



Oregon Women for Agriculture

THE CULTIVATOR

Working together to communicate the story of today's agriculture

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AN EXPLORATION OF CENTRAL OREGON

Central Oregon Chapter Hosts Annual Oregon Women for Agriculture Convention

By Kristen Hutchins

The Central Oregon Chapter proudly hosted this year's state convention at the Inn at Cross Keys Station in Madras. Against the backdrop of a snowy Central Oregon landscape, attendees gathered under the theme: "AGvocating for Our Future".

As per tradition, the convention blended business meetings with tours, offering participants a glimpse into Central Oregon's agriculture. A highlight of the event was a full day of tour stops, with 40 members in attendance. Among the locations visited were the [Gateway Canyon Preserve & Rocker 3 Ranch](#), home to [Oregonic Beef Co.](#), where attendees gained insight into the workings of a direct-to-consumer, organic, 100% grass-fed beef operation. The ranch, a fusion of cattle ranching and game preserve, is also host to guided hunts of all kinds, mostly deer, elk and game birds. Tour hosts Darrell Jr. and Darrel Sr. shredded light on the



Kristen Hutchins, Dawn Alexander, Jessica Locke, Jana Kittredge and Carole Richard members of the Central Oregon chapter and convention hosts.

realities behind beef production and consumer choices.

The second tour stop was Obsidian Seed located in Gateway. Obsidian Seed is the second largest producer and cleaning facility of wildflower seeds in the United States. Sean Vibbert showcased his decades

long dedication to cultivating and refining wildflower seeds. In addition to his business, Vibbert has been a major force in speaking up for Central Oregon's water challenges in Washington DC. He and other fellow farmers and ranchers formed Perfect Balance USA, a non-profit organization dedicated to

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NEW OFFICERS

Meet the new leaders of Oregon Women for Agriculture.

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OWA AUCTION

It's not too late to purchase tickets. Don't miss out on our biggest event of the year!

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LOYDEE STONEBRINK MEMORIAL

Remembering an incredible woman.

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LEAVEN AWARD

Congratulations to Kristi Miller the recipient of the 2024 OWA LEAVEN Award.

The President's Corner

I hope this message finds you well as we welcome the warm vibrant energy of spring. As the days lengthen and the earth awakens, so too does our commitment to the heart of agriculture in Oregon. Reflecting on the invaluable contributions of women in agriculture, I'm struck by the resilience, creativity, and unwavering dedication defining our community. From the fields to the boardrooms, women across Oregon continue to shape the landscape of agriculture, driving innovation and sustainability forward.

As our organization expands, your involvement and support are more important than ever. Whether it's volunteering at events, serving in board or chair positions, sharing your

expertise, or advocating for policies that impact our industry, there are countless ways to make a difference as a member of Oregon Women for Agriculture. I encourage you to take a moment to consider engaging in a committee, taking on a chairing role or volunteering for an event, or increasing your participation within your local chapter.

Together, we will continue to cultivate a bright future for agriculture in Oregon. Thank you for the opportunity to lead this organization. I look forward to serving as your president and exploring new and collaborative opportunities to sustain OWA's ongoing success.



SARAH PULS
STATE PRESIDENT
president@owaonline.org



2024 Oregon Women for Agriculture State Officers

Sarah Puls, Bethany Woodall, Michelle Carmony, Debbie Burns, Dawn Alexander, Jenny Hitner, and Mary Hood

OWA WELCOMED 5 NEW MEMBERS DURING THE LAST QUARTER. JOIN US IN WELCOMING THESE WOMEN TO OUR ORGANIZATION.

EASTERN OREGON
ADDISON MUNK

LANE COUNTY
ANDREA MCGARVEY
RENEE PHELPS
REBECCA PETERSON

LINN BENTON
TIFFANY WALBRIDGE

Don't forget to renew your membership!

The OWA Membership cycle runs March 1 - February 28th this year. Contact Michelle Carmony, Membership Chair with any questions,
members@owaonline.org.

