

The Chinook Trek

Volume Three

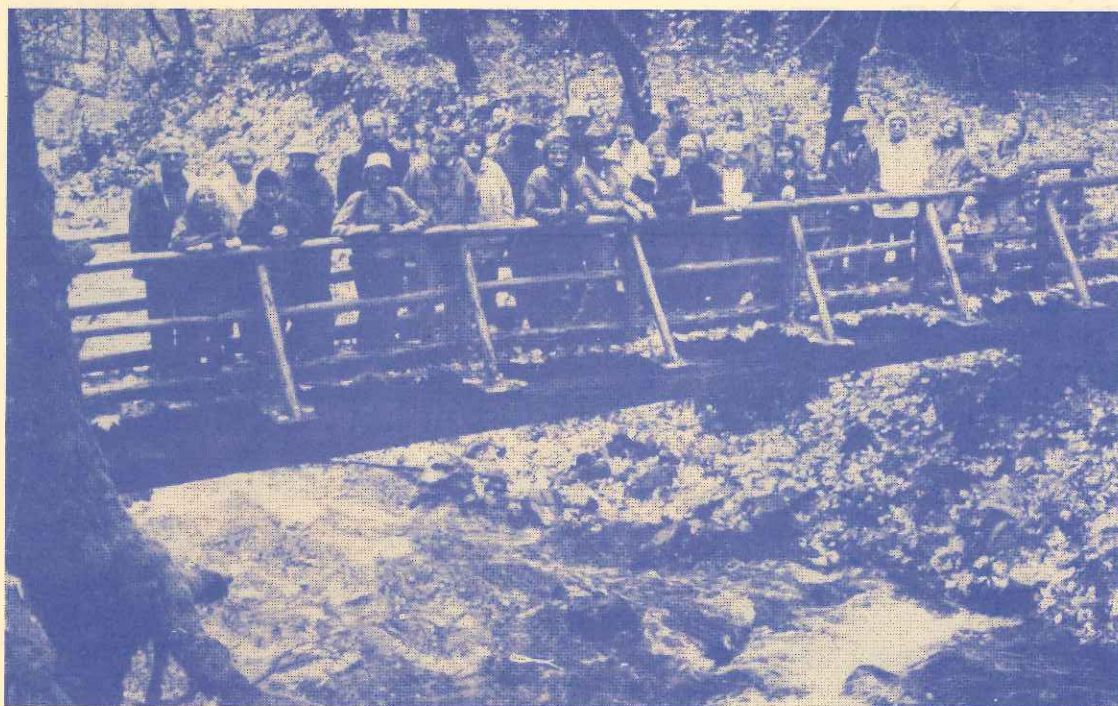
Spring 1992

Number One

Annual meeting hike

Chinook Trail members and guests enjoyed a hike after the annual meeting brunch, and paused for a group photo on a new trail bridge crossing Gorton Creek.

Annual meeting stories inside



Chinook Trail work set for 1992

The Chinook Trail Association's 1992 construction/maintenance program will get underway April 4 and continue through October 17.

The first outing, April 4, will involve site preparation for the Cedar Creek Falls overlook and trail. The 1,000-foot trail, suitable for the physically challenged, will be a link to a proposed Chinook Trail segment connecting Moulton Falls to the Tarbell Trail west of Silver Star Mountain.

On April 18, volunteers will return to the Cedar Creek Falls trail project, a cooperative effort with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources.

On May 2, a work party will perform maintenance and upgrading on Beacon Rock State Park's Hamilton Mountain

trail under agreement with the Washington State Parks Department.

On May 16, CTA volunteers will elevate trail tread and perform general maintenance on the Department of Natural Resources Tarbell Trail.

Under agreement with the Gifford National Forest, Chinook Trail workers will turn their attention to the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail between North Bonneville and Three Corner Rock on June 6.

July 13-17 will involve a campout group continuing work begun last year in the Bluff Mountain/Little Baldy area of the Gifford Pinchot NF.

On September 12, volunteers will work in the Moulton Falls area, and return to Tarbell on September 26.

It will be back to the Pacific Crest Trail between North Bonneville and Three Corner Rock on October 3, and the 1992 program will be concluded on October 17 with a return to the Hamilton Mountain Trail.

Persons interested in volunteering should call Don Cannard at (206) 694-4033, or Ed Robertson at (206) 694-1648. Cannard and Robertson indicated that the schedule is still subject to change, depending on final arrangements with cooperating agencies.

