



The Cultivator

October 2015

Volume 46, Issue 4

In This Issue

County Reports	3-5
Lane Co Chapter Revived!	4
Spotlight: New Members	6
Port O' Plenty	10
AAW Journey	11
OWA Social Media Policy	13

Mark your Calendar!

- ◆ AAW National Convention
Portland, Maine
November 5-7
- ◆ Oregon Agri-Business
Council Denim & Diamonds
November 20, Oregon
Convention Center, Portland
- ◆ OWA Budget Meeting
Boulder Falls Inn Lebanon,
November 23



AAW Visits Oregon during Drive Across America Tour!

Oregon Women for Agriculture were more than welcoming when AAW President, Sue McCrum and AAW Vice-President of Communications, Lynn Marcinkowski-Woolf visited our diverse agricultural west coast state. They entered Oregon via Idaho trekking into the northeastern part of our state passing through Baker City and on to Madras where they met Central Oregon Woman for Agriculture president, Jessica Hanna. Jessica was the perfect hostess, treating our visitors to tours of central Oregon feedlot, carrot seed farm and mint operation. They travelled onto Bend where they had dinner at Jackson's Corner, a local fresh faire meeting up with COWA member, Jana Kittredge.

We learned about our AAW officers and how much we have in common. Many of us women involved in agriculture married into the business not knowing our futures beforehand. We all have a common goal advocating for our agricultural industry.

We met people at the restaurant where we dined. They were curious about us. Sue brought out her giant autograph pull up. A couple asked what we were signing. Sue explained she was having everyone they met on the 'Drive Across America' sign her pull up as a souvenir and memoir of the trip. These folks lived in Bend, but grew up in the Willamette Valley on a hazelnut farm. Interesting who you run into and meet 'on the road.' Somehow many are related to agriculture. The manager of Jackson's Corner emphasized organic products. We shared that we thought that was a good practice, but that many of us are involved with conventional farm production.

- Jana Kittredge

President's Corner

Hello autumn! All of Oregon is experiencing the change in weather and there is a sigh of relief. Too many were affected by wildfires and draught to not be ready to change seasons. No complaints about rain or cloudy skies from me.

OWA has an opportunity to host some farm ladies from Tasmania next July. There was a similar exchange in 2001 and they would like to do it again. Their contact is Ruth Patterson and she is with the Department of Agriculture for Tasmania. They are thinking that 5-7 days would be ideal and that they would limit the number to 20 participants. There would be a few men but mostly ladies. Nothing solid yet but I would love to hear from you if you would be interested in making a connection. These visits often turn into friendships that last a lifetime.

The Oak Park Farm Family has just wrapped up our third family wedding in 10 months. KC Coon married Emma Carlson on September 19th. (Yes, Emma will be a new OWA member soon!) For each wedding there were multiple foreign guests with farm connections. These friendships are going into the third generation, in some cases. Having people you don't know come into your home is not in everyone's comfort zone although it can have amazing results. Harvest is such a busy time that it is easy to write off this opportunity, but don't. These are farm women and they want to be a part of what is happening. An added benefit of hosting ladies from out of the country is that you take them places in your area you may have never been yourself. Oregon is a pretty wonderful place and we don't always justify the time to go without a reason, like company. This past week Don and I took the Jens Larsen family (from Denmark) to see the Painted Hills, John Day Fossil Beds and a short raft trip down the Deschutes River. I have never done any of that and it was awesome! Jens stayed at our farm 20 years ago on a work exchange and brought his family to two of the three weddings. They are family! We finished the Central Oregon experience with dinner at the Cowboy Dinner Tree in Silver Lake. (Of course, Liz and Geo VanLeeuwen were already there.)

'Relatives' in Tasmania might be a very good thing. Give it some thought and then sign up. Most of the good things in life don't come when they are convenient or when you have time. The room doesn't have to be fancy and your kids might like to live in a tent in the back yard for a week during July if you don't have a spare room.

If you have ever wondered how OWA drafts the next year's budget, what changes to make in our bylaws, what new projects to work on or when to change procedures, here is the answer. At the yearly work meeting, usually held in December, BUT this year in November! Everyone is welcome to come and to give input. The meeting will be held in Lebanon at the Best Western Boulder Falls Inn on Monday, November 23rd at 9am. This organization has been expanding and changing and we want you to be a part of moving it forward. The conference call is an option for participation and we will be looking at Skype options too. There will be more info to follow in a future OWA e-blast. If you are not receiving email updates from

President's Corner continued...

OWA send a note to owaonline.org and we will make it happen!

OWA name badges can be purchased for \$11.50 by sending your name, title (ie: - Vice President) and your county to me at 31308 Peoria Road, Shedd, OR 97377.

Enjoy the cooler weather and consider attending the AAW Convention in Portland, Maine in November. There is still time to apply for travel assistance at our next State Board Meeting on October 16th. The form can be found on the OWA website. If you have any problems finding it contact me directly. Life is good and you are making a difference!

-Dona Coon, OWA President

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## **From the Editor**

To everything there is a season and this season brings more joy! Autumn always brings change. We had a very fast farming season. With the many 100 degree days, which our alfalfa plants loved, we worked in multitudes of speed getting the crops produced. A dry year, we are fortunate to have had enough water to get three cuttings completed.

This issue is packed with great goodness from our members who are actively keeping up with current issues that affect our agribusiness and working toward goals of solutions.