Meet the New State Officers

Bethany Woodall
First Vice President



Bethany's passion for agriculture was ignited early on, nurtured by her involvement with 4-H and FFA. Bethany jumped feet first into the Eastern Oregon Chapter of OWA in 2015 when she took on the role of Chapter Secretary. By 2022, her journey had led her to the position of Chapter President, a role she continues to fulfill with steadfast commitment.

In the midst of her bustling life, Bethany manages the office of a local

potato farm, runs her own mobile tool business, and oversees the financials for her husband's mobile repair service. Together with her husband Larry and their daughter Evelene, Bethany cherishes the time spent with friends, lending a helping hand, embarking on camping adventures, and exploring the wilderness on 4-wheelers.

Dawn Alexander
Corresponding Secretary



Dawn, a recently retired elementary teacher of 36 years, now engages in part-time substitute teaching.

In addition to her new role as the Corresponding Secretary for the Oregon Women for Agriculture, she holds positions on the board for the Deschutes Co. Farm Bureau, Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation Board, and serves as the education chair for the Tri-County Cattlewomen. Passionate about history, Dawn currently holds the position of President for the Crook County Historical Society at the Bowman Museum in Prineville, Oregon.

Dawn and her husband, Ron, maintain a small herd of Hereford cattle that they run with their son, Cooper, in Redmond. She is also the author of a book titled 'Farm Anatomy Activities for Kids,' which contains 20 short lessons about farming and ranching, covering plants, animals, soil, by-products, and more. Dawn is enthusiastic about teaching future consumers the significance of agriculture, emphasizing that 'almost everything begins on a farm.'

Chapter Meetings

Please contact your chapter president for the most up to date information on upcoming chapter meetings.

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What's Happening Around the State?

CENTRAL OREGON

We had an amazing time hosting our annual convention here in Madras this year! Thank you to all who braved the weather and attended! At our post convention meeting held in March we had a couple guests who attended convention and are interested in joining OWA and our chapter, we are so excited to see some new faces in our small but mighty group!

Our chapter held elections, Carole Richard was nominated to be Treasurer and Kristen Hutchins was nominated to be President. Both ladies took on the new positions!

Convention was plentiful and led to much discussion on how to spend the funds to further AGvocate for our future. Our chapter will be ordering new stickers for giving out with AITC-Literacy visits, fair booths, local events and ag shows. We also will be designing and ordering new roll-up signs for events to display Oregon farm facts! Donations were decided on and sent out to Ag in the Classroom, Summer Ag Institute and Range Conservation Foundation.

Central Oregon will be getting another truck wrap that will get exposure in Central Oregon as well as state wide and even into Idaho.

We are gearing up to place our Crop ID signs here in the next month as the ground thaws! Last year we had so many "thank yous" from the local farmers and word is spreading among everyone that we have been asked to put up more this year. Thank you Dona Coon for making this happen in Central Oregon!

Dawn, Kristen and Carole have been busy getting around to many classrooms in Central Oregon sharing the AITC - Literacy book "Up in the Garden, Down in the Dirt", we all love this time of year and getting out to the local classrooms!

Our chapter members will be helping with the FFA Convention booth as well as the Ranch Run put on by Oregon CattleWomen and the Tri-County CattleWomen. We will also be present in the Kid Zone at the Central Oregon Ag Show and OWA's Annual Dinner Auction in April!

Next Chapter Meeting: April 9th @ 6:30pm, location: TBA

Kristen Hutchins
Central Oregon Chapter President

EASTERN OREGON

The Eastern Oregon Chapter hit the ground running in 2024. We updated our scholarship to include students attending vocational or trade schools. Because our essay question remains the same "What is one of the biggest challenges facing agriculture today and how do they plan to be a part of the solution" we feel that even if not planning a career in ag they would still be judged on how they plan to influence ag in the future. The scholarship application is currently available on our website and the deadline is May 1st.

We have added structure to our chapter. We voted in a list of standing committees, with volunteer positions available and an annual budget. Our goal is to make accomplishing our

projects easier to do and to include more members.

We have been working hard on our chapter donations to the annual auction and the wine wall. We are very excited to have more of our chapter members able to attend the auction this year.

