



THE DIRT

Board Nominating Committee

The Board Nominating Committee held their first meeting to review the new committee Charter, discuss the board member job description and identify needs, such as human resources, risk management, fundraising and online marketing.

Do you have a strength you'd like to share with the board? Contact Vicky at vicky@agforestry.org to discuss.

YOU'RE INVITED! AGFORESTRY ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

Hold the date for the AgForestry virtual annual meeting scheduled for Wednesday, **September 28, 2022** from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. The meeting will be by Zoom.

REGISTER HERE!

Stay tuned for more details!

Thank you Board Nominating Committee Members

- Dennis Swinger, Jr. (38) - Past Board Chair
- Area 1: Blayde Fry (24)
- Area 2: Audrey Gravley (21)
- Area 3: Phyllis Gleasman (19)
- Area 4: Mike Gempler (12)
- Area 5: KayDee Gilkey (16)
- Area 6: John O'Callaghan (28)

CURIOUS CONVERSATIONS VS POLARIZATION

Both class members and alumni continue to share their concern about polarization. Are we capable of having honest, curious conversations about divisive topics? Do we know how? Can we talk about policy, politics, police or—egad!—the color of our skin?

“Depolarizing Conversations About Race” is a workshop designed for participants who want to develop more skills for listening to others and expressing their own views about race and racism in ways that lead to more productive conversations, even when vast differences exist. This workshop seeks to improve the ‘culture of conversations’ around race and provide constructive alternatives to polarized and judgmental exchanges that often dominate our current conversations at work, at home, and on social media.

AgForestry has partnered with [Braver Angels](#), an organization that works to “bring Americans together to bridge the partisan divide and strengthen our democratic republic”.

This workshop will focus on race, but the skills apply to any polarized conversation, so if you take this workshop, you will be:

- More skilled in expressing views in a way that the other person can hear you.
- Better at listening to people who have differing views on race and related public policy, so they feel heard.
- More able to find common ground when it is present.

Join us on Tuesday, **November 1, 2022** – 9 am – noon. [Click here to register.](#) (no charge)

CLASS 44 SELECTED; INTAKE PROCESS NEARLY COMPLETE

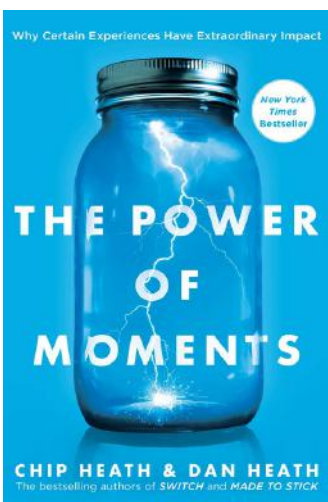
This week Program Director Hannah Poush completes intake calls with each member of the newly-selected Class 44. Watch your inbox announcing all class members. They begin their leadership journey in October in Pullman.

AGFORESTRY PARTNERS WITH UW ON PUBLIC POLICY SEMINAR

Thanks to a grant from Microsoft, for the first time AgForestry is partnering with the University of Washington's Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy and Governance. The January seminar will provide an introduction to and foundation for public policy seminars in Module 3 which include Olympia and Washington DC. The seminar is designed to introduce the class to public policy theory and practical knowledge to equip them to engage in public policy process confidently and effectively. Additionally, the seminar will provide a basic understanding of what levers are available to be used and which situations are best suited for which lever, as well as increase their ability to perform a needs assessment and critical analysis before diving into an issue.

The UW seminar lead, Professor Craig W. Thomas, shared that, "The UW Evans School of Public Policy and Governance is excited to partner with the AgForestry Leadership Program to offer a comprehensive public policy introduction to Washington's emerging leaders in agriculture, forestry, and natural resources. Our three-day seminar will build participants' understanding and capacity to design and implement equitable public policies. This new partnership with the AgForestry represents an important opportunity to expand the reach of the Evans School's professional education programs – one that is crucial to Washington State's ability to democratize environmental justice, climate change, and economic sustainability. "

WHAT WE'RE READING



Recommended by Julie Grenfell and Hannah Poush

As leaders, we create moments for those around us every day and in every aspect of our lives. In *The Power of Moments*, Dan and Chip Heath provide a roadmap to ensure the moments we create are meaningful and memorable. They explore four types of moments: moments of elevation, moments of insight, moments of pride, and moments of connection. The most powerful defining moments contain all four elements. These moments stick with us and shape the way we interact with the world around us. The book equipped us with an understanding of the power of everyday moments and the elements necessary to create them. This was a great boost of creativity and new ideas as we're preparing seminars for Classes 43 and 44!

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Andrea Mann (15)

Ann (6) & Steve George

Bruce (16) & Sandra Le Page

Chuck (16) & Sharon Podlich

Darigold

Dave (25) & April Johnson

Dick (3) & Paula Coon

Douglas County Assn of Wheat Growers

Greg (8) & Mary Hamilton

HFEC, LLC

Jack (1) & Geri DeWitt

Jeff (15) & Michel Pitts

Jordan (38) & Olivia McDevitt

Klaustermeyer Farms Inc

Leif (37) & Kate Fixen

Linda (2) & Gerard Weyns

MGH Equipment LLC

Nancy (14) & Travis Jordan

Nancy Peckman (20)

Phil (7) & Sharon Clouse

Phil Hess

Read Smith

Reggie Brulotte (23)

Ron (22) & Jan Wesen

Scott Wallace (8)

Skagit Farmers Supply

Skip (19) & Tracey Yotsuuye

Yakima Fruit & Cold Storage Co

MATCH CONTRIBUTIONS:

Nancy Peckman (20) with Weyerhaeuser Company

Mandy Galbreath (32) with Northwest Farm Credit Services

YOU'RE INVITED—SEMINAR RECEPTIONS ARE BACK!

We are excited to share that Seminar Receptions are back! To date, registration is open for the dates below. Alumni, friends, and prospects are invited to mingle with the current class members and other alumni! Click to register.

- Thurs., Sept. 15 – evening – Varietal Brewery in Sunnyside, Wash. (Class 43)
 - Thank you, Karl Vanevenhoven (31) for hosting!
- Thurs., Oct. 13 – evening – Ensminger Pavilion in Pullman, Wash. (Class 44)
 - Thank you, CAHNRS of Washington State University for hosting!
- Thurs., Nov. 3 – evening – University of Washington in Spokane, Wash. (Class 44)
 - Thank you, Catherine Brazil (19) and UW for hosting!
- Thurs., Dec. 1 – evening – location TBD in Wenatchee, Wash. (Class 44)
- Thurs., Dec. 8 – evening – Reininger Winery in Walla Walla, Wash. (Class 43)
 - Thank you, Kelly Tucker (19) for hosting. Thank you, Sarah McClure (31), Lori Stonecipher (34), and Sharla Wagoner for providing appetizers.

More dates to be added soon.