



**FRIENDS OF TUALATIN RIVER
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
ANNUAL REPORT
2016**

A Special Donor Thank You from the President of FOR

As a 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit Organization, we could not accomplish the things that you will read about in this Annual Report without the generous support of Friends members, volunteers, Foundations, Donors and FWS. Thank you so much to all of you for making it possible for us to achieve our Mission of supporting Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge! We look forward to partnering with you in the future to continue this important work.

Friends' General Refuge Support

Anonymous
Al's Garden Center
Amazon Smile
Ken Bilderback
Sharon Birrel
Lisa Brenner & Tom Stibolt
Rebecca Chinn
Martha Denis
DIGIMARC
Fred Meyer Rewards
Friends of the Refuge Board of Directors
Friends of the Refuge Members
Cheryl Hart
Tim Hecox
Intel Volunteer Grant Program
Kaiser Foundation- Community Giving Campaign Match Funds
Spencer Krueger & Mary Lefevre
Rebecca Long
Steve & Linda Moore
Berk Moss
Wilfried & Deanna Mueller-Crispin
New Seasons Market
Caroline Paquet
Washington County Strategic Investment Program
Dennis and Elizabeth Warkentin

Donations in Honor or Memory

Laurine Laffy
Loren & Betsey Hadley
Chris & Rebecca Fladwood
Bill Wheeler

Environmental Education Programs

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Gray Family Foundation
Juan Young Trust
Grasmajeto Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation
Benson Family Foundation
The Wheeler Family

Refuge Restoration Programs

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Metro – Restoration and Community Enhancement Grant
Prescott Bluebird Recovery Project
RICOH
Reser Family Foundation

Special Events

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Cabela's
Bosky Dell Natives
Clean Water Services
Dr. Tyberg, Dental Care of Sherwood
Friends of Malheur NWR
Laura & Vaughn Grubaugh
Marsh Consulting LLC
Pride
Woodside Consultants

Emerald Patron Festival Sponsors

Anonymous (3)	David & Marilyn Collin
Erin Holmes	Bonnie & Marty Anderson
Judy Doyle	John Gendron & Tobyn Bower
Keith Mays	Lisa Brenner & Tom Stibolt
Sharon Miller	George & Mike Burnett
Cheryl Hart	Willem Stoeller & Cathy Shikatani
Edwin Squiers	Dawn & Stan Carovano
Tom Hartz	



Last year we challenged you to help us get from 830 likes to over 1000, and guess what, WE DID IT! Today, the Friends' Facebook page has been "liked" by 1013 people! How about we go for 1500 in 2017! The page provides news about events and tidbits of interest about the Refuge. Please "like" the Friends Facebook and share it with your Friends to keep up-to-date on what's happening at the Refuge and in the National Wildlife Refuge System as a whole.

2016 Annual Report

Friends of Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Prepared by Keith Mays

It is hard to believe that the Friends' Annual meeting is around the corner – September 24th. Mark it on your calendar. As I prepare for the meeting, I began reflecting on this past year as President of the Friends. 2016 has been a wonderful year to celebrate conservation, both locally and nationally. For one thing it marked the 100th anniversary of the Migratory Bird Treaty – signed on August 16, 1916 – between the United States and Great Britain (for Canada). This summer was our 20th annual Tualatin River Bird Festival at TRNWR; it's not every day that "President Teddy Roosevelt" visits the Refuge to help us celebrate. We also celebrate that it has been 10 years since our Refuge has been open to the public – including the wildlife center.

In 2016, the Friends began a rebranding process that resulted in a new logo (see the cover of this report!) and our tag line "Joyfully Connecting Our Community with the Wonders of the Refuge." Come into Nature's Overlook Store to see our new logo gear. Get yours today, if you haven't already. Friends membership has its privileges – one being a discount on store purchases. If you are not already a member, join today!



FOR Board President Keith Mays.



Visitors play Salmon Migration Golf at the 20th Annual Tualatin River Bird Festival in May.



Young fisher-people practice casting at the Tualatin River Bird Festival.

So many wonderful things to celebrate this year, yet January 2016 was also when our sister refuge, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, was

taken over by misguided individuals, domestic terrorists, and illegally occupied for many weeks – damaging community assets, wildlife habitat, and cultural artifacts. The impact both on the community and on refuge staff and volunteers was also extreme. We, as Friends members, volunteers and supporters of our Refuge system and USFWS, and must continue our advocacy work, locally and nationally, to promote the value of public lands to our community, our country and our global environment.

The Friends earmarked \$10,000 this year in Refuge assistance and we have donated a large tool trailer and stocked with the entire wish list of the restoration team. We are finishing up the design details for the trailer wrap, and look forward to displaying it to our members. Come out to any of the second Saturday work parties and help break in the new tools!

October 2016 marks the end of the first year of the USFWS Urban Program for our Portland Metro Region. The Urban Program, housed here at Tualatin River NWR, is a wonderful program aiming to better connect Portland/Vancouver area residents not only to the Refuge system but also to natural areas where they are.

