

FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE

Fall 2021



A Season of Change

WHO WE ARE

Founded in 1980, Friends of the Columbia Gorge is the only conservation organization entirely dedicated to protecting, preserving, and stewarding the Columbia Gorge for future generations.

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FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE

Bird-watching opportunities abound in the Gorge.



Black-crowned night heron, Hood River Marina.

Photo: Linda Steider

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 3 Director's Letter
- 4 Early Fires Forecast a Daunting Future
- 6 A Sunset to Remember
- 7 New Transit Options in the Gorge
- 8 Outdoor Education Comes Back to Life
- 10 Dealing with Bumps in the Road
New Ways to Steward the Land
- 11 An Oak Woodland Legacy
- 12 New Faces and a Fond Farewell
- 14 In Love with the Rugged, Beautiful Gorge
- 15 Tribute Gifts

Cover: Autumn at Punchbowl Falls. Photo: Tula Top

Director's Letter

Early one morning, years ago, I was alone in our Portland office when the phone rang. I answered, and the caller was one of our older members, someone I would call an old-school gentleman, who was startled that I answered the phone rather than a receptionist. When I explained I was the only one there, he lectured me about how everyone should be in the office when the director arrives.

The truth was, I was there early as it best fit my schedule, and other staff came in later in the day to fit their schedules. Dedicated people thrive when they have autonomy over their schedules, and as long as the work got done, I didn't really care when people came in.

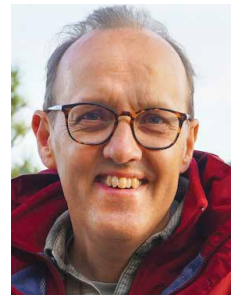
Flexibility is now the norm. Prior to COVID-19, I wouldn't have believed Friends could successfully function with 100 percent of our staff working remote. But we did, and we are. Now we're rethinking workspaces.

In the coming year, Friends' offices in downtown Portland, Hood River, and Washougal will move into spaces that fit our reimagined work lives. In Portland, we'll move across the Willamette to an eastside office near the Burnside Bridge, one-third smaller than our current space. Our Hood River staff is growing, so we'll look for more space there. In

Washougal, we'll relocate to a space that works well for our smaller Washington-based staff.

We envision hybrid routines where staff work in the office two days a week, at home two days a week, and have one day to float at home, in the office, or in the field. Staff teams will rotate office times to ensure that all teams connect with each other every month. Office time will focus on collaboration and in-person engagement—purposeful presence rather than passive attendance.

Friends' 23 staff are passionate, impressive, and dedicated people. In a world of worker shortages, we're fortunate these individuals stay with us. But staff have responsibilities and commitments outside of Friends as well, and we want to support everyone's life away from work, too. We're hungry for in-person reconnection, yet we value the flexibility and independence we experienced working remotely. We're excited that this new model will better support who we are and how we all work best to protect the Gorge.



Kevin Gorman

Kevin Gorman

Kevin Gorman, Executive Director
kevin@gorgefriends.org

Looking east from Coyote Wall. Photo: Becky Kuperstein





Early Fires Forecast a Daunting Future

Dan Bell, Land Trust Director | Michael Lang, Conservation Director

This year, as of late August, the U.S. Forest Service had already responded to more than 55 fires in the Columbia Gorge, including a July fire on our popular Lyle Cherry Orchard Preserve. With all six counties of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area in an official state of extreme or severe drought, land managers are developing unprecedented strategies to manage wildfire threats. New policies recently approved by the Columbia River Gorge Commission, along with enhancement of on-the-ground systems by land managers—including Friends’ land trust—will be vital in facing future challenges. But much more will need to be done.

New threats and new plans

The 1986 Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act requires protection and enhancement of natural resources and forest land, but it does not specifically mention climate change and fire resilience. The original Columbia Gorge Management Plan, adopted in 1991 and revised only once since then, didn’t contain even a single mention of climate change in the entire 500-page document.

In this era of historic drought conditions across the Pacific Northwest, the ongoing danger of natural and human-caused wildfires can be

explosive. A 2015 heat wave resulted in deadly water temperatures for Columbia River salmon, and ultra-dry conditions set the stage for the 2017 Eagle Creek fire. Both were clear messages that climate change was directly affecting the Gorge.

Starting in 2016, Friends began advocating for inclusion of a climate chapter in the Gorge Management Plan and development of a climate action plan. Tribal nations, Gorge community leaders, and a passionate group of Gorge youth climate advocates joined in calling for immediate action to address the growing threat of climate change on the Columbia Gorge.

