



# THE Cultivator

*Working together to communicate the story of today's agriculture*

SUMMER 2024

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## MEMBERS REPRESENT AT AAW FLY-IN

Six Oregon Women for Agriculture members attended 2024 American Agri-Women (AAW) Fly-In, June 2-4. Marie Bowers, Merissa Calkins, Mary Howarth, Molly Mulkey, Jenny Hitner, and Sarah Puls represented OWA at the fly-in event which unites women from various sectors of the agricultural and natural resource industries in Washington, D.C. For the first time, the Fly-In was opened to all women, not just AAW members, providing a unique opportunity to engage directly with legislators, agencies, and industry professionals on pressing agricultural issues and policies.

The Oregon attendees had the chance to speak directly with legislators, participate in agency roundtables, and explore sites in the capital. AAW's Road to Influence program hosted a policy briefing on Sunday. Members heard from David R. Legates from the Cornwall Alliance for the Stewardship of Creation and Rob Gordon, a conservation expert. Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Xochitl Torres Small opened the 2024 AAW Symposium on Monday morning with a message of hope

and gratitude for the agricultural community. Other speakers included AAW Past President Heather Hampton+Knodle, William Hohenstein from the Office of Energy & Environmental Policy, Darci Vetter of PepsiCo, Rebekah Adock from the International Fresh Produce Association, Kelsey Barnes of the Farm Journal Foundation, Anthony Watts from the Heartland Institute.

The event concluded with AAW congressional reception where two members of Congress were recognized with the Champion of Agriculture Award. This year's recipients were Congressman Cliff Bentz (OR-2) and Harriet Hageman (WY).

"The knowledge of these ladies on the issues affecting farming, ranching, forestry, and our rural communities never ceases to amaze me," said Marie Bowers. The Oregon representatives met with five offices of Oregon's Congressional Delegation, Congresswoman Salinas,



Molly Mulkey, Jenny Hitner, Marie Bowers, Congresswoman Val Hoyle, Sarah Puls, Mary Howarth and Merissa Calkins.

Congresswoman Hoyle, Senator Merkley, Congressman Cliff Bentz, and Congresswoman Chavez-Dremer. "We shared our stories and federal issues affecting Oregon," explains Bowers.

A highlight of the trip was a memorable night tour of the Capitol with Congresswoman Val Hoyle (D-Oregon) and Congressman Derrick Van Orden (R-Wisconsin).

Thanks to these women for representing not only OWA but Oregon agriculture at the highest level of government.

### OWA AUCTION

Learn about the success of our annual dinner and auction.

Pg 7

### DEANNA DYKSTERHUIS MEMORIAL

Remembering an incredible woman.

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### SERVICE TO AG AWARD

Bob Schroeder receives the Service to Ag Award.

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### GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Learn more about the second annual grant opportunity.

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# The President's Corner

Happy Summer everyone! This is one of the busiest times of the year for a lot of us with 4-H and FFA fairs, harvest, kids out of school, traveling... and the beginning of fire season.

For those of you who don't know I am a preparedness planner for the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM). We work closely with Oregon State Fire Marshall (OSFM) and Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), and many other state agencies to provide response and recovery resources to our local, tribal, state agency partners and the public, related to wildfires. Each year OEM hosts a Wildfire Kick off Briefing where state agency partners provide a forecast of anticipated wildfire risk and conditions for Oregon. Provide informational updates on

state programs or capabilities to prepare for or respond to wildfires. Share information about changes in operational activities that may impact jurisdictional or state operations. Provide informational updates on agency programs or emergency support function (ESF) capabilities to support jurisdictions responding to or recovering from a wildfire emergency. We talk about everything from weather and snowpack to electrical power grid, and fuel supply in addition to the traditional wildland fire fighting capabilities. I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone you can do your part to reduce fire risk and keep your home and property safe. The OSFM has a lot of resources on their website, [I encourage you to check it out.](#)



**SARAH PULS**  
STATE PRESIDENT  
[president@owaonline.org](mailto:president@owaonline.org)

Know your evacuation levels, and sign up for local alerts by going to <https://oralert.gov>  
I hope everyone has a great summer, an abundant harvest, and stays safe.  
~Sarah

