



Chinook Trek Update #6

February, 1992

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Board of Directors

**Karyl Ramsey, President
Ann Lee, Vice President
Paul Clare, Secretary
Florence Wager, Treasurer**

**Don Cannard
Larry Devroy
Boyd Jacobsen
Dave Meyer
Ed Robertson
Ted Klump**

The End of the World

Karyl Ramsey, Chinook Trail President read this native American story to the membership at our annual meeting. The story seemed to capture the spirit of some of our experiences in building the Chinook Trail.

THE END OF THE WORLD

American Indian (White River Sioux)

Somewhere at a place where the prairie and the Maka Sicha, the Badlands, meet, there is a hidden cave. Not for a long, long time has anyone been able to find it. Even now, with so many highways, cars, and tourists, no one has discovered this cave.

In it lives a woman so old that her face looks a shriveled-up walnut. She is dressed in rawhide, the way people used to be before the white man came. She has been sitting there for a thousand years or more, working on a blanket strip for her buffalo robe. She is making the strip out of dyed porcupine quills, the way our ancestors did before white traders brought glass beads to this turtle continent. Resting beside her, licking his paws, watching her all the time is Shunka Sapa, a huge black dog. His eyes never wander from the old woman, whose teeth are worn flat, worn down to little stumps, she has used them to flatten so many porcupine quills.

A few steps from where the old woman sits working on her blanket strip, a huge fire is kept going. She lit this fire a thousand or more years ago and has kept it alive ever since. Over the fire hangs a big earthen pot, the kind some Indian peoples used to make before the white man came with his kettles of iron. Inside the big pot, wojapi is boiling and bubbling. Wojapi is berry soup, good and sweet and red. That soup has been boiling in the pot for a long time, ever since the fire was lit.

Every now and then the old woman gets up to stir the wojapi in the huge earthen pot. She is so old and feeble that it takes her a while to get up and hobble over to the fire. The moment her back is turned, the huge black dog starts pulling the porcupine quills out of her blanket strip. This way she is slow in progress, and her quill-work remains forever unfinished. The Sioux people used to say that if the old woman ever finishes her blanket strip, then at the very moment she threads the last porcupine quill to complete the design, the world will come to an end.

Columbia River Gorge Pin

This attractive pin of the Chinook Trail logo is now available.



This six color, gold lettered cloisonne style pin is available as a tie tack or lapel pin. This pin will be a handsome addition to your jewelry collection. This may be ordered on the form at the bottom of page 3. Also available is our trail patch.

Silver Star Mountain Scenic Special Area Plant Study

After a successful study of the existing and proposed trail corridors on Silver Star by eleven volunteers during the 1992 growing season, the CTA will continue the study during 1993. The plant inventory/study is being conducted in co-operation with personnel from the Wind River Ranger District on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

The study is needed to meet requirements of the National Environmental Protection and State Environmental Protection Acts in the process of developing a management plan for the area.

Volunteers wishing to take part in the 1993 study should possess skills in using the plant binomial identification system. One should be willing to spend considerable time in the harsh environment on the mountain and be able to hike and climb on trails difficulty-rated moderate to most difficult.

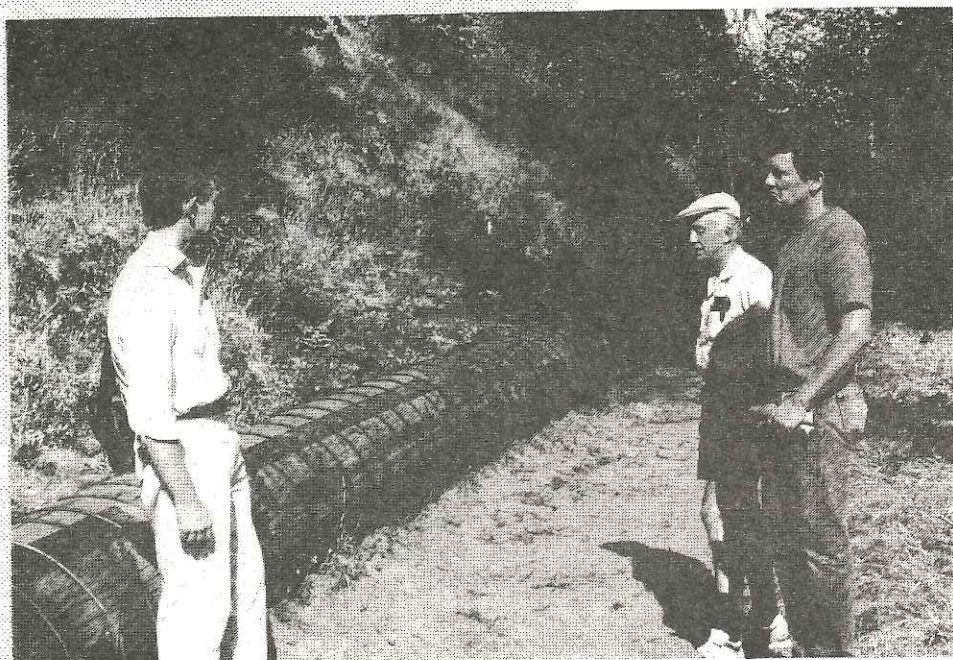
For more information and/or to volunteer, please call Ed Robertson at 206-694-1648.

