

# Friends of the Columbia Gorge

*Protecting the Gorge Since 1980*

*Spring 2016 Newsletter*

## *Inside:*

Oil Terminal Proposal Hits  
Obstacles and Opposition

*Page 4*



Friends Legal Victory Will  
Protect Gorge Landscapes

*Page 6*



Spring Hikes, Outings,  
Events, and Stewardship!

*Insert*

# Friends of the Columbia Gorge

FOUNDER NANCY RUSSELL, 1932-2008

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ERIC LICHTENTHALER\* CHAIR  
VINCE READY\* VICE CHAIR  
KARI SKEDSVOLD SECRETARY/TREASURER  
DEBBIE ASAKAWA  
KEITH BROWN\*  
GARY BUSHMAN\*  
PAT CAMPBELL  
GEOFF CARR  
JIM CHASE  
GWEN FARNHAM  
MARIA HALL  
JOHN HARRISON  
TEMPLE LENTZ  
ROBERT MATTERI  
JOHN NELSON\*  
CARRIE NOBLES  
RICK RAY\*  
MEREDITH SAVERY  
MARK WALLER  
CHARLIE WEBSTER  
POLLY WOOD\*

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES — LAND TRUST

RICK RAY\* PRESIDENT  
GARY BUSHMAN\*  
MARIA HALL BARBARA NELSON  
DUSTIN KLINGER JOHN NELSON\*  
AUBREY RUSSELL  
**STAFF**  
NATHAN BAKER STAFF ATTORNEY  
KYLE BROECKEL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT  
PETER CORNELISON\* FIELD REPRESENTATIVE  
PAM DAVEE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER  
NATALIE FERRARO CONSERVATION ORGANIZER INTERN  
KEVIN GORMAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
STAN HALL CONTENT/PR SPECIALIST  
KATE HARBOUR MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR  
MAEGAN JOSSY OUTREACH MANAGER  
MICHAEL LANG CONSERVATION DIRECTOR  
KATE LINDBERG OUTREACH ASSISTANT  
KATE MCBRIDE\* LAND TRUST MANAGER  
RYAN RITTENHOUSE CONSERVATION ORGANIZER  
RENEE TKACH\* GORGE TOWNS TO TRAILS MANAGER  
RICK TILL CONSERVATION LEGAL ADVOCATE  
PAIGE UNANGST FINANCE DIRECTOR  
SARA WOODS\* LAND STEWARDSHIP COORDINATOR  
SANDY WRIGHT DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

\* GORGE AREA RESIDENTS

PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 2016

## PUBLICATION SUPPORT

NEWSLETTER DESIGN: KATHY FORS AND KATHLEEN KRUSHAS / TO THE POINT PUBLICATIONS  
EDITOR: BETSY TOLL / LUMIN CREATIVE SERVICES

PORTLAND OFFICE: 522 SW FIFTH AVENUE, #720,  
PORTLAND, OR 97204 503-241-3762

HOOD RIVER OFFICE: 205 OAK STREET, SUITE 17,  
HOOD RIVER, OR 97031 541-386-5268

WASHOUGAL OFFICE: 1887 MAIN ST., SUITE 202,  
WASHOUGAL, WA 98671 360-334-3180



Link to us on Twitter and Facebook  
from our website: [www.gorgefriends.org](http://www.gorgefriends.org)

Dozens of Gorge citizens braved icy roads and severe weather in early January, to testify against the proposed Vancouver oil terminal. From left, back: Lee Greenwald, Mark Reynolds, Collin Strid, Michael Young. In front: Lisa Nass Cook, Sara Woods, Dale Hill, Peter Frothingham, Jana Castanares, Cyndi Strid, Dae Dahlquist, Brynn Dahlquist.



Photo: Peter Cornelison

## Take Action!

### Stop Oil Trains in their Tracks!

The Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) is expected to issue its recommendation to Washington Governor Jay Inslee sometime this year on the Tesoro Savage proposal for a massive oil terminal on the Vancouver waterfront. Meanwhile, public pressure against the terminal is mounting daily.

Friends members and activists are doing a fantastic job of letting decision makers know just how much is at stake for communities and ecosystems in the Columbia Gorge. (See the article on page 4 for more details.)

And we can't let up on the pressure now! Although the comment period for the proposal's Draft Environmental Impact Statement ended in January, we're still gathering signatures on a petition to Governor Inslee, opposing coal and oil transport through the Columbia Gorge.

Visit [www.gorgefriends.org/petition](http://www.gorgefriends.org/petition) and sign the petition now.

The dangers from coal and oil transport through the Columbia Gorge are real. We're thrilled to be working with these fantastic citizen activists and our allies, and we'll be ready for the next challenge when it comes. ■

Our email Action Alerts provide the most timely, effective way to take action for the Gorge. Subscribe at [www.gorgefriends.org/subscribe](http://www.gorgefriends.org/subscribe), or call Ryan at 971-634-2034.

**Citizen Action Makes the Difference!** [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov) or [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)  
Your voice is vital to Gorge protection. Let Congress hear from you.

#### Oregon

**Sen. Ron Wyden**, 202-224-5244  
[www.wyden.senate.gov/contact](http://www.wyden.senate.gov/contact)

**Sen. Jeff Merkley**, 202-224-3753  
[www.merkley.senate.gov/contact](http://www.merkley.senate.gov/contact)

**Rep. Earl Blumenauer**, 202-225-4811  
**Rep. Suzanne Bonamici**, 202-225-0855  
**Rep. Greg Walden**, 202-225-6730  
**Rep. Peter DeFazio**, 202-225-6416  
**Rep. Kurt Schrader**, 202-225-5711

#### Washington

**Sen. Patty Murray**, 202-224-2621  
[www.murray.senate.gov/email/index.cfm](http://www.murray.senate.gov/email/index.cfm)

**Sen. Maria Cantwell**, 202-224-3441  
[www.cantwell.senate.gov/public](http://www.cantwell.senate.gov/public)

**Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler**, 202-225-3536  
**Rep. Derek Kilmer**, 202-225-5916  
**Rep. Dan Newhouse**, 202-225-5816  
**Rep. Suzan DelBene**, 202-225-6311

Email your **Congressional Representative** by logging on to [www.house.gov/writerep](http://www.house.gov/writerep)

# Director's Letter

**O**n January 6, 2016, Cynthia Disrud of Washougal, Washington, helped Friends cross a threshold that was once unimaginable: she became our six-thousandth current active member. Cue the trumpets! Well, not exactly, but let me explain why this benchmark is such a big deal.

A strong, broad-based membership is critical for a nonprofit like Friends and is key to recruiting board members, activists, volunteers, and major donors. It creates solidarity among participants and clout in the eyes of elected officials and government agencies.

When I started with Friends, we had about 3,500 members, and very gradually, the number crept up to 4,000. From there, getting to 5,000 took more than a decade, and for understandable reasons. A typical nonprofit loses one half of its members every year, which means that a 5,000-member organization needs to add 2,500 new members every single year, just to stay even. Busy lives and a steady inundation of charitable requests make it very

difficult for groups to keep members for the long term. Retaining members takes effort, but it's well worth it.

Over the years, I've watched other nonprofits struggle to secure government funding, only to find themselves handcuffed by regulations and rules. I've seen organizations that are 90 percent foundation-funded that seem more driven by the foundations' guidelines than by their own missions.

Because of our membership, Friends has been mostly free of those problems. As a result, we have been nimble. We are able to respond creatively to threats such as casinos and oil trains, and to seize proactive opportunities like *Gorge Towns to Trails*.

I reached out to Cynthia Disrud when she joined, wondering if she would share my excitement about her being our six-thousandth member. She did! Cynthia and her husband moved to Washougal from Florida a few years ago, and she found us on Facebook. They went on a one-day, seven-site Gorge



Photo: Peter Cornelison

excursion inspired by Scott Cook's *Curious Gorge* book, and they were hooked. Despite her busy schedule, Cynthia's 2016 goal is to participate in at least one Friends-led hike.

You, dear reader, and Cynthia are part of what makes our membership base both deep and wide – deep in terms of engaged activists, dedicated volunteers and very generous donors. And wide in terms of a large base of individuals who are diverse in age, geography, and ethnicity. With you, Cynthia, and 5,998 others, all things are possible.

