



Grouse Hollow News

SPRING 2010



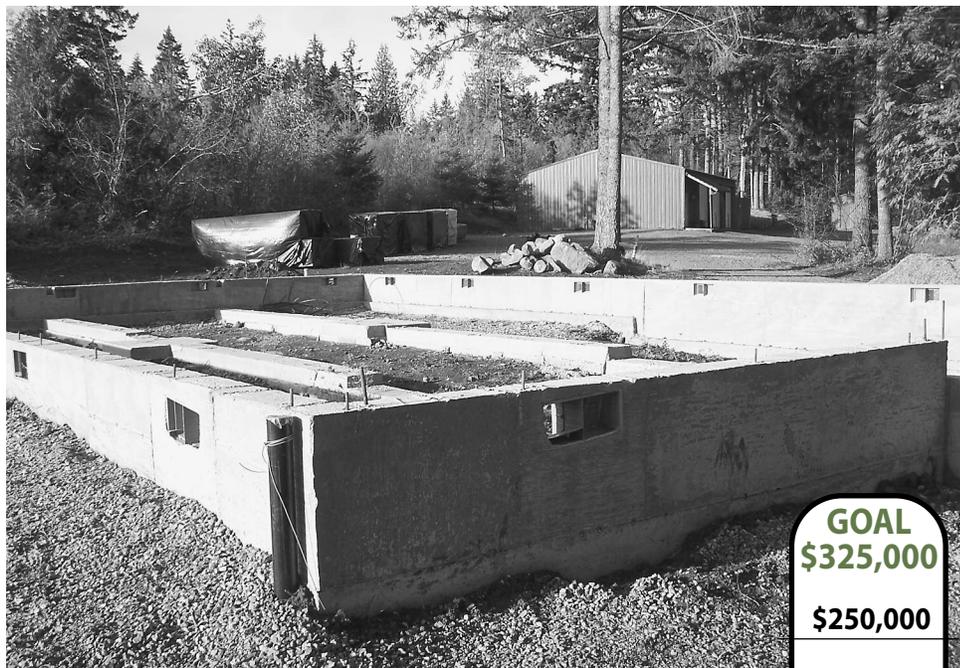
Classroom Construction Begins this Spring

Following a recent surge in fund raising the Forests Forever Board approved the start of construction on the classroom and natural resources building at Hopkins Demonstration Forest south of Oregon City.

“We plan to start construction around the first of June,” said Ken Everett, executive director of non-profit Forests Forever Inc. “We hope to get the shell built and closed in before fall arrives.”

The recession slowed fund raising the last two years, but a \$50,000 matching grant on March 1 from the Murdoch Charitable Trust of Vancouver Wash. re-energized the campaign. Murdoch will match donations up to \$50,000.

With others donating \$8,950, the fund drive reached \$182,900 by mid-April, sufficient to begin erecting a weather-tight building shell, Everett reported. “We are sending letters to family forest owners in Clackamas County to let them know of the opportunity for their donations to be



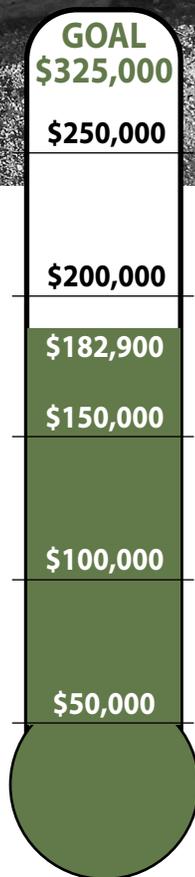
The foundation of the forestry and natural resources education building awaits walls to be erected later this summer. Recent funding secured through donations will allow construction to begin while additional funds are sought to complete the project.

doubled,” he said.

In addition, “we are working with Starker Forests (based in Benton County) to send a letter to members of the Western Oregon forest industry explaining the importance of the classroom building in the Portland metro area for students and the community.

“We hope other timber companies will join Starker Forests in supporting the project,” he said. “As we receive more donations, work will continue on the building.” Total cost including interior fixtures and furnishings is estimated at \$325,000. Some of the cost is being defrayed by donations of lumber and other construction materials.

For more information on donating to this project and having your donation matched, please call Ken Everett at 503-655-5524.



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Changes on the Directors

You may notice some changes on our board of directors: new members and changing roles on the board have come about recently. In brief, here's what has happened:
Clem Hunter resigned his long

tenure on the board at the end of 2009: Thank you Clem for years of service and generous donations.

Following a board retreat in January, new roles were devised for board members; Ken Everett holds the new position of Executive Director; Dan Green is now Chair of the Board. Maralyn Turner has assumed the position of Secretary, succeeding Mike Bondi who served that role for almost 20 years.

Two new members of the board include Mike Daly, a neighbor and fre-

quent volunteer at Hopkins; and Mike Piazza who has joined us after volunteering and enjoying some social events in the forest.