Big thanks to REI, our sponsor this year for National Public Lands Day (NPLD). We celebrated NPLD on September 10th. Since it is happening after this report is prepared, we'll report on it next year. We are fortunate to have so many wonderful Friends members and volunteers to support our Refuge and our community. If you are interested in serving on a committee or joining the Friends Board, please let us know at President@friendsoftualatinrefuge.org. We are thankful for your interest in and support of the Friends organization and Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge. Without you, our members and volunteers, the refuge would not exist and our many programs would not be possible.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Submitted by Willem Stoeller, FOR Board Treasurer
as of September 30, 2016

With one month remaining in the current fiscal year, the financial condition of the Friends organization is better than forecasted in the FY2016 budget. Total cash balances as of September 30 (The month of September 2016 has been estimated) are approximately \$137,737 (\$48,116 of which is restricted and \$89,621 of which is unrestricted). These \$89,621 of unrestricted funds consist of \$63,621 disposable and \$26,000 operational and cash flow reserves.

The Accounts Receivable for Restricted Grants is \$169,421, an increase of \$149,421 over last year. This increase is due to the timing of grants being awarded, Federal/Agency grants for both this fiscal year and next fiscal year have been awarded in the 2015-2016 fiscal year. These cooperative grants cover payroll and other costs of the four FOR employees.

The Nature's Overlook Store operation generated 94% of the planned budget and has contributed \$14,790.83 to the Friends organization.

This fiscal year the Friends contributed \$11,232 in direct assistance to the refuge. The approved budget for next fiscal year (FY2017) includes another \$12,000 in direct assistance to the refuge.

As was the case last year, however, there will be a continuing need to identify new grant resources to sustain the growth of our programs. My thanks go out to Dawn Carovano and Bonnie Anderson. I would not be able to fulfill my role as treasurer without their appreciated help.

7:33 PM
09/07/16
Accrual Basis

Friends of TRNWR Statement of Financial Position (Estimated) As of September 30, 2016

	Aug 31, 16	Sep 30, 15
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Total Unrestricted Funds	89,621.18	99,361.86
Total Restricted Funds	48,115.57	40,343.13
Total Checking/Savings	137,736.75	139,704.99
Accounts Receivable		
11400 · Grants Receivable Restricted	169,421.00	
11200 · Grants Receivable Unrestricted	10,445.00	20,000.00
Total Accounts Receivable	179,866.00	20,000.00
Other Current Assets		
12000 · Undeposited Funds	0.00	627.00
13500 · Supplies Inventory	30.35	30.35
14000 · Store Inventory	28,840.33	27,566.93
Total Other Current Assets	28,870.68	28,224.28
Total Current Assets	346,473.43	187,929.27
Fixed Assets		
15000 · Furniture and Equipment	1,096.28	1,096.28
Total Fixed Assets	1,096.28	1,096.28
TOTAL ASSETS	347,569.71	189,025.55
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
20200 · Operations Payable	10,455.00	391.38
20300 · Store Payables	0.00	1,451.00
Total Accounts Payable	10,455.00	1,842.38
Total Current Liabilities	10,455.00	1,842.38
Total Liabilities	10,455.00	1,842.38
Total Equity	337,114.71	187,183.17
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	347,569.71	189,025.55

Statement of Financial Position as of September 30, 2016

7:37 PM
09/07/16
Accrual Basis

Friends of TRNWR

Statement of Financial Income and Expense (Estimated)

October 2015 through September 2016

Ordinary Income/Expense	Fundraising	Genl & Admin Cost	Membership Development	Total Programs	Store Operations	TOTAL
Income						
Total Restricted Income	0.00	4,045.17	10,000.00	321,770.10	0.00	335,815.27
Total Unrestricted Income	100.00	32,632.60	0.00	33,138.50	47,244.18	113,115.29
Total Income	100.00	36,677.77	10,000.00	354,908.60	47,244.18	448,930.56
Total COGS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,042.95	29,042.95
Gross Profit	100.00	36,677.77	10,000.00	354,908.60	18,201.24	419,887.61
Expense						
66002 - Payroll Program Salaries/Wages	0.00	0.00	0.00	108,079.64	0.00	108,079.64
66004 - Payroll Friends Salary/Wages	664.36	17,571.27	366.55	16,265.45	0.00	34,867.64
66003 - Payroll Employer Tax	0.00	3,163.80	0.00	9,942.07	0.00	13,105.87
66090 - Payroll Workers Comp Insurance	0.00	646.54	0.00	117.68	0.00	764.21
Total 66000 - Business Expenses	0.00	229.15	0.00	6,587.36	0.00	6,816.51
Total 62100 - Contract Services	0.00	6,418.55	17,200.00	31,995.31	0.00	55,613.86
Total 65000 - Operations	0.00	652.75	1,673.00	23,782.43	379.45	26,487.63
65004 - Software Maint Agreements	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	495.00	495.00
65005 - Software	0.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	515.00
65015 - Hardware	0.00	214.59	0.00	27.42	850.00	1,092.01
Total 65100 - Other Types of Expenses	0.00	4,636.08	0.00	12,601.56	304.00	17,541.64
Total 66300 - Meetings, Travel	0.00	1,630.33	0.00	5,277.53	881.96	7,789.82
Total Expense	664.36	35,178.06	19,239.55	214,676.44	3,410.41	273,168.82
Net Ordinary Income	(564.36)	1,499.71	(9,239.55)	140,232.16	14,790.83	146,718.79
Net Income	(564.36)	1,499.71	(9,239.55)	140,232.16	14,790.83	146,718.79

