
FOCUS on the FALLS



SUMMER 2014 Issue



2013 Above - Group Photo for 2014 will be at 4:45 - before the BBQ dinner is served - be there or you will not go down in history. :-)



Do you know the name of this plant that is found at Multnomah Falls? The nickname is "Stinky Bob" aka Herb Robert

FOMF Annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

Sunday July 27th, 2014

4 pm - Arrival & Social
4:45 - Annual Group Photo
5 pm - Potluck BBQ

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

Please bring your favorite picnic dish to share - salad, hot dish or dessert. Cold drinks and BBQ burgers and hotdogs will be provided by FOMF, plus all the "fixin's" such as buns, condiments, etc.

Please bring your own picnic basket with plates, napkins, cups and utensils and a fun tablecloth for the tables. We are "GREEN"!

Please bring your own folding camp chair for visiting in the sun!

CEDAROAK ELEMENTARY EXPLORES THE FALLS - By Carl Collins

Volunteers Carl Collins and teaching partner Wally Green greeted sixty-four fourth graders from Cedaroak Elementary located in West Linn to Multnomah Falls for a tour.

The young explorers, accompanied by their teachers and parents were on a mission to learn to recognize the different land forms that are found in the Columbia River Gorge. The main focus however, was the Benson Bridge.

Students were amazed to see workman dismantling the construction walkway used while repairing the bridge. Many questions and smiles completed a great time of learning and sharing.



FOCUS ON THE FALLS

Friends of Multnomah Falls Summer Issue 2014

<http://friendsofmultnomahfalls.org>

Newsletter Editor & Website Administrator

Teresa Kasner

Board of Directors 2014

President
Teresa Kasner

Vice-President
Sharon Quade

Secretary
Katie Goodwin

Treasurer
Ron Goodwin

Board Members

Hank Bennett
Carl Collins
Kathy Collins
Flora Huber
Twila Mysinger
Phyllis Siebken
Dan Tennant
Joanne Tennant
Hal 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 - Matt Ramich

Well hello there! My name is Matt Ramich and I am the new Site Manager at Multnomah Falls. I started last Wednesday, May 21, 2014. It has both been a crazy but fun first two weeks working at the Falls. Not only have I been learning my new role and responsibilities, but meeting tons of great new co-workers. The volunteers working for the Friends of Multnomah Falls have all greeted me very warmly and have been excited to see me. Thank you so much for welcoming me! I have appreciated the wisdom and stories of each volunteer I have met seems to have. I hope to work closely with this group and form a lasting relationship. I have also felt very welcomed by the various folks working at the Lodge. Everyone here seems to be a great group of people.



Some fun things that I have taken part of have been the re-opening ceremony for the Benson bridge (which was a huge success) and being able to witness a Memorial Day engagement that happened on the bridge. Of course, there are also some hard aspects to the job. Dealing with parking on busy days can be testing. As long as you don't let the drivers get to you, there are many more compliments coming your way than not. Several incidents (a heart attack and badly sprained ankle) have happened on the trail to the overlook, but the response team has been quick and easy to work with.

Everyone is doing their best here at the Falls. I am confident that nothing should get too out of hand here at the Falls. I am glad to have gotten this position!

FOMF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Teresa Kasner

Summer will begin on June 21st - I'm so excited about the 2014 season at Multnomah Falls Visitor Center! It's warmer in there for one thing. :-)

I hope you get to meet the new USFS Site Manager, Matt Ramich, the next time you visit the Falls. He has a wonderful positive attitude, always with a big smile. I really look forward to working with him in the future! Welcome, Matt!!

I represented The Friends of Multnomah Falls at the Benson Bridge Reopening and 100th Anniversary Centennial Celebration at Multnomah Falls on May 30th. There were speeches by Stan Hinatsu, Rick Buck, the USFS Historian and Lynn Burditt, Area Manager for the USFS-NSA (and others). We heard a lot of history of the bridge and a lot of recognition and appreciation of many people and groups who help with the Falls. There was a beautiful cake and a reception in the Falls Room in the Lodge with a lot of delicious refreshments thanks to Rick Buck! Channel 6 - KOIN TV news ran a segment on the 6 pm news. I recorded it with my iPhone and put it on YouTube if you'd like to watch: <http://youtu.be/c7zFgZ9lmCk>

Are you on Facebook? Please do a search for "Friends of Multnomah Falls" and join our group. We share photos and news there and would love to see more people participate in the group.

OK, get yourself out to Multnomah Falls and hike up to the bridge and check it out. I wonder when the moss will begin to grow on it? What do you think? Enjoy the Summer of 2014!!



See you at the Falls!

WHAT ARE THE GREEN TREES IN THE WINTER AROUND THE FALLS?

by Ron Goodwin



Tree identification is not easy for visitors from other parts of the world. The most often tree question is what are the big pine trees along the Scenic Highway. Actually they are our State tree the Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) which is also in the center on the standard Oregon license plates. The "Douglas" honors the Scottish botanist David Douglas who roamed the NW in the 1820's and "menziesii" honors the Scottish physician and naturalist who discovered the tree on Vancouver Island in 1791. The hyphen in the common name lets us know it is not a "true" fir. A true fir has cones that stand upright while the Douglas-fir hangs down. They require sunlight when small. Kids like their cones because it looks like mice are hiding in them with their tails and legs sticking out. Look for them on the ground and you know you have the Douglas-fir. The needles go around the branch and look like a bottle brush. In nature they do not look like Christmas trees but are kind of scraggly.

