



Chinook Trek #15

August, 1995

## Historic Columbia River Highway Segment of Chinook Trail



The Friends of the Columbia River Gorge July, 1995 Annual Picnic served as a springboard for a hike upon a segment of the Historic Columbia River Highway. Work has commenced upon reclaiming that portion which lies between Mosier and Hood River. Twin

Tunnels exist on this segment. Overseeing the restoration effort is the Historic Columbia River Highway Commission, chaired by Lew McArthur. The commission is an official body of the Oregon Department of Transportation and was created in 1986 with the federal legislation which created the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

Invasive vegetation has been removed from the first portion in anticipation of clearing the plugged twin tunnels. When completed rock falls will be removed, stone work will be restored, the highway surface will be repaired and rock fall protection devices installed in some areas. All this will make it possible for hikers, bicycles and wheelchairs to negotiate the 6.5 miles from Mosier to Hood River. Additional information on the HCRH could be obtained through Oregon Department of Transportation Scenic Area Coordinator Jeanett Kloos at 503-731-8200.

The Chinook Trail will follow this route connecting Mosier and Hood River. CTA met with the Commission at one of its first meetings and shared our vision of a trail encircling the Columbia River Gorge. This is a vital link in the Chinook Trail as there are many private ownerships upon the rim of the Gorge in this area. This is one of those portions of the envisioned Chinook Trail which out of necessity must travel at a lower elevation in order to encircle the gorge.

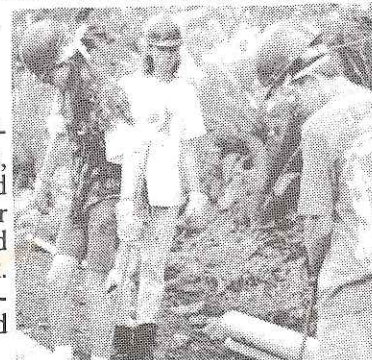
## Cedar Creek Falls Overlook and Trail

The 1,000 foot Cedar Creek Falls project is progressing very well. This trail for physically challenged individuals is located on Washington Department of Natural Resources Trust Lands in eastern Clark County. Permits by WDNR and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife were issued this spring. Survey work was completed in 1992 and construction delayed pending unsuccessful IAC applications for funding. Work commenced this year in February with Chinook Trail

Association work parties doing chain saw work, brush removal and log clearing. CTA hired trails contractor Daryl Hoyt, who was then able to rough in the trail by removing stumps, large stones and excavating buried logs. Much buried debris was uncovered which needed removal. The CTA, in partnership with ESD 112 on two different programs, has been working with two groups of young people on this trail. Re-entry students earning their way back into school for having

violated weapon codes and Summer Youth Employment young people have worked since March. They have rerouted about 500 feet of horse trail, set five culverts, assisted in the construction of an elevated section over one of two wet areas, done finished dressing of about 500 feet

of trail, rocked culvert drainage basins, laid in treated wooden curbs over the culverts and hauled crushed rock. The SYEP will continue work till mid August. The funds from the CHINOOK QUEST 95 have been used to purchase the services of Daryl and needed materials. Future work parties will lay down crushed rock, set wooden curbs and construct the viewing platform. Chinook Trail is looking forward to a spring 1996 dedication of this facility for hikers, pedal bikes and wheelchairs. This will eventually be a connector with Moulton Falls Park. For additional information or to volunteer some time for this project call Don Cannard, Project Chair at 360-694-4033.



*Above: SYEP installing curbs over the Calouts. John, Robert and Billy.*



*Right: CTA Workparty removing a log.*



## Silver Star Update

Twenty years ago this year a group of outdoor and environmental organizations formed the SILVER STAR STUDY GROUP. The group became the prime advocate for promoting Silver Star Mountain as a roadless area. That status was achieved with the completion of the Gifford Pinchot Forest Plan.

