

FOCUS on the FALLS



🌿 SPRING 2018 Issue 🌿

THE FOMF ANNUAL INTERPRETIVE VOLUNTEER TRAINING WORKSHOP

April 7, 2018 - 9:00 am to 12:30 pm
Clear Creek Church
4100 SE 182nd - Gresham OR

AGENDA

- 9:00 - Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 9:45 - Welcome - Carl Collins, FOMF President
Introduction of Speakers
- 10:00 - ODOT - Terra M. Lingley:
"Historic Columbia River Highway"
- 10:50 - Break
- 11:00 - US Forest Service - Matt Ramich -
"The Trails of the Gorge"
- 11:50 - Questions & Training Issues -
Carl & Kathy Collins
- 12:30 - End of Workshop

- 🌿 Bus Tour info - Make Reservations & Pay Now
- 🌿 Membership Drive - Renew now!

FOMF BUS TOUR ITINERARY

April 28, 2018

The Interpretive Volunteers who staff the Visitors Center at Multnomah Falls Lodge are invited each Spring to take an educational tour to provide them with information about visitor destinations in the Columbia River Gorge and other noted Oregon sites.

Tour includes: Visit to Columbia Hills Historical State Park, Maryhill Museum, Oregon Trail ruts on Hwy 30 and passing over Deschutes River to the eastern boundary of the National Scenic Area.

COST:	FOMF \$20.00 and \$25.00 for guests, Vista House Volunteers and Portland Woman's Forum Members
8:00 AM	Board the bus at the Troutdale Outlet Mall
8:30 AM	Bus departs from the parking lot
10:00 AM	Bus arrives at Columbia Hills Historical State Park/Horsethief Lake Ranger Guided tour into "She-Who-Watches"
11:30 PM	Re-Board Bus
12:00 PM	Lunch at Maryhill Museum and self-guided tour
2:00 PM	Board the bus – promptly leaving Maryhill Museum, drive past Stonehenge, view ruts of Oregon Trail on Hwy 30 and pass over Deschutes River
4:15 PM	Arrive back at the Troutdale Outlet Mall parking lot

A Reservations Table for the Bus Tour will be located at the April 7th Volunteer Training Workshop at Clear Creek Church - or email Chris Meinicke at chris.meinicke@frontier.com. Deadline - April 14th.



VOLUNTEERS of the YEAR

This year instead of recognizing a single individual for "Volunteer of the Year" we opted instead to recognize a dedicated group of 7 people! We have "Day Schedulers" for each day of the week. This is rare for an organization and is working exceptionally well for FOMF.

Sunday - Flora Huber	Thursday - Denise Hawke
Monday - Ron Goodwin	Friday - Collyn Baldwin
Tuesday - John Buddeau	Saturday - Joanne Tennant
Wednesday - Dave Mysinger	Coodinator - Billie Anger

Photo from left: Flora, Ron, John, Denise, Maxine (since retired from scheduling, replaced by Collyn, not in photo), Joanne and Billie. (Dave missing in photo) 1

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**Friends of Multnomah Falls
SPRING Issue 2018**

<http://friendsofmultnomahfalls.org>

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(Ex-Officio USFS)

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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

Good morning, good afternoon or good evening to you. Wherever you are while reading this issue, I hope you are well. Multnomah Falls has been open to the public for several months and I would say, everyone is doing very well. Volunteers AND visitors are happy to be able to re-visit the site. Many wish everything were open and back to how things were before the fire. I have heard some understand the reasoning behind the closure right off the bat and even have gone as far to say the landscape needed a break. This is great insight.



Yes, people enjoyed hiking on the trails and seeing the breathtaking landscape features, but the number of people doing this keep rising. More people meant more refuse thrown to the side of the trail, switchbacks being cut that lead to an increase in erosion, and the crowding on the site and in the parking areas. What I am trying to put out there for others to think about is we need to start practicing good stewardship principles. Everyone is anxious to get back into the landscape and continue recreating the way it was before the fire. We have lost the Gorge temporarily, but could permanently damage it for years. So, speak up to others when you see them litter, are about to cut a switchback or in some manner impart to them this is a public place for many to enjoy and not just a few. I hope this resonates with you.

Let's move onto some new info that maybe some haven't yet heard about. Heather Pruitt, seasonal ranger many of you got to know over last summer, will be coming back starting March 18th!! She had been a great worker, not shying away from any task I asked her to do as well as having some great suggestions to improve working conditions during the summer months.

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FOMF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - by Carl Collins

It is said that "Heroes are born out of necessity". With the closure of both the Multnomah Falls Lodge and the Historic Columbia River Highway, Historic Highway 30, due to the Eagle Creek Fire this past September, we have seen many heroes step up to serve.

Some people are volunteering to repair trails, others are raising funds to help pay for repairs, others are helping the victims of the fires and others, such as the volunteers for FOMF, continued to be ready to serve the public at a moment's notice. I am so proud of our volunteer organization. Even though the visitors center itself was closed during the months of September, October and November, our volunteers continued to sign-up and were ready to come into the center at a moment's notice should the Forest Service say it was safe to do so.



Our volunteer day schedulers continued to make a monthly calendar and advised all volunteers to be ready for that announcement. This is why we chose our day schedulers to be our "Volunteer(s) of the Year for 2017" at the annual membership meeting in November. Since the Visitors Center opening in December, volunteers have had to evaluate whether they can navigate the long walkway from the I-84 highway parking lot into the center. For some, this walkway, whether in icy or fair conditions, is a real challenge. For others it is too difficult until better weather arrives.

