

# FOCUS ON THE FALLS



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## Winter 2011 Issue

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### Join Us for the Annual FOMF Interpretive Volunteer Training Workshop

**Saturday April 9th 2011 - 9 am until Noon**



### Agenda

Welcome by Teresa Kasner, President  
USFS Presentation - Nicole Lund, Site Manager  
Refreshments & Break  
Speaker - Tom Cowling, Author of 3 books about local history  
FOMF updates and info from board members

Location is the Columbia Grange #267 at Corbett, Oregon

Off I-84 Take exit 26 at Corbett, drive to the top of the bluff and veer left, turn left onto the Historic Columbia River Highway, drive East past the Fire Hall and on to the "Grange Hall Road" and take a right there, at the top of the hill is the Hall at 37493 NE Grange Hall Rd, Corbett, OR 97019.



Photo by Teresa Kasner  
Two boys visiting from North Carolina having fun with the horns and antlers available in the drawers in the Visitor's Center at the Falls.



### BOARD MEMBERS 2011

(Back from Left): Maxine Wilkins, Jim Jensen, Hal White, Billie Anger, Teresa Kasner, Joanne Tennant, Dan Tennant & Phyllis Siebken. (Front Row) Sharon Quade, Ron Goodwin, Twila Mysinger, Katie Goodwin, Beth Kennedy, USFS & Nicole Lund, Ex-Officio USFS. (Missing in photo Flora Huber)

# FOCUS ON THE FALLS

## Friends of Multnomah Falls Winter Issue 2011

<http://friendsofmultnomahfalls.org>

### Newsletter Editor & Website Administrator

Teresa Kasner

### Board of Directors 2011

#### President

Teresa Kasner

#### Vice-President

Sharon Quade

#### Secretary

Katie Goodwin

#### Treasurer

Ron Goodwin

### Board Members

Billie Anger  
Flora Huber  
Jim Jensen  
Twila Mysinger  
Phyllis Siebken  
Dan Tennant  
Joanne Tennant  
Hal White  
Maxine Wilkins

Nicole Lund  
(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."*

## MULTNOMAH FALLS USFS REPORT

By Nicole Lund

Hello Friends of Multnomah Falls volunteers and members. I would like to thank you for the warm welcome I have received from all of you as I start my new position at Multnomah Falls. I have had the opportunity to meet most of the volunteers but would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself for those of you I have yet to meet.

I come originally from Wisconsin, but most recently from Coeur d'Alene, ID where I worked for the research branch of the Forest Service. I have been with the USFS for about 9 years working throughout the interior west. I earned my Bachelor's degree in Forestry/Resource Conservation from the University of Montana, Missoula while continuing my work with the Forest Service.



As is common with any change in personnel, we will all need time to adjust. I know I am new to the Falls, but my eyes are seeing things for the first time. This gives me an advantage as the more experienced we get at something, the more we tend to miss. I hope that if you are uncertain about the changes that you feel free to discuss your concerns with me.

As we enter into the summer I am excited about the 'new' approach the Forest Service is taking pertaining to the Falls. Beth Kennedy and I are working at putting a new spin on the interpretive program. Some of the interpretive activities of the past will continue and others will be replaced by more focused events. We are hoping to have a full staff of FS personnel for the summer months and with the continued partnership with the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) crews I am looking forward to an active interpretive program here at the Falls. I look forward to working with the Friends for my first summer at Multnomah Falls.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Teresa Kasner

Greetings from your new President! I am looking forward to working with all of you the next year! I've been busy working on agendas for board meetings, updating the website, now working on the Winter issue of this newsletter. I'm co-chairing the Interpretive Volunteer Training Session planning committee with Dee Conrad. We're bringing back the Bus Tour this year!

My goal is to provide the best interpretive training for our volunteers so they can do a superb job while serving in the Visitor's Center. I also want to make the experience FUN for everyone, as I know very well that a volunteer is giving their time and that's a valuable gift - and if it's not fun, then people won't feel the need to stay with us.

Another goal is to expand our member base. Did you know that as members you are the ones who vote on any changes to the organization? You also elect the board. Only members are authorized to vote on these things at the Annual Meetings. I have found that similar organizations have over 1,000 members, and our current count is 43 members! If you are not a current member, please consider joining and help support this organization to accomplish all it's good work that is planned for the future.



