



Rockfish Valley Foundation

Enhancing the Quality of Life and Celebrating the People, Land, and History of the Rockfish Valley. www.rockfishvalley.org // contact@rockfishvalley.org



Volunteer Newsletter: Hosts Needed

Issue 4: Major Request - Museum Hosts Needed



Natural History Center from outside



An interior exhibit of the Center

Take The Tour: Watch Immanol Barragan explore the Natural History Center in RVF's latest video. Please click [HERE](#).

Letter from Peter Agelasto, CHAIRMAN EMERITUS of Rockfish Valley Foundation

Greetings to our Nelson Friends. It is my pleasure to bring good news from RVF and its Natural History Center *museum*. I also want to let you know how you can help make sure it stays open. Hard to think it was closed before Thanksgiving weekend in 2019! On Saturday, June 26th it opens at noon with volunteer hosts and closes at 4 p.m..

Yes... we have a new exhibit and feel comfortable calling it a museum but won't change the name from Natural History Center. It's been open since 2012. The trails began in 2004. The purpose of this email is to alert you to our need for hosts and tell you how to express interest or seek to learn more. Send RVF an email to volunteer@rockfishvalley.org asking us to contact you. You can be an ambassador and spread the word.

The decision until we have a larger number of hosts is to open the NHC from **noon to four** on weekends. That means those comfortable will serve two hours or four hours with or without a partner. Until capacity grows that means some will hopefully serve a four hour shift. **Bruce Slater, a super volunteer**, has kindly agreed to set up the calendar system that was used last year and has agreed to manage it for this year. Again, it is called signup.com. If you express interest this is how the schedule works.

June 16th from 9am-12pm is a Spruce Creek Park workday. It is really looking nice and even more popular. On June 16th from 11am-12pm there will be access for you to look around the NHC museum. Michael Lachance will be available to answer questions. Let us know your interest as **Betsy and I will host a dry rehearsal at 11am on June 23rd**. By that time the shake down and fix up should be close to ready for this season.

When we open at noon on Saturday, June 26th, Immanuel Barragan, star of the NHC museum video, will join with Milton Hudson, husband of Sharon Hudson, trustee, and Peter and Betsy Agelasto as hosts.

If you have not seen the short video, you can watch it [HERE](#).

One thing we will continue to try and do is open for groups during the week with adequate notice. If you are interested in helping other times let us know by emailing volunteer@rockfishvalley.org.

That's all for now. Thank you so much for your part in making RVF what it is and this wonderful exhibit space available again to the public. A lot is happening. On June 23rd, we will speak about several upcoming new resources at RVF facilities including StoryWalk, EnLit and PictureThis.

Old Wintergreen Day: July 4th 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Our big summer event including the museum will be July 4th from 11am to 4pm known as Old Wintergreen Day. There will be about 20 old time exhibitors, food and raffles for a fire truck ride and a glider ride. Yes, a glider over the Rockfish Valley! **Volunteer** for set up, parking, welcoming visitors with envelopes, and taking trash. Share the history of this historic crossroad in Nelson County with your neighbors.



UPCOMING RVF VOLUNTEER WORK DAY: June 16th, 9am-12pm

Tasks:

1. Removing weeds that have encroached onto the surfaced trails about:
 - a. Children's Nature Trail
 - b. Stream-side Native Plant Walk
 - c. Walkways around the Natural History Center (Grand Reopening is June 26th!)
2. Adding crushed stone to rough areas and low spots on the trail
3. Weeding about beds where stands of native plant have been planted
4. Mulching about new trees with shredded bark in lawn area to facilitate mowing
5. Depending if we get rain or not, we may need to water plants planted this spring



If you can, please bring the following tools and supplies:

- Work gloves
- Water bottle
- Hoe for roguing weedy tufts of grass from the trail
- Hard tined garden-rakes for evenly spreading out the material on the trails

- Trowels
- Flat and pointed end shovels, preferably with long handles
- Pitchfork
- Pruners loppers
- Garden totes
- Garden cart
- Wheelbarrow

* Extra tools and two wheelbarrows will also be on site *

WISH LIST: Have unused gardening tools? RVF is also in need of a **donation** of any of the aforementioned items for use in Spruce Creek Park.

Additional Request: Help us get better organized by downloading and completing the volunteer application available [HERE](#). This will help us keep in touch with you, help you receive our monthly volunteer newsletter and let you know of upcoming activities.

We hope to see you next Wednesday!