores about possibly promoting the book as well. Arlene also visited with us about the donation from Syngenta and the opportunity to make a quilt with the Syngenta logo on it to help promote their new product called "Quilt."

This spring will be busy for COWA. Along with the things mentioned above we will be serving lunch at the Crook County Extension Office for a group of livestock growers on February 7. We are going to try to get some OWA aprons made in time to use for that. On February 3 & 4 we will be running our booth at the Madras Farm Fair and Trade Show. We will be raffling off a quilt (final drawing to be at the conclusion of the Deschutes County Fair in August) as well as having a drawing for some spring annuals and one of the Romance and Reality books. We will also be trying to get some interest in OWA in Jefferson county by inviting all of the ladies we run into to at the Farm Fair to a soup dinner at Linda Gallup's house on February 9. This will be a fairly informal meeting designed to gauge interest in OWA in Jefferson county and hopefully recruit some members.

On top of discussing all of the above at our meeting we had 5 new people attend, three of whom became members that night! Welcome Joan Nixon, Lorissa Singhose and Marlo Dill!

We are hoping to have several of our members attend at least a day of the annual convention this year and we have had several people volunteer to help with the dinner and auction. It will be a great time to meet some of you from other chapters. Our next meeting is going to be on Monday, February 23. If anyone will be in the Redmond area on that day, please join us!

~Jenny Brooks

Polk County

Polk County has been busy putting agriculture bites in the Monmouth/Independence Chamber newsletters each month. We have also been attending chamber meetings and donating to the Polk Fair Association. In March, we will deliver the new Range book, "The Romance and Reality of Ranching" to schools, libraries and other public education locations. During our February meeting, we had Cheryl Lentch come and speak. She is currently running for Representative.

~Jeree Mulkey

Linn-Benton County

Linn-Benton Women for Agriculture recently held our second annual ice cream social with Sigma Alpha. Dr. Rita Cavin, President of Linn Benton Community College also attended and spoke about her connections to agriculture and provided information about the school and opportunities for students. About 35 people were in attendance. Pat Coon shared information about our scholarship, Tricia Drago spoke about the auction, and Dona Coon provided an update on the "Get Oregonized" textbook project.

We have continued our tradition of decorating two Christmas trees for Fisher Implement in Tangent and Harrisburg. The new theme for the tree was Chickens Galore, there are many hand-made ornaments, several sizes and shapes of chickens and gold chicken wire complete with gifts under the tree. Thanks to Diane Parker, Betty Jo Smith, Dona Coon, Pat Coon, Ellen Mary, Virginia Kutsch, Becky Sayer, Cheryl Heilman, and Vicki Bowers for helping to decorate the trees. The tree in Harrisburg features "Star Employees" with their photos, and blue and white lights including silver, white and blue snowflakes, stars, and bows.

~Tami Kerr

Yamhill County

January meeting was at Pres. Roelie Goddik's house. We caught up on business after the holiday break, got ready for budget discussions
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Yamhill County: PSA's and more

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next month, and talked about who our new officers will be. Treasurer Dolores Ziedrich and Secretary Eunice Goodrich have their positions for life. :-) They both do a wonderful job and we won't let them go. President and vice president spots appear to be open at this time, unless we can talk our current officers, VP Helle Ruddenklau and Pres. Roelie, into staying on.

In budget matters, we will be putting more money into a new category - Public Relations. The money will be used for a more formal, paid public service announcement program for our county radio station and newspapers than we have had in the past. We've gotten tons of free publicity, but believe we can raise the profile of Women for Agriculture by controlling our message via PSAs. Karen Goddik is going to voice more state OWA and county PSAs.

We encouraged members to begin to round up donations for the Auction and to plan to attend the Annual Convention in Springfield this year. As we discussed the success of our fundraiser gift packs, we noted we had not seen a news item about them in the Capital Press, even though we sent a press release. We believe the paper confused Marion/Clackamas and Yamhill and thought they had already run the notice that "Women for Agriculture" gift packs were available. Suggestion: M/C and YC send single press release noting that both groups have gift packs, identifying the differences in the gift packs and telling locations where the gift packs can be bought.

