



<https://www.folym.org>

# *Friends of Olympic National Park*

## **SPRING 2025 NEWSLETTER**

**Article IX. Section 2** of the FONP Bylaws states: Political activities. No part of the activities of Friends of Olympic National Park shall attempt to influence legislation, and the Friends of Olympic National Park shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publication or distribution of statements) any political campaign or behalf of any candidate for public office.

Having said that, FONP remains steadfastly dedicated to our mission of supporting Olympic National Park. We remain hopeful that we'll be able to carry out the numerous projects and activities we have planned for 2025. However, at present, we have no idea what the impact of recent staff losses will be. We do know that if there is not enough NPS staff to coordinate with and supervise our efforts, we will not be able to carry out our planned activities. We will post information received from the Park on Facebook. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

### Table of Contents:

MESSAGE FROM FONP PRESIDENT:	pg 2-3
FONP BOARD ELECTION BALLOT:	pg 4-5
PERSPECTIVES SERIES:	pg 6-7
FONP SPRING MEMBERSHIP MTG:	pg 8
HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:	pg 9-10
CLEAN TRAIL GRANT:	pg 11
2025 PROJECT & VOLUNTEER LIST:	pg 12-13
FONP JOIN/DONATION OPTIONS:	pg 14
HOW FONP USES DUES & DONATIONS:	pg 15
SOCIAL MEDIA INFO for FONP:	pg 16
OBITUARY FOR DAVE COLTHORP:	pg 17

### FONP Board Members:

- Toni Harms (President)**
- Kristin DeCou (Vice President)**
- Norm Dawley (Secretary)**
- Gay Hunter (Secretary Elect)**
- Dave Peterson (Treasurer)**
- Ben Braudrick**
- Dori Brogolino**
- Jonathan Hamlin**
- Dale Julander**
- Amy Neil**
- Charles Sheldon**
- Patrick Williams**



Toni Harms  
FONP President

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

*“One way to keep momentum going is to have constantly greater goals.” Michael Korda*

Happy Spring to All! This spring’s theme is momentum, and FONP is riding the wave! In December, the Board of Directors met for our annual planning meeting to choose new projects that we would like to add to our annual activities list. These include: 1) Collaborating on a children’s activity sheet with the Dr. Seuss Foundation to be distributed during National Park Week 2) Adoption of the Peabody Creek Trail 3) Hosting a Volunteer Support Tent at Beach Cleanup. We will have board members leading each project.

This year we will be recruiting volunteers via volunteer.gov rather than Eventbrite. Eventbrite will only be used for gatherings such as the Spring and Fall Membership Meetings and the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic. We are working with the Office of Volunteers & Youth to standardize the way we recruit volunteers and ensure all necessary paperwork is updated.

FONP had a change in our leadership team in January and it saddened us to say good-bye to Jenny Murphy, our former Vice President. Jenny had tremendous enthusiasm and insight which are really missed in our board meetings. The board voted in

Elwha River entrance sign under different winter conditions. Left photo by Dori Brogolino. Right photo by Toni Harms.



## Message from the President (continued)

Kristin DeCou as our new Vice President, and she has already made a tremendous impact as we grow and move forward. Kristin has tremendous vision for how our organization can modernize and progress. So excited to have her in our midst!

I would like to thank Norm Dawley, whose term will be ending in March. As most of you know, Norm was instrumental in maintaining a working relationship with the park and has remained passionate about our mission. He stayed on the board while I got my feet wet as president and was invaluable as a counselor and friend. I'm very grateful for his partnership.

Thank you also to member Jane Kirby for your help with our Facebook page. Jane volunteered to help with redundant tourism questions and is an extra pair of eyes in keeping the page focused on promoting the park.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank you all for your commitment as paid members, which is the foundation for our financial stability. There are 78 current paid memberships, which is up from 27 post-pandemic. We are grateful for our private donors and to Chevron for their corporate match program. Just this week, we were awarded a \$250 grant from the Extreme Terrain Clean Trail Project. It was our first-ever grant application! These funds are intended specifically for trail maintenance and improvement, which we will utilize this summer when things dry out!

We recently updated our website and hope you will take a look:

<https://www.folym.org/> We will have a lot going on this summer and will make every effort to keep our calendar updated. We always welcome your comments, ideas for projects, and photos which can be sent to [FONP2020@gmail.com](mailto:FONP2020@gmail.com).

Hope to see you at the Spring Meeting!  
Looking forward to a great 2025.

