

Grove Dedication Makes Lasting Valentine's Day Gift

You may celebrate Valentine's Day with chocolates or a bouquet of red roses. But in 2011, Piedmont, California, attorney Cameron Wolfe gave his wife, Fran, something much bigger: He worked with Save the Redwoods League to establish the Fran B. Wolfe redwood grove in Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park.

The Wolfe family's affection for redwoods goes way back. Cameron's grandmother Winifred Brown helped win protection for the Garden Club of America Grove in Humboldt Redwoods State Park. His aunt "Winnie" Brown Bell was chair of the Garden Club's redwoods committee and on the Board of Councillors of Save the Redwoods League. A redwood grove near Pepperwood, California, honors Bell.

Later Fran became a redwood defender in her own right. Heir to Winnie's photo collection, she traveled all over the United States entertaining and enlightening Garden Club members with a talk "An Historical and Hysterical Look at the Garden Club of America Redwood Grove." Instead of charging a fee, she encouraged clubs to make donations to Save the Redwoods League. "The more she did, the keener we got on the grove program," Cameron said.

In the fall of 2010, Fran was diagnosed with breast cancer. Surgery and radiation ensued in December. That's when Cameron decided it was time to act on an idea he'd been toying with. He called the League and made secret arrangements for a grove dedication.

On Valentine's Day, "I gave her a card saying that her gift was going to be creation of her own redwood grove," Cameron said. "As soon as she was well enough, we would have the fun of picking it out."

Fran was thrilled. And Cameron has the glow of someone who found the perfect gift. "It lifted her spirits even more than I thought it might," he said. "It gave her the incentive to bounce back." 🌲

Learn more on page 2 about the Garden Club of America grove. You can dedicate a redwood grove by contacting Megan Ferreira at (415) 820-5809 or mferreira@SaveTheRedwoods.org, or return the attached envelope.



Fran Wolfe and her husband Cameron Wolfe enjoy the grove he dedicated to her in Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park.

Benefits of Club's Grove Dedication 'Reach into Future'

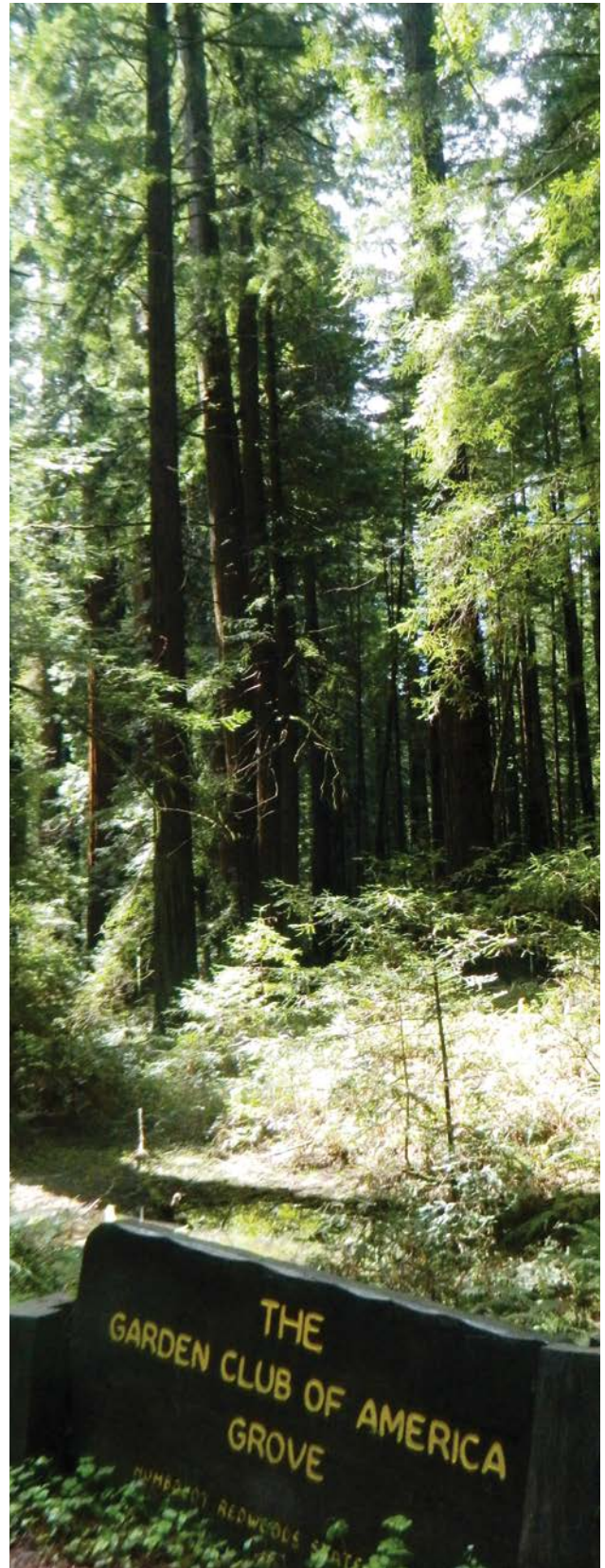
In wild Humboldt County lives a magical, lush forest of ancient redwoods so gigantic they overwhelm the mind with wonder. This place is the home of the largest contiguous old-growth redwood forest in the world, 53,000-acre Humboldt Redwoods State Park, created by Save the Redwoods League members like you. It's fitting that this site of superlatives also encloses the state park system's third-largest grove, dedicated through the League's honor and memorial grove program in 1934.