Kevin Gorman, Executive Director  
kevin@gorgefriends.org

*A breathtaking spring view from Dog Mountain.*

Photo: Greg Lief / liefphotos.com

*Friends of the Columbia Gorge works to ensure that the beautiful and wild Columbia Gorge remains a place apart, an unspoiled treasure for generations to come.*

# Oil Terminal Proposal Hits Obstacles and Opposition

Michael Lang, Conservation Director, [Michael@gorgefriends.org](mailto:Michael@gorgefriends.org)

Last November, the Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) issued the long-delayed Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Tesoro's Vancouver Energy project. The delays were a result, in part, of a letter from the Washington attorney general's office in late 2014. The letter contained a scathing rebuke of the preliminary DEIS, finding that the preliminary draft was unlawful and contained inadequate analysis and incomplete mitigation measures. While the revised DEIS still contains significant flaws, it does identify moderate to severe impacts likely to result from the construction and operation of what would be the largest oil-by-rail terminal in North America. The DEIS provides ample evidence to support Governor Jay Inslee in denying the project.

## Harm to communities and the environment

The DEIS for Tesoro's Vancouver Energy project concludes that the project will cause significant direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impacts to local communities and the environment. Communities along the rail line and the Columbia River Gorge would be exposed to public safety risks from likely derailments, oil spills, fires, and explosions. Increased vessel traffic on the Columbia River would harm endangered salmon runs. Unstable soils at the proposed terminal site coupled with likely seismic activity make it unsafe for a major oil terminal.

The DEIS claims that mitigation measures could reduce the likelihood and the impacts of a major accident, but the mitigation measures are vague, speculative,

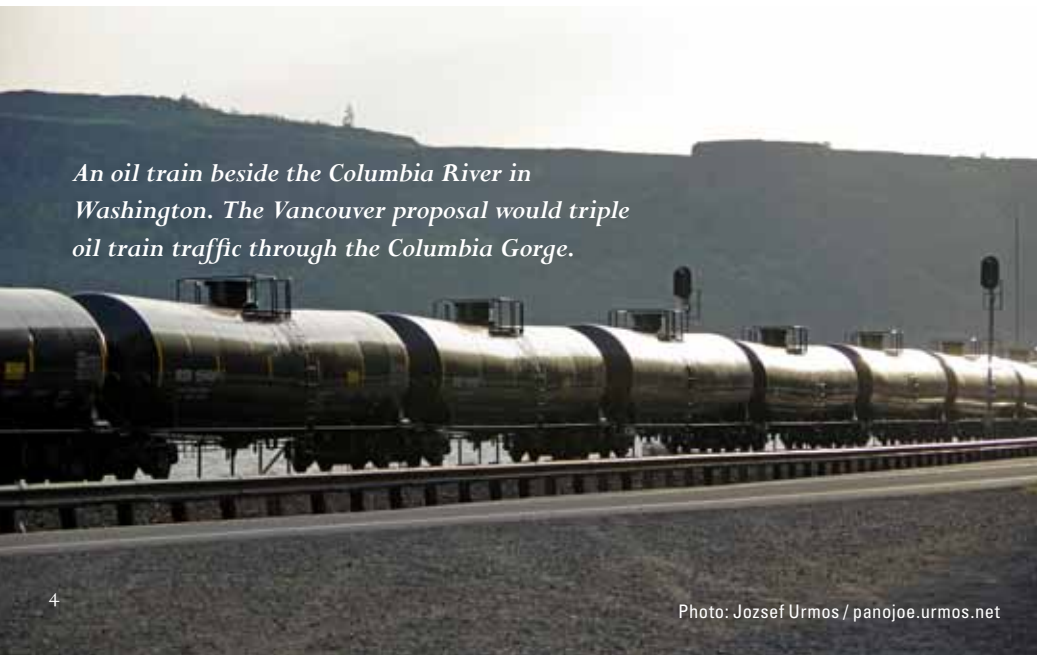
and unlikely to be successful. The DEIS confirms that the Tesoro project is a threat to public safety and the environment. In the DEIS, the EFSEC and Governor Inslee have all the support they need to deny the project.

## Conflicts of interest

When public agencies prepare environmental studies like the DEIS, we trust that they will follow the law, hire consultants free from conflicts, and demand a thorough objective analysis of the environmental impacts. The goal is to fully inform the public and decision makers of the likely environmental impacts of major proposals like the Vancouver Energy oil terminal.

In this case, however, EFSEC hired Mainline Management, Inc. to evaluate parts of the Vancouver Energy project. Mainline's objectivity is questionable, as it is made up of former executives of Burlington Northern Railroad, the same company that stands to profit immensely from hauling oil to the Vancouver Energy project. In addition, the Mainline website lists Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad and the Port of Vancouver as clients, both of which stand to reap significant profits from the proposed terminal.

Mainline's study in the DEIS "vastly understates" the worst-case scenario of an oil train accident resulting in an oil spill, explosion and fire, according to a report in *The Oregonian*. EFSEC's director claims he was unaware of the conflict of interest until it was in the newspaper and declines to publicly discuss how he would address either the conflict or the inaccurate information in the DEIS. Yet in spite



*An oil train beside the Columbia River in Washington. The Vancouver proposal would triple oil train traffic through the Columbia Gorge.*



Opponents of the proposed oil terminal created a sea of red at a January hearing in Ridgefield, WA.

of these conflicts and the downplaying of risks associated with the proposal, the DEIS provides ample evidence for EFSEC and the governor to deny this terminal.

### Thousands of citizens oppose

Nearly 2,000 activists – including local elected officials, tribal council members, firefighters, doctors, business owners, union workers, clergy, and fishermen – attended public hearings in Ridgefield and Spokane, Washington, to oppose the Vancouver Energy project and comment on the DEIS. Scores of Gorge residents braved inclement weather and icy roads to urge EFSEC council members to recommend that Governor Inslee deny the project. By the close of the DEIS comment period, 290,000 comments had been submitted. Nearly all comments are in opposition to the oil terminal.

### Congress yields to oil industry

After banning the export of U.S. crude oil for four decades, in December, Congress yielded to pressure from the oil industry, voting to lift the ban as a part of the Omnibus Spending Bill for Fiscal Year 2016. Tesoro continues to claim that its massive proposed terminal in Vancouver would increase energy independence, but there is already a glut of oil in the Northwest, and both domestic consumption and foreign imports have declined in recent years. More likely, Tesoro's real goal is to boost its own bottom line by establishing a major export terminal on the Columbia River.

When oil prices recover from their historic lows, our region will face increased pressure to transport oil by rail through the Columbia River Gorge. Stopping terminals such as Vancouver Energy is the key to preventing an

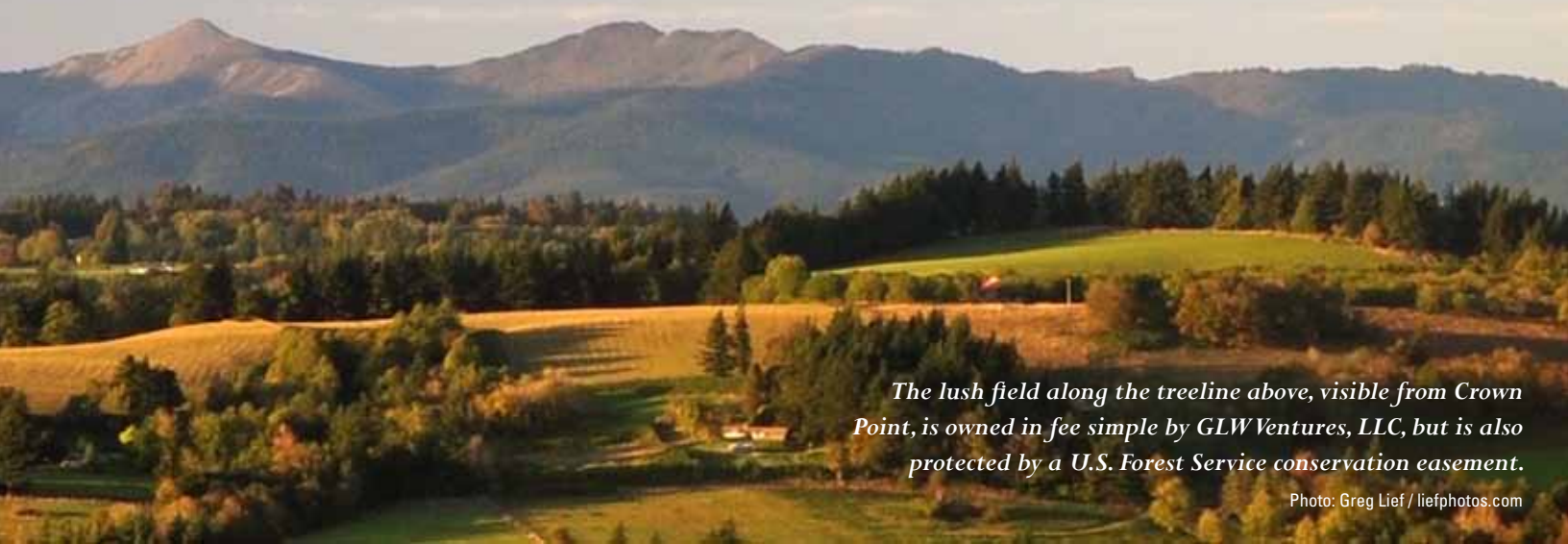
increase in oil train traffic through the Gorge.