*Toni*

Photo provided  
by Toni Harms





Vote for 5 candidates to serve 3-yr terms

There are 2 methods for submitting your ballot. Please choose one of the following methods (but please only vote once):

**Deadline:  
March 15**

1) You can vote online at the following link  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdl3EqiFwWNwM0FKX-6hFzf38zFl\\_yBzMNDXBCjpkp9moB-VpQ/viewform?pli=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdl3EqiFwWNwM0FKX-6hFzf38zFl_yBzMNDXBCjpkp9moB-VpQ/viewform?pli=1)

2) Or, you can mail in a paper copy of both pages of the ballot to:  
**FONP, P.O. Box 3238, Port Angeles, WA 98362**

**Gay Hunter (Incumbent Board Member):** Gay’s love for the Olympics began while riding through the area on a bike trip in 1975! She would eventually go to work for the Park as a biological technician (supporting the study of owl populations in the Park) and later as Curator (she served in this capacity for 10 years prior to retirement). Gay has been on the FONP Board for 2 terms, and she’s very interested in serving another term. She’s excited to see FONP continue to grow in terms of its capability and service to the Park. She feels the Board is poised to tackle even more interesting projects next year.

**Dale Julander (Incumbent Board Member)** is a retired geologist and has served on the FONP Board for 2 terms. Dale’s primary role on the Board has been as newsletter editor. He also enjoys participating in numerous FONP volunteer events for the Park. Dale grew up in Port Angeles and has always loved exploring Olympic National Park. His very first backpacking trip was in high school to Seven Lakes Basin, and it was on an ONP “introduction to backpacking trip” led by a park ranger. He thoroughly enjoys being a part of the FONP team supporting the Park.

Photo by Amy Neil



Photo by Ben Braudrick



Photo by Bill Baccus

Vote for 5 candidates to serve 3-yr terms



**Amy Neil (Incumbent Board Member):** Amy is the General Manager of the Kalaloch Lodge, and she lives in Forks. She has been living on the Olympic Peninsula for 3 years after moving from a 20-year period in Grand Canyon National Park. She has a passion for National Parks, and has always been in love with this area. She loves sharing conservation and beauty with others. She is often found in the great outdoors as an expert hiker/backpacker, or simply out kayaking or riding her bike with her adventurous pup.



**Mike Simpson (New Candidate):** Mike is an entrepreneur, outdoor enthusiast, and someone who is excited to give back to the community. He has run a variety of successful businesses and non-profits over the last decade. Having held every office as a board member in these various organizations, he is uniquely experienced with nonprofit operations and serving on boards of directors. In his last post as President of the Arlington Community Food Bank, he helped it grow from operating in the red to bringing in more than \$1,000,000/year in donations. He would love to apply his experience, success, and skill to the home he’s found on the Olympic Peninsula.



**Natalie Steffens (New Candidate):** Natalie was born and raised in Chicago, but a visit to Olympic National Park in her earlier years changed her entire world. She became hooked on the idea of trading big city life for the wilderness of Olympic National Park. She was able to relocate to Port Angeles in May 2023, and with unrelenting drive, tenacity, and ambition, she secured a position with Olympic National Park in Natural Resource Management & Visitor Resource Protection. Additionally, she has served as a volunteer at numerous non-profit organization events including nature consortiums, community gardens, food pantries, nature centers, trails associations, and FONP.

Left & middle photos by Ben Braudrick

Right photo by Kristen DeCou



# Perspectives Topics:

*Abstracts and photos (below) are from the nols.org website.*

Olympic National Park’s monthly Perspectives presentations are held on the second Tuesday of each month from January to April. They are hosted by the North Olympic Library System. Guests are welcome to attend in person at the Port Angeles Library (2210 S. Peabody St.) – FONP provides refreshments. Or, they can view the presentations live-streamed in their homes via Zoom. (The Zoom link to the presentations can be found online at [https://www.nols.org/onp/.](https://www.nols.org/onp/)) The presentations are free.

The Perspectives talks are sponsored by Olympic National Park, the North Olympic Library System, Discover Your Northwest, and the *Friends of Olympic National Park*.

## Topics:

Screen captures on the next 2 pages are from the nols.org website



## Olympic National Park: Perspectives Speaker Series

Canopy Soils in Pacific Northwest Rainforests

 Tuesday, February 11  
7:00pm - 8:30pm  
[Add to Calendar](#)

 [Port Angeles Main Library](#)  
Raymond Carver Room

Learn how canopy soils contribute to old-growth tree resiliency and ecosystem function. Join in person or on Zoom.

