

Giants

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"I've been coming to the Valley of the Giants since I was her age," said Broadus, pointing to his daughter. "It's really cool to see how the forest looked before they started logging — to see the size of the trees before they all got cut."

Look into Oregon history, and there's no shortage of timber downs dotting the state in the early 1900s. Loggers and their families lived, worked and got married in towns owned by the timber company.

Some of the towns, like Valsetz, even had a school, restaurants and bowling alley deep in the Oregon forest.

But Valsetz had something more — a newspaper run by an 11-year-old girl named Dorthy Anne Hobson. She published the *Valsetz Star*, and it put the town on the map.

The paper had a quirky tone — that of a precocious girl growing up in a timber town. It was sent out each month to a pretty amazing list of subscribers, including Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, Herbert Hoover and even Shirley Temple. It was read on-air at radio stations across the country. It was a national story, about this tiny town tucked into the misty mountains of Oregon's Coast Range.

The town lasted a long time — more than 64 years — before folding for good in 1984.



A 1.6 mile trail leads through the Valley of the Giants.
ZACH URNESS/STATESMAN JOURNAL

Salem barber, and World War II vet saves the Giants

The location of Valsetz raises an interesting question.

In an area known for logging, how, exactly, did the Valley of the Giants remain intact?

The answer actually lies with a longtime resident of Salem.

Maynard Drawson, a veteran of World War II and a barber by trade, first visited the Valley of the Giants in 1974. He was

struck by the gigantic trees and horrified by the reality that they would eventually be cut.

Drawson led the charge to preserve the trees, eventually wearing down the Bureau of Land Management, and getting them to protect the Giants within a 51-acre Outstanding Natural Area, now free from the axe.

"Maynard organized more field trips, gave lectures, and made TV and radio appearances talking about the Valley of the Giants," wrote Madeline MacGregor for Oregon Travel Experience. "Maynard was instrumental in helping to save some of Oregon's most important trees."

Drawson would eventually help launch the Oregon Heritage Tree Program and after his death in 2012, an Oregon white oak was planted in his honor on the grounds of the Oregon Department of Forestry.

Today the Giants are recognized for the rich collection of wildlife they support. Oregon State University conducts research here on a regular basis.

"That the trees are still here is I think the best memorial to Maynard," said his son, Mark. "That's the thing he would have been happiest about, that another generation of kids could see these trees."

On the misty morning that I visited, with Broadus and his daughter walking among the giants, Drawson's dream was being fulfilled.

"It's definitely cool to be showing her a place I visited at the same age," he said. "Hopefully, when she's old enough to remember, she'll have the chance to come back here, too."

Journey and destination

A trip to the Valley of the Giants is best viewed as two different adventures: the journey and destination.

Because the drive requires four and a half hours round-trip from Salem, it makes sense to enjoy the sites along the way.

The trip begins in earnest from the town of Falls City. A paved road soon turns to gravel and you're off into the mountains, passing large clearcuts on private timber land that gives you a sense of just how lucky the Giants were to escape.

A locked gate marks the former site of Valsetz, but there isn't much to see here beyond a filled-in lakebed that's become a marsh between the mountains.

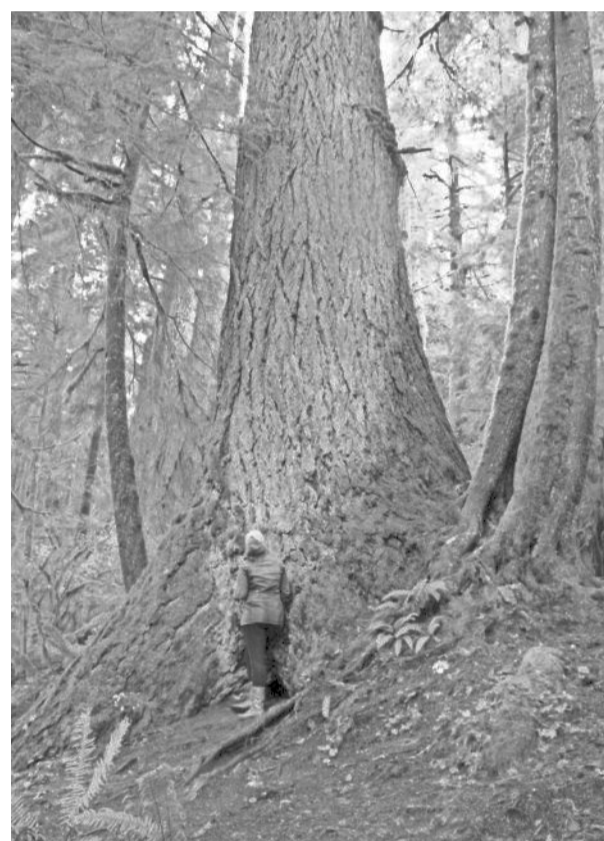
The route becomes most scenic, and most confusing, beyond Valsetz.

