MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
Contributed by Jack Walstad

Kathy Motley, OSURA’s talented Newsletter Editor, asked me to contribute a feature article on myself for the winter issue of the Newsletter. Little did I know when I appointed her as editor six years ago that it would come to this! But Kathy has done a superb job with the Newsletter over the years, ranging from preparing several print editions to the online versions of today. So, I was happy to comply with her request. The challenge, however, is to make the feature an interesting “stroll down memory lane” and not just a dull obituary—which I’m not ready for anyway! So here goes.

My college education began in 1962 with three 3-year programs at the College of William & Mary in Virginia (B.S. in Biology), Duke University in North Carolina (M.F. in Forestry), and Cornell University in upper New York state (Ph.D. in Entomology). My Master’s degree led to the discovery of a natural fungal pathogen of the seedling debarking weevil, thereby providing some biological control of this serious pest of pine seedlings. My doctoral work showed that the pine needle scale (a small insect pest of Christmas trees) inserted its feeding stylets directly through the stomates (airway pores) of the needles, then tapped the nutritious mesophyll tissue within the needles, turning them yellow. This feeding pattern made it vulnerable to systemic insecticides, allowing control of infestations on ornamental pine trees.

During this educational period, my wife, JoAnne, earned her “P.H.T” degree—“putting hubby through!” She did this by teaching at the junior high and senior high school levels in both North Carolina and New York.

After many years raising our two children—Jennifer and Daniel—she went on to 24 years of teaching preschool children and administering their programs in Corvallis, Oregon. So, she’s made significant contributions to childhood education throughout her career. Our two children went on to successful careers as well—Daniel as a retirement system manager in Sacramento, California, and Jennifer as a chief financial officer for a construction firm in Phoenix, Arizona.
My professional career began in 1971 as a forest ecologist with Weyerhaeuser Company in Hot Springs, Arkansas. I primarily dealt with reforestation issues affecting young pine plantations. My research led to several innovations in pine nursery management, and my colleagues and I also solved several serious pest and weed problems, saving the Company millions of dollars each year.

In 1976 I was transferred to the company’s Corporate Headquarters in Federal Way, Washington for advanced training in research management. After a year I was moved to Springfield, Oregon to lead the Company’s research station there, focusing on reforestation, silviculture, and one of the controversial aspects of forestry—herbicide use. The herbicide issue became so heated that to avoid personal threats, I had to have an unlisted phone number and address and drive an unmarked car! It was a traumatic time in my career.

During this period, I was involved in two projects that helped resolve the herbicide issue. One involved a study of herbicide exposure. We enlisted several herbicide applicators ranging from ground personnel to helicopter pilots. After monitoring their urine over a two-week period, we found that herbicides were not detected if they followed conventional safety precautions. The second project involved legislative action to determine the veracity of various allegations regarding herbicide effects on humans and wildlife. The Pesticide Analytical Response Center (PARC) was established by the Oregon Legislature in 1979, and it was housed in the Oregon Department of Agriculture. It soon became instrumental in resolving questions and concerns surrounding pesticide use in a factual and timely manner.
I put most of the herbicide issue behind me in 1980 when I joined OSU as an Associate Professor in the College of Forestry in the Forest Science Department. I continued my work in reforestation, starting the College’s first research cooperative that secured funding from about a dozen organizations. It was so successful that I was soon tenured and tapped to lead a large, multi-million-dollar research cooperative focused on forestry problems in Southwest Oregon. This program involved over 30 OSU and federal researchers over a 10-year period, and it successfully solved many of the problems plaguing forests in that drought-prone region of the state. As a result, I received the National Technology Transfer and Extension Award from the Society of American Foresters in 1991. In spare moments I mentored several graduate students and launched two new courses: Integrated Forest Protection and Wildland Fire Ecology. Both led to enhanced curricula and research programs in forest pest management and wildland fire in the Department.

