

PARK PASSION

THE DIFFERENCE YOU'RE MAKING IN YOUR NATIONAL PARKS • OCTOBER 2019



“OH, I LOVE OUR NATIONAL PARKS. I JUST CAN'T FIND THE TIME TO GO AS OFTEN AS I'D LIKE.”

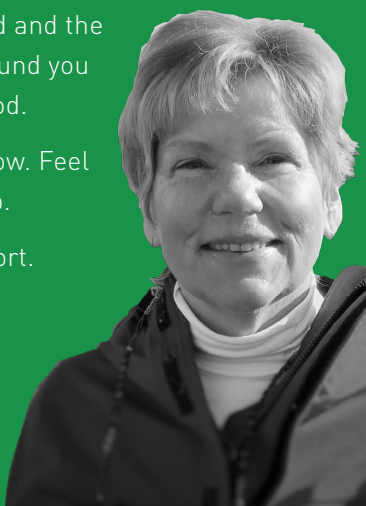
This is the phrase I hear often as I meet new people. Research is showing that even an afternoon in the mountains or along the coast is good for our souls. Deep breathing, fresh air and time away from the noise and distractions of city life lowers one's blood pressure and increases the overall level of general "happiness".

Collectively, we would all do well to make a change...to get out into Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks more often. Fall and winter are two fabulous seasons to visit. Parking is available, crowds are greatly diminished and the quiet of the world around you is overwhelmingly good.

Find the time. Do it now. Feel your happy levels leap.

Thanks for your support.

LAURIE WARD
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



SAVING LIVES, SAVING HISTORY

BY JARED INFANGER,
HISTORIC ARCHITECT AT MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

Search and rescue volunteers at Mount Rainier have a place to call home thanks to the efforts and generosity of Washington's National Park Fund donors. On August 10th, a historic cabin in Longmire was dedicated as a new home base for search and rescue volunteers. The rehabilitated cabin provides a place where volunteers can rest, recharge and regroup.

This one project solved two problems. The first, search and rescue volunteers did not have a place to sleep or cook a hot meal. Second, a historic Civilian Conservation Corps cabin, suffering from years of deferred maintenance, was in dire need of work to save it from being lost. Through a partnership between WNPF, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and American Express, Mount Rainier was able to solve these two critical issues.

CONTINUED INSIDE

OUR MISSION is to raise private support to deepen the public's love for, understanding of, and experiences in Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks. **OUR VISION** is for our three parks to be strong and vibrant, youthful and everlasting.

"We want to make sure that a more diverse audience feels welcome in the Park."



**PARK PERSON OF INTEREST:
NICOLE KENNEDY**

Wilderness Youth Coordinator for Olympic National Park

SAVING LIVES, SAVING HISTORY
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Rehabilitation work began in earnest in 2017, repairing rotten foundation timbers, replacing roof materials, and restoring historic windows. New, historically compatible interior finishes provide modern comforts and a sense of history. Upgraded electrical wiring, plumbing and heating systems will keep volunteers comfortable. New furnishings complete the rehabilitation and make the cabin a home away from home.

Your generosity makes it possible to save our history and support those who are saving lives.

BY MARTHA CRAIG

Nicole Kennedy, Wilderness Youth Coordinator, provides extra support and welcome for non-profit organizations that are leading backpacking trips for young people in Olympic National Park. Large groups and new backpackers can have challenges when it comes to 'leaving no trace.' Kennedy tries to empower them, from the start, with the information to do it right. "Olympic National Park is known for its eco diversity. We want to make sure that a more diverse audience feels welcome in the Park." Kennedy is on a mission to inspire in the hearts and minds of young, novice backpackers the same passion she first felt in the Rockies and transform them into lifelong advocates for our National Parks.

Talking with groups about how special Olympic National Park is, she hopes to spark a sense of stewardship. "I try to help them make the internal connection to the Park that can create an outward change."