Welcome new members and good luck to board members in their new roles. These are exciting changes as Forests Forever moves into its third decade of managing the Hopkins Demonstration Forest.

One additional vacancy is currently open, and the board is seeking someone with a strong background in fish and wildlife management. Interested persons should contact Ken Everett at 503-655-5524.



Board of Directors

Ken Everett, *Executive Director*, Colton
Dan Green, *Board Chair*, Oregon City
Maralyn Turner, *Secretary*, Portland
Mike McCoy, *Treasurer*, West Linn
Keith Baldwin, Silverton
Mike Bondi, Lake Oswego
Mary Castle, Oregon City
Mike Daly, Mulino
Dave Hill, Oregon City
Jim Kadera, Oregon City
Mike Piazza, West Linn
John Poppino, Milwaukie
Vacancy: could this be you?

Staff

Tim DeLano
Community Forestry Educator
Don Chase, *Special Projects*



Information

Hopkins Demonstration Forest
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Phone: 503-632-2150
www.demonstrationforest.org

Hopkins Demonstration Forest is owned and managed by Forests Forever, Inc.
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Business Office Phone: 503-655-5524
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An Old Hand Always Helpful

Gordon Price was no stranger to Hopkins Demonstration Forest when it was founded two decades ago.

"I knew Howard Hopkins through CCFFA (Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association), and we often argued about politics," Price recalled. After the Hopkins family donated their farm for education and other public use, "I came for the first volunteer work day," he said.

"I was in the first master woodland class in 1989 when I was growing timber and Christmas trees near Molalla and Colton. Now I just grow timber." Price was a Molalla lawyer until retiring in 1990.

Since then, Price said he has participated in nearly every monthly volunteer work day at Hopkins. "It's like any business or practice. You keep learning and staying in touch. You come out and talk with people who are in the same business as you are."

In the early years at Hopkins, Price concentrated on measuring timber, keeping timber records, and setting out riparian areas. "Now I enjoy taking groups of youngsters around to do tree planting, pruning and trail building.

"I instruct them on how to do it right. But it's more important for them to have a good experience than to have trees planted perfectly, so I'm



Gordon Price shows a young Scout how to install protective tubing around a newly planted seedling. Price is the most regular volunteer through 20 years of community projects at Hopkins Demonstration Forest.

reluctant to be critical of them. I'm more interested in them having that experience than I am in the seedlings."

The decision to operate the tree farm as a non-profit for public use "was a great idea," Price said during a lunch break after guiding tree planters. "It's both a demonstration farm for family tree farmers and a way to bridge the gap between city people and the forest industry."

Daly Keeps Things Lively

When Mike Daly first saw Hopkins Demonstration Forest, he thought it was a really dead place. Now he is one of the liveliest in the team of volunteers who keep the forest prospering.

“We moved out here in 1996, and I saw the tree farm sign but the gate was closed. I was hesitant to walk in because I didn’t know if it was a cemetery,” Daly said.

Daly’s confusion stemmed from the place being known as Hopkins Memorial Tree Farm, a name later changed.

After Daly learned that Hopkins was no cemetery, he began walking there with his dogs. Daly lives just a half mile away on five acres of varied plantings, including fir, red cedar, dogwood and walnut. He was a physician specializing in internal medicine then nuclear and ultra sound medicine at Meridian Park Hospital until retiring in 2005.

Soon after beginning the dog walking, Daly started participating in the monthly Community Forestry Days. In a typical year, he works about half of those days.

“Today I’m dressing a trail made two years ago by a group from Key Bank,” he said in taking a break from smoothing fresh wood chips on the trail. “I enjoy working on a trail. I feel I own a part of it.

“Blazing a trail is tough work. The hard part is hitting rocks when you’re digging. I like to keep trails passable even for elderly folks,” he added.

“I like working here with teenagers. You can use two syllable words with them. Last month I helped Cub Scouts learn to plant trees. It’s best when they’re at least 10 years old to appreciate it.”

Besides volunteering, Daly also visits Hopkins to learn. “It’s great for woodland owners,” he noted. “I’ve learned what time of year to use herbicides, how to drive a tractor, what tools are named. Every time I come here I learn more. Today I learned how to make a compost frame.”

Daly sees other Hopkins values. “It’s a place where the public can get involved to see that trees are renewable and not a relic. They are a God-given crop.”

Hopkins Updates

Youth contribute much during their time at Hopkins Demonstration Forest, and take away valuable life lessons, and sometimes life-changing direction. It used to be simple to explain youth programs that occur at Hopkins. Now maybe it is so complex that no one needs to know any more details than these:

- On almost any day you can see young people learning and doing something at Hopkins.

- The youth appreciate when adults share their skills and knowledge.

- The same four basic rules apply to all youth programs—be safe; be involved, learn one new thing each day; except for your good works—leave no trace.

