



Chinook Trek Update #8

August, 1993

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Dave Meyer
Ed Robertson
Ted Klump

National Trails Day June 5, 1993



Work party chairman, Ed Robertson, addresses the group at the rendezvous point.

ernment, the private business sector and the non-profit segments of our society in the development of shared-responsibility projects for public recreation. A special thank you goes to Seth Mackie and Charles (Tom) North (Yacolt Burn Forest-WDNR) and Darlene Dehlin (REI, Jantzen Beach Store) for their part in this cooperative effort.

All things considered, it was a grand day. The weather was mild, the volunteer workers were great AND a goal was accomplished — *the first new segment of the proposed Chinook Trail* was completed.

Look for information within the next few months about NATIONAL TRAILS DAY 1994 and mark your calendar. Hope to see you "on trail" one day soon.

Ed Robertson

Next generation of trail builders during lunch break dry out in the sunshine

The first-ever National Trails Day on June 5, 1993 was commemorated by the Chinook Trail Association through the sponsorship of a work party on Squaw Butte in central/eastern Clark County, Washington. Sixty-six (66) volunteers, ages 5 to 75 years, took part in the work on 3500 feet of the first new segment of the Chinook Trail.

The CTA was joined in this project by two partners, the Washington Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and Recreation Equipment, Incorporated (REI). This joint endeavor represents the great potential for combining the efforts of gov-



Key organizers for the project L to R: Ted Klump CTA, Seth Makie WDNR, Don Cannard CTA, Charles T. North WDNR, Darlene Dehlin REI, Paul Clare CTA



Messages we like to receive:

'Enclosed please find \$30.00 for membership into "Chinook Trail Association." We have enjoyed hiking trails for some time and are now prepared to do our part to protect and promote trails.'

Signed, Bruce Davis 6/21/93

Calendar Reminder

Chinook Trail Association Annual meeting will be at the new Skamania Lodge on Sunday, November 14.

Additional information will follow.

Volunteers are needed to assist in the following areas:

- phoning
- mailings and newsletter
- newsletter editing
- trail steward
- trail construction and/or layout

We have a need for:

- a word processor
- a phone system
- ektographic projector

Phone 206-694-1648
or 206-695-7149

John Muir Family Picnic

The Environmental Groups of Southwest Washington invite you to join with other environmentalists to celebrate the on-going work of our many members. It is a time to share our mutual successes and thoughts on the 90's agenda to protect Earth's treasures. Join us in a spirit of "gemutlichkeit" on Saturday, September 18, 1993 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at Camp Melacoma on the Washougal River. Special activities are scheduled.

For more information contact Pat Freiberg at (206)253-4239, Tamra Lisy (503)281-0412, Ellen Stevenson (206)695-9204, or Diane Karpinski at (206)690-4500.

The Thunder Tree

by Robert Michael Pyle

Review by Don Cannard

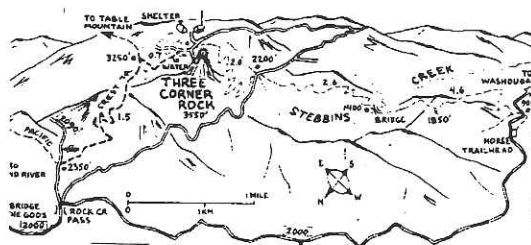
The Thunder Tree was released after Robert Pyle's article on Butterflies in the Gorge was printed in our last newsletter.

The Thunder Tree is a must for those have ever been influenced by a special place in a very special way. The author brings the reader into the "special place" which helped shape his life as a naturalist. The message is so powerful it is impossible to read it without provoking memories of the reader's own past. *The Thunder Tree* is available in local book stores for \$19.95, published by Houghton Mifflin.

Local hikes for your outdoor pleasure

The following sections are from *100 Hikes in Northwest Oregon (including SW Washington)* by William Sullivan, Navillus Press, Eugene, 1993. Available at REI outlets and your local book store. Reprinted with permission from the author.

Three Corner Rock



Easy 4.4 Miles
round-trip

800 feet

elevation gain

Open May to
mid-November

Maps: Beacon Rock,
Lookout Mountain
(Washington, USGS)

Hike a rarely-visited portion of the Pacific Crest Trail to a landmark lookout site with a view of 5 snowpeaks and portions of the Columbia Gorge. Then explore a strange shelter built from a length of corrugated pipe in a beargrass meadow beside the summit.