Program expenses as part of total expenses

78.6%

Friends of TNWR Budget vs. Actual by Programs/Projects Estimated October 2015 through September 2016									
	Fundraising		Gen'l & Admin Cost		Membership Development		Store Operations		
	Oct '15 - Aug '16	\$ Over Budget	Oct '15 - Aug '16	\$ Over Budget	Oct '15 - Aug '16	\$ Over Budget	Oct '15 - Aug '16	\$ Over Budget	
Ordinary Income/Expense									
Income									
48600 - Donations - Individual	0.00		14,120.31	10,000.00	4,120.31		0.00	10.00	
48650 - Donations - Foundation	0.00		553.57		0.00		0.00	0.00	
48670 - Donations - Corporate	100.00		2,898.32		0.00		0.00	0.00	
48680 - Donations - Government	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
48690 - Restricted Grant - Individual	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
48690 - Restricted Grant - Corporate	0.00		4,045.17		0.00		0.00	0.00	
48700 - Restricted Grants - Foundation	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
48800 - Restricted Grants - Government	0.00		0.00		10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	
47230 - Membership Dues	0.00		12,272.73	10,000.00	2,272.73		0.00	15.00	
47240 - Birthhouse Box Donations	0.00		1,025.45	1,000.00	(574.55)		0.00	0.00	
47190 - Program Income/fees	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
46030 - Interest Income	0.00		492.22		0.00		25.48	0.00	
43400 - Direct Public Support	0.00		1,500.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
43445 - Donated Pro Services	0.00		1,500.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
Total 43400 - Direct Public Support	0.00		1,500.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
49000 - Special Events Income	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
49010 - Special Events Contributions	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
Total 49000 - Special Events Income	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
48400 - Store Inventory Sales	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
Total Income	100.00		38,077.77	21,000.00	15,077.77	10,000.00	47,193.50	52,000.00	(4,806.50)
Total COGS	0.00		0.00		0.00		47,244.18	52,000.00	(4,755.82)
Gross Profit	100.00		38,077.77	21,000.00	15,077.77	10,000.00	29,949.32	35,000.00	(3,857.05)
Expense									
66002 - Payroll Program Salaries/Wages	0.00		17,571.27		0.00		0.00	0.00	
66004 - Payroll Friends Salary/Wages	664.36	(335.84)	3,163.80	0.00	(3,657.20)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,000.00)
66008 - Payroll Employer Tax	0.00		648.54		(2,453.46)		0.00	0.00	
66090 - Payroll Workers Comp Insurance	0.00		0.00	65.00	(65.00)		0.00	0.00	
Total 66000 - Business Expenses	0.00		229.15	65.00	(425.85)		0.00	0.00	
Total 62100 - Contract Services	0.00	(190.00)	5,418.55	1,100.00	5,318.55	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	
Total 65000 - Operations	0.00	(200.00)	652.75	1,800.00	(647.25)	1,450.00	379.45	0.00	
66004 - Software Maint Agreements	0.00		0.00	150.00	(150.00)		495.00	500.00	0.00
65005 - Software	0.00		15.00		0.00		850.00	1,000.00	(150.00)
65015 - Hardware	0.00		214.59		0.00		304.00	0.00	
Total 65100 - Other Types of Expenses	0.00	(500.00)	4,538.08	4,550.00	86.08		0.00	0.00	
Total 68000 - Meetings, Travel	0.00	(500.00)	1,530.33	2,000.00	(269.67)		861.96	800.00	81.96
Total Expense	664.36	(1,635.84)	35,178.06	20,250.00	14,842.06	27,450.00	3,410.41	3,300.00	110.41
Net Ordinary Income	(564.36)	1,735.84	1,499.71	1,364.00	135.71	(17,450.00)	14,790.83	15,800.00	(1,009.17)
Cash/Receivables carry over from last year									
Net Income plus carry over	(564.36)	1,735.84	1,499.71	1,364.00	135.71	(17,450.00)	14,790.83	15,800.00	(1,009.17)

