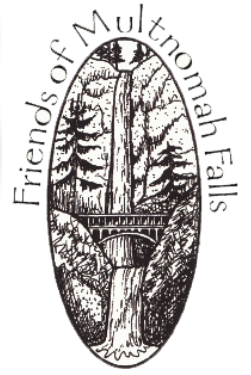


FOCUS ON THE FALLS



Winter 2010 Issue



Photo by Alan Thompson - 1980s
This is a photo of the "Maiden of the Falls"
See photo & legend on the FOMF Website -
<http://friendsofmultnomahfalls.org>

Join Us for the FOMF Volunteer Training

Saturday April 24th 2010
9 am until Noon

Aaron Pedersen will be going over the basics, such as procedures to open and close, what to do in case of an emergency, etc. Dee Conrad is working on the planning, you may call her for more info, 503-630-3791.

Location is the Greater Gresham Baptist Church on 3848 NE Division Street in Gresham. The meeting will be held in Room D-222 which is in the east end of the building upstairs, there is an elevator available.

Take exit 17 from I-84 turn South at the Factory Outlet Stores in Troutdale then follow Kane Road/257th South to Division. Turn left/East on Division and the church is 3 blocks on the right.

VOLUNTEER CONTACT INFORMATION by Aileen Ashley

Anyone showing interest in becoming a volunteer should contact Aileen Ashley either by phone or e-mail or take the information and pass it on to Aileen when you see her next and she will contact them.

Please email at aileen.ashley@comcast.net and her phone is 503-697-6598.



BOARD MEMBERS 2010

Back from L: Dan Tennant, Maxine Wilkins, Billie Anger, Aaron Pedersen (Ex-Officio USFS), Teresa Kasner, Jim Jensen, Sharon Quade, JoAnne Tennant, Hal White. Front from L: Aileen Ashley, Ron Goodwin, Katie, Goodwin & Flora Huber. (Missing in photo - Phyllis Siebken)

FOCUS ON THE FALLS

Friends of Multnomah Falls Winter Issue 2010

<http://friendsofmultnomahfalls.org>

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Ben Thompson
Hal White

Aaron Pedersen
(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 Aaron Pedersen

Hello Friends of Multnomah Falls volunteers and members,

The early signs of spring are popping up all around us both in our yards and in the woods. This winter's mild temperatures came as a bit of a surprise to me, as I was convinced last fall this was going to be another harsh winter reminiscent of last year's fury. In fact, last season during this time we had 6 to 8 feet of snow atop Larch Mountain. Currently and for the majority of this winter for that matter, you would be hard pressed finding even the smallest trace of snow on Larch Mountain. I know it's hard to say or hear this time of year, but let's hope for lots of spring rain!



Photo by Teresa Kasner

Many of you have witnessed the changes to the information center that have taken place during the last few years. This summer you will see another transformation taking place in our plaza area and to the trail leading to the top of Multnomah Falls. We are anxiously awaiting the unveiling of Greg Robinson's most recent work. Two Chinook style hand carved columns of columnar basalt that will accompany his earlier work, the 5' cast bronze disc. This will all be combined along with interpretive panels to create a monument of sorts in one of the planters facing the falls. Greg has promised completion and installation prior to our Gorge Falls Fest on June 26 & 27 of this year. At which time we are working toward having the tribal elders from Grand Ronde out for a dedication!

Currently we are acquiring bids and putting together a plan to refinish and reconstruct the stone work in the plaza area and the walls leading to the area just beyond Benson Bridge. Many stones have broken free from the mortared walls and or have been carted off by individuals from the dry set stone walls leading to the bridge. All of the damaged sections of stone work will be refinished and rebuilt as part of the first phase of our trail reconstruction project. The second item you will notice is the asphalt water bars on the trail will be cut out, removed and filled in on the first ¼ mile section of trail. These erosion control measures are unnecessary on an asphalt trail and have only served as a tripping hazard to visitors. Our trails department promises to repave much if not all of the trail, to fix all damaged sections and to finally make Multnomah Falls trail, the most heavily used section of trail in the gorge, their number one priority. Keep your hiking boots handy, as I encourage all of you to witness, for yourself, the transformation taking shape!

