



<https://www.folym.org>

**Friends of Olympic National Park Mission Statement:**

*Our mission is to support Olympic National Park in preserving the Park's natural, cultural and recreational resources for the benefit of present and future generations. Friends of Olympic National Park promote understanding of the Park's ecological, educational, economic and recreational importance and work with the Park on special projects.*

# *Friends of Olympic National Park*

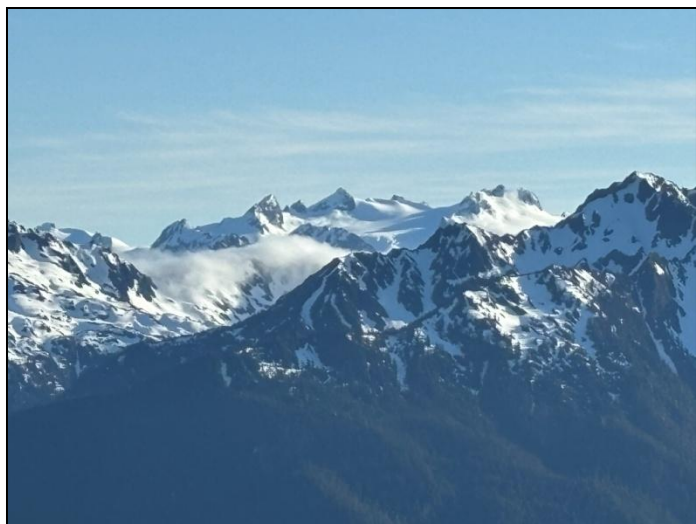
## **SUMMER 2024 NEWSLETTER**

**FONP Board Members:**

**Toni Harms (President)**  
**Jenny Murphy (Vice President)**  
**Norm Dawley (Secretary)**  
**Dave Peterson (Treasurer)**  
**Ben Braudrick**  
**Dori Broglino**  
**Kristin DeCou**  
**Jonathan Hamlin**  
**Gay Hunter**  
**Dale Julander**  
**Amy Neil**  
**Charles Sheldon**

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Summer scenes from Hurricane Ridge. Left photo taken by Toni Harms. Photo, above from ONP Archives.



**Toni Harms**  
FONP President

## **Message from the President, Friends of Olympic National Park**

Note from the president Summer 2024:

When the FONP Board of Directors met in January, we prioritized five projects for 2024 as we looked for new ways to support the park. These five projects were: 1) Lake Crescent highway cleanup 2) Earth Day coastal cleanup 3) National Junior Ranger Day 4) Coordinating our Facebook/IG and website 5) Teaming up with Greywolf Trail Crew on a trail project. To date, we have manned a Wilderness Camping booth at Junior Ranger Day and participated in the coastal cleanup on Earth Day. We have also added to our team of Facebook monitors to help us with heavy volume of posts and keep our page focused on Olympic National Park!

This summer, we look forward to expanding our volunteer efforts with ONP and conducting trash pickup along 101 at Lake Crescent. The date for this will be coordinated with the Highway 101 closure for the Elwha Bridge re-route. Additionally, thanks to one of our members, Desiree Marble, a graffiti cleanup project at East Beach was identified and taken to the ONP maintenance team. This project has been approved, and will take place on Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup> between 9am and noon. The link for volunteers to use to register is within this newsletter. We are excited to offer new opportunities to our active volunteers in addition to the work we do at the Visitor Center and Entrance Garden.

The popular summer wildflower walk is back, and we look forward to exploring flowers and insects on Hurricane Hill with retired botanist Mignonne Bivin on Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. Registration link is within this newsletter and space is limited so sign up today!

**Attendees on a previous wildflower and insect walk. Photo from ONP Archives.**





## Message from the President (continued)

As always, we will be co-sponsoring the VIP picnic in August with Discover Your Northwest. Recognizing our volunteers and an outstanding youth intern is always a highlight of the summer.