COMPLETED

### About the Presenter

Dr. Korena Mafune was named a 2021 Washington Research Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow. Her postdoctoral research focuses on tripartite interactions among plants, fungi, and bacteria, and how certain types of bacteria and fungi can be harnessed for sustainable agricultural practices.

Presentation is available at: [https://www.nols.org/onp/.](https://www.nols.org/onp/))



# Perspectives Topics:

*Abstracts and photos (below) are from the nols.org website.*



## Olympic National Park: Perspectives Speaker Series

High Mountain Lakes Response to Shifting Climate



Tuesday, March 11

7:00pm - 8:30pm

[Add to Calendar](#)



[Port Angeles Main Library](#)

Raymond Carver Room



Learn about the ecological importance of the Peninsula's high mountain lakes. Join in person or on Zoom.

### About the Presenters

Bill Baccus is a climate ecologist at Olympic National Park.

Dr. Steve Fradkin has worked as the coastal ecologist and limnologist at Olympic National Park since 2000. He conducts research and long term monitoring on intertidal resources, mountain lakes and climate change from an ecosystem perspective.



## Olympic National Park: Perspectives Speaker Series

Coastal Bluff Erosion at Kalaloch



Tuesday, April 08

7:00pm - 8:30pm

[Add to Calendar](#)



[Port Angeles Main Library](#)

Raymond Carver Room



Learn about new research from photo monitoring stations. Join in person or on Zoom.

### About the Presenter

Dr. Ian Miller is [Washington Sea Grant's](#) coastal hazards specialist, working out of Peninsula College in Port Angeles. Ian works with coastal communities and public agencies in Washington State to strengthen their ability to plan for and manage coastal hazards, including tsunamis, chronic erosion, coastal flooding and other hazards associated with climate change.

# Spring Membership Meeting:

**Thursday, March 27, 2025 (6-8 PM)**

Olympic National Park Visitor Center, 3002 Mount  
Angeles Road Port Angeles, WA 98362

## **Astronomy Outreach Programs at Hurricane Ridge**

Presented by John Goar & Linda Kahananui

***John Goar** is a retired teacher and an ONP volunteer who has led telescope programs at Hurricane Ridge since 2010. John uses several telescopes including two that he built himself. John enjoys viewing lots of great targets in the sky, especially comets and galaxies*

***Linda Kahananui** is also a retired teacher and ONP volunteer. She has done telescope outreach in Hawai'i and Colorado before relocating to Port Angeles and is an integral part of our team, starting in 2022. Linda enjoys stories that different cultures tell about the night sky.*

**Please register at the following link:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/astronomy-outreach-programs-at-hurricane-ridge-tickets-1228235117299?aff=oddtcreator>



Pictured: John Goar (left); Linda Kanahanui (right). Photos provided by John Goar.



# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Historical Perspective:

### *The Pacific coast strip gets added to Olympic National Park*

In 1909, President Theodore Roosevelt issued a proclamation establishing Mt. Olympus National Monument. The monument was created primarily for the protection of the Olympic elk. It was roughly 600,000 acres in size encompassing the Olympic Mountains and some of the surrounding timber lands. It did not include any portion of the Pacific Ocean coast.

In 1938, President Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR) established Olympic National Park. In doing so, he enlarged the area included in the original national monument in order to preserve additional virgin forests surrounding the Olympic Mountains. But, that declaration still did not include the Pacific coast strip. In 1940 and again in 1943, FDR expanded the Park to preserve additional forested lands (following negotiations with logging firms on the Peninsula). This brought the Park's total acreage to nearly 849,000 acres. Still, no portion of the coastline was included.

Finally, in 1953, President Harry S. Truman issued Executive Order 3003 that resulted in the addition of 47,753 acres to the Park.

Most of the new acreage was along the Pacific coastline - - a roughly 50 miles long by ½ to 1 miles wide swath that extended from the western shores of Lake Ozette southward to the border of the Quinault Indian



Photo by Amy Neil

# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Historical Perspective (continued):

### *The Pacific coast strip gets added to Olympic National Park (continued)*

Reservation. It served to protect beaches and near-shore environments. The park addition also included a narrow corridor of scenic forest along the Queets River that connected the heart of Olympic National Park to the Pacific Ocean. President Truman wrote in his proclamation: “The Olympic National Park, established for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people, now becomes the only park in the world to extend from snowcapped mountains to ocean beaches.

