FOYL Welcomes New Executive Director Kori Copp

“I’d like to introduce myself as the new Executive Director for Friends of Yaquina Lighthouses. It is an honor to be involved in an organization that aids in the preservation of such important landmarks in Newport’s history. While serving on the FOYL board and multiple committees in the past, I enjoyed discovering more about the history of our lighthouses and the projects which are restoring them to their original grandeur. Through increased memberships, volunteer participation, and grant-funded program development, FOYL is achieving its mission every day.”

Discover Yaquina App Launch

Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural area joined the world of digital engagement on June 21 with the launch of the Discover Yaquina App. The interactive, place-based app allows visitors of all ages to explore Yaquina Head’s resources with their smart devices as their guide. Developed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management and Friends of Yaquina Lighthouses, the app features a GPS-guided nature-based scavenger hunt, the ability to post and view field tips, and the opportunity to share experiences through social media. The app will help to connect the next generation of visitors to park resources including diverse seabirds, marine mammals, and a variety of creatures that live in rocky shore habitats.

“With these apps, we can reach exponentially more coastal visitors and residents with a fun and interactive experience that leaves them with a greater awareness and appreciation of Oregon Coast’s seabirds and their habitats,” said Dawn Harris, Visitor Services Manager for the Oregon Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

The app, built by Discover Nature Apps, is free to download; simply search for “Discover Nature Apps” on iTunes or the Google Play Store.

Yaquina Bay Fire Hazard Mitigation Project Update

The first phase of the Yaquina Bay Fire Mitigation project has been completed thanks to a Preserving Oregon Grant from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The work included the relocation of electrical panels and conduit runs, the application of fire sealant to all duct penetrations, construction of a one-hour furnace room, the installation of fire doors and vestibule at the bottom of the stairs, and a new fire wall between the utility wing and the main lighthouse which provides a one hour fire separation between the utility room and the historic lighthouse.

The completed work has significantly improved the building’s ability to resist a catastrophic fire and provides safe exit routes for people in the basement. By placing one hour fire resistive construction around all potential sources of ignition and closing off the bottom of the stairs, the ability of a fire to start in the basement and move quickly to the upper floors of the lighthouse has been significantly reduced.
Phil Ewers Named Chamber of Commerce Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Phil Ewers for winning the Greater Newport Chamber of Commerce Employee of the Month Award in June. Phil has been working for FOYL at the Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area gift shop since June 2014. He is the definition of an exemplary employee due to his reliability, dedication to customer service, and readiness to volunteer for tasks that go above and beyond expectations. Winning the Employee of the Month Award will also make Phil eligible for the Chamber’s Employee of the Year Award. Thank you Phil for your dedication and hard work!

Phil Ewers (center) receives his award from Store Manager Larimee Ward (right) and FOYL Executive Director Kori Copp (left).

Upcoming Events

★ Lighted Boat Parade
Saturday, December 5 at 5:00 PM
Mo’s Annex on the Bayfront
Join us for the parade and a raffle.
$22 ticket includes dinner, a non-alcoholic drink and one raffle ticket.
★ Victorian Holiday
Yaquina Head Interpretive Center
Saturday, December 12, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Fee Free Day at YHONA
Join costumed lighthouse keepers and musicians for performances and caroling. Refreshments and craft supplies provided.

New And Renewing Members


*Special thanks to Sheri & Mark Miranda for becoming platinum members.*

Volunteer Call to Action

We are seeking a variety of skills and talents to help at fundraising events, assist in the office or bookstore, and participate in special committees. We’d love it if you would be willing to share your interests and skills with FOYL! Have fun and make a difference for Newport’s Lighthouses and programs. Contact Kori at 541-574-3129 or foyl@yaquinalights.org if you’d like to know more about what you can do to help Newport’s lighthouses.

Volunteers assist with the 2015 Seafood and Wine Festival (left) and the Lincoln County Fair (right).

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Lighthouse Fun Fact!

Yaquina Head Lighthouse’s First Order Fresnel lens weights approximately 6,400 pounds (over 3 tons)! The lens itself accounts for about 3,100 pounds and the pedestal, cabinet, and deck combine for another 3,300 pounds.