

# Evergreen

AN UPDATE FOR FRIENDS OF THE WORLD FORESTRY CENTER



WORLD  
FORESTRY  
CENTER

AUGUST 2019

## LEADERSHIP HALL SPOTLIGHT

### 2019 Inductee Announcement

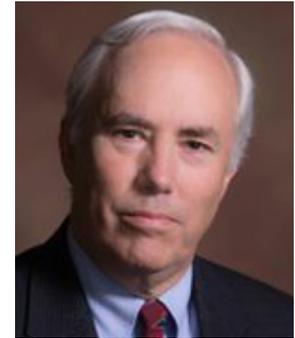
**We are pleased to announce the formal induction of Richard “Rick” H. Wollenberg into the Forestry Leadership Hall.**

As the third-generation of the Wollenberg family to work in the forest industry, Rick Wollenberg continued the legacy that his grandfather, Harry L. Wollenberg, helped start in 1926 with the establishment of Longview Fibre Company in Longview, Washington. Over its eighty-one years, the company grew to manage 589,000 acres of forestland and employ 1,700 local workers. Not only did Longview Fibre Company become part of the Wollenberg family, it became part of the community’s core.

Rick received a J.D. from Willamette University and after graduation, he practiced law for ten years in Sitka, Alaska. In 1988, Rick returned to join Longview Fibre Company as its general counsel. Five years later, Rick transitioned to a management role as head of production for the Western Corrugated Container Division. In 2001, he succeeded his father, Richard “Dick” P. Wollenberg, as president. In 2007, the company’s board accepted Brookfield’s offer to purchase the company. During his tenure as president, Rick oversaw a REIT conversion, a special distribution of cash and stock, and the sale of the company which generated five times the 2001 stock value held by company shareholders.

As a supporter of the World Forestry Center, you likely already know of Rick’s long, rewarding relationship through his service as a board member (2001-2016) and treasurer (2006-2016), in his current role on the Advisory Council. Today, Rick remains active on several nonprofit boards, including The Wollenberg Foundation, Community Foundation for Southwest Washington, Peace Health St. John Medical Center, and Reed College (his alma mater).

Rick is joining his father and grandfather, as well as business partners, Robert S. Wertheimer and Robert E. Wertheimer, in the Leadership Hall. We hope you will join us in honoring Rick by making a contribution to assure Rick his proper place among our celebrated leaders. ❁



*Richard “Rick” H. Wollenberg  
Forestry Leadership Hall Inductee*

#### ***Donations in honor of Rick Wollenberg:***

*Elizabeth & Hunt Burdick*

*Amy Hilmer*

*John Warjone*

*Charlie Wertheimer*

*Kathleen Wertheimer*

*Carol Wollenberg*

*David A. Wollenberg*

*Keith Wollenberg*

*The Wollenberg Foundation*

Thank you to those who have already supported Rick’s induction into the Forestry Leadership Hall. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Merrit Thompson, Development and Community Relations Manager at 503-488-2122 or [mthompson@worldforestry.org](mailto:mthompson@worldforestry.org).

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



*Joseph A. Furia*  
Executive Director

### Reflecting on the "why"

It is not often in one's life that you are asked "why"? It is generally the most important question, but it is also the most difficult to answer. For me, answering "why" has been more commonplace as of late for three reasons: First, I recently lost my father and, in the writing of the eulogy, "why" was the key to understanding his career and legacy. Second, "why" has become the favorite refrain of my two-year-old son. And, third, in my first year at the World Forestry Center, I am still meeting new people who ask me "why" I came to work here.

The answers to this triad of existential inquiries are connected. They are also central to our work.

At the World Forestry Center, we believe that a future where society values and takes action to support the economic, social, and ecological benefits of forests means a healthier and happier world. My father, throughout his career at for-profits, non-profits, and government agencies, left a legacy of thoughtful stewardship of natural resources. Like my father, I want to leave the world a better place for my son. That is why I came to the World Forestry Center – to create a more sustainable forestry future. That's the "why." Now, for an update on the "who" and the "how."

In May, we added a new Director of Philanthropy, Rick Zurow, who holds an MBA from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. Rick brings 25 years of experience in fundraising, financial planning, and partnership development from the Oregon Zoo Foundation, University of Arizona, Portland Community College Foundation, and the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation. In July, we brought on a new Director of Communications, Tyler Quinn. A Dartmouth – grad, Tyler brings a background in communications, public relations, and design from the world's largest advertising agency network, BBDO, the entertainment industry, and our neighbors in Washington Park, Portland Japanese Garden.

