
FOCUS on the FALLS



Fall 2011 Issue

Join Us for the FOMF Annual Meeting

November 14, 2011 - 4 pm

**Arrival and
“Meet & Greet”
at 4 pm
Buffet at 5 pm
Meeting to Follow**

AGENDA

**Election of Board
Members & Officers
Volunteer Recognition
and Special Awards**

NOTE: The Annual Meeting is for all FOMF Members, Interpretive Volunteers and their Significant Others.

Did you know...

...over the last three months the visitors to the Falls have put in over \$8,900 in the donation box as a thank you for the good work the volunteers are doing and donations for the map or a pin.

The USFS Summer Staff retrieved \$134 worth of coins from the creek - even though there are signs saying not to throw coins in the water.



Annual Meeting Group Photo - 2010

Emily Kessler USFS, Aaron Pedersen USFS, Maxine Wilkins, Outgoing President, Beth Kennedy USFS, Teresa Kasner, President-Elect, Jennifer Kevill - USFS, Dan Harkenrider - USFS, Ron Goodwin, Treasurer

Proposed list of Officers and Board Members for 2012 at the Annual Meeting

Officers:

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
Joanne Tennant
Dan Tennant
Hal White
Maxine Wilkins

Running for Re-election:

Ron Goodwin
Katie Goodwin
Jim Jensen
Teresa Kasner
Phyllis Siebken
Dan Tennant
Joanne Tennant
Hal White

If anyone would like to nominate someone from the floor at the Annual Meeting, they will need to get permission from that person prior to the meeting and election.

Joanne Tennant, Nominating Committee Chairman

FOCUS ON THE FALLS

Friends of Multnomah Falls Fall 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! As I am writing this, I am reminded of the changes which are coming. Fall is my favorite season. Growing up in Wisconsin with the change from Summer to Fall comes the beautiful leaf colors, the cool crisp mornings, and the harvest festivals of a farming community. The Falls rains have started and with the new season comes a new appreciation of Multnomah Falls. This new season gives us a chance to reflect, appreciate, and anticipate.



We can reflect on our successful Summer season. The memories of a great Summer. The Summer staff is now back at school. New interpretive events such as Kid's Day were a big success. The visitor center served about 250,000 visitors during the 2011 fiscal year (Oct. 1, 2010 to now). This number is down from last year, but overall in line with the past several years. And remember... only about 10% of visitors to Multnomah Falls come into the Visitor Center, so that is about 2.5 million visitors on site this year!

We can appreciate what the new season brings. Rains mean an end to the wildfires in the area. An opportunity for plants to grow again. The opportunity for another round of radishes and spinach from the garden. The Scenic Area is seeing lots of changes this fall. While appreciating the dry warmth of Summer, I am anticipating what a change in season has to offer. I look forward to the opportunities of this new season. New rain jackets, new galoshes. New ideas, new opportunities.

Dan Harkenrider, the Scenic Area manager for the past 25 years, has retired. As Dan heads to retirement, Diana Bambe will be taking the reins as acting Scenic Area manager. The Multnomah
(Continued on Page 3)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Teresa Kasner

I'm writing to you with Autumn in full fledge here in my turn-of-the-century farmhouse in Corbett, OR. I live only 15 minutes from Multnomah Falls, so I love being involved with this wonderful historic and natural treasure that is the Falls and Lodge, right in my neighborhood!

I do hope you attend the Annual Meeting that is coming up - all members and volunteers are invited to attend. If you don't have time to volunteer, please do think seriously of becoming a member of the organization. The membership form is on the last page of this newsletter. Being a member entitles you the opportunity to attend the meetings, vote for the board of directors and board officers - and to help lead this great group into the future!

If you've ever given any thought of becoming one of our treasured volunteers, please contact Aileen



Ashley (her email is on the last page). You will find that there are a lot of wonderful things about being a volunteer -- You meet folks from all over Earth! You are invited to attend our wonderful Interpretive Training Sessions where there is always a fascinating program speaker, and to learn all about our area and the Columbia River Gorge. You also would be able to go along on our Annual Interpretive Bus Tour of the gorge on a luxury tour bus. We are also invited on a Sternwheeler Cruise! We'd love to have you join us!

If you ever have anything to share in the newsletter, do let me know. And if you'd like to see something on the website, feel free to contact me with your ideas.