## OWA Photo Contest

Do you take lots of pictures of your farm, animals, and crops? Then OWA has a Photo Contest for you! Submissions are due November 1, 2024. There are small prizes for the top 3 ag related photos received. One photo per person. Photos should be a high quality jpg format and no smaller than 1600 x 1200 pixel size. Send your entries to Kristi Miller [millerk@dswebnet.com](mailto:millerk@dswebnet.com)



2024 Photo Contest Winner submitted by  
Kelsy Pimm, Linn- Benton Chapter

Winners will be chosen and the top photo will be mounted on canvas and sold in the 2025 OWA Auction. Honorable mentions will also be displayed at the auction. Pictures entered become the property of

OWA. Photos should be submitted with name, address, email, and a description. Contact [Kristi Miller](#) with questions.

**OWA WELCOMED 7 NEW MEMBERS DURING THE LAST QUARTER. JOIN US IN WELCOMING THESE WOMEN TO OUR ORGANIZATION.**

**CENTRAL OREGON**  
Jeanne Carver  
Michelle Richwine

**EASTERN OREGON**  
Debbie Radie

**LINN-BENTON**  
Shannon Cappellazzi  
Elia Rybolt

**POLK**  
Jacqueline Whitley

**YAMHILL**  
Janet Redmond

# Chapter Updates

## CENTRAL OREGON

Hello! We have been busy this spring with all things farm and ranch related, the snow has melted, and summer temps are here!

Dawn, Kristen and Carole had great success in Central Oregon elementary schools sharing the AITC - Literacy book "Up in the Garden, Down in the Dirt". They visited 28 classrooms in total this year!

Our crop ID signs are in place! This year we have 20 signs around the Culver/Madras area, many on the busy roads that head to the lake and along highway 97.

First Thursdays in Madras started back up in May and continues through September. We have expanded our booth to have trivia questions along with ag related treats, stickers and information about Oregon Ag.



Central Oregon Chapter's First Thursday booth in Madras.

Kristen was asked to come back and present a pollinator & flower bomb lesson to Culver Elementary 4th grade STEM class. The students loved flower bomb making!

Our chapter is looking forward to our local fairs and plans to have a booth at the Jefferson County fair.

Be on the lookout for NEW LOGO Shirts, we have started the process of making this project happen again!

Next Chapter Meeting: August 13th @ 6:30pm, location: Carole Richard's House

*Kristen Hutchins*  
Central Oregon Chapter President

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

# Chapter Meetings

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

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# Chapter Updates

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

## EASTERN OREGON

The Eastern Oregon Chapter had a blast putting on the wine wall at auction. We came home with a few more bottles than we had hoped but are looking forward to working on it again next year.

We attended a local Trucks & Tractors night. We had a tractor and dammer diker at the event along with a banner showcasing our farm facts that explain the implement and its uses. We gave out play-doh to all children attending along with an Everything Starts on a Farm or Ranch card that traced the play-doh back to a locally grown crop.

We had a record number of applicants for our scholarship this year with 33 received. The winners are being finalized and we are excited to support the next generation of women in Agriculture. We have also been working on our raffle that will support next year's scholarships. We are excitedly putting together a fabulous BBQ prize package including a Traeger grill, accessories, and more!

*Bethany Woodall*  
*Eastern Oregon Chapter President*

## LANE

Hello from Lane County!

As we are gearing up for the long summer days ahead, we look back at what we have accomplished in Q2. Many members participated in the annual OWA auction, setting up,

chairing committees, and cleaning up after the auction. We have wrapped up our Ag in the classroom project serving 32 classrooms and reaching 649 students. Kayla Reber, the chair for this project did an outstanding job working with teaching staff and volunteers, organizing this project to make it a success. This year, our literacy project featured the book, "Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt" by Kate Messner. This story highlighted the wonders of gardening as a girl and her grandmother care for a garden through the seasons of planting, managing pests and harvesting. This book showcased the many organisms that live in the garden. Throughout the story, beneficial organisms were used to combat garden pests as the girl and her grandmother work to grow a bountiful harvest. The kids absolutely loved the activity and learning about the pests and friends of the garden.

