

# PARK PASSION

THE DIFFERENCE YOU'RE MAKING IN YOUR NATIONAL PARKS • APRIL 2021



Photo: Andy Porter

*"That is one good thing about this world... there are always sure to be more springs."*

- L.M. Montgomery, Anne of Avonlea

The winds of change are upon us!

For WNPf, this spring is a time of renewal. We have a new addition, Alex Day, who's managing our marketing and communications. Our Auction for the Parks is here. Our national parks are eagerly preparing for the summer. We're beginning to step into "Our Washington. Our Parks," which brings all of us hope for exciting times ahead.

On a personal note, the 300 tulip bulbs my husband, Colin, and his father planted in our yard last fall are popping.

Ah, springtime...one good thing about this world. Welcome back.

**Laurie Ward**  
Chief Executive Officer



## JOIN OUR AUCTION FOR THE PARKS

BY ALEX DAY

This year, we're not letting COVID-19 slow us down when it comes to our annual Auction for the Parks: our parks are too important! We're shifting to a virtual event, because we know that our parks need us now more than ever, and we're committed to putting on an event that each of you can participate in safely from the comfort of your home, RV or favorite campsite—if you have cell reception, that is!

In addition to artwork, outdoors equipment and apparel, hand-crafted jewelry, wine tastings and more, this year's Auction features better packages than ever, including exclusive opportunities and adventures in our three national parks with seasoned guides and experts. From learning about the unique coastal life in tidepools in Olympic National Park to private watercolor classes taught in two of the most scenic locations on earth—Mount Rainier National Park and North Cascades National Park—there is truly something every park lover will want to raise their paddle for.

Support critical projects in the parks and get some amazing gear and/or experiences—it's a win-win! Bidding opens on Monday, April 19th at 4:00 p.m. PT and we will gather virtually to celebrate the conclusion on Friday, April 23rd at 7:00 p.m. PT. Join us by registering at [wnpf.org/auction-for-the-parks](https://wnpf.org/auction-for-the-parks).



# Raise Your Paddle

We need your help so we can fully support our three “Fund-A-Need” projects for this year’s virtual Auction for the Parks!

## Restoring Trampled Trails and Flooded Lands in Olympic National Park.

Your support will allow the Matt Albright Native Plant Nursery to accommodate drop-in volunteers and incorporate a new team of 150 urban youth from the park’s YMCA partnership into service learning and nature stewardship.

## Cascade Butterfly Project - Monitoring the Effects of Warming Climates on Subalpine Ecosystems in North Cascades National Park.

Your donations will support community science volunteers monitoring butterflies in the region’s high mountain meadows so that they can continue to track butterfly trends, conduct survey work and talk to visitors about butterfly stewardship and climate change.

## Meadow Rovers in Mount Rainier National Park.

Since the Meadow Rover program began 20 years ago, fewer people are venturing off trails, reducing both damage for these pristine subalpine meadows and Search and Rescue incidents. Support for this program will ensure this positive trend continues.

**Not able to participate in the Auction? No problem—you can also support these projects by making a donation at [wnpf.org/donate](https://wnpf.org/donate).**



Yonit Yogev/NPS, 2015

## PARK PERSON OF INTEREST: MEET THE MEADOW ROVERS

Mount Rainier National Park

BY ALEX DAY

“Why do people give so much of their time to national parks like Mount Rainier? The reasons are as diverse as the volunteers themselves.” Kevin Bacher, Volunteer Program Manager, Mount Rainier National Park, shared this message during his Virtual Field Trip where we learned about Mount Rainier National Park’s dedicated volunteers. Watch the recording—and sign up for upcoming Virtual Field Trips—at [wnpf.org/field-trips](https://wnpf.org/field-trips).

The Meadow Rover Volunteer Program continues to be Mount Rainier National Park’s most popular volunteer activity. The more than 200 dedicated Meadow Rovers donate nearly 9,000 hours to make close to 200,000 public contacts annually. Meadow Rovers patrol the subalpine meadows above Paradise and Sunrise, educating visitors about the importance of staying on trails, keeping wildlife wild, and wilderness preparedness and safety. Your participation in our virtual Auction for the Parks helps support this project.



Kevin Bacher, Volunteer Program Manager, Mount Rainier National Park



## Trailblazers

### CRAIG ROMANO

BY KELLY SANDERBECK

You know right off the bat that Craig Romano is from the East Coast—perhaps it’s his directness or dry wit or decisive no ‘bull!’ After all, isn’t that exactly what you want in your directions to negotiate a new trail?

Just in case you aren’t aware, Craig has been writing hiking guides for the Northwest, published by Mountaineer Books, since 2005. He took over and updated the classic series by Ira Spring & Harvey Manning—*Famous 100 Hikes and Footsore*—in production since 1966.

