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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.**

- **Joe Schmick** (Class 14), Colfax, was elected to the Washington State Legislature representing the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislative District. He serves on the Committee of Higher Education, Local Government & Housing, and Ways & Means Committees. A second generation farmer and small business owner, Joe was appointed to the House seat in November 2007.
- **Ron Wesen** (Class 22), Bow, was elected as Skagit County Commissioner, District 1. In thanking his supporters, Ron stated, "I believe we can maintain, and even enhance, the quality of life for Skagit Valley residents while protecting our natural resources and related industries and spending our tax dollars wisely."
- **Terry Willis** (Class 26), Montesano, was elected Grays Harbor County Commissioner, District 1. She is the first woman to serve as commissioner in the history of Grays Harbor County. Terry says the top priority issues she will be working on are the budget, jobs, and land use planning.
- **Representative Dan Newhouse** (Class 4), Sunnyside, spoke to the participants of Class 30 at their Agriculture Issues Seminar in Yakima. He related the role of the Leadership Program in encouraging his participation in the Washington State Legislature.
- **Dick Coon, Jr.**, (Class 3), Benge, has been elected President of the Washington Cattlemen's Association.
- **Brit Ausman** (Class 24), Asotin, has been elected president of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers.
- **Eric Hall** (Class 27), Shelton, was the first recipient of a new annual award called the "Excellence in Leadership Award." The award recognizes Leadership Program Graduates who have demonstrated excellence through their actions following their participation in the Leadership Program. In addition to his excellent work in the shellfish industry, Eric has started a non-profit called "Angels for Orphans" which provides clothing, shoes, and basic hygiene needs for orphans in Ukraine.
- **Vicki Scharlau** (Class 10), Cashmere, Executive Director of Washington Association of Wine Grape Growers, recently gave a tour of the Walla Walla Valley to more than 70 growers and winemakers. The focus was to take a closer look at organic approaches to pest and disease management, which is an important part of the larger picture of sustainability.
- **Frank Hendrix** (Class 19), Selah, is the animal science extension educator for Yakima County. He studies how using various pasture grasses can reduce production costs. During the spring, Hendrix invites county residents to a field day to showcase results of his research. The Yakima County extension program received a grant from



Dan Morgan, Class 27, and Teresa Loo, Class 27, present the Excellence in Leadership Award to Eric Hall, Class 27.

Homeland Security to house digital diagnostic equipment.

- **Heather Hansen** (Class 17), Olympia, received a grand prize for her digital photograph “Ready for Harvest” in the CropLife America 2008 Annual photo contest. Heather is the executive director of Washington Friends of Farm and Forest and is also the Washington Association of Wheat Growers lobbyist in Olympia.
- **Don McMoran** (Class 26), Burlington, WSU Extension ag educator, conducted a study of new irrigation systems that offer better fuel savings, water efficiency, uniformity of water distribution, and crop uniformity in Skagit and Whatcom counties.
- **Sue Lani Madsen** (Class 29), Edwall, past President of the Washington Rural Health Association, has been appointed to the founding Board of Trustees for the new Empire Health Foundation.
- **Dennis Munden** (Class 12), Burbank, is in his second year serving as Vice President of the Board of Directors for Columbia Rural Electric, which serves 4800 electric service accounts in Southeastern Washington and Northeastern Oregon.
- **Steve Rigdon** (Class 25), Yakima, is the Generation Manager for Yakama Power, the Yakama Nation’s public utility, working on renewable energy projects.
- **Flo Sayre** (Class 10), Pasco, attended the National Association of Realtors Convention in Orlando, Florida. Flo serves as a national director for Region 12 on the Realtors Land Institute Land Education Foundation. She has been re-appointed by the national RLI president to an additional 3-year term.
- **Tom Quigley** (Class 23), Woodinville, has been selected by the Washington State Nursery and Landscape Association Board of Directors to serve a second term as President.
- **Mike Dodds** (Class 29), Moses Lake, was recently elected to the Washington Potato Commission.
- **Norm Schaaf** (Class 9), Port Angeles, is on the Advisory Board for the Olympic Natural Resources Center, which provides scientific information to address critical issues and solve problems concerning forestry and marine sciences in the region. The Center Director is **John Calhoun** (Class 2), Forks.
- **Meri Parker** (Class 23), Neah Bay, will be visiting China and Jiuzhaigou National Park in the Sichuan Province to share experiences of having traditional lands in close proximity to a national park and the issues and types of relationships that have resulted.
- **Dave Hyink** (Class 13), Rapid City, SD, and his wife Steff hosted lunch for two dozen alumni of the South Dakota Agriculture and Rural Leadership Program. Lunch was followed by a USDA Forest Service presentation.
- **Travis Allan** (Class 27), Naches, and his father, Dave Allan, of Yakima, took part in a panel discussion on the “Generation Gap” during the Washington State Horticultural Association convention in Yakima in December.
- **John Henshaw** (Class 9), has accepted a job with the Nature Conservancy of Hawaii as their Director of Conservation Programs responsible for all the land management on their preserves, the Marine Programs, Land Acquisition Programs, and the Science Programs. John is retiring from the Forest Service with 32 years of service.
- **Matt Starkenburg** (Class 3), Olympia, President and Founder of Broken Walls International, Inc., enjoyed a trip to Romania with his grandson. The focus of the trip was to participate in the Annual Salt and Light Evangelism Campaign in Hunedoara as well as interaction with the children and the parents of their two foster families.

#### **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](#))

**If you wish to submit information on the leadership activities of an AgForestry Graduate, please [click here](#).**

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