



# The Chinook Trek

Volume One

Winter 1989-90

Number One

## Trail boosters note progress in first year

The Chinook Trail Association ends its first year of existence with more than 100 charter members, money in the bank, and strong optimism for continued individual and corporate support such as that already received.

A \$5,320 grant from Recreational Equipment, Inc., enabled the Association to get off the ground and running as an organization. Thanks to REI, the Association was able to publish and distribute its first brochure and meet other necessary initial expenses.

"REI is deeply committed to trails, and the Chinook Trail is an exciting concept," said Steve Hemplemann, REI's Portland area store manager at Jantzen Beach.

So far the biggest corporate help has come from a Japanese-owned electronics firm, SEH America, which operates a silicon wafer plant near Vancouver. The firm granted funds and organized services of nine contractors and suppliers to build a \$19,000 bridge across Burnt Bridge Creek on the Ellen Davis Trail in Vancouver.

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### CTA annual dinner coming January 22

The first annual meeting of the Chinook Trail Association will be held on the evening of January 22 at the Red Lion at the Quay, Vancouver. Ruth McFarland, former member of the Oregon House of Representatives, will speak on "Rambling Through Time and Distance in the Columbia River Gorge."

For reservations, call (206) 694-1648 or 694-4033 by January 18.



The Chinook Trail—a long, long trail a' windin'—will end here at Maryhill in Washington before crossing the Columbia River and continuing downstream to Portland.

## In quest of The Chinook Trail

This is the first issue of The Chinook Trek, newsletter of the Chinook Trail Association. The CTA is a year-old organization of citizens dedicated to the completion of a recreational trail loop through the Columbia River Gorge.

The Chinook Trail was so named to honor the Native Americans living for thousands of years along the Columbia River.

Beginning at Vancouver Lake, near Vancouver, Washington, the Chinook Trail will utilize the urban Discovery and Ellen Davis Trails to reach the Chelatchie railroad right-of-way. Leaving the railroad at Moulton Falls, the trail will climb to its highest point, 4,390-foot Silver Star Mountain, where Don Cannard and Ed Robertson first got the idea for the loop trail three years ago.

From Silver Star, the trail will descend into the Washougal River drainage and then climb to Three Corner Rock. Here it will meet the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail before meandering onto the rims of the Columbia River Gorge and continuing upstream to Maryhill State Park, some 100 air miles from Vancouver.

The trail will cross into Oregon at Biggs and will turn westward toward Portland, eventually linking with that city's 40-Mile Loop Trail system.

Wherever possible, the Chinook Trail will use trails already built, but much new construction will be required—some 70 percent in Washington,

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# Chinook Trail concept earns wide endorsement

By Don Cannard

Organizations, corporations and individuals desire to identify with successful and viable ideas and activities. The Chinook Trail is proving to be one of those concepts which is attracting broad support.

Several state and county organizations are actively supporting the concept of a Columbia River loop trail—the Chinook Trail.

The Oregon State Parks Department's and Trails Advisory Council (Peter Bond, coordinator) states in its letter of endorsement: "The Trails Advisory Council unanimously endorse the Association and its effort to build a trail around the Gorge."

Hood River County Administrator Don Briggs, speaking on behalf of the Board of Commissioners states, "The Hood River Board of Commissioners endorse the proposal of the Chinook Trail Association to develop a Columbia River Gorge loop trail."

Clark County Commissioners Dave Sturdevant, John McKibbin and John Magnano expressed their support with these words, "We

share your ambitious vision of multi-use trails linking various greenways, parks, and natural areas of Washington and Oregon in and around the Gorge."

Mark Egger, President of the Washington Native Plant Society states, "We are fully supportive of your efforts and will... alert our members... to support the trail..."

Alan Anderson, President of the Ptarmigans says, "A Columbia River Gorge loop trail will be an excellent addition" to the Pacific Northwest hiking opportunities.

The litany of endorsements and support grows each week and as each membership is received. Individuals are responding with their dollars and offers of assistance.

Our list of volunteers continues to grow.

Elsewhere in this issue we refer to the commitment Recreational Equipment Incorporated (REI) has given to the Chinook Trail, and the Shin Etsu Corporation's generosity in making the Friendship Bridge possible.

Vista Type of Vancouver gives freely of its talented staff to assist us with our brochure, newsletter, and other print layout needs.

James River Corporation meets our paper needs for publications.

It is this type of tangible support which is helping to make the Chinook Trail a reality for present and future generations of recreationists to enjoy the grandeur of the Columbia River Gorge.

## CTA looks back on year of progress

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The Davis Trail, honoring 86-year old Ellen Davis, will be a 2.6 mile urban link to the planned Chinook Trail. The new span is named The Friendship Bridge, standing "as a symbol of our company's and our community's eternal hope for world peace," said Isao Iwashita, SEH America president.

Other grant applications are pending, including one to REI specifically for work on the critical Moulton Falls to Washougal River segment of the Chinook Trail.

Most recently, Southwest Washington Independent Forward Trust (SWIFT) has approved a \$500 grant request. Financial support will also be sought from other corporations, foundations and

organizations interested in helping to finance work on the Chinook Trail.

