



## Forest Timeline Newsletter

### George H. Weyerhaeuser Sr. Remembered



George Weyerhaeuser Sr., a long-time member and friend of the Forest History Society, passed on June 11, 2022, at age 95. A great-grandson of Weyerhaeuser Company founder Frederick Weyerhaeuser, George worked his entire career at the Weyerhaeuser Company, including serving as CEO from 1966 to 1991 and board chair until 1999. Under his leadership, the company became known for its research investments in “high-yield forestry.” By growing more wood on fewer acres, it presented an opportunity to dedicate other acres for

recreation, wildlife, and environmental stewardship. A history of the company’s environmental ethic from early support of the American Tree Farm System, waste reduction, and sustainable operations was documented in the Society’s [\*Forest History Today\* magazine](#).

Pictured above are George Weyerhaeuser and John McMahon, Timberlands Division Vice President, in 1986, twenty years after the company announced High-Yield Forestry. They were planting the company’s two billionth seedling in the ash left from the Mount St. Helen’s eruption on May 18, 1980.

George had a special place in his heart for forest history. He joined the Forest History Society in 1986 and served on the Board of Directors from 1998 to 2004. He spent countless hours with FHS president Steve Anderson making personal visits to raise funds for its *Stories of the Forest* endowment campaign, for which he and his wife Wendy, served as honorary chairs. For his many years of outstanding sustained leadership he was elected as Fellow of FHS, the Society’s highest honor.



Char Miller, W.M. Keck Professor of Environmental Analysis & History at Pomona College, served with George on the FHS Board (Char is on the left above with George). He shared that “George Weyerhaeuser was a mensch—warm, kind, and insightful. Those virtues were manifest every time we interacted at FHS board

meetings and each time I came away impressed by how much I had learned from him. It didn't hurt that he was also quietly funny: at a break during an FHS Board meeting we sat outside on a stone ledge. I don't recall what he said, but remember just cracking up. A marvelous moment."

Records related to George Weyerhaeuser Sr. can be found in the [Weyerhaeuser Company archival collection](#) housed in the Alvin J. Huss Archives at the Forest History Society. He sat for a series of oral history interviews, conducted over the course of two years. You can read the one from 1984 [HERE](#) and from 1985 [HERE](#).

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## Anderson Announces Retirement; Search for Next CEO Underway

After 26 years of service to the Forest History Society, FHS President and CEO Steven Anderson will be retiring in the spring of 2023.

Under Steve's leadership, the Society has successfully initiated or expanded its programs in digitization, publication, environmental education, and research; added numerous important collections to its archives; and elevated its standing in both the history and forestry fields. In addition, Steve strengthened and improved cooperative relationships with forestry and environmental history associations, the U.S. Forest Service, and corporate forestry leaders interested in preserving the history of their industries. His legacy also includes the funding and construction of the new library, archives, and headquarters building.



As part of his work at FHS, Steve has long taken a leadership role in several forestry organizations, particularly the Society of American Foresters, for whom he has served as a member of several of key committees at both the national and local level. He is the recipient of numerous local and national awards, and maintains professional memberships in such organizations as American Forests, the Society of Environmental Journalists, the Soil and Water Conservation Society, and the International Society of Tropical Foresters.

Steve leaves the Society and his successor well-positioned for the future. As FHS begins its search for an inspiring, visionary, and innovative President and CEO with a passion for forest history and the leadership skills to elevate the Society to its greatest potential, we ask for your assistance. If you know of someone you think up to the challenge of leading FHS, please direct them to learn more about the position on the FHS web site using the link below.

[CEO Search Information](#)

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## Digital Exhibits Documenting Chinese Immigrants and African Americans in Logging Communities Receive Funding

Thanks to support from the  
MillsDavis Foundation,  
under their Ecological



Forestry and Sustainable Communities focus, FHS has received a grant to create two multimedia online digital exhibits that document the historical experiences of minority groups in West Coast logging communities. Working with experts in the topical areas, one exhibit will focus on the impact of Chinese immigrants on logging communities in the Sierra Nevada Mountains

from workforce, financial, and social perspectives. The other exhibit will examine the history of African American loggers and their families in the logging community of Maxville, Oregon.

Through development and implementation of a publicity plan, we aim to reach students, teachers, researchers, community members, and others with these historic accounts of forest-dependent communities. The exhibits are based on a successful program model implemented by the Forest History Society that is heavily viewed by target groups. It is expected that long-term results will include greater appreciation of contributions of these minority groups as well as new investment in documenting the history. The project will also help the Society to develop more sophisticated evaluation approaches for its digital exhibits.