Last year, CTA volunteers performed improvement on four miles of the Pacific Crest Trail, 1.5 miles of the Bluff Mountain Trail, 4.5 miles on the Tarbell Trail, and 1.2 miles on Hamilton Mountain—a total of 11.2 miles.

The spirit of the Chinook Trail

From remarks by Karyl Ramsey, president of the Chinook Trail Association, at the CTA's 1991 annual meeting, November 17, at Multnomah Falls Lodge.

The spirit of the Chinook Trail goes something like this: The land and the trees and the four legged, the winged ones and all the inhabitants of the wilderness heard the voices of their ancestors growing louder, saying, "speak to the two-legged ones and tell them that a vision is required. This

vision is one that says that we are all brothers and sisters on this earth, and we all need each other.

"A trail is one way that the two-legged can find wilderness and in return the wilderness will not be destroyed. So, the land, the trees and the four-legged and the winged ones and all the inhabitants of the wilderness raised their voices and the two legged heard them."

When Don Cannard and Ed Robertson heard the message from the wilderness, they began to pass the word, "The wilderness needs us and we need the wilderness."

And they told everyone they met about wanting to build a very long trail. Some people laughed, some people shook their heads, and some people began to hear the voice of the wilderness calling, and the voice grew louder, and the people got together and said "YES, we can do it."

In closing, I'd like to read a poem by Herman Hesse:

Sometimes

*Sometimes, when a bird cries out,
Or the wind sweeps through a tree,
Or a dog howls in a far off farm,
I hold still and listen a long time.*

*My soul turns and goes back to the place
Where, a thousand forgotten years ago,
The bird and the blowing wind
Were like me, and were my brothers.*

*My soul turns into a tree,
And an animal, and a cloud bank.
Then changed and odd it comes home
And asks me questions. What should I reply?*

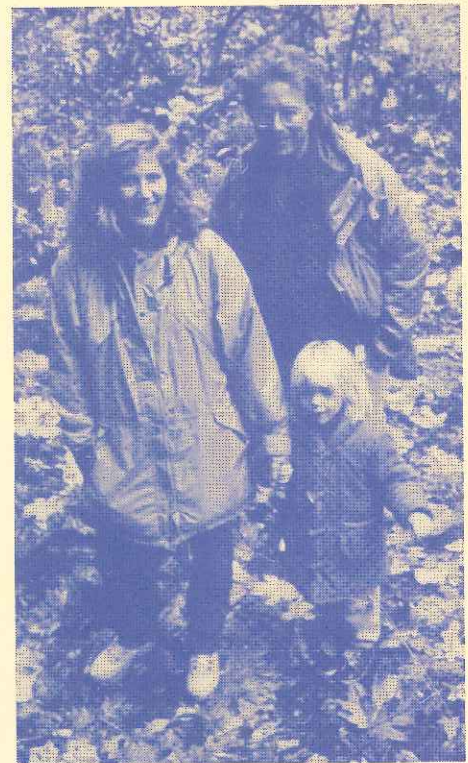
CTA will participate in Northwest Trails Fair '92

The Chinook Trail Association will join some 40 local organizations, conservation agencies and trails experts for Northwest Trails Fair 1992.

Sponsored by the World Forestry Center and Recreation Equipment, Inc., the event will be May 3 at the World Forestry Center, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Clinics, speakers, displays and demonstrations, including llama and horse packing, will be featured.

Admission will be \$3 for adults, and \$2 for students and senior citizens.



CTA President Karyl Ramsey on the trail with husband, Chuck Bender, and their daughter, Clare.

CTA will host board meeting of Washington Trails Association

The Chinook Trail Association will host a meeting of the Washington Trails Association board of directors April 25-26 in Vancouver.

On Saturday, April 25, the WTA board will meet at Covington House, 41st and Main. Conservation organization members and the general public are invited to an openhouse, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., to meet the WTA executive committee, and discuss trail matters and concerns.

Three special presentations about trail issues are scheduled from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., followed by the regular board session.

An evening reception will be held for people to meet WTA President Karen Hume, board members and other elected officers, and the WTA staff. Sunday, April 26, will be devoted to touring various Southwest Washington trail projects.

For further information about the meeting, call (206) 694-4033.

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.

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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.

