

# FRIENDS <sup>OF</sup> THE COLUMBIA GORGE

Spring 2023



Forging New Connections

## 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.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anne Munch	Chair
Buck Parker*	Vice Chair
Geoff Carr	Secretary/Treasurer
John Baugher	David Michalek*
Joe Campbell	Patty Mizutani
Greg Delwiche	Barbara Nelson*
Shari Dunn	John Nelson*
Gwen Farnham	Carrie Nobles
Pleschette Fontenet	Lisa Berkson Platt
Donald H. Friedman	Kevin Price
Susie Greenebaum	Mia Prickett
John Harrison	Sarah Quist
Gary Kahn	Vince Ready*
Jen Lovejoy	

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES – LAND TRUST

John Baugher	President
David Michalek*	Secretary/Treasurer
Natalie Edwards	Land Trust Advisor
Rick Ray*	Land Trust Advisor
Pat Campbell	Barbara Nelson*
D’na Walela Chase	John Nelson*
Greg Delwiche	Kevin Price
Dustin Klinger	Vince Ready*

## ISSUE CONTRIBUTORS

Elizabeth Brooke-Willbanks	Development Manager
Tim Dobyms	Communications Director
Frances Fischer	Land Trust Coordinator
Kevin Gorman	Executive Director
Denise López	Conservation Organizer
Renée Tkach*	Gorge Towns to Trails Manager

Production management: Melissa Gonzalez

\* Gorge area residents

Design: Kathy Fors and Kathleen Krushas | To the Point Collaborative  
Editor: Betsy Toll | Lumin Creative PDX

Published March 2023



Friends of the Columbia Gorge has offices in Portland and Hood River, Oregon, and Washougal, Washington. Visit [gorgefriends.org/contact](http://gorgefriends.org/contact) for details, or call 503.241.3762. Send inquiries to [info@gorgefriends.org](mailto:info@gorgefriends.org) or by mail to 123 NE 3rd Ave., Suite 108, Portland, OR 97232.



@GORGEFRIENDS

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



Printed on FSC, 30% post-consumer recycled paper; ECF, with AQ coating.

# FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE

A male northern harrier on the hunt above Steigerwald Lake.  
Photo: Bill Kirkland



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 3 Director’s Letter
- 4 Step by Step: Gorge Towns to Trails Forges New Connections
- 6 Plants and Pollinators in the Gorge
- 7 Defrost With Us: Friends’ Spring Programming
- 8 Centering Conservation Through Tribal Perspectives
- 10 Climate Change Action Plan Victory
- 11 Welcome to Friends
- 13 Giving for the Gorge
- 14 Tribute Gifts

Cover: Upper Cliff Rocks at Mount Ulka. Photo: Jozsef Urmos

## Director’s Letter



Photo: Gritchelle Fallesgon

I once believed the branches of my family tree prospered primarily through grit and resilience. This belief began with my great-great-grandfather, Patrick Gorman. Born in Ireland when the Irish were subjugated by the British, Patrick and his family were oppressed in every sense of the word. In time, he moved to America, where his offspring struggled but survived. Patrick’s grandson—my grandfather—started college but dropped out to enlist in the military during the First World War. A generation later, my dad, a Korean War vet, eventually earned the Gorman family’s first college degree, thanks to the GI Bill.

But along with grit and resilience, another branch of our family tree also grew: privilege. Great-great-grandfather Patrick himself became a member of the oppressor class when he bought a land claim on lands originally held by Michigan’s Ottawa, Ojibwe, Wyandot, and Potawatomi tribes. My dad saw the GI Bill as a gift for all veterans, but in reality, millions of Black, Latino, and Native American veterans were denied GI benefits under the guise of states’ rights.

I’ve worked hard to get where I am, but for every wall I’ve climbed, I have also walked invisible red carpets. Of the various jobs I’ve held during four decades of working, I suspect I never would have held half of them were I not white.

That brings me to today. For the last two years, Friends has participated in the Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts’ Learning Journey (see page 8). This involvement allowed me to connect more deeply with the Native American experience, which has given me a new perspective on the Columbia Gorge.

I recently interviewed a Native American woman who posed this question:

*“How do we truly heal old wounds? The Gorge is both beautiful and ugly at the same time.”*

As a woman whose family fished Celilo Falls for countless generations then watched it be inundated by construction of The Dalles Dam, who saw lands taken treaty after treaty, and who watched fishing, hunting, and gathering rights slip away—how could this woman not be haunted by the shadow of ugliness cast upon this beautiful place?