### An important win

Meanwhile, in a major victory for environmental groups, tribes, and local communities, Renewable Energy Group (REG) announced plans to withdraw its proposal for a crude oil export terminal in Grays Harbor, Washington. The proposal would have brought more than 78,000 barrels of oil through the Columbia River Gorge, adding one more mile-long oil train per day to Gorge rail traffic. More than 100,000 people commented in opposition to the proposed terminal. Two remaining terminal proposals in Grays Harbor are still undergoing review.

*Take a stand against oil trains in the Gorge today. See our Take Action section on page 2!* ■

# Friends Legal Victory Will Help Protect Rural Gorge Landscapes



*The lush field along the treeline above, visible from Crown Point, is owned in fee simple by GLW Ventures, LLC, but is also protected by a U.S. Forest Service conservation easement.*

Photo: Greg Lief / liefphotos.com

Nathan Baker, Staff Attorney, [nathan@gorgefriends.org](mailto:nathan@gorgefriends.org)

**F**riends of the Columbia Gorge recently secured an important victory in the Skamania County Superior Court that will help protect prime farmland and spectacular scenic landscapes in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

The case involves an approximately 109-acre property in western Skamania County that includes the highest point on Mount Pleasant. Every year millions of people view the famously bucolic Mount Pleasant landscape, located directly across the Columbia River from Crown Point.

Although a private landowner owns fee simple title to the property, the U.S. Forest Service owns a conservation easement that limits uses on the property in order to protect agricultural and scenic resources. In 1988, the Forest Service paid the former landowner nearly two-thirds of the appraised value of the property in exchange



*Approximate exterior boundary of the GLW parcels.* Photo: Google Earth; map by Kathy Fors.

for the permanent easement, which is held for the benefit of all Americans.

The private landowner is GLW Ventures, LLC, a real estate investment company based in Bend, Oregon. GLW

seeks to adjust several parcel boundaries and ultimately build two new dwellings on the property. However, GLW's development proposal violates both the terms of the conservation easement and

# Nestlé's Plans for Gorge Water Stalled

Rick Till, Conservation Legal Advocate, [rick@gorgefriends.org](mailto:rick@gorgefriends.org)

*The court's decision will bolster the Forest Service's ability to protect resources in the Scenic Area.*

Skamania County zoning requirements. Because of these flaws, the proposal has been rejected by the Forest Service, Skamania County, the Columbia River Gorge Commission, and now by the Skamania County Superior Court. Friends participated in each step of the litigation to help ensure rejection of the illegal proposal.

On December 17, the Superior Court held that the Forest Service, as the owner of a conservation easement, is a property owner, which means the Forest Service must consent to GLW's land use application before Skamania County can process it. The court also held that GLW's proposal violates Skamania County's minimum parcel size requirements.

The court's decision will bolster the Forest Service's ability to protect resources on other properties in the Scenic Area where it owns conservation easements. In all, the Forest Service owns conservation easements on nearly thirty Scenic Area properties that total nearly two thousand acres, the majority of which are in the rural landscapes visible from Crown Point.

GLW continues to pursue its unlawful development plans by suing both Skamania County and the Forest Service in federal court. Friends is pleased to have worked closely with the Forest Service and Gorge Commission to secure the victory in state court and will continue to help enforce the terms of the Forest Service's conservation easement in federal court. ■

For several years, the Nestlé Corporation has been working to develop a commercial water bottling plant in Cascade Locks. However, in order to market its product as genuine spring water, Nestlé seeks water from Oxbow Springs, which feeds Herman Creek. The catch has been that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) owns the right to use water from Oxbow Springs and currently uses that water to operate the Oxbow Fish Hatchery, which produces spring chinook salmon, coho salmon, sockeye salmon, and winter steelhead.

To overcome that hurdle, the City of Cascade Locks attempted to acquire ODFW's water right so the City could then sell water from Oxbow Springs to Nestlé. Cascade Locks and ODFW originally proposed a swap that would exchange ODFW's rights to Oxbow Springs for a city-owned groundwater right. Under state law, the exchange of water must be approved by the Oregon Water Resources Department, which must determine whether the exchange is in the public interest.

Cascade Locks and ODFW previously applied for a water rights exchange, but in the face of substantial public opposition, they changed course and submitted two separate

applications to transfer their respective waters rights. The proposed "cross-transfer" would have avoided the public interest test required for a water rights exchange. Friends opposed the cross-transfer applications and encouraged ODFW and Cascade Locks to apply for an exchange to ensure proper review to determine whether the proposal is in the public interest.

Responding to opposition from Friends, the Warm Springs Tribes, and the public, in November, Governor Kate Brown requested that ODFW withdraw its "cross-transfer" proposal and instead go through the appropriate water rights exchange process and the required public interest test.

Meanwhile, Hood River activists with the Local Water Alliance have put an initiative on the ballot this spring that would ban commercial bottled water operations in the county, which would stop Nestlé from bottling and selling water from Oxbow Springs.

Friends does not support the Nestlé project. While we recognize the need for economic development in Cascade Locks, we're concerned that the proposal to bottle spring water from Oxbow Springs could harm Gorge resources and lock away valuable water as we face an uncertain future. ■

Photo: Katelin Stuart, courtesy of Local Water Alliance / [localwateralliance.org](http://localwateralliance.org).



*Oxbow Springs.*



# Great News for Land Protection!

*Hikers on Coyote Wall, above Catherine Creek, one of the areas protected with LWCF funding.*

Photo: Debbie Asakawa

The proposed funding is part of the “Pathways to the Pacific” project, a multiagency, multi-land trust effort to protect large landscapes along the Columbia River. Friends has worked with other nonprofits and federal government agencies for three years to promote the project. The president’s budget includes a total of \$32 million for Pathways projects.

Last fall, potential funding seemed impossible, as LWCF had expired and there was little hope for reauthorization. But in December, Congress released the omnibus federal spending package that reauthorized LWCF for three more years. The bill increased the funding allocation for LWCF from \$300 million in 2015 to \$450 million for 2016.

LWCF was created fifty years ago and is paid for from royalties of offshore oil drilling, which means no taxpayer funds are used for the program. The reauthorization is a positive step, but conservationists are calling for permanent authorization of the program. Senators from Oregon and Washington, along with the majority of the House delegations from both states, are leading the charge for permanent funding. ■

Renee Tkach, *Gorge Towns to Trails Manager*, [renee@gorgefriends.org](mailto:renee@gorgefriends.org)

**P**resident Obama’s proposed 2016 spending budget, released in January, includes \$3.96 million for federal agencies to acquire lands in the Columbia Gorge, through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). More than \$2.6 million is slated to expand

Steigerwald National Wildlife Refuge, with another \$1.36 million to support U.S. Forest Service acquisitions. Congress ultimately decides what goes into the final budget, but the president’s recognition of Gorge protection builds support this year for congressional funding.

## Make 2016 the Year You Join a Stewardship Work Party!



*A very young volunteer, Jasper Daun, helped at Mosier Plateau.*



**L**ast year, our incredible team of volunteers spent a record number of days – twenty-two, in all – beautifying our land trust properties. However, there’s more work to be done, removing invasive weeds, cutting back limbs to reduce fire hazards, and advocating that all hikers use a boot brush.

The work parties scheduled this spring are identified with this icon 🌲 in the enclosed insert. Come on out and join us! Details at [www.gorgefriends.org/stewardship](http://www.gorgefriends.org/stewardship).

*Volunteers last summer at the Lyle Cherry Orchard included students from The Dalles High School, seen here with Columbia Gorge Ecology Executive Director Drew Eastman (third from right), and CGEI Summer Intern Tara Mills (second from right).*





Friends of the Columbia Gorge

# Hikes, Outings, Events & Stewardship

Spring / Summer 2016


Friends members enjoy early registration for all our hikes and outings!

Registration is now open for Friends members.

General registration begins March 1.

[www.gorgefriends.org/hikes](http://www.gorgefriends.org/hikes)

*A view from Hamilton Mountain. Photo: Keri Sprenger*



## Caretakers of the Gorge

Whether hiking with Friends or on your own, we're all caretakers of the Gorge. We encourage you to be a responsible hiker. Stay on the trail, use a trailhead boot brush, and carry out your trash. Leave no traces, take only memories – and photos!