The Oregon Cattleman's Association is collecting donations for many farmers and ranchers who suffered great loss from wildfires in Oregon this summer. For wildfire relief and to donate. Contact OCA: 503.361.8941

I was so happy I was able to meet our AAW Drive Across America team in Central Oregon! It is exciting that we have so many women who are making a difference. The Lane County chapter is revived and working toward their goals. Columbia Gorge chapter continues to thrive. They will be hosting the 2016 annual state convention. Many of our members are getting out into their communities and having their voices heard.

I want to thank Arlene Kovash for braving American AgriWomen's *live* webinar she hosted for OWA in August. She did a terrific job sharing about our great organization. Arlene was also fortunate enough to 'hitch' a ride on the AAW pickup truck Drive Across America for the Western leg of the trip.

OWA's budget, Nov/Dec meeting will be held on Monday, November 23rd at Best Western's Boulder Falls Inn in Lebanon. This is a beautifully designed new hotel. In know it is, because we stayed there the night before OSU's graduation in June. We could not find a place to stay as everything was booked in Corvallis and vicinity. Good thing this new inn was available, our reservation was made before they opened in May!

I wish everyone a beautiful autumn season and all the best to you and yours for a happy, healthy holiday season!

***~Jana Kittredge, Editor***

# Around the State



**LINN/BENTON** - Linn Benton Women for Ag supported the Linn County Fair and the Benton County Fair in July and August. In July the Outstanding Senior 4-H Member of Linn County was presented to Keaton Corrado. Keaton is attending Eastern Oregon State Univ. in the Ag Dept, as well as playing football. We also presented several "Golden Broom Awards" to the Benton County members for Herdsmanship awards for the Fair. As in the past, we supported the Linn Co. Fair's livestock auction.

The August meeting was covered by Co-President Cheryl Ray and was held at the Linn County Extension Office in Tangent. Clare Sullivan – with L/B and PolK County Extension updated us on her current projects and work with local farmers. Tanner Corrado was presented his scholarship at the meeting, and new L/B member, Mary Hood, introduced herself and was welcomed to her first meeting. Debbie Crocker updated us on Summer Ag Institute and discussed the upcoming auction and also asked for volunteers to start working on the April auction.

In September we met at the home of Lori Boshart for a dinner meeting. We planned our October "Ice Cream Social" meeting at the home of Virginia Kutsch for the 13th, and will be meeting and greeting the new Sigma Alpha members from OSU. Sigma Alpha will be helping out with several L/B projects during the next school year.

We voted to support Katie Schrock, the newly crowned "Miss Rodeo Oregon" with money from our Points for Profit winnings from 2014. She will be competing in the National Competition in Las Vegas in December. She is a strong supporter of Agriculture and we are lucky to have her in the National Spotlight.

We continue to save receipts for "Points for Profit". Saving receipts (copies) throughout the year has earned us between \$1000-\$5000 per year for the last several years.

Please help us earn money for special projects by saving receipts for us. Staples, Beggs Tire, Bi-Mart (anywhere in the state) are just a few of the places to visit. Please visit [Inspiritmarketing.com](http://Inspiritmarketing.com) for a full list of participants.

**-Chris McDowell, Co-President, LBWA**

**COLUMBIA GORGE** -The Columbia Gorge OWA put educational booths up at several county fairs. We displayed at Sherman, Wasco, and Gilliam Counties. We received a 2nd place award for Dues Paying Membership for Organizational Booths and a special award; an Anna Potter plaque and Rosette ribbon for the "Most Outstanding Organizational Booth, both at the Gilliam County fair. Thank you to all of you that helped transport, set up and take down the both. -Sarah Rucker



It is a pleasure to announce that one of our Columbia Gorge members Karen Wilde of Arlington, OR was honored as the Gilliam County Fair Grand Marshall this summer! The following was taken from Karen's Biography that was published in the fair book and newspaper:

Karen and her husband Gary started raising Limousin cattle in 1991. They decided that the show ring would be the best place to showcase their breeding operation, and began showing the cattle in regional county fairs, as well as larger fairs where they competed for national points on their cattle. The Cow Palace in San Francisco, California was where they showcased their bulls every year, until that venue ceased. Karen went to as many as 5 shows per season, in the early years, while Gary stayed home and kept the ranch work done. Always believing that the local county fair is the most important, Karen never missed a year showing their Limousin cattle in Condon, until they decided to quit showing. She began duties as the Cattle superintendent in 1996. It was a good fit, as she was there all day with her cattle, and she has always enjoyed working with children and cattle. Through the years, she witnessed many changes in the beef barn and the 4-H and FFA programs. Karen has always been proud of the fact that through the years, almost all of the steers shown by the youth have been local Gilliam County cattle. Past Gilliam Fair Champion and Reserve Champion steers have been from the Wilde Limousin breeding program, as well. Karen's fondest memories are of friends who she spent fair week with: folks who helped her with her many garden entries; the different 4-H and FFA leaders; other superintendents, especially the ones in the baking department who slipped her cookies every day; all the parents who trusted her with their kids and those "great big steers" for a week; and the many children who came in as small youngsters, and have grown into wonderful adults and lifelong friends. Karen is a member of the Gilliam County Historical Society and the Methodist church in Arlington. Wilde Ranch is a member of the local and state Cattleman's Associations, as well as Oregon Farm Bureau. Karen is proud to be involved in the Gilliam County community, and thanks her wonderful husband Gary for all his support through their lives together, without which, she would never have had all the opportunities to volunteer that she has had.

