Throughout 2018, I focused intentionally on goals I had set for the year. One of the last goals to get crossed off my list? Review and update our estate plans.

While my husband and I may be far from having any sort of “estate,” we treasure what we’ve earned and invested in. That said, our estate plans DO need to be reviewed. With some thoughtful consideration, we will make sure that our favorite charities are included. And our three national parks here in Washington State? They’re included and will receive that gift through Washington’s National Park Fund.

The next time our paths cross, do me a favor. Ask me, “Did you check that last goal off your list in 2018? If I smile with a twinkle in my eye you’ll know the answer.

Laurie Ward  
Chief Executive Officer

MORE THAN $1.5 MILLION AWARDED

Each year, Washington’s National Park Fund supports park priority projects that are submitted to us by Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks. If not for the Fund and YOU as park friends, these projects would simply go unfunded.

2017-18 was once again a banner year. More than $1.5 million was awarded for youth programs, trail maintenance, search and rescue, volunteerism and stewardship, science and research, and the parks’ endowments. Critters like the fishers were reintroduced in the North Cascades. Accessible trails are being built at Kalaloch and Quinault in Olympic National Park. Music in North Cascades National Park rang through the pines during the park’s 50th celebration. Each park’s endowment grew, thanks to Aunt Bette’s kind gift of $1 million.

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.
Whether digging in dirt or burrowing into history, Matthew Dubeau relishes the quest. Like Westward explorers scouting mountain passes, Dubeau ferrets out connections linking the present to the past. He’s the person you’d want on a scavenger hunt. “I liked the excitement of finding things,” he gushes.

As the Olympic National Park Archivist and part-time archeologist, Dubeau scours the surfaces and depths of real and virtual landscapes. Like a chipmunk stuffing its cheeks with acorns, Dubeau’s cache could include a photo or a basket fragment. He might happen upon a sacred site or ancient village. He’s always aware, awaiting the next gust to blow in seeds for research.

Learn more about how Matt is working to preserve the legacy of Olympic National Park on our blog at: www.wnpf.org/to-the-parks-our-blog/

FOUNDATION FOCUS:
Access Fund and American Alpine Club

Special thanks to both Access Fund and American Alpine Club for their ongoing support. In 2018, they supported North Cascades National Park’s Student Conservation Association Climbing Internship. The missions of both charities focus on keeping climbing areas open and building respect for the local environment. Funds will be used for stipend, housing and supplies for an SCA intern in heavily used climbing areas in North Cascades National Park. We are grateful to Access Fund and AAC for their stewardship of NCNP!
You can just imagine her running to the window every morning – whether she was 2, 8, 15 or even 25 – to see if The Mountain was out. Even through hailstorms or fog or the occasional snow, her expectations were anchored in that sight: Where’s My Mountain?! Jeannette Privat grew up on Queen Anne hill, in a home perched high above downtown Seattle with direct views of Puget Sound. And she adored Mount Rainier’s ever-present image. “Seeing it floating in the air was part of my life.” With a fierce loyalty, she still declares it “My Mountain!” (in person and on her specialty National Park license plate).

That stubbornness and initiative has been in full force over the years as she prodded WNPF to establish endowment funds for each of the parks. And, without being asked, she stepped up as the first member of our new Parks Everlasting Society for legacy donors. She continues to spur the Fund to higher and higher goals – all in service to OUR parks. This is our Jeannette Privat. Read her adventures with dogs, cars, boats and more on our blog: www.wnpf.org/to-the-parks-our-blog/

Are we grateful for all you do for your national parks? You KNOW we are! Are we pleased with the amounts awarded to the parks? Absolutely! Have we obtained the vision that we share with Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks? Not yet – but with your support, we’re getting there!

The next five years are going to be pivotal. As we say, stay close to us for the parks’ sake. The best is just around the corner.

ANTHONY SPAIN, MUSIC DIRECTOR, NORTHWEST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Our Flat Hat Salute goes to Anthony Spain, Music Director, Northwest Symphony Orchestra. Anthony masterfully partnered with the Fund throughout our 25th Anniversary celebration, “National Parks at Benaroya.” What a night. Thank you, Anthony!

Source: “Science in the Wild: The Legacy of the U.S. National Park System” by Jim Robbins – August 2016 Published by the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies
A flat hat salute to Scott Kranz who summited 50 peaks in celebration of the North Cascades 50th anniversary while bringing awareness of Washington’s National Park Fund to many!

**EVENTS**

**FOR A FULL LIST OF EVENTS, VISIT WNPF.ORG**

**JAN 21**

**FEE-FREE DAY AT THE PARKS**

The National Park Service will be waiving entrance fees to all National Parks in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

**JAN 31**

**PICNIC WITH THE PARKS!**

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

**APRIL 13**

**SPRING DINNER & AUCTION**

Join us at the Seattle Center Fisher Pavilion for this very special annual event! Bid on outdoor clothing and gear, unique experiences, and more to support improving visitors’ experiences in our national parks! Secure your seat – tickets available at wnpf.org or (206) 623-2063

**APRIL 20-28**

**NATIONAL PARK WEEK 2019**

Saturday, April 20th marks the beginning of National Park Week with free entrance to your favorite parks for the day!

**MAY 3-4**

**SEE YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION**

Learn about priority park projects you’ve helped to fund in Olympic National Park! This exclusive event will include a ranger-led talk, short group hikes and more.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13**

Save the Date for the Spring Dinner and Auction

**MAY 3-4**

**NEIGHBORHOOD FIRESIDE CIRCLE: NORTH SEATTLE**

Join friends and community members for a ranger talk in the home of a fellow park supporter.