*Cluster lily. Photo: Debbie Asakawa*



## Friends of the Columbia Gorge

Working to ensure that the beautiful and wild Columbia Gorge remains a place apart, an unspoiled treasure for generations to come.

*Grass widow. Photo: Tom Kloster*

# Spring Outings

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12**

**M** **W** **Lyle Cherry Orchard, WA**

**Moderate: 6 miles, 1,400-ft. elev. gain**

Enjoy panoramic Gorge views on our first hike of the season, with *Gorge Towns to Trails* Project Manager Renee Tkach and Outreach Assistant Kate Lindberg, and learn about this land trust property. Later, we can enjoy optional wine tasting at nearby COR Cellars.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 13**

**Greg Lief Piano Concert:  
A benefit event for Friends  
The Old Church in Portland, OR**

Visit [www.gorgefriends.org/concert](http://www.gorgefriends.org/concert) for details and tickets.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 18**

**M** **W** **Catherine Creek  
Wildflower Walk, WA**

**Moderate: 3.5 miles, 500-ft. elev. gain**

Outreach Manager Maegan Jossy will lead this relaxed walk at one of the Gorge's premier wildflower spots. Optional wine tasting later at nearby Syncline Wine Cellars.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 19**

**First Aid & CPR Training  
Mazamas Center, Portland, OR**

In this 6-hour classroom course led by John Stubbs of NW Responder, participants will learn how to treat bleeding, sprains, broken bones, choking, or sudden cardiac arrest until emergency medical help arrives.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 20**

**★ Gibbons Creek Wildlife Walk, WA**

**Easy: 2.5 miles, no elev. gain**

Enjoy a leisurely morning walk with Gorge Refuge Steward Joan Durgin at Steigerwald National Wildlife Refuge, at the entrance to the National Scenic Area. Later, enjoy a post-hike beverage at a Washougal brewery.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 26**

**★ Lyle Cherry Orchard Wildlife Walk, WA**

**Moderate: 4 miles, 900-ft elev. gain**

Wildlife biologist Bill Weiler will guide us up the slopes at the Lyle Cherry Orchard and neighboring DNR property, describing the wildlife that inhabit this landscape.

**W** **Lend-a-Hand Stewardship  
Mosier Plateau, OR**

Help Stewardship Coordinator Sara Woods remove teasel rosettes, to stop the spread of this invasive plant on the bluff. Later, we can stop at Solstice Pizza in Hood River.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 2**

**W** **Columbia River to Rowena Crest  
Bike Ride, OR**

**Moderate: 26.6 miles, 1,200-ft. elev. gain**

Follow Field Representative Peter Cornelison on a bike tour starting along the Columbia River in The Dalles. We'll ride up the Historic Columbia River Highway through the Rowena Loops to Rowena Crest. Later, we can stop at one of the new breweries in The Dalles.

## Spring 2016 Icon Key

- M** Members Only
- W** Wildflowers
- ★** Special Focus
- W** *Trails to Ales* Hike & Pub Visit
- W** *Wiking* Hike & Wine Tasting
- PS** Play & Stay
- W** Stewardship
- W** Family Friendly
- W** Dog Friendly

**SUNDAY, APRIL 3**

**★ Herbal Walk at Wahclella Falls, OR**  
**Easy: 2.4 miles, 520-ft. elev. gain**

Join us for this easy stroll to learn about native plant medicinal uses and folklore, with naturopath Dr. Daivati Bharadvaj. Choose either a morning or mid-day outing.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 5**

**M** **Angel's Rest, OR**  
**Moderate: 5 miles, 1,500-ft. elev. gain**

Spring flowers line the switchbacks on this classic Gorge hike, led by Jane Garbisch.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9**

**W** **PS** **Elowah / Upper McCord Falls  
Botanical Walk, OR**

**Moderate: 4 miles, 600-ft. elev. gain**

Conservation Organizer Ryan Rittenhouse and botanist Pappy Corbitt will lead us on a flower-lined trail to two sparkling waterfalls. Later, we can enjoy lunch at Thunder Island Brewery in Cascade Locks.

*Angel's Rest. See hike on April 5.*

Photo: Scott Christianson

Member registration is now  
open for all hikes & events:  
[www.gorgefriends.org/hikes](http://www.gorgefriends.org/hikes)



## **PS** 🍷 Dry Creek Falls, OR

**Moderate: 4.7 miles, 760-ft. elev. gain**

Outreach Assistant Kate Lindberg will lead us to this lovely, secluded waterfall. Later, we can stop at a local brewpub for a snack and a drink.

## **PS** PCT to Greenleaf Overlook, WA

**Moderate: 8.8 miles, 800-ft. elev. gain**

Hike with Pacific Crest Trail Association volunteers through logged and forested landscapes as we learn about the “wild effect” and the Pacific Crest Trail.

## **SUNDAY, APRIL 10**

### **Annual Meeting & Luncheon Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA**

[www.gorgefriends.org/annualmeeting](http://www.gorgefriends.org/annualmeeting)

## **THURSDAY, APRIL 14**

### **M** ★ **Multnomah-Wahkeena Loop, OR**

**Moderate: 4.8 miles, 1,540-ft. elev. gain**

Conservation Organizer Ryan Rittenhouse and Paul Gerald, author of *60 Hikes Within 60 Miles of Portland* and other guides, will lead us on the classic Wahkeena-Multnomah loop.

## **FRIDAY, APRIL 15**

### **M** 🍷 **Mosier Plateau, OR**

**Easy: 3.5 miles, 600-ft. elev. gain**

Enjoy panoramic views from bluff above the town of Mosier with Land Trust Manager Kate McBride. Later, we can enjoy wine tasting and a vineyard tour at nearby Analemma Winery.

## **SATURDAY, APRIL 16**

### **M** 🌸 **Catherine Creek Three Loops, WA**

**Strenuous: 9-10 miles, 2,400-ft. elev. gain**

Join leader Paul Freeman as we hike the three loops that pass Catherine Falls and Catherine Arch on the way up to Tracy Hill, one of the finest wildflower spots in the Gorge.

### **M** 🍷 **Deschutes River Bike Ride, OR**

**Moderate: 17 miles, 500-ft. elev. gain**

Field Representative Peter Cornelison will lead this mountain bike ride along the Deschutes River. Later, we can stop at a local brewpub for a beer, food, and conversation. Mountain or cross bikes only, helmets required.

## **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20**

### **Paw** **Sandy River Delta Park Dog Hike, OR**

**Easy: 4 miles, no elev. gain**

Join other dogs and owners on this stroll through fields, woods, and waterways at the Delta to the Confluence Project bird blind.



*Columbine.* Photo: Don Jacobson

## **THURSDAY, APRIL 21**

### ★ **Mindfulness Earth Walk Klickitat Trail, WA**

**Easy: 2-3 miles, 150-ft. elev. gain**

Refresh your mind and spirit with Steven Woolpert, Klickitat Trail Conservancy board member. Walking with mindful attention calms our minds and enhances our connections to the natural world.

## **FRIDAY, APRIL 22**

### **M** **Latourell Falls, OR**

**Easy: 2.4 miles, 520-ft. elev. gain**

Join Oregon State Park Ranger Dorothy Brown-Kwaiser for this Earth Day hike at Latourell Falls. We'll visit two waterfalls and learn about local history and wildflowers.

## **SATURDAY, APRIL 23**

### **M** **Catherine Creek Labyrinth, WA**

**Moderate: 5.8 miles, 1,200-ft. elev. gain**

Leader Hal White will guide us through one of the best wildflower areas in the Gorge on this hike up to a meadow with panoramic Gorge views.

### **Ecosystems of the Gorge, OR/WA**

**Easy: 4 miles, 500-ft. elev. gain**

Join biologist Ivan Phillipsen for short hikes at Catherine Creek and Wahclella Falls, to learn ecosystem characteristics that distinguish the lush forests of the western Gorge from the dry woodlands in the east.

## **SATURDAY / SUNDAY, APRIL 23 – 24**

### **Wilderness First Aid**

### **Beacon Rock Group Site, WA**

Learn how to treat injury or illness in the backcountry. The first day of this full 2-day course with John Stubbs of NW Responder is indoors; second day is in the field. The course includes CPR certification.

## **FRIDAY, APRIL 29**

### **M** ★ 🍷 **Petroglyphs Tour, WA**

**Easy: 1 mile, little elev. gain**

Conservation Organizer Ryan Rittenhouse and Washington State Park Rangers will share native history as we visit the famed “She Who Watches.” Later, we can enjoy wine tasting at nearby COR Winery.

