
FOCUS on the FALLS



SUMMER 2013 Issue

FOMF Annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

Sunday July 28th

**4 pm - Arrival & Social
5 pm - Potluck BBQ**

At Guy W. Talbot State Park
in the town of Latourell

Please bring your favorite salad, hot dish or dessert to share. Burgers and hotdogs will be provided by FOMF, plus "fixin's" such as buns, relish, etc.

Please bring your own picnic basket with your own picnic plates, napkins, cups and utensils. We are "GREEN"!



Group Photo 2012

Group Photo for 2013 will be at 4:45, right before the BBQ dinner is served - be there or you will not go down in history. :-)

PLANTERS WITH A PURPOSE - By Katie Goodwin

The recently redesigned and reconstructed plaza planters are beginning to fill in plus more flowering plants have been added. With the exception of the daisies, the plants are all native to the area. For year round interest there are sword ferns, spirea and low growing Oregon grape. The spirea and Oregon grape are the only shrubs. Other plants that will remain green all year are the fringe cup, strawberries, Oregon sunshine (yellow daisy looking flower now with powdery green foliage) and the grasses. The only trees are the dogwood and Western red cedar. A shrubby appearing plant in the cedar area that is blooming now is goat's beard; interestingly it will die back completely in the fall. The flowering plants include: red columbine, vanilla leaf, bleeding hearts, iris, geraniums and yarrow.

If visitors have fern questions, the planters in front of the gift shop have the Lady, Maiden Hair and Deer Fern in addition to Sword Ferns. All are natives plants. For further information both Russ Jolley's book *"Wildflowers of the Columbia Gorge"* and Pojar's *"Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast"* are in the visitor center resource library area behind the desk.



Photo of MF Lodge Planters - by Teresa Kasner 2013

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Friends of Multnomah Falls Summer Issue 2013

<http://friendsofmultnomahfalls.org>

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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 REPORT by Nicole LaGioia

Hello Friends,

I hope the start of summer finds you all well. Since returning from my temporary assignment, I have had a chance to chat with most of you and have enjoyed the opportunity to catch up. Over the winter, I was in Lakeview, OR participating in the environmental assessment process for a salvage logging project for the Barry Point Fire. This was a great experience in which I learned a lot and I am so grateful that I had the opportunity. (Continued on page 4, Nicole LaGioia, USFS Report)



Photo of the new Spur Trail to the top of the Falls Viewing Area - by Nicole LaGioia 2013

FOMF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Teresa Kasner

Wow, can you believe that Summer starts on June 21st? By the time this reaches you, it might already have arrived! I'm ready for warm days, no socks, no coats and seeing lots of happy visitors to the Visitors Center at Multnomah Falls!

We had an informative and well-attended Training Workshop held at a fun historic place, the Crestview Manor in Corbett. We will be going back there next year! We only had one volunteer come on the Mt. Hood Railroad - possibly everyone has gone on this excursion and it's no longer viable for us. We have several people signed up for the Sternwheeler, that will be informative! These two trips are for our volunteers to familiarize themselves with the gorge and its attractions.

I'm excited about the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic on July 28 - you have read all about it on the cover page. We will have our official 2013 PHOTO at 4:45 - I hope to see you all there for a great BBQ and fun time!



We just got a new order of our Multnomah Falls pins - do you realize that those pins earn around \$3,000 dollars for the Friends each year? That pays for our maps and brochures we print, plus the badges and vests we have made for our volunteers, and the picnics and such. Be sure to fill the rack!

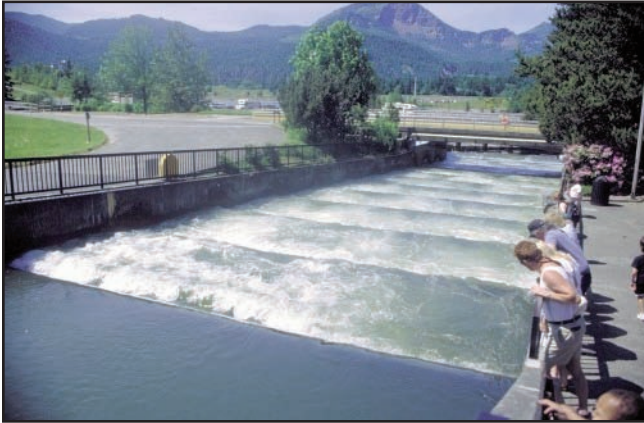
Are you ready for a great and active Summer in the Visitor Center at the Falls? I am!

