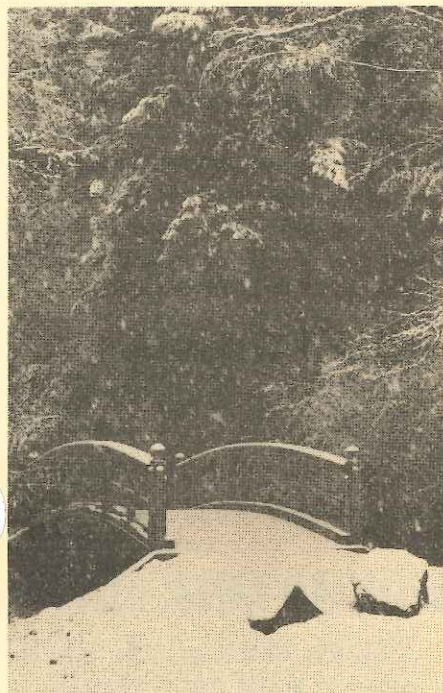


Volume Two

Spring 1991

Number One



Winter scenes like this are becoming only a memory, and volunteers will soon begin another season of effort on the Chinook Trail system. Photo shows fresh snow on Friendship Bridge of the Ellen Davis Trail link to the Chinook Trail.

—Jim Hughes photo

Phase One momentum continues

Design, planning and layout of the Chinook Trail for Phase One—Vancouver to the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail—is progressing nicely.

Eight work parties totalling nearly 800 hours in 1990 brushed out the previously identified route from the existing Tarbell Trail to Silver Star Mountain. A 1990 grant from Southwest Washington Independent Forward Thrust (SWIFT) financed the service of a backhoe to obliterate an abandoned fire lane along the projected treadway.

Additional planning, design and layout is currently underway on a trail segment from Moulton Falls to Cold Creek Campground on Washington Department of Natural Resources land in Clark County. On-paper layout suggests that this portion will be about seven miles long.

Basaltic cliffs, isolated cathedral Douglas-fir remnants of the Yacolt Burn, and Lewis River tributaries cascading down steep slopes carpeted with sword fern are some of the treats

awaiting hikers when this portion of the Chinook Trail is completed.

The Moulton Falls-Cold Creek segment will be a moderately difficult trail with grades up to 15 percent. It will also pose some difficult construction problems due to the steep slopes and solid basalt outcrops, but the rewards should be great.

—Don Cannard

Volunteers lauded at annual meeting

Chinook Trail Association members and friends looked back with satisfaction on past-year accomplishment as they attended the CTA annual meeting in November at Multnomah Falls Lodge.

Many of those present were among the volunteers who contributed a total of 800 hours to locate, flag and brush two miles of the Chinook Trail in 1990.

The work was accomplished on eight separate days to extend the trail up the westerly slope of Silver Star Mountain.

Two of the volunteer trailbuilders, Ted Klump and Bill Milton, received special honors at the annual meeting. The two participated in most of the 1990 work parties.

Also recognized were Boyd Jacobson for his efforts on The Dalles Waterfront Trail; Richard Rubicam for maintaining CTA membership and other computerized files; and Clarence Edwards for his solo efforts in maintaining the Ellen Davis Trail, an urban Vancouver link to the Chinook Trail.

Other volunteers who served with

(Continued on Page Two)

New SWIFT Grant for Chinook Trail

For the second year in a row, Southwest Washington Independent Forward Thrust (SWIFT) has awarded a grant for Chinook Trail construction.

The new grant will support construction of a short trail segment to accommodate physically challenged persons.

The wide, barrier-free trail will extend for about one-quarter mile from Cold Creek Campground to reach a delightful waterfall on nearby

Cedar Creek. The short link will be part of the Chinook Trail. A bridge is planned at the falls site.

The planned link for physically challenged is an example of how the Chinook Trail is intended to serve a variety of user groups.

"We are indebted to the SWIFT board of directors for the confidence they have shown in the Chinook Trail Association by making this grant," said CTA President Karyl Ramsey.

The Chinook Trail: "a legacy worth passing on"

By Karyl Ramsey
President,
Chinook Trail Association

I have lived in Vancouver, Washington, for seven years, and find the community to be developing support around issues that are important to me personally: culture, education and environment.

