

News about the impact WNPF has on Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks.



November 2016

One + One + One = YOU
\$650,000 to the parks this year!

The Fund has just 'closed the books' on our fiscal year. And guess what? Because of **YOU**, it's the biggest year ever for the parks!! More than 70 different projects, specifically chosen by superintendents and their leadership teams, were funded. The projects range from training and education at North Cascades, to the Spruce Railroad Trail at Olympic, to the Volunteer Program at Mount Rainier, and many more.

Check out the funded projects under ["Your Impact"](#) on our website.

These parks are yours. The gratitude is all ours.

Our work isn't done. The national parks have an almost \$12 billion deferred maintenance backlog. But, you + you + you are helping, dollar by dollar. What's so exciting about this work is that you can contribute to a specific park, a specific project, or where the need is greatest.

In closing, who's with us for **opting outside this Friday?** See further information below and THANKS to our many friends at REI for leading this thoughtful charge!

Laurie Ward, Executive Director
Washington's National Park Fund

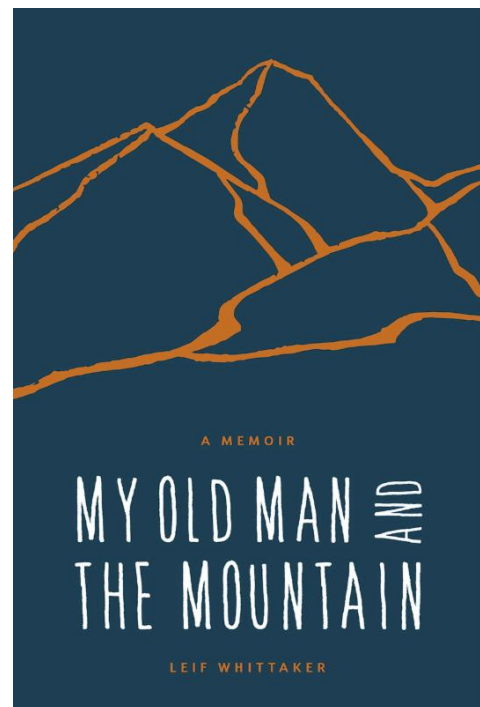
Come to Elliott Bay Books with us and meet Leif Whittaker!



[Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 30th at Elliott Bay Books in Seattle](#) to meet author Leif Whittaker (yes, son of Big Jim)!

Leif has written an enjoyable and engaging memoir about "growing up Whittaker," as he calls it. He reached his first major summit when he was 15 years old; he has since climbed many of the world's mountains. A writer and photographer, Leif's work has appeared in *Powder*, *The Ski Journal*, and *Backcountry*. Leif lives in Bellingham and is a seasonal USFS climbing ranger on Mount Baker. Visit him online at leifwhittaker.com.

Published by [Mountaineers Books](#) and on hand at Elliott Bay Books complete with an autograph.



"...a deliciously irreverent perspective on growing up in the shadow of a famous father, and how that journey helped shape a unique perspective on one young man's own relationship with a mountain...and a dad."

*Tom Hornbein, author
"Everest: The West Ridge"*

Donate NOW

Fully generational Fireside Circle!



Photo by Anum Ilyas. Rainier Fireside Circle folks on a hike.

You can see what a wonderful time everyone had at the recent Discovery Group Fireside Circle at Mount Rainier National Park! We explored the Search and Rescue Cabin at Longmire and enjoyed a presentation on the restoration of Fishers from Elissa Gordon, a Biological Technician working on the project. On Saturday, guests had the option of volunteer stewardship projects painting park housing OR organizing and cataloging photos in the curator's office. Saturday night, Curt Jacquot, Interpretive Ranger, gave us a presentation on the effects of light pollution and the Dark Skies program. Natalie Hammerquist, founder of the Adiantum School, led us all on two wonderful hikes and taught us how to identify and utilize the medicinal properties of NW plant life.

