Collier and Blegen Awards Announced

The 2020 Theodore Blegen Award, given for the best scholarship in forest and conservation history published in a journal other than Environmental History, was awarded to Bathsheba Demuth (above) for her article, "The Walrus and the Bureaucrat:
Energy, Ecology, and the Making of State in the Russian and American Arctic, 1870-1950," published in American Historical Review (April 2019). Bathsheba compares the surprisingly parallel histories of the United States and the Soviet Union across much of the twentieth century as they developed their environmental practices to ensure that each could obtain as much energy and value from the Pacific walrus as possible. Bathsheba is an environmental historian at Brown University, specializing in the lands and seas of the Russian and North American Arctic.

The 2020 John M. Collier Award was awarded to Diana Kruzman for her work, "India's Sacred Groves Are Disappearing, Taking Biodiversity and Culture With Them," published on the environmental news website Earther (November 30, 2019). The Collier Award is given to a journalist whose work incorporates forest or conservation history in an article published in North America that relates to environmental issues. Her article documents the loss of small and increasingly isolated sacred old-growth groves of southern India and their gradual destruction due to competing interests. Diana is a freelance reporter earning her master's degree in Journalism and Near East Studies at New York University.

Congratulations to Bathsheba and Diana!
History A Success

Thanks to all who participated on June 12th to make the first National Day of Giving for Forest History a great success! In order to secure the matching grants from two FHS donors, the goal was to raise $20,000. Contributions from more than 125 generous donors totaled $33,950.

We cannot thank you enough for your support and belief in our mission to collect, preserve, and share the documents of forest history for current and future generations.

The FHS fundraising year ends June 30th, so there is still time to renew your membership contribution. Pop your check in the mail or renew safely online.

From the Library

New books, articles, dissertations, and theses are regularly added to our catalog--even while we worked from home! You can see some of the latest books to become part of our extensive library collection in the photographs below. We're at 12,000 volumes and counting! We encourage authors to send us copies to ensure their hard work is preserved and made available to researchers for years to come.

While FHS remains closed to outside visitors and researchers for the time being, the Library staff are still available to help. Librarian Lauren Bissonette, archivist Eben Lehman, and historian Jamie Lewis are available to answer your questions and assist you with your research. From home, you can search and browse our databases. If you still have questions, the Library staff will do their best to deliver information that is not readily available online. Just send them an email with your question.

Stay healthy and we look forward to seeing you at the library soon!
Kieckhefer Container Company, a family-run business, pioneered the use of fiber shipping containers including the paper milk carton. On April 30, 1957, through and exchange of stock, the company merged with the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company. The merger improved the long-term prospects for increased utilization of Weyerhaeuser's forest resources and provided a broader market for the company's products.
Thanks to a grant from the J. W. Kieckhefer Foundation, scanning of Kieckhefer Container Company materials (housed within the Weyerhaeuser Company Records archival collection) housed at the FHS was completed. A total of 224 images and 587 pages of documents have been digitized. Each photograph and printed page were scanned on flatbed scanners to create high-resolution files. Each photo image has been uploaded to our online Image Database with relevant metadata, making them easy to browse and search. Click here to review the Kieckhefer Container photos.

The Library staff is now developing a digital exhibit of the materials. This work will include: researching the company history, understanding the range of products manufactured, and transitions in company leadership, among other topics.

Containerboard plant products brands. (K-881-5-21)

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**Films Available Via Streaming**
The FHS documentaries *America's First Forest: Carl Schenck and The Asheville Experiment* and *First in Forestry: Carl Schenck and the Biltmore Forest School* are now available for streaming to your television, computer, or mobile device. You have the option of purchasing the film, which allows you to stream anytime or permanently download the film, or to rent it for a 72-hour period.

Both films beautifully tell the story of Carl Schenck and his Biltmore Forest School in North Carolina. *America's First Forest* explores the larger story of how Schenck, George Vanderbilt, Gifford Pinchot, and Frederick Law Olmsted introduced professional forest management to the United States and launched the conservation movement at the Biltmore Estate, while also describing Schenck's fascinating life. *First in Forestry* focuses mainly on the history of the Biltmore Forest School and Schenck's work at the estate.

*America's First Forest* is the Emmy Award-winning film that continues to air on public television stations around the country. It's 55 minutes long and costs $7.99 to purchase or $3.99 to rent. Just 30 minutes long, *First in Forestry* may be purchase for $4.99 or rented for 72 hours for $1.99. You can access both at [Vimeo.com](http://Vimeo.com).

Not interested in streaming? You can buy the two films on one DVD for $24.99 through [our website](http://our website).

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**The Latest from the Blog**
In the summer of 1960, Columbia Pictures released the film *Strangers When We Meet*. FHS Archivist Eben Lehman shares the interesting story of the house that's central to the plot in "The Wood Prince of Bel Air: Building the *Strangers When We Meet* House."

Adapted by Evan Hunter from his novel by the same name, the film's plot centers around Larry Coe, an architect (played by Kirk Douglas) who is building a home for a Hollywood writer. From a forest history perspective, however, the real star of the film was the house Douglas's character was building. For maybe the first time in movie-making history, instead of using a temporary set, shooting on a sound stage, or filming at an existing location, the house at the center of the film's plot was designed and constructed simultaneously as the movie was filmed. Afterward it then became a private residence. You can learn more about the house and how this unique project came to pass in Eben's new blog post.