*Congratulations Karen! From all of us!*

**-Deanna Sudan, President, CGWA**

**YAMHILL** -Yamhill County had a great time designing and stocking the State Fair Booth. We had many people who stopped by and played the egg game. The eggs really attracted the kids and the adults couldn't resist cracking them open! Good conversations and education at the Oregon State Fair. Thanks to Teresa Smith for organizing those eggs!

Our September meeting is our first time to get together to discuss all the summer activities. We are planning our annual fund raiser: Yamhill County Gift packs. The funds from this project provide the majority of our county money for scholarships and grants to the local FFA, 4-H, OSU, and Community College students. We have great support from our local Wilco stores in McMinnville and Newberg to sell our gift packs. We also appreciate the great support from our local vendors who supply our produce, so we remember to support these donors for what they do for us.

We take pre-orders for the gift packs – so get your holiday shopping done early!

**-Susie Kreder, President, YCWA**

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*Pictured Above: Ag First booth, Polk County Fair Entrance. Below: Arlene Kovash at PCWA booth, Independence Hop and Heritage Festival. Activity: Grinding Wheat.*

*Photos by Carol Marx*



**LANE** - Lane County Women for Agriculture is excited to announce that it is once again up and running! We have a group of hardworking and dedicated women who are very excited to be involved in our chapter and to see it thrive. We are currently researching different options for getting involved in our local communities in addition to the activities we have already launched; supporting Lane county's diversified ag industry, getting our youth inspired, putting up crop ID signs, and deciding how to raise funds and where they should be used. Our meetings are the first Friday of every other month running from October to June, we don't meet during the summer. We meet at Citizen's Bank in Junction City beginning at 8:15am. We are excited for our future in OWA.

**-Amber Myers, Secretary, LCWA**

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**POLK** -Polk County displayed 155 place settings in the Ag First booth in the entry tent to the Polk Co. Fair in August (pictured left). Thanks to Linn-Benton chapter for loaning us this super illustration that "One Farmer Feeds 155 People Three Times a Day". Due to generous bidding, we were only able to partially buy one pig with money donated into our annual pool to support the Polk County Youth Livestock Auction at the Fair. Still that's good for the kids.

"Name five things you learned when you read the Constitution and write a paragraph about each" is the task for entering the fifth annual PCWA Constitutional Essay Contest for Polk Co. high school students. Prizes are 1<sup>st</sup> \$300, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$200, and 3<sup>rd</sup> \$100. Winners also receive two books on the Constitution by Oregon author Mary Webster provided by Western Institute for Nature, Resources, Education and Policy. Deadline isn't until December 31, 2015 so if you know Polk County high school students encourage them to enter.

September 19 was the Independence Hop and Heritage Festival at Riverview Park. Thanks to Ag West Supply for the loan of a stock tank, Derry Warehouse for the wheat to fill it, and Darlene Bryant for the loan of a wheat grinder. Put together children and adults played with and learned about wheat. Including that there currently is no GMO wheat. We gave out cookbooks provided by Arlene Kovash, wheat information sheets, pocket Constitutions provided by WINREP, and flyers on the PCWA Constitutional Essay Contest. Enlargements of photos provided by Emmy Domes of hop harvests from the hop heyday drew people in to stop and talk.

Next meeting is October 12, 5pm at Farrol's Rock n Rogers in Rickreall. This will be our last evening meeting until spring. For the winter months we will have lunch meetings.

**- Carol Marx, President, PCWA**

**MARION/CLACKAMAS** - Oregon State FFA officers visited the July state board meeting. The state board recommended that OWA donate \$1,500 to the FFA. Since this request was not in the budget and over \$1,000, our chapter voted to support the donation.

Alice Dettwyler is our state delegate however we need another based on the size of our chapter. AAW convention is November 5-8 in Portland, Maine. There are travel funds available at the state level for those to attend. November 23rd is OWA's budget meeting in Lebanon. If you have ideas for state projects to include in the budget, email Tracy Duerst. There were only 4 M/C members that volunteered for State Fair and only 3 M/C members that volunteered for AgFest. The chapter receives \$10 for each member that volunteers. Willamette Valley Ag Show is November 17-19th at Linn County Expo Center and the state will pay members for volunteering at this event. Over the summer the seed council and winegrowers put on a tour to talk about spray drift. When attending outside events, be sure to introduce yourselves as OWA members. There are also OWA shirts available for purchase online.

M/C was happy to host the AAW pickup truck during it's hiatus in Oregon. It is back on the road and will end up in Maine for the AAW National Convention in November. If you aren't getting AAW emails, let Tracy Duerst know. AAW hosted a webinar in August that featured Oregon Women for Ag. Arlene Kovash presented on the webinar that was focused on our Oregon state affiliate, specifically the auction and how proceeds are utilized.

Salem Chamber of Commerce will hold their Ag Celebration dinner will on January 22nd. With our chapter sponsorship, we receive two tickets. Historically the chapter president and her husband have received the tickets, but think about anyone else that would like to go. They have elected Dan Clem for the replacement CEO. The chamber is now having monthly public policy sessions on the first Thursday of every month. One of the big issues is the proposed transportation tax on businesses.

In May, voters passed a bond measure to fund 4H and Marion County Extension. There is currently no extension agent; OSU is working on the hiring process to hire this agent. Randi Bural will serve on this advisory committee. It is important that OWA has a seat at the table in order to allocate where funds go.