Now even more exciting news can be shared. A contract has been let by the USFS to bring Bluff Mountain Trail up to desirable standards. A new trailhead will be established for this trail.

The Chinook Trail Association has started work on two trail segments leading from a soon to be constructed new trailhead on the 4109 road. The first segment of about three-fourths of a mile will be multiuser for hikers, equestrians and bicycles. This portion was put in during early summer. CTA hired trail contractor Daryl Hoyt of White Salmon to rough in the trail. It had been brushed out earlier on previous work parties. This portion is now completed. This will be known as Ed's Trail. On NTD over 2,000 feet of trail were completed on a hiker only segment. The hiker only segment of the trail travels from the old parking lot to the Bluff Mountain junction. Ed's Trail continues to the top of Silver Star Mountain. This trail looks down into Star Creek Canyon and also offers views of the major Cascade Peaks.

Another major development is the obliteration of portions of the 4109 road and the Grouse Vista firelane. Previous attempts to eliminate vehicles have not been effective. This is true not only in Silver Star but elsewhere. The Forest Service has found the most effective long term approach is to obliterate the road. This will be done on Silver Star leaving a modest trail tread for foot, hoof and pedal users.

The 4109 road from its junction with the 41 road is being improved. This work is being done in an attempt to better handle the water run off which previously found its way into neighboring streams and muddied the water resulting in damage to fish habitat. The road will be maintained passable for passenger cars.

The 1994 completion of the Squaw Butte connector by Chinook Trail Association completes those physical modifications called for twenty years ago by the Silver Star Study Group. The Squaw Butte Connector now carries the name 'the Chinook Trail.' Many good things just take time. Congratulations to the United States Forest Service for being diligent on the issues surrounding Silver Star.

## Walking Sticks

All new walking sticks made by various Chinook Trail Association board members are available for purchase. These will be offered at the annual meeting and various community functions up and down the gorge. These make a splendid gift for your hiking friends.

## Bemis Bag Supports

## National Trails Day

Bemis Bag of Vancouver was the corporate sponsor for the very successful National Trails Day event held in June on Silver Star Mountain.

CTA appreciates the support we receive from corporate sponsors. Bemis' contribution helped defray the costs of the handsome National Trails Day mugs given to each of the over 50 NTD participants. Chinook Trail Association appreciates individuals and corporations sponsoring our activities.



## John Muir Picnic Saturday, September 23

At Lewisville Park 1:30 p.m. eating, bring main course, drinks and utensils. Grills available. Displays available for viewing. Jim Anderson, author of "Tales from a Northwest Naturalist" will be the presenter. Come prepared to have a fun time in fellowship with those who think like you do about trails and the outdoors. Chinook Trail Association is a cosponsor of this event.

## Hamilton Mountain Trail

## Improvements

Some hefty work has been done on the Hamilton Mountain-Hardy Creek Trail complex. Trails contractor Daryl Hoyt dug needed ditches and removed rotted timbers so nine culverts could be installed on the Hardy Creek segment. This should eliminate some muddy and slippery crossings plus provide badly needed runoff control. Daryl also did some tread work where there was narrowing. One short reroute was done to eliminate some unneeded stair steps. The end result should be less erosion and happier hikers. Summer Youth Employment crew under the direction of Kristine Frazier and Crew Chief John Krites dressed up the trail, set the culverts and rocked the outfall and collection basins. The trail looks good and should be more comfortable after hiking to the top. Thanks, SYEP crew.

Last spring CTA work crews removed two slide areas on the trail. Crews also spent considerable time repairing damage on the trail leading to the Hardy Creek Crossing. More remains to be done on this. Hopefully this will hold for some time. Crews also did some major brushing on the top section of Hamilton Mountain. Thimble berry on the back side and poison oak on the front side of upper Hamilton continues to be a concern. CTA has discussed future plans to expand the trail system on Hamilton Mountain. Anyone wishing to be a part of this activity may contact CTA Trails Chair, Joe Sunthimer, 360-253-9619.