The stories in our heads shape who we become unless we have the courage to change them. Each of us has the capacity to heal old wounds. We all care for beautiful places cloaked in ugliness—ugliness many of us would prefer not to acknowledge or see. Yet to heal the wounds, we must see them. Name them. Own them. And respond to them. That is the only path forward, for the sake of the tribes, for ourselves, and for the generations to come.

Kevin Gorman, Executive Director



Sunrise at Rowland Lake. Photo: Linda Steider



# Step by Step, Gorge Towns to Trails Forges New Connections

Renée Tkach, Gorge Towns to Trails Manager

In 2011, Friends of the Columbia Gorge launched the biggest recreation initiative in its history, *Gorge Towns to Trails*, with the ambition of creating a 200-mile loop trail network connecting communities with recreation, promoting alternative transportation options, and creating contiguous parcels of protected lands that benefit wildlife. It also would serve as an innovative tool to disperse congestion at popular trailheads and introduce people to spectacular but less visited areas of the Gorge.

The *Gorge Towns to Trails* concept stems from the National Scenic Area Management Plan established in 1986, including the goal to establish a loop trail that links Gorge communities. Over the last 37 years, more than 40,000 acres of public lands have been acquired in the Gorge by a multitude of entities, providing an opportunity to establish contiguous public lands; protect native plants, wildlife, and scenic views; and piece together

a corridor for a connected trail system. In addition, Friends' Land Trust has acquired more than 1,600 acres since 2009—including properties adjacent to the towns of Lyle, Washington, and Mosier and The Dalles in Oregon—creating two hiking trails open to the public.

## On the horizon

Since 2011, Friends has opened two new popular hiking trails in the Gorge. One connects Mosier, Oregon, to Friends' Mosier Plateau Preserve, while across the river above Lyle, the other expands on the existing Lyle Orchard Trail to include two new loops for hikers to explore the eastern Gorge. This process took over seven years of planning, permitting, and community engagement, to develop trails that not only honor Indigenous peoples, the land, vegetation, and wildlife, but that also provide safe, sustainable recreation opportunities that will last for generations through ongoing stewardship.

Over the past five years, Friends has been working with the City of The Dalles, The Columbia Gorge Discovery Center and Museum, Wasco County, and other local stakeholders to create an exciting new trail connection on the Mount Ulka Preserve, to connect to The Dalles Riverfront Trail and the museum. This proposal is nearing the final phases of county approval to begin building the newest trail in the Gorge, another vital link in the vision for *Gorge Towns to Trails*.

Additionally, Friends is working with the U.S. Forest Service to finalize a feasibility study to analyze the public lands between Mosier and The Dalles as a potential corridor for a recreation trail system. With over 95 percent of the public lands in place to host trail access, the time is right to engage residents and stakeholders to identify the obstacles and opportunities, address existing safety and congestion issues, and envision not just a trail but a sustainable, well-planned path to the future.

## Seeing the need

Passing through the Memaloose Hills area just east of Mosier, it's not uncommon to encounter cars parked for a mile down the Historic Columbia River Highway in each direction, with vehicles over the fog line and hikers all over the roadway. No one would guess, from the number of cars and pedestrians in this area, that the Memaloose Hills trails were not planned and are not currently managed by the U.S. Forest Service. In reality, this area became a draw because the beauty of the springtime wildflower show attracts so many people year after year that a meandering, inefficient, and occasionally unsafe trail gradually emerged, with no parking or services.

Memaloose Hills isn't the only place where unplanned footpaths and unmanaged trailheads are impacting safety, vegetation, and ecological conditions. It's happening all over the Gorge, and the problems these situations raise are all too easy to see and understand, from traffic to trash. Good trails are carefully planned and well-managed systems that account for sensitive species, cultural resources, and scenic viewsheds. With the ever-growing demand for access onto public lands, it is vitally important now to identify where new trails could be hosted, creating sustainable connections as part of a master plan for generations to come.

## Moving forward together

Before joining Friends' staff in 2007 to work on the Cape Horn Trail project, and later, on *Gorge Towns to Trails*, I had never given much thought to what it took to create a trail. I mistakenly assumed it was a quick and simple process, and that our public agencies had all the time and money they needed to build and maintain the outdoor recreation opportunities that we typically take for granted.

I've since learned through hard work and experience that quality trails don't just happen overnight; they take decades of planning, public engagement, and hard work in the field, with a lifetime of care and stewarding to follow. That's the promise of *Gorge Towns to Trails*.