## **SATURDAY, APRIL 30**

### **M** 🌿 **Elowah / Upper McCord Falls Family Hike, OR**

**Easy: 4 miles, 600-ft. elev. gain**

Enjoy an educational “scavenger hunt” as we hike to two beautiful waterfalls with environmental educator Roland Begin. This is a great outing for the whole family!

### **M** **Ferry Springs River Trail, OR**

**Moderate: 8 miles, 500-ft. elev. gain**

High desert views are featured on this hike with leader Ross Edginton near the confluence of the Deschutes and Columbia rivers.

## **SUNDAY, MAY 1**

### ★ **Conboy Lake Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, WA**

**Easy: 3 miles, 100-ft. elev. gain**

Learn about the natural ecology of the Conboy Lake area on the Willard Springs trail with hike leader Ralph Rodgers.

## **TUESDAY, MAY 3**

### **M** **Triple Falls Loop, OR**

**Moderate: 4.4 miles, 680-ft. elev. gain.**

Join leader Margo Earley on this classic Gorge hike through lush forests and to Triple Falls, in the Mark O. Hatfield Wilderness.

## **FRIDAY, MAY 6**

### **Cape Horn Upper Trail by WET Bus**

**Moderate: 5 miles, 1,000-ft. elev. gain**

Ride the West End Transit (WET) bus to the trailhead with *Gorge Towns to Trails* Project Manager Renee Tkach and Outreach Assistant Kate Lindberg and hike the upper section of this trail to the Nancy Russell Overlook.

## **SATURDAY, MAY 7**

### **M** 🌸 **Klickitat Trail: Fisher Hill to Pitt, WA**

**Moderate: 9 miles, 100-ft. elev. gain**

Wildflowers will be at their peak along the Wild and Scenic Klickitat River on Mother's Day weekend. Bring your mom and the whole family! One-way hike with car shuttle.

### ★ Sandy River Delta Evening Walk, WA

**Easy: 3-4 miles, little elev. gain**

Join Courtney Yilk of Confluence Project, Bill Weiler of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council, and Friends Conservation Legal Advocate Rick Till at the Sandy River Delta. Dogs are welcome but will not be our focus.

### Klickitat River Whitewater Rafting, WA

Enjoy a full-day whitewater rafting adventure with Wet Planet as the river passes through thick pine forests, basalt-lined canyons, and oak woodlands. \$85 includes lunch and gear.

### SUNDAY, MAY 8

#### ★ 🍷 **Rowena Crest and Mosier Plateau, OR** **Mod.: 2 hikes, total 6 miles, 850-ft. gain.**

Take in incredible Gorge vistas from two flower-covered viewing areas, with Friends board member Debbie Asakawa. Later, we can enjoy optional wine tasting at nearby Analemma Winery.

### MONDAY, MAY 9

#### 📍 **Latourell Falls Loop, OR**

**Easy: 2.4 miles, 520-ft. elevation gain**

Start the week with an easy hike with leader Billie Anger near Portland, where the falls plunge 249 feet to a sparkling pool below.

### FRIDAY, MAY 13

#### 🍷 **Deschutes River Ecology, OR**

**Moderate: 4-5 miles, little elev. gain**

Take a leisurely walk with leader Ralph Rogers on the Deschutes River Trail, where we'll learn about riparian ecology, surrounded by wildflowers, birds, and butterflies.

### SATURDAY, MAY 14

#### ★ 🍷 **Petroglyphs / Dancing Rock, WA** **Easy: 2-3 miles, little elev. gain**

Washington State Park Ranger Chon Clayton will lead us to ancient petroglyphs, including "She Who Watches." Then Friends board member Jim Chase will be our guide at our land trust's Dancing Rock property. Later, we can enjoy wine tasting at Memaloose Winery.



*Smooth-leaf douglasia.*

Photo: Angie Moore

### SUNDAY, MAY 15

#### ★ 🍷 **Dalles Mountain Ranch and Crawford Oaks Loop, WA**

**Moderate: 6 miles, 800-ft. elev. gain**

Hike with Outreach Assistant Kate Lindberg and leader Jim Chase past Eight Mile Falls at Columbia Hills State Park and witness impacts of last summer's wildfires. Later, we can stop at Jacob Williams winery for wine tasting.

#### 🌸 **Tom McCall Point, OR**

**Moderate: 5 miles, 1,025-ft. elev. gain**

Hike at a leisurely pace with leader Rukshana Triem on this popular trail, to enjoy great views and identify wildflowers.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

#### ★ **Waterfall Photography at Wahclella Falls, OR**

**Easy: 2 miles, 380-ft. elev. gain**

Beginning photographers will learn basics of slow-shutter waterfall photography for advanced digital camera. Photographer Tom Kloster will offer instruction as we hike. Bring your SLR camera (digital or film).

### SATURDAY, MAY 21

#### 📍 **Devil's Gap, WA**

**Moderate: 5 miles, 800-ft. elev. gain**

Join leader Jim Denton on this hike featuring great views, open meadows, wildflowers, woods, wetlands, and waterfalls. We'll learn about fire ecology from the recent burn, and about the bygone timber culture.

#### 📍 🍷 **Falls Creek and Panther Creek Falls, WA**

**Moderate: 3.4 miles, 700-ft. elev. gain**

Follow Outreach Manager Maegan Jossy to the magnificent three-tiered Falls Creek Falls and nearby Panther Falls. Later, we can make an optional stop at Backwoods Brewing Co.

### MONDAY, MAY 23

#### 🍷 **Eagle Creek to High Bridge, OR**

**Moderate: 6.4 miles, 840-ft. elev. gain**

Enjoy a leisurely-paced hike in Eagle Creek Canyon with leader Billie Anger. Later, we can stop to eat at Thunder Island Brewery.

### TUESDAY, MAY 24

#### 📍 🌸 🍷 **Dog Mountain, WA**

**Strenuous: 6.9 miles, 2,820-ft. elev. gain**

Leader Karl Kratzer will lead us up to panoramic views of the Gorge on this quiet weekday hike. Later, we can make an optional stop at Backwoods Brewing Co.

### FRIDAY, MAY 27

#### ★ **Beacon Rock Geology and River-to-Rock Ramble, WA**

**Moderate: 4.5 miles, 850-ft. elev. gain**

Friends board member Jim Chase and environmental educator Roland Begin will lead us from the river to the top of Beacon Rock, sharing history and geology as we go.

### SATURDAY, MAY 28

#### 📍 **HCRH State Trail Tour, OR**

**Easy: Driving tour with short walks**

Join ODOT Project Manager Kristen Stallman and OR State Parks Ranger Dorothy Brown-Kwaiser to learn history and visit seldom-seen sections of the Historic Highway. \$20 fee.

### TUESDAY, MAY 31

#### 📍 **Multnomah to Wahkeena Loop, OR**

**Moderate: 4.8 miles, 1,540-ft. elev. gain**

Follow leader Margo Earley on this lush, forested western Gorge trail past seven cascading waterfalls.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 3

#### 🌲 **Lend-a-Hand Stewardship Lyle Cherry Orchard, WA**

Join Friends Land Trust Manager Kate McBride at Lyle Cherry Orchard, to help with fuel reduction to decrease fire risks to the township of Lyle.

### SUNDAY, JUNE 5

#### ★ **Fort Cascades Historic Trail and Bonneville Dam Tour, WA**

**Easy: 1.5 miles, little elev. gain**

Stroll this historic trail with Park Ranger Jesse Brownlee, learning about early settlers' uses of native plants and animals. Later, we'll visit the Bonneville fish-viewing windows and tour the dam's powerhouse.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 10

#### 🐾 **Hardy Creek Ridge, WA**

**Moderate: 7.75 miles, 1,330-ft. elev. gain**

Dogs are welcome on this hike with leader Jean Akers on this dog-friendly trail. Please be sure to bring leash, food, and water for your dog for this trek up to the saddle behind Hamilton Mountain.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 11

#### 📍 **Bell Creek Ecology, OR**

**Moderate: 5-6 miles, 1,000-ft. elev. gain**

Learn characteristics and ecology of ancient forests while hiking through stands of majestic old growth fir with leader Ralph Rogers.

## Gibbons Creek Evening Walk

**Easy: 2.75 miles, little elev. gain**

Join us for this special evening hike with Gorge Refuge Steward Joan Durgin. We'll tune in to wildlife on the Gibbons Creek Wildlife Art Trail, and we might even hear some owls, too!

## SUNDAY, JUNE 12

 **Whistling Ridge, WA**

**Strenuous: 8 miles, 2,200-ft. elev. gain**

Hike with Friends Staff Attorney Nathan Baker and Outreach Assistant Kate Lindberg near a controversial proposed wind energy project. Later, we can visit nearby AniChe Cellars for an optional wine tasting.

