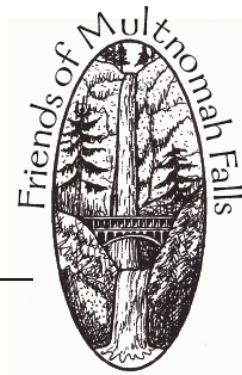


FOCUS on the FALLS



Winter 2008 Issue

Join Us for the Volunteer Training & Refresher

Saturday, March 8, 2008
Highland Community Church
4100 SE 182nd (1 block N of Powell)
Registration & Continental Breakfast
8:30 am- 9:00 am - Ends at Noon

As a volunteer for the Friends of Multnomah Falls we can make a positive connection to the visitor passing through the Gorge. We need to build on our knowledge and interests by taking advantage of our resources. We encourage everyone to set aside the second Saturday in March each year for our annual training which will include a Native American speaker, a walk through the new displays in the Visitor's Center [and the Native American displays will have a first hand explanation] and questions and answers on office management.

Virginia Gehrke will make calls about the meeting.

Small day trips/ training sessions addressing specific topics will be offered by committee members:

Ron Goodwin - Hands-on Computer -
March 9th, 18th and 22nd
Aileen Ashley - Fort Vancouver - May 17th
Katie Goodwin - Eagle Creek Hike - June 7th
Billie Anger - Exploring by Wheelchair - June 18th
Flora Huber - Top of Larch Mountain - June 26th
Jim Jensen - Geology - TBA

If you receive this newsletter as a hard copy and sent "snail mail" be sure to check the newsletter out on the website to enjoy the photos in full color!
<http://friendsofmultnomahfalls.org/newsletter.html>



Above - the new wildflower display - photo by Ron Goodwin

A NOTE ABOUT THE TRAINING by Dee Conrad

The main speaker at the training will be Greg Archuleta from the Grand Ronde Confederated Tribes of which the Chinook is one part. Since we have the new displays coming in and the Chinook were the Native Americans that lived in the western part of the Columbia Gorge to the coast, it is important that the volunteers know about their history. Also presented will be the tribal status and land ownership. We will have either the actual pieces of artwork and/or mockups that will be in the Visitor Center and the cast bronze on the plaza.

This will be exciting since we will be the only second location to highlight the Native Americans in the western part of the Gorge. We will be OPEN 363 days this year.

FOCUS ON THE FALLS

Friends of Multnomah Falls Winter Issue 2008

<http://friendsofmultnomahfalls.org>

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Website Administrator**
Teresa Kasner

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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 MEMBERS - Dan & Joanne Tennant

Dan & Joanne have been married for almost 5 years. In fact, many of the FOMF volunteers attended the wedding which took place on Dan's daughter's lakeside property in Ridgefield, Wa in 2003.



Dan retired from Boeing two years ago after working there for 40 years. He still goes back to teach the newly hired employees as they prepare for the new Boeing Dreamliner being built. Joanne, self-employed, works part-time at her house-cleaning business.

Between us we have six children and six grandchildren. We really enjoy our trips to Kauai, Palm Springs, and the coast. We love to hike and always head for the gorge! We have been volunteers for FOMF for 8 & 10 years and love it!

GARDEN PARTY AND CONGRATS TO AARON!

By Ron & Katie Goodwin

Spring Plaza Planter Clean-up Time - With the arrival of spring comes a wonderful opportunity to wake up your muscles after their winter hibernation by joining a gardening party at Multnomah Falls. On Thursday, April 3rd beginning at 9:30 am, weeding and trimming will be our main activities. After resting for a month on Thursday, May 1st at 9:30 am we will remove the month's growth of weeds, plant annuals in front of the gift shop and spread bark dust over all of the beds. A light snack will be provided as our aim is to finish close to noon. Bring your own gloves, favorite tools and protection devices if desired. For further information contact Katie Goodwin at 503-761-4751.

National Scenic Area Employee of the Month - Our on-site manager, Aaron Pedersen, was recognized as the employee of the month in January by his fellow employees and managers in the National Scenic Area. His effort to repair damage to trails through partnering with a variety of community groups including Multnomah County, Volunteers in the Gorge and the Portland Chapter of the Pacific Crest Trail Association was a major reason for this recognition. Congratulations Aaron!

WEATHER, YOU LIKE IT OR NOT By Ron Goodwin

I have always told the visitors from the state south of us that we only have five clear days a year and Seattle has four. At the end of 2007 I contacted the weather bureau to get the correct information at - www.weather.gov/climate/index.php?wfo=pgr. Portland actually ended up with 50 clear days, 169 partly cloudy and 146 cloudy in 2007. Three months; March, June and December has zero clear days while July and August tied with ten for the most clear days in a month. The rain gauge in the Visitor Center shows we have had over 50 inches of precipitation since October 1st when the water year starts.