After the business meeting, we went into Roelie's living room and ate cookies and listened to Tami Kerr talk about AITC. Jo McIntyre, OWA board representative, distributed Range books to members who will place them in the hands of responsible people at clinics and local schools. Roelie took two to put into our two Ag Day Baby gift baskets.

After Tami left, no one seemed inclined to jump up and leave to go home as we usually do. We just sat and talked quietly and thoughtfully about what we need to do as members of OWA and how to do it. What we need to do, we decided, was to educate ourselves about

Oregon's land use laws. Marj Ehry is on the county planning commission, which is hearing a controversial and difficult gravel mining case. It is not an open and shut case. The gravel mine would take prime farm land out of production nearly forever. Gravel is a natural resource. Prime farm land belongs in Yamhill County. Both properties are privately owned. Big issues here. Hard to untangle. We will invite a speaker for February to clarify some of the legal and constitutional issues.

~Jo McIntyre

Marion/Clackamas County

Marion/Clackamas has been keeping busy. We are still putting the final numbers together on our fundraiser gift boxes. We are accepting applications for our scholarship program. We are trying to motivate our members to donate 3 items for the auction. Our own member, Susan Woods has agreed to take on the responsibility to "rejuvenate" the Pet Store area at Ag Fest. She could use additional help if anyone is interested. At our next meeting we will be discussing radio ads, more fundraising opportunities, state convention and Ag in the Classroom.

~Jennifer McCarthy

OWA Public Relations Moving Forward

Deanna Dyksterhuis has asked me to take over PR duties for OWA and I have humbly accepted. Jana Kittredge has been an enormous help in writing press releases and organizing a media email list for sending out the press releases. Now, it is up to you OWA members to take advantage of that work!

Media today operates at lightening speed. There is no time to talk things over when a news story hits. Jana and I would like OWA to be ready to jump in with a press release reacting to news affecting agriculture. To do that, we need your help! When we ask for comments to report OWA's reaction to a news story, we would appreciate a response as soon as possible.

Two recent stories we should have commented

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PSA's: Controlling our message

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on, but didn't, were the finding that fish deformities are caused by parasites, not pollution; and news that IRS is auditing The Nature Conservancy in Washington DC. There will be more, so be ready.

Another part of public relations is a public service announcement (PSA) program. We've gotten tons of free publicity over the years, but believe we can raise the profile of Women for Agriculture and control our message via PSAs.

The state board, at its January meeting, heard pitches from two radio stations regarding broadcasting PSAs. Representatives from Salem's KYKN and Portland's KXL discussed the size and makeup of their audiences, and the cost of running PSAs.

OWA has paid for PSAs on KYKN for several years and we have received positive, personal feedback from people who have heard the ads. Several people have noted, however, that we should be educating urban populations rather than rural people. OWA board members believe we should be speaking to both urban and rural Oregonians. In the future, I will be asking OWA to fund a statewide PR program over KXL and its Radio Northwest network, which covers most of Oregon through 15 affiliate radio stations that carry the highly-rated Lars Larson show.

Karen Goddik is going to voice more state OWA and county PSAs which are currently in development. These PSAs will be added to our earlier ones and cover topics like Water, Salmon, Pesticides, etc.

We will give the ag perspective on these issues, pointing out, for example, that our environment in Oregon is as good as it is because farmers and ranchers take care of their land and make life good for wildlife.

County chapters can have any of these PSAs to run on their local stations at no cost except to pay the station for the time. OWA's county chapters are currently discussing budgets for public relations efforts. I am asking the county chapters to devote a portion of their budgets to paying for PSAs on their local stations, including KYKN if they wish.

Yamhill County, for example, at its January meeting decided to put more money into a new category - public relations. The money will be

used for a more formal, paid public service announcement program for our county radio station and newspapers than we have had in the past. We will focus on four dates: Ag Day, Earth Day, State and county fairs, and maybe a holiday greeting.

Prices on the local stations are considerably lower than prices for KXL, which covers about one-third of the entire population of Oregon and about two-thirds of the urban population.

With a planned program of timely press releases and PSAs, we can raise OWA's profile, recruit new members, and get our message out with a minimum of cost and effort. Also, the stations and newspapers will get to know us as effective communicators and turn to us for comments when ag-related news breaks.