Eventually, the Gorge Commission and U.S. Forest Service heeded these calls and began taking necessary steps to address the climate crisis. The revised management plan, which was passed by the commission 9-2 last fall, includes a chapter on climate change; the requirement to develop a climate action plan; improved habitat protection for imperiled salmon runs; stronger wetland protections; and prohibitions on new houses in large-scale forest land. This is a start, but so much more needs to be done.

Friends is currently engaged with the Gorge Commission in developing a climate action plan that we hope will lead to adoption of new climate policies to meet the increased threat of wildfires and other climate impacts on the Gorge.

At the local level, we are working with climate advocates and elected officials in Gorge communities to pass climate resolutions and develop climate action plans. In the past two years, Hood River, Oregon, and Bingen and White Salmon in Washington have adopted climate resolutions with the support of Friends and local community leaders.

Wildfires hit home

Wildfires are a natural feature of the Pacific Northwest, and they aren't new to the Gorge or to Friends' land trust. Over the decades, fire has touched several of our preserves and properties. In 2018, we updated all our emergency fire management plans for our preserves to ensure we had turn-key resources available for regional fire responders. This summer our planning was put to the test.

On the evening of July 12, a fire started above Lyle, Washington, and quickly grew due to the drought conditions. Pictures soon emerged on social media of glowing hills above Lyle and a plume of smoke.

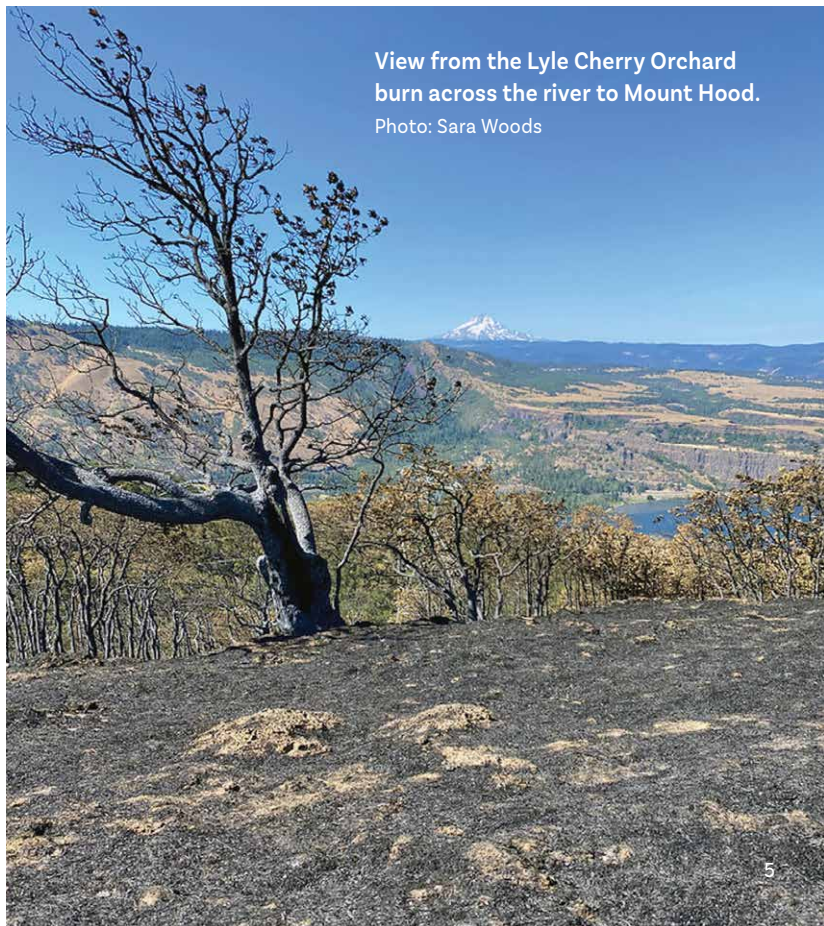
Over the coming days, the fire moved east onto our Lyle Cherry Orchard Preserve and burned nearly 100 acres of open oak grasslands. It could have been much larger and more destructive, if not for the exceptional efforts of wildland firefighters and a fortunate break in the weather conditions.

Like so many wonderful places in the Gorge, the Lyle Cherry Orchard is open to the public. But fortunately, on that hot July evening nobody was using our trail and we were able to close the preserve early the next morning.

The initial hours of a wildfire are frantic as teams try to assess whether hikers might be at risk on trails or in campgrounds. Information is sometimes scarce. In mid-July, having turn-key plans ready—including topographical maps of our preserve and lists of the important natural, cultural, and other resources—enabled the front-line agencies to quickly close the Lyle Cherry Orchard trail and respond to the fire.