## Chinook Trail Annual Meeting Sunday, November 5, 1995

Cleve Pinnix, Director of the Washington State Parks will be the keynote speaker at our annual meeting. He will share his thoughts about the joint role Washington State Parks and the Chinook Trail Association will play in developing the vision of trails as presented in the IAC's State Trails Plan for the Columbia River Gorge. A parallel theme for the annual meeting is the celebration of the several significant anniversaries which fall within 1995. The discovery of Beacon Rock by Lewis and Clark, the purchase of Beacon Rock by Henry Biddle and the beginning of the trail to its top and the gifting of Beacon Rock to the State of Washington by Henry's heirs and how this gift of slightly under 300 acres has grown to a very popular park of over 4,000 acres. Recognition of other gifting in the area will be recognized including the Pearce Ranch and the Doetsch Ranch. An award to one of our members by the State of Oregon will be presented. The Chinook Trail Association and its members will also be recognized for various contributions to trails in the State of Washington. Several artists who are members of the Chinook Trail Association will share their artistic works and offer them for sale to those attending. This gathering should be a lot of fun and memorable for all. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. There is a need for some folks to assist on this event. Your involvement will be over when the event ends. Call 360-695-7149 to assist. It will be held on Sunday, November 5. Specific information will be mailed nearer the actual event.



## WELCOME TO NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

### SUSTAINING \$100 OR MORE

Paul Cannard

Larry and Hing Devroy

### FAMILY \$30 +

Kate Leadbetter Mills and Jack Mills

Joan Robertson Geisler and Grant Geisler

Ted and Ginnia Brown

Steve and Linda Tubbs

G. Gale and Bonnie Long

Leann and Kurt Spicer

Ed Schmidt and Katy Young

Lee and Stephen McConnel

Ralph and Barb Baggett

John and Sara Lynen Frewing

Christine Jagielski

Zachary & Vasiliki Stoumbos

Rob and Pat Pabst

Jim Wasden

Linda Mullen

Lee Hoeft

Kurt Spicer

Ron Mah

Kevin Asai

Fred Rogers

Ross Harmon

Joyce Kilpatrick

Mary Robinson

### INDIVIDUAL AND SENIOR

Emil & Doris Brooking

Roger & Lucie Denlinger

Paul & Louise Clare

Don & Sue Cannard

Mary Frances Hanson

Vern Varcoe

Gayle Rothrock

Joe Walicki

Bob Powne

Clifton Clason

Kurt Spicer

Scott Collier

Ellen Davis

Eletha Hoeft

Ruth Blackburn

Patricia Davis

Val and Dan Ogden

Elizabeth (Betty) Avery

Ted Klump

Roger Cole

Gregg Everhart

Esther Cannard

Paula Graymer

Grace Robertson

Candace Morgan

Vern Swaim

Inez Butler

Candy King

Dovie Lance

James Wasden

Bobbi Bindreiff

Linda Mullen

Arthur Knight

Jan Breheman

## REMEMBRANCE FUND

Larry and Jo Dean and Don and Sue Cannard contribute in the memory of Verna Swaim. Verna, the wife of CTA Board member Vern Swaim, was an ardent supporter of activities in the outdoors. Verna passed away following a relatively short struggle against a brain tumor. She was also very active in a number of community organizations. She attended many of the outings of the Chinook Trail Association. Her friendly and cheerful manner will be remembered by all who knew her.