CTA members Karyl Ramsey and Paul Clare serve as the CTA Grant Writing Committee, and welcome any suggestions for possible funding sources.

Other contributions this far include paper stock from the James River Corporation and typography/publications layout by Vista Type of Vancouver.

Meanwhile, the Chinook Trail Association's charter membership has grown to 105, providing membership dues of \$1,940. At this writing, receipts have totalled \$7,140 with expenditures of \$4,715.65, leaving a balance of \$2,424.35 in the CTA treasury.

## Many challenges face trail advocates

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and 50 percent in Oregon. Most of the trail will be within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area administered by the USDA Forest Service. Congress, in passing the 1986 Gorge legislation, authorized the expenditure of \$10 million for recreational development. Chinook Trail advocates hope a fair share of that money can go for trails.

Completion of the Chinook Trail will require an enormous amount of cooperation between local, state and federal agencies, and private ownerships outside public lands.

The bald eagle, depicted in the Chinook Trail Association logotype and letterhead, offers an insight into the enthusiasm of Chinook Trail backers. The eagle is not uncommon in the Gorge, and figures prominently in the culture of Native Americans. The great raptor is also our National symbol, and an inspiration for those who would attempt the difficult or the challenging.

### Chinook Trail Association

P.O. Box 997, Vancouver, WA 98666-0997



The Chinook Trek is published at least four times yearly by the Chinook Trail Association. Members of the Association's Board of Directors are:

**Bobbi Bindreiff, Chair**  
**Don Cannard**  
**Paul Clare**  
**Lawrence Devroy**  
**Jan. T. Fancher**  
**Jim Hughes**  
**Dovie Lance**  
**Angie Laughlin**  
**Liz Perry**  
**Ed Robertson**  
**Jayne Sanders**

The Internal Revenue Service has ruled that the Chinook Trail Association is a not-for-profit organization under Section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.



# Clark County link planned

The Chinook Trail Association has formed a Clark County committee under Vancouver attorney Steve Tubbs to work for establishment and development of the Chinook Trail within the county's borders.

Tubbs, together with Don Cannard and Robert Wallis of Wallis Engineering met in early 1989 with county officials. The meeting led to the promise of including the future Chinook Trail in a county planning review of proposed developments, particularly along the Chelatchie Prairie railroad corridor.

Meanwhile on the east side of the county, Fred Pickering of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources has been instrumental in identifying potential routes through DNR ownership to tie in with an existing trail system between Cold Creek and Tarbell Campgrounds.

Grant applications have been submitted to fund heavy equipment, and construction is expected to start this spring. The committee's attention now is focused on identification of specific routes between Moulton Falls Park and Silver Star, so that crews can begin work when equipment is available, weather permits and volunteers can be marshalled.

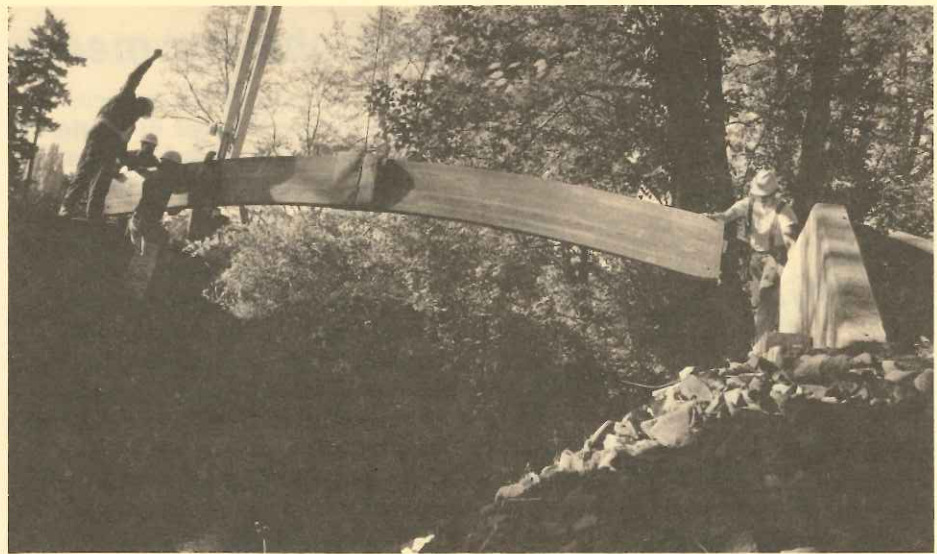
"Each day brings a clearer vision of the trail to be a vital link in the Chinook Trail from Vancouver to and through the Columbia Gorge," said Tubbs.

## Map to show Chinook Trail routing

Work is nearing completion on a map showing the proposed location of the Chinook Trail in detail. When all the pieces are fitted together, the original map covers a large dining room table.

A meandering line representing the trail route will translate to more than 200 miles of up, down and around walking or horsebacking to get from Vancouver to Maryhill and across the Columbia River back to Portland, according to calculations of the mapmakers.

