

# Evergreen

AN UPDATE FOR FRIENDS OF THE WORLD FORESTRY CENTER



JUNE 2017

## LEADERSHIP HALL SPOTLIGHT

# Gala Honors Forestry Leadership Hall Inductees



Bernie Albers with Shadia Duery, World Forest Institute Fellowship Program Manager, and Hebe Carus, International Fellow from Scotland.  
PHOTO: WASIM MUKLASHY PHOTOGRAPHY

**WINGS ~ WHEELS ~ WHISKEY, honoring our 210 distinguished Inductees of the Forestry Leadership Hall, was a magical evening of celebration.**

Thank you to our supporters, sponsors, and guests for making the April 8 event a magical celebration. A very special thanks to Honorary Chair Flo Newton Merlo for hosting the Gala in the Global Aviation Hangar and to our Presenting Sponsor: The Harold & Arlene Schnitzer CARE Foundation and Arlene Schnitzer and Jordan Schnitzer. The remarkable success of this event will further our efforts to create and inspire champions of sustainable forestry. ❖

## HIGHLIGHTS

- › All 210 biographies of the Forestry Leadership Hall were on display for guests to read.
- › TESLA thrilled many of our guests with the experience of a 0-60 mph acceleration ride that took less than three seconds; Big Bottom Distilling donated mixologists to create specialty cocktails for the evening; and Pepe and the Bottle Blondes got the crowd moving with their live music performance.
- › Funds raised went to support the World Forest Institute International Fellowship Program.

WORDS FROM

## *Jennifer Allen, Board Chair*

AT WINGS - WHEELS - WHISKEY GALA



JENNIFER ALLEN  
*Board Chair of the  
World Forestry Center,  
Associate Professor in the  
Mark O. Hatfield School  
of Government at  
Portland State University*

This event recognizes those who have been inducted into the World Forestry Center Leadership Hall. These individuals represent a long legacy of leadership in the forest sector and have laid a strong foundation for sustainable forestry in the region and beyond.

The World Forestry Center recently reorganized its board and is making a pivot toward an expanded role in creating and supporting the champions of sustainable forestry. We want to play a central role in addressing some of the most difficult challenges facing us today.

The challenges we face in the forest sector echo those faced by our communities more broadly. Here in this region and across the world, there are increasing pressures on natural resources due to population growth, poverty, land conversion decisions, climate change, and other factors. Rural communities continue to struggle to find sustainable economic strategies that will allow them to succeed and thrive. Regardless of your political stripe, I think we can all agree we are facing an increasingly divisive and fragmented political climate at many levels. The endangered species that I am most concerned about these days is civil discourse – the ability to engage respectfully and constructively with those who hold different views from our own.

We want to cultivate champions who can envision innovative solutions, who can bridge differences, who can effectively engage with partners from different sectors. We want to help create the platforms where diverse leaders can come together to find common ground and work together toward a more sustainable world for all of us.

Those celebrated in the Leadership Hall have been forest sector champions for more than 100 years and have paved the way for this work. Congratulations again to this year's Leadership Hall Inductees.



NOTEABLE & NEWSWORTHY

## *World Forest Institute International Fellowship Program*

The International Fellowship Program seeks to advance forest management, professional networking, and knowledge exchange by showcasing Northwest forests and forestry practices.

Over 130 Fellows from more than 40 countries have participated in this program over the past two decades. The Fellows' combined accomplishments serve as a major legacy that the World Forestry Center has built. By providing opportunities for these Fellows, we are championing the concept of working forests both here and abroad.

In 2016, the Harry A. Merlo Foundation committed to another 10-year, \$1.25 million matching grant for the Fellowship Program. We hope you will continue to make a difference for the future of forestry by matching the Harry A. Merlo Foundation's grant and thereby ensuring continuity of funding for this program. A sincere thanks to those who have already acted on our request to support the International Fellowship Program. ❁



SPOTLIGHT



Special thanks to **Cascade Hardwood Group** for their \$60,000 donation to the World Forest Institute International Fellowship Program match program.

Cascade Hardwood Group started over 50 years ago at the Cascade mill with just five employees, excellent log supply resources, and extensive experience in the forest products industry. Today, Cascade Hardwood and Port Angeles Hardwood are thriving companies that provide high quality alder, ash and maple hardwood lumber for the furniture and cabinet industries worldwide. Cascade Hardwood Group is committed to a healthy sustainable hardwood market and is Mixed Source Certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

NOTEABLE & NEWSWORTHY

*Fellows visit Vanport International, Inc.,  
and Vanport Manufacturing, Inc.*

On May 11, the World Forest Institute (WFI) International Fellows were treated to an inspiring visit to the headquarters of Vanport International, Inc. and Vanport Manufacturing, Inc., an Oregon company specializing in wood products for the Japanese and Asian markets.



*World Forest Institute Fellows join Vanport's Adolf Hertrich on a facility tour in Boring, Oregon.*

PHOTO: WASIM MUKLASHY  
PHOTOGRAPHY

Hosted by Vanport's founder and Chairman of the Board Adolf Hertrich, the Fellows learned about the company's history and evolution. While touring their facility in Boring, Ore., they were able to see first-hand the forest products that are trading in the global market.

