

FRIENDS of
FORT WORDEN
STATE PARK

COMMUNIQUE

WWW.FWFRIENDS.ORG Spring 2010

Friends of Fort Worden offer \$35,000 to support Park plan

The Friends of Fort Worden believe that Fort Worden State Park thrives through active and passionate community support. Over the years the all-volunteer group has contributed many hundreds of thousands of dollars for the betterment of the park. Now they are donating \$35,000 to support the final phase of the Fort Worden planning process.

Friends Board President Rick Sepler is enthusiastic about the contribution, comprised of \$10,000 from the Friends general fund and \$25,000 from an anonymous donor. "We are stewards of an extraordinary public park and are one hundred percent committed to preserving and sustaining it for generations to come."

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission has led and generously funded the five-year planning process for Fort Worden, which has engaged a broad array of individuals and stakeholder groups from across the region. The newly formed Port Townsend Public Development Authority is expected to be a key partner as well, managing various building restoration and preservation projects.

In addition to building and infrastructure improvements the long-range Park preservation plan calls for a significant expansion of residential learning opportunities available to the public.

"The Friends have always been there," notes Park Manager Kate Burke. "Their continuing commitment of time and money is a large part of what makes Fort Worden such a special place."

Sepler adds, "Our community has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to create a vibrant future for this park we all love so much. The Friends are delighted to provide financial support at this critical juncture."



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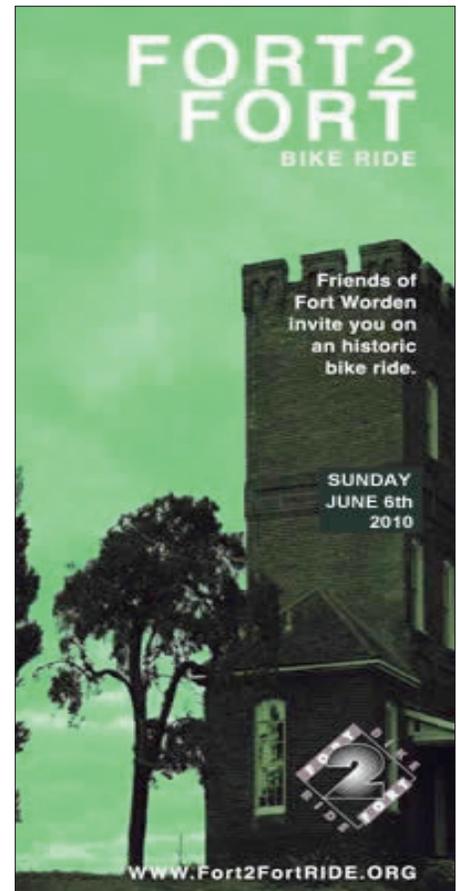
Wheeler Theater

Fourth Annual Fort2Fort Bike Ride Sunday, June 6, 2010

The Friends of Fort Worden invite you to take a ride with history! Join us for the Fourth Annual Fort2Fort Bicycle Ride from historic Fort Worden State Park located in beautiful Port Townsend, Washington for a supported tour along quiet roads through scenic Jefferson County to either Fort Townsend (a Fun Ride of 17 miles roundtrip or a more challenging 42 mile loop) or Fort Flagler (62 miles round trip for a metric century!)

This ride benefits the Friends, and supports the park as a fund raiser for projects not funded by the state parks system. These include interpretative signage, building restoration, funding of diverse activities that benefit the park and the community and operating a park visitor information center and gift shop in the old Guardhouse.

Preregistration is \$35 if postmarked by May 29, after and day of ride \$40. Ride-day registrations will be accepted until 10:30 a.m. at the McCurdy Pavilion Start Line. US funds only please; no refunds will be given. Children under 12 are invited to ride for free with a registered parent rider. Register online until Saturday, May 29. **Active.com** will process all online registrations this year.





President's column

Rick Sepler

When you work on a project, your friends often provide moral support. Sometimes, when the project is significant and challenging they pitch in and help you.

Such is the case with the ongoing planning process for Fort Worden – the Friends are pitching in and helping to advance the process by providing both a conduit for donations as well as engaging Dave Robison to assist State Parks and the Port Townsend Public Development Agency (PDA). Dave, the founding Executive Director of the Northwest Maritime Center, has demonstrated experience in developing on-going Federal and State support for innovative programs, such as those proposed for the Fort. The Friends have contracted with Dave to help complete milestones necessary to fully implement the future vision for the Fort. Dave has jumped right in and we are already seeing some of the benefits from his involvement.

On April 6, Dave, Kate Burke and Thatcher Bailey provided Congressman Norm Dicks and his staff a tour of several Fort Worden facilities. The group gave the Congressman an overview of the five-year planning efforts and vision of the Fort as a Center for Life Long Learning. The Congressman toured the Wheeler Theater and pledged his help in securing federal funding for its historic rehabilitation and improvement as a performing arts venue. The Congressman's tour also highlighted efforts to restore Building 202 and a stop at the School of Wood-

working and Preservation Trades with Tim Lawson, Jim Tolpin, and John Marckworth. Tim Lawson presented the School's plans to train veterans and other students in the skills of historic preservation.

Additionally, Dave and Thatcher Bailey are currently raising funds to conduct a Feasibility and Business Plan for the Wheeler Theater. The Study will examine several key questions including:

What is the potential use by local, regional, and touring performing artists and arts organizations and other possible users for the facility? What level of activity may be projected at the Theater?

What are the technical, architectural and engineering requirements for rehabilitation of the Theater?

What are realistic projections for operating costs and revenue?

What is an appropriate governance and organization structure to manage the Theater?