Building climate and wildfire resilience

It is becoming increasingly clear that we need to think about climate change, wildfire risk, and land management differently. During extreme conditions, trail closures may be the best action for land managers to take to protect visitors, firefighters, communities, and the places that we love. Beyond that, though, we need to build accompanying policies and systems into the new Columbia River Gorge Management Plan to provide the tools that Gorge leaders and land managers will need to develop robust climate and wildfire resilience throughout the Columbia Gorge. ■



View from the Lyle Cherry Orchard
burn across the river to Mount Hood.
Photo: Sara Woods

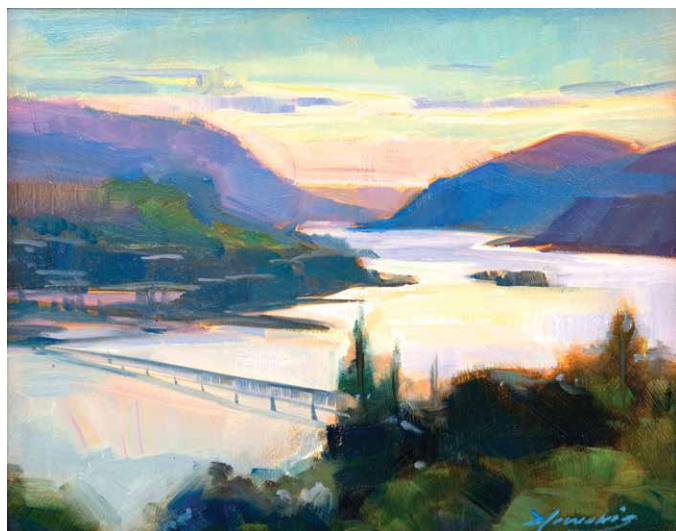
A Sunset to Remember

Stan Hall, Digital Content Specialist

Elo Wobig of Portland, Oregon, recently received the Friends of the Columbia Gorge Ribbon in the 15th annual Pacific Northwest Plein Air in the Columbia Gorge at the Maryhill Museum of Art in Goldendale, Washington. Elo's winning oil painting "Opaline Sunset"—a westward view of the Columbia River from White Salmon, Washington—was one of several Gorge plein air paintings recognized by Maryhill and partner organizations. Painting *en plein air* essentially means painting outdoors in the elements.

"It's important for me to paint where I'm from and where I've lived," said the 2021 Friends Ribbon winner. "I don't have to go very far to find incredible beauty in the Gorge."

Ken Klos of Portland was the Friends Ribbon runner-up for his oil painting "Catherine Creek—Upriver," of a sunrise view to the east from Catherine Creek. Ken's



painting was separately awarded by Maryhill as First Place for the entire paint-out. Erik Sandgren of Portland received an honorable mention for his acrylic painting "Sherars Falls, Deschutes River," of Native fishing platforms near Sherars Falls on the Deschutes River.

Chosen from approximately 150 entries, the paintings were selected by a special Friends' judging team (Burt Edwards, Friends' communications director; Melissa Gonzalez, Friends' outdoor programs and communications specialist; and Lisa Berkson Platt, Friends' board member) as best illustrating and celebrating the natural beauty and wonder of the Columbia Gorge. For her winning painting, Elo will receive a \$250 cash prize. Ken will receive a \$100 runner-up cash prize. All three artists will receive a complimentary one-year Friends gift membership.

This year marks the second time Friends has partnered with Maryhill to award a ribbon in the competition. The Maryhill-Friends community partnership seeks to collectively build on previous efforts by both organizations and to illustrate the Gorge's beauty and its fragility.

"We are pleased to continue our collaboration with Friends of the Columbia Gorge," said Steve Grafe, curator of art at Maryhill. "Friends and Maryhill are both Gorge-focused, and we agree that responsible and visionary management of the region is advantageous to both local residents and those who travel from near and far to experience its unique natural and cultural wonders." ■

