

PLC PARTNER

THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING HELD IN PERSON

This past July, PLC President Wayne Settle and his wife Lynette welcomed the PLC directors "in person" to the Quail Lodge in Carmel, California.

The event began with a lively reception at the Baja Filling Station, where everyone was excited to see their friends and colleagues in person in over a year. The Baja staff couldn't believe that everyone just kept standing and talking and didn't want to sit down to be served.



Vanessa Miller, Joe Miller, Wayne Settle and Lynette Settle.

The group took a trip out to the Monterey Bay Aquarium the next day, and had lunch overlooking the water. Everyone had a little time to enjoy Carmel and Monterey, before heading back to the Quail Lodge for a dinner.



President Wayne Settle welcomed everyone and thanked them for making the trip out, especially during these challenging times. He and Lynette were happy so many could attend.

The event wrapped up the next morning, with both the Executive Board meeting and the General Board meeting. One of the first orders of business was selecting 19 scholars for the 2020-21 school year. The directors also looked at the challenges ahead with the November conference in Indian Wells, California — ensuring

that it will be a safe event for everyone attending — and they listened to Casey Black discuss the Live In-Woods Show that will be held in 2023 in Vale, Washington on Weyerhaeuser land.

It was a successful and productive event, but the highlight for everyone was finally getting to see their friends in person.



Ken Schirman and sons

82nd Annual Redwood Regional Logging Conference



Article and images by Mary Bullwinkel

The 82nd Annual Redwood Region Logging Conference (RRLC) was held in Willits, California, on June 5, 2021. A departure from the usual format of the conference, the event was a smaller in-person gathering, including a ladies' lunch and an outdoor afternoon banquet.

RRLC President Jesse Weaver welcomed those attending the banquet, including keynote speaker Bruce Burton of Willits Redwood Company.

"Weaver's experience with the Redwood Region Logging Conference goes back to his sophomore year of college when he received the Emanuel Fritz scholarship in 2001. Weaver said, "Preparing for this day provided me with an opportunity to reflect on the 'why' and the 'who's' of the conference."

Weaver provided a brief history of the Redwood Region Logging Conference, established in 1936 by Emanuel Fritz

and Harry W. Cole, vice president of the Hammond & Little River Redwood Company. The first conference (of what was then known as the Redwood Logging Conference) was a two-day event; the first day filled with lectures and panel discussions and the second day a trip to the woods to see active logging activities. The first event was attended by 50 people, and the theme was Tractor Logging.

Of the annual Redwood Logging event, Fritz had said, "We started this conference in February 1936 to stimulate interest in improved logging practices and better forestry. Redwood loggers have always been off to themselves. My plan is to gradually give them a professional consciousness."

Attendance doubled the second year (1937), but in 1938, there was no conference, because Fritz had broken his foot. Since its establishment in 1936, there have been only four years the RRLC did not take place: 1938, 1946 and 1947 (because of the war), and last



President Jesse Weaver and his family.

year, 2020, because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The format of the RRLC was changed in 1943 when a static equipment show was added, and the in-the-woods field trip was eliminated. In 1949 the name was changed to Redwood Region Logging Conference, to include the Douglas fir interests in the region.

Emanuel Fritz served as Secretary-Manager of the Redwood Region

Logging Conference from 1936 until 1958, when he retired and was named its honorary Vice President. Fritz died in 1988 at the age of 102.

"So here we are today," RRLC President Weaver said. "Challenges — along with opportunities that come through those challenges — are nothing new to our industry, but we should all remember our roots."

Weaver said the organization would not be where it is today without

Fritz's involvement. "Fritz called for permanence in forest management, where timber could be harvested using the best available science, in perpetuity. He called for permanence in forest products industries and stressed their importance to the communities and people that rely on them. Just like the redwood root that is everlasting, permanence is the cornerstone of our conference."