~Jo McIntyre

Membership Information Update

Your renewal reminder will be coming out next month. Please fill it in carefully and completely as what you write down is what will appear in the Directory. Please call if you have any questions: 503-749-1701.

~Joanie Butler

2004 OWA State Convention

Oregon Women for Agriculture (OWA) hosts its annual state convention in Springfield, Oregon March 2 -4, 2004 at the Clarion Hotel at Gateway. This year's convention is organized by OWA's Lane County Chapter. Convention theme is "A Look at the Past, A Glimpse into the Future."

Highlighting the opening evening's banquet will be author, humorist, and inspirational speaker, Lee Pitts, of Morro Bay, California. Best known for his widely syndicated views on American

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What's in Store: Mark Your Calendar

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agriculture, Pitts' column, "It's the Pitts," appears in newspapers throughout the country and Canada. He is the author of nine books including *People Who Live at the end of Dirt Roads*, *I Hate Chicken Cookbook*, and most recently, *Essays from God's Country*. A dynamic speaker, Pitts has been riding herd on the agricultural industry while serving as Executive Editor of the *Livestock Market Digest*.

Other speakers include Daryl Thomas Ehrensing, Oregon State University; Justin Klure, Oregon Department of Energy; and Tim Reed, Tyree Oil, Eugene. They will lead a panel discussion on "Will we turn our farms Into oil fields?"

Professor Ehrensing, from OSU's Crop and Soil Science Department, will present his research on the extraction of oils from crops historically grown in Oregon that can be used in the nation's search for alternative fuels.

Justin Klure will discuss incentives that will be available from the state. Tim Reed is marketing Bio-Diesel in several areas and will explain how bio-diesel is being used and what modifications need to be made, if any, in vehicles and machinery.

Also on the program are Frances Evans and Maryrae Thomson speaking About "Four Generations of Natural Resource Management." Frances Evans, a retired teacher from Junction City, has lived there for 40 years. She and her husband ranched raising cattle and managing timberlands on the family farm.

After the untimely death of their son, Jim, Frances gave Maryrae full responsibility of their family operation. "This is a fascinating story all will enjoy," said Lafona Jensen, of Junction City, who heads the Lane County convention committee.

On Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., Tami Kerr, Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) coordinator will give a presentation. "This is a terrific opportunity to learn what the AITC program has to offer all teachers and students throughout Oregon's education system," Jensen said.

Kelvin Koong, Oregon State University Dean of Animal Science, will Speak during the closing dinner on Wednesday evening at 7:00. He will update us and give a glimpse of what is to come in his department at Oregon State University.

The public is welcome to attend lunch or dinner on Wednesday, but seating is limited, so please call 503.243.FARM or visit www.owaonline.org for reservations. Meal and lodging reservations at the Clarion Hotel in Springfield.

Oregon Women for Agriculture is a 34-year-old statewide organization whose goal is to educate its members and the public about issues important to agriculture. Funds raised support Summer Ag Institute, Ag in the Classroom, Leadership Oregon, scholarships for students studying agriculture; and other general education projects.

~Jana Kittredge

For more information on the State Convention, please contact Lafona Jensen at 541-998-5206 or Fax 541-998-5206.

An Ode To America

Below is an excerpt from a Romanian Newspaper. The article was written by Mr. Cornel Nistorescu and published under the title "C"ntarea Americii meaning "Ode To America") on September 24, 2002, in the Romanian newspaper Evenimentulzilei ("The Daily Event" or "News of the Day").

Why are Americans so united? They would not resemble one another even if you painted them all one color! They speak all the languages of the world and form an astonishing mixture of civilizations and religious beliefs. Still, the American tragedy turned three hundred million people into a hand put on the heart.

Nobody rushed to accuse the White House, the army, and the secret services that they are only a bunch of losers. Nobody rushed to empty their

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Ode to America: Survivors

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bank accounts. Nobody rushed out onto the streets nearby to gape about. The Americans volunteered to donate blood and to give a helping hand.

After the first moments of panic, they raised their flag over the smoking ruins, putting on T-shirts, caps and ties in the colors of the national flag.