Part of our new center display in the Visitor Center has an excellent visual on the Columbia River Gorge with the west end (Troutdale) at 75" of precipitation and at the east end (Maryhill) with 12".

(continued on page 4)



US FOREST SERVICE UPDATE - By Aaron Pedersen

Hello FOMF volunteers and members. Winters cold icy grip has once again come to the Gorge packing with it both beauty and destruction. Most of you noticed the front page article in the paper highlighting Multnomah Falls adorned with ice. That article was all the motivation many Portlanders needed to persuade them to crawl out of there winter dens, drive out to the Gorge and see first hand the beauty only cold winter temperatures can bring. The three days following the article brought the restaurant and the trail to the top, record numbers of visitors for this time of year. We had icy conditions on the trails, downed trees and branches as well as two days with out power to the Lodge. All these items combined made the last weekend of January exciting.

Photo by Teresa Kasner

We have been making some significant progress on the new exhibits and Information Center renovations. Many of these current accomplishments are not yet reflected on-site. I assure you progress is being made and we are still on track for our June 21-22 kick-off celebration. I would like to highlight Greg Robinson's contribution to our project. He is an extremely gifted Native Artist, whose work we will have on display both inside and outside the Information Center. Below is the image Greg designed for the 5 foot cast bronze emblem that will be installed underfoot as the public enter the plaza after crossing the Historic Highway. Most Native American art work has sacred stories that the image is depicting. This was a way of both preserving the story for generation to come and served as a constant reminder of these sacred teachings. Below is Greg's brief explanation of what the art work is depicting.



The outer ring shows Coyote as he travels through the world making it ready for the new humans. He sets many rules and taboos for the new people who are shown in the second ring, carrying the burden of the difficult rules. The inner circle is Morning Star with her children around her. The design's shaded areas represent the five directions. The Coyote and Human forms represent earth, the Morning Star and her children represent the heavens.



SAYING GOODBYE TO A FRIEND - by Maxine Wilkins

For those who are not aware that our FRIEND AND VOLUNTEER SUSAN HELZER passed away on January 16, 2008. I would like to share some information about Susan. She was born in Scotch Plains, NJ and is survived by her husband Garry and their two sons Christopher and David. Max and I attended her memorial service on January 26 and after hearing all the wonderful things her family and friends said about her I only wish I had known her longer and better. She was a remarkable human being and loved the Northwest. So, according to her wishes, her ashes will be scattered on Mt. Rainier in the Spring close to the natural beauty and peace she loved. So, goodbye my friend. You left us too soon but with a reminder to get to know one another better and appreciate good friends.

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

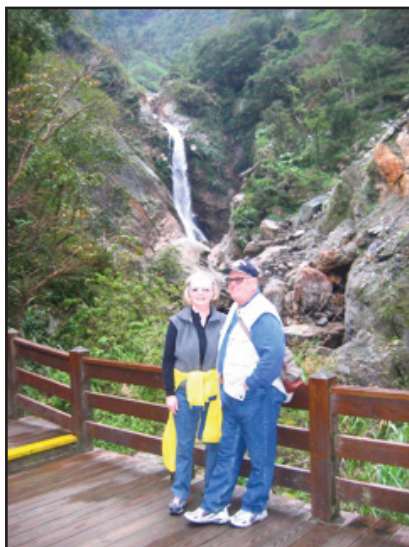
Letter From Abroad and FOMF Summer Picnic!

Hello Teresa,

My name is Carl Collins. I was a volunteer for about a year from 2005-2006. My wife and I have been in Taiwan where we are teaching at Morrison Academy here in Kaohsiung. We are in our second year here and will be returning this summer of 2008. I would like to resume my duties as a volunteer for FOMF when I get home. I so enjoy the work and being able to work with Aaron. I am pleased he is still at the falls. He is so valuable.

I am just checking in with the "Friends" to let you know we are alive and well. Looking forward seeing you all in the summer. By the way, in my classroom I have the large picture of the falls on my wall. My students are wanting to come to Oregon to visit these famous falls. (photo at right is of Carl & wife at a waterfall in Taiwan)

My Best to all, Carl Collins



(continued from page 2)

The visual part shows the wet green treed area tapering off to the dry brown barren east end. Around the edges are wildflowers that go from one region to the other.

Open the discovery drawers and you will find antlers from deer (one in velvet), antelope and a horn from a Rocky Mountain Sheep. The sheep are shown in many of the pictographs and Petroglyphs in the Columbia River Gorge. Many new displays will be unveiled this summer. Stop by and check them out.

SAVE THE DATE - JULY 27th, 2008 FOMF PICNIC TO BE HELD IN THE GORGE!

The picnic will move to Guy Talbot State Park located in the village of Latourell west of Multnomah Falls.

FOCUS on the FALLS

Teresa Kasner, Editor
PO Box 426
Troutdale OR 97060



Please e-mail Ron 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: Now Accepting
2008 Memberships!!**

The trilliums will soon be
blooming by Bridal Veil