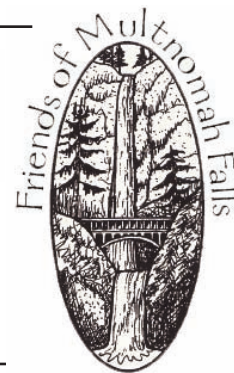
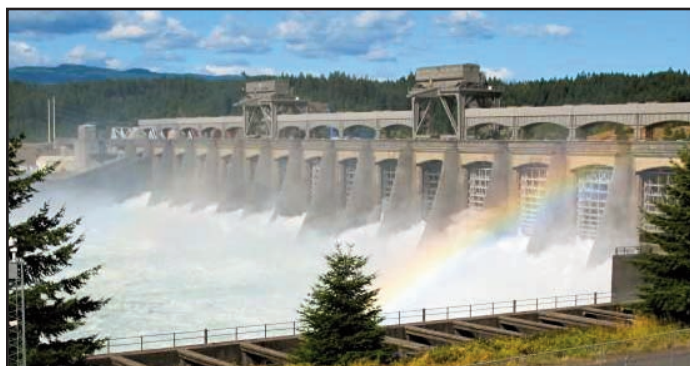

FOCUS on the FALLS



WINTER 2012 Issue

Join Us for the Annual FOMF Interpretive Volunteer Training Workshop

**Saturday March 31st
10 am until 2 pm
Bonneville Dam**



Agenda

- 9:30 am - Registration, Coffee & Refreshments
- 10:00 - Welcome by Teresa Kasner, President
- 10:15 - USFS Presentation - Nicole Lund, Site Manager
- 11:00 - USFS "Meet the Staff"
- Noon - Refreshments & Short Break
- 12:15 pm - FOMF Training Section
- 2:00 - End of Workshop

Directions: I-84, East past Multnomah Falls, take the Bonneville Dam, Exit 40. Park at the Visitor Center. More information on where to park and where the workshop will be held will be sent out to you via email soon.

First Aid Scholarship Program



A 2011 volunteer survey identified an interest in First Aid Training. The board designed a new program, for active FOMF members with two years of volunteer service, which provides a \$50.00 scholarship toward the course fees. The scholarship will be awarded to the first 5 applicants on a first come, first served basis until the scholarships are awarded for the year.

This program eliminates the problems of scheduling dates, cost of renting spaces, and hiring certified personnel. Instead each applicant may choose the location, date, time and class type (CPR, AED, First Aid). Volunteers wanting to apply for the scholarship should contact Sharon Quade at 1-800-403-2353 or squade02@yahoo.com. Upon completion you will be reimbursed \$50.00 regardless of the cost of the course you take. Your receipt and a copy of your course certificate should be mailed to Sharon Quade, Vice-President, at PO Box 820038, Vancouver, WA 98682. Remember the first five eligible volunteers to request training will be awarded this First Aid Scholarship. For your convenience some class options are listed below:

<http://www.cprlifeline.com>
<http://www.lmomsmmission.com>
<http://www.cpraedcourse.com/city-GRESHAM-97030.html>
<http://www.nwcptraining.com>
<http://www.oregonredcross.org/index.asp??IDCapitulo=663B0ID44V>
<http://www.redcross.org/en/takeaclass>
Oregon Trail Chapter headquarters: 503-284-1234

Submitted by Billie Anger and Sharon Quade, Board Members

Did you know...

...Donations for 2011 were over \$18,000 which was almost the same as 2010. The good work of the Volunteers in the Visitor Center is really appreciated by our visitors to the number one natural attraction in Oregon. Also memberships were up last year and this is important in fulfilling our mission statement.

FOCUS ON THE FALLS

Friends of Multnomah Falls Winter Issue 2012

<http://friendsofmultnomahfalls.org>

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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."

US FOREST SERVICE REPORT By Nicole Lund

Hello Friends of Multnomah Falls volunteers and members. While late to start, the winter rains have proven how powerful nature is in the beautiful Columbia River Gorge. The storms of January caused some damage to the trails and roads in the gorge, but most of the trails have been re-opened with winter hiking conditions. As spring comes, the Forest Service will be working hard to get the trails ready for summer.