They placed flags on buildings and cars as if in every place and on every car a government official or the president was passing.

On every occasion, they started singing their traditional song: "God Bless America!" I watched the live broadcast and rerun after rerun for hours listening to the story of the guy who went down one hundred floors with a woman in a wheelchair without knowing who she was, or of the Californian hockey player, who gave his life fighting with the terrorists and prevented the plane from hitting a target that could have killed other hundreds or thousands of people.

How on earth were they able to respond united as one human being? Imperceptibly, with every word and musical note, the memory of some turned into a modern myth of tragic heroes. And with every phone call, millions and millions of dollars were put in a collection aimed at rewarding not a man or a family, but a spirit, which no money can buy.

What on earth can unite the Americans in such a way? Their land? Their galloping history? Their economic Power? Money? I tried for hours to find an answer, humming songs and murmuring phrases with the risk of sounding commonplace.

I thought things over, but I reached only one conclusion...Only freedom can work such miracles.

~Cornel Nistorescu

A Word from your President...

Happy New Year, Everyone! And now that the holidays are over, we get to get back to work!

Two items that are looming over the horizon for OWA are the convention and the auction.

Lane County Women for Agriculture is working hard to insure that we have a memorable convention! It will be March 2-4, at the Clarion Hotel at Gateway Mall, right off I-5 and Beltline Road in Springfield (near Eugene). The speakers will be compelling, the business as interesting as business can get, the company wonderful, and the price is right, so be sure to come. The details are in this newsletter, plus you should be getting information in the mail. Please note that hotel reservations should be made before February 10, for the best price. Be sure to tell them you are with OWA.

Our auction theme this year is "Oregon Agriculture -Just Add Water," and will be Saturday, April 17, at the Linn County Expo Center in Albany. This is our one big fundraiser for the year, so it's important that we all get behind it and make it a huge success! One area we fell down in last year was in getting donations, which made a big difference in our bottom line. Our all-time high for donations was 999 items (yes, that's right), so this year our goal is to have 1000, which we can easily do if each member donates 3 or 4 items. You should be getting a letter in the near future on how to do that, so start now, plan ahead, and help us out! And then put the auction on your calendar and come for a wonderful time!

I could go on and on about the exciting activities OWA has in the work--our new radio ads, the reprinting of our fourth grade textbook "Get Oregonized," distributing RANGE magazine's outstanding book "The Romance and Reality of Ranching," the \$2500 donated to OWA to make a quilt, and more, so come to the convention and get the details!

~Arlene Kovash, OWA President

Oregon Women for Agriculture

2004 Annual Convention

“A look at the past – a glimpse of the future”

Tuesday, March 2, 2004

- 1:00 Opening Ceremonies
 - Posting of the Colors
 - Invocation
 - Welcome
 - County Commissioner – Bobby Green
 - Springfield Mayor – Syd Liken
 - Lane County OWA – Gerry Ottosen
 - American Agri-Women – Alice Dettwyler
- 2:00 OWA Business Meeting
- 3:00 Break
- 3:20 Reconvene
- 5:00 Break
- 6:30 Dinner – Speaker Lee Pits
- 7:45 Town Hall – Moderator – Barry Bushue
 - Topics:
 1. “How To’s” of winning displays
 2. Relating to workers “Hirees vs Employee/Landlord
 3. The Media – Getting our story told
- 9:00 Adjourn

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

- 7:00 Breakfast and Registration
- 8:30 “Four Generations of Natural Resource Management” – Frances Evans and Maryrae Thomsen
- 9:45 Break
- 10:05 Ag in the Classroom – Tami Kerr
- 11:00 “Get Oregonized” – Deanna Dyksterhuis and Donna Coon
- 12:00 “Get Acquainted” – Please sit with a county other than your own!
- 1:30 “Will we turn our farms into oil fields?” – Daryl Ehrensing, OSU; Justing Klure, Oregon Department of Energy; Tim Reed, Tyree Oil
- 2:45 Break
- 3:10 Tour of Eugene’s Hendricks Park (Historic Rhododendron and Native Plants Garden)
- 5:30 Social Hour and Entertainment
- 7:00 Dinner – Speaker Kelvin Koong, Department of Animal Sciences, OSU

Thursday, March 4, 2004

- 7:00 Breakfast
- 8:00 OWA Business Meeting
- 11:30 Installation of Officers
- 12:00 Lunch
 - Closing Ceremonies

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Chapter Meeting Dates & Info...