New Transit Options in the Gorge

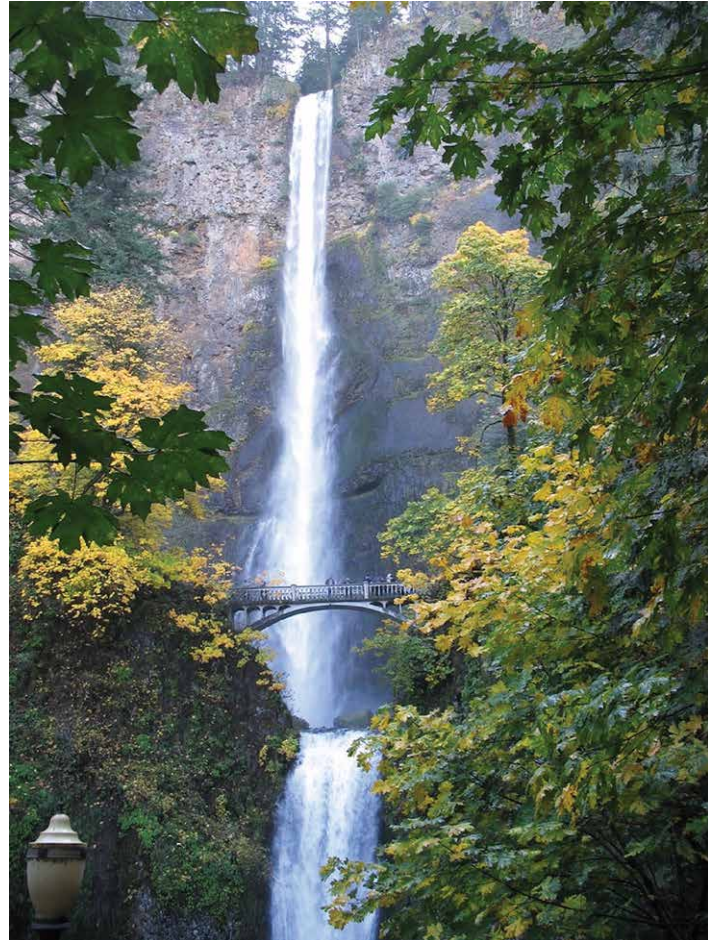
Kevin Gorman, Executive Director

With millions of people flocking annually to popular sites in the Gorge, parking and congestion have become an issue, and the answer is not more parking lots. Recent changes, however, could have a transformational impact on how people will be traveling throughout the Gorge for years to come.

Five Gorge-based transit services have teamed up to create the new Gorge Pass: Hood River's Columbia Area Transit (CAT), Columbia Gorge Express, The Link Public Transit in The Dalles, Mount Adams Transportation Services, and Skamania County Transit. A \$30 annual Gorge Pass provides unlimited Gorge travel. The Columbia Gorge Express provides eight trips daily on weekdays and six daily trips on weekends between Hood River and Portland; stops include Gateway Transit Center in Portland, Troutdale, Multnomah Falls, Cascade Locks, and Hood River. Visit gorgepass.com for details.

For visitors headed to Multnomah Falls—the busiest spot in the Gorge—a new reservation system was launched this past July requiring advance tickets (via recreation.gov) to park at the falls. The Forest Service plans to require tickets for Multnomah Falls parking through September 19 this year, but the date could be extended depending on the volume of fall visitation.

Reservation tickets aren't needed to visit Multnomah Falls if you travel by bike or bus. In addition to the Columbia Gorge Express, transit options include Gray Line's Open-Air Waterfall Trolley and the Sasquatch Shuttle. The



Waterfall Trolley is an open-air guided tour with hop-on, hop-off opportunities at nine stops starting in Corbett along the Historic Columbia River Highway. See details at waterfalltrolley.com. The Sasquatch Shuttle also operates shuttles every day from Bridal Veil to Multnomah Falls, twice hourly. Visit sasquatchshuttle.com for details. ■



Above: The Benson Bridge at Multnomah Falls. Photo: Daryl Grenz

Left: Riders line up for a bus in Hood River. Photo: Courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service.

Outdoor Education

Natasha Stone, Community Engagement Specialist

The Great Gorge Wahoo!

This spring, nearly two dozen students from St. Andrew Nativity School participated in the *Great Gorge Wahoo!* This program annually brings low-income youth from Portland-area communities of color out to the Gorge. Many historically marginalized communities across our nation face obstacles to accessing the outdoors. For some of the St. Andrew students, a *Wahoo* field day may be their first opportunity to hike in the Gorge and see a waterfall with their peers. It's also important that the program includes local conservation experts of color who they can relate to.

In June, the St. Andrew students' trip began at the Vista House, where Friends land trustee Kevin Price, a retired Oregon State Parks Ranger, shared his knowledge of Gorge history. From there, after a lively picnic at Guy W. Talbot State Park, we embarked on a hike to Latourell Falls. Our next stop was in Cascade Locks, where the students met Rikeem Sholes, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologist they had met virtually last fall. Rikeem led a walk-and-talk about Columbia River fisheries and climate change.

Following Rikeem's talk, the students met Terrie Brigham, manager of Brigham Fish Market in Cascade Locks and a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Terrie showed the students traditional platform fishing stands, explaining how sustainable fishing helps conserve fish runs and what salmon meant to her when she was growing up in the Gorge.