See you at the Volunteer Appreciation PICNIC!!

Kind regards and thank you for all you do!

BONNEVILLE DAM FISH VIEWING

by Ron Goodwin



After talking with the fish counter on the Washington side of the Dam, I found out a lot of new information as the lady has not only been doing the fish counting for years but has a great interest in the movement of the fish up river. She actually keeps the door open and likes to talk with visitors as they are not anywhere as busy as the Oregon side.

Right now a lot of Summer Chinook Salmon are going up river and what we see through the windows are the wild fish as there is no hatchery program for them. Some were large 4 foot long, probably 5th year fish. Wild salmon must be released. The total count of Spring Chinook was 83,345 adults and 33,820 jacks which is larger number of jacks coming in than in the past. No one knows the reason for this. The Spring run is the prime run of all salmon anywhere in the world as these fish spend all summer in an Idaho stream waiting until October to spawn. The change from Spring to Summer fish is set at June 1st so there are still some Springer's going though as they had their adipose fin removed.

There are also a lot of Shad flashing by with often 15 to 20 at a time while the Oregon side might get 10 times that amount. Over 2.5 million Shad went through last year mainly in June. The shad have no adipose fin. Also passing are a few Bridge Lipped Suckers which four years ago in June there were 200 in Multnomah Creek by the pedestrian bridge to the freeway parking lot. They have not returned yet as the lady said, they need 62 degree water and the water is cooler this year. She even came over to see them as that was a rare sight.

Last year was a record year with over 515,000 Sockeye passing Bonneville but only 400 making it to Redfish Lake in Idaho 900 miles upstream. The eggs from the Redfish Lake Sockeye are brought down to the Oxbow Fish Hatchery at Cascade Locks because of the low pathogen levels in the water and then as the smolts are taken back up to Redfish Lake to become acclimatized before being released. She actually is certified to tag the Sockeye at Oxbow by putting a wire tag in their jaw. They do cut off the adipose fin as they do not want them kept by the fishermen. They are then put on barges and brought down to near the mouth of the Columbia River.

Stop by the fish viewing windows at Bonneville Dam and see your investment swim by as we are putting almost \$1 billion a year into helping our salmon recover.

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 tax-deductible 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

(Continued from Page 2, Nicole LaGioia, USFS Report)

Currently, Beth Kennedy is on a temporary assignment to the Mt. Hood National Forest and I am filling in behind her in addition to my duties at Multnomah Falls. I know this has been a stressful time for those of you volunteering on days when I am not here (which right now is Monday thru Friday), but I am working my hardest to fill the summer positions and meet the goal of Forest Service on site 7 days a week. Over the next several weeks, the summer staff will be starting, and by early July, we should be fully staffed and ready for the rest of the summer. Our summer staff to date includes Dave Mysinger, Jason Lignons, and Stephen Price. Dave will be working as an intermittent employee, which means he will be available to work when needed for a full year. It will be great to have his expertise at the falls. Jason is veteran of the US Coast Guard and is currently in school at Ashford University studying Human Resource Management. Jason will be starting June 24th. Stephen is also a veteran of the US Coast Guard. Stephen has a degree in Environmental Science from Portland State University and will be starting July 7th. I am still working on hiring one more person for Multnomah Falls and hope to have them starting on July 7th as well.

The new spur trail is in great shape. The trail crew is just finishing up and all work should be done by the 4th of July. They did a beautiful job and this new spur should hold up much better in the rain. If you see them, make sure to give them a big thanks. I have included a couple of photos.

Thanks for all that you do!

VOLUNTEER CONTACT INFO - Aileen Ashley

Anyone showing interest in becoming a volunteer should contact Aileen Ashley, at aileen.ashley@comcast.net or phone 503-697-6598. 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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Teresa Kasner, Editor
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Don't forget to e-mail Teresa Kasner at Teresa@FriendsofMultnomahFalls.org if you want to receive future newsletters via PDF on the website to save printing and postage for FOMF.

The highest year-round waterfall in the United States is Fairy Falls in Mt. Rainier National Park but is no longer accessible by trail.