Martin Zanni, an intern with Wallis Engineering of Vancouver, is putting final touches on the map. His employer, Robert Wallis, is a Chinook Trail Association



Workmen raise a wood laminated beam for the Friendship Bridge crossing Burnt Bridge Creek on the Ellen Davis Trail.

## 'Friendship Bridge' spans creek on Vancouver's Ellen Davis Trail

The 2.6-mile Ellen Davis Trail in Vancouver nears completion this month with construction of a bridge over Burnt Bridge Creek. The bridge is a contribution of the Shin Etsu Corporation, parent company of SEH America, a computer chip manufacturing business. The bridge is being built by the S.D. Deakon Construction Company.

The bridge is located north of Vancouver's Leverich Park, and east of the I-5 freeway near where the J.D. Ross Gardens were located years ago.

Dedicated to international peace and understanding, the span

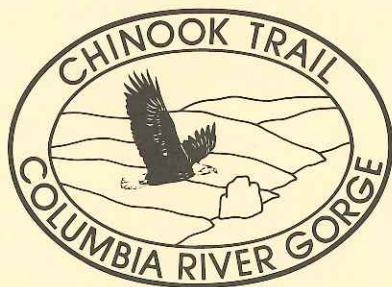
will be known as the Friendship Bridge.

The Ellen Davis Trail project exemplifies community cooperation with more than 3,500 hours of volunteer effort; eight Eagle Scout awards; an REI grant, a Fred Meyer Charitable Trust grant and local business contributions. Local, state and federal agencies cooperated to secure the trail easements.



Ellen Davis visits with Isao Iwashita, SEH America President.





Now available is the Chinook Trail Association's official patch, a multi-colored fabric design featuring the CTA eagle soaring against a backdrop of sky and Columbia River Gorge topography.

The patch was designed for the Association by a Portland graphic artist, Gail Saunders, who also designed the CTA letterhead and newsletter nameplate.

Cost of the patches is \$3 each, with profits from this and other sale items going toward trail right-of-way acquisition and construction.

Patches may be ordered by calling (206) 694-1648.

## Riverfront trail planned for The Dalles

The Chinook Trail Association has been represented on The Dalles Riverfront Plan Advisory Committee since January, 1989. The eleven month planning process concluded in October. One of the goals of the participating agencies (Wasco County, City of The Dalles, Port of The Dalles and the National Park Service) was to make the Columbia

River accessible to the public.

A 10-mile waterfront urban trail linking The Dalles Dam, the Columbia River Gorge and the National Scenic Area's Interpretive Center at Crates Point was developed by the Advisory Committee. This proposed trail is the "glue" which holds the plan together.

## CTA charter membership exceeds 100

The Chinook Trail Association begins its second year of existence with 105 charter memberships.

Here is the total charter membership list:

Ed Robertson, Don and Sue Cannard, William Milton, Liz Perry, Robert and Donna Levin, Dovie Lance, Paul Clare, Bobbi Bindreiff, Jayne Sanders and family, Ben and Angie Laughlin, Gillian Wallis, Paul Snoey, Zachary Stoumbos.

Shirley B. Ingram and Ronald Smith\*, John G. Wadsworth, William J. Lodge and Jeannie A. Brust, Thornton Thomas, Louise B. Helleck, David S. and Patricia G. Barrows\*, Jan T. Fancher, Jim and Priscilla Hughes, Daniel M. Ogden, Jr., Clarence L. Paul, Harold Lee, Lynn V. Major, Donald J. and Julie C. Sterling, Jr.

Bruce and Virginia Weber, Robert L. Liberty, Philip A. and Susan Foster, Daniel J. Sheehan,

Gayle Rothrock, Pamela Jacklin, Antony and Kathy Bevis, Lynda Sacamano, Mitchell Bower, Jr.\*, Peter O. Bond, Beverly Cobb, Natalie Arndt, Ray C. Davis, Heather G. Rosenwinkel, Kurt Burkholder, Christine Hendricks Shields, Jane Macnab Dow.

Katharine Diack, Dorothy E. Sainz, Robert Randolph, William H. Crispin, Ray Dryott, Margarey L. Reed, Joan M. Murphy, Richard O. and Diane H. Thomas, Jeff W. Lloyd, Carroll Davis, Judith Clayton and Thomas R. Kovaric, Keith T. Henson, Holly E. Hardin, Ricky Bollinger, Laura Lee Ellis, Don M. Anderson, W. C. Bender and Karyl A. Ramsey, Ted R. Klump, Saeed Ahmed, Georgia L. Slack.

Frank Lackaff, Mark Melman, Eugene V. Henschel, Roger Sands, Walter B. and Beatrice R. Neuburg, Patricia L. Burnet, Scott and Jeanne Coffie, Candance D. Morgan, Beverly K. Ehlinger, L. Allan Gay, MD, and Jocelyn F. Gay, Rob R. and Pat L. Pabst, Chris and Tina Cannard, Roger Cole, Ben Kuehn, K. P. Childs, Kenneth Denniston, Lawrence Devroy, John S. Wondrack\*, Bobbie Nelson, Philip Hamilton.

(\*indicates sustaining membership)



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