FONP is ever grateful for financial support for our initiatives. I encourage you all to renew your membership if you have not already done so for this year, either electronically through our website or by mailing the form within this newsletter. If you are uncertain about whether your membership is due to be renewed, just email us: [FONP2020@gmail.com](mailto:FONP2020@gmail.com). Membership fees and donations are used to directly support *our* park. A great example is the catering we were able to provide for Volunteer Trails Day in partnership with Little Devil's Lunchbox. We were able to feed 35 park staff and participants as they worked through an education day on trail maintenance.

Thank you also to our Board of Directors, who have been actively working to make 2024 one of our most active to date as an organization.

Warmly,  
Toni

Toni Harms  
President, FONP



Lake Crescent (left). Hiking in the lowlands of the Olympics (right). Photos from ONP Archives.



## Park Update from Sula Jacobs, Superintendent, Olympic National Park



For most, summer begins when blue skies and warm weather return. At Olympic National Park, summer starts when our full team returns! Seasonal park rangers, biologists, trail and facility crew members, and the beloved mules are back in the park and ready to make this a fantastic summer for all.

Thanks to their help, we can look forward to:

- Hiking and astronomy at Hurricane Ridge: The winter trailers will continue to serve visitors and rangers throughout the summer, ensuring all have access to restrooms and potable water. Now that the winter clouds have parted, the beloved dark sky programs will also return. Check the park website for more information on all ranger programs: [Calendar - Olympic National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](https://www.nps.gov/olym/calendar)

- Free boat washing stations at Lake Crescent and Lake Ozette: Park biologists launched a new aquatic invasive species program to protect our invaluable freshwater resources. The program will leverage free boat cleaning stations, public outreach, partnerships, and environmental DNA sampling to reduce the spread of existing invasive species and prevent the introduction of new invasive species. Because they are exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to remove, prevention and public education are the keys to reducing the impact of invasive species. Our website offers essential planning information for all water recreationists: [Boating - Olympic National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](https://www.nps.gov/olym/boating)



- A robust search and rescue team: Rangers from multiple divisions have been studying basic and technical search and rescue techniques throughout the spring. This energetic team will join our year-round rangers as they respond to emergencies throughout the park.

A summer shower provides a brooding view of the bridge at Devil's Punchbowl, Lake Crescent.



## Park Update from Sula Jacobs, Superintendent, Olympic National Park



Of course, these are just three examples of the work we will tackle this summer. I encourage all to explore the park's website and social media accounts to stay up to date on the latest projects and essential information.

Stay safe out there and enjoy your summer!



Search & Rescue training (above left and above right) conducted by Olympic National park staff. Photos provided by Sula Jacobs..

At the Log Cabin boat launch at Lake Crescent, the Park has installed an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) cleaning station (right) to help stop the spread of invasive species. Photos provided by Sula Jacobs..



# Friends of Olympic National Park

## *Welcome Kristin DeCou to the FONP Board*

FONP leadership is pleased to welcome Kristin DeCou to the Board of Directors. When Kristin reached out to us about joining the board, she said she was looking for a “connection” to the park. She has already been actively involved through coastal cleanup and researching Port Angeles restaurant options for Volunteer Trails Day. Kristin is pictured here with board member Gay Hunter. We are so glad to have her!



Kristin DeCou & Gay Hunter during beach cleanup. Photo provided by Kristin DeCou.

Kristin DeCou (New candidate personal statement): I am very interested in joining the Board and getting more involved with FONP, whether volunteering for events, growing partnerships, or supporting hands-on activities. While I currently work part-time as a Certification Program Manager and have my own organizing business, my prior background is in the non-profit and social entrepreneurship space. I managed corporate partnerships and volunteer service trips for Direct Relief, and worked as Manager of Giving Partnerships at TOMS. Our family is on a quest to visit all of the U.S. National Parks (currently at 47/63), and since we started two years ago, I've become passionate and determined to help more kids and people in general experience the parks! A few potential areas I can lend support: (1) Social Media: I've worked as a Social Media Coordinator for several local businesses and a national hiking challenge, the Six-Pack of Peaks Challenge. I love sharing stories of people, events, and showcasing how others can get more involved; (2) Partnerships/ Community Engagement: This is what I love and what I've helped grow at other organizations. This could include volunteer prospecting, partnership collaborations, or fostering local community engagement with other park-loving groups; (3) Trail Maintenance/ Clean-up: I love hiking and would love to lead a group project garnering more support for specific trail maintenance or clean-up activities in the park.



# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Historical Perspective:

### 90-year old Quileute Dugout Canoe on Display at the Olympic National Park Visitor Center in Port Angeles



Photo from ONP Archives.

This beautifully preserved tribal dugout canoe is on display at the Olympic National Park Visitor Center in Port Angeles. The canoe was crafted in 1934 by Charles Howeattle, who was a former Chief of the Quileute tribe along the west coast of the Olympic Peninsula. Charles was known for being a very experienced seal hunter; and he was known for his skill at making dugout canoes, including this one.

Charles is quoted as saying: "I was always bowman in my three-man cedar dugout. We had no weather reports in early days here, but we Quileutes always knew by standing on the beach studying the sky and sniffing the wind if it would be safe to go out there." Once on the water, the three man crew would be on the lookout for seals to provide sustenance to the tribe. A good hunter could cast his harpoon and capture a seal up to 75 feet away.

The Quileutes also undertook occasional whale hunts. In that case, 8 crewmen worked hard on this perilous task. The first harpoon started the process, but numerous additional spears with sealskin floats would be required to ultimately secure and recover the whale. These spears would gradually tire out the whale, which could take hours and cover many miles. But, a successful hunt would eventually result in the whale being brought to shore. Such a catch would provide provisions to the whole tribe and would be cause for a feast.

***FONP hopes to unravel the history of another historic dugout canoe that the Park acquired in years past. More info on that in a future newsletter.***

# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Recent Happenings:

Photo provided  
by various FONP  
Board Members

**March 13, 2024:**

Olympic National Park Visitor Center clean-up



Volunteer clean up of the ONP Visitor Center. Photos provided by Toni Harms.

**April 20, 2024:**

FONP participated in Beach Clean-up in the Mora area near LaPush in late April (scheduled around Earth Day)



Beach clean up near LaPush. Upper right photo provided by Dave Peterson. Bear and sunset photos by Charlie Sheldon. Remaining photos provided by Kristin DeCou.



# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Recent Happenings (continued):

**April 27, 2024:**

NJRD-FONP hosted a Wilderness Camping booth for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row, and despite the rainy, cold conditions, the kids and their families had a great time completing the scavenger hunt for 10 Essentials. Volunteer Ray Weinman's water-filling station was the most popular!

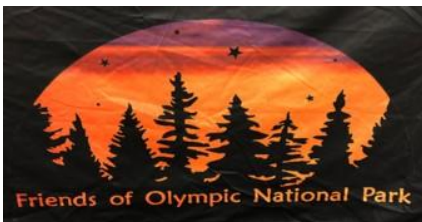


Junior Ranger Days activities. Photos provided by Toni Harms.



**May 14, 2024:**

FONP participated in the Partner Fair at the Clallam County Fairgrounds. This event is held annually in May and serves as an orientation for the national park's seasonal employees.



Marmot on a snow field (below, left). Rialto Beach (below, right). Photos from ONP Archives.





# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Recent Happenings (continued):

**May 18, 2024:**

FONP organized a clean-up of the gardens surrounding the Olympic National Park entrance sign in Port Angeles.



Photos provided by  
various FONP Board  
Members



Lake Crescent viewed from Fairholm  
Photos from ONP Archives.



# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Upcoming Events:

### ***Lake Crescent Graffiti Removal at East Beach June 26, 2024:***

**Description:** Olympic National Park is requesting volunteers to help remove graffiti at East Beach, Lake Crescent on Wednesday, June 26 from 9:00 am to Noon. Volunteers should meet Park staff at 9 am at the end of East Beach access road. The project will involve scrubbing graffiti off of rocks using water-based formula spray and wire brushes.

