



<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***

## **FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER**

**FONP Board Members:**

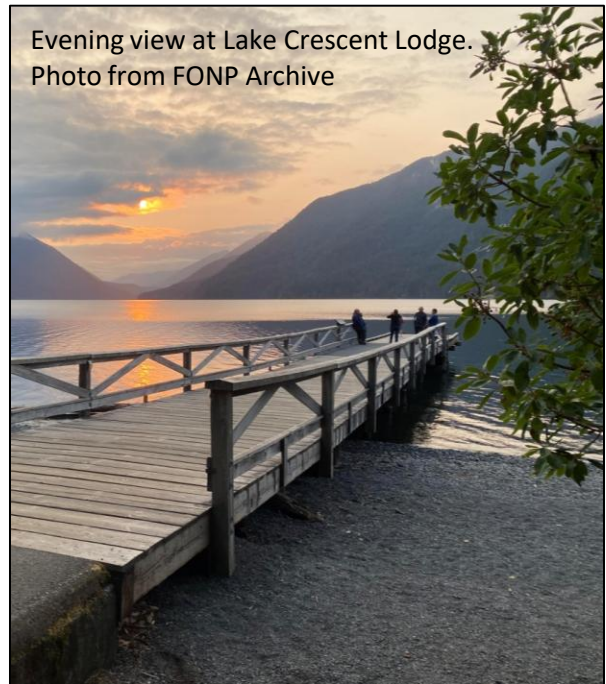
- Toni Harms (President)**
- Jenny Murphy (Vice President)**
- Norm Dawley (Secretary)**
- Dave Peterson (Treasurer)**
- Sam Baker**
- Ben Braudrick**
- Dori Broglino**
- Jonathan Hamlin**
- Gary Holmquist**
- Gay Hunter**
- Dale Julander**
- Amy Neil**
- Charles Sheldon**

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Fall color along Hurricane Ridge Road. Photo from FONP Archive



Evening view at Lake Crescent Lodge. Photo from FONP Archive



**Toni Harms**  
**FONP President**

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

As we wrap up our 2023 volunteer calendar, we are pleased that FONP was able to host six events this year; primarily focused on the heavily used Entrance Sign area, but also with some work at the Visitor Center and Park Headquarters. It was also the first year that FONP has participated in National Junior Ranger Day where we manned a Wilderness Camping Station and hosted groups of enthusiastic kids. NJRD was a fun event for those who participated, and we hope to be a part of it again in 2024.

One of the highlights of summer was the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, where we thanked our volunteers and recognized the student intern of the year. This year it was Mia Lombardo, and the Friends presented her with an FONP hat, neck gaiter and \$100 gift certificate to Brown's. FONP shared the cost of catering the event with Discover Your Northwest and we enjoyed meeting with many of you at our table.

FONP has continued to develop our partnerships with Olympic National Park. Thank you to Park Superintendent Sula Jacobs for your responsiveness and commitment to partner organizations. Additionally, thank you to Heather Stephens (Volunteer & Youth Coordinator) Sarah Henderson (Assistant Nursery Manager Matt Albright Native Plant Nursery) Dean Butterworth (Outreach & Education Specialist) and Jared Low (Supervisory Interpretive Ranger). One of our group goals is to rebuild partnerships that went by the wayside during the pandemic. This summer we were also pleased to network with the Washington National Park Fund and promote their Hurricane Ridge Fire Relief Fund.

FONP continues to have an active presence on social media, as we maintain the website ([folym.org](http://folym.org)) and work to keep our Facebook/Instagram pages relevant. The Board of Directors is taking a close look at issues on our Facebook page, and recently voted to discontinue the option to submit anonymous posts. Work continues on how to keep the page focused on

## Message from the President (continued)

ONP, address repetitive posts, and achieve consistency among moderators. We remain open to feedback from our membership via our email: FONP2020@gmail.com and our Board Meetings are open to the public with access posted on our website calendar.