- You do not need special training to help!

Among the trees...

Last summer’s hot days literally sun burned the cambium of a couple hundred red alder growing in the **Red Alder Demonstration**. Temperature sensors placed in nearby Christmas tree fields recorded the heat within six-inches of the ground at 150-degrees F! Even trees that had survived since our initial planting in 2005 succumbed to the heat of sun beaming directly on their southwest-facing exposures.

We got to thinking about the problem and how red alder grow in thickets in their natural setting. Our current thought is that the trees need shade that is provided when growing in thickets, but not at 8 x 8-foot spacing. To address the sun burn issue, a new plan to plant groups of seedlings, rather than individual seedlings spaced eight-feet apart will be employed. Additional measures such as installing Vexar tubing or shade cards; we may even try white paint applied to the lower bole of seedlings.

As this article goes to press, the last of this year’s red alder are being planted—the fourth time that a significant portion of the Red Alder Demonstration has been replanted. About 600 seedlings were added to the plantation. Through our various “failures” we have learned by doing. Let’s see if this latest tactic to

growing red alder with purpose can provide insight to managing this species in our area.

The **Uneven-age Demonstration** was a busy place this winter and spring. Understory brush clearing in early March was followed by planting 800 Doug-fir, 500 western redcedar, and 240 coast redwood later in the month. To help tell the story of our work in the Uneven-age project, a special grant is funding development of some new exhibits that will appear in the forest later this summer.

Also this summer, additional inventory and survival surveys are planned to involve a group of teachers on summer assignment. Mike Bondi will coordinate this project and can use the help of woodland owners in sharing their forestry skills and knowledge. Like our many young students, the teachers who learn and work alongside us in the forest, value your participation as mentors.

Volunteers come to Hopkins at all ages, as evidenced during the March 13 Community Forestry Day when our youngest and eldest volunteers—and longest serving, were among the 150 people gathered around the lunch fire. Four generations joined in the day’s activities like it was some kind of family reunion. All shared in tree planting in the Uneven-age Demonstration as part of a “celebration of service” promoted by the Oregon City Lion’s and other local service clubs.

Master Gardeners have adopted a plot of ground in the Fire Wise Demonstration that features a native landscape. The purpose is to show that native vegetation can serve multiple functions—drought tolerant, low fire risk, and year ’round aesthetics.

We can always use more people willing to share their skills and knowledge with our community. If you know how to sharpen tools, if you have wood-working or construction skills; or can help with any of the common forestry activities like pruning or tree planting, trail building and erosion control, please include yourself in shaping the future at Hopkins Demonstration Forest. Call 503-632-2150.

Calendar

Community Forestry Days

These family-friendly community events include volunteer projects that vary depending on the season. Lunch is provided for volunteers, followed by a brief topical program, and optional tour. Community Forestry Days begin at 9:00 am; lunch at noon; tour at 2:00 pm. RSVP to 503-632-2150 by the Thursday prior to each CFD if you would like to join our community in the forest.

**May 8 • June 12 • July 10
August 14 • September 11**

- This spring and summer volunteers can
- Help reduce fire hazards around facilities
 - Spruce up public gathering areas
 - Maintain trails
 - Control weeds
 - Repair facilities

Please remember to call 503-632-2150 by the Thursday prior to each CFD if you plan to join us for Community Lunch, or the Tour. Thank You.

Business After Hours

July 15 (5:30-7:00 pm) Join civic and business leaders from Oregon City, West Linn and North Clackamas County Chambers of Commerce for BBQ, beverages and camaraderie in our community forest. The FREE event is family friendly.



Forests Forever turns 20!

September 12 will be the 20th anniversary of Forests Forever's incorporation. Appropriate recognition of that milestone TBD. If you receive this newsletter, you will receive an invitation.



P.O. Box 1320
Oregon City, Oregon 97045

Volunteers Needed

COOKS

We need a team of cooks to prepare the spread for volunteers and guests who come to Community Forestry Day, on the 2nd Saturday each month. We're looking for volunteers who might like to share a special family recipe, or who enjoy preparing a seasonal dish: consider volunteering for the lunch crew at Hopkins. Interested cooks contact Tim DeLano at 503-632-2150.

FOREST HOSTS

Live in your RV at Hopkins Demonstration Forest—our RV pad has full hook-ups. As Host, you will greet many people from the community who visit Hopkins. Hosts perform light duty maintenance and cleaning, and assist guests with current information about the forest and facilities. Hosts are usually "on duty" 20-25 hours per week, for periods of 2 to 4 months at a time. Interested hosts contact Ken Everett at 503-655-5524.

www.demonstrationforest.org

Grouse Hollow News is available online and by email. Send your request for an electronic subscription to info@demonstrationforest.org. The website has images from recent activities at Hopkins, and a list of upcoming activities.