In 1986 I was promoted to Full Professor in the College of Forestry and was soon selected to lead the new Department of Forest Resources in 1989. The Department consisted of about 35 faculty, 20 instructors/technicians, 12 staff, and 300 students, so it was quite a handful! Corvallis faculty included both state and federal employees, and we also had a cadre stationed at the Cascades Campus in Bend. Faculty expertise ranged from soils to silviculture and from satellites to submarines. Soils and silviculture were conventional forestry topics, but satellites and submarines were not! The satellites were used to conduct remote sensing surveys of forest conditions. The submarines were small submersibles used to monitor geothermal conditions at Crater Lake. In fact, one of my first official duties as a Department Head was to sign a requisition for $250,000 to lease one of the submarines for the summer! We also had a cadre of social scientists in the Department, specializing in forest economics and forest recreation. Given all the specialties involved, it was an eclectic group to manage!

Typical departmental responsibilities included budgeting and accounting, staffing and recruitment, curriculum development and accreditation, faculty reviews and recognition, salary actions, promotion and tenure processes, annual reports, and a host of other administrative duties involving personnel and facilities. Fortunately, I was working with excellent people, so the unit held together well during my tenure.

I also taught the College’s flagship course, Introduction to Forestry, keeping me in touch with undergraduate students along with my advising duties. And we also initiated the College’s foray into “Distance Education”—a venue that has become a cornerstone of the University now. Thus began an 18-year run in college administration, culminating as Emeritus Professor in 2007. At the time of my retirement, I had the dubious distinction of being the longest-serving department head in the University! I had worked with four deans, four presidents, and numerous department heads and other administrators.
During my career, I published over 100 scientific and technical papers, delivered talks at scores of conferences, edited two reference books—one on Forest Vegetation Management and one on Natural & Prescribed Fire in the Pacific Northwest; plus, I’ve contributed several book chapters and encyclopedia articles on various forestry topics. I also received numerous honors and awards that inevitably cluttered my office walls. The ones I’m most proud of are being elected a Fellow in the Society of American Foresters in 1990 and a Golden Member in 2019.

By the time I retired, I’d accumulated over 5,000 Kodachrome slides in my forestry collection. I just couldn’t bear to throw all of them away, so I came up with a reasonable solution. The OSU Library had recently established a “Scholars Archive” to save important publications, photographs, and other documents. So, I approached them about archiving some of my slides. They agreed but suggested that I be selective. I culled about 90% and then divided the remaining 10% (about 500 slides) into five major topics—reforestation and vegetation management, southern pine silviculture, forest pest management, animal damage management, and fire in Pacific Northwest forests. I digitized the slides and made short captions to accompany them. The library staff helped polish the five short slide series and made them available within the Scholars Archive site to forest scientists, educators, students, and the general public. Since the slide series became available in 2013, they’ve had thousands of “hits” by people all over the world! So, I was very gratified to make these images available for posterity.

Since retirement in 2007, I’ve stayed involved with OSU activities—primarily through sports. Those who know me realize I am a passionate baseball fan. JoAnne and I even traveled with the OSU team to Omaha, Nebraska in 2018 when they won the College World Series!

We’ve also enjoyed watching one of our grandsons, Ryan, progress all the way to the Minor Leagues! The other grandson, Nathan, is gainfully employed in the business sector. In any event, you can expect to find me somewhere near a baseball park!