A great trail is a piece of living art, and these unique, complex, and beautiful creations would not be possible without the vision, effort, and accomplishments of our team at Friends; the passion and commitment from our myriad partners in business, government, and community; and the tremendous support of our members like you. ■



Gorge Towns to Trails Manager Renée Tkach with OPB radio host Dave Miller on The Dalles Riverfront Trail.

Photo courtesy of OPB



Scan the green QR code or visit [gorgefriends.org/OPB](https://gorgefriends.org/OPB) to listen to OPB's *Think Out Loud* podcast with Renée Tkach and Friends' board member D'na Chase.

# Spring Is Buzzing in the Gorge!

Common camas (*Camassia quamash*) is a beautiful bluish-purple flower that grows in the central and eastern Columbia Gorge on open slopes and grassy meadows that are seasonally moist.

Camas species are culturally significant to Indigenous people across western North America, and camas meadows have been cultivated for thousands of years for food and trade. Camas plants were prolific in the times before European contact, but they have diminished significantly due to development and agriculture. The stewardship and protection of camas continue to be important to tribal peoples today.

Common camas is visited by many different types of pollinators, including native bees, beetles, flies, butterflies, and moths. It's wonderful to sit quietly and watch pollinators visit camas and other flowers.

Any time between sunrise and sundown, a patient observer may see a wide range of pollinator species and behaviors. But if you're watching quietly at dusk, an unusual evening visitor may surprise you: the *Hemaris thysbe*, commonly called the hummingbird clearwing moth.

The hummingbird clearwing moth, with a 4" to 5" wingspan, has a distinctive appearance. This unusual pollinator sports a stout, fur-covered body, with clear wings that resemble finely paned windows framed in reddish fur. With their fluttering wings and hovering movement, their furry bodies seem to mimic hummingbirds. ■



Native camas plants bloom throughout the Gorge.  
Photo: Melissa Gonzalez



A hummingbird clearwing moth (*Hemaris thysbe*).  
Photo courtesy of Distant Gardens



Planting native vegetation puts us closely in touch with the soil and ecology of the Gorge.  
Photo: Cate Hotchkiss

## Defrost With Us! Friends' Spring Programming

Are you ready for sunlight? Do you feel the need to enjoy a good stretch outside? Is your soul excited to smell the sweet aroma of wildflowers throughout the Gorge? Well, this spring is the perfect time to get outside with Friends and defrost with us as we hit the trails on guided outings or get our hands dirty with stewardship.

### Hands-on stewardship

One easy way to give back to the Gorge is by participating as a volunteer in Friends' stewardship efforts. With our partners, we will be organizing monthly work parties to tackle weeds including herb Robert, teasel, Himalayan blackberry, English ivy, and Scotch broom at 12 public land sites, in collaboration with Washington State Parks, Oregon State Parks, and the U.S. Forest Service.

The season kicked off with native tree plantings in late winter and we're shifting to focus on invasive weed removal in spring. Events will be posted on our website throughout the spring months, so keep an eye on our stewardship calendar at [gorgefriends.org/volunteerstewardship](http://gorgefriends.org/volunteerstewardship). And sign up for our Stewardship eNews list to receive updates on all the upcoming projects and opportunities.

Can't make it to a work party? No problem! You can still pitch in by brushing off your boots before and after you hit the trail. Cleaning your boots is a simple way to prevent those tenacious invasive weed seeds from spreading further along Gorge trails.

### Friends' outings are for everyone

There is no better feeling than spring arriving and knowing that a Friends guided outing is waiting for you.

Join us this spring as we admire the Gorge's wildflower displays, hike through refreshing forests, ride our bikes through lovely canyons, and so much more! With guided outings, we look to offer events that pique your interests whether it's getting our hearts pumping with a physical activity, or tuning into mindfulness and connecting with the Gorge through our senses, art, or food.

We'll roll out these outings through the spring and summer months, so visit our event calendar at [gorgefriends.org/calendar](http://gorgefriends.org/calendar). Details and registration for these and other events will be updated frequently, so keep checking in!



# Centering Conservation Through Tribal Perspectives

Frances Fischer, Land Trust Coordinator | Kevin Gorman, Executive Director

Two years ago, 21 land trusts across Oregon, from Brookings to Enterprise, began contemplating how to incorporate tribal perspectives into their work protecting Northwest ecosystems and landscapes. As a member of the Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts, Friends of the Columbia Gorge has been an active participant in the Oregon Land Justice Project, an initiative that will shape our work for years and decades to come.