Fall Harvest Breakfast: Randi Bural, Lindsay Horlacher, LeeAnn Hafner, Mallory Phelan, and Janet Freisen had volunteered during the last meeting to help at the breakfast. A date hasn't been selected yet, however it was It's time to start looking for auction donations.

**-Kimberly Zuber, President, MCWA**

## **Ag in the Classroom** **Back-to-School Brings Opportunities for** **Agriculture in the Classroom**

As students settle into new their new routines, Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation (AITC) has been busy preparing their teachers for the school year ahead. We are excited to continue to work with educators this school year to provide resources to integrate the important lessons of agriculture into their curriculum.

The official kick-off to our school year is the completion of our annual calendar and corresponding reception to honor the winning students. This event took place at the Oregon State Fair in late August. Twelve of the 13 winners attended the event, as did six of their teachers. The students had the opportunity to share with the audience about their artwork and why they created the image that they did. The teachers also had the opportunity to share how they used the contest to incorporate agriculture into their curriculum. Let us know if you would like a copy of this year's calendar!

Get Oregonized textbooks continue to surge out of the office as teachers prepare for lessons in Oregon history, natural resources and agriculture. As a reminder, student textbooks cost \$25 for single copies, or \$20 if purchased by the case of 8. Teacher's Guides are \$25 each. We have matching funds available as well for classrooms to help stretch the ever-dwindling school budgets. Please keep this resource in mind as you interact with educators throughout the school year.

We are also excited to announce a newly updated website, please visit us online [oregonaitc.org](http://oregonaitc.org), sign up for our newsletter and poke around! I think you will find it easy-to-use and updated!

Finally, we have been busy preparing for our Annual Fall Harvest Dinner and Auction. We will be at the CH2M Hill Alumni Center again this year on the OSU Campus. Thanks to the generosity of dozens of individuals and businesses we have lots of exciting auction items including: a Pendleton blanket, framed artwork, a Traeger grill, wine tours and more! We are looking forward to a great evening of food, socializing and raising funds for our program. Tickets are available now online, [oregonaitc.org/fall-harvest](http://oregonaitc.org/fall-harvest) or by calling our office at 541-737-8629. Registrations are due by October 2<sup>nd</sup>. We hope to see you there!

On a personal note, I celebrated my wedding this month and have changed my name. As I am sure many of you can attest, Still getting used it, I am now Jessica Jansen! My email address will change in the future but will forward all of my emails.

**-Jessica (Budge) Jansen Executive Director,**  
**Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation**  
**541-737-8629 Jessica.Budge@oregonstate.edu**

## **Spotlighting New Members and Ag Business**

Contour Valuation Services is a national agricultural appraisal firm. The Northwest Region currently covers Oregon, Washington, and Northern California, and is comprised of OWA Polk County chapter members Ashley Lacer, Stacy Hasson, and Tiffany Marx.

Contour Valuation Services focuses on providing world-class service in the appraisal sector by producing accurate, reliable, and timely real property appraisals for agricultural properties nationwide. We also offer consultation services including general property research, water rights analysis, highest and best use determinations, purchase price allocations, and more.

Contour is a joint venture launched by Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation (Farmer Mac) and Conterra Asset Management. Farmer Mac is a stockholder-owned company created to deliver capital and increase lender competition for the benefit of American agriculture and rural communities. Conterra Asset Management is a full-service asset management firm exclusively focused on agriculture by providing loan servicing and asset management services to institutional investors and banks.

Contour was created in response to feedback from Farmer Mac approved lenders seeking efficient access to appraisal services with faster turn-around times. Headquartered in West Des Moines, Iowa, Contour is staffed with experienced agricultural appraisers across rural America who are dedicated to providing excellent customer service combined with high-quality appraisals.

The Northwest Region includes Certified General Appraisers, Ashley Lacer and Stacy Hasson, both of which hold the MAI designation awarded by the Appraisal Institute. Tiffany Marx joined the team in July of 2015 as the region's Appraisal Services Coordinator.

Ashley grew up in Sonoma County, California, and moved to Oregon in the Fall of 2003 to attend Oregon State University's College of Agricultural Sciences. She has recently relocated to Medford, Oregon to be closer to her family in Sonoma County and to expand Contour's area of coverage. She enjoys traveling and being an active advocate for the military spouse community. Ashley recently received the 2015 Oregon Army National Guard Spouse of the Year award, and was one of three finalists for the national level award. She is also expecting her second child, due in February!

Stacy grew up in the southern part of the Willamette Valley, and also attended Oregon State University's College of Agricultural Sciences. Her family has ties to the timber industry, and she now lives in Polk County with her husband and two children. She enjoys running and taking her children on hikes and bike rides. In 2012 Stacy completed her first marathon with her husband, and is currently training for their next marathon in June of 2016.

Over their careers, Ashley and Stacy have continued to focus on agricultural real property valuation with a concentration on complex assignments such as agricultural facilities and permanent plantings. Both Ashley and Stacy were also active members of Sigma Alpha at Oregon State University, and recently co-wrote and taught Farm and Ranch Appraisal at OSU in 2013.