As wildfire season gets underway in earnest in Oregon, we are focused on the sustainability of our wildfire management systems because we believe they are central to the sustainability of our forests. Earlier this year, I began serving as the Chair of the Mitigation Committee for the Oregon Governor's Wildfire Response Council. Created by the Governor's Executive Order, this group is charged with examining the sustainability of the state's models for wildfire prevention, preparedness, and response, and if found lacking, develop recommendations to strengthen, improve, or replace existing systems. We have hosted two Council meetings, several Committee meetings, and a few work group meetings at the World Forestry Center. We will no doubt be focused on this important issue long after this fire season.

Stay tuned over the coming months as we continue to strengthen our programming and expand our impact. 🌱



## *The World Forestry Center to host Governor's Council on Wildfire Response and Recommendations*

**On January 30, 2019, Oregon Governor Kate Brown signed an executive order creating the Governor's Council on Wildfire Response.**

The Council is tasked to review Oregon's current model for wildfire prevention, preparedness, and response, analyzing whether or not the current model is sustainable given our increasing wildfire risks.

Topics to be considered include, but are not limited to:

- › Funding for wildfire response
- › Response to fires on protected, under-protected, and unprotected lands
- › Wildfire smoke
- › Assisting communities affected by wildfires
- › Prevention, treatment and cost containment of wildfires

Council members have been appointed to participate in one of three subcommittees:

### **Suppression**

The Fire Suppression Committee is charged with evaluating Oregon's coordinated fire suppression response structure and protocol while anticipating a significant increase in complexity and severity of fire seasons. Key findings of this Committee will include evaluation of Oregon's fire response funding structure as well as protection responsibilities and resource coordination amongst state and federal partners across Oregon.

### **Mitigation**

The Mitigation Committee will develop and recommend priority fire prone areas to the state for restoration based on high-level priorities set by the Council. The Committee will also make recommendations regarding the process necessary to evaluate geographical



areas of focus, target limited resources, and to develop the public-private partnership needed to maximize beneficial impacts of forest restoration on human and natural system health.

### **Recovery**

The Adaptation and Recovery Committee will examine and report on three key areas: the impacts of wildfire on public health, the relationship between land use and the risks of catastrophic wildfire, and Oregon's disaster response capabilities, including how communities prepare for and recover from wildfire.

If the Council finds, after review, that some or all of the current models are not sufficient to ensure Oregon is prepared for increasingly severe wildfire seasons, the Council has been asked to develop recommendations to strengthen, improve, or replace existing systems, and to implement its findings. The recommendations shall be presented to the Governor no later than September 30, 2019.

In March, the World Forestry Center hosted Governor Brown in Miller Hall for the first meeting of the Wildfire Council. This September, she will return to the WFC for the Council's presentation of its findings and recommendations. ❖

## *Fellows' Lessons in Sawmill Operation, Agroforestry, and Redwoods Restoration*



Earlier this year, the International Fellows toured Northern California for a diverse look at natural resource processing and management. They visited one of the only remaining vertically-integrated forest products companies on the West Coast, a vineyard owned by a longtime-supporter of the International Fellowship Program, and the Redwood National and State Parks.

The Fellows first stop was at one of Sierra Pacific Industries' innovative sawmills. The tour explained many of the ways the company strives for efficiency. Two shifts allow for twenty hours of daily operation. A cogeneration plant converts wood byproducts into electricity. Finally, staff have the capacity to develop processing equipment which allows the mill to be technologically self-sufficient.

Traveling south, the Fellows visited the Merlo family vineyard, which has been managed by the family for forty years. Originally it was managed to produce timber, but now the family manages the property to produce grapes for its wine business. The owner, Harry Merlo, Jr., gave a tour to the Fellows, program staff, and Executive Director Joe Furia. Harry provided a lesson in vineyard management, which he sees as a collaboration between agriculture, forestry, and responsible land stewardship. He described managing his land as a "lifestyle occupation" and cannot imagine doing anything better for a living. Harry even provided a lesson in ranch ingenuity by demonstrating how to free the WFC van from the mud.

