

FALL 2005  
 NEWSLETTER OF  
 WASHINGTON'S  
 NATIONAL PARK  
 FUND  
 www.wnpf.org

# Parks alive!



LEE MANN

## SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE TO HONOR—AND BENEFIT—NATIONAL PARKS

Show your support by purchasing a plate and telling your friends

A special license plate for Washington's National Park Fund, available January 3, 2006, will give all Washingtonians a great new way to show support for their National Parks. The new plate features a dramatic sunset and spectacular mountain landscape reminiscent of all Washington's National Parks. The plate includes the message "Preserve Our National Parks." It was designed by trustee David Salesin and is based on the photograph shown above, "The Cascades," by renowned Northwest photographer Lee Mann.

The plate will sell for \$40, with a renewal fee of \$30. Proceeds from plate sales and renewals are tax deductible and will provide ongoing funding to grow philanthropic support of our

Parks' preservation and restoration projects. For more information on purchasing a plate, please visit our website at [www.wnpf.org](http://www.wnpf.org).

Washington's National Park Fund supporters were able to secure plates numbered NP00001 to NP00025 through an online auction sponsored by the Fund in early November. The auction will raise over \$15,000 for the Parks. Our thanks to designer John Ide and writer Noah Tannen for helping announce the auction and new plate with our "Worth Saving" postcard, mailed to your homes and featured on page 8.

**Please purchase a Washington's National Park Fund special license plate on January 3, 2006 and show your support for our National Parks.**

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## fundnews

These are pivotal times for our National Parks. Political pressures are challenging the foundational legislation for the National Park Service (NPS)—proposing changes in management policies, hiring practices and partnerships. Unprecedented innovation and resources are required now to fortify and perpetuate the founding mission of the NPS and to preserve Washington's National Parks.

Over the past two years, Washington's National Park Fund has been building its organizational capacity and developing new revenue sources. This year, we brought on four new trustees, leaders in communities around the state, following the addition of eight new trustees in 2004. We have tapped experts in preservation and fundraising to support our office staff of two, and we continue to work closely with Park superintendents and their staff.

In fiscal year 2005, we raised over \$329K. Of that, \$238K came from individuals like you and represented the highest individual giving in the 12-year history of the Fund.

We celebrated a year's hard work in July, when Governor Christine Gregoire signed into legislation a bill to create a Washington's National Park Fund special license plate. These plates will be available to all Washington residents in early 2006. Twenty-eight dollars from the initial purchase, and from each renewal of the license registration, will provide ongoing funding for Washington's National Park Fund's work in the Parks.

These and other initiatives will significantly grow the resources available to support preservation of Washington's National Parks. But we also need to spread the word that the Parks need our support in encouraging congress to provide needed appropriations for Park operations.

In ten years, the National Park Service will

turn 100 years old. When the birthday candles are blown out, we'd like to have secure, long-term funding in place which will protect Washington's National Parks' two million acres for the continued enjoyment of six million visitors.



**This holiday season, please give generously to our Annual Fund and ask others to join you in showing their support for our National Parks by purchasing a Washington's National Park Fund special license plate.**

Sincerely,  
*Betsy Edwards, Executive Director*

**HOW CAN I HELP? | DONATE:** Help fund preservation programs in the Parks by sending a check or making a credit card donation online at [www.wnpf.org](http://www.wnpf.org). Or consider creative gifts of assets such as appreciated property or stock, gifts by will, bequests, life income gifts, and gifts of retirement plan or life insurance benefits. Contact Betsy Edwards at 206.770.0627. | **ORDER A SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE:** In January 2006 Washington residents will be able to purchase a special license plate commemorating the Parks. Receive an order form by emailing [wnpf@nationalParks.org](mailto:wnpf@nationalParks.org). | **VOLUNTEER IN THE Parks:** Enrich the experiences of Park visitors and conduct vital resource stewardship activities by volunteering. Learn more at [www.nps.gov/volunteer/](http://www.nps.gov/volunteer/).