Tiffany Marx has been an active member of OWA since 2009, serving in her county chapter and on numerous committees, and is a former 2nd Vice President in charge of membership. On a national level, she completed LAIB training, attended several conferences, and is a former Chairwoman for the AAW TV show. She attended two Ag Chat Foundation regional conferences, and is currently applying to be on the Nominating Committee. Tiffany is wife to Keith Marx, who currently helps manage his family's farm. In her free time, Tiffany likes to stay active on social media with her fellow farmers and advocates and watching her girls in cheer and plays.

The Northwest Region team joined OWA to engage with the local agricultural community. Following current issues like new or proposed legislation, local zoning changes, and recent sales is key to providing high-quality service to our clients. Our team values the importance of staying informed, and joining OWA keeps us tuned-in to what impacts our local and national agricultural groups.

We provide farmers and ranchers with important tools like accurate and timely appraisal reports to help them make sound business decisions. The health of agriculture is vital to our business, and we have a vested interest in helping make it successful. For more information you can contact our office,



***pictured l-r: Stacy Hasson, Tiffany Marx, Ashley Lacer.***

*-Submitted by Tiffany Marx, PCWA*



**The Cultivator is published four times a year as a service to our members, advertisers and donors.**

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**Newsletter Deadline: Third Friday of March, June, September and December**

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**Oregon Women for Agriculture**

**1969-2015**

**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 and inform the membership and the public about the importance of agriculture to the economy and to the environment.
- \* To engage all phases of Oregon agriculture having mutual concerns.
- \*To communicate the story of today's 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.

OWA defines sustainable agriculture as using farm practices and resources that produce safe, high quality food and other products for America and the world' resulting in profitable operations that improve the land and environment for future generations.

**CHAPTER MEETING DATES AND INFORMATION**

- **Central Oregon: 1st Monday, Noon @ NW Farm Credit Services, Redmond**  
(every other month: Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct, Dec)  
President: Jessica Hanna  
541.408.5232 [auntjessa@hotmail.com](mailto:auntjessa@hotmail.com)
- **Lane: First Friday every other month, October - June, Citizens Bank, Junction City, 8:15am**  
President: Sarah Halagean (we do not meet in summer)  
541.736.2021 [shalagean@citizensbank.com](mailto:shalagean@citizensbank.com)
- **Linn-Benton: 2nd Tuesday, 6pm**  
Co-President: Chris McDowell  
541.619.7808 [chris@vistaseedpartners.com](mailto:chris@vistaseedpartners.com)
- **Marion/Clackamas: 2nd Monday, Noon @ NW Farm Credit Services, Salem (N. of Costco).**  
(we do not meet July and August)  
President: Kim Zuber  
503.949.9621 [zuberfarms@wavecable.com](mailto:zuberfarms@wavecable.com)
- **Polk: 2nd Monday, Noon @ area restaurants**  
President: Carol Marx  
503.362.6225 [camarx@aol.com](mailto:camarx@aol.com)
- **Yamhill: 3rd Tuesday, 7pm @ Citizens Bank**  
President: Susie Kreder (we do not meet July-Aug)  
503.864.2077 [bigal@onlinemac.com](mailto:bigal@onlinemac.com)
- **Columbia Gorge: 3rd Tuesday, 5:30pm @ Farm Service Agency, The Dalles**  
President: Deanna Sudan  
541.760.0217 [dashbrook3@hotmail.com](mailto:dashbrook3@hotmail.com)

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Ad space is available at \$75. per business card per year. Please ask at the places where you do business (or others) if they would be interested in supporting Oregon Women for Agriculture by buying an ad for their business. Please contact the Editor.

To join OWA, mail application and dues to the address below. Dues are \$45. per year for membership in OWA, AAW and your county chapter, or as an at large member (where we don't have county chapters). See membership form in this issue.

Mail correspondence to:  
Oregon Women for Agriculture  
630 Hickory Street, NW Suite 120; PMB 50  
Albany, Oregon 97321  
[www.owaonline.org](http://www.owaonline.org)

***Did you know?.....***

The October 16th meeting will be hosted by Polk and will be held at the Polk County Extension Office, 289 E. Ellendale, Suite 301, Dallas, located across from Walmart in the Ellendale Plaza in the building in the back of the parking lot.

The November regular meeting has been combined with the December Budget Planning meeting which will be held on Monday, November 23rd at the Best Western Boulder Falls Inn, Lebanon.

Please note the upcoming 2015 State Board meeting schedule. All meetings will be held on the 3rd Friday of the month, 9am-noon and locations will be announced.

October 16, 2015 - Polk, Extension Office

Monday, November 23, 2015 - Boulder Falls Inn, Lebanon

December 2015 - no meeting



**AAW Pickup is Highlighted in Oregon!**

The AAW Drive Across America crew visited in July. They stopped in Central Oregon and then spent time with Dona Coon on her farm in Shedd. The pickup was then left at Tracy Duerst's and was in the *Homer Davenport Days* parade in Silverton. Pencils and wildflower seeds were passed out at the parade. The pickup is still traveling and will end up in Maine in November for the National Convention.

*Pictured above are M/C Women for Agriculture members at Ioka Farms!*



**#WomenInAg**

From the classroom to the farm to the boardroom, women in agriculture are helping to pave the way for a better future. As leaders, it is our responsibility to make sure the next generation of women are educated, encouraged and empowered to take on the challenges of meeting the world's growing food, fuel and fiber needs. To help women in the United States connect with other women leaders in agriculture all across the country, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has established a women in ag mentoring network. Join the conversation by emailing [AgWomenLead@usda.gov](mailto:AgWomenLead@usda.gov) or check out #womeninag on Twitter.