In 1976, after long negotiations between various interests and landowners, a stretch of coast extending from the Lake Ozette area northward to the border of the Makah Indian Reservation was added to Olympic National Park. The addition included the incredibly scenic Shi Shi Beach and Point of Arches areas. (In 1980, the Point of Arches was declared a National Natural Landmark.) This would bring the total length of the coastal strip of the Park to roughly 60 miles from north to south.

Photos by Amy Neil



# 11 Friends of Olympic National Park (FONP)

## *FONP Receives \$250 Clean Trail Grant to Support Trail Improvement*

### EXTREMETERRAIN'S CLEAN TRAIL INITIATIVE PROGRAM



We're thrilled to announce that FONP was awarded a \$250 Clean Trail Program Grant on February 20, 2025! The FONP Board of Directors will determine the best way to utilize these funds, and we can't wait to share the exciting before and after photos right here! Curious to learn more about the program?

Click this link:

<https://www.extremeterrain.com/clean-trail-initiative-program.html>



# FONP's 2025 Projects & Volunteer Opportunities

*The impact from ONP staff reductions in 2025 remains uncertain. FONP activities and volunteer opportunities will be held provided ONP staff are available to coordinate with, and supervise, our efforts.*

## Beach Clean-up Day – Hospitality Tent

Location: TBD

Save the Date: **April 19, 2025**

*FONP will be hosting a hospitality tent with snacks/beverages at this year's beach cleanup in April.*



## National Junior Ranger Day – family activity

Location: Olympic National Park Visitor Center, Port Angeles

Save the Date: **April 26 (10 AM – 2 PM)**

*This is a fun, educational event for kids and families. FONP hosts a Wilderness Camping station with a 10 essentials scavenger hunt and teaches Leave No Trace principles.*



## Peabody Creek Trail Maintenance (summer time) – Volunteer Opportunity

Location: Peabody Creek Trail is a nature trail adjacent to the Visitor Center, Port Angeles

Date: Most likely in June

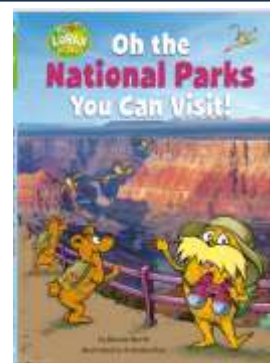


## Children's Activity Sheet - Dr. Seuss Foundation

Location: Seeking options outside the Park

Date: Possibly during National Park Week

*FONP is partnering with Entertainment Marketing Group and Dr. Seuss Foundation to develop a children's activity sheet featuring the Lorax which highlights the treasured characteristics of Olympic National Park. We are currently exploring ways in which the sheet can be distributed.*



# FONP's 2025 Projects & Volunteer Opportunities

*The impact from ONP staff reductions in 2025 remains uncertain. FONP activities and volunteer opportunities will be held provided ONP staff are available to coordinate with, and supervise, our efforts.*



Sign up for Spring Cleanup (March 29) or Entrance Sign Cleanup (May 13) at [www.volunteer.gov](http://www.volunteer.gov)

**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.*

## **Options on our website to join Friends of Olympic National Park (FONP) or to make a donation**

For those who wish to join or make a donation to FONP, you'll find a link on our webpage: <https://www.folym.org>. Our website has been updated so that you can now use debit/credit cards or Paypal. From our homepage, click on the Join/Donate button to reach the following page:

Get an annual FONP membership and enjoy an exclusive car decal, along with email updates and biannual newsletters. You can join in three ways: 1) To bypass processing fees, print the PDF below and send a check to FONP, PO Box 3238, Port Angeles, Washington 98362, or 2) Fill out the online form below and pay electronically (Paypal) 3) Make a donation and become a member of FONP!



### Online Order Form

#### FONP Annual Memberships

Type of Membership \*

New

Renewal

First name \*

Last name \*

Email \*

Address \*

Select an item (\$) \*

Student, Charter Member, Current Armed Services - \$15

Annual Individual - \$25

Annual Family - \$30

[Proceed to Checkout](#)

### Donate Now

Help us make a difference

First name

Last name

Address

Donate in the name of

Enter the amount you wish to pay: \*

\$

[Donate](#)