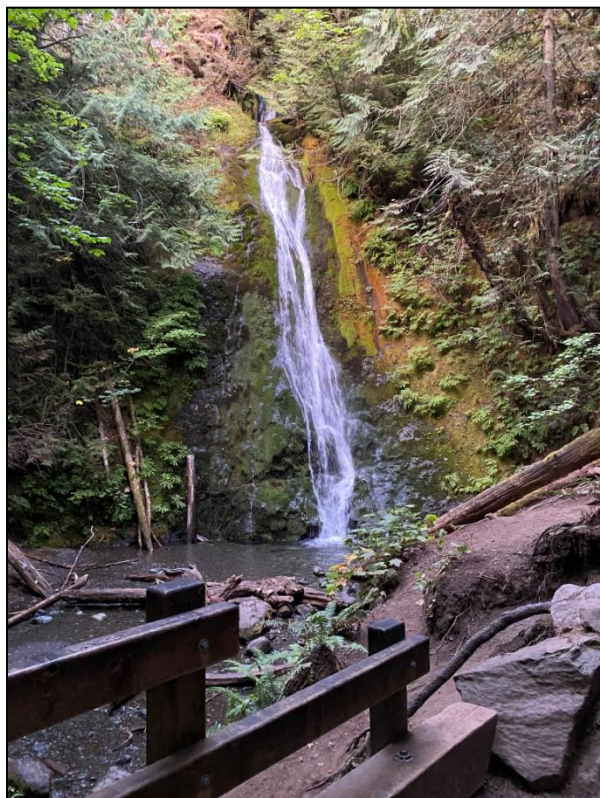
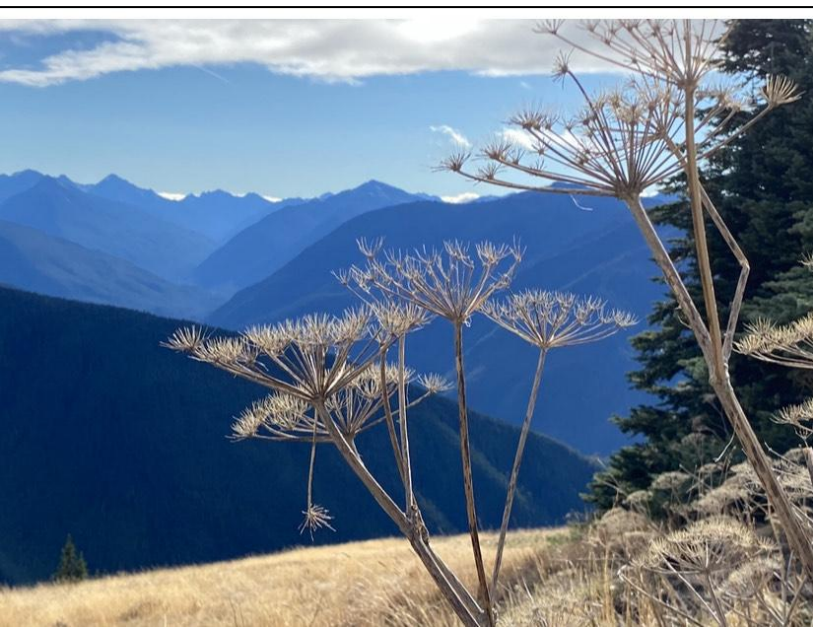
As anticipated, FONP has seen its financial status improve after the 501(c)(3) designation in February. We are very grateful to our paid membership, private donors, and corporate match programs for continuing to support us in our mission.

I would also like to extend a personal thanks to the all-volunteer FONP Board; a group of 13 members who meet monthly for Park, Membership & Treasury updates, as well as event planning. This passionate group has been stable and together for a couple years now and becomes increasingly productive as time goes on. We were pleased to welcome Jonathan Hamlin to the board recently, to replace Hailey Lester who resigned for personal reasons. Jonathan is full of fresh ideas and brings banking experience from First Federal. Please see his full bio within this newsletter.

We hope to see you all at the Fall Membership Meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup> at the Main Visitor Center!