Keynote speaker Bruce Burton and business partner Chris Baldo (past

president of RRLC) own and operate Willits Redwood Company. Burton and Baldo established their business partnership in 1976 and, in 1980, built a sawmill and incorporated Willits Redwood Company.

Burton has served on the Willits City Council for more than 20 years including two terms as Mayor of Willits, California.

Burton talked to those gathered for the banquet about his experiences in the logging industry.

2021 RRLC Achievement Award Winner

The Redwood Region Logging Conference 2021 Achievement Award recipient is Phil Shuster, a second-generation winner of this award. In 1988, Phil's father, Charley Shuster was the recipient.

Phil Shuster is a 50-year veteran of the timber industry and currently owns and operates Shuster Transportation in Willits. He graduated from Humboldt State University in 1974 with a B.S. in Forestry, and soon began working for the family business, Shuster Enterprises, as a choker setter and water truck driver. Shuster also worked two summers in the Ruth Lake, California, area for Georgia Pacific and Louisiana Pacific on U.S. Forest Service and private timber sales.

Shuster credits Dee Sanders with mentoring him. "When I showed up, I needed to learn a lot more than I brought to the position. And Dee was always there to guide me along. That



President Weaver and Phil Shuster.

first summer in the woods around Ruth [Lake] let me know that this was what I wanted to do for my lifetime."

In 1979 Phil, brother Steve, and Marv Lawrence assumed control of the family business, when Phil's parents retired. Phil was managing the logging and chip trucks of the operation. Lawrence retired in 2013 and Steve soon after that. Since 2014 Phil and wife Kathy

have owned and managed Shuster's Transportation.

1992 RRLC President Greg Mathis said, "I have known Phil Shuster for over 40 years, and in my opinion, there isn't anyone more deserving of the Achievement Award. His continuing work ethic and his dedication and loyalty to his employees and industry partners is without question."

Scholarships

RRLC also announced its 2021 scholarship recipients at the banquet gathering. A total of \$13,000 (10 college scholarships) was awarded to students attending Humboldt State University, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Chico State University,

and Oregon State University. An additional 12 scholarships totaling \$6,000 were given to students attending Arcata High School, Ferndale High School, and Fortuna High School in Humboldt County, and Anderson Valley High School, Fort Bragg High School, and Willits High School in Mendocino County.

At the gathering, there was also a moment of silence for the passing within the last year of three past RRLC presidents: Jack Sweely, president in 1971; Bob MacMullin, president in 1991; and John Iverson, president in 2006.

Jake Morris Elected New Director

Jake Morris works as a manager and part time mechanic for his family's company, Steve Morris Logging & Contractor, headquartered in Arcata, California. Jake says he's been working for the company since he was about seven years old. His first job was chucking larger than fist-sized rocks out of the road for their in-woods chipping operation on Green Diamond property.

Jake says he likes the relationships that you make in the industry and building the relationships with different landowners and contractors. Relationships, he says, are everything.

If you see him at our next event, or on the job, say "welcome aboard". We are excited to have him be a part of the organization!



2020-21 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The 2020-21 Pacific Forest Foundation scholarship recipients have been selected, and it's an amazing group of students, from New Zealand to Arizona. This year \$24,500 was awarded to 19 scholars and future industry professionals.

We would like to congratulate the following students:

- \$2,500 — Dylan Miller, Oregon State University, Forest Operation Management
- \$2,500 — Hunter Hinners, Grays Harbor Community College, Forest Management
- \$2,500 — Savannah Wakeman, Northwest Nazarene University, Public Relations
- \$2,000 — Matthew Scheuber, OSU, Forest and Civil Engineering
- \$2,000 — Colton Fuller, OSU, Forest Management & Forest Restoration and Fire
- \$2,000 — Jared Frasca, Thompson Rivers University, Natural Resource Science
- \$1,500 — Matthew Howley, University of Canterbury, Forestry Science
- \$1,500 — Jacob Mitchell, Southwestern Oregon Community College, Forest Management
- \$1,500 — Samuel Weir, University of Canterbury, Forestry Science
- \$1,000 — Dustin Morgan, California Polytechnic State University, Forestry and Natural Resource Management
- \$1,000 — Kimberly Ortiz, Eastern Oregon University, Rangeland Management
- \$1,000 — Arlo Eades, Montana Technological University, Mining Engineering
- \$500 — Dougal Shepherd, University of Canterbury, Forestry Engineering
- \$500 — James Power, University of Canterbury, Forestry Engineering
- \$500 — Claire Tyson, University of Montana, Forestry
- \$500 — Alli Kohrman, BYU Idaho, Agriculture Education/Welding
- \$500 — Ethan Mulhair, California Polytechnic State University, Forest and Fire Sciences
- \$500 — Michael Lilburne, University of Canterbury, Forestry Science
- \$500 — Quentin Comus, OSU, Natural Resources

The Pacific Forest Foundation wishes these young people a successful, happy and productive future in the industry!

Thank you

A huge THANK YOU goes out to all of you who have made these scholarships possible — from providing auction items to donating your time, to placing those winning bids. Your efforts are making a big impact on the future.

Education Committee Update: New Teaching Resources Available Now!

By Hunter Harrill, Communications Directors

The PLC Education Committee is pleased to announce the launch of the new Pacific Forest Foundation Virtual Map. During the pandemic the committee wanted to find new ways to connect with schools and support teachers who educate their students about forestry. After all, many students and schools have been unable to meet with forestry professionals in person or take field trips to the forest.

The new PFF Virtual Map offers classrooms the ability to explore our vast forest industry and learn about the many things we do to responsibly manage our forests. Kids and adults alike can explore a broad map that

covers the Pacific Northwest and abroad, littered with numbered icons. Each icon when clicked has a pop-up short paragraph about a particular topic, for example “thinning trees” and is accompanied by a short video clip or photos.

The new PFF Virtual Map offers classrooms the ability to explore our vast forest industry and learn about the many things we do to responsibly manage our forests.

Hopefully, the PFF Virtual Map will grow over time and include many facets

of the industry and showcase some of the diversity of our forests and the people who work in them. Perhaps we can include some of the interesting things our very own PLC members do? Please have a look at the map yourself (<https://www.pacificforestfoundation.org/map>) and let us know what you think, we'd love to hear from you!

If you have got an idea for something interesting that should be included on the map contact Diane Mettler (diane@pacificloggingcongres.com). If you know of any teachers or students who are interested in learning more about forestry, please let them know about the new Virtual Map and other resources available at the PFF website (pacificforestfoundation.org).

Kingsland Georgia. Thinning is removing the trees that are smaller, that are diseased, that are fraught, that have defect, so that they're no longer taking resources from the good trees that we're going to want to send to market. There are several things that we look for to point us in the direction of wanting to thin that stand. Any acre of land can only grow a certain amount of fiber, and we want to come in before the stand gets to that point, remove the defect trees and allow the crop trees to grow

So once a stand is thinned, we'll oftentimes come in and fertilize to allow those trees that are left, to have more resources to grow and really start to put on diameter.

Become a PLC Sponsor

It is a fact — without our wonderful sponsors, the Pacific Logging Congress and the Pacific Forest Foundation could not make the impact they do for the industry.

Our sponsors help us:

- Raise tens of thousands of dollars for scholarships
- Allow unique networking opportunities for industry professionals
- provide a live in-woods show every four years, educating thousands of adults and children about the positive aspects and impact of the forest industry
- Provide the popular Talking Tree podcast
- Bring dynamic speakers to the PLC annual congress

Many of you have already stepped up as sponsors. We thank you. Without you, none of this would be possible.



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If you don't see your name up here and would like to assist the PLC and PFF provide all these ongoing activities, please consider becoming a sponsor today for the Indian Wells, California congress.

Just contact executive director, Diane Mettler at 253-777-8077 or email her at diane@pacificloggingcongress.com. She will help find a sponsorship level that fits you and/or your company.

Thank you!