Friends of TRNWR
Budget for the period 2016-2017 Programs/Projects

	Fundraising Budget	Genl & Admin Cost Budget	Membership Development Budget	(Programs) Total Programs Budget	Store Operations Budget	GRAND TOTAL Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense						
Income						
43500 · Donations - Individual		10,000.00		5,000.00		15,000.00
43650 · Donations - Foundation				4,000.00		4,000.00
43670 · Donations - Corporate				4,000.00		4,000.00
43680 · Donations - Government						0.00
43850 · Restricted Grant - Individual						0.00
43600 · Restricted Grants - Corporate						0.00
43700 · Restricted Grants - Foundation				0.00		0.00
43800 · Restricted Grants - Government			0.00	169,421.00		169,421.00
47230 · Membership Dues		10,000.00	0.00			10,000.00
47240 · Birdhouse Box Donations		2,000.00				2,000.00
47150 · Program Income/fees				3,500.00		3,500.00
45030 · Interest Income				0.00		0.00
43400 · Direct Public Support						
43445 · Donated Pro Services						0.00
Total 43400 · Direct Public Support						0.00
Total 49000 · Special Events Income				2,000.00		2,000.00
46500 · QBKs Internal Funds Txfr Income						0.00
46420 · Store Inventory Sales				100.00	52,000.00	52,100.00
Total Income	0.00	22,000.00	0.00	184,021.00	52,000.00	258,021.00
Total COGS					32,900.00	32,900.00
Gross Profit	0.00	22,000.00	0.00	184,021.00	19,100.00	225,121.00
Expense						
62850 · TRNWR Direct Assistance Expense				10,000.00		10,000.00
66002 · Payroll Program Salaries/Wages				111,612.00		111,612.00
66004 · Payroll Friends Salary/Wages	2,000.00	6,300.00	5,040.00	19,922.00	1,000.00	34,262.00
66003 · Payroll Employee Tax		3,100.00		9,720.00		12,820.00
66090 · Payroll Workers Comp Insurance		65.00		691.00		756.00
60900 · Business Expenses						
Total 60900 · Business Expenses	0.00	850.00	0.00	700.00	0.00	1,550.00
Total 62100 · Contract Services	600.00	1,860.00	0.00	43,840.00		46,300.00
Total 65000 · Operations	200.00	1,450.00	1,450.00	3,250.00		6,350.00
65004 · Software Maint Agreements		150.00			1,500.00	1,650.00
65005 · Software						0.00
65015 · Hardware				0.00		0.00
Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses	500.00	5,050.00	0.00	11,350.00		16,900.00
Total 68300 · Meetings, Travel	500.00	2,000.00		2,600.00	800.00	5,900.00
Total Expense	3,800.00	20,825.00	6,490.00	213,685.00	3,300.00	248,100.00
Net Ordinary Income	(3,800.00)	1,175.00	(6,490.00)	(29,664.00)	15,800.00	(22,979.00)
Cash/Receivables carry over from last year			4,900.00	40,008.00		44,908.00
	(3,800.00)	1,175.00	(1,590.00)	10,344.00	15,800.00	21,929.00
Program expenses as part of total expenses		86.1%				

Approved Budget for FY2017

RESTORATION COMMITTEE

**Submitted by Mary French, FOR Board Member, and
Sarah Williams, Habitat Restoration Specialist**

This year has been another busy and successful one for the restoration committee. We saw the completion of the initial phase of South Riverboat restoration, with staff, volunteers, and contractors planting an additional 39,000 plants. This included two large volunteer plantings with Friends of Trees during which over 2,000 trees and shrubs found their way into the ground. Our National Public Lands Day event was a big success and resulted in thousands of pounds of invasive Cocklebur being removed from the main unit of the Refuge. Over 30 volunteers showed up to learn about the refuge, help out, and enjoy their local public lands, with REI providing free t-shirts for all participants. It wasn't just at big events like this where we saw volunteers supporting refuge habitat. Second Saturday Restoration Work Parties continued going strong, with over 700 hours contributed by volunteers to help out with everything from clearing the trail to removing invasive species and old tree tubes.

Additional restoration programs have been going very well for the Friends this year, even during the hot summer months. This summer was just as busy as last with Student Conservation Association intern Junjie Chen helping out

Sarah Williams, the Habitat Restoration Specialist, with many invasive projects. Sarah and Junjie also supervised and worked with high school students from The Northwest Youth Corps as they removed invasive plants like Ivy, Tansy, and Blackberry. George Fox University will again volunteer their time for some habitat restoration in Mid-September for their annual Day of Service.

The restoration committee continued to support USFWS in their current and future restoration projects. Much of Sarah's time was spent working on year one of Chicken Creek restoration prep. Chemical and manual removal of acres of invasive plants such as Reed Canarygrass, Cocklebur, and Pennyroyal will set the stage for the eventual construction of a new Chicken Creek that utilizes parts of the historic channel.

A big thanks to our partners and supporters - Friends of Trees, Northwest Youth Corps, REI, Ricoh, Prescott Bluebird Society, Metro and USFWS - for helping to make all our endeavors this year so successful.



WILDLIFE CENTER & NATURE'S OVERLOOK SALES OUTLET

Submitted by Sharon Miller, FOR Board Member



The past year has been a busy one for the Wildlife Center and the Nature's Overlook retail store. Over 24,000 visitors have come through the doors to look at the exhibits, shop, and enjoy the view through the spotting scope. Visitors have come from over 40 states and many foreign countries. In addition, local residents continue to "discover" the Refuge for the first time.

An added feature to the Wildlife Center this year has been the rotating interpretive exhibits, coordinated with both the gallery wall and special items for sale in the Store. The new child-sized table and chairs and pictures to color have been a big hit with the younger visitors, as has the Wheel of Wonder game.

Income from sales in Nature's Overlook is an important part of the Friends' budget, and provides unrestricted funds that are used for projects on the Refuge. Gross sales this past year were over \$45,000, thanks to the efforts of the store buyers, Kristie Al-Rashidi for books and George Burnett for general merchandise.

We are selling Federal Duck Stamps this year for the first time. Duck Stamps cost \$25, and 98% of the proceeds goes directly toward the purchase or lease of wetland habitat for protection in the National Wildlife Refuge system.