A Garden Club newsletter from that year describes the grove as "a cathedral of greater majesty than any built by the hand of man." The dedication, the story continues, was a "great undertaking, one which reaches into the future for the benefit of untold generations to follow."

The Garden Club of America Grove has grown to more than 5,130 acres, thanks to thousands of Club members from across the country and a unique partnership with the League and California State Parks. As the Garden Club of America's first national conservation effort, the Club generously stepped up to cover half the cost of the initial land acquisition and additions to the grove over the next few decades.

We're grateful for contributions like this from people like you, who believe there are places that are so special that they are worth saving.

Garden Clubs and individual members still contribute to the Garden Club of America Grove Fund to this day. You may support the grove by sending your gift to Save the Redwoods League, 114 Sansome Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94104. Please note that it is for the "Garden Club Grove Fund." 🌲



The Garden Club of America Grove, dedicated in 1934 in Humboldt Redwoods State Park.

Lifetime of Dedication to Forest Motivates Bequest

Shirley and Ferrel Schell's lifelong love affair with redwoods has had many memorable moments. One of those moments was celebrating a grove dedication at Navarro River Redwoods State Park in 2007. More recently, they added Save the Redwoods League to their wills.

But the story began when they were newlyweds. Ferrel was in the Navy. While his ship cruised from San Diego to Portland, Shirley followed along the coast in a car. In Northern California, she took time out to see the redwoods.

"Coming from Kansas, I just couldn't believe it," Shirley said. "Those marvelous things! So beautiful!"

Soon after, Shirley brought Ferrel to see the towering trees of Humboldt Redwoods State Park.



Shirley and Ferrel Schell have made lasting gifts to the redwoods through their wills.

"The children say camping in the redwoods was the best thing we did when they were growing up."

— Shirley Schell

They noticed markers honoring people who had contributed to the trees' protection.

"They were impressive," Ferrel said, "but we never thought we would be able to do it."

Ferrel blossomed into a successful engineer, working for some of the world's largest engineering firms, including Bechtel and Kaiser. In mid-career, he focused on public transit projects, nationwide and in Asia. In the mid-1960s, he designed the cars for Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART).

Shirley took care of their two children, Jim and Maria, and began "a lifetime of volunteering" in hospitals, museums and schools. She eventually served as president of the League of Women Voters, first in California's Marin County and later in Piedmont, and was on the California League of Women Voters board.

Two or three times a year, the whole family would camp in a redwood park. They enjoyed crafts, singing and campfire programs, and even braved campground visits from wild boars and bears.

"The children say camping in the redwoods was the best thing we did when they were growing up," Shirley said.

When asked about their contributions to Save the Redwoods League, Ferrel looks intently at his wife. "There was never any choice about that was there?" he asked.

"No, we both felt very deeply," she said. 🌲

Learn more about how you can make a difference through your will. Contact Sharon Rabichow at (415) 820-5828, srabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org, or return the attached envelope.

