

# FOCUS on the FALLS



🍂 AUTUMN 2015 Issue 🍂

## Join Us for the FOMF Annual Meeting

November 9, 2015  
Multnomah Falls Lodge

Arrival at 4:30 pm  
Buffet at 5:00 pm  
Meeting to Follow

### AGENDA

Election of Board Members & Officers  
Volunteer Recognition and Awards

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT & SLATE 2015

The 2015 Nominating Committee consisted of Billie Anger (chair), Dan and Joanne Tennant, Sharon Quade, Chris Meinicke and Terry Hill. Any nominations from the floor must be submitted 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

[If there are no nominations from the floor the President can move that a unanimous ballot be cast for the slate.]

The slate for 2016 with 2 NEW members, John Buddeau & Lynn Rasmussen.

Continuing members to be voted a two year term

2015	2016	
Quade, Sharon(1)	continuing	President
Collins, Carl (2)	continuing	Vice-President
Goodwin, Ron (2)	continuing	Treasurer
Goodwin, Katie (2)	continuing	Secretary
Kasner, Teresa (2)	continuing	
Collins Kathy (1)	continuing	
Huber, Flora (1)	continuing	
Rasmussen, Dollie (1)	continuing	
White, Charlie (1)	continuing	
John Buddeau	*New*	
Lynn Rasmussen	*New*	

Board members who are retiring are Dan and Joanne Tennant. We thank them for their work and appreciate their years of service on the Board.

## CELEBRATING 100 YEARS at MULTNOMAH FALLS - September 9, 2015



# FOCUS ON THE FALLS

## Friends of Multnomah Falls FALL Issue 2015

<http://friendsofmultnomahfalls.org>

### Newsletter Editor & Website Administrator

Teresa Kasner

### Board of Directors 2015

**President**  
Sharon Quade

**Vice-President**  
Carl Collins

**Secretary**  
Katie Goodwin

**Treasurer**  
Ron Goodwin

### Board Members

Kathy Collins  
Flora Huber  
Teresa Kasner  
Dollie Rasmussen  
Dan Tennant  
Joanne Tennant  
Charlie White

Matt Ramich  
(Ex-Officio USFS)

Rick Buck (Ex-Officio)  
Multnomah Falls Lodge Co.

### Our Mission Statement:

*"The Friends of Multnomah Falls are dedicated to preserving and enhancing the unique natural, scenic and historic qualities of Multnomah Falls while providing a memorable experience for our visitors."*

## USFS SITE MANAGER REPORT - by Matt Ramich

Well everyone, summer has come to an end. With it, the visitors that flooded Multnomah Falls on a daily basis have receded back to their homes, to work and back to school.

Unlike previous summers, this one began in April some-time (so long ago I can't even remember what time in April). From that point on, people kept coming to see the natural wonders of the waterfall corridor.

Some of these people got hurt when they came to the area. I think there were a total of ten emergencies in which I was active and I know both Jason and Marcos had responded to several more on my days off. At the beginning, we were not a well-oiled machine for responding to emergencies. We did ok, but it wasn't our best. I think the last emergency that occurred on Labor Day was our best response of the summer. All three of us knew what equipment we needed, how to communicate efficiently, and of course, work together as a team.

Other positive outcomes from this summer were policing the various recreation spots for wrongdoing and people that parked illegally. This not only showed a Forest Service presence, but allowed people to approach us and ask questions. They might not have had an opportunity to do that if we had been at Multnomah Falls taking care of other situations.

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## FOMF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - by Sharon Quade

Did you notice that while the temperatures kept rising this summer to record-setting highs, so did the visitor counts rise setting records into the tens of thousands at Multnomah Falls. Cars were parked just about everywhere along the Historic Columbia River Highway, while others moved slowly bumper to bumper in desperation to find a place to park. One could even see young and old wading in pools to cool off or standing on the Benson Bridge to have a chance of cooling off in the faint sprays of Multnomah Falls. Volunteers even took Exit 35 to avoid some of the traffic with hope in finding a parking place. One couldn't help but notice that many visitors came with their own maps downloaded from the website. Others said they didn't need a paper map and simply used their smart phones to take photos of the trail maps. This was quite a summer!