As another post-retirement activity, I served on the OSURA Board of Directors for two terms beginning in 2014; then was elected President in 2016. Involvement with OSURA has been a very interesting and rewarding experience. It’s a wonderful organization that does lots for the students, members, and the community at large. I highly recommend it for all new retirees!
PRESIDENTS MESSAGE
Contributed by Bob Smythe
OSURA President
In the President’s Message for the OSURA Fall 2022 newsletter, I expressed the hope that the coming year would present “many more opportunities for personal interactions” at OSURA events than was possible in the previous pandemic years. Looking at the array of activities staged by OSURA over the past few months, I think this hope has been realized. A number of our spring and summer activities are described in our Fall 2022 newsletter. The new academic year began with the Fall Start-up in September, featuring a dinner and a talk by Professor Emily Ho on nutrition. Later in September we held the first OSURA pickleball session at the courts behind Adams School. October activities included two well-attended tours: one of the baseball facilities at Goss Stadium and another of the Fish Hatchery on Fall Creek, near Alsea. November brought the return of our popular Travel Share program featuring Debi and Simon Johnson’s safari in Kenya and Tanzania, and in December we heard a presentation on hospice care at Lumina Hospice and Palliative Care.

If you missed out on these fun programs, don’t worry – there’s more coming. By the time you read this newsletter, OSURA’s 2023 activities will have included a dinner/OSU women’s basketball game, with a talk by coach Scott Rueck; and a Travel Share program on the Greek islands. It won’t stop there: our Program and Member Services Committees are hard at work planning more activities for the spring and summer, and we are working with the Academy for Lifelong Learning to plan a couple of activities for the summer.

To those of you who have participated in one or more of the activities described, thanks for joining us, and please encourage your friends to participate as well. We hope that all of you will find something of interest to you in the varied activities to take place in the future.

As much fun as these recent events have been, OSURA has other aspects as well. Our members volunteer for various service activities around the University; we also maintain an active scholarship program, awarding at least 6 scholarships each year to undergraduates interested in studying the healthy aging process. This year’s recipients will be introduced at our annual meeting in May 2023. (We always welcome contributions to the Scholarship Fund, which can be made through our website.)

Finally I would like to mention that our faithful newsletter editor Kathy Motley will soon be retiring from this position. We want to keep the newsletter going and are seeking a volunteer(s) who would be interested in serving in this position. I would be happy to talk with anyone with a possible interest in this.

I hope to see you soon at an OSURA event.
Twelve OSURA members met at the Jim Ringler Pickleball Courts in south Corvallis on October 2nd to learn and play the game of Pickleball. The Corvallis Parks and Recreation department has eight newly resurfaced and painted courts at this location. The courts are open to the public and are available on a first come first served basis. Playtime Scheduler for Pickleball is a website that allows players to check the availability of courts and make arrangement to play with others of similar expertise. 

https://playtimescheduler.com/login.php

The group was introduced to the game, the court, the equipment and the rules. The game is similar to tennis and played in a smaller court. Paddles are used instead of rackets and the balls are similar to whiffle balls. As in tennis there are two service areas on each side separated by a centerline. Unlike tennis there is a non-volley zone called the kitchen (gray painted areas in picture of courts). A receiving player may not hit a served ball in the air when the ball is in this zone. We learned the proper way to announce and keep score during each serve and the proper rotation of the servers.

Connie and Bob Anderson, Corvallis Pickleball Ambassadors, welcomed us to the game and gave us a short history of the game and the facility.

Three experienced Pickleball players assisted Connie and Bob during the practice and playing during the event.

We familiarized ourselves with the paddles and practiced by tapping the ball on the paddle without letting it hit the ground. Not as easy as it may look.
The OSURA members were then assigned to four of the courts, each with an experienced player to guide us and we practiced serves and volleys prior to starting games.

We learned the game of Pickelball and had a great time playing and conversing with other members of OSURA during the event. Afterwards, we were invited by Connie and Bob to come by and play the game and also that they would be willing to repeat the event if members would be willing to participate. Any of you that are interested in learning more about Pickleball may want to check this link for further information https://usapickleball.org/what-is-pickleball/official-rules/

Submitted by Tony Amandi, OSURA Program Committee Co-Chair
GYMNASTICS TOUR

It’s easy to miss, a nondescript gray squat building on Research Way in southwest Corvallis. Expectations are low, looking at it from the outside. Except for the bright orange doorway on the southeast corner, you wouldn’t guess this building had anything to do with OSU.