Later, the students wrote individual poems reflecting on their time in the Gorge. Inside the pavilion at Thunder Island, each student read their poem to the class, and although many were shy, their voices echoed powerfully in that space. My heart pounded as one student read:

I am grateful for nature.
I am grateful for the refreshing water I ran in.
I am grateful for the amazing view.
I am grateful for the fresh air.
I am grateful for the flowers.
I am grateful for everything.



St. Andrew Nativity students on *Great Gorge Wahoo!* Photos: Nick Wiltgen

Comes Back to Life!



Explore the Gorge

This year, many of our regular *Explore the Gorge* teachers were unable to fit outdoor programming into their spring schedule. So, we worked with a sixth-grade science teacher at Jemtegaard Middle School to develop a special on-campus program for 85 students, who rotated through two learning stations each class period. Divided in half, one group learned about native trees using art to create colorful leaf tracings, while the other group completed a nature treasure hunt on Gibbons Creek Trail and played “Guess What Tree You Met,” a game that awakens a child’s senses as they learn about the complexity of trees.

Working with youth reminds you what it is like to be a kid—their imagination and energy naturally rub off on you and their playful nature is contagious and enlightening. While on the trail, students identified deer and coyote tracks, while one group watched a deer nibble grasses alongside the creek barely 25 yards from us. At first, students hesitated to flip over old fallen logs, but they quickly enjoyed finding the mini ecosystems underneath them, alive with beetles and worms. Throughout the day I repeatedly heard, “This is the most fun I’ve had all school year” and “I wish we could spend more time outside.”

For today and tomorrow

For students to learn about the Gorge and care about it, they have to connect with it, and having fun learning makes the difference. Whether they’re connecting with animals or laughing with friends as they splash in a creek, positive learning experiences with Friends in *Explore the Gorge* and the *Great Gorge Wahoo!* help students build positive relationships with the natural world that can last for a lifetime.



Top: St. Andrew Nativity students on *Great Gorge Wahoo!* Photos: Nick Wiltgen

Middle and bottom: Washougal middle school students at *Explore the Gorge*. Photos: Micheal Drewry

Dealing with Bumps in the Road



Friends field representative Peter Cornelison, in red, leads a test bicycle outing in the Gorge. Photo: Melissa Gonzalez

Friends' Outdoor Programs have been on pause for over a year now, but behind the scenes, we've been revisiting the purpose of our outings, updating program details, and building new partnerships. The safety of staff, volunteers, and attendees on our outings is our top consideration. In July, we organized seven, small staff-volunteer outings to test our COVID-19 protocols and revised program guidelines. Takeaways from the July events included hesitancy about offering outings, especially with restrictions rising again with the evolving virus.

With the recent Delta surge and many hospitals in Oregon and Washington overwhelmed, it's clear that relaunching our public outdoor programs will have to wait until next year. We look to keep working with staff and volunteers to refine systems that can adapt and change with the current environment. And our members will be among the first to know when we can all begin to safely and responsibly enjoy these outings again.

New Ways to Steward the Land

In spring 2022, we'll be excited to launch Friends' Land Stewards Program. For the past year, 10 Friends volunteers have been stewarding at four sites: Mosier Plateau, Lyle Cherry Orchard, and Turtle Haven plus the adjacent U.S. Forest Service land. These experienced volunteer stewards have "adopted" Friends Land Trust preserves, properties, and public land sites to steward them through the seasons.

Friends' land stewards are trained on-site in understanding stewardship goals. They're our eyes and ears on the ground, working closely with our staff and public land managers to report on invasive weed removal and monitor trail conditions on our preserves. In the past year they have reduced more infestation than we have ever seen. They have monitored western pond turtle activity and advanced invasive weed removal in nearby nesting areas. With staff at Lyle Cherry Orchard, they've strategized

removal of yellow starthistle as they build relationship to the site and enjoy solitude outdoors.

In 2022, we plan to increase the number of land stewards and work with partners to add more sites. For more details, contact Frances Fischer at frances@gorgefriends.org.



Land stewards remove fencing at Cape Horn. Photo: Sarah Skelly



An Oak Woodland Legacy

Dan Bell, Land Trust Director

After more than 25 years caring for their property on the Rowena Plateau, Marcia and Steve were ready for some rain. They decided it was time to relocate to the Oregon coast, but to make that move, they knew they'd need to sell the Gorge property near Rowena Crest that they had grown to love.

The couple appreciated the stands of Oregon white oak and stunning spring wildflowers. Over the years, they shared the place with all kinds of wildlife—everything from black bears to rattlesnakes to wild turkeys—and their small garden and attempts at landscaping had kept the local deer well fed for more than two decades.