The annual picnic in July was held on a perfect sunny day at Guy Talbot park with lots of delicious food and time to visit with each other. Thanks to everyone who brought their favorite dish to share.

After Labor Day on September 9th, we had a superb Centennial celebration with Chester Benson and other dignitaries recreating the day when Multnomah Falls was officially opened as a park. A time capsule is being filled with memorabilia for the next centennial celebration.



Sharon Quade & Smokey Bear by Ron Goodwin

Thank you to Matt's summer staff of Jason, Marcos, Emily and Chelsie. Thank you to all of our volunteers for your courtesy and friendliness answering questions, sharing hiking information and maps, explaining the various exhibits in the center and to all that were working outdoors on the plaza with pelts, maps and brochures. We welcomed 3 new volunteers. However, we are sorry to lose four volunteers and send thanks for their many hours of service: Pam Llewellyn (2000), Kathy Fleming (2013), Shirley Stageberg (2001), and Lynette Hall (2004). We also thank Dan and Joanne Tennant (2001) as they are retiring from many years of dedicated service on the Board.



## INTRODUCING 3 NEW VOLUNTEERS! - by Chris Meinicke

We have three new volunteers who love working with the public and sharing the beauty of the Columbia River Gorge and Multnomah Falls. All three new volunteers joined in the fun and helped us in Celebrating 100 years at Multnomah Falls.

**Bonita Davis** lives in SE Portland. She loves hiking and bringing friends and family to see the Falls. When she worked at the VA Medical Center she often brought veterans to the gorge. For Bonita, educating visitors about Oregon's natural beauty helps to preserve and protect the gorge.

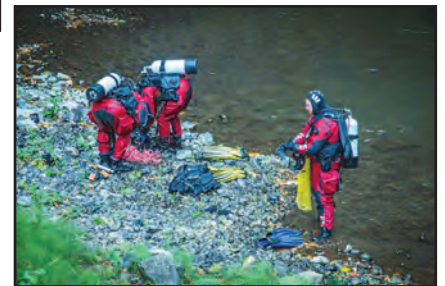
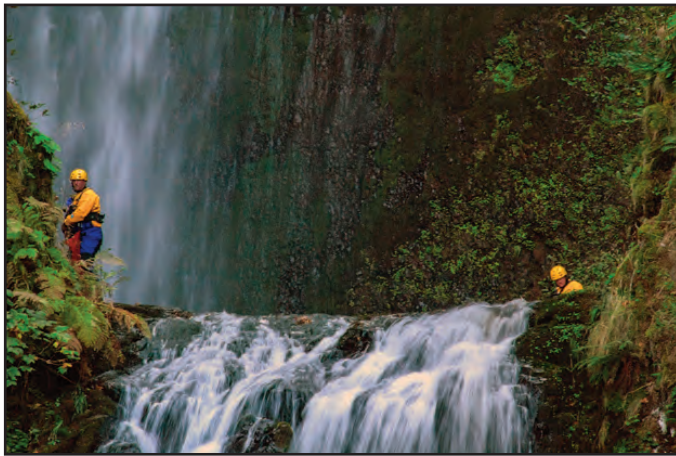
**Larry Fishman** lives in SW Portland. Larry was recruited by Terry Hill when they were volunteering at the Bridge of the Gods. Larry is also involved in other volunteer activities. He is a member of Toastmasters and has worked as a customer service representative, a teacher and public speaker.

**Steve Vanier** lives in the Gresham area. He is now retired after 46 years in the banking business. After bringing many business associates to Multnomah Falls Steve took the next step and has become an interpretive volunteer. Steve loves history and the hobby of fly fishing.