by Ed Robertson

Musings on the Annual Meeting

Chinook Trail Association annual meeting held at the Alpines Lodge in Hood River was: —a very pleasant experience —quaint surroundings —excellent food —good companionship —information of a historical significance about the Columbia River Gorge by David Auscherman of Metro —a sharing of past Chinook Trail activities —a walk on the Indian Creek Trail

Our next annual meeting will be held at Skamania Lodge on November 14, 1993. Not too early to mark your calendar!



Indian Creek Trail Hood River

Chinook Trail Board members Dr. Boyd Jacobsen of the Dalles and Dave Meyer of Hood River consider the next step in the construction of the Indian Creek Trail. John Clark, Chinook Trail Volunteer of Bend, looks on. Dave Meyer is also a city council member in Hood River. Dave keeps moving forward on this urban section of the Chinook Trail.

Announcement: Northwest Trails Fair

March 7, 1993 10:00-4:00 pm

Portland's World Forestry Center

More than 50 outdoor clubs, organizations and trail experts will provide the latest information on hiking trips, tips and techniques. For more information call Rick Zenn, Education Director (503)228-1367.

Hamilton Mountain Trail Projects

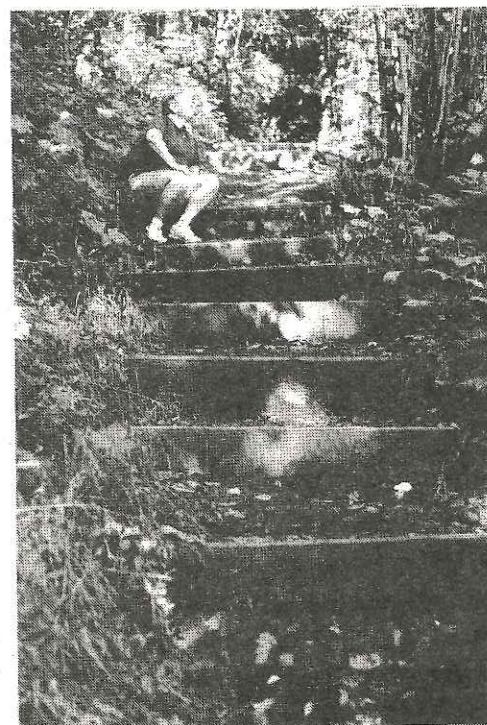
Volunteer work on the Hamilton Mountain Trail in Beacon Rock State Park continue through 1992.

Chinook Trail volunteers removed an old wooden structure on the trail which had become hazardous. The grade was built up and a wooden culvert was constructed. This section needs additional work.

In the fall, Chinook Trail volunteers re-routed the trail around the historical nine giant steps. This section of the Chinook connector trail is being by-passed in an effort to make the trail safer for the many families hiking to the lower falls and for the more venturesome returning from the top of Hamilton Mountain.

Many thanks to our volunteers who, in unison with the Mazamas, pioneered this by-pass trail during our October work party. The work was completed this winter by the Multnomah Community Service Project led by Leonard Brown out of Wyeth. A new section of trail from the campground to the main trail was flagged this fall. The re-routing will eliminate two troublesome spots in the existing trail. Much remains to be done on this trail and CTA has scheduled more work parties at Hamilton Mountain in '93. See 1993 Work Party Schedule elsewhere in this publication

by Ted Klump



Sue Cannard ponders the historical nine giant steps on the lower Hamilton Mountain Trail in Beacon Rock State park.

