

2023-2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Amanda Staehely PRESIDENT	Columbia Nursery 29490 S. Jackson Road Canby, OR 97013 Wayne@Columbia-Nursery.com 503-263-2623
Todd Nelson PAST-PRESIDENT	Bountiful Farms Nursery Inc. 17280 Boones Ferry Rd. N.E. Woodburn, OR 97071 Info@BountifulFarms.com 503-981-7494
Ben Verhoeven PRESIDENT-ELECT	Peoria Gardens Inc. 32355 Peoria Rd SW Albany, OR 97321 BenV@PeoriaGardens.com 541-753-8519
Darcy Ruef VICE PRESIDENT	Al's Garden & Home 1220 N. Pacific Hwy. Woodburn, OR 97071 DRuef@Al's-GardenCenter.com 503-981-1245
Patrick Newton TREASURER	Powell's Nursery Inc. 5054 SW Boyd Rd. Gaston, OR 97119 PowellNursery@gmail.com 503-357-0631
Jesse Nelson SECRETARY	Hans Nelson & Sons Nursery Inc. 30120 S.E. Waybill Road Boring, OR 97009 JNelson@HansNelson.com 503-663-3348
Chris Robinson MEMBER-AT-LARGE	Robinson Nursery Inc. PO Box 100 Amity, OR 97101 Chris@RobinsonNursery.com 877-855-8733

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patrick Peterson ASSOCIATE MEMBER	Simplot Turf & Horticulture Patrick.Peterson@Simplot.com 541-214-5802
Adam Farley CONTAINER GROWER	Countryside Nursery AFarley@CountrysideNursery.com 503-678-0511
Dave Daniel CONTAINER GROWER	Fall Creek Farm & Nursery Inc DaveD@FallCreekNursery.com 541-937-2973
Blake Nelson CONTAINER GROWER	Bountiful Farms Nursery Inc. Blake@BountifulFarms.com 503-981-7494
Joe Dula FIELD / B&B GROWER	Moana Nursery JoeD@MoanaNursery.com 503-266-8170
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Andrea Avila Aragon GREENHOUSE	Smith Gardens Andrea.Avila-Aragon@ SmithGardens.com 503-678-5373
Tyler Meskers GREENHOUSE	Oregon Flowers Inc. Tyler@OregonFlowers.com 503-678-2580
Gary S. English RETAIL	Landsystems Nursery Gary@LandsystemsNursery.com 541-382-7646

Thanks for the memories

**It is hard for me to believe
that a year has already gone
by since I wrote my first
President's Message. What an
incredible year it was!**

I knew that entering the president's role would be a huge responsibility and would require time away from my nursery and family, but I also knew it would be worth it. It has surpassed my expectations and has only increased my love for this industry.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank a few people who helped me this year.

I couldn't even begin to start this without thanking the best advocate we have for our industry ... Jeff Stone. There is a reason he is thanked time and time again (but still, never enough). He works more hours than I believe is humanly possible and is everywhere all at once.

I will never forget how he missed whitewater rafting for the opportunity for just a few moments to talk to our governor on our behalf. He meets with other agricultural executives as well as other nursery executive directors to make sure we are leading this state and nation as an association. He is constantly bettering our association and therefore our industry.

But perhaps the thing he does best is bring us all together and show us how each and every one of us makes a difference within our association. Big and small, grower or supplier, owner or employee ... we all have a voice that matters. He helps find that voice. Without his support, encouragement, and words of wisdom, this year would never have been as easy as it was.

I am confident that any other person that is involved in any capacity of leadership within the organization feels that support and we are all beyond appreciative of what he does for us.

I want to also thank my family. First, my husband for his dream and the life I get to live every day with him. His determination and love for plants spearheaded this life we have now, and I will never take that for granted. He knows the impor-



Amanda Staehely

tance of the OAN's role for our industry and picked up the extra workload I left while I was busy this year.

And second, my kids. There were so many times that family members or babysitters had to pick them up from school or be with them for a few days while I was out of state. They knew how important this year was for me, and not only understood my absence at times, but were proud of what I was doing.

And finally, I want to thank all of you that have reached out this year. Those of you who reached out and introduced yourselves, called with questions or concerns for the industry, or told me that you read my column every month, I am humbled by the support, trust, and kindness.

Everywhere I turned I was met with the best of people and new friends for life. You all are what made this year so memorable for me and why I love this industry. I look forward to continuing to aid the association as past president next year and am excited to see Ben Verhoeven enter his role as president in November at our annual OAN Convention. He will be a great leader for our association and is truly one of the nicest people I have had the pleasure of knowing.

Our association is set up for the brightest future ahead and I am grateful for the opportunity I had and the beautiful memories I made this past year. Thank you all. ☺