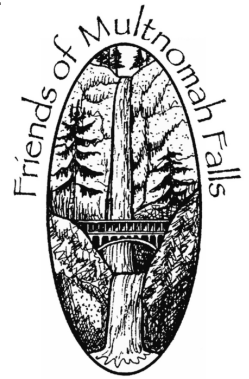


FOCUS on the FALLS



🌿 SPRING 2019 Issue 🌿

THE FOMF ANNUAL INTERPRETIVE VOLUNTEER TRAINING WORKSHOP

March 29th, 2019 - 9:45 am to 1:00 pm
McMenamins Edgefield Ballroom
2126 SW Halsey St, Troutdale, OR 97060

AGENDA

9:40-9:55	Meet & Greet - Coffee and pastries
10:00	Welcome
10:05	Guest Speaker - Zach Forsyth, Author of "Waterfalls of the Columbia Gorge - A hiking and canyoning companion"
11:00	Break
11:10	Forest Service Presentation - Matt Ramich
11:45	Search And Rescue Presentation - Jerry King
12:15	Lunch
12:35	Wrap-Up - Kathy Collins Q & A
1:00	Dismiss

🌿 Membership Drive - Renew now!

FRIENDS OF MULTNOMAH FALLS 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Teresa Kasner, the editor of this newsletter for 13 years, is proud to be one of the founders of the Friends of Multnomah Falls 30 years ago. She was then the Executive Director of the Friends of Vista House and was asked to join in to help create a new "friends" group using some of her experience as one of the founders of the FOVH.

Teresa remembers years of board meetings in the MF Lodge, the group building a dedicated team of interpretive volunteers to staff the Visitors Center, amassing maps and brochures and much more.

Read more about the history of how FOMF began by Ron Goodwin, another of the founding members of the organization.

(Continued on page 3)

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2018



Carl Collins

Each year we honor one (or in last year's case, a group of 7) of our volunteers for going beyond the call of duty and giving of their time and energy on behalf of the Friends of Multnomah Falls.

Our newest honoree is Carl Collins who served as President of FOMF for the past two years. He also is a dedicated Interpretive Volunteer and held our organization together during the Eagle Creek Fire and the aftermath and also the government shutdown. Carl is loved by all and we're proud of him!

Past Volunteers of the Year

2017 - Day Schedulers - Flora Huber, Ron Goodwin, John Buddeau, Dave Mysinger, Denise Hawke, Collyn Baldwin and Joanne Tennant	2008 - Roger Buss
2016 - Terry Hill	2007 - Aileen Ashley
2015 - Hank Bennett	2006 - Billie Anger
2014 - Dollie & Lynn Rasmussen	2005 - Katie Goodwin
2013 - Gareth Wilson	2004 - Max Wilkins
2012 - Charlie White	2003 - Frank Koepke
2011 - Twila Mysinger	2002 - Keith Walker
2010 - Teresa Kasner	2001 - Ben Thompson
2009 - Hal White	2000 - Maxine Wilkins
	1999 - Linda Galligani
	1998 - Ron Goodwin
	1997 - Pat Sims

FOCUS ON THE FALLS

Friends of Multnomah Falls SPRING Issue 2019

PO Box 426 | Troutdale OR 97060
<http://friendsofmultnomahfalls.org>

Newsletter Editor & Website Administrator

Teresa Kasner

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Kathy Collins

Vice-President
John Buddeau

Secretary
Gloria Douglass

Treasurer
Dayle Kasner

Board Members

Flora Huber
Teresa Kasner
Maxine Wilkins

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 - by Matt Ramich

Good morning, afternoon, or evening to you. Wherever you are while reading this Spring issue, I hope you are well. Let's begin with some exciting news! Last week, I found out from Beth who our seasonal ranger staff will consist of. Starting April 1st will be Sienna Gaskins (not an April fool's joke, I hope). Then on May 13th, Virgil Newberry and Kate Custer will both start and complete our 2019 summer squad.

I would say more about each of these new hires, but as I am writing this, I have yet to look at their resumes. No one from years prior will be coming back to join us for the summer 2019 season. I am really excited to have an entirely new Falls crew though! I can't wait to see how they interact with the public, take on the many day to day challenges, and most importantly, what I may learn from them. As I have said in years past, and I know you all do such a great job at doing this, is make them feel welcome and help them along when it looks like they need that.

Moving right along, the Spring Interpretive Volunteer Training Workshop is upon us. I will of course be putting together an informative PowerPoint presentation, compiling some of the topics various volunteers might have expressed were important to talk about. After reading this column, please feel free to either speak to me in person or send an email with some topics you would like me to cover. I am always open to suggestions and will try to include them along with information my co-workers up in Hood River thought might be important to share. When I create my presentation and based on how much time I may have overall, I will build in a good chunk of time where we can all talk in person about questions. I have always found that time at the training to be one of the most valuable aspects, since we are all together in one room.