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Pacific Crest Trail leader encourages 'Chinook dream'

A man who shared the dream of a completed 2,600-mile Pacific Crest Trail from Mexico to Canada had words of advice and encouragement for those who envision another dream—a completed Chinook Trail.

Addressing the Chinook Trail Association 1991 annual meeting, trails advocate Jim Fisher traced the history of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail from its beginning as the idea of Californians Clinton Clarke, Warren Rogers and other visionaries some 60 years ago.

The Chinook Trail, he noted, has started in much the same way.

Fisher, retired public affairs officer for the Oregon Forestry Department, is the Oregon chairman of the Pacific Crest Trail Conference. In 1967, he led his four children and wife on a backpack border-to-border trek of the PCT's 360 miles in Oregon.

Drawing from his own years of involvement with the Pacific Crest Trail, Fisher offered six points of advice:

1. "Develop annual plans, and plans looking five years, 10 years and even further into the future. Where are you headed...what would you do today with a \$100,000 grant?"

2. "Keep telling the Chinook Trail story to the public through all available media. Remember the impact of Clinton Clarke, Warren Rogers, and other Pacific Crest Trail leaders."

3. "Don't burn out your gifted leaders; prepare others to take on responsibilities."

4. "Keep building 'partnerships' with public land management agencies. This will be more important in the future as dollars become even tighter."

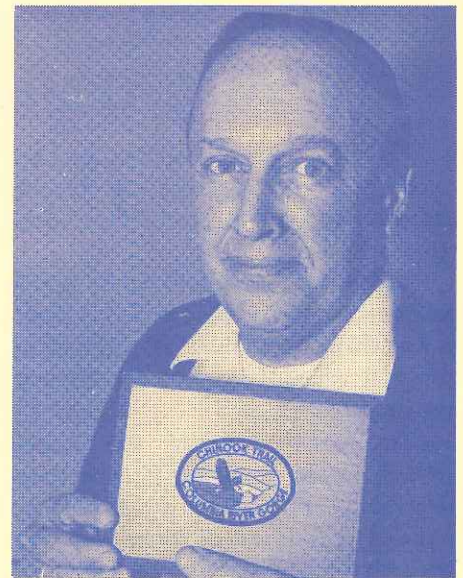
5. "Look back from time to time and see how far you have come...just like climbing a steep mountain trail. It sometimes gets tough, but take a 'breather' and enjoy the view."

6. "Finally, remember that you have other organizations, like the Pacific Crest Trail Conference, that are ready to lend you support, offer advice, and work together to accomplish our mutual goals."

Fisher, now manager of the Sisters, Oregon, Chamber of Commerce, recalled the satisfaction he shared at 1989 ceremonies dedicating the PCT's completion.

"We stood with our backs to the Mexican border and posed for a group photo. We marvelled at the thought that this trail goes north for 2,600 miles to the Canadian border. It was great to have had a small part of this effort."

In conclusion, Fisher urged his listeners to "stay with the course and you will have your Chinook Trail someday, and those of us involved with the Pacific Crest Trail will be pleased to accept your trail as part of the network supporting the PCT."



Jim Fisher, Pacific Crest Trail Conference Oregon chairman, with souvenir plaque presented after his CTA annual meeting address.

Six honored for their work and support of Chinook Trail

The Chinook Trail Association honored six men, including representatives of three cooperating public agencies, for their efforts on behalf of the Chinook Trail.

CTA treasurer Ted Klump, who has participated in every party, was presented a sign jokingly denoting his work on a particularly difficult section of trail.

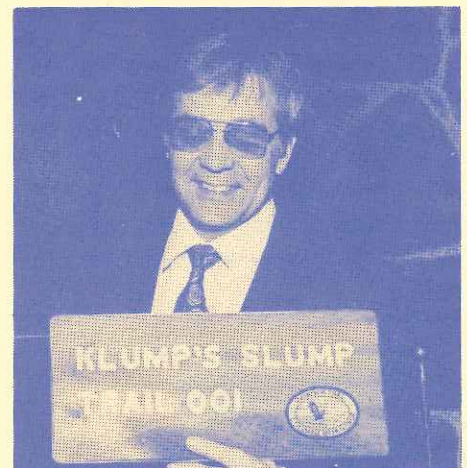
Computer specialist Richard Rubicam was thanked for his expertise in setting up computerized records for the Association.