Chinook Trail Association (CTA)

Membership Application

- ☐ Individual \$20 ☐ Family \$30 ☐ Student/Senior \$10 ☐ Institutional \$60
☐ Sustaining \$100 ☐ Life \$500 ☐ Corporate \$1,000 and above

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

- ☐ I wish to purchase a trail patch @ \$3.00 + .50 handling TOTAL: \$3.50
☐ I wish to purchase a tie tack or ☐ lapel pin @ \$5.00 + .50 handling TOTAL: \$5.50
☐ I wish to become a volunteer:

_____ Trail building _____ Assist with mailings
_____ Membership _____ Promotions (Photography, writing, newsletters) _____ Other

Members will receive CTA newsletter, "The Chinook Trek," and other mailings as appropriate to keep you informed of Chinook Trail progress.

Send application and remittance to:

Chinook Trail Association

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



Officers Selected for 1993

The Chinook Trail Association at it's January, Corbett, Oregon Board meeting selected the following officers for 1993. Karyl Ramsey, President, Ann Lee, Vice President, Paul Clare, Secretary, and Florence Wager, Treasurer. We thank Ted Klump for keeping the books of our organization for the past two years and Karyl for consenting to continue as president.

CTA++++Meet Fred Henschell

Fred Henschell, USFS planner, has been designated to write the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Silver Star Mountain project. He will also serve as coordinator for the inter-disciplinary team of specialists who will contribute input to this project.

Fred completed his B.S. in Forestry plus a year of graduate studies at U of C at Berkeley. In 1989, Fred joined the US Forest Service working mainly in planning timber harvest programs. During his entire forestry experience he has been involved in the planning process and in completing environmental documents. WELCOME FRED!!!

by Ed Robertson

1993 Work Party Schedule

Dates and locations of the 1993 work parties contain a mix of trail maintenance and new construction projects. These are of necessity subject to some change due to weather and availability of necessary agency permits. Last year CTA performed over a total of 600 hours of work on trails. Thanks to the willingness of our volunteers and crew leaders to keep plugging along on this task.

April 3 Tarbell	17 Hamilton Mtn.**
May 1 PCT**	15 Tarbell
June 5 Squaw Butte	26 PCT**
Sept 11 Tarbell	25 Moulton Falls
Oct 16 Hamilton Mtn**	30 Hamilton Mtn.**

For additional information call Ted Klump 206-695-7149, Ed Robertson 206-694-1648 or Paul Clare 206-892-8173. Come prepared with appropriate clothing, drinking water, lunch, work gloves and boots or sturdy shoes. We meet at WSDOT park and ride at 134th St and I-5 junction or the WSDOT park and ride on Highway 14 just one mile east of I-5 Interstate Bridge, take Camas exit. Work parties meeting at Highway 14 marked with **.

Along the trail

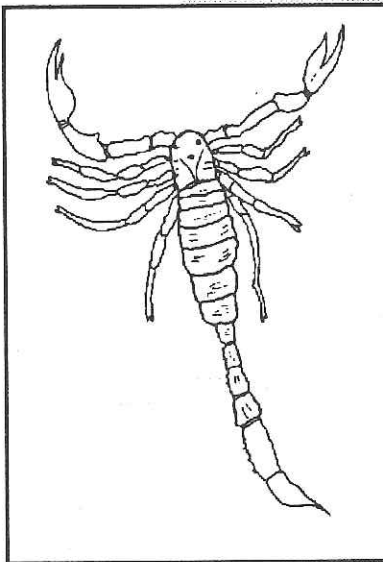
Trail work parties provide us with a variety of experiences. We enjoy the companionship with others. Frequently friendships are developed which endure. They can also be an opportunity to get better acquainted with someone we only knew casually before.

When we work side by side someone we know them a little better. Most of us however really enjoy just plain 'getting out.' We enjoy seeing the same things trip after trip only through the seasons, kind of an Edwin Way Teale perspective on things.

Take for instance one of our trips to work on the PCT. We were working a particularly rocky shale slope when much to our surprise this strange critter was discovered. All recognized it for what it was but, it did not seem to fit. At least it didn't fit in Skamania County west of the Cascades. Closer study revealed pinchers like a crayfish and a tail-like appendage which it carried over its head. On the end of the appendage there was what appeared to be a needle sharp stinger-like protrusion. Sure enough,

the critter in question was indeed a scorpion. Just think, without a Chinook Trail work party this discovery would have gone unknown to us.

by Don Cannard



Chinook Trail Association

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