I applaud all of you who stood in the gap, stayed the course and showed your dedication and commitment to the task at hand. The Friends are representatives and in partnership with the US Forest Service and your service is greatly appreciated.

FIREFIGHTERS - the HEROES of the STORY

Multnomah Falls Lodge, Firefighters & Firestorm by James M. Olsen

At 9 pm, Sept. 4, 2017 the extraordinary effort to save Multnomah Falls Lodge from the Eagle Creek fire began. Units from four fire departments came together at 10 pm. By 11:30 pm, under an ominously strange night sky, four engines, a ladder truck and a drafting tender were in place. Hose lays were positioned and an escape plan laid out for the assembled firefighters.

Just after midnight firefighters saw a brightening red glow, then firebrands descending and flames encircling on the basin ridges 700 feet above. The firestorm pulsates as the dry forest erupts from the rock cliffs in rolling fire. Boulders pour down, their crashes mingling with the roar of engine pumps. Hour after hour the engines continue to pump thirty thousand gallons per hour, with water drafted from Multnomah Creek. They kept water raining on the lodge's wood shake roof, hydrated the microclimate and maintained a curtain of spray encircling the building at ground level.

At 1:30 am the only escape road is blocked by boulders dislodged by the fire. Now the only possible escape means firefighters would have to abandon their engines and run north through the railroad viaduct.

After 16 hours the engines are quiet and the fire front moves westward. Flames had come within 50 feet but the lodge is saved.

Thanks to: Multnomah County Engine Task Force from Gresham, Portland, and Port of Portland. Washington County Tenders Strike Force from Forest Grove, Gaston, Tualatin Valley and Hillsboro. Oregon Fire Marshall's Office.



(Continued from Page 2 - USFS - Matt Ramich)
We will be having two other seasonals join the Falls crews, but are currently unknown as to who they will be. Of course everyone wants to know if there is a time line for things opening up. Probably like you, your guess is as good as mine. Stay tuned though for more updates on that. Keep up the good work and may Multnomah Falls keep spirits high as well as inspire our visitors.

WELCOME TO NEW INTERPRETIVE VOLUNTEERS

Dennis Stilwell - Gresham, Oregon

Dennis was a bookkeeper for 30 yrs and more importantly is the creator and author of nwhiker.com. He has volunteered with the US Forest Service at the MF Visitor Center in the past. Dennis enjoys hiking, photography and astronomy. Knows the trails in the gorge.

Renee Detherage - Corbett, Oregon

Renee has worked for 10 years at the Multnomah Falls Lodge as a concession and maintenance manager. She loves spending time outside with her dog and kids in her yard and on the trails. Renee also loves hockey. Her favorite place to relax is the beach. She is a 5th generation Corbett resident.

Dave Johnson - Woodland, Washington

Dave is currently a volunteer at the Vista House and enjoys reading, hiking, gardening, volunteering and is an avid collector of antique bottles.



Dedicated "Trail Blazers" are repairing the trails so you can once again enjoy hiking to see Multnomah Falls!

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"/> \$20 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Supporting | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Benefactor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 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



New Board Member Sam Goodwin

After living with my Aunt for a summer as a child and hearing her travel stories of the Pacific Northwest, I decided to experience it for myself. After graduating in 1978 from high school, I caught a Greyhound bus to Los

Angeles and started my journey. I hitchhiked and backpacked the Pacific Coast Hwy, 101, and I-5 until I reached Ashland, Oregon in the summer of 1979.

I spent the rest of the summer hitchhiking and backpacking Oregon and Washington and loved every minute. I joined the US Air Force on October 11, 1979 in Seattle intending only to spend 4 years in military service. After being assigned to Japan and meeting my lovely wife Kimiyo I decided to re-enlist. 20 years later I retired from the USAF in November, 1999.

After retirement we moved to Tigard. I joined the civilian workforce and continued to explore Oregon and Washington. After seeing an article in the Oregonian about the Friends of Multnomah Falls, I became a volunteer in March 2013. In May 2014 I accepted a position with Oregon Parks & Recreation Department as a seasonal assistant ranger at Viento State Park and the Mark O. Hatfield West Trailhead and Visitor Center for the 2014 summer season. In March 2015 I accepted the position of volunteer coordinator with the Friends of Vista House. I'm still exploring the Pacific Northwest and am proud to call the beautiful state of Oregon my home.

New Board Member Gloria Douglass



I was born & raised in Hacienda Heights, California. I attended college at The Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising in

Los Angeles and graduated in 1990. I first came to Oregon on vacation in 1998 and fell in love with Multnomah Falls and the Gorge.

I moved to Oregon with my daughter two years later. I married my husband Matthew, a native Oregonian, in 2004. We have three children, three grandchildren and three female rescue dogs.

I worked for many years in retail management across California and then in many Portland metro areas. I retired in 2014 and began photography as my hobby. My favorite photo shoot locations are in the Columbia River Gorge and Mt. Hood Wilderness.

I started volunteering at Multnomah Falls in March, 2015. I love to meet the children who visit the site and photographers on The Plaza. I look forward to many years of service.

FOMF VOLUNTEER RECRUITER - Chris Meinicke

Anyone showing interest in becoming a volunteer should contact Chris Meinicke at 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, 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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Teresa Kasner, Editor
PO Box 426
Troutdale OR 97060

Please send an e-mail to Teresa Kasner Teresa@FriendsofMultnomahFalls.org if you want to receive future newsletters via PDF attached to an email - to save printing and postage for FOMF.