Trumpeter Swans are featured on this year's stamp. Duck Stamps are required for anyone hunting waterfowl, but they are also collected by many people who appreciate the artistry and who want to donate to conservation. We are hoping that people who have not purchased Duck Stamps in the past

will decide to start doing so, and will make their purchase at Nature's Overlook.

The Wildlife Center and store are completely

staffed by volunteers, and our goal is to always have two volunteers present during open hours. To make sure that happens, we are always recruiting additional volunteers. If you or someone you know is interested, let Rachel Dunham know and she will sign you up. Training is provided, and you will have a chance to work with some great volunteers and to share your enjoyment of the Refuge with our visitors.

Over the next few months we plan to explore online sales. Starting with a small number of logo items or other merchandise specific to TRNWR, we will offer shoppers the opportunity to purchase items online from the Friends website. A few other Friends groups do this, and although it is a small percentage of total sales, it is a service to people who may want to shop from afar. Stay tuned for more information.

Remember that Friends' members get 10% off all purchases at Nature's Overlook. Right now, there are some great bargains on items sporting the old Friends' logo (think, Collectors Item!), as we transition to the new logo unveiled just a few months ago. We invite you to come in to shop and explore all of the new features in the Wildlife Center.



Featured here are the five best-selling items at Nature's Overlook in 2015. Come see for yourself all the great gifts you can buy, for yourself and others!



Above: Rotating exhibits introduce visitors to a wide range of topics throughout the year. Below: Hands-on activities for kids (and kids-at-heart) rotate too!



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

**Submitted by Tom Hartz, FOR Board Member
and Seth Winkelhake, Environmental Education Specialist**

This year the Refuge hosted nearly 70 field trip visits, reaching over 2,932 students and teachers through our education programs. On these field trips, students connected to the Refuge and our natural world as they learned about animal adaptations while exploring skulls and pelts of animals that could be found here on the Refuge. They explored the amazing world of birds as they walked quietly through the forest, and visited pond study stations to look at the macro invertebrates, the bugs that feed the food chain here at the Refuge. Volunteer naturalists led these activities and more, fostering an appreciation of the natural world.

We held volunteer naturalist training over four days and prepared 21 new volunteer naturalists to lead our school and group programs. Our naturalists have been creating curriculum, moving towards a naturalist-led field trip



SPECIAL REPORT: 2016 Summer Camp

The Friends of the Refuge held two five-morning sessions of Nature Camp in July. A total of 31 children entering 3rd through 6th grades enrolled. Friends staff, volunteer naturalists, photographers, artists, and experienced educators all contributed to the success of the Camp. Thanks to the generous support from the Juan Young Trust, we were also able to offer Leadership Experience for middle school and high school students. Fourteen youth assistant slots were filled. Prior to the camp, the assistants completed seven hours of training which included leadership, safety, familiarization with the Refuge, and a preview of camp activities. At the beginning of each day, the assistants and adult volunteer staff met to preview the day's activities. At the end of each day, the staff met for a debriefing and feedback. Youth staff members were given a stipend for their contributions. The Youth Leader Program is off to a good start and could support a larger camp program in 2017.

Each day of camp had a theme: Introductions and Overviews, Photography, Birds, Wildlife / Signs of Wildlife, and Reflections and Celebration. Activities that have become part of the Summer Camp lore were included,

model to expand what we are able to offer to groups. The first to be completed is a Forest Field Trip that meets science standards and is aligned with the Oregon Forest Literacy Program.

Thanks to the Benson Family Foundation Benevolence Grant, this spring we purchased waterproof rain jackets and rubber boots. We now have a complete clothes closet at the Refuge, with enough jackets and boots for a full class of students. This is great for creating a safe and comfortable environment for students who either do not have the resources or are unprepared while on field trips. The Portland-Vancouver Urban Initiative provided funds for our logo to be put on the new rain jackets as well as purchasing the proper type of sand for us to provide animal tracking opportunities for field trips and public programs in the Environmental Education Shelter at the Refuge.



such as Photography Day, Bird Identification, Journaling, History of the Site, Music and Dancing. Several new activities were introduced, including Be a Tree, Bird Adaptations, Build a Bird, and CSI (Critter Scene Investigation, a tracking activity). Each camper dissected an owl pellet and identified what the owl ate. Thanks to the ongoing support of the Wheeler Family for our photography activities, each camper was given a thumb drive with all of their pictures from Photography Day, as well as a framed copy of one of their favorite pictures to take home. Another picture from each camper was printed and framed. These are currently on display in the Riparian Room in the Visitors Center.

The Nature Camp exposes children to the wonders of nature and our beautiful Wildlife Refuge in a fun, activity-filled week. The camper to staff ratio (green hats to blue hats in the Camp Photos) reflects the commitment of the Friends to providing a quality experience for the campers, and now, leadership experience for the youth assistants. Check out the daily blog for both sessions at the "2016 Nature Camp" tab on the Friends website (<http://www.friendsoftualatinrefuge.org/>).