*Toni*

Hurricane Ridge scene (left); Madison Falls (right).  
Photos from FONP Archive



# Fall Membership Meeting:



Larry Lack

*The FONP Board would like to invite you to attend our Fall Membership Meeting on Thursday, October 19 at 7 pm at the Olympic National Park Visitors Center. Our guest speaker will be Larry Lack.*

## Meeting Agenda:

- *Keynote Speaker: Larry Lack*
- *Park Update from Park Superintendent, Sula Jacobs*
- *Most Inspirational Friends Award Presentation*
- *Retirement Cake for Larry Lack*

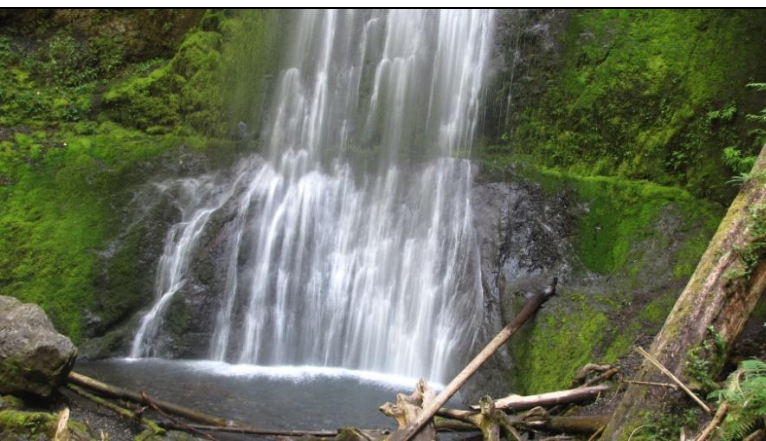
Title of Larry Lack's presentation: **Reflections**

Larry Lack will reflect on 40 years of service to the Park

## Registration link to attend the meeting:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fonp-fall-membership-meeting-tickets-670953719637?aff=oddtcreator>

Marymere Falls (left); Rialto Beach (right). Photos from FONP Archive



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



*Provided by Kevin Killian,  
Deputy Superintendent, Olympic National park*

The summer of 2023 at Olympic National Park can be characterized by loss and opportunity. On May 7, the Hurricane Ridge Day Lodge burned to the ground. At the time, it was under an \$11 million renovation project funded by the Great American Outdoors Act. The building was going to be made safer, more accessible, and more energy efficient by replacing, fixing, and updating structural elements of the lodge like windows, roofing, siding, and the heating source. Old, outdated interpretive exhibits were going to get a total refresh. Instead, a ranger on patrol of the closed Hurricane Ridge Road found the building on fire; it was deemed a total loss.

Since this tragic event, the park has been in hyperdrive. Hurricane Ridge is one of the most popular and most special places in Olympic National Park; it was immediately understood that reopening the area to visitors was a high priority. Meeting after meeting, as well as the amazing work of a whole swath of park employees, allowed the road to be reopened on June 27, just before the busy July 4th weekend. Portable toilets would serve as restrooms, but their capacity limited the number of vehicles per day. Thankfully, the area was able to be reopened, and visitors could once again enjoy the beauty of Hurricane Ridge.

Since reopening, U.S. Congressman Derek Kilmer and U.S. Senator Patty Murray have made visits to Hurricane Ridge. Both wanted to express their support for what the park accomplished, gather updates, and express their interest in a future building. The process will be long and time consuming, but it is an *opportunity* for the National Park Service to build a new visitor center that everyone can be proud of. At this time, we do not know what it will look like or what will be inside, but we will ensure it meets the needs of visitors and staff.

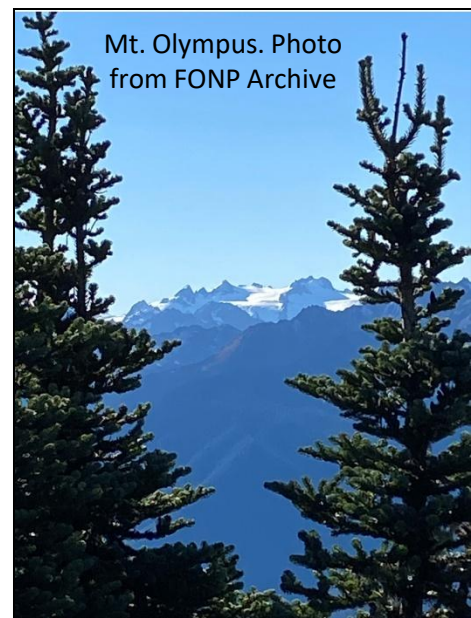
**Park Update from Sula Jacobs,  
Superintendent, Olympic National Park  
(continued)**



Of course, while all of this was going on, the normal day-to-day operations at a 900,000+ acre park were also happening. Millions of visitors came to Lake Crescent, the Sol Duc Valley, the Olympic coastline, the Hoh Rain Forest, and many other areas within the boundaries of Olympic National Park. Visitors enjoyed the very areas the FONP helps maintain, like around the Port Angeles Visitor Center and the famous Olympic National Park entrance sign.

