
Welcome to the Current!

We hope you enjoyed the amazing, rather unusual, sunny weather we had for much of October! November reminds us we are in the PNW with our usual wind and rain for this time of year. But we have had some interesting things happening rain or shine, so read on to find out what we have been up to in the Park including mushroom hunting, new scholarships, volunteering, Bowman Bay Holiday and more!

An Eye on the Pass...FROM MILITARY RESERVATION TO STATE PARK

Excerpt from [Two Hands and a Shovel](#)

Jack Hartt and Sam Woptipka editors

Available on Amazon (click link above)

The Deception Pass area was recognized in the middle of the nineteenth century for its potential as a location to defend against an enemy wishing to enter Puget Sound. The federal government set aside about 1700 acres of land on both sides of the Pass as a military reservation. Soldiers were stationed here during times of war. Guns on rocky promontories guarded the pass. At West Point, a searchlight scanned the waters of the strait in order to detect enemy ships at night.

None ever came.

The nearby lands and beaches had always been popular as a park with local residents, who had held picnics on the shores of Cranberry Lake and Rosario Beach for many years in the early twentieth century. Some held rallies here to raise support for building a bridge across the pass to connect Whidbey Island with Fidalgo Island and then to the main land.

When World War I ended, the United States no longer saw any military value to the reservation. President Harding

committed the land to Washington State Parks on March 25, 1922. The local Anacortes newspaper celebrated the action a few days later and the park was dedicated that year, formally creating Deception Pass State Park, one of the earliest parks in the Washington State Park system. President Coolidge signed the official deed transfer on February 11, 1925.

**Read on for a new opportunity for school field trips
and mushroom hunting!**

***Educators invited to apply for scholarship to
Deception Pass State Park***

DPPF is proud to be offering a scholarship of up to \$1000 (to offset transportation costs) to one Washington State public, private or charter school. The scholarship will fund transportation to a science- or environmental-based field trip to Deception Pass State Park in 2019 to assist under-

privileged or inner-city schools.

The deadline is December 1st - be sure to let your local teacher or school know about the opportunity, click [HERE](#) for more information!

*Northwest Mycological Association field trip
By Matthew W. Klope*

Last Saturday 10 November the Northwest Mycological Association AKA The NW Mushroomers descended onto Bowmen's Bay at Deception Pass State Park. Special arrangements were made with the Park Staff to have this seasonally closed area opened up just for this event. This event affectionately known as The Dilly Foray in honor of Clyde and Margret Dilly of Oak Harbor and longtime founding members of the Association and avid Shroomers was held this year at the park and was a huge success.

Approximately 60 Shroomers came to the event from all over western Washington armed with baskets for

collecting the delicate fungi, warm clothes and gloves. The morning was spent combing the wooded areas and collecting many different kinds of mushrooms. Some mushrooms as small as a pea and one as big as a volleyball!! Margaret was the oldest at 92 years old and the youngest was 11 years old. Everyone would find their treasures and bring them back to the CCC building where warm fires and great food welcomed them. The mushrooms were taken from the baskets and gently laid on the tables where experts in the field of mycology would identify each one. Just over 100 species of mushrooms were collected and identified. The exact number has not been verified yet due to some species are so difficult to identify that it may take weeks under a microscope. One very interesting species still to be positively identified was found by Margaret's granddaughter – a desert species not commonly found in western Washington!!! They think it was here due to the early Spring and warmer Summer temps.

This author was invited to the event and I must admit I was a bit apprehensive about the whole mushroom gathering thing

and just exactly what kind of people I would meet. I am thrilled to say I had a great time and will participate next year. What an amazing group of people, people of all walks of life with a real interest in the outdoors and the science of mushrooms. I even ate a couple of the “nice” ones. And the Cream of Mushroom soup – WOW!!! Anyway the data collected will be provided to the Park staff for long term monitoring efforts for the health of the forests.

The NW Mycological Association was founded in 1988 by Claude and Margaret Dilly and is going strong today. Additional information about this group can be found at www.northwestmushroomers.org

The month of November is the month to go and find mushrooms so there is still plenty of time to get out there and find the Fungi!!!

Side note!

One of the Rangers found a cool mushroom while walking through the Forest Loop of the Cranberry Lake Campground a couple of weeks ago. This mushroom is commonly known as Fly Amanita- easily identified by its bright red cap spotted

with white warts. It likes to grow beneath evergreen trees and is highly poisonous.

