

Sharing a Place of Serenity and Solace

After Twyla Weinberg's parents passed away, she knew memorializing them would ease her grief. That's when she thought of dedicating a redwood grove to them through Save the Redwoods League.

"My parents and I always enjoyed nature and walks, and they loved California," said Twyla, an Atlanta native and retired nurse. So in summer 2008, among the towering redwoods and an understory of ferns and wildflowers, Twyla and her husband, David, established the Harold and Nina Osborne Memorial Grove.



The Weinbergs dedicated a grove in Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve.

The grove is in the magnificent Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve on the Santa Cruz Mountains, which afford sweeping views of Half Moon Bay. Residents of a nearby town,

"What better memorial to someone than these beautiful redwood trees, and to be able to share it."

— Twyla Weinberg,
about dedicating a grove

the Weinbergs chose Purisima after careful consideration with Megan Ferreira, the League's Major Gifts Officer of the Grove and Honor Tree Program.

"Megan was marvelous, showing us all the groves," Twyla said. "We went all the way to Prairie Creek and Navarro, and we settled on Purisima because we could visit more frequently.

"The grove has a little ledge and a beautiful creek," she said. "It's a very peaceful, quiet place to reflect on nature, parents and everything. I often have picnics there with friends. I have a very close friend whose mother passed away many years before mine, but on the same day. So on the anniversary of our mothers' passings, she and I have a picnic there."

The grove dedication motivated David to help protect the preserve by volunteering as a trail monitor. The retired dermatologist walks the trails 4-8 hours a month.

Twyla said dedicating the grove has exceeded her expectations.

"What better memorial to someone than these beautiful redwood trees, and to be able to share it with others so they can find the same solace that I find," she said. 🌲

7 Ways to Contribute to Your Honor or Memorial Grove

Besides an outright gift by check in one lump sum, there are many other ways to make your desire to dedicate a grove a reality:

1. Donate stock.
2. Make a charitable distribution through your IRA.
3. Use installments to distribute donations over three years.
4. Create an online fund for contributions from friends and family.
5. Arrange for matching gifts from your employer.
6. Set up automatic monthly gifts.
7. Name a grove through your will or trust.



Answers to Common Questions about Grove Dedications

WHAT IS THE SIZE OF A GROVE?

Most are 2–5 acres, with some as large as 10 acres.

WHAT'S THE AVERAGE GROVE GIFT AMOUNT?

Varies by grove size and location. Minimum of \$25,000; average range of \$45,000–\$75,000; and some more than \$250,000.

HOW MANY GROVES ARE DEDICATED EACH YEAR?

About 15 on average.

WHEN WAS THE FIRST GROVE DEDICATED?

1921, Colonel Raynal C. Bolling Grove, Humboldt Redwoods State Park.

CAN ASHES BE SCATTERED IN A GROVE?

Yes, and League staff members can assist with the simple permit process.

WHERE ARE GROVES AVAILABLE?

In 19 parks throughout Northern California. Please contact the League to request maps.

ARE GROVES DEDICATED ON LAND THAT'S ALREADY PROTECTED?

Yes. In recognition of a donor's contribution to Save the Redwoods League, an honorary grove is dedicated on land that the League has protected. Funds are used to purchase and protect threatened redwood lands that become additions to California's redwood parks.

Please contact Megan Ferreira at (415) 820-5809, mferreira@SaveTheRedwoods.org, or return the attached envelope for information about dedicating a grove or tree.

Groves like this one in Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve are available for dedication.

Discovery Leads to Lasting Benefit for Redwoods

Longtime League members Jim and Marcia Allegretti want to protect redwoods after they pass on, so they named Save the Redwoods League in a bequest through their living trust. It's a step Marcia couldn't have foreseen when she met Jim in college at San Francisco State University more than 40 years ago.

"My family did not do outdoor things," Marcia said. "Until I met him, I never did anything outdoors. But his family did a lot."

Like Jim, Marcia is a lifelong San Franciscan. But she didn't see a big redwood until she was in college. She recalled the experience — her first camping trip with Jim to the Russian River area.

"I knew nothing about camping," Marcia said. "When he came to pick me up, I had a big suitcase, a little suitcase and my beehive hairdryer, until Jim said to me, 'Where are you going to plug it in?'"

"The redwoods showed me the outdoors in a way I'd never seen before," Marcia said. "I was just awestruck when I saw how big they are and how beautiful they are."

"I think many people don't realize what the trees are. If someone doesn't step in and do something, they will all be gone."

— Marcia Allegretti

Jim owned a copy shop that printed mailings and newsletters for the League. He liked what he read, so he became a member in 1987. The couple has supported Save the Redwoods League ever since. So it made sense for them to name the League in their estate plan.

"We don't have children," Marcia said, "so a lot of our money is going to organizations that we care about." Jim said, "What the League does and the way they do it really rings a bell for us. They get results." 🌲

Please contact Sharon Rabichow at (415) 820-5828, srabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org, or return the attached envelope for bequest language and other legacy giving options.