Timely completion of the milestones and renovation of existing facilities are the first step towards creating a vital partnership economy that will preserve and enhance the extraordinary resource of Fort Worden State Park for generations to come. We are proud to be able to provide this kind of professional assistance to the Fort. However, as Burt Bacharach and Carole Bayer Sager wrote (and Rod Stewart and Dionne Warwick sung,) "That's What Friends Are For."

Treasurer's Report

David Sepler

In the first quarter of 2010, the Friends board has made several commitments that will enhance the visitors' experience and make life easier for our volunteer camp hosts, including wi fi for the guest houses and other locations, financial contributions to the planning process for Fort Worden's future development, and increased amperage to the hosts' RV site.

The Guardhouse Gift Shop has seen an increase in business in recent months, thanks to better weather and the efforts of our volunteers, who invite everybody to drop by and check out the new merchandise.

New and Renewing Friends Members

Skip Peltz, Curt & Britt Danielson, Abracadabra, Peg Fury, Mary Grace Swift, Mike King, Donna & Larry Coffey, Kimble Greenwood, Thatcher Bailey

Thank You!

Spring Membership Drive

Please renew your membership and help maintain Fort Worden for the enjoyment of everyone.

FORT2FORT Bike Ride SPONSORS



Membership Application

\$25 - Friend \$50 - Associate
 \$100 - Companion \$ 500 - Life Member

*I would like to become a member of the
Friends of Fort Worden State Park and help
preserve this special place for future generations.*

Please make your tax-deductable check to
Friends of Fort Worden State Park
200 Battery Way, Port Townsend, WA 98368

Please designate my contribution to the following project(s):

Thank you for your generous support.

Name - if different from label on opposite side.

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Fort Worden Area Parks Manager's Report

Kate Burke

Starting in May, we will begin to work on energy efficient improvements at the Fort as a result of the ARRA federal funds. Fort Worden was selected among 120 applicants to receive this funding. I have broken the funding down into four areas:

Improved Lighting - We will be upgrading our lights in four buildings. It is estimated that we will be removing over 300 fixtures and replacing them with energy efficient, historically more fitting light fixtures. We have assumed that there will be fewer lights required with better illumination. The lights being removed are the old fluorescent tube lights and incandescent lights. We will also replace the outdated electric "exit" signs with replaced with LED exit sign lights.

Improved Boilers - Five boilers will be replaced in four buildings. The current boilers are oil fired and heat up water that then fills the historic radiators within the buildings. These boilers will be replaced with condensing units which will increase their efficiency. Two of the buildings are also getting storm window sashes and window repairs and improvements as well as insulation and weather stripping on exterior doors. The combined weatherization projects with the improved heating system are anticipated to increase the energy efficiency more than just replacing the old boilers.

Improved Insulation - This task will include weather stripping exterior doors of public meeting room buildings and rental accommodations in historic houses. It is estimated there are 135 exterior doors that will need weather stripping. Fiber insulation will be installed in building 310 ceiling and southern wall. The current ceiling insu-

lation has holes for the existing lights in the large main gym room. These lights, which are also scheduled to be replaced, cause the insulation to be ineffective. The heat escapes through the holes in the insulation creating on-going heat production.

Improved Windows - Reconstruct and replace hardware in historic windows in two buildings to make them operable and allow for improved heat retention and ventilation in the buildings. The work will be completed by construction through vocational training and as a hands on "lab" work for the class. Each participant will gain the knowledge and practical experience in repairing historic windows and sills, manufacturing storm sashes to fit the historic windows and then installing the storms. There will be two courses completed in two phases and will be taught by the Port Townsend School of Woodworking. The program is certified by Peninsula College which has an extension program at Fort Worden State Park.

We are very excited about this program and are anxious to reap its rewards in not just energy savings, but by providing outstanding learning opportunities to State and Federal staff, Washington Conservation Corps young adults and Veterans. Check out all the other programs we have at Fort Worden by visiting www.FortWorden.net.

Friends of Fort Worden State Park

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200 Battery Way
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History Center presents “Snippets”

by Patience Rogge

Would you like to have a first hand report of the atomic bomb tests in Nevada in the 1950s? Liberating a Nazi death camp at the end of World War II? Finding a graveyard for Army horses at Fort Worden? What happened the day the Black Panthers came to Port Townsend?

If these stories pique your interest, you can find these and more “Snippets” on the website www.fwfriends.org by clicking on Oral History Program. “Snippets” are short excerpts from the oral histories the program’s volunteers have collected since its inception in 2002.

The stories of people who have served, lived, worked or visited the Fort over its existence as a military post, a state juvenile detention facility, and a state park have been taped, transcribed and indexed to serve as a rich source of



Fort Worden Cemetery

historical information. All military interviews collected to date have been digitized to preserve them in keeping with the latest technology. Copies of tapes and transcripts are available at a small fee to cover shipping and handling. Call the Fort Worden History Center at 360.344.4481 for info.

Fair Notice

by Jean Dunbar

Here’s your opportunity to spread the word about the many wonderful activities and programs that Fort Worden has to offer the public! Volunteers are needed to staff the Fort Worden/Fort Townsend booth at the **Jefferson County Fair, August 13, 14, and 15.**

The booth will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. each day. Shifts will be scheduled for three hours. Each volunteer will be provided with an admission ticket. You can combine spending a brief time extolling the countless things happening year-round at Fort Worden with exploring the 4-H exhibits and the variety of tasty foods available at the Fair.

In 2009, only three people volunteered to help, which placed a heavy burden on the Fort Townsend Friends to keep the booth open. This year let’s do our fair share! Call Volunteer Coordinator Jean Dunbar at 360.344.4442 to sign up for a shift.



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