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

### How your membership dues and donations are used



- Sponsorship of the Perspectives Lecture Series – in charge of providing refreshments
- Sponsorship of annual Spring and Fall Membership Meetings and the Summer ONP Volunteer Appreciation Picnic
- Funding of the following activities:
  - Landscape projects at the Park Visitor Center in Port Angeles
  - Adoption of the Olympic National Park entrance sign & garden on Race Street in Port Angeles - - landscape cleanup/ bark re-fresh several times a year
  - Landscape projects around the Park Administration building – as needed
  - Graffiti removal at Lake Crescent (2024 – one-time special project)
  - Peabody Creek Trail Clean-up and Maintenance (new in 2025)
  - Wildflower walk at Hurricane Ridge - - usually in July or August
- Funding of the following events:
  - Trails Day
- Funding of awards for Most Inspirational Park Employee and Most Inspirational Friend Volunteer
- Funding of thank-you gifts for guest speakers at Spring and Fall meetings
- Routine business expenses: annual PO Box fees, postal supplies, thank-you notes to new members
- FONP Decals to new members
- Website fees
- Liability Insurance
- New events that get added to the schedule – with buy-in from the Park



# Friends of Olympic National Park

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



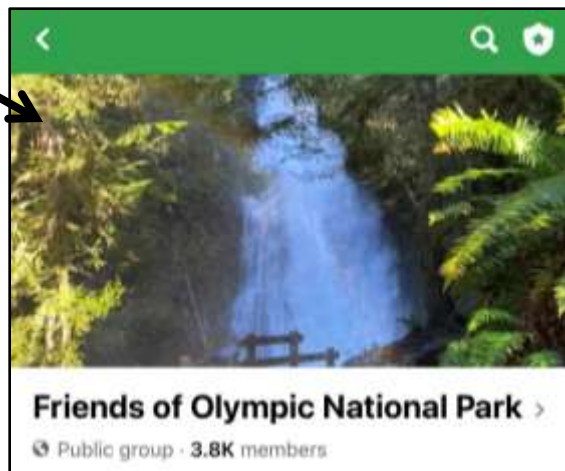
← Check out our updated webpage:

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

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

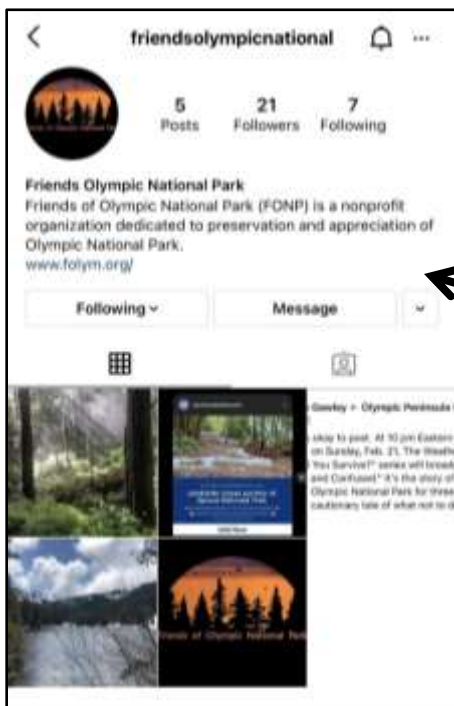
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/127120097316043/?ref=share>

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 for Dave Colthorp, former Board Member of FONP*



FONP is saddened to announce that former FONP board member, Dave Colthorp, passed away peacefully due to natural causes at his home on November 7, 2024.

Dave was born in Port Angeles, WA on February 18, 1955. He attended K-12 school in Port Angeles and then enlisted in the US Army in 1972. His duty included a tour in South Korea.

In October 1974, Dave married Cynthia Doerge. They settled in Port Angeles, and in 1975, Dave went to work at the Crown Zellerbach Mill. In 1978, Dave took a seasonal job working for Olympic National Park at Staircase. It was a dream come true for Dave. A few years later, he was hired as a permanent employee in the maintenance department where his skills in carpentry, electrical work, and plumbing were put to good use. He also enjoyed mentoring others. He retired from the Park in 2010. Regarding his longevity at Olympic NP, Dave said, “You can’t beat paradise. Why go anywhere else?”

Dave readily shared his love for the outdoors along with his wisdom and humble nature with his daughter, Rachel, and his grandson, Will. His personal motto was “Experiences over things”. He also helped maintain the Port Crescent Cemetery, served as a board member of FONP, participated in beach cleanups, and organized gatherings for retired Park staff.

Dave was friendly, talkative, curious, a natural teacher, and genuine. He always had a smile on his face and found joy in seeing others enjoy the outdoors as much as he did. Of his life, he once said, “I could go out tomorrow with a smile on my face.”

Dave is survived by his wife Cindy, daughter Rachel, grandson Will, father-in-law Kenneth, plus many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Donations can be made in Dave’s name at <https://www.habitatclallam.org/>.