While they were committed to a move, they knew this was a place to protect and share, and they feared the oaks might be cut, the wildlife fenced out, or another house built. They were ready for change but were looking to exit with a legacy.

So, Steve and Marcia did something wonderful. They approached Friends' Land Trust to ask a simple question: would we be interested in conserving their land?

One trip with Friends staff to the top of the hill during spring wildflower season made the answer clear.

It turns out the couple had recently seen a story about our 2020 Catherine Creek purchase. The article mentioned

the challenges that land trusts face when working on properties listed for sale on the open market. Try as we might, we typically cannot compete with the speed and deep pockets of other private buyers.

Not in a rush, these landowners gave us time for due diligence and to sort out long-term ownership. They chose to forego a white-hot real estate market where they were assured multiple offers. Their approach and commitment made conservation possible.

We completed the purchase in July, our first acquisition in Oregon since Mount Ulka in 2013. In the next few years, the Rowena property will be transferred to the U.S. Forest Service, which owns neighboring lands.

Reflecting on the outcome, Marcia and Steve summed it up simply: "This is a win-win for all of us, and especially for the property itself!"

It's also a victory for a larger cooperative effort working to protect oak woodlands in the eastern Gorge. Friends collaborates with the East Cascades Oak Partnership, focused on accomplishing long-term, higher-impact conservation of oak habitat.

A noble objective for an unassuming tree. And a permanent impact for an unassuming couple just ready for a little rain. ■

New Faces and a Fond Farewell

Paige Unangst, Finance Director



Jules Abbott



Haley Lebsack



Denise López

Friends would like to extend a warm welcome to several new team members who joined the staff this summer. We're also introducing the newest member of Friends' Board of Directors and including a special note of thanks for a long serving board member who recently moved out of the area.

New to our staff

Jules Abbott hit the ground running in July as our new development and database coordinator. Originally from Michigan, Jules has lived in Oregon more than 20 years. With a degree in botany and plant pathology from Michigan State University, she has worked for a number of nature and environmental organizations, including the McKenzie River Trust.

A self-proclaimed data nerd, Jules enjoys linking people to solutions, with experience managing databases and building relationships with members, volunteers, and donors. She brings to Friends a tremendous depth of skills in customer relationships, technology use, and management, along with her passion for the environment. In addition to her work with the philanthropy team, Jules will be providing staff support to Friends' board and board committees.

Haley Lebsack started in July as Friend's part-time staff grant writer. A native Oregonian and passionate outdoor enthusiast, Haley started working with environmental nonprofits after the Eagle Creek fire to apply her background as a community connector to inspire others to conserve and protect places like the Gorge.

Before joining Friends, Haley's work with various environmental nonprofits focused on strategic corporate partnerships, grant management, and community engagement. She believes in creating sustainable growth through authentic relationships with community members and funders to further mission-driven work and reach mutually beneficial goals. Haley holds a master's of education and a bachelor's in communication from Washington State University. In her free time, you can find her coaching fitness classes, running, or backpacking with her husband and her boxer dog, Izzy.

Denise López has joined Friends as our Portland-based conservation organizer. As an environmental and social justice advocate, she is passionate about serving and motivating communities to protect their local environments.

A graduate of Northwestern University with a degree in environmental sociology and a minor in environmental policy and culture, Denise brings strong experience from her work in the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, the Environmental Law & Policy Center in Chicago, and The Nature Conservancy in Markham, Illinois.

In 2019, Denise spoke at the New Horizons in Conservation Conference. This conference is for students and professionals from backgrounds that are underrepresented in the conservation field and/or those who are committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the field. Friends is excited to have Denise join the conservation team.

New to our board

This summer, we were delighted to welcome **Shari Dunn** to a three-year term on Friends' board of directors. Shari is the CEO and principal of ITBOM, Inc. a consulting firm specializing in institutional and organizational coaching around equity, leadership, change management, women in leadership, and workforce development.

Shari has formerly served as a nonprofit CEO, an attorney, a journalist, and a foundation funder. She is an adjunct professor in the University of Portland Pamplin School of Business and serves on the Oregon Talent and Workforce Development Board. She has been honored as Executive of the Year and one of the Women of Influence by the Portland Business Journal, among numerous awards and honors.



Shari Dunn

Prior to joining the board, Shari had been serving on Friends' philanthropy committee. We welcome her wide range of experience and knowledge that will further our mission of protecting, preserving, and stewarding the Gorge.

And with special appreciation...