(Continued from page 2, Matt Ramich)

Another positive occurrence from this summer was this year's 100th celebration of Multnomah Falls becoming a public site. That event had great speakers, the weather was beautiful, and the amount/quality of food was great. These elements came together to form a festive and happy atmosphere. Yes, this summer was a crazy one, but there were many great experiences that helped make it memorable. That's about it!! Keep up the good work and may Multnomah Falls keep spirits high as well as inspire our visitors. Oh, and farewell to Jason and Marcos as we move into the off season. Both of them did great this summer!!!

## MULTNOMAH FALLS PLUNGE POOL CLEAN-UP - by Terry Hill



Here are some photos of the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Team during the Multnomah Falls plunge pools clean-up (including coins).

The total amount came to \$747.87, plus a bag of coins that the counter rejected. So, perhaps \$780 all total after adding a bag of foreign coins. The MCSO gave the money to the Friends of Multnomah Falls! A big hearty THANK YOU from the FOMF!

## FRIENDS OF MULTNOMAH FALLS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes, I would like to become a Member       Renewing Member

FOMF is a 100% volunteer, private, non-profit, tax-exempt organization. Check a box to select your level of membership:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Supporting | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Benefactor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Family       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Sustaining | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Lifetime  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Contributing |   |   |

Make checks payable to: Friends of Multnomah Falls, and fill out the information below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this application to: The Friends of Multnomah Falls, PO Box 426, Troutdale, Oregon 97060



## MULTNOMAH COUNTY and the FALLS

by Don Clark - from his Centennial speech, Sept 9, 2015

Don Clark is a former sheriff and County Commissioner of Multnomah County. He was a prominent speaker at the Centennial Event.

"One hundred years ago at this park County Commissioner Rufus Holman said "The building of this great [Historic] highway is a county enterprise." The Columbia Gorge continued to have a special importance to Multnomah County government. In 1922 the County Sheriff's office established a motorized patrol to police the Columbia River Highway. One of the deputy sheriffs, Pete Rexford, invented the highway center yellow stripe to keep the touring cars from colliding on the highway's many curves. As we know, this innovation was soon applied world wide.

Today the sheriff's uniform shoulder patch depicts a likeness of Multnomah Falls and the badge of authority's central emblem is a golden Vista House.

In 1980 Multnomah County Government took the lead to mobilize the political momentum that led to the passage of the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Act in 1986. Today, under that law, Multnomah County collaborates with the Gorge Commission, the Federal Government, two State Governments, several Tribal Governments, and non-governmental organizations such as the Friends of Multnomah Falls.

Hopefully, through our efforts at stewardship will deserve favorable remembrances by our descendants when they gather here to celebrate the bicentennial of this most special place."



Photo of Terry Hill and hiking friend Dennis Stillwell

### QUESTION?

Who is the volunteer who leaves the Visitor Center after his shift and goes to Oneonta Gorge wearing 3 polar fleeces on top and a wet suit? Who then dives down in the 40 degree 10' pool at the bottom of the falls to recover Go-pro and other cameras, sunglasses and trash? Who then puts the cameras on Facebook so the owners can get them back?

Congratulations to Terry Hill for doing this for the visiting public and for keeping our area clean.

## FOMF VOLUNTEER RECRUITER - Chris Meinicke

Anyone showing interest in becoming a volunteer should contact Chris Meinicke, at [chris.meinicke@frontier.com](mailto:chris.meinicke@frontier.com) or phone 503-645-3124. Our volunteers enjoy a flexible schedule and lots of fun training opportunities! We have the Interpretive Volunteer Training Workshop in March, a Bus Tour in the Columbia River Gorge in the Spring, a complimentary Sternwheeler Cruise and Mt. Hood Railroad trip in June, the Volunteer Picnic in July and the Annual Meeting in November! If you've ever thought of giving it a try, we'd love to have you on the FOMF team!

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Please send an e-mail to Teresa Kasner [Teresa@FriendsofMultnomahFalls.org](mailto:Teresa@FriendsofMultnomahFalls.org) if you want to receive future newsletters via PDF on the website to save printing and postage for FOMF.

The **SALMON FESTIVAL** will be held on November 1st at Multnomah Falls with Mt. Hood Community College. The U.S. Forest Service and the Friends of Multnomah Falls will staff a booth.