Marcia and Jim Allegretti want to protect redwoods after they pass on, so they named Save the Redwoods League in a bequest through their living trust. Photo by Julie Martin

How to Choose Your Attorney for a Will or Living Trust

What questions should you ask an attorney when choosing one to prepare your will or trust?

First, think about the desired duration of the relationship with your attorney and the firm, and choose accordingly. If a will or trust needs updating, using the same attorney will probably be less expensive than seeking the services of a new representative.

Second, choose a representative who understands any complexities with assets, or the size of your estate. Creating a document for an estate worth \$2 million or less will usually be much easier than one that has greater value or complexity.

Third, if you are an unmarried couple, ensure that the attorney understands the issues of unmarried couples or those in similar situations. Special knowledge is needed to ensure, for example, that assets are transferred properly and taxation is minimized to benefit both of you.



Save the Redwoods League would be pleased to refer you to attorneys. Contact Sharon Rabichow at (415) 820-5828 or srabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org.

Spring in the redwoods brings trillium (top) and redwood violet blooms and convergent lady beetles. Photos by randomtruth, Flickr Creative Commons

Why IRA and IRA-Like Plans Make Smart Legacy Gifts

Did you know that if you leave IRA and IRA-like plans to your loved ones, they must pay ordinary income tax rates? Plus, if your estate is subject to tax, the double hit could easily take away 80 percent of the total value.

You can preserve the value of your IRA or other retirement asset by donating it to charity. Simply request and complete a document with the company that holds your plan. It's often called a beneficiary designation form. For existing retirement plans, just replace the form with one that lists the percentages you want to go to loved ones and/or your favorite nonprofit. Then sign and return the form.

We hope you'll consider the League when you use this smart legacy giving idea.



LEGACY CREATORS

October 2010 – April 2011

REDWOOD LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBERS

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

Ms. Casey Cadile
Mr. Daniel Flickinger
Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Johnson
Mr. Stephen R. Jones and Ms. Nancy A. Dawson
Mr. Edward A. Komczyk
Mr. Hans W. Korve and Ms. Linda Peirce
Mr. Greg LaFortune
Dr. Michael T. Madigan and Ms. Nancy L. Spear
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Norris
Mr. Thomas A. Potase
Linda Verdoorn Powers and Robert S. Powers
Laurie Reed
Joan Rhea Russell
Mr. David L. Smith
Steven Lavine and Janet Sternburg (Lavine)
Ms. Helen M. Stevens
Mr. Kim C. Waldo
Mrs. Katherine Z. Westheimer
Mr. Donald Willeke
Mr. and Mrs. Theodor Wrablik

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

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

Barbara Baker Trust
Dorothy V. Bangert Trust
Carl and Margaret W. Barks Trust
Estate of Bernice H. Chapman
Chapman Hanson Foundation
Wanda E. Dee Estate
Ruth K. Gabbert Trust
Margaret W. Gillette Estate
Harold L. Levy Estate
Barbara Henne Revocable Trust
Doris B. Kelsey Exemption Trust
Mary Cairns Kline Trust
The Gladys Q. Knapp Trust
Estate of Stephen Koslof
Charles & Fanclare Lathe Estate
The Lubersky Living Trust
Mildred L. McEntire Estate
William F. Murphy Trust
Dorothy P. Nichols Trust
Joan Norek Estate
Robert S. Parker Estate
Prisanlee Trust
Rolph-Nichol Fund
Frederick H. Test Estate
Blanche Thebom Revocable Trust
Estate of Florence Welles

HONOR AND MEMORIAL GROVE DEDICATIONS

Butano State Park

Teller, Sophie, Matthew and William Grove

Humboldt Redwoods State Park

Che and Mary Su Grove

Limekiln Redwoods State Park

Carl and Susan Elliger Grove

Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park

Flory Family Grove

Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve

Cheney-Hart Grove
Mario and Grace Magnaghi Memorial Grove

COMMENTS AND UPDATES

Send comments about this newsletter in the attached envelope or e-mail jcharney@SaveTheRedwoods.org.

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





Remember the League in your will

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Fog delivers crucial moisture to coast redwoods in Redwood National Park.

Photo by Jon Parmentier

Please Consider Informing the League of Your Legacy Gift

Often legacy gifts and those who choose to make them go unrecognized because we receive them after a supporter passes. Our Redwood Legacy Circle provides a way for Save the Redwoods League to recognize you and other donors while you are still with us.

Legacy Circle members are acknowledged with a gift of the beautiful book, *California Conifers*. We'll invite you to special events, including our annual lecture and popular redwood tours, and recognize you in our annual report and

other communications. You also may choose to remain anonymous and still receive these benefits.

If you have included the League in your estate plan or are considering doing so, please let us know so we can thank you and welcome you into our Redwood Legacy Circle.

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

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.