



Create Your Legacy

Where Your Dedication to Preservation Begins

WINTER 2017

Photo by Jon Parmentier

THEIR LOVE OF THE REDWOODS WILL LIVE ON FOR GENERATIONS

Why the Helmans Created Their Redwood Legacy

In Paul and Nancy Helman's beautiful home, there are reminders of the redwoods all around.

"We're surrounded by the redwoods even in this room," Paul says, showing just how much he and Nancy treasure these magnificent trees. "Take that cabinet. That cabinet came from Nancy's grandmother. It was made by her great grandfather from an eighteen-inch slab of redwood." It's a beautiful and timeless family heirloom that will be cherished for generations just like the redwoods themselves.

Their love for the redwoods started early for each of them. Growing up, Nancy happily recalls summer camping trips with her parents and family. "We'd get as far away from civilization as possible," she says. "There were four of us kids, and we'd just run wild out in the wilderness. We loved it."



Photo by Zachary Levey

Members of our Redwood Legacy Circle, Paul and Nancy Helman are living their values of preserving and protecting the magnificent trees that they love.

It was similar for Paul. His dad loved exploring, and their family trips often included camping in the desert. "On one trip," Paul says, "we went to Yosemite to see the fire fall at Glacier Point. It was just beautiful."

***"If you care about the redwoods, Save the Redwoods League is the organization to support."* — Nancy Helman**

Enjoying the forest became a part of their lives separately — and together. After Paul and Nancy met and married, they often took their children camping, and now they take their grandchildren. With each trip, their appreciation for the awe-inspiring beauty of the redwoods deepened, and eventually they became concerned for the future of these giants.

"The redwoods brought us closer to the movement for the preservation of nature," Paul says. "Save the Redwoods League was the first organization we donated to, and so we made the connection early in our lives."

It's been an exploration for Paul and Nancy ever since. They continue to explore and learn more about the forest, and each year they share their love of the redwoods with their children and grandchildren through their family vacation to Humboldt Redwoods State Park.

In addition to supporting the redwoods for over 40 years, Paul and Nancy wanted to do even more. They decided to leave a generous gift for Save the Redwoods League in their will so that future generations will be able to enjoy the redwood forest that has brought them so much joy.

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Plan Now for a Special Year-End Tax Savings Opportunity

With a Charitable IRA rollover gift, Save the Redwoods League supporters like you can get a 2017 tax break while also preserving the redwoods for generations to come.

THE BENEFITS:

- Avoid paying tax on your required minimum distribution this year. The distribution will not count as taxable income for 2017, helping keep you in a lower tax bracket.
- The transfer is not subject to limitations on itemized deductions.
- Enjoy a quick and easy estate tax reduction.
- Protect our redwood forests and preserve them for generations to come.

TO QUALIFY:

- You must be 70½ years old or older by year-end.
- The distribution must be directly to Save the Redwoods League from your plan trustee.
- The maximum contribution amount in 2017 is \$100,000 (\$200,000 per couple).
- Your transfer must be executed by December 31, 2017.

It's that easy. If you have questions or would like help setting up your Charitable IRA Rollover, get in touch with Sharon Rabichow at (415) 820-5828 or SRabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org. Notifying us of your intention allows us to provide you the proper tax acknowledgement required by the IRS. ■

Learn more and download sample forms at myredwoodslegacy.org/other-giving-options



Photo by David Baselt

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Now, preserving the treasure of the redwoods is part of their legacy. With their gift, they've joined the League's Redwood Legacy Circle, a special group of nature lovers who've designated a legacy gift to the League.

Today, Paul and Nancy love sharing the redwoods with their family. And because of their legacy gift, they know the redwoods will be there for years to come — for their grandchildren and even their grandchildren's children. It's a fitting tribute to these timeless wonders of the world. ■

CREATE YOUR LASTING LEGACY.

You're in control of your redwood legacy. Here's where you can:

- Discover gifts that pay you income
- Explore gifts that cost you nothing now
- Dedicate a redwood grove
- Request free estate planning guides
- Read inspiring stories of Redwood Legacy Circle members

TO FIND OUT MORE, VISIT WWW.MYREDWOODSLEGACY.ORG

Beneficiary Designations: An Easy Way to Give

Reasons to Update Your Beneficiary Designations

1. You have been remarried, widowed or divorced.
2. Your primary beneficiary has passed away.
3. Your financial institution changed ownership.
4. You had a grandchild or great-grandchild.
5. You want to leave a gift to Save the Redwoods League.

What Can I Give?

Here are some of the assets that transfer by beneficiary designation (or pay-on-death or transfer-on-death designation) and that would make a wonderful gift to protect the redwoods for years to come.

- IRAs, 401ks and other qualified plans
- Life insurance policy
- Certificates of deposit
- Bank accounts

“If I leave an IRA account to an individual, it’s taxed at a high rate. But a charitable organization gets to keep every penny, with no taxes. So the money goes a lot farther.”

— Redwoods Legacy Circle member Kathy Bouchard

Redwood Legacy Circle Members Enjoy a Night at the Academy of Sciences

These special annual lectures are one of several events the League holds every year to honor our Redwood Legacy Circle members who have made a legacy gift that will protect and preserve redwoods for years to come. This recent reception and lecture featured Dr. Emily Burns and Dr. Meg Lowman who discussed pioneering research from their time atop forest canopies around the globe.

To find out about the benefits of membership in the Redwood Legacy Circle and the lasting impact you can make on protecting redwoods, please visit www.myredwoodslegacy.org/redwood-legacy-circle.



Legacy Circle members learning about forest canopies

Your feedback is important to us. Please help us with our brief survey. Your feedback will provide us with invaluable insight into the priorities of key supporters, like you, who have made our work possible. www.myredwoodslegacy.org/survey.

How We Honor Our Redwood Legacy Circle Members

When you make Save the Redwoods League a part of your legacy and your life story, you ensure that future generations will be inspired by these magnificent forests, just like you have been. Here are a few ways we honor our Redwood Legacy Circle members:

- You will be recognized in our publications and at our events, unless you wish to remain anonymous.
- You will receive the beautiful coffee table book *Coast Redwoods, A Natural and Cultural History*.
- You will receive invitations to special members-only events, such as our annual reception and our popular redwood tours.
- **And more!**

To find out more about the Redwood Legacy Circle and view a list of Legacy Circle members, visit www.myredwoodslegacy.org/redwood-legacy-circle.



Create Your Redwood Legacy. We're Here to Help.

If you'd like to speak with us about creating your legacy with Save the Redwoods League, we invite you to get in touch.

Sharon Rabichow

Director of Gift Planning

(415) 820-5828

SRabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE

If you would like to review information about the kinds of legacy gifts available, generating income for life, reducing your taxes, and more, please visit us at www.myredwoodslegacy.org.

*“Save the Redwoods League acknowledges this human need,
for the sake of our national health, our emotional health.
Preserving more redwood groves provides an atmosphere to heal,
to consider one’s life, to confront the eternal.” — Susan Vreeland*