We say goodbye to board member and long-time Gorge resident **Cynthia Winter**. Serving from 2006 to 2015 and returning in 2019, Cynthia served a total of 11 dedicated years. During that time, Cynthia worked on several committees and served as board chair.

Cynthia's professional career has included being the executive director of Habitat for Humanity in Portland and director of organizational development for the Oregon Food Bank. She is currently a member of Solid Ground Consulting, where she helps leaders build the capacity and confidence to make a difference in communities throughout the country.

Looking for her next adventure, combined with a desire to return to her roots and spend more time with family, Cynthia and her husband have moved back to Montana for the next chapter in their lives, and she will be greatly missed here at Friends.



Cynthia Winter



In Love with the Rugged, Beautiful Gorge

Pam Davee, Director of Philanthropy

Jamie Shull had never heard of the Columbia Gorge when she first visited on a trip from California, and she still remembers her first encounter with this iconic place. She had come north to visit her mother in Portland and went for a drive out to Maryhill with her mom and sister. For Jamie, that first trip was jaw-dropping. “I could not believe the rugged, beautiful, and wild landscape I was seeing,” she said. She fell in love with the place immediately.

Shortly after this monumental trip, Jamie moved to Portland with her husband to help care for her mother. Later, she spent time camping and hiking in the Gorge as part of the healing process for her struggle and loss following her mother’s death. She fondly recalls camping at Viento State Park, which she found fun and beautiful despite the trains rumbling by. Spending time in Hood River—her “sweet spot” in the Gorge—is now a favorite pastime. She loves how the town’s “great vibe” is balanced with outdoorsy, fun places to visit and so many things to do.

Reflecting on what attracted her to Friends, Jamie notes that the mission and vision fit with her values

to protect and preserve the Gorge, a place she wants to protect now and for future generations. “My hope for the future of the Gorge,” she explains, “is that more people will have access to it, to know its beauty and wildness, but I am concerned that it could get loved too hard. There has to be a balance to preserve the wildness.” Friends’ intentional focus on upholding that balance is a big part of why she is a devoted supporter.

Jamie decided one of the best ways to be a part of the solution was to make Friends a part of her estate plan. After her husband passed in 2012, she began to think of her own legacy for her son and for future generations. After attending the legacy planning seminar at Friends’ annual meeting at Skamania Lodge a few years ago, she made a decision. She wanted “to do something positive that would have a lasting impact to protect this special place for future generations and making Friends a part of my estate was the perfect way to do it.”

Thank you, Jamie. We appreciate your commitment and your vision for the Gorge!

Tribute Gifts

May 1, 2021 – July 31, 2021

IN HONOR

In Honor of Lindarose Allaway
Eileen Sperl

In Honor of Debbie Asakawa
Charles Baker and Virginia Herndon

**In Honor of Cristin Connor
and Jason Kelly**
Tenny Hope Frost

**In Honor of Richard Dreyer, MD,
and Grant Lindquist, MD,
entering retirement**
Diane Hohl and Dr. Richard Hohl

In Honor of Friends' staff
Patrick Greenfield
Betsy Toll

In Honor of John Halloran
Barbara Gamrath

In Honor of Debbie Hess
Eric Hess

**In Honor of Anne Phillipsborn
and Rick Ray**
Paul and Lisa Blumberg

In Honor of Meredith Savery
Caitlin Szieff

In Honor of Jack Wills
Jean Miley

IN MEMORY

In Memory of Mehdi Akhavein
Roudi Akhavein
Gwen Farnham

In Memory of Deric Couch
David and Lisa Tyler

**In Memory of Oliver Dalton
and Nancy Russell**
Sandi and Thomas Rousseau

In Memory of Gary Heitz
Dennis Brophy and Cathy Gwinn

In Memory of Dana Hickey
Jenni and Shawn Harper

In Memory of Owen Klinger
Kevin Gorman and Michelle Kinsella

In Memory of Nagaraj Krishnamurthy
Prathibha Nandagudi

In Memory of Doris Adelia Manley
Ronelle Eddings
Alan Pummell
Bruce and Cheryl Pummell
Clarence Pummell