## White Salmon River

**Half-Day Whitewater Rafting, WA**

The White Salmon River offers outstanding whitewater and scenery as it flows through narrow, volcanic basalt canyons down into the sunshine of a wooded valley. Trip fee of \$65 includes gear.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 18

 **Lend-a-Hand Stewardship  
Coyote Wall, WA**

Help stewardship volunteer Chris Carvalho remove invasive starthistle, to protect Catherine Creek wildflowers from this nonnative species.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 19

 **Table Mountain, WA**

**Expert: 8 miles, 3,200-ft. elev. gain**

This power climb up iconic Table Mountain with Field Representative Peter Cornelison offers breathtaking vistas from the flower-strewn summit above the Bonneville Slide.

## MONDAY, JUNE 20

  **Toothrock Full Moon Hike, OR**

When day turns into night, the familiar becomes mysterious. Oregon State Park Ranger Dorothy Brown-Kwaiser leads this full moon exploration where we'll experience nocturnal creatures' adaptations to darkness.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 24

 **Franklin Ridge / Larch Mountain, OR**

**Strenuous: 8.5 miles, 1,400-ft. elev. gain**

Join leader Hal White on some of the highest trails in the Gorge. We'll stop at Nesika Lodge, then continue up to Sherrard Point.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 25

 **Grassy Knoll, WA**

**Moderate: 6.8 miles, 1,000-ft. elev. gain**

Follow Friends board member Jim Chase along a gently sloping ridge blanketed with wildflowers and learn about Big Lava Bed.

  **Silver Star, WA**

**Moderate: 5 miles, 1,500-ft. elev. gain**

Hike with Outreach Manager Maegan Jossy to a 360-degree viewpoint, and learn about the 1902 wildfire that transformed this landscape.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 26

 **Dry Creek Falls and  
Sternwheeler Days, OR**

**Moderate: 4.7 miles, 760-ft. elev. gain**

Hike with Friends board member Debbie Asakawa to secluded Dry Creek Falls, then hike back to Cascade Locks for the family-friendly Sternwheeler Days festivities.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

 **Larch Mountain via  
Multnomah Falls, OR**

**Expert: 14.6 miles, 4,010-ft. elev. gain**

Follow leader Paul Freeman through old growth forests up to expansive views.

## SATURDAY, JULY 2

**Little Baldy, WA**

**Strenuous: 10.5 miles, 1,600-ft. elev. gain**

Board Member Jim Chase will lead us to an enchanted forest and lofty ridges on this lesser-known trail near Silver Star Mountain.

 **Rooster Rock Kayak Tour, OR**

Oregon State Parks Ranger Dorothy Brown-Kwaiser will lead this 2.5-hour paddle trip, sharing Rooster Rock history as we go. Beginners will learn basic strokes. \$65 fee includes parking pass and equipment.

## THURSDAY, JULY 7

**Nesmith Point, OR**

**Expert: 10.2 miles, 3,700-ft. elev. gain**

Climb to seldom-seen views of the Gorge with leader Annette Hadaway on a little known trail. Note: we will have a steep ascent and descent.

## SUNDAY, JULY 10

**Larch Mountain Crater Loop, OR**

**Moderate: 6 miles, 1,100-ft. elev. gain**

Alpine wildflowers line this trail, one of the highest in the Gorge. We'll hike through old growth forest with leader Ruth Johnson to Sherrard Point.

## TUESDAY, JULY 12

 **Earth Wisdom Walk to  
Wahclella Falls, OR**

**Easy: 1.8 miles, 300-ft. elev. gain**

Observe the hidden world within rocks, water, and trees with leader Judy Todd, following Tanner Creek to Wahclella Falls, meeting the Earth with each step.

## SATURDAY, JULY 16

 **Lend-a-hand Stewardship  
Mosier Plateau, OR**

Join Land Trust Manager Kate McBride to remove teasel at Mosier Plateau. We'll cut flower heads off teasel so seeds won't form that would further spread this invasive plant.

Photo: Greg Lief / liefphotos.com



*Falls Creek Falls.  
See hike on May 21.*

## SUNDAY, JULY 17

**Summer Picnic in Paradise  
Location TBA later. Stay tuned!**

[www.gorgefriends.org/summerpicnic](http://www.gorgefriends.org/summerpicnic)

## TUESDAY, JULY 19

 **Cape Horn Full Loop, WA**

**Moderate: 8.3 miles, 1,500-ft. elev. gain**

Hike to Cape Horn's Nancy Russell Overlook with Friends Executive Director Kevin Gorman and Cape Horn Conservancy members.

# Hikes, Outings, Events & Stewardship

## General Information

- Hike distances listed are round-trip.
- Please note difficulty levels when choosing hikes:
  - Easy:** Less than 3 miles, less than 700 ft. elev. gain
  - Moderate:** Less than 5 miles, less than 1,500 ft. elev. gain
  - Strenuous:** More than 10 miles, less than 2,500 ft. elev. gain
  - Expert:** More than 10 miles, more than 2,500 ft. elev. gain
- Our outings are very popular. As a courtesy to others, please only register if you are sure you will attend.
- Upon registration, you'll receive a confirmation email with details specific to your outing.
- Children are welcome with a parent or guardian; choose hikes appropriate for child's age and ability.
- Participants are responsible for their own safety.
- Dogs are only allowed on hikes with the "dog-friendly" icon; otherwise, please leave pets at home.
- Leave no traces, take only memories – and photos!

## Carpool Information

- All outings have carpools from Gateway Transit Center (NE Portland), usually between 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
- Suggested carpool donation is \$7-\$12 per rider, depending on the outing and distance.

## Hike by Bus!

Coming in April, Skamania County's West End Transit bus will be running its weekend bus service to nine trailheads and Gorge communities. This service, offered through September, connects with TriMet and C-TRAN. This year, a shuttle bus will run from Dog Mountain Trailhead to Skamania County Fairgrounds in Stevenson during the peak months of April and May.

Bus schedules, hike itineraries, and more details at:  
[www.gorgefriends.org/hikebybus](http://www.gorgefriends.org/hikebybus).



## Member Registration is now open!

Register at [www.gorgefriends.org/hikes](http://www.gorgefriends.org/hikes). Questions? Contact Outreach Assistant Kate Lindberg at [katel@gorgefriends.org](mailto:katel@gorgefriends.org) or 971-634-1265.



## Hike Challenge 2016: Coming in Fall

Details for this year's hike challenge, celebrating the Historic Columbia River Highway centennial, will be announced in early summer. Stay tuned!

Rowena Crest. Photo: Greg Lief / liefphotos.com

## Play & Stay

Enjoy a *Play & Stay* program weekend that includes guided outings in a particular area, discounted lodging, and evening presentations. We encourage Gorge lovers to go beyond day hikes and leave a positive economic footprint when you *Play & Stay* in Gorge communities.

### RS Play & Stay Weekends: Spring 2016

**April 9-11**  
Skamania Lodge  
Stevenson, WA

**May 13-15**  
Historic Balch Hotel  
Dufur, OR

Our *Play & Stay* program enhances your connection to the Gorge and supports sustainable Gorge businesses, too.

Look for this icon **RS** in our schedule to identify this season's *Play & Stay* activities. For more details, visit [www.gorgefriends.org/playandstay](http://www.gorgefriends.org/playandstay).

## The Gorge Needs Best Friends!

Protect the Gorge trails you love **every month of the year** by becoming a monthly donor with a gift of \$10 or more. Keep your membership current, be a friend to the environment, and receive a free waterproof *National Geographic* Columbia Gorge trail map! Visit [www.gorgefriends.org/bestfriends](http://www.gorgefriends.org/bestfriends) to start your monthly donation and receive your special gift.



Cooling off in the river at Rooster Rock. Photo: Aubrey Russell



Our hiking program is sponsored by

**JOR** JAMES F. O'ROURKE JR. AND ASSOCIATES

[JFOLAW.COM](http://JFOLAW.COM)

# 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Luncheon

Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 12 – 2:30 p.m., Skamania Lodge, WA

**What's your Legacy? Seminar, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.**  
**How to include Friends in your will or estate plan.**

**O**ur Annual Meeting and Luncheon is always a great event, and this year it will be better than ever. Best of all, you can make it into a **Play & Stay** weekend. Guided hikes, a Saturday evening presentation, and a special room rate will make it easy to enjoy the best the Gorge has to offer. Plus, you'll be supporting Gorge businesses!

Visit [www.gorgefriends.org/annualmeeting](http://www.gorgefriends.org/annualmeeting) for details and registration.