This year the Lane County chapter had five members attend the annual AAW legislative fly-in in Washington D.C. We heard from multiple speakers on topics such as climate change, endangered species, and from the American Petroleum Institute. Jenny Hitner, a Lane County OWA member and current state treasurer put in countless hours into this event through the AAW road to influence program. This was a historic gathering, opening the doors to non AAW members uniting women from across the country to make their voices heard on behalf of the agricultural industry in the nation's capital. Marie Bowers another Lane County member and past OWA

President, also put a lot of work into making this event happen. Setting up appointments with Oregon Representative Cliff Bentz, Val Hoyle, Lori Chavez-DeRemer, and Andrea Salinas. We spoke on issues that are affecting us in our state and county and learned how we can make a bigger impact at a state level. Marie also arranged a guided tour of the capital building by Val Hoyle (Oregon Representative) and Derrick Van Orden (Wisconsin Representative). All in all it was a very impactful event and I would encourage all OWA members to attend.

To finish out the month of June, Marie Bowers and my self (Merissa Calkins) were asked to speak at the 2024 Junction City FFA Banquet. The topic we were asked to speak on was how has Agriculture impacted our lives and the skills and lessons learned through Agriculture. This was JC FFA's first banquet since the program was shut down in 2013. It was such an honor to get to speak to the next generation and to share our experiences and lessons learned through agriculture.

As I'm writing this, we are preparing for our start to summer get-together, this is the start to our summer break. With so many members out in the fields or supporting the ones who are, we take a few months off for summer harvest.

*Merissa Calkins*  
*Lane Chapter President*

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## LINN-BENTON

The Linn-Benton chapter continues to meet monthly in member's homes on the second Tuesday of each month. This spring we enjoyed a social where we enjoyed visiting with each other and families and honoring Bob Schroeder with his Service to Ag Award.

We also put together "study boxes" for members of the Sigma Alpha Professional Agriculture Sorority to enjoy during "dead" week. They were stuffed with snacks, note pads pencil, more snacks, chocolate, lollipops, and did I say more snacks!! It was fun to be able to go and deliver these boxes to these amazing ladies. They are our future; we feel blessed to be able to support them and shower them with a little love. Thanks to all the ladies in the LB Chapter for donating items and Kelsey Pimm for helping assemble the study boxes.

We take a break in July for meetings but will be involved at both the Linn and Benton fairs hopefully with the "Farmer Feeds" display at both. We were also pleased to award five scholarships this year, the committee noted what amazing students we have. The Linn Benton Chapter is also organizing the Oregon State Fair booth and looks forward to seeing everyone there for a great event!

*Lisa Goracke*  
*Linn-Benton Chapter President*

## POLK

We continue to meet monthly on the second Monday of the Month at Westside Pacific Family Restaurant in Rickreall. Several members attended the OWA Auction in April.

Our chapter is providing OWA coloring sheets at the Dallas Farmers Market which is the first and third Saturday of each month. We plan to provide a kid's craft later this summer.

In April, we sponsored the Polk County Fair and 4-H awards. We also made a \$500 donation to Ag in the Classroom in memory of Deanna Dyksterhuis. We received a platinum award from Polk OSU Extension for donations to Polk County fair awards.

We had to cancel our May 9th Stop the Bleed class due to low registrations and will reschedule for a Thursday evening in September.

We are working with our local newspaper, the Itemizer to provide US Constitutional information in September, during Constitution Day.

*Diann Washburn*  
*Polk Chapter President*

## YAMHILL

2024 just continues to march right along here in Yamhill County!

We spent our last chapter meeting reviewing applications for our Community College Scholarship. We had three very good applicants and decided to award it to all three! We are excited to see how these students further develop their relationship with and passion for agriculture in

their studies.