Lately I have been working on planning our busy interpretive season which will be kicking off with the Multnomah Falls Stewardship Day on Sunday April 29th. This event will be focused on outdoor stewardship projects including the technical trail cleaning skills of the Mount Hood Search and Rescue Council. The Friends will have a booth at the event with a children's stewardship activity. If you are interested in working at this or any of the other interpretive events of the 2012 summer, please let me know. I will have summer event calendars for everyone at the volunteer training workshop.

Remember to add your suggestions to the suggestion box. The results from the Fall poll are in and the Forest Service is working on getting some more door signs, adding some languages to the visitor welcome area, and displaying the photograph of the Falls Fire in the Visitor Center. Thanks for the great suggestions and keep them coming. This is a simple way to improve the center and our connection to our visitors. We will hold another vote at the Spring training workshop, so be sure to get those suggestions in by March 27th.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Interpretive Volunteer Training Workshop in March.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Teresa Kasner

It's been a long grey winter and I'm so ready for spring! I have enjoyed volunteering at the Falls even during this drizzly cold season and I hope you have too! Soon we'll see each other at the Interpretive Volunteer Training Workshop - and I'm very excited that we'll be having this event at Bonneville Dam! A representative will give us a briefing on the Dam, I'm sure that will help all of us who send visitors there. We will also be meeting several USFS staff members.

We've had a lot of planning meetings to get things organized for our 2012 season! We'll have our training workshop and then on April 11th we will load a comfy tour bus at the Troutdale Outlet store parking lot and head out for an informative trip to several natural sites near Beacon Rock. We'll have a nice lunch together, too. We'll tell you more about it at the workshop.

I've met Lynn Burditt, the new Area Manager for the USFS National Scenic Area and I think she's going to do a great job. She told me how much the FS appreciates all we do at Multnomah Falls.



As you probably know, I am also the webmaster for the FOMF. Please visit our site and you will be able to see "The President's Call to Service Award" that was presented to our organization at the Annual Meeting last November.

This is the beginning of my 2nd year as your president and I am endeavoring to do a good job for us all. If you have anything you'd like to talk to me about - please feel free to email me at teresa@friendsofmultnomahfalls.org --

Kind regards and thank you for all you do!

GREAT BLUE HERON by Ron Goodwin

Right here in Multnomah Creek stands the Great Blue Heron with hundreds of people walking by. It stands motionless for hours waiting for a frog, small fish or an insect to come by to stab its prey. Herons are usually alone and like the shallow water and edges of the stream as a "stand and wait" predator. One thing I like about them is that they are easy to photograph, not easily frightened and they are our most common heron. They stand over 4 feet tall with a 6 foot wing span to also make it our largest heron.



I have seen it fly into a tree above the creek and stay in one place for over an hour. They are easy to identify when flying as their neck is pulled back and their long legs string out behind with slow, steady wing beats that allow them to fly long distances.

Cranes fly with their necks straight out. They also have a lot of subtle colorations on the feathers along with yellow eyes and yellow underneath their long bill which make them quite attractive as they stand there on those long legs.

They are different from many other predators in that they often nest in colonies. It is hard to believe that they can land on small branches and hang on. They are similar to ospreys and eagles by nesting high up in trees and building large stick nests that are close to four feet in diameter. The Great Blue Heron does line its nest with moss, dry grass or pine needles. They can also be quite vocal around the nesting sites but so are the ospreys.

WEATHER at MULTNOMAH FALLS

The precipitation for 2011 ended up being 93.74 inches which is the most we have recorded since installing the rain gauge in 2008. The average for the last 4 years has been 84 inches with the low of 69 in 2009. The rain gauge is located on the end of the Lodge by the west storage area.

The wind with the storm on January 18 was 46.8 mph which is the highest in three years. The anemometer is located between the free-way parking lot and the railroad tracks.

There is a weather station directly across the Columbia at Skamania (Prindle) which can be found by looking on the web site (Mark Nelsen Links). Go to the center horizontal bar that lists Gorge and click on Skamania. You can also find Vista House and all other locations in the Gorge for winds, precipitation, etc.