In August, we welcomed a new Deputy Superintendent to Olympic National Park: Kevin Killian. He was already well known since he had spent time here on a detail assignment last winter. Kevin grew up a park brat in Cape Cod National Seashore and graduated with a BS in Zoology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Since then, Kevin has worked in Cape Cod NS, Grand Canyon, Grand Teton, and Zion National Parks, and most recently as the Chief Ranger of Yosemite National Park, where he lived near the base of Yosemite Falls. He and his wife Jill, their children Jack (12) and Lucy (9), and a spoiled brown dog named Brooklyn, moved to Port Angeles and are settling in.

As we enter fall and winter, we hope it brings more opportunity than loss. We hope Hurricane Ridge Road can be opened for winter enthusiasts. We hope visitors continue to enjoy this amazing place during the rainy season. We hope the salmon return in strong numbers. We hope you all continue to support Olympic National Park and cherish this place like it is your own backyard (because it is).



Mt. Olympus. Photo from FONP Archive

## 2023 Most Inspirational Friends of Olympic National park:

### Dave & Kathy Anderson

The Friends of Olympic National Park are pleased to recognize two of our longstanding members and volunteers, Dave & Kathy Anderson. Dave & Kathy have been volunteering on the Olympic Peninsula since 2016. They have participated in beach cleanups and landscaping projects with the Friends. Kathy has volunteered at the Matt Albright Nursery since 2017 and has logged over 200 hours this past fiscal year!

Additionally, the Andersons volunteer on projects with the Peninsula Trail Coalition and are Olympic Discovery Trail Adopters.

These two hardworking volunteers are such an asset to our community. Thank you to both of you!

Rialto Beach (left); photo from FONP Archive.  
The Andersons (right); photo by Toni Harms.



# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Youth Service/Leadership Award:

***The FONP Board would like to recognize and thank Mia Lombardo for her outstanding summer internship with Olympic National Park. Megan is the recipient of the 2023 Youth Service/Leadership Award!***

Mia Lombardo



Photo provided by ONP

**Bio:** Mia Lombardo is currently a SIP intern at Olympic NP. She's from California and graduated in 2022 from UC Santa Barbara, having studied Environmental Science and History. Being a SIP intern at Olympic gave her the opportunity to interpret resources, conduct fieldwork, and present programs about the ecological diversity of the Park. In her free time, she likes to backpack, hike, and read science fiction. She would like to continue working in the National Park Service and get the chance to see more of the country's outdoor spaces.

**Nomination (provided by Jared Low, Supervisor Park Ranger for the Interpretive Division):** Mia is always on time and shows up to work with a smile and positive attitude. I have been able to rely on Mia's positivity, teamwork centered attitude and willingness to jump in and help out whenever and wherever needed. Mia actively sought out and received suggestions on new and innovative ways that she could improve her programs. She was receptive to the feedback process and was also able to provide program feedback to her colleagues. Mia has a dedicated work ethic and displays a strong sense of camaraderie and trust amongst her colleagues. Her willingness to collaborate with colleagues and employees from other divisions is a vital contribution to the success of her internship. Mia demonstrates an enormous amount of positivity and patience in all of her communications to both visitors and coworkers. Mia consistently displays an eagerness to learn by seeking out a variety of educational resources to better understand her program content and keep the information up to date. Mia often spends her free time exploring the park which in turn enhances her knowledge of the resource. Mia has been able to expand on her experience during the internship by joining natural resource staff in the field, gaining hands on experience with ecological restoration processes and fisheries management.

I'm impressed with Mia's ability to network with staff in other work areas and divisions. She has coordinated with staff from the education team, the park greenhouse, park collections and fisheries management crews. She also had the opportunity to take part in a multi-day sockeye salmon habitat restoration project in a remote area of Lake Ozette. The fisheries team was extremely appreciative of Mia's willingness to learn a new skillset and assist with this important project.



# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Recent Happenings:

**August 23:**

FONP co-sponsored the Olympic National park Volunteer Appreciation Picnic held at Peninsula College.



Photo provided by various FONP Board Members

# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Recent Happenings:

Photo provided  
by various FONP  
Board Members

**July 29 & September 9:**  
FONP held volunteer clean-up days to weed the gardens by the Olympic National Park entrance sign on Race Street in Port Angeles.

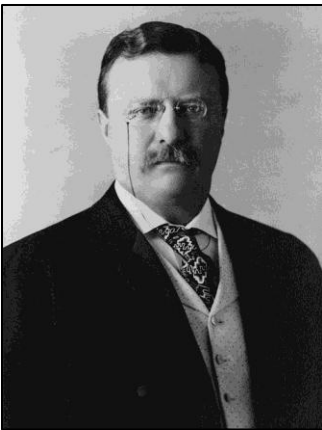
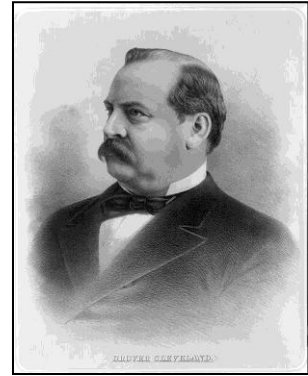


# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Historical Perspective:

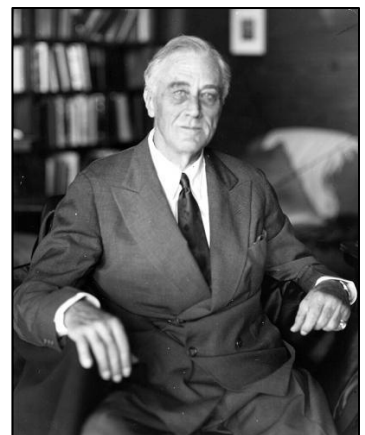
### *Establishing Olympic National Park*

In 1897, President Grover Cleveland established the Olympic Forest Reserve out of concern for the area's disappearing forests. It was the first federal recognition of the future national park.



President Teddy Roosevelt was known as the “conservationist president”, and one of the 18 national monuments that he established during his presidency was Mount Olympus National Monument (in 1909). The motivation was to protect the habitat of native elk, whose population was in decline. The elk would subsequently be named Roosevelt Elk in honor of Teddy.

In Fall 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt visited the Olympic Peninsula. His tour included an overnight stay at Lake Crescent and a lunch stop at Lake Quinault Inn. During his visit, he heard arguments both for and against the establishment of Olympic National Park. But, in the end, he announced his support for creation of the park.



# Friends of Olympic National Park

## *Historical Perspective (continued):*

President Franklin D. Roosevelt had arrived in Port Angeles after first visiting Victoria, British Columbia. His travel party included his son and several grandchildren along with local and national reporters. A large crowd greeted him, including hundreds of school children standing under a sign that read “Mr. President, these children want Olympus National Park” (Seattle P.I. newspaper reference, October 1, 1937).

At Lake Crescent Lodge, Roosevelt had the opportunity to meet with US Congress Representative Mon Wallgren of Everett, who had introduced a bill to create Olympic National Park. He also met with Park Superintendent, O.A. Tomlinson, who advocated for a large park. Representative Martin Smith of Hoquiam and regional forester C.J. Buck, requested leaving more forest available for timber production. Later, at Lake Quinault Inn, the party was joined by Washington Governor, Clarence Martin.

Following the lunch stop at Lake Quinault Inn, the motorcade proceeded on to Hoquiam and Aberdeen, where thousands lined the streets to see the President.

It is reported that by the end of the tour, Roosevelt had made his support clear for a large national park, and nine months later, he signed legislation creating Olympic National Park.



Photos from  
FONP Archive

# Friends of Olympic National Park

## Board Member Changes:

The Friends of Olympic National Park would like to thank **Hailey Lester** for her service as a board member. Her support of FONP is very much appreciated.

The Friends of Olympic National Park would like to welcome **new board member, Jonathan Hamlin**. Thank you for your interest in the FONP organization and for your passion in supporting the Park.