## NATURE IS THEIR CLASSROOM

Education Specialists help students and teachers

Education specialists create new ways for others to learn about ecology in our National Parks. They see the Parks as an extension of the traditional school setting, places of hands-on learning for students of all ages. We contacted Paula Ogden-Muse of North Cascades National Park and Anne Doherty of Mount Rainier National Park to find out what educational projects they've been working on this summer and how they became interested in this field.

"Our intention is to orient visitors to the Park, share information about the area, and help others to understand the Park's importance as a library, laboratory and classroom," explains Educational Specialist Ogden-Muse.

## Anne Doherty Mount Rainier National Park

Last summer marked the pilot season of the Mount Rainier Institute's Summer Field Seminars, one- or two-day programs that explored topics from Mount Rainier's history to other mountain societies around the world. Education Specialist Anne Doherty helped to plan and implement these seminars, and she is already working on ideas for the 2006 season. Doherty spent much of her time this summer organizing and presenting at Summer Teacher Workshops, which help classroom teachers to plan curricula based on the ecology and geology of the Park and the mission of the National Park Service.

Doherty was pleased to transfer to Mount Rainier National Park in 1999, after spending 12 years working at National Parks in the deserts of Arizona and New Mexico. "It was an opportunity to return to what I call a 'happy habitat'—mountains, water and trees," says Doherty. Since becoming the Education Specialist at Mount Rainier, Doherty has been involved in "once-in-a-career opportunities," including the process of planning a new education center at the Park—a sustainable-design facility that is currently under construction. The opening of this innovative classroom building will help facilitate what Doherty expresses as her main goal while working in the Park: "I want to share my passion for the natural world and its opportunities for learning with others."



Paula Ogden-Muse assists fifth-graders at the Skagit River Quality Testing Station

## Paula Ogden-Muse North Cascades National Park

"My position involves many concurrent responsibilities that help bring science to life," says this Educational Specialist with 20 years of experience at North Cascades National Park. Currently, Ogden-Muse is working on articles about migratory birds and glacier mass-balance studies that appear in a weekly feature about National Parks in *The Seattle Times*. The articles are a part of Newspapers in Education, a project funded by a \$9,000 grant from Washington's National Park Fund. Issues will be distributed to local middle-school teachers, accompanied by a curriculum with lessons focusing on each article topic.

Ogden-Muse credits her interest in working with nature to "a series of mentors in early life who took me outside," and recalls telling her mother she wanted to become a National Park Ranger after first meeting one at age 14. She started her career at North Cascades in the Wilderness Division and later moved on to the Department of Interpretation, where she became an Educational Specialist. Ogden-Muse is happy to be part of a staff that teaches people about the value of National Parks. "As employees of the National Park Service, I believe that we are all responsible to be educators," she says.

## MOUNTAIN SCHOOL PROGRAM

North Cascades National Park



NPS/TIM MANNIS

Over 350 students attended Mountain School this spring, the program's 15th year in operation.

Your support helped the North Cascades Institute's Mountain School continue educating fifth-graders in 2005, its 15th year in operation. The program conducts spring and fall sessions, during which students from surrounding communities experience the natural and cultural resources of the Park through a three-day stay at Newhalem Creek Campground.

With help from a \$4,900 grant from Washington's National Park Fund, this important outreach program utilized National Park Service interpreters, North Cascades Institute staff and Western Washington University graduate students to educate participants before, during and after their visit to North Cascades. Over 350 students attended Mountain School last spring, while hundreds more are expected to take part in the unique academic curriculum this fall. "We're happy to have Washington's National Park Fund as part of the network of organizations and businesses that support this excellent program," says Tim Mannis, chief interpreter at North Cascades.

