

Cafferata Family Receives the First Family of Oregon Forestry Award from Oregon Society of American Foresters

For Immediate Release-

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PORTLAND— The Cafferata family was honored with a First Family of Oregon Forestry Award at the 2022 Oregon Society of American Foresters (OSAF) Annual Meeting that was held virtually on April 28, 2022. This is the first time this award has been presented and was created to honor individuals who have shown a lifetime commitment to forestry in Oregon.

The Cafferata family includes Steve and his wife Wylda, daughter Francesca (Fran), sons Sam and his wife Jenny, Mike and his wife Julie, and Joe and his wife Ali, and grandchildren Allison, Anthony, and Alex. All are active in the forestry community. Steve and Wylda are the current co-chairs of the Oregon Tree Farm System and are also active with the Oregon Small Woodlands Association. Together, they manage not only the family tree farm but also do the forest management on the Lane County Boy Scout property. Wylda spoke at a Hagenstein Lecture hosted by the World Forestry Center, and is a regular contributor to the OSAF quarterly publication *Wooden Tales*, as well as to Oregon Small Woodlands Association publications, and currently serves as secretary on the Lane County Small Woodlands Association Board. Steve currently serves as the treasurer for OSAF and represents small woodland owners on the Emergency Fire Cost Committee.

Certified wildlife biologist Fran owns Cafferata Consulting, a consulting firm that provides practical solutions for wildlife and other natural resource management. She has served as a past OSAF chair. Mike is the district forester for the Oregon Department of Forestry's Forest Grove District. All four children and grandchildren work on the Cafferata Family Forest to model sustainable forest practices.

For as long as I can remember they have been a family that optimizes the profession of forestry in Oregon," says Dave Wells, chair of OSAF. "There is an idea that being part of a profession is more than going to work and coming home, or starting, working on and completing a job. It is contributing to the field so that it and the understanding of it is continually enhanced."

OSAF and its 15 local chapters represent all segments the forestry profession within the state. The society includes public and private practitioners, researchers, administrators, educators, and forestry students. Its mission is to advance the science, education, technology, and practice of forestry; to enhance the competency of its members; to establish professional excellence; and to use the knowledge, skills, and conservation ethics of the profession to ensure the continued health and use of forest ecosystems and the present and future availability of forest resources to benefit society.

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