Photo supplied  
by Jonathan  
Hamlin

**Jonathan's Bio:** *Jon is a member of VFW, WTA, American Red Cross, Backcountry Horsemen, 4PA, PNTA, and PCTA. He's a medically retired and disabled decorated Iraqi Freedom combat Veteran of the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade combat team Hawaii. He currently works for First Fed Community Bank of Washington. As a Texas native, he started serving the community and making a connection to the great outdoors at a young age, beginning with Boy Scouts. Through his later battle with PTSD, he learned how to love himself by reconnecting with nature and people. He feels that through conservation and stewardship that we ensure and protect these beautiful natural places for future generations. He is a certified USDA class A sawyer-crosscutting with WTA and has been working with them for 2 years on small trail maintenance projects. He looks forward to devoting his time in support of the Park and bringing a number of volunteers from his workplace who want to get involved, as well. He looks forward to planning and supporting a wide array of activities and fundraisers in support of the Park.*

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

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

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

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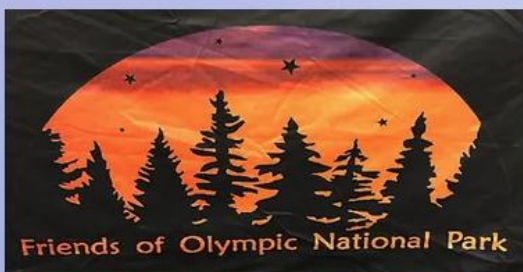
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**Upcoming volunteer event Saturday, June 3rd-click Calendar for details**

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

- 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>

https://www.folym.org/donate

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**Upcoming volunteer event Saturday, June 3rd-click Calendar for details**

## Support Our Cause

Leave a one-time donation

First name

Last name

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address

Address

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Donate in the name of:



\_\_\_\_\_

Enter the amount you wish to pay: \*

\$

Enter amount

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[Donate](#)

Thank you for helping us make a difference!

Friends of Olympic National Park is a  
501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization.  
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## Friends of Olympic National Park (FONP).

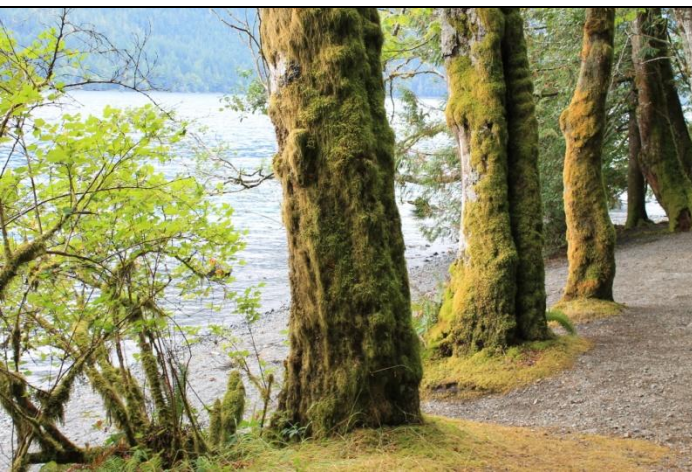
### Where your membership money goes



#### **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
- 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)!

Photos from FONP Archive





# Friends of Olympic National Park

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



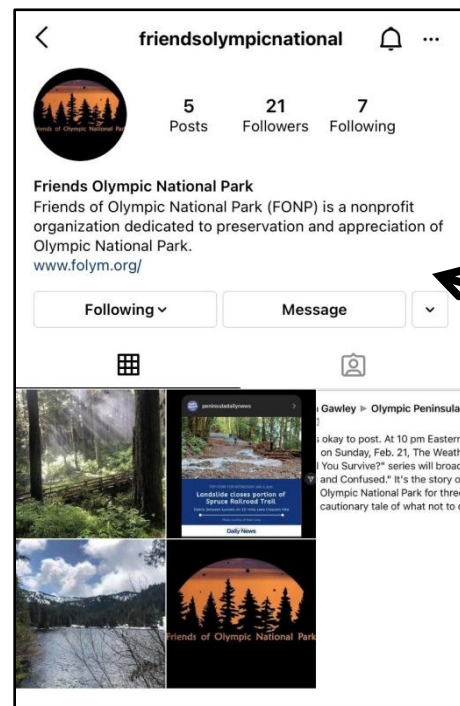
Check out our updated webpage:

<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>