CAMERA LOST AND FOUND STORY



Linda Knolhoff from Illinois lost her camera at Portland Women's Forum viewpoint and stopped at Multnomah Falls Visitor Center to report the loss in case it was turned in. Kathy & Carl Collins were volunteering and took her information. Kathy consoled her since her camera had her son's wedding photos and her grandson's baptism photos on it. Kathy sent her to see Herman the Sturgeon at Bonneville Dam to take her mind off the loss. When she entered the viewing area at the sturgeon pond, to her amazement she saw a man taking photos of the fish with HER camera! She mentioned to him, "didn't I see you at Portland Women's Forum?" He admitted he found the camera there and handed the camera to Linda. She returned to the falls visitor center to take the photos she'd missed taking due to the loss of her camera and to thank Cathy for her kindness and her great suggestion to visit Herman - had she not, she would not have her camera returned to her. **Editor's Note** - Only one other car was at the viewpoint when her camera was lost and the person who found it saw her looking for it.

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.

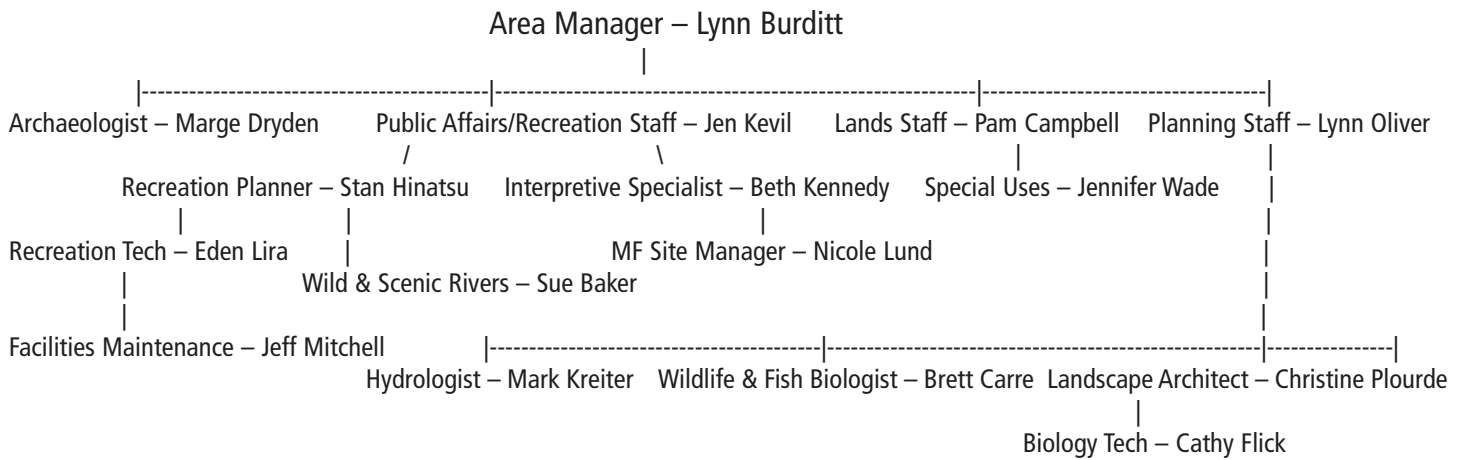
Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please send this application to: The Friends of Multnomah Falls, PO Box 426, Troutdale, Oregon 97060

USFS-NSA CHAIN-of-COMMAND CHART



With many changes in the staff of the USFS, this chart will help you know who our partners are as we volunteer at Multnomah Falls. We'll meet many of the new staffers at the FOMF Interpretive Volunteer Training Workshop on March 31st at 10 am at Bonneville Dam Interpretive Ctr.

Stunning 360° Aerial Panoramas of the World's Highest Waterfall - Angel Falls, Venezuela - check this out on your computer!!
<http://www.petapixel.com/2012/03/01/stunning-360-aerial-panoramas-of-the-worlds-highest-waterfall/>

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:

INTERPRETIVE VOLUNTEER BUS TOUR
"SAVE THE DATE"
 APRIL 11TH AT 8:45 AM
 BUS LOADS AT TROUTDALE
 FACTORY OUTLET STORES
 EMAIL YOUR RSVP TO BILLIE ANGER

 FOMF VOLUNTEER PICNIC
"SAVE THE DATE"
 July 29th at 3-6 pm