(Continued on Page 4)



FOMF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - by Kathy Collins

As the new Board President, I look forward to continuing my service with the FOMF organization. I have volunteered since 2009 and have served on the board for several years. Like so many FOMF volunteers, I have always considered the Columbia River Gorge area my "backyard" while enjoying driving through its many scenic byways and hiking on some of its trails. I have loved the gorge area for a long time so I naturally enjoy helping visitors who come to the Visitors Center to find just the right trail or scenic drive for their needs. As your president, I hope to keep our all volunteer "family" aware of vital information needed to assist visitors and to facilitate any future needed projects. My first project was to facilitate the printing of newer, more topographically accurate maps as a guide for hikers and adventurers.

As this newsletter goes to press, the FOMF board is planning the Annual Interpretive Volunteer Training Workshop for Friday, March 29th. In our first board meeting of the year we also planned future activities, such as the bus tour and the annual volunteer appreciation picnic, which will give all volunteers an opportunity to develop long time friendships. A volunteer recruitment drive is also planned as we are looking forward to the future staffing needs at the visitors center.



I'm looking forward to getting to know each of our volunteers better. I welcome all to feel free to contact me with concerns and constructive ideas for improving the experiences for our many visitors from those locally and from around the world.

FOMF CELEBRATES 30th ANNIVERSARY

MEMORIES SHARED BY RON GOODWIN

It all began in 1989 when Doris Tai, USFS Ranger, submitted a "help wanted" ad in the local newspapers searching for volunteers to assist with sharing information with the public at Multnomah Falls.

Meetings began in 1989 with Ron Goodwin, Teresa Kasner, Laurel Slater, Max Wilkins, Hal Meyerdierk, Bonnie Jepsen and Rick Buck. Doris was the USFS Ranger then and soon Stan Hinatsu came on board. They met at the Springdale Ranger Station, Max wrote the By-Laws and Rick sent in the application for 501-c-3 in 1990.

At first we had a few interested people who came out when they could (mainly weekends) as most of us still had full-time jobs. We would open the little Nature House located by the Falls Room and hand out maps and presented displays. There was only room for about 5 people in the building. Max liked to go the Benson Bridge and give information, some would meet and greet at the lower viewing platform.

Board Meetings were in the Lodge hosted by Rick Buck and the first Annual Meetings were in the small room upstairs. Laurel Slater was the editor of the "Focus on the Falls" newsletter, Teresa Kasner drew the logo for the group used in our newsletter. The local newspapers put in free want ads for volunteers each week. We sold some t-shirts, etc. to raise money to print hiking maps and other handouts. The USFS used Springdale as their base until the new Visitors Center was built.

Things changed in October 1991 with the Falls Fire and people wanted to volunteer to help on trails, etc. Pat Sims was the Volunteer Coordinator who with the USFS signed up around 200 people interested in helping out at the falls. Some signed on to be volunteers and members with the Friends of Multnomah Falls.

In 1994 the USFS and MF Lodge coordinated a renovation of the building so there would be a Visitor Center in the Lodge. They placed the name Exhibit on the outside. It went in the place of the old snack bar and restrooms. The Falls Room was added at that time and the Nature House was removed.

It became apparent that we needed more volunteers, since the USFS had 2 full time Rangers to staff the Visitors Center but they also worked on the trails. Luckily we had the list of interested people after the 1991 Fire to draw from. Pat Sims performed all the volunteer coordination for years, recruiting and training volunteers and working with the USFS. Patty Wickwire USFS also led volunteer bus trips in the Gorge.

(Editors Note): Many of the original group who started with FOMF are still involved!!

WELCOME TO NEW VOLUNTEERS

Jonathan Arp (Jon) Stevenson, Washington
Career: Computer Scientist, Air traffic Controller & retail sales in retirement.
Currently works on the Pacific Trail as a member of the PCT Association and Washington Trail Association.

Chet Benson Lake Oswego, Oregon
Chet Benson is the Great Grandson of Simon Benson.
Career: 20 plus years as a College English Instructor.
Chet is working on a biography of Simon Benson.

Kuldip Dhadwal Gresham, Oregon
Career: Architectural Design director for hotels & Condos
A member of the Sierra Club for over 30 years and served as a leader on hikes and backpacking adventures. He has also volunteered for the U.S. Forest Service in the Santa Barbara, California area.

Caroline Coholan Portland, Oregon
Career: Teacher
Caroline has been a Trail Ambassador for the Friends of the Columbia Gorge.

Andrew Grossman Stevenson, Washington
Career: Seasonal Park Naturalist, Fisheries Biologist, Worked for Fish and Wildlife
He is great at Bird and plant identifications. Andrew volunteers at the Stevenson Library and Columbia Arts Center in Hood River.

Don Neff Portland, Oregon
41 years as an elementary school teacher and experienced Gorge hiker.

