In the late 1990's Garrett Yarbrough showed up at the Peterson Tree Farm for Forest Field Days with his sixth grade class. This spring, Garrett came back to Forest Field Days at Bauman Tree Farm- arriving not in a school bus, but instead, in a Giustina Land & Timber truck, clad in vest and hardhat, and ready to volunteer at the Timber Station.

Forest Field Days was an important experience in Garrett’s primary school years. Garrett remembers his trip to the tree farm well. He remembers measuring trees at the Timber Station with his friend’s dad, who at the time was a forester with Weyerhaeuser; he remembers making channels and setting up trees in the stream table; and he remembers understanding for the first time “this can be my job!” While he loved the forest from an early age, Forest Field Days opened his eyes to the many forest-related career possibilities available to him.

Thirteen years later, and after obtaining a Bachelor’s degree in Forestry from Oregon State University, Garrett returns to Forest Field Days. This spring, Garrett and 96 other enthusiastic volunteers educated 1,498 middle school students and 213 adults from Bethel, Junction City, 4J, South Lane, Springfield, Mapleton, Siuslaw, Lebanon, and Sweet Home school districts. Just like Garrett did when he was a sixth grader, students engaged in hands-on lessons from professionals and learned about how responsible practices in forest management protects wildlife, soils, water, and provides for recreational opportunities.

Volunteers, who are professionals from the private and public sectors, make the content tangible, exciting, and memorable for students. Garrett said, “I remember the enthusiasm of the volunteers when I was in sixth grade and it really stuck with me. They showed me that there are jobs in the woods that are enjoyable and an industry that I can work in.” This is the reason why Garrett decided to come back to Forest Field Days as an adult this spring—to pay it forward, to expose a new generation of kids to the exciting and gratifying career possibilities in forest management. Perhaps in 15 years we will meet one of Garrett’s students from this spring’s Forest Field Days—all grown up, wearing a hard hat and a vest, and inspiring yet another generation.

Author: Beth Krisko

Garrett Yarbrough, new volunteer and former Forest Field Day student, teaches about how to age a tree using an increment borer.

“I remember the enthusiasm of the volunteers when I was in sixth grade and it really stuck with me. They showed me that there are jobs in the woods that are enjoyable and an industry that I can work in.”

–Garrett Yarbrough
We Appreciate our Excellent Volunteers

Ninety-six professionals donated 958 hours to make Forest Field Days a success this spring. Sixteen of these were new volunteers to Forest Field Days, many of them early in their careers. We are so excited to welcome them and hope to see them back many seasons to come.

Many of the eighty returning volunteers are committed and long-standing. Jordon Ryder, for instance, a retired stewardship forester from the Oregon Department of Forestry signed up to work the Stream Station for five program days this spring! Jordon certainly demonstrates his commitment... five days on the Stream Station means he delivered the lesson 40 times in less than three weeks!

Not everyone has the time (or energy!) to donate the hours that Jordon was able to give. Whatever time people offer is valued and appreciated not just by Forests Today and Forever, but also by the students served, as you can see by one of the letters we received from Academy of Technology and Arts this spring. Thank you, volunteers, for your truly great work in the name of forestry education!

Spring 2014 Forest Field Day Volunteers

Baker Surveying: Dan Baker
BLM: Jan Robbins, Teresa Coble, Sarah Diehr, Joe Lynch, Shawnna Dao
Cascade Timber Consulting: Brian Murray
Coast Range Conifers: Ed Cummings
General Trailer Co.: Danny Bivens
Giustina Land & Timber: Cary Hart, Mark Giustina, Garrett Yarbrough
Habitat Contracting LLC: Jeff Jones
International Paper: Jeff Thompson, William McMahon, Bryce Mason
Linn Soil & Water Conservation District: Debra Paul, Kevin Seifert
NORTHWEST Land Surveying, Inc.: Rob Ward
Northwest Timberland Consulting & Surveying, Inc.: Harvey Christensen
ODF: Robin Biesecker, Jim Hall, David Kjosness, Brian Peterson
OSU Extension: Steve Bowers, Robin Galloway
Talk About Trees: Val Kime, Jane Holloway, Mary Loftin, Leslie Bradner
Roseburg Resources Co.: Dave Cramsey
Seneca Jones Sawmill Co.: Ashley Bridges, Bill Wynkoop, Kevin Tuers, Ted Reiss, Mike Emmons, Greg Willie, Ben Pearson, Ryan Beyer
Sperry Ridge Consulting: Dale Claassen, Mike Dwyer
Starker Forests: Dick Powell
USDA, NRCS: Jason Martin, Stephen Holland
USFS: Amanda Stamper, Erick Larkin, Shannon Maddox, Justin Gerding
Weyerhaeuser: Bill Frings, Scott Marlega, Shayonne Sargent, Steve Swanson, Bethany Miller, Noelle Arena, Sherry Dukes, Debi Laughlin, Jess Laney, Michael Payne, Dana Cunningham, Cara Barnes, Chris Sumstine, Jill Smouse, Susan Thompson, Denise Lindly, Mike McDowell