The ultimate goal of the Oregon Land Justice Project is to restore access and ownership of lands to the Indigenous people who have occupied and stewarded the lands for countless generations.

## The past is present

The history of Native American tribes in the Columbia Gorge is fraught with injustice. Living for centuries along the Columbia River—the only sea-level corridor through the Cascade Mountains and home to what was considered North America’s greatest fishery, Celilo Falls—Native Americans enjoyed stable communities and dynamic economies prior to first contact with Europeans. With that contact came disease, death, and eventually expulsion, as most tribes were forcibly removed from lands near the river to distant reservations. But some native people stayed in the Gorge, and along with those living on the reservations,

endured hostilities for fishing, hunting, and gathering roots and berries in accustomed waters and lands.

The tribes’ continuous defiant presence despite violence and injustice gave them a voice when the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act was passed in 1986. The legislation calls for the protection of cultural resources and requires consultation with the four Columbia River Treaty Tribes: Warm Springs, Yakama, Umatilla, and Nez Percé.

The Treaty Tribes have been consistent conservation advocates in the 37 years since the Scenic Act was passed, and in recent years have been instrumental in limiting the number of coal and oil trains transporting fuels through the Gorge. Today, three tribal members serve on the Columbia River Gorge Commission. Chair Carina Miller and Vice Chair Pah-tu Pitt are members of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs, and Jerry Meninick is a Yakama tribal member.

Yet even now, Indigenous communities in the Gorge and on reservations find themselves on the outside looking in. The Oregon Land Justice Project has brought together more than 160 conservation staff and board members to address this inequity. Land trusts are opening lands for fishing, hunting, and gathering, and discussing repatriation of land to the region’s Indigenous communities. Friends is embedding tribal perspectives

into its projects and decision making. Staff are working with tribal members to place Indigenous stories, history, and art in the interpretive signage planned for public trails. Friends is initiating a cross-boundary stewardship project in the eastern Gorge with the Yakama Nation. With our land trust preserves, we are working to increase Indigenous access and ownership of land in the Gorge.

## Beyond the Gorge

Further east, the Wallowa Land Trust, Nez Percé Wallowa Homeland, and The Nature Conservancy are in their fourth year of facilitating traditional root gathering in Wallowa County. The goal of this Indigenous-led program is to increase tribal access to privately owned lands for the gathering of first foods and medicines. Wallowa Land Trust provides food, lodging, and mileage costs for tribal members to return to land from which Chief Joseph and the Nez Percé people were driven nearly 150 years ago. In 2022, more than 100 Nez Percé, Umatilla, Cayuse, and Walla Walla tribal members came from all over Washington, Oregon, and Idaho to participate.

Efforts are also underway to support contemporary tribal communities. Friends has worked with a number of other land trusts and conservation groups to raise funds to support Warm Springs residents dealing with a potable water crisis. Working with the Seeding Justice Foundation, we helped raise more than \$500,000 for that purpose, an effort that likely would not have succeeded without the Oregon Land Justice Project.

## Our shared history and future

At the heart of all of this work is recognition and support for tribal sovereignty. Native American Tribes recognized

by the federal government are sovereign nations within the United States. Through treaties, many tribes have maintained hunting, fishing, and gathering rights on lands and waters once ceded to the federal government. The federal government is obligated to ensure those rights are upheld, including maintaining the health and viability of the Pacific Northwest salmon.

These treaties, and the tireless efforts of both treaty- and non-treaty tribes to uphold and defend their sovereignty, provide tribes with a voice in policy, legal, regulatory, and legislative discussions—for example, it was the likely violation of treaty rights due to fishing impacts that halted the construction of numerous coal and oil terminals throughout the Northwest.

Many of us grew up with the idea that unspoiled nature free of human interference (a “nature” that people merely visit, such as national parks) is the ultimate goal of conservation. But nearly every national park in America was established by removing Native Americans from the landscapes they and their ancestors had managed for generations. Only after their removal were the lands declared pristine places that humans should merely visit.

For thousands of years, the Columbia Gorge has been a place of people thriving amid stunning landscapes and unique habitats. People will always be part of Gorge conservation. No new project alone can resolve the injustices inflicted on Native tribes for centuries, but the Oregon Land Justice Project is an important step toward healing old wounds.