- ❖ Lane* – Tuesday after State Board at 10am.
 President: Martha Bronson
 For information: 541-998-6072
- ❖ Linn-Benton – 2nd Tuesday at 7pm.
 President: Tami Kerr
 For information: 541-754-6530
- ❖ Marion/Clackamas* – 2nd Mon. at 9:30am.
 President: Jennifer McCarthy
 For information: 503-588-6664
- ❖ Polk – 2nd Monday at 10am.
 President: Jeree Mulkey
 For information: 503-838-1880
- ❖ Yamhill – 4th Tuesday at 7pm.
 President: Roelie Goddik
 For information: 503-864-2737
- ❖ Central Oregon* – Call for information.
 President: Jennifer Brooks
 For information: 541-416-9180
 *No Summer Meetings



**Oregon Women for Agriculture
 1969-2003**

OWA defines a family farm as a form of business enterprise in which the entrepreneurial decisions are made by a family engaged in the production of food, feed, fiber, fuel, forest products and/or flora for profit, which provides a major source of income, and capital for reinvestment.

OWA Goals...

- To educate the membership and the public about the importance of agriculture to the economy and to the environment.
- To unite all phases of agriculture having mutual concerns.
- To improve the image of agriculture.
- To do everything possible to see that agricultural interests are heard and dealt with fairly.
- To support and encourage research that will benefit agriculture.



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OWA Annual Auction

April 17, 2004

Check your mail...
your invitation is on its' way!

Dear Fellow OWA members,

I am sure most of you know by now that I have moved to Moses Lake, Washington to be closer to my fiancé. In December, I decided to trust my instincts and take a transfer with Farm Credit to Moses Lake. I now travel primarily through central and western Washington working in the various offices, assisting credit officers with work load. Along with traveling, I am busy planning my wedding – for this July (any tips would be appreciated!)

I have truly appreciated the opportunity to get to know each of you and work with you on various projects from the auction and state fair to county ice cream socials and Christmas tree decorating. It was very refreshing to come out of college and join an organization such as OWA. It was and is very inspiring knowing that there are people out there who fight for agriculture and its' future

I hope that I can continue to contribute to Oregon Women for Agriculture from a distance. I have asked to continue to serve as the Editor for the newsletter as well as put together the catalog for the auction. I plan to continue to stay involved with Oregon Women for Agriculture. Again, I thank you all for the opportunity to meet and work with such driven women. Please contact me if you have any questions; I would love to hear from you. Please note the change in address and contact information on page 10.

~Tricia Drago, Editor

What to do in an interview?

One activity which was new for me this month was to give an interview with radio station KBND. Well, you know how it is--after it was over I thought of all the things I *should* have said! With that in mind, I made a list of what I would do next time. This list might be valuable to you, too. Assuming a "friendly" interview arranged in advanced:

1. Ask the interviewer ahead of time what he will likely ask.
2. Write out talking points ahead of time, including how our group got started, what our group's main purpose is, and what are some current issues we are working on (if applicable).
3. Write out what you are doing that relates to the station's audience. ("Know your audience.")
4. Read or say this all out loud to yourself so you have a chance to catch mistakes or add important "sound bites."

~Arlene Kovash

Coming Events...

February 23...Auction Meeting, JB Instant Lawn, 7:00pm

March 2-4...OWA Annual Convention in Springfield, Oregon

March 29...Auction Meeting, JB Instant Lawn, 7:00pm

April 17...OWA Annual Auction, Linn County Fairgrounds

The OWA Annual Auction is set to be held April 17, 2004 at the Linn County Fairgrounds in Albany, Oregon. If you are interested in attending or donating an auction item, please contact Arlene Kovash at 503-838-3512. For special seating requests, you may contact Sara Burr at 503-769-6005.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!!



Oregon Women for Agriculture
PO Box 56
Lafayette, OR 97127
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