## **Port O' Plenty?**

Adam Smith wrote in his 1776 publication entitled – “Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations,”

“As by means of water-carriage a more extensive market is opened to every sort of industry than what land-carriage alone can afford it, so it is upon the sea-coast, and along the banks of navigable rivers, that industry of every kind naturally begins to subdivide and improve itself, and it is frequently not till a long time after that those improvements extend themselves to the inland part of the country.”

Adam Smith’s two hundred and thirty-nine year old treatise regarding the direct relationship of geography and international trade are even more relevant now that we have entered the “Globalization

Age” – whereby international trading partners are tightly interconnected. (*Excerpts from Allports’ newsletter. Allports is a local freight company in Portland, OR. Used with permission.*)

Oregon is in a unique position in both the nation and the world to capitalize on international trade, yet we are in trouble. Nowhere else in the world is there a country with oceans on both sides of the country, a workable infrastructure, and without military threats at our border. Yet we just barely made it through one of the worst port crises ever. The long-term ramifications of this showdown between the ILWU (International Longshore and Warehouse Union) and the PMA (Pacific Maritime Association) is still yet to be seen and felt.

Agriculture is important to us as Oregonians and as Americans. From the words of our former Governor Kitzhaber: “Agriculture remains one of Oregon’s economic bright spots, creating about 1 in 10 Oregon jobs, with a \$5.4 billion production value equal to roughly 15% of the state’s economy. There is tremendous diversity in what we grow, with more than 220 different commodities produced under some of the best growing conditions you’ll ever find. That array of crops, livestock, and fisheries strengthens our agricultural economy which strengthens all of Oregon.”

What does that mean in a nutshell? JOBS. The opportunity for Oregon’s Agriculture and its effect on the economy is exciting – if we can allow it to happen. Oregon agriculture has diversified into markets that are growing very fast. These markets offer the potential to revitalize an industry that is slowly being recognized as having an increasing role in Oregon’s economic future.

If we can’t get this agriculture to market, then what good is it? From the words of the AgTC (Agriculture Transportation Coalition): “There is nothing that we produce in this country in agriculture, that cannot be sourced somewhere else in the world. We can grow the best in the world, but if we can’t deliver affordably and dependably, the customer will go somewhere else... and may never come back.”

The current status of Oregon’s exports is not good. We do not have a container port at the Port of Portland any longer. When Hanjin’s last vessel, the Hanjin Copenhagen, pulled out of Portland after a 22 day moorage in February and then Hapag Lloyd followed suit by not calling the Port of Portland any longer – those two shiplines took with it 99% of the Port of Portland’s container business. We have not gotten that business back. This has left Oregon’s exports scrambling to find trucking and other options to get their product to the international market through other ports, mainly Seattle and Tacoma. Where this leaves Oregon’s agricultural exports to compete with the rest of the world, well that remains to be seen.

The Pioneer Spirit is something we may need to get through this... “Pioneers are individuals who are dissatisfied with the status quo. Pioneers have a vision of something better beyond their immediate world and ways. Pioneers take responsibility for their own lives and futures. Pioneers exercise their independent judgment, often in opposition to conventional wisdom, using their ingenuity to come up with new ideas, inventions, innovations, or enterprises. Pioneers are risk-takers who have the courage to travel down untrodden paths and into perilous territory to reach their goals. And as a result of their efforts, pioneers make life better and more fulfilling for themselves, and they make the world a better place for the rest of us.” (Edward Hudgins, The Atlas Society)

Let’s hope these words get us through a seemingly impossible challenge ahead of us.

### **AGRICULTURE IS ONE OF OREGON'S MOST IMPORTANT EXPORTS**

- 80% of production leaves the state.
- 40% of production leaves the country.
- Ag and food products are the second largest export sector in terms of value, the first in terms of volume.
- Ag accounts for about 19% of total state exports.
- 60% of the Port of Portland's total tonnage of exports is agriculture.

**- Submitted by Shelly Boshart Davis, LBWA**

## **Reaching Out...**

*The Boshart Family's involvement in one local group in reaching out to kids...*

The Adopt-A-Farmer is a program sponsored by the AgriBusiness Council. They work with Junior High students throughout the state to show them Oregon Agriculture. Many schools are inner-city who have never even seen a farm before! This past year, we brought 180 6<sup>th</sup>-graders from Memorial Middle School in Albany, Oregon, to our farm in Tangent. We had 5 stations to show them different aspects of our farm and businesses:

1) My brother, Amos Boshart, showed the kids about grass straw storage and even let them run the hay squeeze! 2) A local farmer and friend, Ryan Glaser of Mid-Valley Farms, showed the kids our new hazelnut orchard and taught them all about Oregon's Hazelnuts. 3) My dad, Stan Boshart, showed the kids all of our farm equipment – from windrowers and combines to tractors, spray buggies and balers. But, I think Coach the Dog stole the show on this station! 4) Our Operations Manager, Eric Martin, took the kids through the mechanic shop – starting with the truck scales where they weighed themselves as a group all at once, and finished talking about tires – some of them twice the height of the kids! – with the help of Terry, our local Les Schwab guy! 5) The final station was mine – and I showed the kids how we press the bales, containerize them and ship them overseas to beef and dairy farms in Japan and Korea. I explained the opportunities and challenges of working in an international marketplace, but they were more concerned about the money from around the world laid out on the table! In case you didn't know, kids LOVE money!



