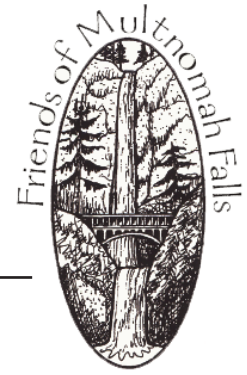


# FOCUS on the FALLS



## Spring 2008 Issue

### Join Us for the Picnic at Guy W. Talbot State Park!

**Sunday, JULY 27th, 2008 at Noon  
at Latourell Falls**

We're bringing the Friends of Multnomah Falls back to the Columbia River Gorge! Our BBQ and picnic will be held at Guy W. Talbot State Park in the little village of Latourell across the Historic Columbia River Highway from Latourell Falls.



Guy Webster Talbot and his family used this property as a summer estate until 1929 when they donated it to the state. Today, it's a beautiful park for a picnic. We'll be using the picnic shelter (pictured below right). While the park is terrific for a group or family picnic, it is often uncrowded even on the nicest days because of its seclusion.

A gently sloped grassy hill is dotted with Port Orford cedars, Douglas firs, alders and maples.

The tiny town of Latourell (pop. 12) borders the north side of the park. A trail beneath the Historic Columbia River Highway bridge leads to Latourell Falls (250' tall), only a few minutes away by foot.

I arranged for the free use of the shelter with Kevin Price, Oregon Parks & Recreation Dept.

By Focus Editor - Teresa Kasner

We would like your input to ensure a successful picnic enjoyed by all. Do you have a favorite game or fun thing you do at picnics? If so, please be sure and let me know by email at [max.mindy@msn.com](mailto:max.mindy@msn.com). We are thinking of horseshoes among other enjoyable activities.

Virginia Gehrke will be calling you before July 9th to get a head count and to find out what you are bringing from the list below.

- \* Appetizers (Chips, veggie platters, Dips)
- \* Hot Dishes (Baked Beans-Casseroles)
- \* Salads (Green, potato, pasta, etc.)
- \* Fruit-Desserts

The FOMF will provide the drinks, barbequed hotdogs, hamburgers, buns & condiments.

If I don't see 'ya before, I'll see 'ya there.

Mindy Brown  
503-661-1161



The Picnic Shelter at Guy Talbot State Park

## FOCUS ON THE FALLS

### Friends of Multnomah Falls Summer Issue 2008

<http://friendsofmultnomahfalls.org>

**Newsletter Editor &  
Website Administrator**  
Teresa Kasner

### Board of Directors 2008

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(Ex-Officio USFS)

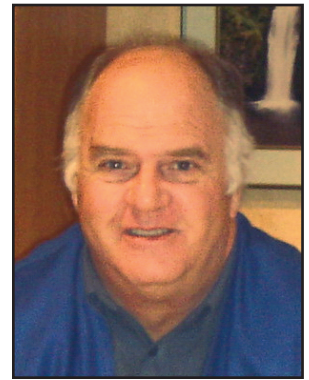
Rick Buck (Ex-Officio)  
Multnomah Falls Lodge Co.

#### 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."*

### NEW BOARD MEMBER - Jim Jensen

Jim Jensen lives approximately 12 miles away from Multnomah Falls and visits the falls several times a month. When he found out about the friends group, he decided to join. After joining as a member he began volunteering for a few years now. Volunteering in the information center gives him the chance to tell visitors about not only Multnomah Falls, but all other great places in Oregon and SW Washington. He was recently asked to join the board of directors.



Jim has served on the boards of various non-profit groups. In the "Optimists International" he served as Pacific NW District Governor. He is currently a member of the "Patriots Guard Riders", a group which attends, when invited, the services for military members who are killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan.

His profession for 17 years was with Weyerhaeuser Co. where he was Credit Manager of the Hardwood Lumber Division. He has been married for 39 years to his wife Jean, has one son and 2 grandchildren. His hobbies are touring the Pacific NW from Oregon to British Columbia on his Honda Silverwing motorcycle and spending time with his wife and grandkids.

### Remembering Volunteer Frank Koepke



FOMF learned of the death of former board member and volunteer, Frank Koepke, on Sunday, May 18, 2008. Frank brought a sensitive and thoughtful voice to our board. In the visitor center he again remained calm amid the "storm" that sometimes occurs during the busy summers.

Frank joined FOMF after retiring from the ministry and began a part time job of teaching at Concordia College. Even after serious surgery Frank continued to volunteer at Multnomah Falls. He and his wife Joan enjoyed a few trips which usually involved ministering to people in need. We were fortunate that Frank chose FOMF as a group with which to share his expertise and talents. He will be missed.

### Thank you FOMF Gardeners!

The Plaza planters at Multnomah Falls are looking terrific thanks to the garden wonder workers: Max Wilkins, Hal White, Flora Huber, Katie Goodwin & Denise Hawke. In April, a serious attack was made on the weeds that enjoy the arrival of spring as much as the "good" flowers. Just before Mother's Day more weed removal was undertaken, plantings of "color spots" were done in front of the Gift Shop, more new plants were introduced where a cedar tree was removed in the far west planter and a top dressing of bark dust put on all the beds.