Thank you for teaching us all about the trees and how old they are. I also liked how we got the trees height with the incline-cummeter and how old the tree is by drilling a hole in it, taking out a piece, and counting the rings. But I especially liked how we found out the circumference by using diameter inches. I appreciate that you took time out of your day to teach us about the trees. So thank you for this awesome working experience.

Tree farmer and long-standing volunteer, Dick Beers, teaches students about the wildlife in Oregon's forests.
Girl Scouts at the Tree Farm

Girl Scouts learned about forest management during a trip to Bauman Tree Farm in March. The girls planted trees as part of a badge requirement, and then toured a recently planted clear-cut to learn about forest practices regarding reforestation, including stocking numbers, free-to-grow management practices, leave trees, and downed woody debris. Additionally, the girls had the opportunity to explore the old wigwam as a way to learn about the history of logging on a third generation working tree farm. Thanks to SOLVE for providing funding for tools and Long Tom Watershed Council for donating seedlings.

Thank You In-Kind Donors in Support of Forest Field Days!

Thank you to the Bauman/Reaves, Udell/Sallee, and Huntington families for generously allowing us to use their forestlands for our program, and all the preparations leading up to the events. Thank you to the many organizations, companies, and agencies that support our program by allowing employees to take time away from work to volunteer (organizations are listed on page 2). Thank you to those that offered special donations: Dave and Diann Rankin for another year of coordinating volunteers for the Siuslaw Forest Field Day, Cascade Timber Consulting for the gravel to assure a solid school bus turn-around at Happy Valley Tree Farm, and Organically Grown and the Hazelnut Marking Board for providing volunteer snacks.

Forests Today & Forever Summer Programs

July 29, 5:45-7:45 p.m. : Water, Woodlands, and Wildlife
Learn about management of small woodlands in the Long Tom Watershed from a forester, landowner, ecologist and ODF stewardship forester. This program is offered in partnership with the Long Tom Watershed Council. For more information, visit the “Events” page at www.longtom.org.

July 7-10: Summer Institute for Teachers
If you know a teacher looking for continuing education units (CEUs), have them check out the Summer Institute (http://www.summerinstitutes.com/sites/eugene/). As part of the Summer Institute, FTF is hosting an experiential, place-based field trip. The “Seedling to Sawmill” field trip shows teachers the many facets of forest management. Teachers visit Swanson Bros. mill, tour a working tree farm, and meet professional foresters.

For more information, please see our web site:
www.foreststodayandforever.org

PO Box 55 • Eugene, OR 97440
**First annual Soiree and Silent Auction!**

**Event Details**
Thursday, September 18th, 6-9pm
Sweet Cheeks Winery
Tickets are $10/ person
(one glass of wine and a raffle ticket included)
Music by Rusty Strings,
a combination of
Old Time Traditional and Celtic
Register on-line:
http://conta.cc/SVCQeX

**Silent Auction & Raffle**
We have prepared an exciting silent auction full of unique and tempting items around three themes: Working with Wood, Fun in Forest, and Forestry Art, Culture, and History. Auction items include: four OSU football tickets; four rounds of golf at Tokatee Golf Course; many woodworking tools, including a compound miter saw; various gift baskets, including a Radio Flyer wagon for kids; and more coming every day!

Sweet Cheeks Winery is generously donating their beautiful and popular venue for this exciting fundraiser, and is also contributing some great raffle prizes. Your ticket purchase comes with one free raffle ticket for a chance at a Sweet Cheeks gift basket. Additional raffle tickets are $1 each.

Monies raised via the silent auction and raffle go to support FTF’s programs.

**RSVP Now**

Lively Ambiance • Beautiful Views • Live Music • Delicious Hor D’oeuvres • Tasty Wine

Silent action items range from smaller ticket items, like historic books, art, and wine, to larger ticket items, such as a cord of firewood, compound miter saw, OSU football tickets, and rounds of Golf.