## CHINOOK QUEST 1995

Nearly \$2,000 has been given to bolster the construction fund of the Chinook Trail. This year's projects on Silver Star, Cedar Creek Falls and Hamilton Mountain have been funded through these funds. All monies given to the QUEST go into our trail construction fund. Our major project this year will be the Cedar Creek Falls Walkway and Viewing Platform with an estimated total cost of \$15,000-17,000. CTA volunteers do the work and receive only praise for their efforts. You may help these efforts from the comfort of the writing desk. Checks in support of this effort can be made out to CHINOOK TRAIL ASSOCIATION and mailed to PO Box 997, Vancouver, WA 98666-0997. If you have questions about the QUEST program or wish additional information feel free to call Florence Wager, 360-694-2364. A special thanks to our contributors. The levels of giving were: A platform segment, \$500, Paul Cannard. A yard of trail, \$100,

Mr. & Mrs. Scott Campbell, Sue & Don Cannard, Larry & Hing Devroy, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Kendall, Joe Palena, Vancouver Audubon Society, Steve and Linda Tubbs and Florence Wager. A bucket of bolts, a bag of cement, a platform plank or a ton of rock, Jack & Nancy Barry, Dr. & Mrs. George Barton, Senator & Mrs. Al Bauer, Dr. & Mrs. Emil Brooking, L. Paul

Greenland, Blain & Helen Ingram, Louis Kamper, Ted Klump, Laura S. Kok, F. P. Lackaff, Elinor Levin, Thomas Linde, William J. Lodge, Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Miller, Lee Paul, Laurel and Neil Peterson, Robert Powne, U. L. Upson, Craig Webster, Mary M. Wilcox, Norm and Hermie Wirsching, Dovie Lance.

## National Trails Day 1995 Another Success

National Trails Day on June 3, 1995 started out with cool overcast conditions. However, the weather soon brightened to match the spirits of over 50 volunteers who came out "to put something back for trails" and to dedicate the first segment of trail completed by the Chinook Trail Association (CTA). We caravanned up to near Silver Star Mountain and then received instructions on safety and the plan for the day from Gina Mondragon of the US Forest Service, Ted Klump and Joe Sunthimer of the CTA. Groups were formed and group leaders were assigned. Finally, the real work began: the clearing and grading of the flagged trail alignment for the next segment of the Chinook Trail. This segment—Ed's Trail—will be dedicated to late CTA co-founder Ed Robertson.

By noon everyone was ready for a break. We hiked up to a spectacular viewpoint and were treated to a fine trail dedication program that included an award to CTA by Lynn Roberts, US Forest Service Mt. St. Helen's Monument Manager. Jim Slagle, US Forest Service Trails Engineer, spoke to express his gratitude to CTA for our efforts for trails over the years and was quickly followed by Ted Klump, CTA President, who reinforced the critical need for public and private partnerships in this time of severely limited budgets for recreation. Don Cannard, CTA co-founder, shared the CTA vision with us, while Joe Sunthimer, CTA Trails Committee Chairman spoke of the committee's activities and July's week long work experience.

We resumed our work once again under Joe's expert direction and a now hot sun. By 3:30 in the afternoon we had built, unbelievably, nearly a half mile of new trail! Jim Slagle commented that this new trail looked perfectly in tune with the surroundings, looking as if it had been there a long time, yet barely leaving a mark on the scenic terrain.

We of the CTA sincerely wish to thank all the volunteers who participated, with a special thanks to the children (our future CTA visionaries), the "horse people," and 4-H groups. We hope to see you on the trails more often in the future!

*G.P. Trails Engineer, Jim Slagle working on Ed's Trail.*



## 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





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## 1995 Work Schedule...

**1995 Trail Construction and Maintenance Dates and Other Events set September 16, 30 October 14** work on Silver Star, Tarbel and/or Cedar Creek Falls. Meet at the 134th St. WDOT Park and Ride.

**October 7** Clark County Public Utilities Community Service Project at Cedar Creek Falls.

**October 28, November 4, 18** at Beacon Rock State Park work on lower & upper Hamilton Mountain & Hardy Creek Trail complex. Meet at City of Vancouver Murdock Parking Garage access on 8th & Broadway.