Our chapter has updated our website and we are now at EasternOregonWomenforAg.org!

Bethany Woodall
Eastern Oregon Chapter President

LANE

Many of our members serve as chairwomen for auction committees so we have been preparing for the upcoming April 20th Auction. Our chapter is also ramping up for our Ag in the Classroom visits. This is such a rewarding part of what we do! Our wonderful chairperson, Kayla Reber, is heading up this project, this will be Kayla's second year organizing the Ag in the Classroom visits. We previously gave out two scholarships to Mohawk and Crow FFA chapters. Recently we had the pleasure of Mohawk FFA coming to our February meeting and talking with us about the safety day they hosted and how our scholarship will help them continue this project in the future. We held officer elections at our February meeting as well and would like to congratulate Tyler Fielder on becoming the Lane County Chapter Secretary.

Merissa Calkins
Lane Chapter President

LINN-BENTON

Linn Benton has been busy with...

- Electing 2024 Chapter Officers:
Lisa Goracke, President
Kjer Kizer, Vice President
Debbie Burns, Secretary
Michelle Davis, Treasurer
Pam Toews, Correspondence
- Four of our ladies are staffing the OWA booth at the State FFA Convention
- One of our members did a shift at the Northwest Ag Show in Salem
- Our annual scholarship is due April 30th, we have it posted in local papers, 4-H clubs, OSU & EOU.
- Some of our members attended the proposed Muddy Creek Solar Project; proposed in Southeast Linn County. If accepted it will be located on 1,500 acres of EFU land.
- We are planning to make "Study Boxes" for each member of Sigma Alpha Sorority at Oregon State. We will stuff the boxes and deliver during dead week of Spring term.
- Several members are participating in the Agriculture in the Classroom Literacy Project
- We are working on putting together a very large box full of "bee" items for the auction.
- Plans are under way for our Annual Members Social, hosted by Margaret Henderson in May.
- Last but not least, we are super proud of Kristi Miller for receiving the LEAVEN Award. We appreciate her many hours of dedication and hard work promoting and supporting agriculture.

*Lisa Goracke
Linn-Benton Chapter President*

POLK

Our chapter meets the second Monday of each month at Westside Pacific Family Restaurant in Rickreall, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Our officers will remain the same as last year; Diann Washburn – President, Carol Marx – Secretary and Arlene Kovash – Treasurer.

In February we sponsored another Stop the Bleed class. We are waiting to hear back from Hospital on dates for another class late spring that will focus on families that can attend on a Thursday evening. Three Polk members were able to travel over for the OWA Convention in Madras and we look forward to hosting the April State Board meeting in Dallas.

Alex Paraskevas with SEDCOR attended our March meeting and spent some time getting to know us while giving us an update on his many projects. He also shared information for an AG Breakfast in Polk and Yamhill counties. We look forward to networking with him again soon!

Our chapter plans to put together a beach trip for the OWA Auction as well as several silent items we'll individually donate. Several of us will be able to attend and we plan to also manage the pop station.

*Diann Washburn
Polk Chapter President*

YAMHILL

Spring finds us tidying up chapter business from 2023 and completing 2024 annual chapter elections and budgeting. For 2024 officers, I will serve as president, Susie Kreder as vice president, Helle Ruddenklau as treasurer, and Eunice Goodrich as secretary. In 2023 we were happy to have Jessica Arnold representing us

at State Board as a director, which she will continue to do in 2024.

We ended 2023 with a successful gift pack sale to raise funds for our chapter projects. We are grateful to continue to be able to showcase Yamhill area products in our packs. Our generous donations included dried blueberries from Meduri Farms, walnuts from McKee Family Farms, hazelnuts from Hazelnut Growers of Oregon, olive oil from Red Ridge Farms, and honey sticks from Oregon Honey Farm. Additionally, Wilco again kindly allowed us to sell our packs at their Newberg and McMinnville locations.

At our March meeting, we were happy to have an application to consider for our \$200 FFA grant from Dayton, which we awarded. We accept grant applications from Yamhill County FFA chapters, as well as Western Mennonite School and Perrydale School.