INTERPRETIVE PROGRAM

Submitted by Sharon Miller, FOR Board Member
and Rachel Dunham, Friends Wildlife Center and Interpretive Program Coordinator

Interpretive Program

Over the past year over 3,600 visitors participated in Interpretive Programs on the refuge. Programs included new monthly Bird Walks, Waterfowl Watch, Interpretive Stations, Owl Prowls and Bats of the Night. Additionally, a rotating

Interpretive Exhibit has been created in the Wildlife Center entrance, with themes including: Canada Geese, Bird Migration, Creating Healthy Habitat, and Beavers!

Our dedicated volunteers have been a critical part in growing the Interpretive Program over the last year.



Culture Awareness Workshop

Thanks to the Gray Family Foundation and the Grasmajeto Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation we were able



to put on a workshop for 40 volunteers, teachers, and informal educators from local schools and organizations to learn about Native American history, culture, and how to incorporate accurate

and sensitive information into curriculum. This was also a great opportunity for open dialog about white privilege and cultural diversity. Additionally, we were able to continue the training by offering 30 participants a scholarship to the 2016 Grand Ronde History and Cultural Summit in the fall. Thank you Gray Family Foundation and Grasmajeto Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation!

Campaign and Communications

In preparation for a prescribed fire on the Refuge this fall, a Refuge Campaign and Communications Plan was developed and implemented. This has been a great opportunity to

educate the public on the mission of the Refuge and the tools we use to implement our management goals. It has enabled the Refuge to connect and partner with community organizations and encourage engagement with the public through social media.



Volunteer Program

This year 139 new volunteers joined our Refuge family. Whether through restoration, maintenance, administration, education, the Wildlife Center, interpretation or trail roving, our volunteers are the lifeblood of the Refuge. With Volunteer Orientation and the Enrichment

Program, there are many opportunities for our volunteers to learn more about the Refuge and gain experience in areas of interest. We hope to continue to grow the volunteer



program and further utilize their gifts and expertise to restore the Refuge and connect visitors to nature.



TUALATIN RIVER BIRD FESTIVAL

Submitted by Bonnie Anderson, FOR Board Member/ Festival Chair



The 20th Annual Tualatin River Bird Festival was held on May 21, 2016. The festival is a family friendly, free event put on by the Friends of the Refuge and USFWS. It is our open house to the community, a way to celebrate what a National Wildlife Refuge is. Well over 900 visitors enjoyed the day's festivities. In celebration of the 20th Festival, a new graphic look was introduced that will serve to represent the festival for future events.

Festival planning begins almost as the event ends and includes many other events besides the one day in May. A dedicated group of volunteers put together a successful native plant sale in April and a silent auction and "An Evening with Teddy" event in May. All of their hard work paid off with another successful Tualatin River Bird Festival.

The day began with rain showers and early morning bird walks starting at 5:30AM. By 10 AM the main activities began- and the weather began to cooperate too! This year's activities include Migration Putt- Putt golf, Butterfly and Bird house building, Audubon Live Bird show, two Archery

ranges, BB gun range, fish casting clinic, duck decoy calling demos, Conestoga wagon rides, Gyotaku, Migratory bird tote bag coloring, storytelling, Native America crafts and entertainment.

All of this would not be possible without the tremendous support of our sponsors. A huge thank you to our 2016

sponsors US Fish & Wildlife, Cabela's, Marsh Consulting LLC, Dental Care of Sherwood, Clean Water Services, Friends of Malheur NWR, The Grubaugh's, Bosky Dell Natives, Pride, City of Sherwood, ODFW, Woodside Consultants.

Thank you also to our 20th Anniversary Emerald Patrons: – Anonymous (3), The Anderson Family, Keith Mays, David & Marilynn Collins, Erin Holmes, Lisa Brenner, Mike & George Burnett, Cheryl Hart, Tom Stibolt, Dawn & Stan Carovano, Judy Doyle, Keith Mays, Tom Hartz, John Gendron & Toby Bower, Edwin Squiers, Willen Stoeller & Cathy Shikatani and Sharon Miller.

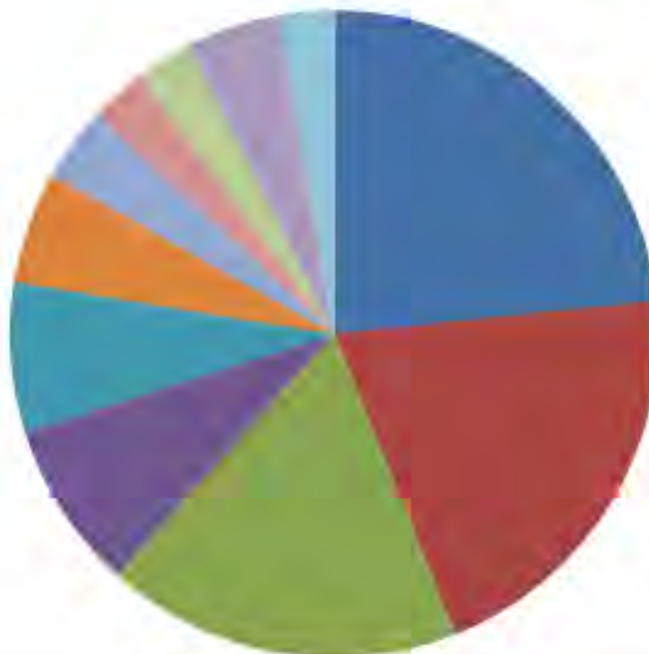


Favorite Activities



- Archery/Fishing/BB Guns
- Bird/Butterfly House
- Audubon Bird Show
- Bird Walks
- Wagon Ride
- Everything
- Arts & Crafts
- Native American Activities
- Migration Golf
- Migratory Bird Bags