This past November, 25 OSURA members walked through this door and discovered the treasure within, an eye-popping expansive indoor gymnastics practice facility, over 17,000 square feet of it. This is the Women’s Gymnastics Practice Center that quietly opened for use in spring 2021, while many of us were still hunkered down in pandemic mode.

The three vault runs, various bar configurations, trampolines, and balance beams are well-spaced within the practice studio.

Five balance beams are set at competition (high) level and others are at floor level for practicing new elements in routines. Coach Chaplin pointed out an additional beam, set apart from the others, noting that it’s the beam that OSU gymnast Jade Carey used for World Championships training. “The dimensions are the same, but the feel of the equipment is different,” said Chaplin.

Safety measures are key components of all areas, with piles of foam mats everywhere. One of our favorite safety features was the below-floor-level “pits” of foam squares that cushion falls under bars and at the end of runs and dismounts. No one in our group volunteered to jump in a foam pit, but a few of us tried the floor-level balance beams. Six inches, not much space.

Associate Head Coach Michael Chaplin toured our group through the state-of-the-art practice facility, considered one of the best in the country. The large brightly-lit practice studio has designated areas for all events - balance beam, uneven bars, vault and floor - with three types of specialized flooring, including a regular tumbling surface, a rod floor and a springy trampoline-like tumble track.
The new facility also includes locker and shower rooms, a team room, offices, therapy room, and a cardio workout room.

By the end of our tour, most of the women gymnasts had arrived for practice and were warming up for an intra-squad meet. They generously agreed to pose with us for a group photo. Following the tour, we were able to watch the practice from the glassed-in viewing area designed for visitors.

The women’s gymnastics program has come a long way since its first intercollegiate competition in 1967. Practice areas have moved from the Women’s Building to the Men’s Building, then to a renovated Mitchell Playhouse in 1991 when it was renamed the Gladys Valley Gymnastics Center. Now after 55 years of intercollegiate competition, the Oregon State women gymnasts have a very classy place to call home.

Submitted by Terri Tower
OSURA Program Committee
OREGON HATCHERY RESEARCH CENTER TOUR

A group of OSURA members attended a tour of the Oregon Hatchery Research Center (OHRC) on October 25th. The weather cooperated and we only had to deal with a light shower right before the tour began.

The OHRC was opened in 2005 and is a joint venture between the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and Oregon State University. The Center facilitates research related to salmonid fish. The facility is located on Fall Creek west of the town of Alsea and about 39 miles west of Corvallis. The OHRC provides facilities for research that is vital to the success of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds and implementation of the Native Fish Conservation Policy. Results of this work inform hatchery management in order to better support angler opportunity and wild fish conservation. The center is also charged with helping Oregonians understand the role and performance of hatcheries in responsibly using and protecting Oregon's native fishes.

The Director of the Center is Dr. Seth White who is an Associate Professor in the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Sciences at Oregon State University.

Jennifer Krajcik, the ODFW Manager of the OHRC facility led us through the tour.

The OSURA attendees met outside the interpretive center and were able to look at rainbow trout and sturgeon in raceways in front of the facility.

We then proceeded into the lobby of the interpretive center and Jen gave us a history of the facility prior to being a research center and how it was created and directed by Dr. David Noakes at its inception. Prior to becoming the Research Center, the Fall Creek Hatchery was operated by ODFW and primarily raised coho salmon to be released into Fall Creek, a tributary of the Alsea River. When the Oregon coastal coho populations were listed as threatened, ODFW reduced the release of coho salmon into coastal waters, closed the hatchery and the idea for the research center surfaced. The funds to build the OHRC came from various sources including the Oregon Legislature and ODFW. The facilities for research include four artificial stream channels that simulate actual stream conditions, four concrete raceways, a...
tank farm comprised of 44 fiberglass tanks, an analytical lab, and a compete wet lab with heated, chilled, filtered and UV-treated water. The facilities have attracted scientists from as far way as Iceland, Japan and Korea, all of whom have and are studying topics related to the Center’s core Mission.