Drive Interstate 84 to Cascade Locks exit 44, pay 75 cents to cross the Bridge of the Gods, and turn right on Highway 14 for 1.5 miles. At milepost 43, turn left onto Rock Creek Drive for 0.3 mile. Then turn left for 0.9 mile on Foster Creek Road (which becomes Ryan Allen Road), turn left again onto paved Red Bluff Road for 0.3 mile, and then veer right onto gravel Road CG 2000. Stick to this winding, uphill road for a total of 9.5 miles, taking care to watch for posts identifying Road CG 2000 at intersections. When the road finally crests at Rock Creek Pass, don't follow the main road to the right. Instead go straight on less-used Road CG 2090 for 0.3 mile up to another pass and park at a pullout on the right.

The Pacific Crest Trail crosses the road here, but the path is marked only by a small triangular PCT symbol on a tree. Start hiking up to the right amid mountain hemlocks and Pacific silver firs. White June wildflowers here include 4-petaled bunchberry and delicate sprays of star-flowered smilacina. The well-graded path switchbacks up past views of snowy Mt. Adams and the tops of Mt. Rainier and Mt. St. Helens.

After 1.5 miles a large sign marks a junction for the Three Corner Rock Trail. Turn right and cross a high meadow filled in some years with the dramatic white plumes of blooming beargrass. A short, marked side trail leads to a drinkable, piped spring. When you reach a dirt road, turn right for a few hundred yards to a 4-way junction at a saddle. To the left is a gravel road, a microwave relay tower, and the strange culvert-cum-shelter. Straight ahead is the Three Corner Rock Trail from Stebbins Creek. And to the right is the rock summit itself. Concrete steps lead to within 12 feet of the top, but it's easy to clamber

the rest of the way to the burned lookout tower's square foundations. Mt. Adams looms above the dark silhouette of the Indian Heaven uplands. Mt. Hood rises above the Eagle Creek canyon. The Columbia River glints beside Dog Mountain and snakes west toward Portland.

Other Hiking Options

Backpackers or day hikers with a shuttle car can continue 9.2 miles down the Three Cor-

ner Rock Trail through Stebbins Creek's quiet, forested valley. The well-marked lower trailhead can be reached by driving 7.3 miles west of Rock Creek Pass on gravel Road 2000. But if you're driving to this trailhead from Vancouver it's quicker to take Highway 14, turn left at Washougal on the Washougal River Road for 22 paved miles, and fork to the right on gravel Road 2000 for 3.2 miles.

Stebbins Creek

The Stebbins Creek Trail affords the overnight backpacker an opportunity to savour the rugged beauty of a streamside tent spot and enjoy the rigors of a wooded trail with selected views of basalt outcroppings. An excellent late spring or early summer outing, wild flowers of the woods are an expected treat. Backpacker cooking stoves are encouraged, avoid open fires. The surrounding countryside is steep and rugged. **Editor**

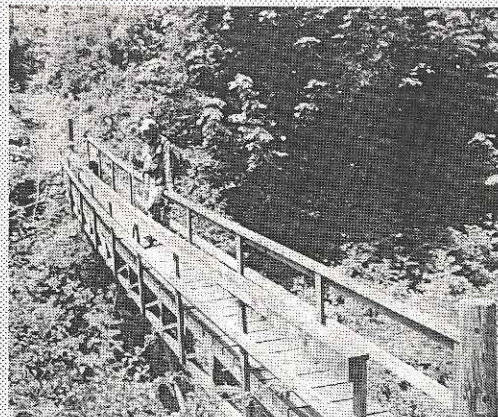
Says Bill Sullivan "One of my favorite hikes, also happens to be a part of the Chinook Trail, Washougal River to the Pacific Crest Trail. When completed the Chinook Trail will offer extended opportunities for long distance hiking which are not now available in the Columbia River Gorge."

About the Author

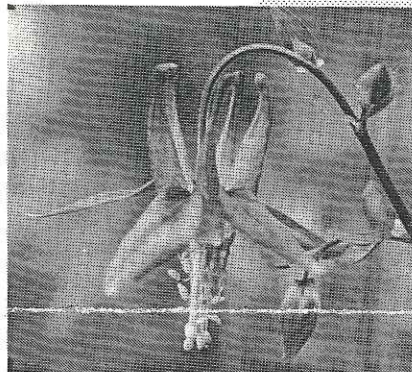
A native of Oregon, William L. Sullivan began hiking at the age of 5 and has been exploring new trails ever since. At 17 he left high school to study at remote Deep Springs College in the California desert, where his duties included milking cows by hand. He went on to earn a B.A. in English from Cornell University and an M.A. in German from the University of Oregon. He and his wife Janell Sorensen bicycled 3000 miles through Europe, studied at Heidelberg University, and built a log cabin by hand on Oregon's Siletz River.