The Fellows ended the trip in the redwood forest learning about redwoods restoration from the National Park Service. Fellows toured multiple sites where ecologically-driven thinning was used to manipulate vegetation composition and structure. The goal of this type of thinning is to promote more uneven-aged stand composition and spatial distribution for redwoods repopulation. ❁



**TOP LEFT:**  
*The fellows and program staff at Sierra Pacific.*

**TOP RIGHT:**  
*Harry Merlo, Jr. speaking to the Fellows and WFC staff on his family owned vineyard.*

**BOTTOM:**  
*Fellows in the Redwood National and State Parks.*

## NOTEABLE & NEWSWORTHY

### *Oregon-China Council Delegation Visits Mass Timber Exhibit*

We were thrilled open our doors early on July 12 for special visitors from China's Guanyun County, Jiangsu Province. Led by the Vice President of the Oregon-China Council, Ms. Charlotte Christensen, the delegation included: Mr. Zuo Jun, Secretary, Guanyun County; Mr. Chen Xinhong, Deputy County Magistrate, and Mr. Kuanyu Feng, General Manager of Jiangsu Kolod Food. Rick Zenn, our Senior Fellow, welcomed the group and guided them through the museum and *The Future of Tall* exhibit showcasing Oregon's growing Mass Timber manufacturing and building sector. Our current Fellow from China, Mr. Zhouyuan Ding from the Chinese Academy of Forestry in Beijing, joined the tour. The group was impressed with the exhibit and the Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) components on display. ❀



## EVENTS RECAP



Event sponsors included the Oregon Forest Resources Institute, U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station, Friends of Trees, Hopworks Urban Brewery, and the Heathman Hotel.

### *On Fire: Hagenstein Lectures Pop Up Event Sells Out*

On May 2, the WFC was honored to host John N. Maclean, thirty-year reporter with the Chicago Tribune and author of *Fire on the Mountain*, *Fire and Ashes*, and *River of Fire*, for an important discussion about wildfire and wildland firefighting in the American West. On stage in Miller Hall with Maclean was Doug Decker, member of the Advisory Council of the WFC, retired Oregon State Forester, and Chair of the Forest History Society.

For ninety minutes, Decker led Maclean through a lively, fascinating, and intimate conversation on writing, western landscapes, fire, and the challenges that he faced covering the tragic deaths of firefighters. "I wanted the kids who go out there and fight fire, and who never read books, to read this one. . . . And, wake up to what can happen to you," Maclean said, referring to his work on the 1949 Mann Gulch Fire which killed 13 firefighters. In addition to discussing Maclean's books, topics included leadership, improving situational awareness, climate change, and the growing risk of large scale megafires.

The World Forestry Center established The Hagenstein Lectures to honor the memory of professional forester William D. Hagenstein. This special "pop up" event is a new addition to the series presented by the WFC and Society of American Foresters. ❀

The next Hagenstein Lectures program will be the 4th annual Emerging Voices in Forestry program at the WFC on Sunday, October 20, from 1-5pm. [More information at hagensteinlectures.org.](http://hagensteinlectures.org)

## NOTABLE & NEWSWORTHY

# *The World Forestry Center announces new Director of Communications, Tyler Quinn*



**Tyler Quinn**  
*Director of Communications*  
tquinn@worldforestry.org  
503-488-2128

Please join us in welcoming Tyler Quinn to the WFC. Tyler was most recently the Senior Marketing Manager at Portland Japanese Garden where he oversaw the Garden's marketing and brand identity, including a 2017 rebranding. Tyler also worked closely with the Garden's development staff on communications during their \$37 million Capital Campaign.

Originally from the Pacific Northwest, Tyler spent nearly a decade on the East Coast. After attending Dartmouth College he went to work in advertising at BBDO New York, managing accounts for Gillette and Dove Chocolate. He then crossed over to the entertainment sector: First, as an NBCUniversal Page—where he helped to market and promote MSNBC, the SyFy network, and *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon* – and later in publicity for films.

We are excited to have Tyler on board to guide our communications and marketing efforts as we shape a more sustainable forestry future.