Several of us attended Auction! We had a great time interacting with attendees to sell Pick-a-Prize tickets. Thank you to Benton County Fair and Rodeo Queen, Naomi Bailey, for helping us sell tickets! Our chapter contributions to the oral auction also made a good showing. Thank you Auction Committee and the many volunteers who made this event a success.

Next came AgFest! As always, Eunice Goodrich put on a great booth for Oregon Women for Agriculture and worked tirelessly through the weekend to woman the booth. We so appreciate everything Eunice does for our chapter and in taking on this event for Oregon Women for Agriculture each year.

Helle Ruddenklau did a fantastic job hosting the May State Board meeting for our chapter! MonksGate Vineyard was kind enough to provide a change of scene for the meeting along with a wonderful tour and wine tasting following the meeting.

Our chapter will meet again in September. We wish you all the best as we navigate this busy season!

*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.

We are pleased to welcome Kathy Ferge, representing the Eastern Oregon Chapter, to the Legislative Committee.

There is a new Initiate Petition (IP) that is likely to make the November ballot – IP 17. Signatures are due July 5, so we will know the results soon. IP 17 is basically a gross receipts tax that redistributes income. For companies with Oregon sales above \$25 million, the new corporate minimum tax would be the existing schedule plus a new 3% tax on sales above \$25 million. All money raised would be allocated to people living in Oregon for at least 200 days, including children.



The AG-PAC tour at Oregon State University's Lewis Brown Research Farm. The tour, hosted by AG-PAC is geared towards both current elected officials and candidates.

OWA is a member of AG-PAC and their Educational Services Association (AESA). On June 17, AESA hosted a Legislative Tour for candidates and elected officials. Nearly 100 people participated, including Tobias Reed, the current State Treasurer and candidate for Secretary of State, many elected officials and candidates, representatives from the Governor's office, ODA, Water Resources, DLCD, OSU, and many AG-PAC members. There were four tour stops – OSU Lewis Brown Research Farm, AA Red Emmerson Advanced Wood Products Laboratory, Stroda Brothers Christmas tree farm in Cheshire, C & L Farms (Collin and Debbie Crocker) in Monroe, and Trysting Tree Golf

Course for a reception. It was a fun and educational day, and a great opportunity to meet candidates and talk about Oregon agriculture. Thanks to Jenny Hitner for making time to participate.

The campaign season is gearing up. It's time to meet the candidates in your district, learn about their positions, and share your priorities on natural resources and business regulations/expenses with them. The best time to meet them is before they are elected. Please consider making a contribution to the candidates you support. You can make both a personal contribution and a donation through your business.



Nancy Crocker with OWA Treasurer Jenny Hitner.

# Oregon Agriculture: Bee for Agriculture!

By Sarah Puls

This year's auction was another one for the books, guests enjoyed the amazing food and fan fair, at this year's bee themed auction. Attendance was good and the community support was amazing. We sold 18 Gold Tables and our supporters stepped up providing generous sponsorships and cash donations. Our Ag Youth Mini Grant Program state project was the fund a need this year, raising \$12,250!

The auction was a great success raising over \$129,000. Thank you to all the people who showed up and made it such a successful year. Personally, I want to thank the OWA



Attendees gather at the 2024 Oregon Women for Agriculture Dinner and Auction.

auction committee and individual committee chairs this year. It's been an honor to chair this event over the last two years. I look forward to all the great ideas coming for 2025 with our new chair and state vice

president Bethany Woodall. Please take a look below for a list of our incredibly generous sponsors, and next time you see them thank them for their continued support of OWA.



thank you  **UMPQUA BANK**

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Instant Lawn & Nursery

 **FRANK LUMBER COMPANY**  
**INTEGRATED SEED GROWERS**  
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**OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**CARQUEST OF JUNCTION CITY**  
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**ERNST IRRIGATION**

**OREGON WOMEN IN TIMBER**  
**PRATUM CO-OP**  
**RICE'S WATERFOWL GUIDE SERVICE**  
**ST. PAUL PAUL RODEO ASSOCIATION**  
**TANGENT SEED LAB**