*Continued >*



Oregon Land Justice Project participants representing several land trusts come together. Friends’ Kevin Gorman and Frances Fischer are in the front row. Photo courtesy of the Oregon Land Justice Project

Continued from previous page

### Oregon Land Justice Project

The Coalition of Oregon Land Trust's Oregon Land Justice Project began taking root in 2019. Two years later, the 21 organizations listed here became the active founding participants in this program.

To learn more, contact Friends' land trust coordinator, Frances Fischer, at frances@gorgefriends.org. ■

New Learning Journey/First Light  
Tributaries Network  
Blue Mountain Land Trust  
Columbia Land Trust  
Deschutes Land Trust  
East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District  
Forest Park Conservancy  
Friends of the Columbia Gorge Land Trust  
Greenbelt Land Trust  
Land Trust Alliance

Lower Nehalem Community Trust  
McKenzie River Trust  
North Coast Land Conservancy  
Oregon Agricultural Trust  
Oregon Desert Land Trust  
Southern Oregon Land Conservancy  
The Nature Conservancy in Oregon  
The Trust for Public Land  
The Wetlands Conservancy  
Wallowa Land Trust  
Wild Rivers Land Trust

# Climate Change Action Plan Victory

Denise López, Conservation Organizer

After a year of working with Gorge community leaders and others to develop the Gorge-wide Climate Change Action Plan, or CCAP—including representing Friends on the initial steering committee and engaging with the Columbia River Gorge Commission staff—we were thrilled when the commission officially adopted the plan during its December meeting. The unanimous vote was accompanied by several passionate comments from commissioners and the public on the importance of climate work.

While we cherish opportunities for celebration, we are all eager to move on to action. In the coming months, we will

focus on ensuring that the policy guidelines set in the CCAP translate to regulations that can be enforced through the Management Plan. We will also support the Gorge Commission as they seek the funds to add a full-time position dedicated to the implementation of this climate plan.

Tackling the development of the CCAP collaboratively created new relationships and strengthened existing connections with our core partners. This bodes well as we move to execute the plan, as these partnerships will be essential to our success in continuing to protect the lands and communities of the Columbia Gorge.



Oregon white oaks like these at Lyle Cherry Orchard provide habitat for hundreds of wildlife species. They are highly adapted to wildfire and are drought resistant, making them a critical species in a changing climate. Photo: Friends Archive



From left, Gorge Commission Executive Director Krystyna Wolniakowski with Friends Conservation Organizer Denise López and Gorge Towns to Trails Manager Renée Tkach, at "Gorge(ous) Night Out" in Olympia, WA. Photo courtesy of Krystyna Wolniakowski



A stormy spring evening on Dog Mountain.

Photo: Carolyn Huber

## Giving for the Gorge

A win for business and for Oregon



Elizabeth Brooke-Willbanks, Development Manager

Today, less than 3 percent of global philanthropy goes toward supporting conservation work by organizations like Friends of the Columbia Gorge. Luckily for us, support for Friends' Gorge protection work comes from an array of donors.

In 2015, Tempercraft, a local Oregon company, wanted to include giving back to their community as part of their core values. Their product was a vacuum-insulated stainless steel drinkware, so choosing the Clean Water Fund seemed like the obvious choice. But they wanted to make an impact locally as well, and since hiking the Gorge was one of his favorite things to do, Bob Johnson, manager of Tempercraft in Canby, suggested to his team that they donate to Friends. After some research and debate, the Tempercraft team unanimously agreed to support our organization, and support us they do!

In 2018, Tempercraft made its first donation to Friends. Tempercraft is a member of 1% for the Planet, a global collective that inspires businesses to support environmental solutions. To be a member, companies are required to annually certify they have donated the equivalent of 1% of their total revenue to an approved nonprofit such as Friends.

Bob Johnson hikes somewhere in the Gorge at least once a month. His favorite place is Dog Mountain, a trail he recently hiked in the snow. Thanks to the abundance of beautiful hikes like Dog Mountain, he believes there is no place else in the world like the Columbia Gorge.

One of the challenges Friends faces is having consistent, reliable donations to fund our work. When a company commits to a yearly donation, it allows Friends to make work plans based on knowing those resources will be there. Like "Best Friends," our monthly donor program, annual donations from Tempercraft help Friends steward the Gorge, protect it from land-use violations, and restore habitats for Gorge wildlife.

Tempercraft drinkware is guaranteed for life, and customizable. Keep an eye out for them at [gorgefriends.org/shop](https://gorgefriends.org/shop) later this spring. They're the perfect item to have with you on your next outing to the Gorge.