Craig has donated his time and expertise to lead a hiking experience for our Auction for the Parks. Read more at our blog: [wnpf.org/to-the-parks-our-blog](https://wnpf.org/to-the-parks-our-blog)

**“If you want to learn science, national parks are where you should go to see how ecosystems function, and how they’re going to survive into the future.”**

*—Regina Rochefort, Ph.D, Lead Butterfly expert, North Cascades National Park. The Cascade Butterfly Project is one of the projects your participation in our Auction supports.*

FOUNDATION FOCUS:

## STILLAGUAMISH TRIBE OF INDIANS

Washington’s National Park Fund would like to thank the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians for a recent \$10,000 grant for the North Cascades National Park “Community Resilience through Food Sustainability and Native Plant Education” project. This hands-on community and youth education project, launched in 2020, is bringing North Cascades National Park together with the Lummi Nation, Lummi Natural Resources, Lummi Nation School, Sauk-Suiattle Tribe, Darrington School District and the Glacier Peak Institute to provide educational outdoor experiences, place-based learning, native plant education and food sustainability for adult and youth participants.



Who is more deserving of a shoutout than Sarah Creachbaum, Superintendent of Olympic National Park, Karen Taylor-Goodrich, Superintendent of North Cascades National Park Service, and Tracy Swartout, Acting Superintendent at Mount Rainier National Park? These smart women care DEEPLY about public lands AND the teams they work with. Here’s to you, Sarah, Karen and Tracy!





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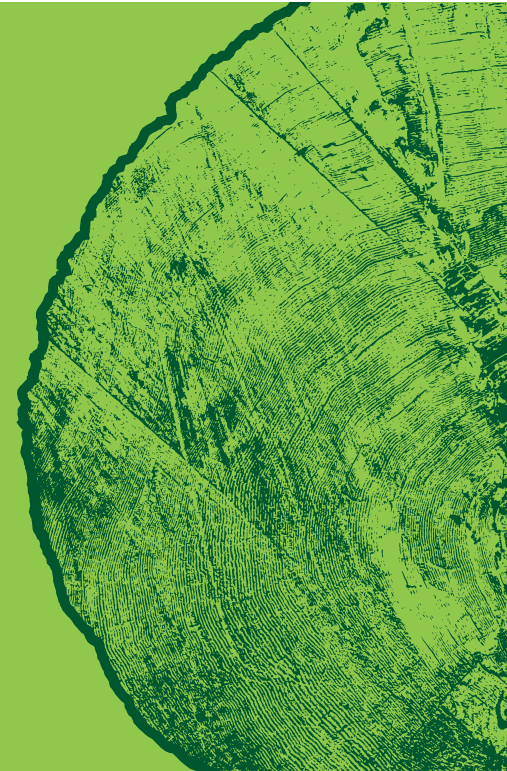
## REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE 2021 AUCTION FOR THE PARKS!

**Bidding opens at 4:00 pm on Monday, April 19th.** If something REALLY captures your attention, opt out of bidding and race to the bottom line where you can “buy it now.”

Throughout the week, keep an eye on your favorite auction packages, then place your winning bid by 7:00 pm on Friday, April 23rd.

Join us for our closing event Friday evening beginning at 7:00 pm, when we'll gather virtually to raise our paddles for Volunteerism and Stewardship and hear from our keynote speaker, Regina Rochefort.

Visit [wnpf.org/auction-for-the-parks](https://wnpf.org/auction-for-the-parks) to register and get a sneak preview of the gear, art and park experiences that will be available in this year's event!



## EVENTS

FOR A FULL LIST OF EVENTS, VISIT [WPNF.ORG](https://wnpf.org)

### Hear some Stories from the Field!

On Wednesday, May 19, join us for the first in a new Virtual Field Trip series, turning the classroom camera around to you! Listen to personal stories from other park lovers and Parks Everlasting Society friends. Join a breakout room where you can meet and connect with fellow passionate hikers, campers, birders, and more! [Register at wnpf.org/field-trips](https://wnpf.org/field-trips).

### Interested in a climb?

Does the thought of climbing an iconic Washington peak while raising funds for Washington's national parks appeal to you? Climb for a Cause is the perfect opportunity to reach new heights and support your parks.

[Learn more at wnpf.org/climb-for-a-cause](https://wnpf.org/climb-for-a-cause).

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14 THE CASCADE BUTTERFLY PROJECT

Join North Cascades National Park Ecologist, Regina Rochefort for our next Virtual Field Trip. You'll learn how butterflies can give us a glimpse into the future of subalpine pollinators! Register and see recordings at [wnpf.org/field-trips](https://wnpf.org/field-trips).

### APRIL 17-25 - NATIONAL PARK WEEK

Saturday, April 17th marks the beginning of National Park Week with free entrance to your favorite parks for the day!

### TUESDAY, JUNE 29 OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK'S BIRTHDAY!

On June 29, 1938, Olympic National Park was officially designated as a National Park by President Franklin Roosevelt.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 1 RIDE THE HURRICANE

Ride Hurricane Ridge Road in Olympic National Park and take in the gorgeous vista before enjoying the ride back down. Learn more at [ridethehurricane.org](https://ridethehurricane.org).

**OUR MISSION** is to raise private support to deepen everyone'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.