**November 5** Chinook Trail Annual Meeting, Skamania Lodge

\*All Departures are scheduled for 8:00 a.m. and ETOR is 4:30 p.m. Tools and carpooling available. Participants are asked to wear boots, bring own drinking water, lunch, work gloves and other appropriate clothing as event takes place rain, shine or snow.

## CTA Board Members

Ted Klump, President	695-7149
Larry Devroy, Vice President	
Trails	652-2241
Fred Rogers, Secretary	256-2927
Florence Wager, Treasurer	694-2364
Roger Anderson	
Summer Work Party	253-9619
Don Cannard, Newsletter	694-4033
Paul Clare	
Bruce Davis, Public Info	693-7976
Gregg Everhart	
Grant Geisler, Mailings	696-4658
Joan Robertson Geisler	
Membership Renewals	696-4658
Ken Herman	
Boyd Jacobsen	
Anne Lee	
Dave Meyer	
Joe Sunthimer	
Summer Work Party	253-9619
Vern Swaim	
Glenn Lamb	

## Advisory Board

Bobbi Bindreiff  
Steve Tubbs  
Joanne Swanson  
Larry Swatosh  
Russ Jolley  
Dave Cannard  
Joe King

## Newsletter Deadline Oct 7

## From the President...

As reported in the last newsletter, the Board of Directors is in the process of setting and prioritizing goals, and forming committees. At this writing the Trails Committee has been established and is under the leadership of Chairman Joe Sunthimer. Larry Devroy did an outstanding job of organizing this committee; and we are fortunate to have Joe as our Chair. We now turn our attention to the Membership Committee. In the next few months, we will be establishing this committee and begin to focus on our goal of doubling membership. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please call the office at 360-695-7149. We are also looking for people interested in serving on the Finance and Public Relations/Promotion Committees, as well as additional members for the Trails Committee.

Ted R. Klump  
President

## CTA receives computer

The Board of Directors wish to publicly thank Grace Robertson for the gift of a computer, given in memory of Ed Robertson. This computer will allow us to do a great many things in keeping records, and is a real asset to the association. Thank you, Grace, for your generosity.

CTA Board and membership

## ABOUT OUR BOARD MEMBERS

### Joe Sunthimer

Joe Sunthimer grew up in Nevada, Missouri about 100 miles south of Kansas City. He spent 20 years in the US Army working in Finance and Accounting and obtained his B.S. in Business Management from the University of Maryland while in the service. Much of his military career was spent in Germany and it was there that his love of running and of hiking and skiing in the mountains developed. It was also there that he met his wife of 16 years, Brigitte.

His last four years in the army were spent at Ft. Hood, Texas, far from his beloved mountains. Unable to do much hiking and skiing, he concentrated on running, racing several marathons, and bicycling. After his retirement in April, 1992 he rode his bike across the U.S. from San Diego, California to Jacksonville, Florida.

During their years in Texas, Joe and Brigitte traveled around the country looking for potential places to settle upon his leaving the military. It had to be a place with mountains for skiing and hiking, green forests, reasonable weather and close to a moderate size city. They finally settled on this area and moved to Vancouver in July, 1992.

After enjoying a year of retirement Joe bought a sign shop in Beaverton. He says "I found I was getting a little bored and decided to get into a business where I could work a couple of days a week, although it takes more than a couple of days a week, I do have the flexibility to take a day off here and there."

Soon after moving to Vancouver, Joe became active with the Sierra Club leading hikes and currently is Chairman of the SW Washington Group. It was his interest in hiking and trails that brought him to the 1993 National Trails Day work party and began his involvement with CTA. Not one to sit on the sidelines, Joe jumped in to help finish the Chinook Trail from Squaw Butte and is now taking a lead on the construction of Ed's Trail.

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



NON-PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Vancouver, WA  
Permit No. 518

Annual Meeting  
Sunday, November 5, 1995  
Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA

Ted R. Klump  
8616 Silver Star Ave  
Vancouver, WA 98664-2539