



FRIENDS of  
FORT WORDEN  
STATE PARK

# COMMUNIQUE

WWW.FWFRIENDS.ORG Spring 2011

## Fifth Annual Fort2Fort Bike Ride • Sunday, June 5

The Friends of Fort Worden invite you to take a ride with history! Join us as we ride from historic Fort Worden State Park 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!).

Preregistration **\$40 if postmarked by May 27, 2011**, after May 27 and day of ride \$45. Ride day begins at 8:00 a.m., and 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 27. For more infor-

### The Discover Pass

The Discover Pass will be **required as of July 1** for vehicle access to recreation lands and water-access sites managed by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), and Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The pass—which will be available for sale in mid-June—will cost **\$30 a year per vehicle or \$10 for day-use**. State recreation lands include state parks, boat launches, campgrounds, heritage sites, wildlife and natural areas, trails and trailheads.

Holders of certain types of fishing and hunting licenses, registered campers in state parks and other users are exempt from some Discover Pass requirements. For details, visit [www.discoverpass.wa.gov](http://www.discoverpass.wa.gov).

Once available, the Discover Pass can be purchased at one of nearly 600 sporting goods or other retail stores that sell hunting and fishing licenses. It will also be available by calling **toll free 1-866-320-9933**, or for purchase online. Beginning next fall, the public will be able to purchase a pass when renewing a vehicle license through the Washington State Department of Licensing. The Discover Pass or day-use pass must be visibly displayed in the front windshield of any motor vehicle.

Revenue from the Discover Pass will fill budget gaps created by the loss of State General Fund support for parks and recreation on state lands. Revenue will be split among

mation go to [www.Fort2FortRide.org](http://www.Fort2FortRide.org). Active.com will process all online registrations this year.

After the ride, join us for “RIDEFEST” in McCurdy Pavilion at Fort Worden State Park and listen to local musical talent on-stage while sipping a cool libation in our Beer Garden. This year’s sponsors include: The Food Co-op, City of Port Townsend Lodging Tax Advisory Committee, Sirens Pub, Alchemy Bistro & Wine Bar, The Broken Spoke, and Arrowleaf Web Design.

This ride benefits the Friends, and supports the park as a fundraiser 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.

the three state agencies that provide recreational access to state lands in proportion to their need for general fund replacement: 84 percent to State Parks; 8 percent to WDFW; and 8 percent to DNR.

State Parks, WDFW, and DNR jointly requested legislation that led to the creation of the Discover Pass, intended to provide revenue to maintain recreation access to state lands and meet the increasing demand for outdoor recreation. The legislation was sponsored by Sen. Kevin Ranker, D-San Juan Islands, who conducted stakeholder work and coordinated with other legislators. In addition to providing a stable source of revenue, the legislation provides reciprocal authority for law enforcement staff from each agency, which will improve public safety and help protect state resources.



#### Friends of Fort Worden State Park Board of Directors

Rick Sepler - President • Patience Rogge - Vice President  
Wendy Los - Secretary • David Sepler - Treasurer  
C. Overman - Membership • Kate Burke - Ex Officio  
Jean Dunbar, Cheryl Goerger, Gwen Lovett - At Large



200 Battery Way  
Port Townsend, WA 98368

[fwfriends.org](http://fwfriends.org)

### Fair Notice ~ 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 12, 13, and 14.**

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.



As in past years, Friends of Fort Worden will be partnering with the Friends of Fort Townsend, but a new twist for 2011 is our expanded booth. It is fun, it is easy, and is your opportunity to help spread the word about our beautiful park.

Call Volunteer Coordinator **Jean Dunbar** at (360) 344-4442 to sign up for a shift.

### Treasurer's Report

*David Sepler*

The Friends of Fort Worden Guard House Gift Shop and Visitor Information Center is currently featuring new merchandise for the coming busy season. Be sure to drop by and investigate the new colors.