We are accepting applications for our 2024 \$750 Community College scholarship until May 15, 2024. Applicants must be planning on or attending a community college and majoring in an ag related field. Graduates or students about to graduate from a Yamhill County public or private high school, Western Mennonite School, Perrydale School or students home schooled within Yamhill County are eligible. Please spread the word!

Our chapter is womaning the pick-a-prize sales again this year at Auction.

Our chapter typically meets one Saturday a month in person at 9 am and we love to see new faces, so please send interested folks our way.

*Tara Lomacz
Yamhill Chapter President*

Legislative Committee Report

By Tami Kerr, Chair, Linn-Benton

Eastern Oregon - Kathy Ferge
Lane County – Jenny Hitner and Marie Bowers
Marion-Clackamas – Tricia Chastain
Polk – Diann Washburn and Kathy Hadley
Yamhill – Tara Lomacz and Helle Ruddenklau
At Large – Abby Fitts
OWA Exec Committee - Jenny Hitner

There are open positions on the Legislative Committee for Central Oregon and the Columbia Gorge Chapters.

Let Tami Kerr know if you are interested in serving your chapter in this capacity!

Decisions are often time sensitive. Committee members need to be responsive to emails and decisive. Different points of view are welcome however, decisions need to be based on OWA's Approved Policy Positions.

The OWA Legislative committee was unanimous in our opposition to Initiative Petition (IP) 28. We signed on, with several other organizations, in support of comments submitted to the Attorney General on March 20, challenging the draft ballot title.

IP 28 - People for the Elimination of Animal Cruelty Exemptions (PEACE) Act, is the latest version of IP 3 and IP 13. IP 28 would criminalize killing animals for food, including farming, ranching, hunting, fishing, trapping, pest control, research/teaching; and would criminalize breeding practices for domestic, livestock, and equine animals. It applies to mammals (including vermin), birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Eliminating hunting and fishing licenses would

remove funding from wildlife management.

Animal abuse is illegal in Oregon, as it should be.

The goal of the proponents of IP 28 is to have it on the November 3, 2026 ballot. OWA will be very engaged on this issue and keep our membership informed.

Now that the Short 2024 Legislative Session is behind us, the campaign season is gearing up. It's time to meet the candidates in your districts, learn about their positions, and share your priorities on natural resources and business regulations/expenses with them. Please consider making a contribution to the candidates

you support. You can make both a personal contribution and a contribution through your business. Depending on your district, the Primary race on May 21 might be the race that decides who will represent you.

OWA is a member of AG-PAC, and this summer AG-PAC will host a tour for legislators and candidates that win their May Primary race. A date has not been selected, but several priority topics have been identified: land use, ag overtime, transportation, pesticides, GE, seed preemption, groundwater, just to name a few. This is not a complete list, just preliminary.

Members attend FFA Convention

Oregon Women for Agriculture hosted a booth at the Oregon FFA State Convention March 22-23 in Redmond. The convention attracts over 3,000 FFA members from across the state. OWA members engaged students with agriculture trivia for prizes.

In addition to the booth, members attended the Sponsor Appreciation

Dinner where OWA was recognized as a sponsor of Oregon FFA.

Thank you to the member's who represented our organization at this important event - Dona Coon, Barbara Hauge, Lisa Goracke, Kristen Hutchins, Michelle Carmony, Airley Mulraney, Carole Richard and Dawn Alexander.



BEE FOR AGRICULTURE

OWA ANNUAL AUCTION & DINNER

SAVE THE DATE
APRIL 20, 2024

4:30 PM - SILENT AUCTION
6:00 PM - DINNER
7:15 PM - LIVE AUCTION



LEARN MORE AT OWAONLINE.ORG/AUCTION

Our annual fundraiser **Bee for Agriculture!** is just a few weeks away on April 20th at the Linn County Fairgrounds in Albany. We can't wait to see everyone as we gather together to enjoy a fabulous dinner with friends and raise money to support our mission of Working Together to Communicate the Story of Today's Agriculture.