From the interpretive area we moved into the research facility where Jen pointed out the test tank for fish that were part of olfactory imprinting research with specific odors to test if some of the chemicals would help in increasing the returns of hatchery fish to the facility where they were released rather than stray into the river and mix in with wild reared fish. At the time, no tests were being conducted. Normally fish groups are acclimated to different odors in separate tanks and then tested in the tank pictured below. After odors are introduced, the screens separating the fish from the channels is lifted and the fish pick the odor they have been Imprinted with. Olfactory imprinting is currently being conducted in a coastal hatchery to increase the return of adult fish to the facility.

The next stop was the dry lab where fish are examined, samples collected for analysis and chemicals are prepared for the various tests being conducted at the facility.

From there we went into the wet lab area where fish are held and tested in troughs for a variety of experiments.
Nearby was the magnetism generator that enables researchers to change the magnetic field and thus enable researchers to create magnetic displacements. Results show that the fish perceive these changes and the information is used by salmon for orientation in their migration while in the ocean and on their return to their natal stream.

The artificial streams were not currently being used but the staff is able to change their make up to resemble natural environments where fish are introduced and allowed to live in a natural habitat, including getting their own food from the stream.
This was a fabulous tour with lots of information. Thank you Jen for taking the time to show us this great facility.

Visit https://beav.es/SwF to watch a video of a Chinook Salmon we saw on during the tour.

This was a fabulous tour with lots of information. Thank you Jen for taking the time to show us this great facility.
FALL STARTUP

Our Fall Startup was held in the Horizon Room at the Memorial Union with a welcoming buffet of food catered by OSU. About 35 people were in attendance. After dinner we were treated to an engaging presentation by Dr. Emily Ho. Emily is a distinguished scientist in human nutrition. Here at OSU she is Professor of Biological and Population Health and Director of the Linus Pauling Institute. She obtained her B.S. in 1995 at the University of Guelph in Canada. This was followed by a Ph.D. from the Ohio State University in 2000 and postdoctoral research at UC Berkeley from 2000 until 2003. She joined the OSU faculty in 2003 as Assistant Professor of Nutrition and Exercise Sciences, with a joint appointment in the Linus Pauling Institute in 2005. She became full professor in 2013 and was appointed Director of LPI in 2020.

In her remarks Dr. Ho discussed various aspects of her research, in an engaging way—focusing on mechanisms by which nutrient status and healthy foods affect the initiation and/or progression of chronic diseases such as cancer. She described how her work has helped drive dietary recommendations for micronutrients such as zinc for communities with susceptibility to poor nutrition.

HOSPICE INFORMATION

On December 8, 2022 Holly Terlson from Lumina, our local Hospice Organization, gave a presentation in the Corvallis Community Center to 27 OSURA Members. She outlined the many services that Lumina provides with both Hospice Care and Palliative Care. We learned that most people do not sign up for Hospice Care early enough. The average time on hospice is about one month, whereas 6 month's time is available. The extra time can be a godsend to family and caregivers.

It is important to realize that one can be on palliative care even if one is not eligible for hospice care.

Lumina is a wonderful resource for the Corvallis Community. More information is available on their website, www.luminahospice.org. I would urge anyone who is in need of Hospice or Palliative Care to contact them. They Care

THOMPSONS MILL TOUR

We had an interesting tour of Thompson’s Mill yesterday! About a dozen ALL & OSURA folks enjoyed wandering through the historic mill and listening to comments from several Rangers, Docents, and the Park Archivist as we observed all the amazing contents of the site!
OSURA Travel Share featured photos and Facts about Africa by Debi and Simon Johnson. Simon and Debi recently spent 22 days in Kenya, Tanzania and Nairobi visiting parks and reserves “to shoot animals --- with a Leica instead of a Remington,” in Simon’s words. Time for Q and A was scheduled after their presentation. Also, other travelers among us can volunteer at that time for future programs and/or recommend others who would like to share their adventures.