“To build a successful business, it is not only important to provide a quality product, but also to understand closely and value the culture of your customers,” concluded Nepali Fellow Binod Heyojoo. This was one of the important themes of the day as the Fellows learned about trade relationships between Japan and the U.S. and their differences in measuring systems and quality standards. Indeed, the tour of their beautiful onsite Japanese Teahouse perfectly exemplified Vanport’s commitment to successful international relationships. All the Fellows appreciated Adolf’s determination to study and learn about Japanese culture and his longstanding emphasis on the high quality of his products. Many thanks to Adolf and his team at Vanport for sharing their knowledge, expertise, and the joy of their work with the WFI Fellows! ❖



Top: Ryan J. Hatch, Property Development and Construction Manager, Vanport Manufacturing Inc., shows World Forest Institute Fellows one of three prototype homes built with Post and Beam/Stick-Frame hybrid construction in Sandy, Oregon

Bottom: World Forest Institute Fellows with Vanport’s Adolf Hertrich in front of Vanport’s Japanese Teahouse  
PHOTOS: WASIM MUKLASHY PHOTOGRAPHY

**UPCOMING EVENT**

**When Small is Big: Forest Initiatives Around the Globe**

We are excited to announce that Vanport will sponsor *When Small is Big: Forest Initiatives Around the Globe*, an event featuring the 2017 World Forest Institute Fellows. We hope you will join us **Wednesday, July 19 from 8:00 – 1:00 pm in Cheatham Hall**. Please see enclosed flyer. ❖



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Malaysia

## NOTEABLE & NEWSWORTHY



*Warren C. Jimerson  
1931-1989  
Forestry Leadership Hall Inductee*

### *The Legacy of Warren Jimerson*

**Warren C. Jimerson, a World Forestry Center Leadership Hall Inductee, always believed in the whole tree concept.**

Warren served as president of Contact International, a company that specialized in developing products and markets using low-grade wood that otherwise would have been thrown away. “When you use a tree, use all of it that you possibly can.” With these words, Warren passed along a strong and enduring legacy of leadership in the forest products industry.



*Lee Jimerson*

Warren died in 1989, but the Jimerson family’s influence continues to run deep in the industry to this day. His father, C.L. Jimerson, was a sales manager at several sawmills, including Algoma, near Klamath Falls. Warren’s brother, Jack, installed and sold a variety of forest product milling operations in Mexico over the course of his long career. In turn, Jack’s son, Jim, has a kiln drying and heat treating operation and buys and sells forest products in El Paso, Texas. Even Warren’s grandson, Jesse Jimerson, has worked as a summer intern at Collins, a privately owned forest products company, assisting with environmental reporting and marketing.



*Bob Jimerson*

Warren and his wife Lucile had two sons. Both graduated from Oregon State University and went on to pursue their own careers in the forest products industry. For over 20 years their oldest son, Bob, worked for JELD-WEN, the window and door manufacturer, in production, domestic and international sales, and marketing. Their youngest son, Lee, began working with Warren at Contact International straight out of college. Starting out as a lumber grader in the Philippines, he went on to help expand the company’s purchasing network in Malaysia, Indonesia, and China, overseeing quality control, purchasing, and the development of new suppliers. Contact International’s “whole log” buying concept, in which they found a home for each and every piece of lumber coming out of a sawmill, necessitated working with the mills every step of the way from forest to finished product. In the forests of South East Asia, Lee witnessed the good, the bad, and the ugly outcomes in terms of forestry practices. This led him to seek suppliers who, based

on their location and their commitment to sustainability, would be conscientious stewards of their forests. In the early 1990s, Lee also served as the U.S. industry representative to the International Tropical Timber Organization where he provided guidance and insight to projects promoting improved forest management in the tropics.

For the last 19 years, Lee has worked in sales and marketing for Collins, which is based in Oregon and owns over 300,000 acres of timberland in Oregon, California, and Pennsylvania. He was attracted to Collins largely because they were the first privately held U.S. company to get their timberlands certified by the Forest Stewardship Council. That was back in the 1990s, and it is just this kind of commitment to sustainability and transparency that still drives Lee's passion to promote modern forestry practice--not just at Collins, but also within the forest products industry at large.

Warren Jimerson and his two sons incorporated their enthusiasm for trees into their private lives as well. Perhaps it started as a hobby, but together they planted about 20,000 Douglas-fir trees on the family farm that is set on 57 acres along the Nehalem River in the Oregon Coast Range. In 1987, when the World Forestry Center's Merlo Hall was being built, Warren generously donated some of the exotic wood from around the world that can be found in the paneling installed on the office walls.

We will always be indebted to Warren, his children, and his extended family for their pioneering dedication to best practices in the utilization of our forests for wood products. Their efforts continue to remind us that we must, above all, assume responsibility for the health and endurance of the world's forests and for the efficient use of the resources they bequeath to us. ♦



*Top: From left to right—  
Lucile Jimerson, Lee Jimerson,  
Jesse Jimerson, Bob Jimerson*

*Bottom: From left to right—  
Lee Jimerson, Lucile Jimerson,  
Bob Jimerson, Warren Jimerson*

# Donors

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*In Honor of T. Andrew Priebe*  
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*We have made every effort to include all donors from 2017. Please notify Wendy Mitchell of any changes so that we can correct our records. [wmitchell@worldforestry.org](mailto:wmitchell@worldforestry.org). Thank you.*

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