We continue our work of engaging the public about the importance of Oregon Agriculture. Our volunteers are working hard, and we have lots to do. Some of our work includes providing the ever popular crop identification signs for farmers and ranchers to display along the roadsides, administering our new Ag Youth Mini-Grant Program, support for Summer Ag Institute, Adopt a

Farmer, and Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom, activity booths at the Oregon State fair, county fairs and Oregon Ag Fest along with many other informative and educational projects.

You can find more information, including ticket information on our website www.owaonline.org/auction also linked in the QR code to the right.

Please contact Sarah at auction@owaonline.org or 541-729-5034 with any questions.

CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE AUCTION WEBSITE AND PURCHASE TICKETS!



REMEMBERING LOYDEE STONEBRINK

By Arlene Kovash, Polk County



Oregon Women for Agriculture lost longtime member and tireless supporter Loydee Stonebrink on Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 2023.

Loydee and her first husband built a house between Dallas and Monmouth where they farmed for several years. She fell in love with agriculture and maintained that love throughout her life. Loydee was active in both American Agri-Women and Oregon Women for Agriculture. Both groups filled her interest in natural resource

policy, belief in our nation, and educating about and advocating for agriculture.

As a member of Oregon Women for Agriculture, she helped start the OWA Fundraiser Auction and served as President from 1990 to 1991. She would tirelessly research issues for the group to discuss and take action on. The issues were often daunting but her faith in farmers, ranchers, and foresters was contagious.

Loydee mentored women with encouragement, had faith in what they could accomplish, and provided opportunities for them to stretch their wings. At times there would be a phone call with her saying, "I signed up to go to this meeting/conference, but can't go, why don't you go in my place".

Her strong ties to agriculture grew even more when she met Glen, a former farmer. This relationship led to a Presidential appointment for her by President Bush to the USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service's state committee.

Loydee was (to say the least) "politically motivated" and supported those causes and candidates that in turn supported the US Constitution. She and Glen were invited to (and attended) a birthday party for President Ronald Reagan's 85th birthday and a dinner party with President George and Barbara Bush. She initiated having historical performers Thomas Jefferson and James Madison perform in the big red barn at her home to speak about the Founding Fathers from 200+ years ago.

Loydee co-originated the Western Institute for Nature, Resources, Education and Policy (WINREP, a non-profit organization to study the intent of laws, then compare them to their implementation. Its motto was a unique Loydee slogan: "If it is right, defend it — if it is wrong, fix it!"

Loydee loved good people, dogs, sunshine, farmers, honesty, and God. She was one sweet, but tough lady who often said, "The Hell I can't — watch me!"

HELP NEEDED AT OREGON AG FEST

Sign up now to volunteer at the Oregon Women for Agriculture booth at Oregon Ag Fest.

The event, held at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem, is scheduled for April 27 and 28. We need your help to staff the OWA booth and talk directly with thousands of event attendees.

Click here to sign up
now!

April 27 & 28

State Fairgrounds





Gateway Canyon Preserve & Rocker 3 Ranch

educating the public on Farm to Fork Operations and how to collectively preserve water for our ecosystems, endangered species, and farmland. Along with that they have partnered with Western Justice Legislative Fund to help fight Central Oregon's water battle. To find out more about these organizations check out their websites: www.perfectbalanceusa.org; www.westernjustice.info.

The tours culminated at New Basin Distillery in Madras, where attendees explored the art of craft distillation. Rick Molitor the distiller and part owner walked us through the distilling process from start to finish. New Basin produces local whiskey from grains grown in Jefferson County, along with many other distilled varieties of liquor. The experience was topped off by a lunch, featuring soup and salad fare paired with samples of New Basin's spirits. Check out more on their

website: www.newbasin.com.



New Basin Distillery

Friday night's banquet included a delicious Tri-Tip meal with all the fixings catered by The Wandering Chef. Guest speaker Margee O'Brian from Jefferson County Historical Society gave a dynamic presentation on the history of water came in Jefferson County.