In 1985 Sullivan set out to investigate Oregon's wilderness by backpacking 1,300 miles from the state's westernmost shore at Cape Blanco to Oregon's easternmost point in Hells Canyon. His journal of that adventure, published in 1987 as *Listening for Coyote*, was a finalist for the Oregon Book Award in creative nonfiction. Since then he has authored *Exploring Oregon's Wild Areas* and *100 Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades*.

(Reprinted with permission of William L. Sullivan).



CTA board member, Paul Clare on the foot bridge on Three Corner Rock Trail (photo, Ed Robertson)



Columbine (shown) wild Iris, Yellow Pea and Camas Lily greeted National Trail Days work party participants



Cynthia Exton heads for the lunch spot (photo by Bruce Davis).

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



CHINOOK TRAIL QUEST

A special appeal for funds, CHINOOK QUEST '93, has raised a total of \$1225 from 26 trail enthusiasts — 14 from Washington and 11 from Oregon and one from Panama. President Karyl Ramsey reports this money underwrote the hiring of heavy equipment to cut the Squaw Butte connector trail in June. Other trail building costs lie ahead, she notes, and QUEST '93 contributions can still be sent to CTA in the enclosed envelope.

President Ramsey points out that CTA Board members would like to channel energy into creating trail, as opposed to creating fund raiser events. Hence the mail appeal. She urges folks who have not yet responded to QUEST '93 to choose one of seven special categories which include the Trekker \$30, Hiker \$50; Switchbacker \$100; Backpacker \$300, Pathfinder \$500, and Trailblazer \$1,000 or more. Corporate contributions of \$1,000 or more are designated "PACKTRAIN." Contributors receive certificates of acknowledgment and the satisfaction of participating in the creation of the Chinook Trail.

Silver Star Mountain Management Plan Update

The Integrated Resource Assessment of the Silver Star Mountain Scenic special Interest Area is continuing during 1993. Volunteers organized by the Chinook Trail Association are in the process of searching for rare, endangered or sensitive plants along existing or proposed trail corridors in the area. Completion of this project in 1993 is anticipated.

The CTA is surveying that portion of the Squaw Butte Connector Trail which is located on land managed by the United States Forest Service. This project requires surveying the proposed trail route to standards set by the USFS. The recommended route was located, flagged and brushed through the combined efforts of CTA volunteers and USFS personnel over the past several years. If interested in assisting in either of these two efforts: plant ID and/or surveying, call 206-694-1648. Upon the completion of the aforementioned projects and other required studies, the Chinook Trail Association will continue its quest for the Chinook Trail through the Silver Star Mountain area.

Forest Service personnel, Nancy Fredricks, Fred Henschell, Deni Rauw, Steve Nelson and others have provided support for the volunteers working on the above projects. The CTA appreciates this support.

Ed Robertson

July 1993

The 1993 volunteer work schedule began April 3 working on the Tarbell Trail. It was a very wet day and our efforts were spent putting temporary dishouts to divert the abundant flow of water on the trail. Two weeks later, at Beacon Rock State Park we worked on the trail to Hardy Falls. The next stop was the PCT on May 1; then back to the Tarbell on May 15. The big event this year was the June 5 National Trails Day Party on Squaw Butte (see feature article). Our final day was June 26 back on the PCT. We really need a lot of participation if our work parties and the Chinook Trail concept are going to move forward. Please give me a call at 206-695-7149 or write to me at the address for the Chinook Trail, and pass along your thoughts on how to broaden participation in work parties.

Four more work parties are scheduled for the fall starting September 11 on the Tarbell. The September 25 location will be announced at a later date. October 9 and 23 we will be at Beacon Rock State Park. Steve Johnson, Head Park Ranger, at Beacon Rock, has extended an invitation to all Chinook Trail volunteers to use the campground free of charge, on a space available basis, on the week-ends we work on the trails in the park. I hope to see you next fall. Call the above phone number so reservations can be made.

Finally, my trusty old pulaski that has been with me for decades was mixed up with someone else's on the June 5 party. It can be identified by the words Silver Star written on the handle in marking pen. If you mistakenly picked it up, I would appreciate its return. The one I've got is probably yours. Thanks.

Happy Trails!
Ted R. Klump
Trails Chairman

Chinook Trail Association 
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