**BEE FOR AGRICULTURE ANNUAL AUCTION & DINNER**  Oregon Women for Agriculture

# Remembering Deanna Dyksterhuis



Deanna Joan (Schendel) Dyksterhuis was born September 3, 1942 in Klamath Falls, Oregon. She graduated from South Salem High School in 1960; attended one year of college at Oregon College of Education (OCE) to become a teacher. She met her husband picking berries on his farm and married Jerry Allen Dyksterhuis December 20, 1961. They started farming in Coburg; then moved to Peoria, OR in 1964. In 1975, they

moved across the Willamette River to the Mulkey farm south of Corvallis. In 2003, Deanna and Jerry sold their farms to good neighbors and moved to Newport.

Deanna was a full-time mother for daughter Kay Dee and Scott Edsco and farm partner with husband Jerry. They hosted many family events and always welcomed family and friends for visits and holidays on the farm. Many family members have fond memories of the farm.

She was president of the Linn-Benton chapter and president of Oregon Women for Agriculture. She was active in American Agri-Women; Agriculture in the Classroom; and Agri-Business Council. She was a member of the Oregon Department of Agriculture's Minor Crops Advisory Council; a member of the Dean's Advisory Council at Oregon State University, a Caret representative for OSU and a board member of the OSU Agricultural Research Foundation. She also received the Diamond Pioneer Award honoring

people whose lifetime contributions to agriculture, natural resources, and the people of Oregon and/or Oregon State University have been significant.

One of her proudest accomplishments was working with Dr. Rod Fielder on a textbook titled: "Get Oregonized" which was eventually adopted by the Oregon Textbook Commission and sold to over a third of the primary school districts in Oregon. She and Jerry donated the funds to reprint and publish an updated version of the textbook in 2005.

Deanna loved to read, work outside in her large yard and on the farm. In addition to reading, Deanna especially enjoyed quilting and scrapbooking with her special friends.

Deanna was a woman of courage and deep compassion. She was always looking at the bright side of things and was grateful everyday to have a loving family and many friends.



**Sign up now!**  
**AUGUST 23-**  
**SEPTEMBER 2**





# EO Chapter Awards \$6,500 in Scholarships

The Eastern Chapter of Oregon Women for Agriculture has awarded its 2024 scholarships to four outstanding students who are each pursuing a career in Agriculture. Each scholarship applicant wrote a 500-1000 word essay about what is one of the biggest challenges facing Agriculture today and how they plan to be a part of the solution. Reading through the essays gives hope to the future of Agriculture. It is good to know these young ladies will be tackling the challenges! The EOWA is proud to support this next generation of Women in Agriculture through these scholarships.

From left to right the winners are :



**Julianne Jones** from Pendleton won the first place scholarship of \$3,500. Julianne plans to major in Forestry Management and Aviation Tech at Treasure Valley Community College.



**Kylie Temple** from Hermiston was the second place winner and awarded a scholarship of \$2,000. Kylie plans to major in Ag Business and Global Food Systems Leadership at Kansas State University.



**Elliana Munk** and **Ellie Hanson** tied for third place and will split the \$1,000 scholarship. Elliana has plans to study Agribusiness at Utah State University while Ellie is finishing up her Business Administration and Agricultural Sciences degree from EOU/OSU.



OWIT participated in several events around the state in April. The Douglas chapter provided a reforestation activity at the Douglas County School Forestry Tour in Glide, organized by OSU Extension. The event saw nearly 800 students over the three-day event. OWIT members also assisted the Future Natural Resource Leaders Annual meeting as judges for the skills competitions and one member was the keynote speaker for the meeting. We had a booth at Oregon AG-Fest, and at the Astoria-Warrenton Crab, Seafood & Wine Festival in Astoria.

The Clatsop Chapter was nominated to present a fundraising project pitch to local 100 Women Who Care/Clatsop sponsorship group. They were one of three applicants asked to present to the group. They are raising money for an outdoor structure at their local Oregon Department of Forestry office which will be used for educational purposes and their annual 6th grade Outdoor School. They did not get funded, but it was a great opportunity to bring awareness about OWIT and the work we do, and we did receive several private donations after the presentation.