In Memory of Kate McCarthy
Maria Hein and Kermit McCarthy

In Memory of McKay Nutt
Jay Nutt

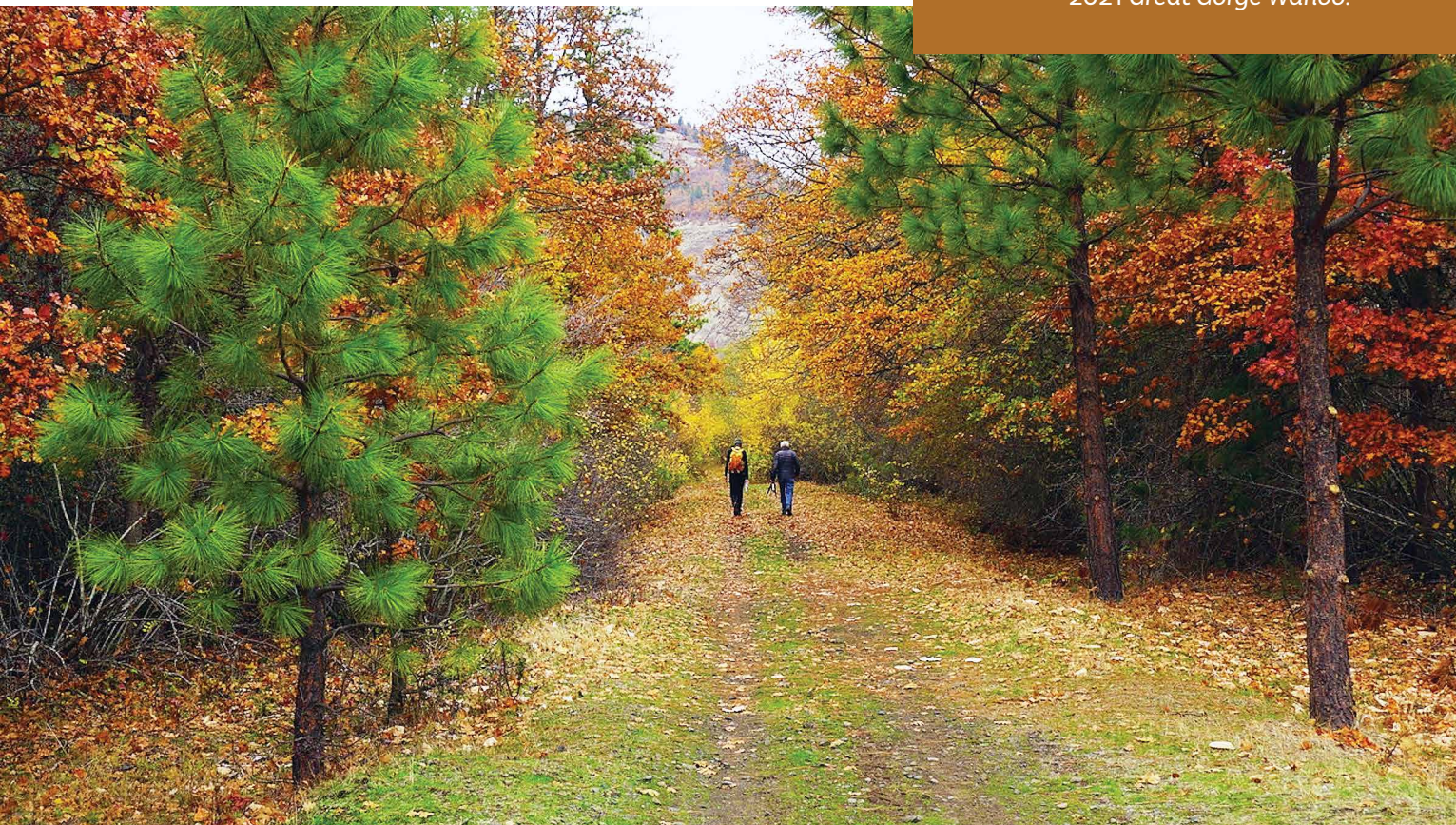
In Memory of Jerry Swedeen
Bob and Pam Davee

In Memory of Anora Tracy
Jennifer Bates

In Memory of Colin Zylka
Jean Zylka

*Bright, beautiful forest
Loud waves crashing
Columbia's ecosystems thriving
Water falling, hitting rocks
Bug walking and bird flying
And a bus ride home to end it all*

—A St. Andrew student at our
2021 Great Gorge Wahoo!



Hikers on the Klickitat Trail. Photo: Debbie Asakawa

FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE

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Have you ever wondered if making a \$10 donation really makes a difference? It sure does for Friends, especially when you consider the impact of 1,000 donations! Last year, our campaign in the *Willamette Week Give!Guide* drew 1,014 donations of all sizes to support our work protecting the Columbia Gorge.

For the past three years, *Give!Guide* donations have helped support the restoration of our Turtle Haven land preserve, so these often-overlooked native turtles have a refuge where they can thrive.

This year's *Give!Guide* campaign will run November 1 through December 31. Visit giveguide.org starting November 1 for details.



A young western pond turtle
ready for release at Turtle Haven.

Photo: Vince Ready