Although the shop had a shortage of volunteers recently, business has been good. We continue our efforts to provide financial support for projects not covered by the State Parks budget.

### Tunnel Vision Run

On the drizzly Saturday morning of April 16, 87 runners and walkers crossed the finish line to complete the first-annual 5K Tunnel Vision fun run on Fort Worden's Artillery Hill.



The run, which included participants ranging from ages 7 to 79, was organized by **Roy Oesterhaus** of Port Townsend as a benefit for the Friends of Fort Worden. Although most of the runners/walkers were from the local area, one Bellingham resident brought ten of her friends and relatives to run with her to celebrate her thirtieth birthday. The highlight of the race for most runners was at mile one, where they went through a 160-ft. tunnel illuminated by glow sticks.

The overall winners were:

#### Male

1. Ian Fraser
2. CJ Godfrey
3. Keith Darrock

#### Female

1. Kelsi Canavan
2. Ruthie Graham
3. W. Long



*Get Set . . .*

*GO!*



## Cautious Optimism!

## Friends of Fort Worden President's Report

Rick Sepler

For some, it is just a few lines in the Senate Capital Budget:

10 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3094. FOR THE STATE PARKS AND RECREATION	
11 COMMISSION	
12 Fort Worden State Park: Building 202 Rehabilitation (30000027)	
13 Appropriation:	
14 State Building Construction Account--State . . .	\$2,627,000
15 Prior Biennia (Expenditures) . . . . .	\$0
16 Future Biennia (Projected Costs) . . . . .	\$0
17 TOTAL . . . . .	\$2,627,000

For Fort Worden, it represents being one step closer to renovating Building 202 into a Higher Education Center! Coupled with the Community and Technical College Board's \$2,000,000 investment and the City of Port Townsend's \$500,000 contribution, this project has legs!

Jefferson County is currently underserved with regards to higher education. Peninsula College has demonstrated that there is significant demand to expand its enrollment at the Fort. In addition, Goddard College currently offers two Master of Fine Arts Programs at Fort Worden and intends to expand its presence with the addition of their Bachelor of Arts program. Old Dominion University and other educational providers have expressed interest in participating in the project to create a shared wired learning center in Building 202.

As Friends, we consider ourselves to be stewards of the natural and historic built environment at the Fort. However, we aren't antiquarians – we acknowledge that part of Fort Worden's special qualities is the energy provided by its dynamic campus, which is at its best when it is bustling with activity. The Life-Long Learning Center and the Bldg. 202 project remarkably blend the preservation of all the natural elements we value at the Fort while introducing new and exciting opportunities for our community.

Next hurdle for Building 202 is to ensure that the reconciled House/Senate Capital Budget retains the funding for the project. In this regard, we are fortunate to have a very committed legislative delegation in Olympia who are informed about the project and see its value to the community. Senator Hargrove and Representatives Tharinger and Van de Wege deserve our thanks for their extraordinary efforts to date and continuing support.

As you may be aware, the Friends have supporting this effort by providing funding for the technical assistance needed to coordinate and focus efforts in support of this project. Inclusion in the Senate Capital Budget is a significant step forward for Fort Worden and its future as a Life-Long Learning Center...and the financial support of the Friends has played a significant role in making this happen!

## Things are Changing

## Fort Worden Area Parks Manager's Report

Kate Burke

State Parks will be busy implementing the new Discovery Pass for collecting revenue and keeping parks and recreation lands open starting July 1, 2011. Here at Fort Worden State Park we have numerous leaseholders and businesses and are working on how to manage their employees and business supporters. According to the new law, the pass is not required for persons who have a lease or contract with State Parks.

There are day use areas in the park that will require the Discover Pass or daily parking fee. Those parking areas will have the appropriate signs and self registration envelopes for park users.

Volunteers will receive a pass for twenty four (24) hours of service on agency sanctioned volunteer projects. We hope that the supporters of Fort Worden State Parks and State Parks in general, will purchase the Discover Pass.