Born and raised in California, I

Chinook Trail Association

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



The Chinook Trek is the newsletter of the Chinook Trail Association, an organization dedicated to the completion of a recreational loop trail through the Columbia River Gorge.

Karyl Ramsey, president
Dovie Lance, vice president
Ted Klump, treasurer
Betty Rae Daugherty,
secretary

Board of Directors

Karyl Ramsey, Dovie Lance, Ted Klump, Betty Rae Daugherty, Roberta Bindreiff, Donald Cannard, Paul Clare, Lawrence Devroy, Jan T. Fancher, Florence Wager, Edward Robertson, Robert Tokarczyk, Boyd Jacobsen

Jim Hughes, editor

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.

We gratefully acknowledge the contribution of Recreational Equipment, Inc.; James River Corporation; and Vista Type, for making publication of the Chinook Trek possible.

moved to the Northwest in 1978, attracted by the beauty of the area and accessibility to outdoor wilderness recreation options. Hiking, backpacking, cross country skiing and camping are activities that my family and I enjoy and try to do as often as we can.

I strongly believe that farsightedness and careful planning are essential when it comes to making land use decisions. Preserving areas such as the Columbia River Gorge can only have a positive effect on our environment and our quality of life.

I have a Master's degree in educational psychology from the University of Oregon, and currently am director of The Counseling Center of Vancouver. My background in mental health has given me and appreciation for the necessity for outdoor experiences; people feel a lot better if they can be in nature. Those with limited transportation and other restrictions cannot often take advantage of the outdoors in ways that more mobil or affluent people can. If we develop urban as well as

wilderness trails, we will be enhancing the quality of life for many years to come.

The idea of the Chinook Trail, conceived by Don Cannard and Ed Robertson, has become a reality. As agencies, communities and individuals continue to develop ownership of the vision, the reality of the trail will become more solid. With forests being cleared at an alarming rate, it is vitally important that we work to preserve as much of our natural areas as possible.

The Chinook Trail has been dubbed "the hundred year project." It will take time, commitment, money and a lot of people power to see the project through to completion. In a time and a culture where immediate outcome has been valued over long-term nature-oriented goals, it is inspiring to see the support that has already been generated toward the Chinook Trail effort. It promises to be a legacy worth passing on to our posterity.

Encouraging words from 40-Mile speaker

Chinook Trail advocates foresee the day when the Chinook will link with the City of Portland's long-abuilding 40-Mile Loop Trail system.

Strong encouragement to accomplish that goal was voiced eloquently at the CTA's annual meeting this winter by a guest speaker, Barbara Walker of the 40-Mile Loop Land Trust.

"The Chinook Trail and the 40-Mile Loop each represent a vision that can be realized," she declared.

"Each is a dream as practical and possible as it is ideal. Each is more than a recreation project, more than an environmental project, more than an ecology project, more than an education project, more than an economic development project.

"Each is the sum of all of these and a vision so grand that it captures the imagination."

Volunteers lauded

(Continued from Page One)

the Chinook Trail work parties in 1990 were:

Jeanne Smith, Ron Mizanin, Hermie Wirsching, Skip Calvin, Shannon Scullin, Pat Burnet, Don Burnet, Terry Sampson, Mary Lankow, Carol Jensen, Hank Berquist, Bob Powne.

Beverly Doty, Jeremiah Doty, Jim Eplin, Ken Oslund, Lois Smith, Chris Edwardson, Boyd Jacobsen, Jim McFall, Bruce Cannard, Karyl Ramsey, Paul Clare, Andre' Simard, Rob Pabst, Libby Ondrak, Roger Cole.

Larry Devroy, Sue Cannard, Don Cannard, Robert Scullin, Vern Swaim, Verna Swaim, Lucie Denlinger, Roger Denlinger, Roger Anderson, Mary Wilcox, Patricia Lichtenstein, Ron Smith, Ed Robertson, Steve Tubbs, Gregg Everhart.

Harvey McLeod, Art Herring, Duke Raymond, Dave Shelley, Glen Calvin, Steve Masier, Holly Hardin, Bill Lodge, Lee Paul, Karl Dorling, Norm Wirsching, Zachery Stoumbos, Blaine Ingram and Joan Soost.