The night was wrapped up with keynote speaker Samudra Kugel, Oregon State University professor originally from Sri Lanka. Kugel has developed a Women in Agriculture course, AG 321. The course explores and celebrates women in agricultural sciences in Oregon, the U.S., and around the world. A spectrum of topics are examined related to women in agriculture; women's roles in agricultural communities, agricultural production and food security, women-driven agricultural development, gender roles in agriculture in rural areas and women's agency and challenges. Providing a broad picture of women's contribution to agricultural practices and research, throughout history and in contemporary societies. The course is so popular, there is a waiting list for the three terms it is offered.

Central Oregon Chapter would like to thank everyone who braved the weather to join us for Convention 2024!



Obsidian Seed Tour

KRISTI MILLER RECEIVES LEAVEN AWARD

By Mary Hood

Congratulations to Linn-Benton Chapter member, Kristi Miller, for winning the 2024 OWA LEAVEN Award!

Kristi is the definition of a rock solid OWA member and all-around good person. Her long background in elementary education and family farming are the perfect blend. She has been a member of OWA since 2008. Kristi has been a key person in the Linn-Benton chapter serving as secretary for many years. She devoted long hours to the Points for Profit program for the years that the chapter participated in it, generating thousands of dollars for chapter use.

Her willingness to volunteer has always been enthusiastic. This includes fair booths, ag shows and event organization. She is the one with the phone camera/ipad to make Linn Benton chapter meetings run smoothly via Zoom.

On the state level, she is the Education Committee Chair and a board member. She created the coloring contest that is distributed



Kristi reads Apples to Oregon to a classroom as part of AITC's Literacy Project, 2009.



Kristi Miller (r) receives award from Past President Mary Hood at the Linn Benton Chapter Meeting on March 12.

through farm stands across the state and follows up with sending the prizes. Her involvement with the Ag in the Classroom Literacy Project has affected hundreds of elementary students in Oregon. She has been involved with and chaired education and promotional programs through AAW on the national level.

Her long-time commitment to the OWA auction/dinner as Silent Auction co-chair is remarkable. She has hauled her horse trailer to and from the storage unit to the fairgrounds many, many times. She has prepared, organized and followed through to get unclaimed items to the buyers who forgot to pick them up. She makes a plan, thinks it through and it works! She makes OWA look good! Kristi avoids the limelight. She gets things done. She smiles and believes the best of those around her.

Please join us in congratulating Kristi on this well-deserved honor.



Kristi and Cheryl Ray at the OWA Auction where they served as Silent Auction Co-Chairs, 2019.



Kristi Miller and her husband of 49 years, Glenn.

SUMMER AG INSTITUTE WELCOMES NEW LEADER

By Stefani Evers



I'm excited to introduce myself as the new Summer Agriculture Institute-West Coordinator! Having spent my entire life in agriculture,

I am looking forward to helping others learn about the wonderful world of ag.

After being raised on a dairy farm, I studied Agricultural Sciences and Sustainability at Oregon State University, then spent a couple years working at Capital Press and then a few years in the grass seed industry. Now, I've dug into another interest—

editing and proofreading—in which I have been freelancing for nearly two years. All of these experiences have given me a solid foundation in agriculture and helped me realize the importance of teaching others about all of the industries that agriculture encompasses.

I'm grateful to have the opportunity to help teachers throughout the state learn about everything from dairy farms and beekeeping to nurseries and GMOs, and I am so excited to plan my first session and begin assisting teachers in bringing agriculture to their classrooms and their students. The Summer Agriculture Institute committee members have gone above and beyond to ensure I have as much support as possible, and

planning for the upcoming session in June is underway and going well!

I am currently searching for families who are willing to host a teacher for an overnight stay at their farm/facility. This overnight farm stay where teachers can get their hands dirty experiencing real, everyday life on the farm is often the highlight of their week at the session, and even though it's months away, I already can't wait to hear their feedback after they return. If you'd like to welcome a teacher into your home the afternoon of Tuesday, June 18 to the morning of Wednesday, June 19, give me a call!

