



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mount Rainier National Park
Tahoma Woods, Star Route
Ashford, Washington 98304-9751

March 16, 2010

Hartzog Award Selection Committee:

We are very pleased to offer this letter of support nominating of Jim and Carol Miltimore for a George Hartzog Jr. Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service. We work with many hundreds of volunteers at Mount Rainier National Park, but Jim and Carol stand out from the crowd in their level of commitment and quality of service.

Jim began volunteering with us in 2005 as a backcountry ranger on the east side of the park, and was soon joined by his wife Carol. Over the years their involvement has steadily increased. They presently have a combined 11,715 hours of volunteer time (Jim 5,926 hours and Carol 5,789 hours) as of February 28, 2010.

When volunteers were needed to help rebuild the Glacier Basin Trail after a pair of devastating storms in late 2006, they were literally at the front of the crowd breaking ground on the new trail. When we needed someone to help remove old wiring from the backcountry, Jim and Carol said "we can do that," and took on what has become a multi-year project. When we needed volunteers to organize our museum collections, photographic archives, and historical records, a critical but sometimes tedious job, they immediately volunteered, and have exceeded our highest expectations in their productivity and the quality of their work. For the past three winters, they have worked on various curatorial projects. These projects involved identification of thousands of historic photographs and cataloging, a library system conversion; as well as cataloging plant and mammal specimens, and assisting in moving the museum collection.

It is a measure of the Miltimores' commitment to Mount Rainier and the National Park Service that whenever something comes along that needs to get done, they are invariably at the front of the line to volunteer, saying "we can do that!" They have participated in our new Citizen Science program, surveying amphibians and conducting soundscape monitoring. They have helped with native habitat restoration, seed collection for our greenhouse, and "Meadow Roving" on the trails above Paradise - educating the park visitor on the etiquette of hiking in the subalpine meadows. They're now working with our park archeologist to organize field records. Before long, they will undoubtedly have enough experience, and knowledge of the resources

and operations at Mount Rainier, to serve as its superintendent! We have no doubt that, if needed, they would promptly volunteer.

It is a pleasure and an inspiration to work with volunteers like Jim and Carol Miltimore. They inspire everyone around them through their tireless and selfless dedication and enthusiasm. They embody the spirit and mission of the National Park Service as well as any permanent employee. Their efforts are truly appreciated and valued. We can think of no one more deserving to be honored and thanked for their outstanding volunteer service.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy King". The signature is fluid and extends to the right.

Randy King
Acting Superintendent

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger Andrascik". The signature is fluid and extends to the right.

Roger Andrascik
Acting Deputy Superintendent