The CCC trail legacy

During its nine years of existence (1933-42), the Civilian Conservation Corps built some 20,000 miles of trail in National Forests and Parks.

May-June work parties to include one camp-out supported by llamas

Six Chinook Trail work parties are scheduled for May and June, including a four day (three night) camp-out with llamas packing in equipment and supplies.

Llama outfitter Don Johnson has offered his skills and pack animals to support a June 25-28 trail restoration project on Bluff Mountain in the Silver Star area of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

Participation in the Bluff Mountain project will be limited to 16 persons.

Other trail work parties are scheduled for:

April 6, Beacon Rock State Park—Hamilton Mountain Trail.

April 20, Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail—Tamanous Trailhead.

May 4, Pacific Crest NST—Three Corner Rock/south to Tamanous Trailhead.

May 18, Tarbell Trail—Cedar Creek Falls.

June 1, Moulton Falls Clark County Park access.

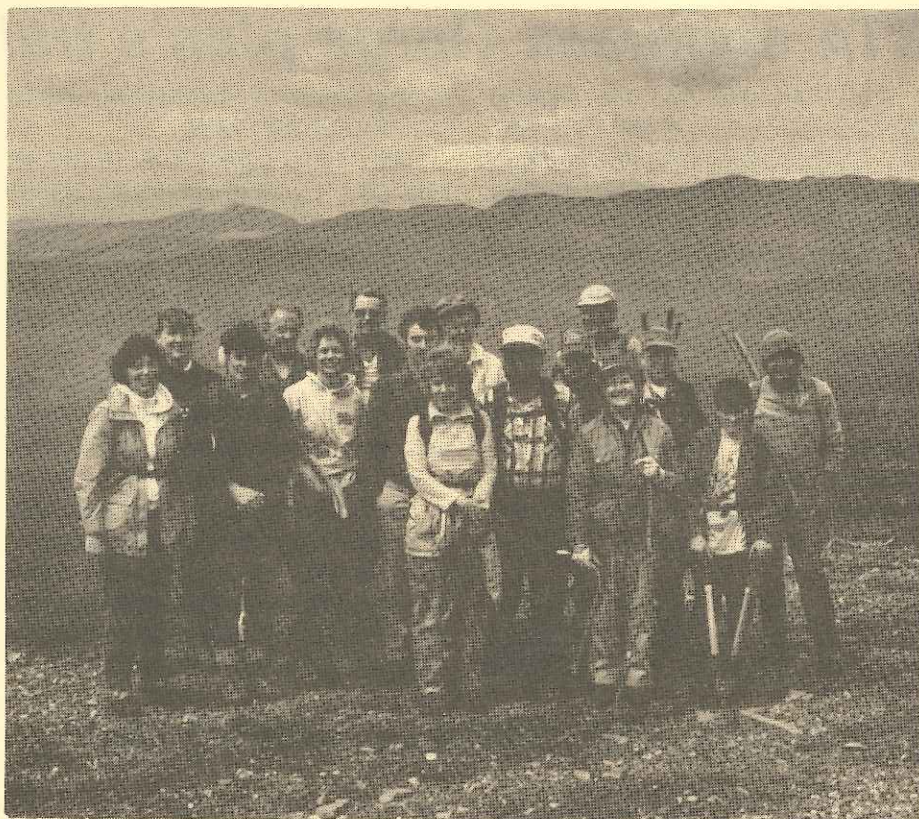
Information on registration for the work parties has been mailed to Chinook Trail Association members and other interested persons.

Oregon Trail Center due in '92

The National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center is scheduled to open on Memorial Day 1992 atop Flagstaff Hill near Baker City, Oregon. The 23,000-square foot Center will be administered by the Bureau of Land Management, and will be the national convention site of the Oregon-California Trails Association in 1993.

National Forest trails

With 107,000 miles of trails spread over 189 million acres of public land, the U.S. Forest Service oversees two-thirds of all trails on public lands in the United States. Some 17,000 miles of National Forest trails were maintained by volunteers in 1989.



Chinook Trail work party pauses for group photo. "Inch by foot by yard by mile... and just another hundred miles or so to go."