**Equipment provided:** gloves, safety glasses, and other protective equipment, as needed for the project

**What to bring:** snacks, water, sun protection

**What to wear:** closed toe boots, long pants, and a long-sleeve shirt

**Apply to volunteer at the following link:**

<https://www.volunteer.gov/s/volunteer-opportunity/a093d0000019MC2AAM/lake-crescent-graffiti-removal?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR0NrLAOOKFhanefMiSI1uOFbA0dXGc6yprGMJhJ TKnTJEVRPTx9RuthBk aem ASdLZtHPn0BsLfk4Yg4MYQpRO8qsiP3CXbD1N0NQrA6yQEUBNveoD5QkKGS7WaNI1m9bzoLhOLWH--iHnr3ncVD>



Graffiti on the rocks at East Beach. Photos provided by Toni Harms.

# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Upcoming Events (continued):

**Sunday, July 14, 2024 (2:00 pm):**

Wildflower & Insect Walk at Hurricane Hill.



Images from  
previous  
wildflower and  
insect walks.  
Photos from  
ONP Archives.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/annual-wildflower-insect-walk-tickets-914028994327>

**July 2024 (date TBD) :** Lake Crescent trash clean-up along Hwy 101 (scheduled during highway closure due to Elwha River Bridge replacement).

Hwy 101 around Lake Crescent. Photo from ONP Archives.





Membership Application  
**Friends of Olympic National Park (FONP).**

To join using PayPal, go to website: <https://www.folym.org/join>

Home About Calendar Annual Events Awards **Join** Donate Contact More

Purchase an annual FONP membership & receive an exclusive car decal as well as email updates and biannual newsletters. There are two ways to join. 1) To avoid processing fees, print the pdf below and mail a check to FONP, PO Box 3238, Port Angeles, Washington 98362 OR 2) Complete the online form below and checkout electronically.

OR



**Online Order Form**

FONP Annual Memberships

Type of Membership \*

☐  
☐

New  
Renewal

First name \*

Last name \*

Email \*

Address \*

Select an item (s) \*

☐  
☐  
☐

Student, Charter Member, Current  
Armed Services - \$15  
Annual Individual - \$25  
Annual Family - \$30

Proceed to Checkout

Donate Option on Website  
**Friends of Olympic National Park (FONP).**

For those who wish to make a donation to FONP, you'll find a link on our webpage:: <https://www.folym.org/donate>

- Home
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## Support Our Cause

Leave a one-time donation

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Last name

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Address

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Donate in the name of:

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Enter the amount you wish  
to pay: \*

\$

Enter amount

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Donate

Friends of Olympic National Park is a  
501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization  
EIN # 02-0619-892

Thank you for helping us make a difference!



## **Friends of Olympic National Park (FONP).**

### **Where your membership money goes**



#### **Where your membership money goes...**

- Sponsorship of annual Spring and Fall Membership Meetings and the Summer ONP Volunteers Picnic
- Sponsorship of the Perspectives Lecture Series
- Funding for special projects such as:
  - Landscape beautification of the Employee Entrance at the Visitor Center
  - Landscape clean-up around the Olympic National Park entrance sign on Race Street in Port Angeles
  - Landscape projects around the Park Administration building
  - Beach/trash clean-up participation
- Funding for special events, such as:
  - Junior Ranger Day
- Funding of awards for Most Inspirational Park Employee and Most Inspirational Friend Volunteer
- Member newsletters (3-4 times/year)
- Routine business expenses, such as annual PO Box fees
- FONP Car Decals to share your pride, plus FONP neck gaiters and caps (for sale)!

Temporary trailers at Hurricane Ridge providing restroom facilities and park ranger office space in lieu of the day lodge that burned in Spring 2023 (left). Hoh rain forest (right). Photos from ONP Archives.