MAXINE'S MESSAGE by Maxine Wilkins, President



Photo by Teresa Kasner

Greetings All! In spite of the fact that Punxsutawney Phil (the Groundhog) and our local Hedgehog, Jabari, say there will be six more weeks of winter, I feel Spring in the air!

Spring means we will be having our volunteer Training on April 24, 2010 from 9 am to Noon at the Greater Gresham Baptist Church at 3848 NE Division. This is the same location we held it last year. The committee is working on putting a program together and hope to see all of you there. There is further information in this newsletter so please mark your calendars!

It is with much sadness that I report the passing of two of our volunteers, Marilyn Schmid & Richard Hall. Please read more about them on the last page of this issue. Our thoughts and wishes go out to both families.

If anyone has an extra umbrella lying around we would appreciate your donating it (or them) to the Center as our supply is dwindling.

See you all at our training and don't you see all the signs of Spring spouting all around?

THE MARVELOUS MARYHILL LOOPS

by Lorna Hewitt

San Francisco's hairpin curves on the famous Lombard Street don't hold a candle to our historic loops on the slopes of Maryhill Museum property, close to the Stonehenge replica. Anyone visiting the area should, at least, go to the overlook on US Highway 97 (to Goldendale) for a view of these fascinating hairpin curves and this road out of history. The real reward, however, is in actually walking on the first paved road built in Washington and, reportedly, in the Pacific Northwest.

What a thrill it is, on this very easy jaunt, to drop into Sam Hill's history of road experimentation that led to the selection of materials best suited for his masterpiece Columbia River Highway. Although this segment of the original 10 miles was refurbished in the 1990s, the old asphalt was recycled into the new, maintaining a certain authenticity. Substantially deteriorated, part of the original road surface is still visible from the Loops hill-top, as is an aged memorial fountain and accompanying water trough.

Unmarked access road is approximately one-quarter mile east of the Stonehenge entrance on Washington Hwy. #14 on a north-bound road. Follow road to the green road entrance gate. Open most days – no charge.



Top - Maryhill Museum
Bottom - The Maryhill Loops



2009 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting was well attended and the volunteers were shown a great deal of appreciation by the USFS management team that attended. FOMF President Maxine Wilkins welcomed the volunteers and conducted the annual election of officers and board members.

Photo - from left:

Dan Harkenrider, Area Manager
Aaron Pedersen, On-Site Manager, Multnomah Falls
Maxine Wilkins, President, FOMF
Elizabeth Kennedy, Supervising Park Ranger
Sam Oakland, Forest Service Volunteer

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

In Memory of Two Supporting Members



Marilyn Schmid passed away on December 14th. She was a member of FOMF since 1992 and a visitor center volunteer until this past summer. She had planned to rejoin us this January. Her life was filled with many outdoor activities including traveling to all the continents and climbing several mountains much of this while she pursued a career in teaching.



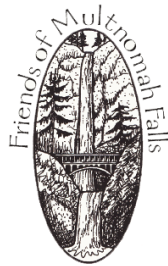
Richard Hall served as a visitor center volunteer and on the FOMF board having joined FOMF in 1992. His health had not been good for several years preventing him from volunteering but he and his wife Priscilla have remained loyal supporters of FOMF. He was the owner operator of a service station and did a lot of hospital volunteering in addition to his service with FOMF.

Gardening Dates for Spring 2010 - 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. Due to the early date for Easter our first work day will be Wednesday, March 31st from 9:00AM 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 Thursday, May 6th. It should be quick as we will then spread bark dust overall. If need be we will replace the "color spots" in front of the gift shop so things look good for Mother's Day.

FOCUS on the FALLS

Teresa Kasner, Editor
PO Box 426
Troutdale OR 97060



Please e-mail Ron & Katie Goodwin at ron.katie.pdx@juno.com if you want to receive future newsletters via e-mail to save printing and postage for FOMF.

NOTE:

"Loaner" Umbrellas are needed in the Visitors Center! If you have an extra one you don't need, please donate it next time you visit.