Any time we have the opportunity to bridge the gap between rural and urban communities, I hope we all take that chance! There are many opportunities out there to do so – AAF is just one of them. It is my hope to reach as many kids as we can to teach them about Oregon's great world of Agriculture.

***-Shelly Boshart Davis, LBWA***

## **Oregon Hazelnuts!**

Crop O' Plenty...While representing just five percent of the world crop, Oregon hazelnuts have become the global benchmark for inshell excellence, recognized for their large size and distinctive flavor.

This is because Oregon boasts an ideal climate for growing the world's highest quality hazelnuts. It is in this special corner of the world where temperate ocean, mountain and river climates meet with rich volcanic soils to create prime hazelnut-growing country.



Oregon produces 99 percent of the U.S. hazelnut crop and ultimately about 50 percent of the crop is exported annually to many countries in the world. The industry is in a growth mode, with new plantings every year.

About 650 grower families on farms nestled along the length of the Willamette Valley from Roseburg into the State of Washington make up the growing community.

*-from Oregon Hazelnuts Facebook page*

## **AAW Celebrating 40 Years Drive Across America!**

### *My journey through the western states with AAW*

*By Arlene Kovash, AAW Secretary and Polk County Member*

American Agri-Women is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary by driving across America to visit as many of its 56 affiliates as possible and to educate and advocate for agriculture along the way. President Sue McCrum and VP of Communications Lynn Woolf arrived in Salem on July 31, after meeting with Jessica Hanna and the Central Oregon women in Redmond, Oregon, the day before. OWIT member Diann Washburn and I met them for lunch, then Sue, Lynn, and I drove to the coast for a picture of the pickup at the Pacific. We then drove back to OWA president Dona Coon's farm for a dinner in the field where the crew was combining. Afterward we had a memorable evening sitting in the Willamette River enjoying wine and brownies. Weather was hot!

The next morning, August 1, Sue and Lynn toured operations in the vicinity with Dona, then had lunch at Diamond Woods Golf Course near Monroe with 15 OWA members. That evening I picked them up at Alice Dettwyler's where they left the pickup, and took them to the airport to fly home for a break. While in Oregon, Tracy Duerst drove the pickup in a Silverton parade, so it wasn't idle while here!

When Sue came back to Oregon on August 25<sup>th</sup>, I met her at Alice's farm and we headed for California. Our first stop was to the Salinas Valley on the 26<sup>th</sup>, where we toured several interesting farming operations and had lunch with the Salinas Valley chapter of California Women for Agriculture. We did discover that meeting with small groups along the way was almost better than large event where we weren't able to get to know the members. They loved telling us about their chapters and we loved hearing about them.

Our next stop was on August 27<sup>th</sup>, where CWA member Janie Sustaita joined us for two days. We met her at Avila Beach, a typical California beach town, to have lunch with several San Luis Obispo (SLO) chapter members. We ate at the Customs House Restaurant right on the beach, then went to the Olde Port Inn off a pier to have cocktails. The table was glass so you could look right into the ocean! Afterward we visited a state of the art winery, then went to the evening San Luis Obispo farmers' market where we had a space to park the pickup and talk to people about our organization, plus pass out pens, pencils, flower seeds, and an AAW informational card. Several dignitaries stopped by, including the assembly member from SLO, who presented us with a certificate of recognition from the California Assembly.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> we headed for Ventura and the surrounding area to visit several amazing farming operations, including an onion processing plant, a flower grower who specialized in Gerbera daisies and grow 90% of those sold in the U.S., hydroponic tomato greenhouses where they have 125 acres under glass, and a luffa (loofah) farm. Luffas are used for natural sponges. Part of the cucumber family, luffas grow on a vine, and aren't picked until they are completely dry. I also learned if you cry for 20 minutes while peeling onions, after that you'll become immune to crying. For how long, I don't know.

In Indio we had lunch with the Coachella chapter women, then went to a date farm among other places, which was an eye-opener. Then we stayed with one of the women, Margit, 30 miles down the road at Chiriaco Summit. An experience right there, as she and her brother own the small town, including a huge Chevron station, café, gift shop, community center, Patton museum, and post office. There's a story right there!

After staying with Margit, we headed for Buckeye, Arizona, where we ate lunch with American Farm Bureau's women's chair Sherry Saylor, who would like to see all women's farm groups work together on more issues. She showed us around Buckeye, then we headed for Mesa, where we spent the night with my sister, Vicki.

The next morning we visited 37-year-old Deanna Diwan's cotton farm in Coolidge, who showed us her fields and talked about her issues, mainly water and the encroaching city. This is their first year of growing without subsidies, which has been a challenge. Deanna stops going into her fields when the rattlesnakes start coming out — which is about now! Sue wasn't too excited about that! She's a fourth generation Arizona cotton farmer.

After visiting with her, we made it to Artesia, New Mexico, in time for dinner with the New Mexico Wool Growers Auxiliay, in spite of the fact that we forgot there was a time change. They were thrilled to have us and bought our dinners and paid for our hotel room that night! One member's husband is an oil man so came to tell us about fracking and were surprised to hear we were knowledgeable about fracking and supported it. After dinner they gave us a tour of Artesia, an attractive little town with some great bronzes depicting their history of cattle ranching and oil drilling.