# Friends of Olympic National Park

**We encourage you to visit us on Social Media:**



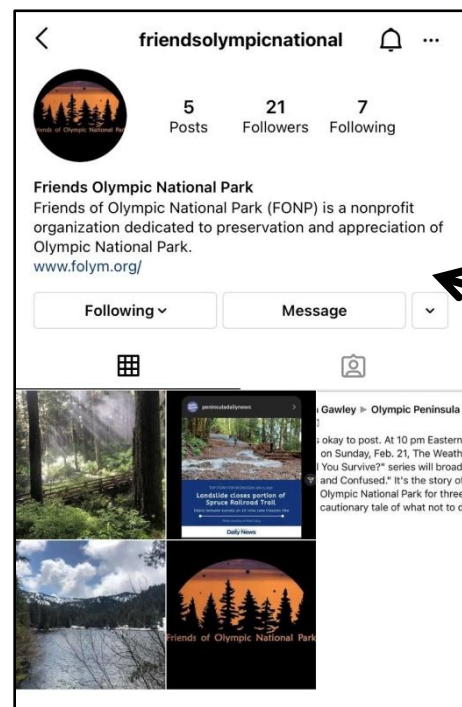
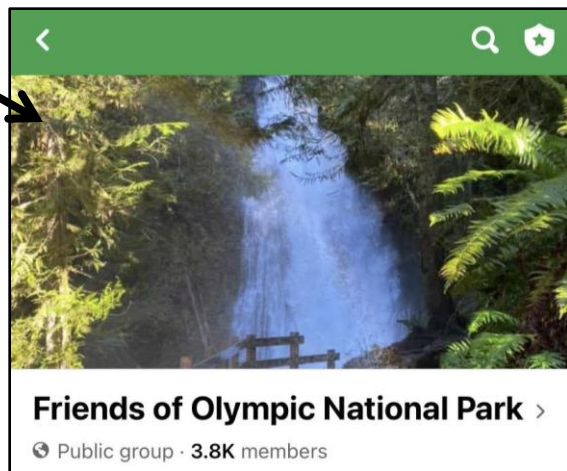
**Check out our updated webpage:**

<https://www.folym.org/>

**Engage on the Friends of Olympic National Park Facebook page:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/127120097316043/?ref=share>

Members use Facebook to share their experiences in the park or to seek advice about future visits to the park.



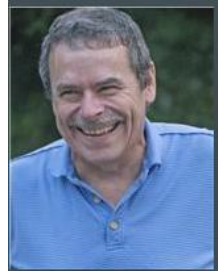
**Visit our new Friends of Olympic National Park Instagram site, and sign up to follow us**

<https://www.instagram.com/friendsolympicnational/?igshid=1xoo02xx1kznt>



**Friends of Olympic National Park (FONP).**

**Obituary: Jon Preston (1958 – 2024)  
Park Ranger, Olympic National Park**



Jon Preston was born in Los Angeles on September 15, 1958. Following multiple moves by his family as he was growing up, Jon eventually settled in Port Angeles. He became a seasonal park ranger working at Hurricane Ridge in the early 1990s; he also worked the main visitor center in town. His natural talent for conveying his love of science, nature and the awe and wonder that went with it, made him a visitor favorite.

In 1995, he married his wife, Debbie, at Lake Crescent, having proposed to her on Mt. Angeles during a snowstorm. He quipped, "She was backed up to a drop-off – she had to say yes." They would go on numerous adventures together throughout Washington state plus parts of southwest United States, Mexico, Hawaii, and Four Corners.

Jon worked a few seasons for North Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary based in Port Angeles. He spent a winter season at Big Cypress National Preserve, giving canoe tours of the mangrove forests and telling tales of the gators. He also qualified for his federal fire card, and was dispatched to fires in Washington several times, interpreting the landscape while digging fire line.

Jon finally landed a permanent job at the Hoh Ranger Station as the lead interpreter. He was often featured on news shows, in newspaper or radio shows, doing what he did best – sharing his love of the rainforest and all the life that thrived there. He finished his career at Olympic National Park with a few years in IT - - work that he was doing throughout his career and that was also a hobby of his.

Jon is survived by his wife, Debbie Preston, and their two children Deimos (Erin) and Archer Preston; also one sibling, Ginny Ing and her family. He lived a remarkable life and will be sorely missed.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/peninsuladailynews/name/jon-preston-obituary?id=55237815>

The write-up, above, is an abridged version of Jon's obituary. Click on the link (left) to access his complete obituary.