## SCIENCE IN THE PARKS

Seattle Times profiles Northwest's National Parks

This fall, Washington's National Park Fund sponsored a Newspapers in Education series on Science and Research in National Parks. Between September and October 2005, six articles, written by National Park Service and Washington's National Park Fund staff, ran in *The Seattle Times*. Both the newspaper articles and the accompanying curriculum reached over 800 seventh-through tenth-grade classrooms. Topics included: Lewis & Clark, Mount Rainier, Forest Ecology, Forest Carnivores, Migrating Birds, and Glacial Savings Accounts. You can check out the articles, curriculum and interactive lessons at [www.nps.gov/noca/nie](http://www.nps.gov/noca/nie).

## RESTORATION AT SUNRISE

Mount Rainier National Park

Restoration of the former Sunrise Campground in Mount Rainier National Park continued this summer and fall, due in part to your generous donations. Washington's National Park Fund



contributed \$3,500 to the effort to refurbish the ecological condition of this beautiful subalpine meadow.

In particular, the funding supported a Student Conservation Association resource assistant. From August to October, the assistant worked at Sunrise to help control noxious weed growth, revegetate campsites and roads with native plants, and assist visitors and volunteers.

## EXECUTIVE EXPEDITION 2005

Mount Rainier National Park

On June 21, 2005, seven adventurous corporate leaders reached the top of Mount Rainier as part of Washington National Park Fund's First Annual Executive Expedition. Before the challenging climb, the executives each pledged at least \$5,000 to benefit the Fund, raising a total of over \$25,000.



JON EVANS

Jordan Roderick and Bill Gossman on the Emmons Glacier

Eric Simonson, George Dunn and Anne Keller of International Mountain Guides donated their time and expertise while accompanying the climbers on the successful attempt. The group followed a route through Camp Schurman and the Emmons Glacier to summit the 14,410-foot peak. Several of the climbers were highly experienced; some had spent time on Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world, and Mount McKinley, the tallest in the United States, before they made this trek to Mount Rainier, Washington State's largest mountain.

"The climb was incredibly fun," says Executive Expedition member and Washington's National Park Fund Trustee Jon Evans. Fellow trustee Jordan Roderick, Bill Gossman, Larry Huntington, Ted Wheeler, John Kircher and Kim Huleen joined Evans on the mountain. "I viewed it as a reunion," says Huntington. "It was a chance to climb with old friends."

To join the Executive Climb in July 2006, call us at 206.770.0627.

## MOUNTAINS OF SUPPORT

Thanks to donors, \$105,000 goes to Parks

The 12th Annual Microsoft Climb of Mount Rainier was generously supported by hundreds of donors across the country, as well as by Microsoft's Matching Gifts Program, raising \$105,000 for Washington's National Parks. The climbers followed a vigorous training schedule and climbed with top guides from RMI to reach the summit on August 9.

Over the past 12 years, Microsoft climbers have raised almost \$1M in support of our National Parks. This year, the climbers were able to see some of their funding in action during training



© ANDY WALGAMOTT

hikes—there was an extra seasonal ranger at Paradise Meadows, as well as work crews restoring Sunrise. To join the climb, or set up your own corporate climb, call us at 206.770.0627.

*"Parks Alive" is a quarterly newsletter for those working to preserve Washington's National Parks. Our mission is to restore and preserve Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks. Washington's National Park Fund is a local fund of the National Park Foundation, a congressionally chartered nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Please direct your comments to "Editor" Washington's National Park Fund, P.O. Box 4646, Seattle, Washington 98194, Phone: 206.770.0627, Email: [wnpf@nationalParks.org](mailto:wnpf@nationalParks.org)*

*In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks.*

*~John Muir*

## SEASON OPENING AT PARADISE

Mount Rainier National Park



Diners at Paradise Lodge for Season Opening

On May 19 and 20, 2005, over 120 guests took advantage of a chance to stay overnight at Paradise Inn in Mount Rainier National Park, the night before it opened to the public for the summer season. Washington's National Park Fund's Stewardship level donors and their families enjoyed a chance to dine, hear presentations and explore the mountain during the First Annual Season Opening Event. Mount Rainier Guest Services graciously donated the use of the dining and lodging facilities at the historic location.