In April, I dedicated the Park Office's meeting room formerly known as the Blue Room to be now known as the **Jean Dunbar Room**. We honored Jean Dunbar's more than 30 years of volunteering at Fort Worden State Park in various capacities along with her more than generous support of the park and its resident organizations. Jean has become a part of Fort Worden's history and is a vital part of our volunteer program. She is currently a Board Member for the Friends

of Fort Worden and also serves as the Chair of the Advisory Committee.

The former Blue Room went through a significant transformation and historic rehabilitation. Fort Worden's incredible maintenance staff installed new energy efficient lights, tin ceilings, new flooring (after the asbestos floor was removed) and painted. Judith Bird and Jill DeCianne worked to coordinate paint colors, furniture selections and window treatments. It is a very lovely space.



Recognition of Jean Dunbar.

We are looking forward to working with local sponsors to support Friday Night Flicks at the Fort. These will be outdoor films for the entire family to enjoy and especially our guests and visitors to the park. Look in the local newspapers for dates, times and titles.

See you around the Fort!

# 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

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## Oral History Program Wins Award

The Fort Worden Oral History Program was among the recipients of the Jefferson County Historical Society annual **Founders Day Awards** in a celebration held at the City Council Chambers on May 1.

Historical Society Director Bill Tennant presented the award to Patience Rogge, representing the Friends, and cited the program's efforts to preserve this important part of Jefferson County's heritage. In his remarks, Tennant noted that:

"The Fort Worden Oral History Program began as a part of the Fort's centennial celebration in 2002 as a project of the Friends of Fort Worden. It was organized by **Laurie Medlicott**, now a member of the Port Townsend City Council, with help from several volunteers. Fort Worden partnered with the Library of Congress American Folklife Center's Veterans History Project, which is building a nationwide database of information about people who have served in America's wars. When the centennial ended, the corps of volunteers kept the program alive."

In February of 2003, **Patience Rogge** took over running the program. Its objective is to collect oral histories to be taped, transcribed, archived, and made available for students, genealogists, writers, and historians. The entire collection tells of the real life experiences of those who served at Fort Worden during the military era; who worked or lived there during the Juvenile Diagnostic and Treatment Center days; or have visited, participated in activities, or worked at the fort since it became a state park conference center. **Val Didjurgis** undertook the huge task of archiving the interviews and photos, manuscripts and other memorabilia that people donated using the State Parks' Past Perfect program. **Margot Peart** offered to transcribe all the military interviews, which at that time numbered about 80. In 2007, **Andrea Barberi** offered to transcribe, catalog and

index the entire collection. In the past nine years, volunteers have donated hundreds of volunteer hours, mailed out hundreds of information packets, scheduled scores of interviews, and collected more than 300 oral histories. In addition to in-person interviews, they conduct telephone interviews, so people all over the world are within their reach.

In 2007, the program issued its first publication *Conversations with the 369th*, a catalog of interviews with members of the U.S. Army 369th Engineer \_\_\_\_\_, **Laurie Medlicott, Patience Rogge.**



Amphibious Support Regiment who served at Fort Worden during the Korean War era. Their stories are especially interesting, since many of the soldiers participated in the building of the US airbase at Thule, Greenland while others were sent to Camp Desert Rock, NV to take part in early atomic tests or to Bordeaux, France as part of a NATO exercise. Transcripts of all military era interviews to date have been digitized. Excerpts from the collection are posted on the Friends website **www.FWfriends.org**. Editing the transcripts is a continuing job. A collection of 100 excerpts will be published in 2013 to celebrate the centennial of Washington State Parks.

Anyone wishing to hear the tapes or to read the transcripts of any of the interviews can contact the Fort Worden History Center, 200 Battery Way, Port Townsend, WA 98368, phone (360) 344-4481 or email [info@FWfriends.org](mailto:info@FWfriends.org). Tapes and transcripts are available for a nominal fee to cover duplicating and shipping costs.