In May, the Lane Chapter participated in the Oakridge-Westfir Tree Planting Festival Grand Parade. Coni Fir was on hand for the rainy event! The chapter also helped with Pleasant Hill High School's Forestry Skills Competition, from organizing the event to providing tree samples for the ID station, scoring tests and

determining the winners.

Tillamook members provided a booth at the Tillamook Career Exploration Day and will assist with a booth for another local natural resource group later this summer during the Tillamook County Fair. They hope to officially become a chapter before the end of this year.

June 1st was a busy Saturday for OWIT. The Portland Chapter ran a booth at the Sandy Invitational Chainsaw Carving Event and the Landing Chapter was on hand in Corvallis for the "Get Outdoors!" event sponsored by OSU in the McDonald-Dunn Forest.

For more information about OWIT and TAT please visit OWIT's website at [www.orwit.org](http://www.orwit.org), on Facebook and Instagram.

Diann Washburn  
OWIT State Treasurer

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# 2024 Service to Agriculture Award

By Mary Hood

Congratulations to Bob Schroeder for winning the OWA 2024 Service to Ag Award!

The Linn Benton Chapter nominated Bob for his outstanding work supporting Oregon Agriculture! Here are some excerpts from his nomination:

Bob grew up in a family of those who helped others. His dad, Walt, was an extension agent and Bob was in the thick of it in the Gold Beach Community in Southern Oregon. He raised pigs in 4-H and participated in the 4-H Summer Youth Camps. While at Gold Beach HS he played football and basketball and was active in the FFA Chapter. Bob went on to Oregon State University and graduated with a degree in Agricultural Education. His teaching degree did not lead him into his own classroom but has given him a foundation he uses every day. Bob is married to Sally and they have two children.

Bob worked for Cenex for eight years and began working at Western Farm Service in 1994. He has been

with the same company (through three company name changes) for 29 years. During this time he has also served as a school board member for Santiam Christian School and devoted time to both the FFA Advisory Board and the Summer Ag Institute (SAI) Executive Board. Bob is a presenter on the first day of each SAI Session. He gives the teachers insight to what chemicals are needed for crop health, the regulations surrounding their use and the research that must go into their development. His explanation of the technology used to apply the proper amount needed and the cost associated with it are eye opening for the educators. He answers their questions with patience and a calm voice. He's been doing this for almost 30 years. Bob is always sharing his love of agriculture and farmers.



Bob Schroeder was honored at the Linn-Benton Chapter Social May 14.

Bob's support and commitment to his family, Oregon agriculture and the farmers he works with is constant and reliable. He is always willing to work with agricultural organizations such as 4-H and FFA and donates time and expertise to those that need him.

Please join us in congratulating Bob!

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## Linn-Benton Chapter Assembles Study Boxes for Sigma Alpha

The Linn-Benton chapter provided a study boost to Sigma Alpha Professional Agriculture Sorority members during the spring finals week. The boxes held chocolates, Dutch Bros gift cards, and other goodies.

Sigma Alpha members often help with the OWA auction, SAI, Ag Fest, and more.



Linn-Benton member Kelsy Pimm assists with packing the study boxes for Sigma Alpha members.

# Summer Ag Institute Hosts Full Class

Summer Agriculture Institute -West had a full class of 25 Oregon teachers participate June 17-21. The educators spent the week in Corvallis and surrounding areas learning about all aspects of agriculture from farmers, researchers and industry experts.

Oregon Women for Agriculture is a proud financial supporter of this program and many members host teachers for the memorable "farm stay", one night as part of the week-long institute where each participant spends the night with a farm family. For more information or to host a teacher in the future contact Stefani.



Stefani Evers, SAI West Coordinator  
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 503.758.6693

SAI participants at tour stop Rock'n D Ranch in Junction City. Teachers from multiple disciplines and grade levels participated in the week-long program.



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**3RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE & FIELDS AND FORESTS GALA**

**NOVEMBER 7TH, 2024  
 SALEM CONVENTION CENTER**



# End of School Year for Oregon AITC



Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom has once again wrapped up its school year programming.