Read her story at: wnpf.org/to-the-parks-our-blog/

FOUNDATION FOCUS:

**THE NORTH
FACE EXPLORE
FUND**

A big thank you to our friends at The North Face Explore Fund! With their support, ten Latina youth will partake in an amazing adventure camping, hiking and participating in trail stewardship projects in Mount Rainier National Park. They will receive hands-on training from park staff while experiencing the Mountain in an unforgettable way, most of them for the first time. WNPF is partnering with Washington Trails Association and Latino Outdoors to make this event happen. We could not be more excited about the Mount Rainier Latina trail crew!



TRAILBLAZERS

BY KELLY SANDERBECK

Little did I know when I sat down to interview Burt and Doris Johnson that I was in the presence of a mighty climbing family, akin to the Von Trapp Family Singers, in the scope and breadth of their outdoor adventures! The six Johnson Family Climbers summited Mount Rainier, Mount Olympus, Mount Adams, Mount St. Helens, Glacier Peak, Mount Baker and the Grand and Middle Teton (all 24 peaks), among others. They also received pins from The Mountaineers for climbing all 44 of the lesser Washington peaks. In fact, their daughters were record holders for the youngest to climb Mount Rainier at the time — Laurie at age 7 and Dianne at age 11. (Former Governor Dixy Lee Ray held the prior record at age 12.) “The Hills are Alive” kept running through my brain as I visualized the six of them on mountains throughout the world. Those pictures came to life as we walked around their home and viewed some of Burt’s masterful photography — and the many ice axes of various sizes mounted up the stairwell. Read more about Doris and Burt’s adventures on our blog at: wnpf.org/to-the-parks-our-blog



Did you know that you can support your parks while you shop? Well you can thanks to the generous support of companies like Parks Project, Rainier Watch and Good & Well Co, among others. Not to mention AmazonSmile! As you prepare for your holiday shopping, consider visiting our website to learn about these partnerships and get a treat for your loved ones – or yourself! wnpf.org/initiatives/



RAMROD

Hats off to RAMROD (Ride Around Mount Rainier in a Day) and Ride the Hurricane at Olympic! These partners loyally raise funds for Washington’s National Park Fund each year. Thank you Redmond Cycling Club and Port Angeles Chamber of Commerce!



get in touch

Washington’s National Park Fund

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Photo: Andy Porter

“We greatly value the partnerships that we have with Washington’s National Park Fund and Washington Trails Association. WNPf supports our trail work which enables us to bring in more of Washington Trails Association. It’s win/win/win.”

– Jim Ziolkowski, Trails/Roads/Auto Shop Supervisor



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EVENTS

Photo: Andy Porter

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

#GIVINGTUESDAY

#GivingTuesday is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. Celebrated on the Tuesday following the widely-recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, #GivingTuesday celebrates the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving. Since its inaugural year in 2012, #GivingTuesday has become a movement that celebrates and supports giving and philanthropy. Details about how you can get involved coming soon!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

NATIONAL PARKS AT BENAROYA HALL

Join us for this extra special concert by Northwest Symphony Orchestra and the Musical Mountaineers, featuring visual presentations of our national parks. Tickets are available for purchase at www.seattlesymphony.org.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

PICNIC WITH THE PARKS!

Over the Top Society member "picnic" with park leadership. Are you a member yet? Call us! (206) 623-2063

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

FEE-FREE DAY AT THE PARKS

The National Park Service invites the public to experience all national parks **without entrance fees** this Veterans Day – an added incentive to enjoy our national parks during the holiday weekend.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

COMMUNITY FIRESIDE CIRCLE IN BELLINGHAM

Join us at the Chrysalis Inn for an evening of great conversation with fellow park supporters, a presentation on our parks, appetizers and refreshments.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

COMMUNITY FIRESIDE CIRCLE IN UNIVERSITY PLACE

Gather with friends and neighbors who support Washington's National Parks. Enjoy a presentation on our parks, appetizers, refreshments and good company.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

SPRING DINNER AND AUCTION

Save the date for this very special annual event at the Seattle Design Center! Bid on outdoor clothing and gear, unique experiences and more to benefit our national parks.

FOR A FULL LIST OF EVENTS, VISIT WNPf.org