Visitors by Zipcode



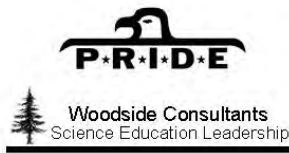
- Portland
- Tigard
- Sherwood
- Beaverton
- Newberg
- Tualatin
- Oregon City
- Hillsboro
- Lake Oswego
- Washington State
- Out of State



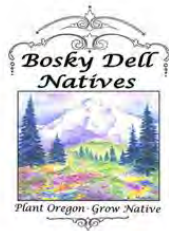
**Thank you to our community sponsors
for making this event possible!**



**Friends of
Malheur NWR**



**The
Grubaugh's**



**From Your Event Partners U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and
the Friends of Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge**



Festival Sponsorships Matter

Help us Thank our Festival Sponsor by supporting them!

SPECIAL REPORT:

3rd Annual President's Volunteer Service Awards

The third Annual President's Volunteer Service Award presentation was held before the March Friends Board Meeting to honor Friends volunteers that have contributed a substantial amount of volunteer time. It was publicized that the Friends would be documenting all hours that our members contribute to the Refuge and to the Friends each year, and that we would begin to honor their service annually with this award.

In reporting year 2015, volunteers contributed 29,657 hours to the betterment of Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge and the Friends of the Refuge. According to Independent Sector the value of each volunteer hour was set at \$23.07 in 2015. Our volunteer time equals over \$680,000. Friends of the Refuge are certified to record and submit volunteer service hours to qualify for the President's Volunteer Service Awards. If you would like to participate, please contact Bonnie Anderson at Info@FriendsofTualatinRefuge.org or (503) 625-5944 x227 to find out about tracking your volunteer hours. The President's Volunteer Service Award recognizes United States Citizens and lawfully admitted permanent residents of the United States who have achieved the required number of hours of service over a 12-month period- or cumulative hours over the course of a lifetime. Award recipients are recognized with the official President's Volunteer Service Award pin, a personalized certificate of

achievement and a congratulatory letter from the President of the United States. These are the Friend's 2015 award recipients by level (Volunteer Hours):

Gold Teen: Blair Anderson (153).

Bronze Young Adult: Riley Burnett (119).

Bronze Adult: Kristie Al-Rashidi(221), Bobbie Allaire (173), Pat Allaire (100), Barbara Allen(202), Pattie Beaven (146), Jennifer Bennett(186), Mike Burnett (116), David Collin (163), Janet Davis(235), Judith Doyle(150), Gary Fawver(220), John Gendron (216), Laura Grubaugh(114), Larry Harrington(220), Bob Emmerich (150), Vern Johnson (140), Linda Kilgore (212), Janice Koster (155), Keith Mays (106), Paula McCall (130), Berk Moss(233), Ruthann Panack(198), Carolyn Penner (106), Sandra Reid(162), Steve Runnels(100), Tom Shreve(134), Judy Silverforb(122), Willem Stoeller(239) Sue Sutter (100), Bob Swanson (120), Joan Try (150), Bob Try (147) and Irene Viach (149).

Silver Adults: Bonnie Anderson(362), Richard Bennett(307), James Burrows(375), Stan Carovano(281), Marty Clancy(297), Marilyn Ellis(337), Pam Farris(255), Mary French(422), Bob Fuquay(416), Robin Harrower(346), and Mike Skinner(362).

Gold Adults: Georgianna Burnett(500), Dawn Carovano(610), Cheryl Hart(643), Tom Hartz (757), Virginia Maffitt (700), Sharon Miller(531) and Doug Niwa(615)



Bronze Level

Kids: 50 to 74 hours
Young Adults: 100 to 174 hours
Adults: 100 to 249 hours

Family & Groups: 200 to 499 hours



Silver Level.

Kids: 75 to 99 hours
Young Adults: 175 to 249 hours
Adults: 250 to 499 hours

Family & Groups: 500 to 999 hours



Gold Level

Kids: 100 hours or more
Young Adults: 250 hours or more
Adults: 500 hours or more

Family & Groups: 1000 hours or more

SPECIAL REPORT: A Message from the Refuge Manager

THANK YOU! Thank you for all that you have done for the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge Complex (Refuge) this year. Your support as a member of the Friends of Tualatin River NWR is crucial to our success as an agency, as a Refuge and national public land, and as a team striving to provide healthy habitats for wildlife and a place for people to connect to nature. As Maya Angelou once said, "My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor and some style". This is you....full of passion, laughter, and grace.

It has been another action packed and exciting year for the Refuge. We have had said goodbye to friends and have welcomed new ones. We have experienced new challenges and successes, learned many new skills, met amazing people, and formed new partnerships and relationships along the way. At this years' Annual Meeting, I look forward to sharing these adventures with you in more detail.