Want to know more about Amanita species in the PNW? Click [HERE!](#)

Volunteers help clean up the Park office!

A group of dedicated eight Foundation volunteers answered the call and spent a recent Saturday morning cleaning up the gardens in front of the Administration Building. It was a beautiful day, though chilly, and the group got a lot accomplished. Stay tuned...there is still more to do!

A big thank you to Jane, Suzie, Pat, Michelle, Lauren, B., Lynda, and Lori.

Keep reading to find out what is happening
in the Park!

Don't miss State Park Free Days!

Don't miss the last Washington State Parks free day of 2018 when the Discover Pass will not be required to visit a state park.

Nov. 23 — Autumn day

Please note, free days apply only to day use (not overnight stays or rented facilities), A Discover Pass will still be required on these days to access lands managed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Upcoming Events!

4th Annual BOWMAN BAY HOLIDAY 2018

Please join us as we celebrate our 4th annual holiday fundraiser at Deception Pass State Park Saturday, December 15th, 2018 at Bowman Bay. Festivities run from 4-8pm. There will be a \$5 suggested per car donation. Enjoy hot chocolate, delicious baked goods, see Park cabins lit up, pictures with Santa, Toys for Tots drop off location, carolers, write holiday letters to service men and women, and feel warmed by the fire. There will be crafts for the kids and more! Remember to wear warm clothes, rain boots, and to bring a flashlight! This family-friendly event supports and promotes the Deception Pass Park Foundation's mission of resource protection through education. All money raised goes to the direct benefit and enhancement of educational programs in the Park. Although a fundraiser, the Foundation's main goals are to connect with visitors in a fun and festive way during the off season, and build stronger relationships with the community and other

organizations For more

info: <http://www.deceptionpassfoundation.org/news/bbh/>

WANT TO HELP WITH THIS EVENT?

We need:

- *Firewood - half a cord dry split, ideally delivered to Bowman Bay 1-2 days before the event on the 15th
- *10x10 pop-up canopies (2) or larger
- *Quiet generators (2)
- *Pick up and return of four patio heaters from Oak Harbor
- *Long extension cords, power strips - well marked with your name
- *As well as volunteers for set up, the event and take down (see volunteer section below)

First Day Hike!!

Kick off the New Year with a FIRST DAY HIKE! Deception Pass State Park welcomes in the new year with a scenic hike along the Pacific Northwest Trail. Beginning at Bowman Bay,

park staff will guide hikers along the Pacific Northwest Trail
to Rosario Head.

Keep reading about how you can help DPPF!

Volunteer opportunities!

Have you ever considered volunteering at
Deception Pass State Park? There are a variety of
ways that you can be involved, here are just a few:

Here are some Holiday Events:

*Bowman Bay Holiday: Dec 15th, 4-8 PM. Help with
family fun in December- crafts, music, treats, lights!
We will need help for decorating and set-up (13th
and 14th), during the event (15th), and cleanup after

(16th). We especially need some help with parking detail, and some fire elves to keep the fires stoked. (light wood splitting needed)

*First Day Hike: Jan 1st, 10 AM. Free day at the park. Come join the 2 mile hike beginning at Bowman Bay or help serve refreshments.

*State of the Park night: March 16, come hear our park manager address plans for the next year, meet our 2019 Americor, give your input, or help on the committee.

*Interpretive Activities in Park: Do you have an area of expertise to share? Walks, Docents, Beach Naturalist, Interpretive training/activities increasing in the spring

Regular volunteer opportunities:

*Adopt a Trail: agree to walk a trail every couple weeks, look for issues.

***Beach Naturalist Program: training every spring for Rosario tide pool activities, which continue all summer.**

***Bowman Bay Holiday: help with family fun in December - crafts, music, lights!**

***Discovery Center at Rosario: we need docents/interpreters for this center. Also a new Interpretive Center is opening next year at Bowman Bay! This historical center will need a dedicated staff to cover its hours.**

***Special Events: annual First Day hike, amphitheater programs, interpretive walks, merchandise sales at events.**

24 hours of volunteering qualifies you for a free Discover Pass

Stay Tuned! New docent/ interpretive opportunities coming soon!

Contact us for more information:

Deceptionpassfoundation@gmail.com

DPPF WISH LIST

Want to help older household items and equipment be re-used and have a new life?

DPPF can help!

[Contact us](#) if you have any times you think may be useful that you can give as in In-Kind donation.

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