Stefani Evers, SAI West Coordinator
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Once the New Year rang in OWIT's focus quickly moved towards our two biggest fundraising events. The first was on January 20th with Clatsop OWIT chapter's collaboration with other natural resource groups in their area to raise funding for youth natural resource/CTE programs, bringing in over \$150,000. The second event was our annual auction held as the kickoff event

for the Oregon Logging Conference in Eugene on February 21st, raising over \$145,000 for our Talk About Trees forest education program. OWIT participated in several more activities including managing a booth throughout the three-day Oregon Logging Conference, selling OWIT logo merchandise and providing fun activities for the public, collaborating with Forests Today and Forever to host local Lane county elementary students with a forest presentation and tour of the logging equipment and helping with the Future Forestry Workers Career Day, that brought in over 800 high school students to the Lane County Fairgrounds. It was a great week seeing old friends and advocating for forestry.

OWIT President Kate McMichael put

together an amazing video about OWIT for the February auction. [You can view it on OWIT's YouTube Channel.](#)

March has been relatively quiet as we prepare for our spring events. Look for OWIT at Clackamas Tree School on March 23rd, Future Natural Resource Leaders State Convention & Skills Competition on April 20th at Powerland Heritage Park in Brooks, Oregon AG-Fest April 27 & 28, and at the Astoria-Warrenton Crab, Seafood & Wine Festival April 26-28th at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds in Astoria.

For more information about OWIT and TAT please visit OWIT's website at www.orwit.org, on Facebook and Instagram.

Springtime at Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom

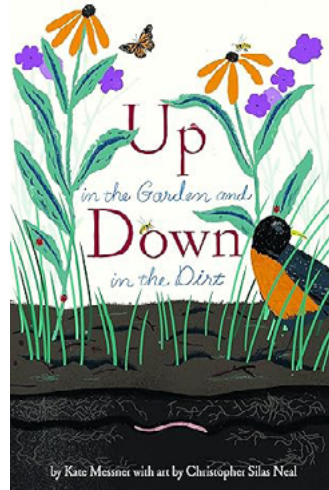
Happy Spring, everyone! As we enter this new season, I would like to take a second to thank everyone who has made me feel welcome in Oregon thus far. Oregon seasons are far different than Georgia seasons, but I welcome the new changes, faces, and places regardless.

With the changing seasons, we as an organization look forward to creating energy around our annual Literacy Project.

NOW IS THE TIME TO VOLUNTEER FOR OUR LITERACY PROJECT!

This year our literacy project features the book, *Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt* by Kate Messner. This book is beautifully illustrated by Christopher Silas Neal and depicts a young girl working with her grandmother to care for the garden throughout its seasons of planting, managing

pests, and harvesting. Many friends and pests visit the garden while the young girl learns, making this an exciting book about garden life!



Our literacy project will run through June 9th. Register today to bring agricultural education to students in your community by reaching out to your local schools or fulfilling one of our requests for volunteers. For more

information about the program or to sign up to read to a classroom, visit our website, contact Brittany Capell, Brittany.Capell@oregonstate.edu, or call 541-737-1318.

ANNOUNCING OUR FALL HARVEST DINNER!

Every fall, we look forward to gathering for our Fall Harvest Dinner. This year, the event will occur the evening of **October 26th, in Corvallis, Oregon**. All proceeds from this event directly support our mission of helping students grow in their knowledge of agriculture, the environment, and natural resources. We can't wait to see you!

Jade Davidson, Executive Director
jade.davidson@oregonstate.edu
541.737.8629



Oregon producers are world-renowned leaders in stewardship and sustaining local communities. Despite these incredible contributions, Oregon producers continue to face many challenges threatening the ability to produce quality food, fiber, and other important resources.

Misinformation, misguided policy and targeted advocacy agendas at the county, state, and federal levels continuously jeopardize the ability to operate and access the modern tools and innovations necessary to produce resources for a growing population.

Through promoting science-based policy and regulation, innovation, and stewardship, OFS is dedicated to protecting the rights of producers and other land managers to use pesticides, fertilizers, and biotechnology responsibly. These tools are essential for efficiently producing quality food and fiber while protecting human health and the environment.

Join OFS

We are dedicated to representing Oregon's producers, and we invite you to join a network of members who believe in securing the ability to provide valuable environmental and economic benefits to communities. To join Oregonians for Food & Shelter, please visit our website, www.ofsonline.org/join or contact OFS

office manager Diann Washburn at diann@ofsonline.org.

