

No Forest Matches Beauty of Redwood Groves

Of the scores of countries and territories George Sardina, MD, has visited, he said there is no more beautiful forest in the world than one composed of old-growth California redwoods. That's why he recently chose to dedicate a grove through Save the Redwoods League.

A member since 1964, this San Diego County, California, resident also took advantage of the charitable IRA rollover legislation (see related article) to support the Noyo River Redwoods project. He also included the League in his estate plan.

"I can't think of a better way to spend money."

—George Sardina, about his charitable IRA rollover grove gift

Sardina discovered the redwoods on his first trip to California in the late 1950s when he hitchhiked from New York to find a medical internship.

He recalled crossing the northern border of California into the coast redwood forest.

"When I saw the trees, they knocked my socks off," Sardina said. "I couldn't believe they could be so enormous."

Continuing his hitchhiking trip, Sardina headed south along the coast.

"I remember trucks carrying out these enormous logs," he said. "I couldn't believe they were cutting down trees that were thousands of years old. From that moment on, I realized that the redwoods needed help."



George Sardina dedicated a redwood grove through a charitable IRA rollover gift.

Sardina's love for nature stemmed from his childhood days on an orphanage ranch in New York's Adirondack Mountains. He turned that love into action through the charitable IRA rollover grove gift.

"One of the most valuable things you can do is to preserve some of the best environment so people will have the same joy that we have today," said Sardina about his recent gifts to the League. 🌲

Read more about charitable IRA rollover gifts below the mail panel of this newsletter. Learn more about how you can dedicate a redwood grove through this type of gift by contacting Megan Ferreira at (415) 820-5809 or mferreira@SaveTheRedwoods.org, or return the attached envelope.

Grove Program Still Vital for Redwoods after 90 Years

Save the Redwoods League and the State of California have a long history of collaborating to protect the magnificent redwoods, and the Honor and Memorial Grove Program remains crucial for this work. Donors dedicate groves to remember a family member, organization, friend or significant moment through a gift to the League. This major source of funding is used to add redwood land to the state park system.

The first grove was dedicated 90 years ago in what is now known as Humboldt Redwoods State Park. The Colonel Raynal C. Bolling Grove honors the first officer of high rank to fall in World War I. Since then, more than 1,000 groves have been dedicated in 26 parks and reserves throughout Northern California.

Groves are still available for naming in 19 parks and preserves. Sizes range from 2 to 10 acres and donations from \$25,000 to \$250,000.

Each dedicated grove has its unique story. The following are some notable dedications in the past 90 years. Regardless of the name or individuals involved, every dedicated grove has played an important role in the League's and California's history.

- Frank D. Stout Memorial Grove, 1929
- (League) Founders Grove, 1931
- Garden Club of America Grove, 1931
- National Tribute Grove, 1945
- Frederick Law Olmsted Grove, 1953
- Friendship Grove, 1956
- Ynes Mexia Grove, 1964
- Walter A. Haas Grove, 1974
- Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Grove, 1980
- California State Park Rangers' Grove, 1982
- National Geographic World Grove, 1984
- Amelia Earhart Memorial Grove, 1985
- Organ Donors Memorial Grove, 2003
- Wangari Muta Maathai Grove, 2005

To learn more about the Grove Program, contact Megan Ferreira at mferreira@SaveTheRedwoods.org, (415) 820-5809, or return the enclosed envelope.



The Bolling Grove was dedicated 90 years ago in what is now known as Humboldt Redwoods State Park. Groves are still available in this park.

Life Income Gift Helps Couple, Protects Redwoods

George and June Pollak belong to many conservation groups, but one of their priorities is protecting the redwoods. So they named Save the Redwoods League in their charitable remainder trust and dedicated a grove in Limekiln State Park.

The redwoods have captivated the Pollaks for decades. June, a San Francisco native, recalls when she saw a redwood for the first time.

“I was a very small child,” she said. “My parents took me into the groves in the early or middle 1930s. I was just happy among those trees from childhood on.”



George and June Pollak named the League in their charitable remainder trust and dedicated a grove in Limekiln State Park

George, who is from Vienna, Austria, first experienced the giant sequoias in his 20s when he visited Yosemite National Park.

“They were awe-inspiring,” he said. “I certainly developed a feeling for them.”

*“Redwoods have certainly added
to the joy of our lives.”*

—George Pollak

After they married, they made numerous trips to the redwoods around Eureka, California.

Now retired, the Pollaks live in San Juan Capistrano, California. June was a founding professor of California State University in Fullerton. George spent most of his career in a US Navy research and development laboratory. The feeling of being in the redwood forest is always with them.