The weekend included activities for all ages. Following a reception and dinner, younger guests had a chance to learn about the National Park Service's Junior Ranger Program with Ranger Kevin Bacher. "My favorite part was when the ranger showed us pictures of different National Parks around the country," shares Aidan Weed, age 8. Eli, his 7-year-old brother, enjoyed learning about the animals that live in the Park, like snowshoe hares, foxes and wolves.

Eric Simonson of International Mountain Guides and Greg Burchard, an archeologist at the Park, treated adult guests to presentations that focused on the history of both recreation and culture on the mountain. Simonson, a member of

expeditions to Mount Everest in 1999 and 2001 to research early climbers George Mallory and Andrew Irvine, shared artifacts his team retrieved from Everest, including 1920s-era oxygen tanks.

The event, chaired and sponsored by Greg and Mary Moga, was also sponsored by Puget Sound Energy and raised over \$21,000 for Washington's National Park Fund. The event would not have been possible without the generous donors and sponsors, knowledgeable presenters and dedicated National Park Service staff.

## DONOR BENINE MCDONNELL

A lifetime of experiences on both sides of Rainier



McDonnell's mother and co-workers at Mr. Rainier in the 1940s

During her youth in Federal Way, Benine McDonnell inherited a love for Mount Rainier from her parents. In the 1920s and '30s, her grandparents, aunts and father would travel from Tacoma to visit Paradise, a journey that would take a whole weekend by Model T. In the days before modern mountaineering gear, her relatives

would "climb" to Upper McClure's Rock using climbing rope made of clothesline and steadying themselves using broom handles tipped with nails. For her father, Mount Rainier "was always an attraction," she recalls. Benine and her husband live in Yakima, and over the years they, too, have taken their children and extended family to visit the Park.

### Thanks to the Winslow Family

Funding for projects in all three of Washington's National Parks have been courtesy of the Winslow Family Trust.

## TRUSTEE NEWS

### Washington's National Park Fund

Washington's National Park Fund would like to welcome four new members to our trustee committee.

**Kathleen Dayton** is an attorney who has worked for the City of Seattle and the King County Prosecutor's office. "Learning to love the natural beauty in our National Parks, and to be confident and comfortable in the wilderness there," are qualities she plans to instill in her three children.

**Mary Gentry** is an attorney in private practice and holds positions on several other boards, including Saint Martin's University. She and her husband were introduced to the Olympics and the Cascades by fellow hikers in 1966, and the two have "in turn done the same for our family and friends."

**Brian Pemberton** recently acquired NW Explorations in Bellingham, after retiring as the CEO of a tower manufacturing company. Brian began hiking with his father, a Seattle-area Scout Executive, in the 1950s. He is looking forward to working with the board to increase support for our great Parks.

**Jordan Roderick** has spent over 20 years in the telecommunications industry, most recently as President of the International Division for Cingular Wireless. He is a long-time climber and hiker and enjoys studying the natural and cultural history of the Parks.



### Remembering Joseph Beal McAlpine

In 2005, Washington's National Park Fund will fund ecological restoration of wilderness areas in North Cascades National Park in memory of Joseph Beal McAlpine, "who loved the mountains." Many thanks to Margaret and Joseph Miller for their very generous support of and dedication to North Cascades National Park.

## THANK YOU!

Washington's National Park Fund wishes to acknowledge the following support:

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For a full listing of our supporters, please see [www.wnpg.org/partners](http://www.wnpg.org/partners).

*"The silence of a shut Park does not sound like the country silence; it is tense and confined."*

*~Elizabeth Bowen*

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thankyous

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NEWSLETTER OF WASHINGTON'S NATIONAL PARK FUND

WORTH SAVING.



JOHN DE

Washington's National Parks are more than our state's living history, they provide crucial habitat for our endangered wildlife and wilderness for our growing human population. Learn how you can show your support of our National Parks and ensure we save these Parks for future generations on Page 1.