I hope to see you at the Falls - enjoy the Autumn there!

HERMAN the STURGEON by Ron Goodwin

The current 500 pound 10 foot long Herman is the third one and is much happier in the newer pond with a window at the end so he can view the visitors. The original Herman was taken to the Oregon State Fair for about 50 years and died there. The present Herman was caught in the Columbia in 1998 when the Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation built a new natural looking underwater view window at the Bonneville Dam Fish Hatchery for Herman.



The Columbia River is home to both the white and green sturgeon with the white being the most abundant and larger. They are the largest freshwater fish in North America and can grow to almost 20' and 1,000 pounds at 100+ years. They have existed for 175 million years according to fossil records. They have a cartilaginous skeleton rather than bones. The mouth is on the underside and can be extended downward to suck food (dead fish and clams) off the bottom. They do prefer deep holes in the river.

Sturgeon do spend part of their lives in salt water and are found from the Frasier River in British Columbia to the Sacramento River. They are anadromous like salmon, shad, smelt and lamprey. The historic fish cannot navigate the fish ladders going upstreams above the Bonneville Dam to the Snake River therefore the numbers are getting smaller. They are mature at about 10 years and over 5' long and at 6' are 25 years of age. The legal size for keeping them now is 38" to 54" from the tip of the nose to the V in the tail.

SALMON FESTIVAL at MULTNOMAH FALLS

Nov 6th - 10am - 4pm

The Festival is held in conjunction with the USFS, Mt. Hood CC and the Friends of Multnomah Falls.

(Continued from Nicole's USFS Report)

Falls site manager position is also being changed from Stan Hinatsu to Jennifer Wade. Jennifer Wade is the Special Use Permit administrator for the Scenic Area. In addition to these permanent changes, Beth Kennedy is taking a temporary change in job duties and switching positions with Sue Baker. Beth Kennedy will now be the Wild and Scenic River Manager/Rec Planner and Sue Baker will take over as the Interpretive Specialist. You will have a chance to meet all of these new folks at the annual meeting in November.

Let's not forget the great times of summer, but appreciate that all seasons have their benefits. Like a child awaiting Christmas morning, I look with hope at the change in seasons. Bring out those wool sweaters and Gore-Tex rain jackets and enjoy the fall.



EVENT AT McMENAMIN'S EDGEFIELD

On Tuesday, October 25th at 6:30 PM The Oregon Encyclopedia will be presenting a full history of the building of the Columbia River Historic Highway, the destruction that occurred with the construction of I-84 and the current ongoing efforts to restore segments of the original highway. Presenters are Robert Hadlow, George Fekaris and David Seel.

The presentation will last about 1-1/2 hours and will include a visual presentation with the narration with a question time to follow. The event will take place in the theater at McMenamin's Edgefield in the Power Station building. If you wish you may purchase food and beverages to enjoy while listening. There is no charge. For further information go to www.oregonencyclopedia.org.

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



SAYING GOODBYE TO KEITH WALKER

Keith Walker, past Board member, is retiring from his volunteer service for the Friends of Multnomah Falls.

He began his volunteer service for our group in 1994 and has been a fixture at the Visitor Center almost every Tuesday since he began as an interpretive volunteer.

Keith also collected the contributions from the Donation Box, prepared the deposit and was responsible for the bank deposits for many years. Last year he volunteered 312 hours for the FOMF.

Keith was a salesman for an optical supply company. His wife is Margaret and they have 2 children. He had a new joke to share with the other volunteers every day.

Thank you for your many years of service and you will be missed!

MAX WILKINS RETIRES



Max Wilkins, past Board Member, is also one of the founding members of the Friends of Multnomah Falls and was an active interpretive volunteer for many years, until 2 years ago.

He volunteered in the Visitor Center, but he also liked to talk to people up on the Benson Bridge and on the Plaza.

Max was a regular volunteer with the Falls gardening projects and helped on many other extra projects.

He is married to Maxine Wilkins and they have 2 children, 1 grandson, 4 step-grandchildren & 1 step-great-grandchild.

In the past Max did a lot of hiking and cross-country skiing. He was always proud of his home garden.

Thank you for your many years of service and you will be missed!

VOLUNTEER CONTACT INFO - by Aileen Ashley

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

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.

NOTE:

Come see the Coho spawning in Multnomah Creek at the end of October and at the Salmon Festival on November 6th.