The Challenge of clearing for a trail

Reprinted from July 1990 Ptarmigan Ptales

Inch by foot by yard by mile. The inches are easy, but the miles take Herculean effort of many in construction of the west Silver Star portion of the Chinook Trail.

April 21, we joined Don Cannard and 17 other budding trail builders. Our pruning shears and saws challenged salal, vine maple and cherry in clearing at least one half mile of new trail. Eight-foot wide trails take awhile to brush.

On May 19, Jim Eplin, Hank Berquist, Bev Doty and her grandson Jeremiah joined us two and 17 others on one of the most spectacular portions of the new trail. We were working on the west slope of the highest point of the trail, the 4,390-foot summit of Silver Star. Backs aching from chopping huckleberry and service berry could be relieved a bit with views of Mounts St. Helens, Adams and Rainier; not to mention wildflowers everywhere.

Again another half-mile plus of the

trail was brushed. We only have another 100 miles or so to go.

Think we'll make it this century? Not without your help.

—Vern and Verna Swaim, members of the Vancouver outdoor club,



Volunteers brush out the Chinook Trail route on the westerly slope of Silver Star Mountain.

—Ed Robertson photos

CTA endorses Gorge plan's trail objectives

Trail objectives for the General Management Area of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area have been endorsed by the Chinook Trail Association.

The objectives are contained in the Columbia River Gorge Commission's Preliminary Draft Management Plan for General Management Areas of the National Scenic Area.

The draft plan is "complete and consistent with the goals of the Chinook Trail Association," CTA President Karyl Ramsey said in a letter to Commission Chairman Stafford Hansell.

Stated goal of the Draft Management Plan is to "provide a diversity of new trail opportunities in a variety of

settings and which highlight the special resources of the Gorge."

This would appear to be in concert with CTA's goal of completing a loop trail from Vancouver Lake to Maryhill, Washington, and back to Portland on the Oregon side.

Highest priority objectives cited by the Commission are:

- Provide trails linking urban areas and the Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area to recreation opportunities in the National Scenic Area.

- Establish a trail system (or series of trails) along the Columbia River.

- Increase trail opportunities on the Washington side of the National Scenic Area and eastern portions of the NSA.

The plan also calls for:

- Establishing a loop trail around the National Scenic Area.

- Establishing trails along the Columbia River's major tributaries.

- Providing trail linkages between National Scenic Area trail opportunities and trails in the National Forests and other public lands north and south of the NSA.

Ed says 'do more than just exist'

The Chinook Trail Association's Ed Robertson was the subject of a recent feature article in the Vancouver Columbian.

Several years ago while hiking on Silver Star Mountain, Robertson and his longtime friend Don Cannard first envisioned the Chinook Trail reaching from Vancouver Lake to Maryhill State Park and back to Portland on the Oregon side.

"That began almost a seven-day-a-week job" for the two retired Vancouver educators, Robertson recalled.

Ed, 72, said his commitment to completion of the Chinook Trail stems from his long-existing philosophy "that we humans are the only ones capable of managing our environment for good or bad. All of the other organisms just exist—but we don't have to just exist."

CTA boosts The Dalles waterfront trail

Chinook Trail Association members continue to work with trail advocates of Wasco County and The Dalles to develop a waterfront trail from The Dalles Dam to the new Columbia River Gorge Interpretive Center planned for Crates Point.

The 10½ mile river-level link is envisioned to be part of the Chinook Trail system, which for the most part will be a rim-top loop through the Gorge. From Crates Point, the trail will gain elevation to continue west over Seven Mile Hill in the vicinity of

the Tom McCall Preserve on the Rowena Plateau.

CTA co-founders Don Cannard and Ed Robertson have worked closely with The Dalles waterfront trail planners. A CTA contingent traveled to The Dalles last fall to work with local trail enthusiast Boyd Jacobsen in clearing treadway.

Jacobsen, a retired dentist from The Dalles and a vigorous trail advocate, has since joined the CTA board of directors.



Chinook Trail Association
P.O. Box 997
Vancouver, WA 98666-0997

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
VANCOUVER, WA
Permit No. 518

Ted R. Klump
8616 Silver Star
Vancouver, WA 98664