Photo: Courtesy of Skamania Lodge

## Music and Beauty for the Gorge!

### Piano Concert & Photography: A Benefit for Friends

Sunday, March 13, 4 p.m., The Old Church in Portland

Enjoy a classical and ragtime concert and a silent auction of beautiful prints of the Gorge.

Advance tickets online now: [www.gorgefriends.org/concert](http://www.gorgefriends.org/concert)

**F**or years, Greg Lief's outstanding photographs in Friends' newsletters and brochures have inspired people to go out and experience the Gorge for themselves. Examples of his work are in this newsletter and in the hike insert.

Greg is not only a fine photographer, he's also a highly accomplished pianist, and a few years ago he had another idea for using his creative talent to support the Gorge. In 2010, he offered to play a piano concert as a benefit for Friends.

Greg's annual benefit concert for Friends has grown in popularity, and this year we're thrilled to host the concert and a silent auction of prints at The Old Church in downtown Portland.

"As I continue to visit the Gorge, I am struck by what the Scenic Area boundary has done," Greg noted recently. Concerned about



Photo: Cheryl Hill

the threats of oil and coal trains and the proposed Nestlé plant, he continued, "I'm happy to capitalize on my talents to help with these battles. In fact, it's my ethical duty!"

Thank you, Greg, for sharing your talents to protect the Gorge.

### Save the Date



Sunday, July 17  
**36<sup>th</sup> Annual Picnic in Paradise**

Location: TBA  
[gorgefriends.org/summerpicnic](http://gorgefriends.org/summerpicnic)

*Upper trail at Catherine Creek.*

Photo: Mark McConnell

# Looking to the Future

Kate Harbour, Membership Coordinator, [kateh@gorgefriends.org](mailto:kateh@gorgefriends.org)

**P**eter Frothingham and his wife, ElVida Walrod, have made their “little bit of heaven” in Odell, Oregon, their base for giving back to the community they love.

Peter always wanted to be an active member of his community, and since moving to the Gorge twenty-seven years ago, he’s found his own ways to do so, including providing massage therapy to patients in

hospice. When asked how he came to provide such a generous service, he says he considers it his calling to provide comfort and relief, especially to seniors, during his retirement.

Peter also serves Hood River County by protecting the land itself. His interest in land use inspired him to serve on the Hood River Valley Resident’s Committee for almost ten years, before being appointed to the Hood River Planning Commission.

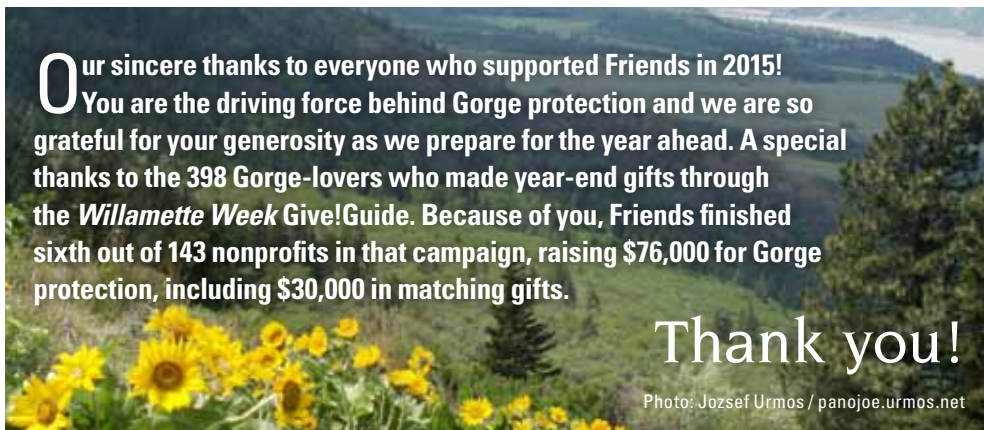


Photo: ElVida Walrod

Peter Frothingham

This year, Peter became the very first Friends member to set up a Charitable Gift Annuity to protect his beloved Gorge after he passes away. When asked what inspired him to make such a significant and transformative gift to Friends, he spoke of the practical aspects – tax benefits, great returns, steady income now, and continued support for Friends’ work in the future. Right now, the positive changes he envisions for the Gorge in the near future include defeat of the proposed oil terminal in Vancouver, which would stop the massive increase of oil trains proposed through the Gorge.

Thank you, Peter! Your blend of activism and philanthropy inspires us all to keep looking forward. ■



**O**ur sincere thanks to everyone who supported Friends in 2015! You are the driving force behind Gorge protection and we are so grateful for your generosity as we prepare for the year ahead. A special thanks to the 398 Gorge-lovers who made year-end gifts through the *Willamette Week Give!Guide*. Because of you, Friends finished sixth out of 143 nonprofits in that campaign, raising \$76,000 for Gorge protection, including \$30,000 in matching gifts.

**Thank you!**

Photo: Jozsef Urmos / [panojoe.ursos.net](http://panojoe.ursos.net)

## Special Gifts

October 24, 2015 – January 22, 2016

IN HONOR OF DEBBIE ASAKAWA  
CARL ASAKAWA  
JOHN GALE AND DR. SANDRA JOOS

IN HONOR OF LOIS BARNETT  
BRIDGET BUCKLEY

IN HONOR OF BETTY BURRY  
WENDY ROWDEN

IN HONOR OF JOSE AND  
TONIA CAMINA  
STEPHANIE SIGMON

IN HONOR OF JAMES COLLIER  
CAROL COLLIER AND GREG MOULLIET

IN HONOR OF ANN AND  
JOHN COLLIER  
CAROL COLLIER AND GREG MOULLIET

IN HONOR OF JOAN CRAMER  
PHIL GOLDSMITH AND SUSAN NEWMAN

IN HONOR OF ROGER AND  
LYNDA DECKER  
CAROL AND JON LESCH

IN HONOR OF KATHARINE DIACK  
FRANCES AND DOUGLAS STEARNS

IN HONOR OF JOAN YASUI EMERSON  
PATRICIA AND JOE CAMPBELL

IN HONOR OF RAY HAYDEN  
CARLTON OLSON

IN HONOR OF LIZ HICKMAN  
CINDI HICKMAN

IN HONOR OF GREG LIEF  
BETTY AND GLEN TRIBE

IN HONOR OF DARRYL AND DARVEL LLOYD  
MARITA INGALSBE

IN HONOR OF DOMINIC AND MIA MAGGIO  
JOHN ESKRIDGE

IN HONOR OF ED AND EDDIE McANINCH  
GREGG McANINCH

IN HONOR OF DR. PAUL METZGER  
JANET METZGER

IN HONOR OF DANA MILLS  
NORMA AND ARNOLD ZACK

IN HONOR OF IAN AND KATIE MUIRDEN  
ALICE MUIRDEN AND MICHAEL GROVER

IN HONOR OF AMELLE AMMA OBENG  
DARYL AND WALLACE WILSON

IN HONOR OF PORTLAND DIGS  
REAL ESTATE  
CHRIS AND SUSAN HOLDEN

IN HONOR OF JANE CORBOY AND  
JOHN ROGERS  
ANNABELLE CORBOY

IN HONOR OF MARY ROSENBERG  
SCOTT AND TWYLLA SMITH

IN HONOR OF RICHARD ROSENHAFT  
JON FRENCH

IN HONOR OF ROXANE RUSSELL  
BRET RUSSELL

IN HONOR OF DR. TOM AND  
NANCY SCHAUENBERG  
DAVID ANDERSON

IN HONOR OF MARIANNE AND TOM  
KAY HILT AND MR. ROBERT THINNES

IN MEMORY OF VERA AITKEN  
KC AITKEN

IN MEMORY OF RALPH APPOLDT  
LEIANNA APPOLDT

IN MEMORY OF BETTY BONHAM  
CAROL AND JON LESCH

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT BURNS  
ANDY AND PAT BALMER

IN MEMORY OF VADEN CALLISTER  
KARLY RITTER

IN MEMORY OF SANDY COHEN  
BRUCE AND DIANE FOLLANSBEE

IN MEMORY OF NEAL CREAMER  
MARIAN CREAMER

IN MEMORY OF D. ELOISE DIELMAN  
KATRINA DIELMAN

IN MEMORY OF LEONARD W. DODSON  
DARYL AND WALLACE WILSON

IN MEMORY OF AUNT DORIS  
ANN RIDDLE

IN MEMORY OF NORRIS EGE  
LIZ SCHILLING

IN MEMORY OF EVELYN AND  
MILTON EICHEN  
RICH EICHEN AND SURETTA GELLER

IN MEMORY OF YONAH AND  
ELIZABETH GELLER  
RICH EICHEN AND SURETTA GELLER

IN MEMORY OF WILL GEROULD  
POLLY AND JOHN WOOD

IN MEMORY OF DR. JERRY GIESY  
JAMES AND MARY ANN ASAPH  
HARVEY AND CONSTANCE BARRAGAR  
CHITA C. BECKER

JOHN AND PATRICIA BENTLEY  
ROBERT AND PEG BOBEL  
ANNE BOOTH

BECKY BRAUER AND REX WARDLAW  
DAVID AND GRETCHEN BRAUER-RIEKE



Photo: Debbie Asakawa

# Featured Hikes: Wildflower Walks

Kate Lindberg, Outreach Assistant, [katel@gorgefriends.org](mailto:katel@gorgefriends.org)

As soon as winter starts hinting at spring, wildflower lovers head for the Gorge's best-known wildflower trails: Catherine Creek, Tom McCall Nature Preserve, and Dog Mountain. But many other Gorge destinations are just as beautiful, and far less crowded.