### *Contact us*



**Rick Zurow**  
*Director of Philanthropy*  
rzurow@worldforestry.org  
503-488-2111



**Merrit Thompson**  
*Development Manager*  
mthompson@worldforestry.org  
503-488-2122



**Joseph A. Furia**  
*Executive Director*  
jfuria@worldforestry.org  
503-488-2119



**Sara Wu**  
*Deputy Director*  
swu@worldforestry.org  
503-488-2130

# 2019 Donors

January 1 through July 31, 2019

**Moving Day is coming!** Our printed Evergreen donor list will soon be migrating to the World Forestry Center's website. We've heard from many of you that you'd rather see this space used for discussion of substantive issues and the World Forestry Center programs, activities, and impact.

We want to express our appreciation for the longstanding support from each and every one of you. We invite you to visit our website ([worldforestry.org](http://worldforestry.org)) to see your name listed among our supporters.

## **GIFTS OF \$100,000 +**

Harry A. Merlo Foundation

## **GIFTS OF \$10,000 – \$99,999**

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## **RICHARD "RICK" H. WOLLENBERG: FORESTRY LEADERSHIP HALL INDUCTION**

See page 1 for donor list

## **WHO WILL OWN THE FOREST**

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## **WHO WILL OWN THE FOREST**

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## **SPONSOR: COMMUNITY FREE DAY AT THE WFC DISCOVERY MUSEUM**

Columbia Bank

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*in memory of B.P. John*

Tal and Dana Litvin  
*in memory of Ursula Mayclin Melvin*

Angela May  
*in memory of Mike (Craig) Jennings*

Cindy Magness  
*in memory of Howard and Panzy Magness*

Madeleine and Frank Torresy  
*in memory of Prudence Miller - Grandchildren's Garden, Miller Hall*

## **GRANDCHILDREN'S GARDEN, MILLER HALL (2019 GIFTS)**

Melissa McCloud Lilley

Sarah Miller Meigs & Andrew Meigs

Andrew W. Miller

Stimson Lumber Company

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*We have made every effort to include all donors from 2019. Please notify Merrit Thompson ([mthompson@worldforestry.org](mailto:mthompson@worldforestry.org)) of any changes so that we can update our records.*

## Proposed Changes to IRA Up for Vote in U.S. Senate



Rick Zurow  
Director of Philanthropy

On May 23, the House of Representatives passed a bill with widespread bipartisan support known as the SECURE ACT (Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement), which simplifies the IRA rules and gives your savings a little more time to grow tax-deferred. If the Senate passes this bill, it will be the first major legislation affecting retirement plans in more than a decade.

### Current Law

#### Traditional IRAs – The benefits to opening an account

In planning for retirement, many Americans establish and contribute to their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). By doing this, the taxpayer:

- › Receives an upfront tax deduction, which is used to reduce their tax liability in that tax year; and
- › Enjoys tax-free compounding. Money accumulates more quickly than in a taxable account due to no taxation on the interest income and capital gains generated within the IRA.

#### The Flip Side – Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) and Tax Treatment

Of course, the U.S. Government wants to eventually collect taxes on this money, so it made the following rule:

- › Withdrawals (RMDs) must start in the year when the taxpayer reaches age 70 ½.

The exception to this rule is called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). If a taxpayer chooses to direct an IRA distribution to one or more 501(c)3 charitable organizations, those funds are not taxed.

#### GIVING UNDER TODAY'S LAW

*Taxpayers may give charities like the WFC up to \$100,000 per year from their IRA(s) and not be taxed.*

### Legislation Under Consideration by Congress

#### Possible Changes to RMD – Age 72 vs 70 ½ and allowing taxpayer contributions beyond initial RMD age

The SECURE ACT would raise the RMD age to 72 and allow every taxpayer, regardless of age, who has earned income to contribute to their traditional IRAs. (The current rule says anyone 70 ½ and older who earns income may not contribute to a traditional IRA). This is good news for the growing number of taxpayers who are working well into their 70s.

#### GIVE TAX-FREE

*Have your IRA administrator send your Required Minimum Distribution to the WFC and you will not pay taxes.*

#### Stretch IRAs undergo Retraction – Proposed 10-year Account limit

This SECURE ACT also includes a provision that would require children and other non-spouse beneficiaries to withdraw money from an inherited IRA within 10 years. At this time, those beneficiaries can spread withdrawals over their life expectancy and stretch out taxes on the money (spouses can roll an inherited IRA into their own IRA and delay withdrawals until they take RMDs).

#### OFFSET HIGHER INCOME TAX

*To offset the higher taxes caused by a shortened payout window, consider making untaxed donations from IRA distributions to the WFC. ❖*