David Bernell is an Associate Professor of Political Science in the School of Public Policy at Oregon State University. His research and teaching focus on US energy policy, international relations, and US domestic and foreign policy. He is the author of the books The Energy Security Dilemma: US Policy and Practice, and Constructing US Foreign Policy: The Curious Case of Cuba. Prior to coming to OSU, he served as a political appointee in the Clinton Administration with the US Office of Management and Budget, and with the US Department of the Interior.
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

The newsletter committee (just one person) is charged with editing and producing three publications a year:

Fall - on or about mid October
Winter - on or about mid February
Spring - on or about mid May

Most of the work for the editor is sourcing and assigning the writing jobs to members who have participated in the event being reported. In addition, there is usually a Member Spotlight article focusing on the biographical aspects of one of our members and is usually about 1000 words long.

After six years of fun challenges, I am ready to pass this job on to another willing OSURA member. The only requirement is enthusiasm for editing and working with some very talented graphic design students who help with formatting and layout. This process usually takes about a month as these students work 20 hours a week or less. Consequently, the deadlines for articles and pictures is the prior mid-month.

As we moved from a printed newsletter to an online newsletter, the editor gained more freedom to include longer articles and plenty of photos. I think in the last six years the newsletter has gone from four printed pages to as many as fifty online pages!

In addition to the newsletter, the website coordinator has been folded into this job as well. This job involves making sure the website is working and up to date. There is plenty of help available in the Events office.

If you or someone you know is interested in doing this job, please contact Bob Smythe (smythe@science.oregonstate.edu)
BECOME AN OSURA MEMBER TODAY!

Full membership in the OSU Retirement Association is open to all retirees from Oregon State University for a yearly fee of $20.00 for an individual and $30 for a household membership (spouses and partners are considered part of a household membership). All memberships begin on July 1 and run through June 30. Wondering if you are a member, see lists (https://beav.es/5ST)

Why should you become a member of OSURA?
- Develop and support programs of interest to retirees
- Enhance the lifelong relationship of OSU staff with each other and the University
- Enjoy social connections with former colleagues and new OSURA friends
- Hear presentations on academic research, civic matters, and cultural events
- Help make retirement creative and rewarding through activities and/or volunteering
- Receive information pertinent to OSU and state retirees
- Strengthen and promote ties between retired staff in creative ways
- Support OSURA advocacy for OSU retiree privileges (parking, email, other)
- Support OSURA monitoring of state government retiree benefits.
- Take part in educational outings and interest groups

Since OSURA’s inception, members have had an opportunity to tour several university departments and areas of interest, join others in social events, attend presentations, and share their time and talents through volunteering at OSU.

Enjoy a 50% discount on annual parking permits at OSU
In 2019, OSU Transportation Service implemented new criteria for discounted parking permits for retirees. They have notified OSURA that discounted parking permits are only available to emeritus faculty or retirees who reached 25+ years of service prior to retirement and who are also members of the OSU Retirement Association (OSURA).

If you meet the above criteria, you MUST contact TransportationServices at transportation@oregonstate.edu, or by calling 541-737-2583 during business hours (Mon-Fri, 7:30 AM to 1 PM). They will email a special invitation to claim a virtual permit for their zone at 50% off the regular rate. DO NOT purchase a permit directly from the Transportation Services website or you will not receive this discount and may not be eligible for a 50% refund.

OSURA rates will be as follows:
- Zone A (1, 2, or 3) - $319.50
- Zone B (1, 2, or 3) - $216
- Zone C - $67.50

More information about permits for 2022-23 can be found here https://transportation.oregonstate.edu/parking/permit-sales.