

Friends of Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Fundraising for Park Projects, Programs, and Partners

In Calendar Year 2006, Friends of the Smokies provided \$1,253,192.85 to support Park needs in the areas of Natural Resource Preservation and Management, Educational and Visitor Services, Cultural Resource Preservation, Trail and Backcountry Management, Frontcountry and Facility Improvements, Visitor and Resource Protection, and Parkwide Needs and Initiatives. While Friends of Great Smoky Mountains National Park continued to fund programs in these important categories, 2006 saw the grand opening of the Appalachian Highlands Science Learning Center at Purchase Knob, refurbished in part through a generous grant of \$75,000 from Friends Emeritus Board Member Kathryn McNeil, former resident and owner of Purchase Knob. Friends of the Smokies, Great Smoky Mountain Association and the National Park Service each provided funding to support this project. The facility is now a welcoming residential learning environment for visiting scientists from all over the world who come to the Smokies to study the unique biological diversity found in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Natural Resource Preservation and Management- \$443,581.13

- ♣ Helped suppress the invasion of the hemlock wooly adelgid- \$137,934.03
- ♣ Monitor acid deposition effects on streams- \$105,000.00
- ♣ Support for ATBI/Discover Life In America- \$66,765.00
- ♣ Provide additional support for the Lindsay Young Beneficial Insects Laboratory at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville- \$50,000.00
- ♣ Support park wildlife programs- \$19,091.00
- ♣ Support the the Appalachian Bear Center- \$10,000.00
- ♣ Improve the storage and display of the Park's passenger pigeon display (new case) \$5,500.00
- ♣ Support a summer intern for the park's fisheries program- \$3,600.00
- ♣ Support the park's feral hog eradication program- \$4,989.75
- ♣ Maintain Fraser fir restoration plots at Purchase Knob- \$2,001.35
- ♣ Support research on peregrine falcons and grassland birds- \$700.00
- ♣ Support for air quality initiatives- \$38,000.00

Educational and Visitor Services- \$473,450.20

- ♣ Support Parks As Classrooms in TN and NC- \$114,461.53
- ♣ Support seasonal resource education programs- \$74,505.55
- ♣ Support educational programs at Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont- \$161,956.25
- ♣ Support Parks as Classrooms programs & high school science internships at the Appalachian Highlands Science Learning Center at Purchase Knob- \$38,441.24
- ♣ Provide seasonal ranger support for park visitor centers- \$34,831.94
- ♣ Support enrichment programs for NC science teachers- \$30,296.46
- ♣ Revise and expand the Junior Ranger program, in conjunction with the National Park Foundation- \$15,000.00
- ♣ Sponsorship of the 56th Annual Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage- \$3,957.23

Cultural Resource Preservation \$40,885.48

- ♣ Restore historic fences in Cades Cove- \$12,618.00
- ♣ Support historic preservation projects- \$24,778.87
- ♣ Support emergency stabilization of Elijah Oliver cabin- \$2,488.61
- ♣ Support National Park Foundation's Avent Cabin Endowment- \$1,000.00

<u>Trail and Backcountry Management</u>	<u>\$90,937.65</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ Support backcountry trails programs, including the Appalachian Trail Ridgerunners and the Rocky Top Trail Crew- \$45,512.55 ♣ Install new wayside exhibits along Newfound Gap Road- \$20,000.00 ♣ Renovate the Cosby Knob Shelter- \$11,000.00 ♣ Make improvements to Cataract Falls Trail- \$6,000.00 ♣ Provide bear-proof food storage cabling at backcountry sites- \$3,993.13 ♣ Signage and support for Oconaluftee River Trail- \$3,632.33 ♣ Support "Leave No Trace" educational programs- \$799.64 	
<u>Frontcountry and Facility Improvements</u>	<u>\$81,530.72</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ Provide operational support for Purchase Knob- \$17,450.26 ♣ Support Purchase Knob refurbishing- \$40,247.58 ♣ Purchase and promote use of a new recycling trailer for the Park's South District- \$14,567.05 ♣ Provide temporary sanitary facilities at Cataloochee Valley- \$4,354.05 ♣ Provide temporary sanitary facilities at Townsend Wye- \$4,911.78 	
<u>Visitor and Resource Protection-</u>	<u>\$30,711.68</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ Provide support for an officer safety initiative- \$25,000.00 ♣ Support the Volunteer Visitor Assistance Program- \$3,998.35 ♣ Support search and rescue efforts- \$1,713.33 	
<u>Parkwide Needs and Initiatives-</u>	<u>\$91,795.99</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ Support Student Conservation Association internship program- \$83,390.00 ♣ Support the Volunteers In Parks program- \$6,462.00 ♣ Support park partnerships- \$1,943.99 	
<u>Other Park-directed Needs and Initiatives</u>	<u>\$300.00</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ Support for Kolodski memorial- \$300.00 	

Total Support for Park Projects and Programs in Calendar Year 2006 \$1,253,192.85