We are very grateful to Tempercraft for their ongoing support of Friends and their commitment to supporting environmental protections in the Columbia Gorge.

# Welcome to Friends

Friends added two new members to the board of directors in October 2022. Our board brings together a wide range of interests, skills, and knowledge that intersect the mission and vision of our organization.

## Board of Directors



An outdoor adventure athlete with a passion for land conservation, **Barbara Nelson** joined Friends' board in 2023, adding to her ongoing decade-long service as a Friends' land trust trustee. With a background in commercial real estate, Barbara brings a wide breadth of real estate expertise to Friends—a skillset that will be invaluable as Friends accelerates its efforts to secure key properties across the Gorge. Barbara was instrumental in helping Friends secure the Catherine Creek property.

A resident of Hood River, Barbara and her husband Chris have been exploring the Gorge since moving to Oregon in 1999. Her interests include trail running, mountain biking, gravel racing, skiing, paddleboarding, and kayaking.



**Gary Kahn** first discovered the beauty of the Columbia Gorge while a student at the University of Oregon School of Law, where he focused on environmental law.

After law school, Gary was an attorney for the U.S. Forest Service for six years, where he worked on National Scenic Area issues. His strong commitment to the protection of wild and scenic lands led to more

than three decades representing Friends and other groups in litigation and other matters. He has also served on the boards of directors of other environmental organizations.

Now retired, Gary serves as president of B'nai B'rith Camp LLC, which operates overnight and day camps throughout the state, as well as year-round youth programming. Joining Friends' board is another way to give back to the community and an area he loves.

In December, we brought two new department directors on staff and they are quickly learning Friends' systems, our partners, and the complexities of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area that we strive to protect, preserve, and steward. They each bring their own unique styles, insights, and expertise to the leadership team.

## Staff Directors



**Rudy Salakory** joined Friends of the Columbia Gorge as our conservation director. Rudy has lived, worked, and played in the Pacific Northwest all his life. He comes to Friends after 14 years of developing and managing a habitat restoration

and conservation program for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, where he worked to develop relationships and coalitions to address problems and develop solutions that no single entity could perform on its own.

Rudy also volunteers his time to other conservation and advocacy groups along the Columbia River. He currently serves on the boards of Columbia Riverkeeper, Columbia Land Trust, and the Technical Advisory Committee of the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board.

When he isn't working, Rudy enjoys hiking, kayaking, traveling, and camping with his darling Geraldene. He also delights in spending as much time as he can get with his grandchildren.

**Tim Dobyms**, Friends' new communications and engagement director, first came to appreciate the majesty of the Gorge in 2007 on a trip with his parents, where they hiked and tried kiteboarding in Hood River. He returned to Oregon in 2010 for his MBA at the University of Oregon, adding to his BA in International Studies from the University of Wisconsin-



Madison. Tim finally made the Pacific Northwest his permanent home during the pandemic.

Tim comes to Friends with a wide array of experience in communications and marketing, including in human rights, sports, higher ed, and conservation. Most recently, he was the communications director for Galápagos Conservancy. His experience with strategic communications, media relations, multi-platform storytelling, and social and digital marketing will enhance Friends' presence in the region. Tim excels at leveraging powerful writing and visual media to tell stories that educate, engage, and inspire.

In his free time Tim can be found playing golf, pickleball, and basketball, and exploring Portland and the Gorge with his wife and daughter.

## When the Hard Work Begins

Last year, Friends released the short film "When the Hard Work Begins," the story of how Friends' legal team and community activists worked together to help shut down illegal mining activities at a gravel quarry near the gateway to the National Scenic Area. A major presence in the film is Buck Parker, a Columbia Gorge native and member of Friends' Board of Directors, who frames the narrative with reflections on the Gorge's special qualities and the need to protect them.

Filmmaker Brady Holden had a trove of unused footage from his interview with Buck, and created a two-minute companion featurette, "Meet Buck Parker." The video touches on Buck's 30-plus-year career in the environmental movement, and offers insights from a lifetime of deep connection with the Gorge.

Update on the gravel mine issue: In January 2023, the Washington Court of Appeals heard arguments in an appeal brought by the owner and operator of the gravel mine, despite having lost twice in earlier decisions, in 2019 and 2021. A ruling by the appeals court on this latest challenge is expected this spring.

View the film at [gorgefriends.org/buckparker](https://gorgefriends.org/buckparker), or aim your smartphone camera at this **QR code**.



Watch the mini-feature **Meet Buck Parker** here.