Numerous road junctions make you glad to have the BLM map and directions, while the blueish-green color of the upper forks of the Siletz River and numerous waterfalls provide scenic encouragement.

Finally, on the trail — though not for long

At long last, the Valley of the Giants Trailhead arrives on the right, marked by a sign and parking area, and the easy 1.6-mile trail begins. A footbridge across the river is gateway into the Valley of the Giants proper, a place where trees sprout like skyscrapers and threatened marbled murrelets roost in June.

The forest here gets more than 200 inches of



Massive trees dwarf people in the Valley of the Giants. ZACH URNESS/STATESMAN JOURNAL

rain each year, and it shows. Moss, lichen and mushrooms carpet massive lumps of fallen trees, which stretch across the ground the size of bridges.

It would be easy to spend an eternity in these woods, inspecting every plant and flower. But the long drive home awaits, and woe to the person who traverses those roads in darkness.

And so you head back up the trail, afternoon sunlight streaming in through the trees and find yourself once again transforming into a 6-year-old child, only this time with a different lament: "I don't want to go home ..."

Zach Urness has been an outdoors reporter, photographer and videographer in Oregon for 12 years. Urness is the

author of "Best Hikes with Kids: Oregon" and "Hiking Southern Oregon." He can be reached at zurness@statesmanjournal.com or (503) 399-6801. Find him on Twitter at @ZachsORoutdoors.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Review Body: Planning Commission
Hearing Date & Time: June 9, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

Hearing Location: Teleconference meeting via Zoom with a telephone call in number. Due to Executive Orders 20-25 and 20-16, the Planning Commission shall hold public hearings by telephone, video, or through some other electronic or virtual means, whenever possible. The instructions to listen to or virtually attend the meeting will be included in the Planning Commission meeting agenda which will be posted on the City's website and outside of City Hall, 306 S Water Street, on June 2, 2020. This will include a hyperlink to the meeting and a call in number to participate by telephone.

Agenda Item #1: File Number VR-20-02. The property owner intends to convert an existing accessory structure to an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) with a variance to the rear yard setback to allow a 14' setback to an ADU where 20' is the minimum for an ADU at 507 Norway Street. Located on the western side Norway Street between Liberty Street and Bartlett Street; Marion County Assessor's Map 061W26CD Tax Lot 03900. The application will be reviewed following the criteria found in Silverton Development Code section 5.1.700.

Agenda Item #2: File Number CP-20-01. Hold a public hearing and consider a recommendation to forward to City Council on a Housing Needs Analysis and Housing Strategy as a support document to the Silverton Comprehensive Plan. The application will be reviewed following the criteria found in Silverton Development Code section 4.12.400.

Failure of an issue to be raised in a hearing, in person or by letter, or failure to provide enough detail to afford the decision maker an opportunity to respond precludes appeal to LUBA based on that issue. Additional information and/or review of this application, including all documents and evidence submitted, may be obtained at Silverton City Hall, 306 South Water Street by telephoning Jason Gottgetreu at (503) 874-2212. Copies of the staff report will be available seven (7) days prior to the public hearing and are available for review at no cost at City Hall by appointment, a copy can be provided on request at a reasonable cost.

Silverton Appeal
May 27, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE CORRECTION

The date of the Budget meeting has changed. The Budget Meeting will be JUNE 2, 2020 AT 7:00 PM not June 3rd as previously stated on May 20, 2020.
May 27, 2020
Silverton Appeal

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LEGAL/PUBLIC NOTICE DEADLINES

All Legals Deadline @ 1:00 p.m. on all days listed below:
***All Deadlines are subject to change when there is a Holiday.

The Silverton Appeal Tribune is a one day a week (Wednesday) only publication

- Wednesday publication deadlines the Wednesday prior

LEGAL/PUBLIC NOTICE RATES

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- Affidavit Fee - \$10.00 per Affidavit requested



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is proportional to that of the ruler, the length of which you know.

Ergo, you can calculate the height of the utility pole.

Substituting for the height of the woodpecker hole above the ground where the pole it most likely to snap, you can guesstimate — roughly, since the pole isn't exactly perpendicular to the ground — what's going to be taken out if it falls toward the house.

By my admittedly rudimentary, back-of-the-envelope calculations, the house probably is out of range. But it could take out the fence and the Fuji apple tree.

This is known as worst-case over-thinking during stressful times.

In reality, everything is probably fine; it's just a case of corona paranoia, call it corona paranoia.

There's a lot of that going around of late.

And admittedly the flicker nest is becoming something of a neighborhood conversation piece.

Lucky us.

Ah, nature!

Quote of the week: Politicians and lawyers don't fish seem to me to be a tragic waste of experienced, highly qualified liars - Henry

You can contact me via email at HenryMillerSJ@gmail.com