September 4<sup>th</sup> was a driving day, as we were going from Artesia to San Antonio, Texas. We discovered that Carlsbad Caverns was only 30 miles south of Artesia so took the time to go. What a treat! The caverns are huge and beautiful and should be on everyone's bucket list! We spent two hours there before continuing on and staying in Kerrville near San Antonio. The next day Sue dropped me off at the airport where I flew back to Mesa to visit my sister again for a few days, and Sue headed to Houston where she spent the Labor day holidays with her sister. What a whirlwind trip! It was a thrill to go! And, the *Drive Across America* was well worth it. Sue was a great ambassador for the organization and the wrapped pickup attracted a lot of attention. I had a fantastic time!

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OWA Social Media Policy

As fall approaches more people tend to be at their computers, searching things we need to get our website & social media content up to date. If you think you have something you think would work to be posted please email me: mariebowers@gmail.com or post it here & tag me. Here is the policy we approved in March at convention:

On OWA Social Media Policy -

President shall be an immediate admin of all accounts; executive committee should clear all other admins or appoint social media chair who monitors other admins closely. Web admin shall have access to social media accounts to keep website & social media account in sync.

Facebook

Suggested 3-5 posts weekly, acceptable posts:

- Promotion of all OWA events, from meetings to auction
- Shares from other organizations we support
Ag in the Classroom, Summer Ag Institute, AgFest, Oregonians for Food & Shelter, Pacific Legal Foundation, American AgriWomen, Oregon Agri-Business Council, etc.
- Any political posts must align with position statements. If nature is highly contentious, post must reference our position statement somewhere in post.
- If content is unclear on whether it is acceptable to post or not then it must be cleared by the president and/or another executive officer

Twitter

As often as possible, acceptable posts:

- Facebook posts immediately go to twitter.
- A designated live tweeter at OWA events from OWA account
- Statement on twitter account that says Retweets do not mean endorsement
- Acceptable retweets include ag related posts using #ORag as hashtag, ag related posts from members & supporters, political retweets should match out position statements

YouTube

- Content designed specifically for OWA, i.e. Celebrate Oregon Ag
- Content developed by OWA executive and/or Board of Directors
- All other content must be approved by OWA executive board
- Content likes are not an endorsement

Pinterest

As often as possible and optimum would be 15 pins a week. The goal is to promote members' pins, organizations with similar goals as ours, all Oregon farms, all Oregon grown products and anything that would be a common interest to our audience as related to food, farm & fiber.

Acceptable posts:

- Pin does not necessarily mean endorsement
- Content shall be relatively neutral in nature
Recipes, farm fashion, agritourism, Oregon farms, Oregon products, farm/country home decorating, non-profit fundraising ideas
- Pin members blog posts
- Education on various farm issues
- Re-pins from organizations we support or who support us
- Pin or re-pin other member's ag related content

-Marie Bowers, OWA Legislative Chair

Another Oregon Grown Product: Pumpkin Seeds!

Autumn Seed, Inc. produces the golden delicious pumpkin seed. It is their own variety. It is a hubbard squash that typically has very high seed yields. The Willamette Valley is one of the best places to grow edible pumpkin seeds. The hot summers and cool fall seasons give the seed a much sweeter flavor than any other seeds on the market.

Pumpkin Seeds Health Benefits:

Heart Healthy Magnesium * Zinc for Immune Support * Plant-Based Omega-3 Fats
Prostate Health * Anti-Diabetic Effects * Benefits for Postmenopausal Women
Heart and Liver Health * Tryptophan for Restful Sleep * Anti-Inflammatory Benefits



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————— Dona Coon —————

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Linn Benton Chapter is proud of Oregon's 2016 Rodeo Queen! Congratulations and Good Luck to Katie Schrock, Oregon Rodeo Queen from Benton County.

Katie is a Corvallis High School graduate and played basketball at Oregon State University from 2010-2013.

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Save the Date!
February 25-27, 2016
2016 Oregon Women for Agriculture Convention at the Imperial River Company in Maupin, Oregon. Come and relax on the banks of the Deschutes River! Hosted by Columbia Gorge Women for Ag chapter.




Pictured left: Pam Toews, LBWA, and grand-kids Julia and Jordan Toews helped at OWA's state fair booth. A group of exchange students from Malaysia, Spain, and Turkey spent some time visiting with them. The exchange students attend high schools in Portland. Julia stands in the back left, and she is a Junior at West Albany High School. Jordan is 12, he is not pictured. At the booth were plastic Easter eggs to choose from with agricultural questions inside. The exchange students enjoyed answering them.

Oregon Women for Agriculture
PO Box 149
Fort Rock, OR 97735
www.owaonline.org

	Volunteer! November 17 - 19 Linn County Expo, Albany Sign up on OWA's website www.owaonline.org	
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OCTOBER * NOVEMBER * DECEMBER
OWA STATE BOARD MEETINGS

October 16: Polk, OSU Extension
Auditorium, Dallas

November 23: Boulder Falls Inn, Lebanon

December: No meeting

Reminder!
Cultivator Deadline
for all news, reports, photos,
articles, ads, etc. for
January edition is December
30th. Please send to the Editor.

- AMAZON.COM link on OWA website:
- *On OWA's homepage click on upper right Amazon.com link to buy stuff from Amazon.com OWA receives a percentage! (average 4% per item based on your purchase)*
- www.owaonline.org

American AgriWomen 2015 Convention November 5-7 Hosted by Maine Agri-Women DoubleTree by Hilton Portland Hotel Portland, Maine www.americanagriwomen.org	
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