Above: Friends board member Buck Parker. Photo: Brady Holden

# Tribute Gifts November 1, 2022 – January 31, 2023

## IN HONOR

**In honor of Debbie Asakawa**  
Jack Hollis and Storry Norman

**In honor of Wes Ayers**  
Kelly R. Patton

**In honor of Holly Bard**  
Mary Denison

**In honor of Andrea and Troy Beall**  
Karen Davis Beall

**In honor of Bill Bigelow**  
Linda Christensen

**In honor of Stephen E. Blackman**  
Janet Metzger

**In honor of Mona Janney Brett**  
Susan B. Campbell

**In honor of Joyce Carter**  
John and Dawn Harrison

**In honor of Chris and Karlie**  
Dawn Geoppinger

**In honor of Donald and Shirley Clark**  
Sandra Hobbs Morey

**In honor of Jim and Leslie Clute**  
Matthew Clute

**In honor of Holly O. Coit**  
Susan Coit

**In honor of Bob Cole**  
Michael Boston and Betsy Kincart Boston

**In honor of Barbara Bruch Connelly and Bruce Connelly**  
Katie Schueler

**In honor of Jane Corboy and John Ragus**  
Annabelle Corboy

**In honor of Jasper Croome and Family**  
A. J. Simon

**In honor of Catherine Darby**  
Jeanne Ann Darby

**In honor of Lynda and Roger Decker**  
Carol and Jon Lesch

**In honor of Pleschette Fontenet, Fernanda Gwinner, and Annie Munch**  
Jeanie Nguyen and Taylor Elliott

**In honor of Peggy Fujita**  
Kimberly Allen  
Shannon Asaria

**In honor of Kate Getchis and Colleen Regalbutto**  
Elizabeth Foster

**In honor of Melissa Gonzalez**  
Betsy Toll

**In honor of Fernanda Gwinner**  
Victoria and Russell Deutchman  
Lisa Steenson

**In honor of Dawn and John Harrison**  
Linda Enders

**In honor of Brian and Lisa Huebner**  
Dawn Geoppinger

**In honor of Peter and Tracy Hyland**  
Charles Brod

**In honor of Alberta Boggs Isaac**  
Joseph and Lauren Isaac

**In honor of Dara and Michael Jellinek**  
Martin Jellinek

**In honor of Cindy Jennings**  
Marcelle Thurston

**In honor of Russ Jolley's 100th Birthday**  
Betsy Toll

**In honor of Roberta A Kemper**  
Stephen Kemper

**In honor of Michael Lang**  
Chris Beck

**In honor of Rita Lucero**  
Diane Hohl and Richard Hohl

**In honor of Ellen Mayock**  
Andrew Monk

**In honor of Greg and Melinda McGann**  
Dawn Geoppinger

**In honor of Kathie Millett**  
Mary Marchant

**In honor of Bill and Frances Palmer**  
Louis Fasano

**In honor of Buck Parker**  
Marcia Haack

**In honor of Ramakrishna Rao Pidaparthy**  
Kamesh Pidaparthy

**In honor of Jim and Kim Priewe**  
Dawn Geoppinger

**In honor of Mark Prych**  
Steven and Cynthia Addams

**In honor of Rick Ray**  
Jeff Wright

**In honor of Don and Alona Steinke**  
Shirley Troxel

**In honor of Thursday Hikers**  
Emilie Cartoun

**In honor of Marion Ward**  
Matthew Clute

**In honor of Linda and Tody Warson**  
Matthew Clute

**In honor of John Williams**  
Mary Norville

**Lower Panther Creek Falls, north of Carson, Washington.** Photo: Jeremiah Leipold

## IN MEMORY

**In memory of Gail Achterman**  
Charles McGinnis

**In memory of Tovey Barron**  
The Tovey Barron Charitable Fund

**In memory of Jim Bergstrom**  
Rafael Bergstrom

**In memory of Mona Brett**  
William Williams

**In memory of Joyce Carter**  
Maria N. Maribona

**In memory of Shirley Clark**  
Donald Clark

**In memory of Sandy Cohen**  
K. Molsberry

**In memory of Barbara Bruch Connelly**  
John and Susan Connelly

**In memory of Donna Enz**  
Carlton Olson

**In memory of Greg Evans-Weber**  
Jaci and Jeffrey Evans

**In memory of Linda Fuqua-Anderson**  
Susan Kirk  
Jeanette Kloos  
Claudia Sanzone

**In memory of Georgia Goldmark**  
Jen Lovejoy

**In memory of Donald Gonthier**  
Diane Gonthier

**In memory of Ron Gordon**  
Maxine Gordon

**In memory of Betty Griffiths**  
Robert Griffiths

**In memory of Cecilly Jacobsen**  
Lawrence Jacobsen

**In memory of Amali Koerner**  
Kathleen McAllister

**In memory of David J. Lifton**  
Beverly Wong

**In memory of Sandy Matthews**  
Russell and Tanya McDonald

**In memory of Nancie McGraw**  
Marie Hall