Next Fireside Circle series? Spring 2017! Stay tuned to wnpf.org for dates.

Go out with us on Black Friday!



Skip the malls the day after Thanksgiving Instead, #OptOutside at your national parks

In November 2015, Washington's National Park Fund staff, board members and supporters LIKE YOU enthusiastically joined friends at REI, who did something different on Black Friday - they shut the co-op doors and spent the day outside. It's happening again on Friday, November 25th, the day after Thanksgiving.

"At Washington's National Park Fund, we embrace this national campaign to turn a shopping day into an opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors. Last year, we joined local groups -- MeetUp, GIRO, Outdoor Research, CLIF BARS, and others -- who decided to join up with what our friends at REI started," says Laurie Ward, WNPF's Executive Director. "We're now making plans to bring many of our donors and friends back to Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks again this year. We'll close the office and take it all outside. Will you go out with us?"

Last year, more than a million people chose to opt outside. This year, more than 2 million have already committed to opting outside, and the number grows each day.

Not sure where to go? Check out www.nps.gov for details about visiting Mount Rainier, North Cascades, or Olympic National Park. REI has also launched an Activity Finder where you can enter your ZIP code to find local destinations. Visit the site at REI.com/opt-outside.

"Making our national parks part of your Thanksgiving tradition will create memories far more meaningful than any shopping bargain you may find that day!"

Dana Visser, WNPf board president

Still need ideas? Here's where a few of us will be.

"I'll be spending the week at my brother's place on San Juan Island on Haro Strait. With any luck at all, the orcas will swim by in front of us." Jeannette Privat, WNPf Board Secretary

"I plan on being outside on Black Friday. Maybe the I-90 corridor or may just be a walk around Chambers Bay, but I will be out. I've got 95 miles to go by year-end to achieve my goal of 1,000 miles this year. I plan to make it!" Don Gaines, WNPf Board Treasurer

"I'll either be up at Mount Rainier or near the Palouse Falls hiking and exploring with family who live on the eastern side of the state." Laurie Ward, WNPf Executive Director

"I'm going to be outside in the Russian River area by day and inside wine tasting by night!" Dana Visser, WNPf Board President

"Weather permitting, I'll be at Ebey's Landing National Historic Preserve for some hiking." John Newhoff, WNPf board member

"I'll either be wandering around the headlands of Port Townsend & Fort Worden or hiking up at Hurricane Ridge (or in the lowlands if too snowy). Definitely no shopping on my to-do list." Nicky Ducommun, WNPf Donor Stewardship Manager



North Cascades in the news!

Recently from the Huffington Post:

[**Eight Reasons to Explore Washington's North Cascades National Park**](#)

"We're keeping this one simple, as this area is nothing short of simple in its pure beauty, and offering up eight of our favorite things about one of the least visited parks in the entire system, North Cascades."

[Read more about one of our most beautiful parks here.](#)

Become a Sustaining Donor Join our Monthly Giving Program!

Maximize your gift to Washington's wonderful national parks by signing up to give monthly. Washington's National Park Fund makes it easy and secure. Just visit the **Individual Support** page at <http://wnpf.org/individual-support/> and click the **Support the Parks** button. Then select the amount, type of donation and frequency.

You can easily change your monthly giving amount at any time either online OR by calling Kelly at the Fund: (206) 623-2063. **Your monthly or quarterly gift of any regular amount adds up over time for Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks!**

Please consider signing up today.



Winter schedules are upon us!

Check before you go: [Mount Rainier](#), [North Cascades](#) and [Olympic National Parks](#).

Our "[In The News](#)" page on wnpf.org is a handy stop where you can view recent press releases from all three parks.

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The gratitude is all ours.**

Washington's National Park Fund | (206) 623-2063 | fund@wnpf.org | www.wnpf.org
Washington's National Park Fund, 1904 Third Avenue, Suite 400, Seattle, WA 98101