“My favorite thing is walking into the groves and listening to the silence — the wind and the trees — and taking in the beauty of them,” June said. “Being among the trees has always made me feel somehow that the world will be all right.”

The Pollaks have been League members since 1970. Through their charitable remainder trust, they receive income each year for life, a substantial charitable deduction, and they avoid capital gains tax. They will help sustain the redwoods for future generations. 🌲

For information about making a gift through a charitable remainder trust or other legacy giving options, please contact Sharon Rabichow at (415) 820-5828, srabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org, or return the attached envelope.

Get Income for Life, Safeguard Redwoods

Several Save the Redwoods League supporters have made what we call “life income gifts.” There are two types: one that’s simple and one that’s more involved. Each provides the following benefits.

They ...

- help the League protect redwoods
- give you income for life
- generate an income-tax charitable deduction
- result in favorable treatment on capital gains tax
- avoid estate tax

The simple type is a charitable gift annuity. You sign a one-page contract, and the arrangement can be set up in as little as a day. Cash is usually used, but appreciated assets can work too. The minimum contract is \$10,000. Payments are made to one or two people (see table for example).

| CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY, \$10,000 CONTRACT | | | |
|--|--------|----------------------|---------------|
| | AGE | CHARITABLE DEDUCTION | ANNUAL INCOME |
| ONE-LIFE ANNUITY | 70 | \$3,234 | \$580 |
| TWO-LIFE ANNUITY | 70, 68 | \$2,291 | \$500 |

The other gift type is a charitable remainder trust. While this gift can be arranged fairly quickly, it requires an attorney. Though there is no minimum gift, generally trusts of less than \$100,000 are not economically beneficial.

Both life income gifts generally have the same charitable deduction. The older you are, the larger the charitable deduction.

There are many variations of both life income gift arrangements. Some vary according to the start of your payments. Others involve using more complex assets. Life income gifts can make payments now, through your estate, or a combination of the two, for example.

When you make a life income gift, we’ll invite you to join our Redwood Legacy Circle. Members of this group are invited to special events, including our annual lecture and popular redwood tours, and they are recognized in our annual report and other communications. You also may choose to remain anonymous.

The League would be pleased to help you determine if one of these life income gifts meets your needs. For a free illustration and no-obligation meeting, contact Sharon Rabichow, (415) 820-5828, srabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org, or return the attached envelope.



LEGACY CREATORS

April 2011 – October 2011

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:

Anonymous (3)
Dick Burton
John and Janice Contini
Bill Miller and Ida Houby
Sarah Hummingbird
Lisa Kuhn
Paula Lucchesi
Ms. Marilyn L. Nichols
Candace C. Pelissero
Allen and Pamela Rozelle
Mary L. Topliff
Richard Van Alstyne
Nadine Weil
Mr. Lornie White

COMMENTS AND UPDATES

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

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



A SPECIAL THANK YOU

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

Barbara Baker Trust
Estate of Claude Preston Burt
Dale H. Champion Trust
Kent Mitchell Curtis Estate
Irene B. Fabrikant Trust
Ruth W. Fields Trust
Ruth L. Foster Estate
Estate of Margaret Louise Osterman Gish
Donald G. Graham Trust
Anette La Hough Trust
Betty A. Lewis University Environmental Charitable Trust
Estate of Margaret Lichenheim
The Hubert P. Macklin Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust
The Leo Mason and Eva B. Mason Trust
Estate of Mildred L. McEntire
Dorothy P. Nichols Trust
Prisanlee Trust
Hazel Simon Trust
Estate of William B. Wahrenburg
Herbert Weidner Trust

HONOR AND MEMORIAL GROVE DEDICATIONS

Butano State Park

Sue Ann, Joy and Donald Rhynard Grove

Humboldt Redwoods State Park

The Louis Agassiz and Inez Greene Test Grove

Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve

Scott Family Grove — Mary, Vinnie & Patricia Klahn





Dedicate a redwood grove now or by bequest.

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San Francisco, CA 94104



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Fall paints golden highlights along the Eel River in Humboldt Redwoods State Park.

Photo by MiguelVieira, Flickr Creative Commons

Easy Tax-Free Charitable Giving through Your IRA

Take advantage of this opportunity! If you are at least 70½ years old, you can roll over amounts from your traditional or Roth IRA to Save the Redwoods League and other favorite charities without claiming the funds as income. These tax-free gifts could be any amount up to \$100,000 if completed by December 31, 2011. Your gift can be used toward minimum distribution requirements.

Simply contact your IRA custodian. The transaction may take up to two weeks, so plan accordingly. See the related cover story, “No Forest Matches Beauty of Redwood Groves.”

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.