It is important to acknowledge one of our biggest challenges this year; the illegal occupation of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in eastern Oregon. This illegal occupation impacted all of us here at the Refuge on



Refuge manager Erin Holmes and "President Teddy Roosevelt" (the very talented Joe Wiegand)

many different levels. Yet, throughout all of this, your support of the Refuge never wavered. You opened your arms to us and to members of the Malheur NWR team. You provided a sense of place and comfort to all of us. I was so very proud of you. During this time, I knew every day that I, along with other team members, were coming to a place of support.

As the Refuge System strives to move forward from this terrible event, we must

continue to support one another and recognize that our public lands are a treasure that must be cherished and protected. I look forward to the future; to restoring lands back to life, to the increased awareness and relevancy of the Refuge and all conservation due to the efforts of the Urban Wildlife Conservation Program, and I look forward to seeing the Friends employees grow professionally and programmatically to embrace all of these exciting changes. I appreciate that you stand alongside us in this effort by continuing your support of the Friends. All of you make a difference in conservation and you make a difference to every one of us here at the Refuge every single day.

With all my thanks,

Erin Holmes and the Tualatin River NWRC Team

SPECIAL REPORT: Board Members

2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Hart 9/30/2016	S. Miller 9/20/2017	M Miller 9/30/2018 (1)[2012]
Anderson 9/30/2016	Fawver 9/30/2017	Stoeller 9/30/2018 (1)[2015]
Mays 9/30/2016	Marsh 9/30/2017	Carovano 9/30/2018 (1)[2015]
	French 9/30/2017	Goodding 9/30/18 (1)[2015]
	Nelson 9/30/2017	Kilgore 9/30/2018 (1)[2015]
	Paquet 9/30/2017	
	Squiers 9/30/2017	
	Hartz 9/30/2017	

SPECIAL REPORT: Tualatin River Photographic Society Don Nelson, FOR Board Member

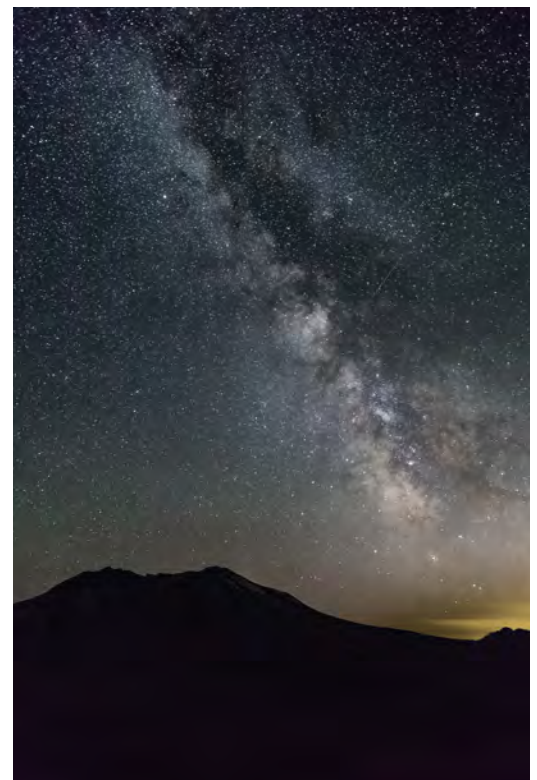
The Photo Society had an eventful year – we had monthly programs September to May, covering diverse topics, including: photographing the Antarctic; birds of Ecuador, Death Valley and Grand Canyon; Nepal; simple portrait photography; shooting videos; flying fish and Around the World by Ship; Greg Vaughn (noted author) on where to photograph in Western Oregon and Western Washington; as well as videos on how to photograph birds by acclaimed nature photographer Alan Murphy (you’ve seen his bird photographs on the cover of numerous birding magazines).

We held meet-ups to photograph dahlias in Canby, waterfalls at Silver Falls State Park, birds at Commonwealth Park, and held a special late evening meet-up to photograph the Milky Way from Mount St. Helens. It was necessary to get away from the lights of the Willamette Valley – light pollution makes it impossible to capture such images from the refuge or even locally within the Willamette Valley. In fact we did not escape Vancouver-Portland lights even at Mt St Helens – note the lower right corner where Portland light shows. If you look closely you’ll also see a meteor streaking across.

While we planned a Youth Photo Camp for Spring Break, unfortunately we were unable to put it on due to the lack of suitable cameras that have manual features and generate Raw files (the basic point/shoot cameras that are so useful for the Summer Youth Camps don’t have the features needed to teach basic photography with a manual camera). We are now looking for ways to finance the cameras that we would need and hope to hold the event next spring.

During the year our members supported the refuge with photography, including photographing the judging of the Junior Duck Stamp competition and the winning entries, documenting the Peer-to-Peer workshop and participating in the Youth Camp this summer (photographs and selection of images). We had a booth at the Wilsonville Arts Festival where we signed up 18 new people that were interested in the Photo Society. One new person from this signup did attend the Mt St Helens photo meetup, and two other new people were interested but could not make it on the particular night when skies became clear.

The Photo Society finished acquisition of a collection of frames and matte boards. We used these on a juried Spring Photo Display that was in the Riparian Room from April through July. Be on the lookout for similar displays later this year and next!





Photos taken at Tualatin River NWR by Bjorn Fredrickson