Matt Williams, a former Vice President-Timberlands with Weyerhaeuser Company, and an FHS Board member, shared that, "Enhanced understanding about the history of human interface with our forest resources is central to developing sustainable policies and practices through time. Moving records about marginalized groups to a modern digital platform is a big step to improving access to diverse peoples."

Pictured above is, a grouping of children and mothers at the Bowman-Hicks logging camp. Despite the enforcement of Jim Crow-inspired segregating, Maxville's isolation from mainstream society encouraged the formation of interracial friendships. *Image used with permission by [Maxville Heritage Interpretive Collection](#).*

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**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING FHS  
THIS YEAR!**

**WE'LL SHARE OUR DAY OF GIVING  
RESULTS IN JULY!**

**OUR FISCAL YEAR ENDS  
TOMORROW.**

**RENEW YOUR SUPPORT BY MIDNIGHT!**

**RENEW MY  
SUPPORT!**



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***Wall Street Journal* "Hall of Famer" Donates  
Forest Products Industry Data to FHS Archives**





*Chip and Margaret Dillon (and Smokey Bear) at the FHS grand opening in 2019.*

FHS has received six boxes of materials providing detailed forest products industry financial analysis, spanning 40 years from 1980 to 2020, from Chip and Margaret Dillon. The materials include reports, data, and market analysis from Salomon Brothers/Salomon Smith Barney/Citigroup covering the paper and forest products industries. Chip was a top-ranked analyst focusing on the global packaging and forest products industry at JP Morgan, Citigroup, Credit Suisse, and Vertical Research Partners. In addition, he is the only US Paper and Forest Products Analyst to be inducted into the *Wall Street Journal* Analysts' Hall of Fame. Chip currently advises and provides management services as Managing Partner of CyPoint Partners. Now in his second term as an FHS board director, we are grateful to have this unique collection added to our archives and plan to process the content and make a finding aid available digitally in the coming months.

The paper and forest products analysis, market and company research, and industry data can be useful to those involved in forestry, papermaking, academic research, and land-use and environmental policymaking. These materials offer insight into various sub-markets involving the forest and its by-products during much of the information revolution and changes in product packaging and distribution seen over the past half-century. In addition to industry analysis, these materials offer a granular look into the decisions made by industry actors and the results of those decisions, both financially and also on a human and environmental scale. Researchers focused on forest stewardship could augment their knowledge and perspective by delving into the market-related historical context provided by these materials.

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## Lynn W. Day Education Center at FHS Hosts NC Forestry Association Board Meeting

The [North Carolina Forestry Association](#) held their mid-year Board of Directors meeting in June in the FHS Lynn W. Day Education Center. Pictured addressing the meeting is NCFA board member Allen Whitesell of Troy Lumber.



The well-attended meeting included a presentation entitled, "Loaded Log Trucks on Interstate Highways: Safety and Efficiency Benefits in NC." The presenter was Joe Conrad, Assistant Professor of Forest Operations, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia. The board approved a position statement on the Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*),

which includes the nonnative Bradford pear and other varieties, and is available [here](#).

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## A Comment from a Long-time FHS Member and Avid Journal Reader



FHS co-publishes the journal Environmental History with the American Society of Environmental Historians/ASEH. Recently, Rupe Cutler, one of our members, who served in the Carter Administration from 1977 to 1981 as assistant secretary for natural resources and environment of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, wrote us:

*Just a note to say that the new issue of Environmental History (Vol 27, No. 2) is the only issue of the journal that I have ever read from cover to cover as soon as I picked it up. The Forum, articles combining history and science, is extremely effective and interesting. The piece on heat islands hit home as we are addressing that issue in Roanoke (Virginia). The piece on plague in Vietnam reminded me of my role in shutting down the spraying of 2,4,5-D with its dioxin contaminant on Douglas fir plantations in the national forests in Oregon when I was assistant secretary. M. Rupert Cutler*

You can learn more about his contributions to federal and local environmental conservation and history [here](#).

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# ASEH 2023 Boston

March 22-26, 2023



The American Society for Environmental History invites proposals for its annual conference, to be held March 22–26, 2023, in Boston, MA. The submission deadline is July 15, 2022.

The theme for the conference is transformation, with attention to resistance and disruption and the possibilities for repair of past relations. According to the conference program committee, "Change is at the heart of environmental history scholarship and a powerful force in our shared present, as we live and work through climate change, energy transitions, and demands for equality and justice. The task of the historian is to reckon with what has come before and how it shaped the world; for the environmental historian that is to reckon with our past relations with the rest of nature."

Conference Info