**In memory of Nancie McGraw and John Reynolds**  
Phyllis Reynolds

## Plan Your Gorge Fun Now

If you plan to visit Gorge waterfalls in the coming months, you'll find unrestricted access to the Historic Columbia River Highway east of Corbett. Last year's timed-use pilot program for the "waterfall corridor" has not been renewed for 2023.

Multnomah Falls is one of the most-visited scenic destinations in Oregon—so popular that since 2018 the U.S. Forest Service has had a timed-permit parking system for the Multnomah Falls Parking Area off Interstate 84. Low-cost advance permits will be required there this year as usual. For details on getting your permit, visit [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov).

If you would like to avoid Gorge congestion, consider leaving your car at home. Transit-to-trailhead transportation options, schedules, fares, routes, and additional trip information can be found at [columbiagorgecarfree.com](https://www.columbiagorgecarfree.com).

Multnomah Falls below the Benson Bridge. Photo: Annie Kaplan



**In memory of Hannah May and Pete Van Metre**  
Patricia Toccalino

**In memory of Barbara and Gordon Miller**  
Dawn Daniels and Mark Miller

**In memory of Doug Miller**  
Deanna Miller

**In memory of Mark Miller**  
Maureen Esser

**In memory of Joyce Murphy**  
Dixie and Gabe Zee

**In memory of Edith E. Parker**  
Michael Olds

**In memory of Arnold Pickar**  
Ruby Apsler

**In memory of Jhon Robertson**  
John and Dawn Harrison

**In memory of Dale B. Russell**  
Nicole Aue

**In memory of Nancy Russell**  
Charles McGinnis  
Brad Yazzolino

**In memory of Dean Shapiro**  
Art Shapiro

**In memory of Arne and Joyce Skedsvold**  
Kari Skedsvold

**In memory of Monica and Sheila Smith**  
Rita Smith Kingen

**In memory of Bob Stacey**  
Ann Abernathy and William McClelland

**In memory of Janice Staver**  
Jennifer Hohenlohe

**In memory of Neil Suterland**  
Lori LaDuke

**In memory of Debra Watkins**  
Curt Gray and Anne McHale

**In memory of D. A. Wiley**  
Luciana Duarte  
Ivy Zellmer

**In memory of Matthew Winthrop**  
Anne Marie and Jim Charnholm  
Tom Nelson and Peggie Schwarz  
Amy Winthrop  
Anne and Kevin Winthrop



# FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE

123 NE 3rd Avenue Suite 108, Portland, Oregon 97232

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

[gorgefriends.org](http://gorgefriends.org) |    @GORGEFRIENDS



## 2023 Annual Meeting and Luncheon

**Sunday, April 30 | 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

**Columbia Gorge Conference Center, Hood River, OR**

Information fair and socializing in the lobby beginning at 11:30 a.m.

**Join us** on the banks of the Columbia River at the Columbia Gorge Conference Center in Hood River as we gather for our first in-person annual meeting since 2019.

So much has happened just this past year. The Gorge Commission adopted the first-ever Climate Action Plan and the Zimmerly mine continues to be litigated. Land stewardship carries on Gorge-wide, and Friends' land trust purchased additional Gorge lands for protection.

We look forward to celebrating these wins with our community and sharing details of how you can help protect, preserve, and steward the Gorge in the coming year.

### Register soon!

Registration closes at midnight on April 17. Visit [gorgefriends.org/annualmeeting](http://gorgefriends.org/annualmeeting) for details and registration, or scan the QR code below. If you can't be there in person, join by livestream! We recognize that the pandemic is still impacting our communities and want to make this meeting as accessible as possible. Registration is required for livestreaming.

**Members:** \$40 per person

**Non-Member Special:** \$60 per person (The non-member special includes a year-long membership to Friends)



**P.S. Join us for a FREE Legacy Planning Seminar 11 a.m. – Noon**

The Hood River Waterfront, where Friends will hold the annual meeting. Photo: Tushar Koley

