

News from the Forest Guild Board of Directors: Leadership Transition, Added Strength, and Updated Bylaws

The Forest Guild's Board of Directors has been busy this year. After nearly a decade of service as chair of the Forest Guild Board, **Robert Hrubes** stepped down and, in a seamless transition, **Jon Martin**, the new chair, assumed the position as of September 29. Board members unanimously expressed their support for Jon as well as their gratitude to Robert for his leadership and invaluable contributions to the Guild. Robert will remain as a Board member. **Barrie Brusila** was re-elected as secretary, and **Lynn Jungwirth** was elected as treasurer. All officers are elected for two-year terms.

The Forest Guild also **welcomed four new members to its Board of Directors** in September: **Bill Bradley**, **Kathryn (Katie) Fernholz**, **Laura McCarthy**, and **Arturo Sandoval**.

Bill Bradley is a partner of the law firm of Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan and is based in New York City. His practice is focused on tax and tax litigation, particularly related to timberland transactions. He has lectured at Duke University and the University of Georgia on timber tax issues. Since 1997, he has served on the Board of Directors of the World Forestry Center in Portland, OR. He earned his J.D., *cum laude*, from Harvard Law School, where he was the Editor for the *Harvard Law Review* and received his B.A., with high honors, from Emory University.

Kathryn Fernholz is a professional member of the Forest Guild. She is a field forester by training with a degree in forest resources from the University of Minnesota. Currently, she is executive director of Dovetail Partners, a Minneapolis, MN-based nonprofit organization that provides authoritative information about the impacts and trade-offs of environmental decisions, including consumption choices, land use, and policy alternatives. Kathryn has been a leader within the forestry community in the Lake States including Chair of the Minnesota SAF, member of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council, and advisory board member for the Blandin Foundation's Vital Forests/Vital Communities Initiative.

Laura McCarthy is a founding member of the Forest Stewards Guild. From 1997-2005, she worked in various staff capacities with the Forest Trust/Forest Guild including Policy Program Director. During her eight years with the Guild, Laura earned the respect and admiration of Guild members and colleagues across the country. Laura lives in Santa Fe with her husband and two children and works for The Nature Conservancy. For three years she has held the position of Western Fire and Forest Restoration Program Director and recently transitioned to spend half of her work time as their New Mexico Director of Government Relations.

Arturo Sandoval, a native New Mexican, is founder and president of VOCES, Inc., a communications and organizational development consulting firm with offices in Albuquerque, NM, and Chihuahua, Mexico. He is founder and president of the Center of Southwest Culture, a non-profit organization promoting the peoples and cultures of the Greater Southwest. He has been active for more than three decades in community, cultural, environmental and civil rights efforts in New Mexico and across the U.S. Among his many volunteer commitments, he serves on Governor Bill Richardson's Task Force on "Our Communities, Our Future."

Earlier this year (in the late winter), the Forest Guild Board embarked upon **a revision to its bylaws**. When the Forest Stewards Guild and Forest Trust merged in 2004, the Board determined at that time that the Forest Trust's bylaws were adequate to guide the Forest Guild, so those bylaws remained in effect. The Board revisited this issue earlier this year and concluded that it was appropriate to update the bylaws to affect a modernized Board structure and operation that is more appropriate for the Forest Guild as it exists today. Following more than six months of discussion and revisions, including gathering input from the Guild's Membership and Policy Council, the Board unanimously approved the new by-laws at its September 29 meeting.