Your Legacy Gift Will Live on for Centuries

You already support Save the Redwoods League with your membership and maybe additional gifts. This newsletter promotes our special program that allows all our supporters to make a gift with the stroke of a pen — a legacy through your estate. This gift will live on for centuries through the redwood forest you help protect and restore.

In the nonprofit world we sometimes call this type of giving “planned.” In reality, everyone who makes such a gift is leaving a legacy by planning to help the League achieve our strategic goals in the coming decades.

The most common type of legacy gift is a bequest made through your will or living trust. When your attorney drafts your document, you simply ask that the League be included. If you already have a will or trust, you can update your plan inexpensively.

There are other types of legacy gifts: retirement plans, insurance policies, individual stocks and bonds, commercial and charitable gift annuities and checking or savings accounts can be donated to the League. Other legacy gifts called “life income plans” allow you to receive an income stream, income tax deduction, favorable treatment regarding your capital gains tax and no estate tax.

When you make a legacy gift, we will honor you by enrolling you in the Redwood Legacy Circle, our special way of saying thanks. By notifying us, you can receive the benefits of membership, and you may remain anonymous.

Sample Will or Living Trust Language

“I give [percentage / amount / description] to Save The Redwoods League, a California nonprofit corporation, currently located at 114 Sansome Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, California 94104, (Tax Identification Number 94-0843915).” 🌲



The impact of gifts that you leave the League in your will or trust will endure through protection of ancient forests' peace and beauty.

LEGACY CREATORS

April 2012 – August 2012

NEW REDWOOD LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBERS

The League thanks and welcomes the following Redwood Legacy Circle members who have so thoughtfully included us in their estate plans:

Lillian Byronell Boly

Marilyn Cossey and
Darrell Hogan

Dr. Richard D. Crosland

Mr. Albert W. Emery

Ms. Louise M. Kemen

Ms. Margaret Anne Payne

Dr. Marcia J. Speziale

Mr. and Mrs. Rob
Thompson

LEGACY GIFTS RECEIVED

The League is especially grateful for gifts from the following estates:

The Adelle A. Arva
Management Trust

Horst Eckard Bull Estate

Wayne R. Clites and Anne
Byers Wille Revocable Trust

Coon/Hathaway Trust

Irene Demboski Estate

Suzy L. Ficker Trust

Ruth W. Fields Trust

Ruth L. Foster Estate

Estate of Franklin D. Gillespie

Sylvia E. Hermanson Estate

Lafair Family Trust

Irene Mae Lemon Estate

Betty A. Lewis University
Environmental Charitable
Trust

Estate of Margaret Lioheneim

The Hubert P. Macklin
Charitable Remainder
Annuity Trust

Maconomy Family Trust

Harry A. Marshall, III, Estate

Prisanlee Trust Hawaii

Community Foundation

Carl William Wilke, Jr., Trust

The M. Betty Williams Trust

HONOR AND MEMORIAL GROVE DEDICATIONS

Humboldt Redwoods State Park

Easton-Ervin-Crisler-Dilday
Families Memorial Grove

Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park

Family of Henry and
Imelda James

Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve

M. Betty Williams
Memorial Grove

COMMENTS AND UPDATES

Send comments about this newsletter in the attached envelope or email
Legacy@SaveTheRedwoods.org.

Get the latest League news by subscribing to our free, monthly e-newsletter at
SaveTheRedwoods.org/signup.

Your gifts help protect homes for wildlife like these Roosevelt elk in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park.



Please remember the League in your will or trust



114 Sansome St., Suite 1200
San Francisco, CA 94104



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Protect Forest with Appreciated Stocks, Mutual Fund Gifts

You can make a lasting difference in preserving places of majesty and serenity by donating appreciated property to Save the Redwoods League. By giving stocks, bonds or mutual funds, you may gain a double tax benefit: You avoid paying capital gains taxes on the appreciation, and you receive a tax deduction for the full value of the gifts. This means you can leverage a larger donation to the League by using appreciated securities rather than cash to make your gift. Please check with your tax advisor to determine the full deductibility of your donation.

Contact Sharon Rabichow at (415) 820-5828, srabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org, or return the attached envelope.

Photo by Julie Martin

Create Your Legacy is published for supporters of Save the Redwoods League to provide ideas that may be useful in financial, estate and charitable planning. This information is based on current federal tax laws, regulations and recent court decisions. Please ask your professional advisors for assistance.