This past year, we had the opportunity to reach over 250 teachers through various trainings, workshops, and events. We had the opportunity to work with over 800 volunteers through our annual Literacy Project and other activities. And finally, we had the opportunity to reach hundreds of thousands of Oregon students!

Our workshops this year featured a variety of topics, displaying the best of Oregon agriculture. Teachers had the opportunity to learn about microgreens, agricultural development, honeybees, and more. Students, too, learned about the

dairy industry, sheep shearing, alpaca wool, and more through our Virtual Farm Field Trips.

Our Literacy Project this year, Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt by Kate Messner, reached over 15,000 students through the support of over 800 volunteers. A huge thank you to our OWA members for supporting us in this endeavor!

We would also like to thank the various FFA chapters throughout the state that contributed to this reach. Our Calendar Art Contest recently concluded: We had almost 1,500



Central Oregon member Kristen Hutchins reads to a group of students at Metolious Elementary.

entries from 28 counties. We are excited to announce the 13 winners and share their artwork at the upcoming Calendar Art Reception at the Oregon State Fair on August 23rd at 2 PM. The preliminary list of winners and honorable mentions is posted on our website.

As we transition into the summer season, we look forward to sitting down to plan another year of exciting opportunities to advance agricultural literacy in Oregon. We are also looking forward to our annual Fall Harvest Dinner and Auction at the CH2M Alumni Center on OSU's campus in Corvallis on Saturday, October 26th. Both the new school year and the Fall Harvest Dinner will surely bring about renewed energy and celebration for agricultural education. We look forward to sharing this excitement with you in the 2024-25 school year!

*Jade Davidson, PhD, Executive Director  
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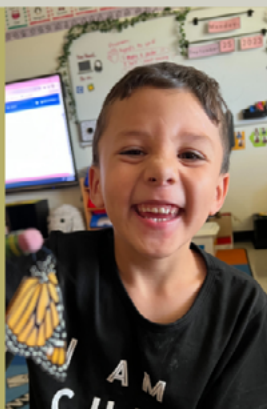


Carole Richard, Central Oregon, leads students through the AITC Literacy Project activity.

# Agriculture Youth Mini Grant Program



Funding available for agriculture related youth programs and projects.



Schools



Clubs and Youth Programs



Non-profit Organizations

## Eligible entities and projects must:

- Be agriculturally related projects or initiatives
- Benefit students, student organizations, non-profit organizations, classrooms, clubs, etc.
- Be located within the state of Oregon
- Directly benefit youth (up through college-age)
- Align with Oregon Women for Agriculture's mission "Working Together to Communicate the Story of Today's Agriculture"

## Timeline

**Application Deadline: October 15, 2024**

Projects must be planned for completion anytime between January 1, 2025 and September 1, 2025

## Application and Additional Information

Visit [owaonline.org/mini-grant](https://owaonline.org/mini-grant) for complete application and program information including previous recipient summaries.



For more information:  
[owaonline.org/mini-grant](https://owaonline.org/mini-grant)  
[oregonwomen@gmail.com](mailto:oregonwomen@gmail.com)

## OREGON WOMEN FOR AGRICULTURE STATE OFFICERS

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## 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](mailto: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

SEPTEMBER 13- EASTERN OREGON  
OCTOBER 18- YAMHILL  
DECEMBER 6- MARION/CLACKAMAS

Contact [info@owaonline.org](mailto:info@owaonline.org) to request more info for each meeting or visit the members area of the website.

## Upcoming Events

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](http://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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> to February 28<sup>th</sup>  
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 State Fair Booth Volunteers Needed

**SHIFTS ARE AVAILABLE FRIDAY, AUGUST 23RD THROUGH MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND  
SIGN UP BY VISITING THE EVENTS PAGE ON THE OWA WEBSITE AND CLICKING "SIGN UP NOW"**



Central Oregon members recently put up Crop ID Signs, including this carrot seed sign, along with wheat, canola, grass seed and more!