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Dave Roseleip

The mission of the AgForestry Leadership Program is to develop effective leaders for today and tomorrow. This monthly e-newsletter is designed to inform our investors, friends, and the AgForestry Network of the leadership roles and activities performed by graduates across our state.

Dave Roseleip, President

AgForestry Graduates are working at various levels of leadership, making a difference for our agriculture, forestry, and fishing industries and rural communities.

- **Sue Lani Madsen** (Class 29), Edwall, and her husband Craig received the Seattle Business magazine's Green Washington 2009 award in the Natural Resources category for their business Healing Hooves LLC. From May to October, their goats are trucked around Washington to eat invasive and noxious weeds in areas around housing and riparian areas unsuitable for mechanized devices or chemicals. In Lincoln County, the goats have been used in a study of leafy spurge infestation control.
- **Jim** (Class 17) and **Cheryl Koenig** (Class 29), Manson, recently traveled to Chile where they were guests of **Terese Rowe** (Class 15), Santiago, and her family for dinner. They visited three fruit packing warehouses and an orchard, with a Chilean fruit buyer from Fresh Connection.
- **Rick Jansons** (Class 29), Richland, serves on the Richland School Board and is on the state school director's legislative committee.
- **Brett** (Class 24) and **Lisa** (Class 28) **Bishop**, Shelton, hosted more than 400 third grade students at their Little Skookum Shellfish Farm for a two-day event called "Kids with Conservation Knowledge." The purpose is to give the students a greater knowledge and appreciation of the natural world. Brett and Lisa also hosted a clam dinner for 25 Society of American Forester members that day.
- **Clay Hutchens** (Class 30), Dayton, **Josh Koempel** (Class 30), Cashmere, and **Deborah Moore** (Class 16), Moses Lake, presented a panel on "Challenges Facing the Agriculture Producer" at the first seminar of Leadership Class 32.
- **Derek Schafer** (Class 32), Ritzville, published an article "Pursuit of a New Deep-furrow Drill Prototype" in Wheat Life Magazine.
- **Michelle Metcalf** (Class 32), Castle Rock, has been elected Chair-Elect of the Longview Chapter of the Society of American Foresters.
- **Brad Bailie** (Class 29), Connell, hosted a tour of the Bailie Family Farm to show the organic operations they use, such as beetle banks, roller crimpers, insectaries, and "mischkultur," an idea using mixed-culture planting.
- **Bob Brink** (Class 19), Yacolt, Executive Director of the Pomeroy Living History Farm, had to close the Pomeroy House gift shop and tea room. However, the school programs and other events will still continue, and the living history farm will be expanded by converting the former gift shop into a venue for special events.
- **Larry DeHaan** (Class 25), Lynden, was recently appointed to the Farm Service Agency State Committee.



R to L: Josh Koempel, Clay Hutchens, Deborah Moore

From 1989 to 1994 he served on his local FSA county committee and won the Whatcom Conservation Farmer of the Year in 1999. He has worked in the dairy business for over thirty years.

- **Mike LaPlant** (Class 16), Ephrata, is the new 2nd Vice President of the WA State Farm Bureau.
- **John Verbrugge** (Class 21), Wapato, is the President of the Washington State Horticultural Association and plans to lead the Association into more involvement with state regulatory issues.
- **Dick Coon** (Class 3), Benge, is the President of the Washington Cattlemen's Association and a Director of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.
- **Mary Gilmore** (Class 9), Spokane, is the Community Relations Coordinator with Northwest MedStar. Her job is to increase community awareness of NW MedStar and the emergency services it provides in rural communities. She is available to speak to community service clubs, like rotaries, hospital auxiliaries, and businesses.
- **Jaime Pinkham** (Class 9), St. Paul, MN, was the guest speaker at the South Dakota Agricultural and Rural Leadership Class V Alumni Banquet in Chamberlain, SD.
- **Mike Largent** (Class 11), Colfax, is a County Commissioner for Whitman County.

Leadership Links

Information on new ideas and projects from the WSU College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Resources can be found in their e-letter "On Solid Ground." ([click here](#))

- **Aaron Esser** (Class 24), Ritzville, is Washington State University Extension's area agronomist for Lincoln and Adams counties. He designed a wireworm trap to help farmers determine how much of the pest they have in their fields.
- **Gene Warren** (Class 8), Dayton, has served as a Commissioner for the Port of Columbia for two years, serves on the Board of Directors of the Columbia County Grain Growers, and is on the Board of Directors of the Washington State Farm Bureau.

- **Dick Carkner** (Class 13), Tacoma, is a Planning Commissioner for Pierce County.
- **Tyler Clark** (Class 8), Sedro Woolley, is President of Vikima USA. The parent company is Vikima Denmark with operations in France. The business concentrates on hybrid vegetable seed production predominantly spinach, cabbage, and radish seed.
- **Vicki Christiansen** (Class 12), Phoenix, AZ, is the Chair of National Association of State Forester's Wildlife Committee.
- **Jim Thompson** (Class 20), Farmington, is the Chair of the USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council, a national organization that promotes and protects those engaged in growing, processing, warehousing, and merchandising peas, lentils, and chickpeas.
- **Greg Ferrel** (Class 27), Walla Walla, serves on the Board of the National Dry Pea and Lentil Council and is also the Vice President of the Board of Blue Mountain Seed Company in Walla Walla.
- **Cary Hegreberg** (Class 6), Townsend, MT, is Chairman of the Montana Business Leadership Council, Chairman of Jobs for Montana Political Action Committee, serves on the Board of Directors for Valley Bank of Helena, and is a member of Montana Farm Bureau Federation.
- **Phil Clouse** (Class 7), Burbank, is a Commissioner for the Washington State Asparagus Commission.
- **Brett Blankenship** (Class 21), Washtucna, is President of the Washington Wheat Growers and was selected to serve on the search committee for the new CEO of the National Association of Wheat Growers.
- **Dana Herron** (Class 2), Connell, is the Chairman of the Washington Grain Commission.
- **Cindy Mitchell** (Class 16), Olympia, is promoting *One Voice for Working Forests*, an online community that brings together stakeholders who recognize the many benefits that the West's working forests provide. The site www.OneVoiceForWorkingForests.com, which includes a blog and pages on Facebook and LinkedIn, is designed to exchange ideas, create camaraderie over shared issues, and spur passionate discussion.
- **Dan Morgan** (Class 27), Ellensburg, was featured in an article in *American Builders Quarterly* in the fall of 2009, titled Morgan & Son Earthmoving, Inc. Striving for excellence in the earthmoving business. [Read the article.](#)