Karen Stefonek Corbett, Oregon
Retired MPH and RN
Acute Care Infection Control/ Employee Health and Nurse Epidemiologist, State Public Health.
Lived in the Gorge area for 30 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 box to select your level of membership:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Supporting | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Benefactor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 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

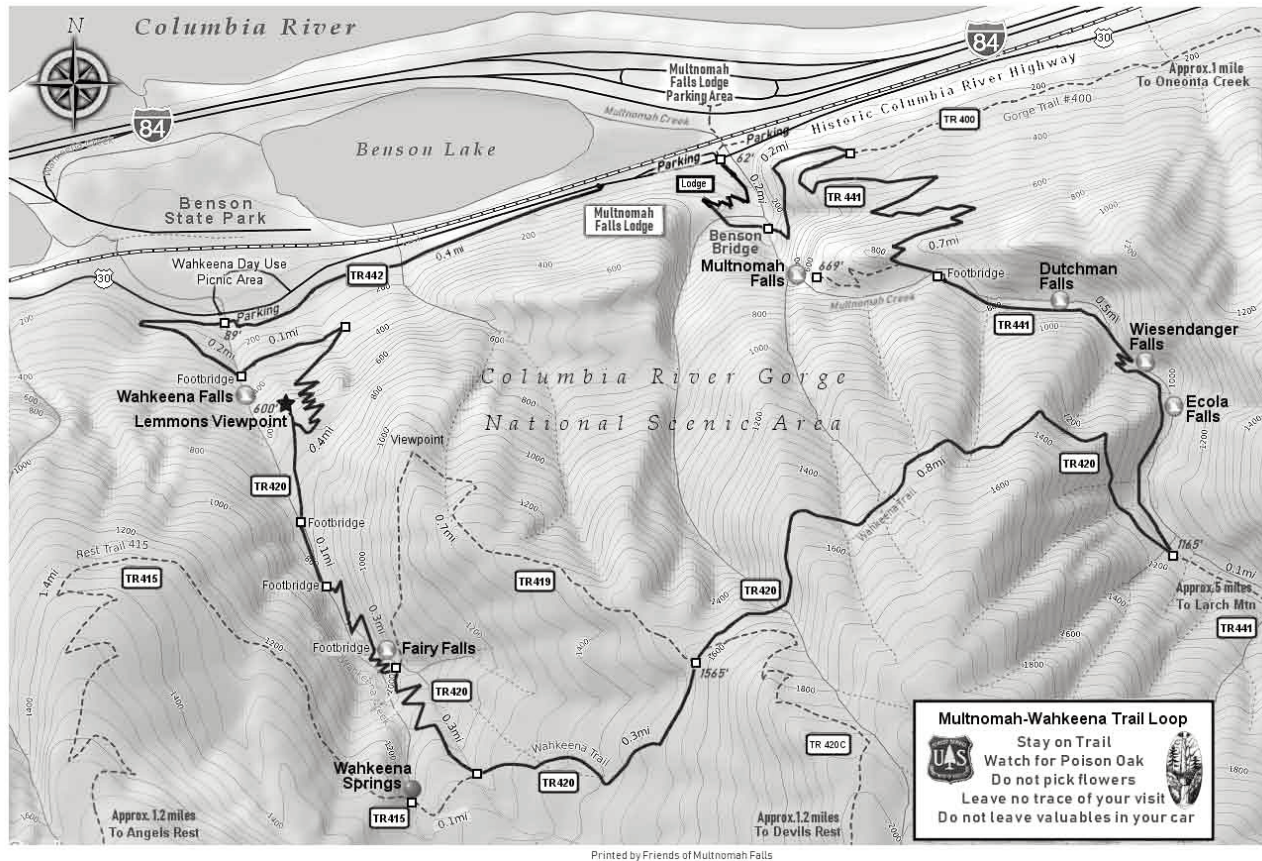
NEW MAPS WILL BE USED IN THE VISITORS CENTER AT MULTNOMAH FALLS

The new maps feature GPS generated trails and corresponding contour lines for calculating accurate elevations. All new maps were vetted and authorized through the USFS Hood River Office. The three new maps are, Loop Trail, Angels Rest and USFS Trail System.

Cartogaia, a mapping & cartography firm, located in Bellingham, WA, created trail base maps and donated their work to the FOMF. Building on Cartogaia's foundation, Dennis Stilwell, webmaster of NWHiker.com, fine-tuned these trail maps to be useful for hikers on the North face of Larch Mountain.

Both USFS and non-USFS trails shown on these maps have been verified by walking the trails and recording the tracks on GPS.

Important modifications to the maps were requested by the USFS Hood River Office, which were added by Dennis Stilwell. Other suggestions were subsequently made by experienced members of the FOMF, including several discovered mistakes which have been corrected.



(Continued from Page 1 - Matt Ramich)

Now I may be going on some trainings, fire assignments or doing other type of work over the next several months and various times. During those times, I will see if Dave Mysinger is available and he will be the US Forest Service representative on site. Once the seasonal staff gets settled in, they will be at the Falls to help oversee activities. The point is, I will make sure the Falls has a US Forest Service presence in addition to my own. You have all done a great job and have not let the Visitors Center fall into disrepair when I am doing other things. I really appreciate that. Thank you all very much! Keep up the good work and may we all at Multnomah Falls keep spirits high as well as to inspire our visitors.

FOMF VOLUNTEER RECRUITER - Chris Meinicke

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please 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, 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!

Please e-mail Teresa Kasner Teresa@FriendsofMultnomahFalls.org to receive future newsletters via PDF attached to an email - to save printing and postage for FOMF.