It is my hope that we'll continue to grow as an organization and think beyond the box to expand and explore new options for our involvement in one of the most important visitors' attractions in Oregon. We are on a good team of stewards of this treasure and I know we'll all do our best to care for Multnomah Falls like those who came before us and to set a good example for those who will follow.

See you at the Falls!!

# NOTHING TO CROW ABOUT

by Ron Goodwin

That is because it is not a crow, but a raven. Around Multnomah Falls you will see two big black birds sitting in a tree or patrolling the Historic Highway. If you want to see them up close, park on the picnic side of the highway at Wahkeena Falls. Here they come down and peck at your windshield wipers, mirrors and rubber around the sun roof. They were destroying the windshield wipers while the work party was re-opening the trail.

Usually the raven is described as useful in eating carrion and one of the most clever of birds. Its large size of about 24" long with a wingspan of 4 1/2 feet with a large beak makes it just right for getting into garbage cans and other human disposed bags to make a mess. Did I mention the mess left on the cars?



They live in areas where there are no crows all over the state of Oregon from the highest peaks to the ocean shore. Their iridescent purplish/black feathers make them distinctive especially with their loud repetitive "gronk" call. Sometimes they will be soaring up high and looks like a hawk at first. They stay close to their mate and are often seen sitting on a power pole with the larger female telling the male what he has done wrong that day.

## MEMBERSHIP IN THE FRIENDS OF MULTNOMAH FALLS



Multnomah Falls is the number one natural attraction in Oregon. We have over 3.2 million visitors each year. We have kept our membership for individuals at a very reasonable rate of \$15, while other non-profits have raised their individual rates to as much as \$35.

Our membership count per year has been 60 members in 2009 and 43 members in 2010. Some Portland area non-profit organizations similar to FOMF can claim numbers as high as 1100 members! We're hoping that you will help us raise our membership numbers. Most people love Multnomah Falls and would love to support it's mission, this is how you can become involved with helping us keep this natural gem "shining"!

WE NEED YOU! If you are not a current member, won't you take this moment to cut the form from below and fill it out and send in your membership NOW?

### 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:

- \$15 Individual
- \$20 Family
- \$50 Contributing
- \$100 Supporting
- \$250 Sustaining
- \$500 Benefactor
- \$1000 Lifetime

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

## VOLUNTEER CONTACT INFO

by Aileen Ashley

Anyone showing interest in becoming a volunteer should contact Aileen Ashley, at [aileen.ashley@comcast.net](mailto:aileen.ashley@comcast.net) or phone 503-697-6598.

If you want to know before visiting the Gorge about hiking information, go to [portlandhikers.org](http://portlandhikers.org) and check out the forum and then trail reports. This will give current hiker's reports on trails.

## Gardening Dates for Spring 2011

by Katie Goodwin

Spring is rapidly approaching which means that it will soon be time to take care of the planters on the plaza at Multnomah Falls. Our first work party will be Wednesday, April 6th, from 9:30 am until approximately noon. Those willing to help should wear gloves, appropriate clothing, and bring their favorite weeding and pruning tools. We have plenty of five gallon buckets for debris collection. This first work day will only entail weeding, pruning and planting some "color spots" in front of the gift shop. Our second follow up weeding will be Wednesday, May 4th. It should be quick as we will then spread bark dust over beds. If need be we will replace the "color spots" in front of the gift shop so things look good for Mother's Day.



## Multnomah Falls Lodge E-Mail Club

Do you know that the Multnomah Falls Lodge has a very popular E-Mail Club? It's sent out once a month and has coupons and specials for the lodge and also shares a calendar of fun activities occurring in the Columbia River Gorge.

To join the E-Mail Club:

Email the information below to: [mflleann@yahoo.com](mailto:mflleann@yahoo.com)

Your email address

First and last name

birthday, month and year (for coupons)

Anniversary month and year (for coupons)

## 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](mailto:Teresa@FriendsofMultnomahFalls.org) if you want to receive future newsletters via e-mail to save printing and postage for FOMF.

### NOTE:

We'd love to have you  
become a MEMBER of the  
Friends of Multnomah Falls! :-)