By choosing OFS you will ensure continuous service and protection to Oregon's broader natural resource industry.



SAVE THE DATE!

3RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE & FIELDS AND FORESTS GALA

NOVEMBER 7TH, 2024
SALEM CONVENTION CENTER

**OREGON WOMEN FOR
AGRICULTURE
STATE OFFICERS**

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PAST PRESIDENT

Mary Hood
3484 NW Scenic Dr.
Albany, OR 97321

pastpresident@owaonline.org
541.979.2199

OREGON WOMEN FOR AGRICULTURE • FOUNDED IN 1969

OWA seeks to help educate the public about issues critical to agriculture. We look to stay active in legislative issues important to ag and natural resources, promote OWA and agriculture through social media, involve our members in committees and events, and support ag education programs that promote awareness to both children and adults.

If you are interested in becoming a member of our organization, please see the form on the next page.

OUR PURPOSE

- To educate and inform our members and the public about the importance of agriculture to the economy and to the environment.
- To engage all facets of Oregon agriculture having mutual concerns.
- To do everything possible to see that agricultural interests are heard and dealt with fairly.
- To support and encourage research that will benefit agriculture.

WHO WE ARE

- Individuals from all walks of life who realize the importance of agriculture.
- Teachers, students, professionals, farmers, ranchers, business owners, and more.
- Caring farmers and farm families who manage our land wisely to contribute to America's bountiful food supply.
- Working tirelessly on the issues that concern agriculture.

Advertise in
THE Cultivator
\$75 for one year of advertising - 4 issues!

The Cultivator is published four times per year as a service to our members, advertisers, and donors. To submit information or interest in advertising, contact:

Jessica Jansen, Editor
jessicabudge@gmail.com
971.832.2096

**TO GUARANTEE YOUR SUBMISSION BE INCLUDED, PLEASE SUBMIT
CONTENT BY: THE 15TH OF MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, AND DECEMBER.**

Upcoming OWA State Board Meetings

APRIL 12TH AT 9 AM - POLK
MAY 17TH AT 9 AM- YAMHILL
JUNE 21ST AT 9 AM- LANE

Contact info@owaonline.org to request more info for each meeting or visit the members area of the website.

Upcoming Events

APRIL 20 - ANNUAL DINNER & AUCTION
APRIL 27-28- OREGON AG FEST
AUGUST 23- SEPT 2 - OREGON STATE FAIR
SEPTEMBER 13- PENDLETON ROUND-UP
PARADE AND GOVERNORS LUNCH

For a full calendar of upcoming events and meetings visit owaonline.org/events.



Member Spotlights

Do you know of an OWA member who deserves to be highlighted in The Cultivator? If you have someone in mind, please send an article on the member to jessicabudge@gmail.com, along with a photo.

OWA Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

County: _____

New Member Renewal Student*

Check any areas of interest:

- Education
- Legislative
- Marketing/PR
- Membership
- Promotional Items
- Social Media/Website
- School/Farm Tours
- Ag Expo/Ag Fest Booth
- Auction
- Scholarships
- State Fair Booth
- Other _____



DUES ARE \$45 PER YEAR
***\$30 FOR STUDENT MEMBERSHIP**

Year runs from March 1st to February 28th
Includes American Agri-Women dues

Make checks payable to:
Oregon Women for Agriculture
Mail to: 630 Hickory Street, NW Suite 120; PMB 50
Albany, Oregon 97321



Oregon Women for Agriculture

630 Hickory Street NW, Suite 120: PMB
Albany, OR 97321
www.owaonline.com

OWA ANNUAL AUCTION & DINNER

TICKETS

ON SALE NOW

**EARLY BIRD TICKET PRICING
ENDS APRIL 5TH, 2024**

APRIL 20, 2024

4:30 PM - Silent Auction
6:00 PM - Dinner
7:15 PM - Live Auction

Get your tickets now for \$75 per person. Tickets purchased after April 5th will be \$100 per person.

Tickets are available to purchase online:
owaonline.org/auction