Agency representatives honored were Steve Johnson, Beacon Rock State Park ranger; Tom North, Washington State Department of Natural Resources recreation specialist; Tom Linde, trails coordinator for the Wind River Ranger District of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, and Mike Kania, land use coordination/operations staff officer, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

The awards were presented at the CTA's 1991 annual meeting November 17 at Multnomah Falls Lodge. Kania was unable to attend and accept his award personally.

Looking ahead, the Chinook Trail

Association's 1992 annual meeting will be held in Hood River next November, on a Sunday to be announced.



Ted Klump received special trail sign.

Scout lauded for trail work

Nathan Hornsby, a Vancouver Boy Scout from Troop 456, has been thanked by the Chinook Trail Association for his Eagle Scout project on the Tarbell Trail.

Hornsby led fellow scouts in constructing water bars along more than a mile of the trail.

Seattle study cites benefits of having trails 'in backyard'

Having a recreational trail adjacent to or near your property can actually increase property values and improve the quality of life.

That's the conclusion of a Seattle Engineering Department study to determine what effect an urban trail has on property values, vandalism and crime in the immediate area.

The study involved the Burke-Gilman Trail, a 12.1-mile route constructed in 1978 along an abandoned railroad right-of-way. The multi-purpose trail, with 9.85 miles located within the Seattle city limits, has about 750,000 users annually—twice as many as originally forecast.

Besides residential areas, the trail passes through an industrial district, several neighborhood commercial areas, the University of Washington, and links six different parks.

Data for the study was collected by interviews with residents near and adjacent to the trail, real estate agents who handle home sales near the trail, and police officers who patrol neighborhoods adjacent to the trail.

The study reached these key conclusions:

...Property near but not immediately adjacent to the Burke-Gilman Trail is significantly easier to sell and sells for an average of 6 per cent more.

...Property immediately adjacent to the trail is slightly easier to sell, but prices are only from zero to one-half per cent more.

...Homes immediately adjacent to the trail did not experience an increase in burglary and vandalism after the trail opened.

...Not a single resident surveyed felt the trail should be closed. Less than 3 per cent cited any problems serious enough to cause them to consider moving.

...Almost two thirds of those surveyed felt the trail increased the quality of life in the neighborhood. And two residents said they had been among leaders opposing the trail, but now they "believe the trail is the best thing that has happened to the neighborhood."

One concern did surface during the survey. Thirteen per cent of those contacted mentioned user conflicts, such as bicyclists speeding on the trail.

Chinook trekkers join trail stewardship

Five members of the Chinook Trail Association have signed up so far to participate in the CTA Trail Stewardship Program.

Under the program a volunteer assumes responsibility for monitoring a segment of trail over a 12-month period. The steward is expected to walk the trail segment and note any needed maintenance, and may accompany subsequent work parties in the area.

Stewards to date are: Clarence Edwards, Ellen Davis Trail in Vancouver; Ken and Sandra Miller, Pacific Crest Trail from Tamanous trailhead at North Bonneville to Greenleaf Creek;

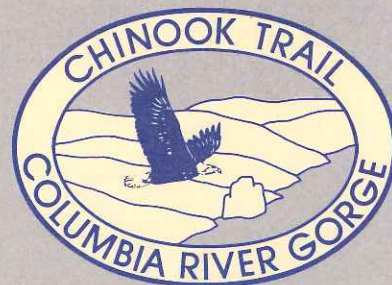
Mary Anne Lovell and the Sierra Club, Hamilton Trail from parking lot to Rodney Falls, and Ted Klump, Rodney Falls to Hamilton Mountain summit.

Persons interested in joining the stewardship program are invited to consider the following trail possibilities:

Tarbell Trail—1000 Road to Cold Creek Campground; Cold Creek Campground to Rock Creek; Rock Creek to Tarbell; Tarbell to Squaw Butte.

Three Corner Rock—Washougal River to Three Corner Rock.

Pacific Crest Trail—Greenleaf Creek to Three Corner Rock; Tamanous trailhead to Bridge of the Gods.



Come join us

The Chinook Trail Association welcomes new members. Annual dues are: individual, \$20; family, \$30; student/senior, \$10; institutional, \$60; sustaining, \$100; corporate, \$1,000; and life membership, \$500. For further information, call Ed Robertson, (206) 694-1648.



Chinook Trail Association

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