Photo by Teresa Kasner

## US FOREST SERVICE - INTRODUCTION TO SAM OAKLAND

In Aaron's absence for fire/helicopter training, Sam Oakland has been doing a great job filling in. Sam is quite interesting, so I asked him for some background info to share with you.

Sam is a Norwegian-American born in St. Joseph, MO. He discovered wanderlust in his Viking blood that has taken him on an odyssey around the world. His university studies in many exotic locales earned him several degrees including a doctorate in creative writing. He's been a teacher at several US colleges and also those in Finland and South China. He discovered the Portland area in 1967, fell in love with the area and made his home here. He has drawn over 10,000 students to his classes at Portland State U and has been active in the "Bicycle Lobby" and boasts upwards of 50,000 members. Sam and the lobby were instrumental in getting bicycle paths built along Oregon highways and this and his other work on behalf of the environment has won him international acclaim.

I volunteer on Thursdays with my sister Denise Hawke, a day that Sam works in Aaron's stead. I have enjoyed getting to know Sam Oakland and hearing his stories. The one that most intrigued me was his story of finding his "Roots". I will attempt to condense this for you. The title of his story is "THE SPRING STILL RUNS" written in 1961.

Sam's father passed away when he was little, and he was always sad he didn't get to know his father or his family in Norway better. He had one memory of his Father's voice - "We have running water in the house at home, a spring that always runs, it comes out of the rock, you will see it someday!" His father died a few weeks later from a fall. After WW II letters from Norway stopped and their ties with their family were cut off. While Sam was studying in Edinburgh he decided to find where he'd come from in Norway. Armed with his Father's passport, he eventually found an old man who told him - "I knew your grandfather and your great-grandfather, but I didn't know your father." The next day he and 2 of his new friends rode bicycles towards Økland, on the other side of the island where the old man sent them.

Part two of this story will be found in the Fall issue of the FOMF newsletter.

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## THANKS TO VOLUNTEERS AND FUTURE NEEDS

I want to thank all of our FOMF volunteers for your time in volunteering and helping with the Visitor's Center. We have approximately 50 volunteers that dedicate a huge number of hours for the Friends of Multnomah Falls by gardening, guiding hikes, communications, and staffing the Visitor's Center. Each and every one of you, and the time you put in, is greatly appreciated! In the past the Family Gorge weekend has been the work and effort of the Forest Service, mainly Aaron Pedersen. The Friends have helped out with a table with FOMF members staffing and doing the preparation. The Family Gorge Weekend has been moved to the weekend after Father's Day. The dates are June 21st and 22nd this year.



I'm hoping that this year we can all participate in making this weekend equally a Forest Service and Friends of Multnomah Falls event. Please mark your calendar for helping with an hour of your time. When you are out at the Falls would you please sign up for helping either on Saturday or Sunday that weekend?

Thank you once again - Billie Anger, President

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## Friends of Multnomah Falls Membership Form

☐ Yes, I would like to become a Member      ☐ Renewing Member

FOMF is a 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



**THE BALD EAGLE**  
**By Ron Goodwin**



In case you think you are seeing more Bald Eagles this last year, Oregon has hit a new high for their presence. In 2007 there were 512 Bald Eagle active nest sites in Oregon as the first year we have had over 500 in the state. There are 1,480 nest trees plus 2 man-made structures that have been used. 33 of the 36 counties have nest sites.

The study by OSU Oregon Cooperative and Fish and Wildlife Research Unit found that of 7,000 eaglets since 1978 the adults have had a 66% nesting success with 1.05 young per occupied nest. There are 144 nest sites in the Columbia River Recovery Zone and 136 sites in the Klamath Basin Recovery Zone. One Bald Eagle found dead near Prineville was 26 years old that had been banded in 1981 near Sunriver.

In the winter the border between Oregon and California have around 1,000 eagles as one of the largest concentrations in North America. Many of these come down from Alaska for the waterfowl on the lakes and then they return up North as a tourist attraction along the salmon streams.

The Bald Eagle was removed on July 9, 2007 from the Federal Threatened Species List but it is still listed by the state of Oregon. Growing up in Oregon I never saw one and now I see them often in the Gorge as well as in Portland, the coast and Southern Oregon.

**2007 Donations to  
Friends of Multnomah Falls**

**Grants for new displays**



Spirit Mountain Community Fund  
and  
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

**In Memory of Ilene Kreifels**



Judy & Bud Hill & Family  
Mary & Jeff Baldwin  
Tom & Diane West

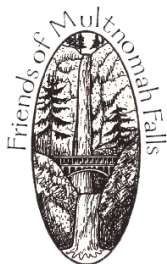
Jan & Roger Capps Gift Fund

Multnomah Falls Lodge Co., Inc.

Wild Oats Markets, Inc.

**FOCUS on  
the FALLS**

**Teresa Kasner, Editor**  
**PO Box 426**  
**Troutdale OR 97060**



Please e-mail Ron Goodwin at [ron.katie.pdx@juno.com](mailto:ron.katie.pdx@juno.com) if you want to receive future newsletters via e-mail to save printing and postage for FOMF.

**NOTE: Have you  
sent in you  
2008 Membership?**

The Wildflowers are ablaze in  
the gorge, plan a drive today!