This conifer made Oregon famous for lumber and plywood that is shipped all over the world. It has thick bark which protects it from wildfires as shown in the 1991 Falls Fire. Oregon had one in Coos County that was 330' tall and over 11' in diameter and can live for 1,000 years. The Douglas-fir furnishes more products for human use than any other tree in the world.

The one tree than resembles the Douglas-fir on its bark and shape is the Western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*). The biggest difference is the buggy whip drooping top unlike all the firs and pines. It also has the smallest needles of any conifer and cones which are about the size of an olive. There are usually many cones under the hemlock and the needles continually fall all year round. There can be up to 300,000 far flying seeds to one pound. It does grow to 200' tall and 4' in diameter. The Western hemlock thrives in deep shade and therefore may grow close together. Its bark is thinner and is vulnerable to insect attack. Western hemlock is a major producer of pulp for high-quality newsprint and tissue and also for plywood. They are found on the trail to Devils Rest.

(Continued on page 4)

DESCENDENT OF 5 TRIBES

by Flora Huber

I'm a member of the Quinault Indian Nation. I'm descended from 5 different tribes -- Quinault, Chinook, Cowlitz, Cree, Sioux and also the French and English tribes. Chief's families did not marry closer than 5th cousin so daughters were sent to neighboring tribes. So many of us are descended from many tribes. In the Northwest this has not remained true as it has among the Navajo and Hopi tribes.



There were nine treaty tribes in Oregon and as many in Washington. With and an average of 5 tribes included in each reservation this accounted for up to and maybe more of 45 different tribes. The languages were different as distance, the Cascades and miles of separation determined culture.

Coastal Indians depended on canoe travel and the ever abundant ocean, vegetative food stuff and wild game. Cedar clothes and plank houses were the norm due to the rain and marshy terrain. Inland Indians depended on wild game, vegetative food stuffs and fish for nourishment. They used buckskin clothes and lived in teepees. Both were nomadic in search of food but settled in home territories. Potlatches, tribal give-aways, on the coast and powwows for inland Indians. Any excuse to get together and visit was important. My Aunt said they would load up 3 ocean going canoes with provisions for two weeks and travel up the coast to another village. She remembered the plank houses where up to 3 families each could call home. My great uncle remembered canoes so large that 3 could sit side by side along with provisions.

I recommend reading "Plants of the Pacific Northwest" by Pojar and Mackinnon as a good reference book as it outlines different uses of of the same plant by different tribes. Also "The First Oregonians" by Laura Berg outlines the trials suffered by many native nations.

Our Quinault tribe participates in the Tribal Canoe Journey sponsored by a different tribe each year where up to 50 ocean going canoes gather for a potlatch. This past year the celebration lasted a whole week where we were treated to songs, dance and food (roasted elk meat, fish, crab, fry bread) and much more. Next year the potlatch will be held in Bella Bella, British Columbia an eight hour drive above Seattle. Each tribe that attends will have their own giveaway.

Our tribe along with many other tribes participated in fishing at Celilo Falls and I remember going there to watch them fish. (Editor's Note - Flora is a Day Scheduler for FOMF and has served on the board for many years.)

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

TERM LIMITS - AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Nominating Committee has recommended term limits for the FOMF Board of Directors, the Board that guides and runs the organization. Our reasons for this recommendation are not because of dissatisfaction with the current Board membership, many of whom have been on the Board for many years, but rather for the following:

- 1) Refresh of Board membership brings new ideas to organizations like FOMF.
- 2) FOMF members who are not on the Board are reluctant to offer their name unless someone on the Board is stepping off the Board, AND most Members on the Board don't want to step off unless there is a good candidate to replace them ... so there are rarely any vacancies.
- 3) Board membership give members the opportunity to serve FOMF in new ways than volunteering at the Info Center.
- 4) The current appearance of unlimited terms on the Board may make members reluctant to participate because they think they have to stay on the Board forever.

Before we get together at the Annual Meeting to discuss this, we would encourage you to google "term limits of boards."

(Tree article continued from page 3)

One of the historically most used trees by the Northwest Indians is the Western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*). It has flat needles which have a small butterfly pattern on the underside. They can grow to 200' tall and over 10' in diameter. Their cones are small and look like a smoker's pipe. This red cedar supplied material for lodges, boats, tools, utensils, etc. Strips of bark were used for clothing, baskets, ropes, and fishing nets.

One 38' dugout cedar canoe purchased by Captain J.C. Voss from Vancouver Island Indians with an added cabin and 3 small masts sailed 40,000 miles to circumnavigate the globe. It can be seen at Thunderbird Park in Victoria, BC. The totem poles North of Puget Sound were carved out of Western red cedar. There is a Western red cedar in the planter by the Multnomah Falls Lodge restroom and some are along the trail to the Benson Bridge. The new shake roof on the Lodge are from Sandy Shake mill by Shorty's Corner on highway 26. Vancouver Island provides most of the old-growth cedar today. Give one of our conifers a hug as they are really important to the people of Oregon and the world.

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 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! :-)

FOCUS on the FALLS

Teresa Kasner, Editor
PO Box 426
Troutdale OR 97060



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.

Good news! The prize Spring Chinook salmon numbers going through the fish ladder at Bonneville Dam were double the number of last year. The lamprey eel and steelhead salmon numbers are up while the shad are about the same as last year.