Come on one of our guided hikes from March to July, timed to follow the bloom from east to west (see our insert), or find trailhead directions on our website and head out on your own. Just one caveat: Peak wildflower bloom times are subject to local weather conditions.

**March & April: Lyle Cherry Orchard, WA**  
Stunning views and early flowers are highlights on Friends' land trust property.

**Mid to Late-April: Mosier Plateau, OR**  
Brilliant wildflowers and breathtaking views greet hikers on our land trust property.

**May: Crawford Oaks, WA**  
Balsamroot and lupine blanket the newest trail in Columbia Hills State Park.

**Mid-May: Cape Horn, WA**  
Delphinium fill the forest with a purple glow right around Mother's Day weekend.

**July: Silver Star Mountain, WA**  
Wildflowers carpet the sloping meadows, and views of five Cascade peaks add to the beauty at Silver Star.

Visit [www.gorgefriends.org/wildflowers](http://www.gorgefriends.org/wildflowers) for details.

*Wherever you hike, please remember that flowers in the wild should never be cut or collected!*



ALBERT JR AND BARBARA JEAN BULLIER  
VALERIE CAMPBELL  
SUZANNE AND CHARLES CARLBOM  
CHERI COLLINS  
THE CRONINS  
MARCIA DARM  
KAREN AND WILLIAM EARLY  
DONALD EDWARDS  
JAMES AND DIANA FAVILLE  
ROLF GLERUM  
THE RAY GREWE FAMILY  
KAREN AND THOMAS GRITZKA  
MARIE HALL  
BEVERLY HELLER  
NATALIE AND JAMES HERRMAN  
DONALD HOLMAN  
JAMES HOLTZ  
SUSAN AND JAMES IMBRIE  
RICHARD AND JEAN JOSEPHSON  
ROBERT AND REBECCA KALEZ  
CHARLOTTE KATHRENS  
JOHN FREWING AND  
GAYLE KAUFFMAN  
JOSEPHINE KLEVIT  
MOLLY KOHNSTAMM  
DAWN AND EDWARD KROPP  
BETTY AND JOSEPH LABADIE  
JACK AND SUSAN LANE  
FERNANDO AND DOLORES LEON  
THERESA AND DOUGLAS LOVETT  
SUZANNE AND THOMAS MARINEAU  
ERNEST AND DIANE MCCALL

JEAN AND WALT MEIHOFF  
BARBARA METZGER AND KEVIN HILLERY  
HOPE NEIGHBOR  
BOB AND COOKIE NEIGHBOR  
CAROL AND RAYMOND NORTH  
JURIS AND SILVIA ORLE  
FRANCES AND HOWARD PAGE  
LEE AND ADRIANNE PETERSON  
MARILYN AND RICHARD PORTWOOD  
FAMILY BIRTH CENTER STAFF AT  
PROVIDENCE HOOD RIVER  
AUBREY RUSSELL AND PEYTON CHAPMAN  
MEREDITH AND DR. C. WILLIAM SAVERY  
PRISCILLA SENIOR  
SUZANNE SHANKLIN  
BJ AND FORREST SIMMONS  
MITCHELL SMITH  
SUNNY SMITH  
JOAN STRAND  
CALVIN TANABE  
RUSS AND REBECCA TEASDALE  
PRISCILLA AND THOMAS TURNER  
SUSAN AND ED VERDURMEN  
WALTER AND NANCY WEYLER  
DONALD AND MOLLY ZIESSLER  
  
IN MEMORY OF JERRY IGO  
CARLTON OLSON  
  
IN MEMORY OF JOE KELSEY  
CARLTON OLSON  
  
IN MEMORY OF SHIRLEY KELTNER  
BETTINA BAER LUCE

IN MEMORY OF SARA VIRGINIA LASKY  
GALE LASKY  
  
IN MEMORY OF LOUISE LEININGER  
JAN LEININGER  
  
IN MEMORY OF DAVID LIFTON  
EMILY LIFTON  
AMY LIFTON  
MARK AND VIRGINIA STERN  
  
IN MEMORY OF MILDRED LITTLE  
SAHRA RAHIMTOOLA  
  
IN MEMORY OF KATE MCCARTHY  
BARBARA AND BOB BAILEY  
  
IN MEMORY OF SALLY MCCrackEN  
DONALD AND SHIRLEY CLARK  
  
IN MEMORY OF CLIFF MOORE  
MARNA MOORE  
  
IN MEMORY OF URSEL AND  
MERLE NARVER  
MR. JOHN NARVER  
  
IN MEMORY OF MAURINE NEUBERGER  
ANN GOODSSELL  
  
IN MEMORY OF JACQUELINE PICKERING  
KAREN PICKERING  
  
IN MEMORY OF ROBERTA POLLACK  
DAVID AND KAY POLLACK

IN MEMORY OF LAURIE M. RAHR  
RAHR FOUNDATION  
  
IN MEMORY OF DALE B. RUSSELL  
NICOLE AUE  
  
IN MEMORY OF NANCY RUSSELL  
DIANA BAIRD  
MICHAEL RUMMERFIELD  
  
IN MEMORY OF KAREN SCHMEER  
JOAN McALLISTER  
  
IN MEMORY OF DON AND  
EDNA SHANNON  
PHYLLIS CLAUSEN  
  
IN MEMORY OF JACK AND  
BEVERLY SHAPIRO  
ARTHUR SHAPIRO  
  
IN MEMORY OF RICHARD L. STRATTON  
JIM STRATTON  
  
IN MEMORY OF NEIL SUTHERLAND  
LORI LADUKE  
  
IN MEMORY OF WALDO AND  
MARY TAYLOR  
CLARA FOGED AND JOHN TAYLOR  
  
IN MEMORY OF MATTHEW WINTHROP  
ANNE CHARNHOLM  
JOHN LA VALLEE  
KEVIN AND ANNE WINTHROP

Photo: Renee Tkach



Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Portland, OR  
Permit No. 2623

## Friends of the Columbia Gorge

P.O. Box 40820  
Portland, Oregon 97240-0820

# Know Your Gorge *Tunnel with Many Vistas*

One hundred years ago, the Mitchell Point Tunnel opened, and it featured the most creative engineering accomplishment of the entire Historic Columbia River Highway. In June 1916, ceremonies and fanfare marked the opening, which completed the scenic passage from Portland to Hood River.

Barely fifty years later, the tunnel was destroyed during construction of the new Interstate 84. Now, entering the Historic Highway's second century, the tunnel may reemerge as an enduring landmark.

Highway designers Sam Hill and Sam Lancaster drew inspiration for Mitchell Point Tunnel from the Axenstrasse, Switzerland's scenic motorway. Completed in 1865, the serpentine Axenstrasse traces high cliffs and winds through rock galleries above Lake Lucerne. To Lancaster and Hill, it was the perfect model for a road through the Columbia Gorge.



*The Axenstrasse in 1904.*

Photo: Unknown photographer / public domain



*Mitchell Point Tunnel in 1916.*

Photo: Weister Co. / public domain

During the 1920s and 1930s, the Mitchell Point Tunnel on the Columbia River Highway was a world-class tourist draw, but it was designed for beauty, not for commerce. Its narrow, winding construction made it impractical for commercial trucks and high-speed travel. In the 1960s, the tunnel was blasted away and the rock and rubble were used to build the new interstate highway.

As the Oregon Department of Transportation works to reconnect the old highway, plans are in place to create a new tunnel at Mitchell Point, south of the original route, complete with viewing windows that would make Hill and Lancaster proud. ■

This year marks the opening centennial of the Historic Columbia River Highway. We will feature additional Historic Highway stories during the year. Visit [www.historichighway.org](http://www.historichighway.org) for centennial information.