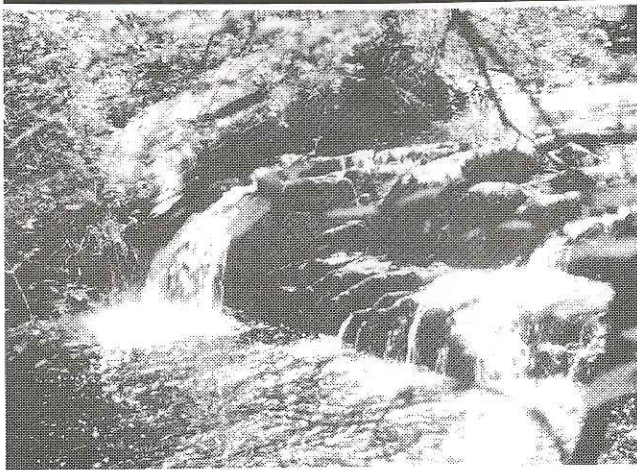




Chinook Trek #14

June , 1995



Cedar Creek Falls, photo by Don Cannard

Chinook Quest 1995

May marks the beginning of CTA's 1995 Quest for funds. The response to this effort has been gratifying. CTA has worked hard to secure the necessary permits to construct the Cedar Creek Falls Trail and Overlook. A successful Quest '95 campaign will assure completion of this facility for the physically challenged. This amenity will also be of value to other trail users as well. The goal of \$10,000 is an ambitious one. To show our confidence in this project we are setting a May 1996 dedication date. Please join with us in meeting this challenge given to us by Swift (Southwest Washington Independent Forward Thrust). You will recall---- "Gift categories will purchase: \$1,000 a platform segment, \$500 an elevated seg-

ment, \$100 a yard of trail, \$45 a ton of rock, \$30 a plank, \$15 a foot of trail, \$10 a bucket of bolts and \$5 a bag of cement. Material donations will place the donor in special benefactor category. Contributors can become a Quest giver by mailing a check to the Chinook Trail Association at PO Box 997, Vancouver, WA 98668-0997."

For additional information call Ted Klump 695-7149.

Join us on the Silver Star Summer Camp-Out

Our plans have been firmed up for the summer work camp on Silver Star. We will be completing construction of the one and one-half mile, hiker only Ed's Trail. This trail will be rated more to most difficult. This will become a popular hiker access trail from a new trailhead on the 4109 road. This summer work experience can be whatever you wish to make it, a day, an overnighter, several days, a weekend or a week long experience.

Exceptional views, wildflowers and recreational hiking opportunities can be enjoyed on this unique trail work party. This activity is coordinated by the Chinook Trail Association and United States Forest Service. All ages will find this an enjoyable experience. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Joe Sunthimer 253-9619 or Roger Anderson 254-2371 need to hear from those interested before June 20 in order to plan preparations. Please call today.



Overnight workparty, photos by Don Cannard

Excerpts from:

Trails are built and remembered a foot at a time

I have many memories of trails and camps, from Packwood Saddle near the Pacific Crest Trail to Silver Star, Angels Rest, Multnomah Falls, the Olympic Peninsula, other trails in the Columbia River Gorge and elsewhere. Even Vancouver's city-confined Discovery Trail and Seattle's Burke-Gilman trails can provide pleasant outdoor experiences.

Hiking, rollerblading, biking or walking the trails is a growing national activity. Thousands of people are exhilarating, agonizing and blistering their way along the trails of Washington this Memorial holiday weekend.

"Every 100 years an idea comes along that reshapes an entire country," writes David Lillard in the spring edition of American Hiker magazine. "Today, something's afoot that's reshaping the way people think about their communities and the links between them. The idea? A nationwide network of pathways that will weave trails into our American culture as resolutely as the rivers and streams are woven into our landscape."

In this region, the developing Chinook Trail fits that concept.

Ed Robertson recalls its birth. It came when he was sitting on Silver Star mountain with a friend, Don Cannard. "We were bemoaning the lack of this kind of regional trail," Robertson said.

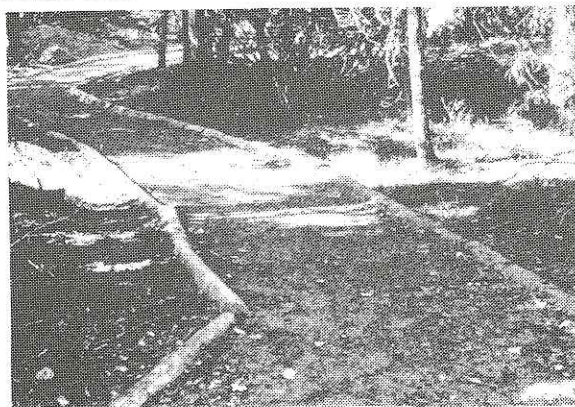
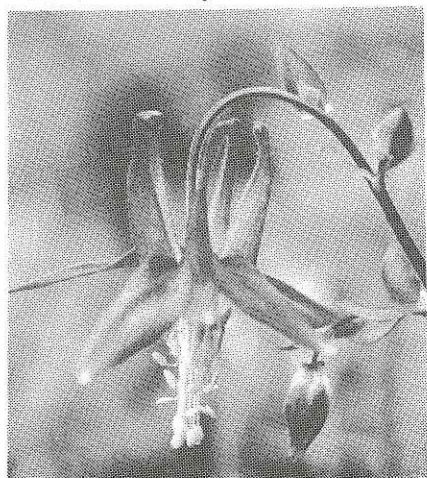
As envisioned by the Chinook Trail Association, Chinook Trail begins at Vancouver Lake and extends east through the Gorge to Maryhill. There, it crosses the Columbia River to Biggs Junction to run west on the Oregon side, eventually connecting with a 40-mile loop trail system through the Portland area.

This is a long-range project—maybe 100 years in the making, Robertson estimates. By then, the main trail will be 200 miles long. With connecting trails, there should be a system of 450 to 500 miles of trails.

Robertson estimates he and Chinook co-founder Cannard and members of the trail association have put in 3,000 volunteer hours on the total project. Much of the trails will be on public land—as much as 60 to 70 percent. There has been a great deal of support except from private property owners in the east end of the Gorge. "They just don't want us around," Robertson said.

This trail offers one more enhancement to the gorgeous Gorge—an opportunity to soak up all that beauty at a walking pace.

*By Tom Koenninger
Reprinted courtesy of
the Columbian*



Backcountry trail etiquette

With the arrival of good weather comes the opportunity for more use of trails and camping. The following is excerpted from a pamphlet prepared by IDAHO TRAILS COUNCIL

Every trail user should be courteous and help preserve trails.

Stay on trails and practice minimum impact.

Don't cut switchbacks, take shortcuts or make new trails.

Know which users can use the trail, then be courteous and friendly to all.

Avoid wet or muddy trails. Save them for future trips when they are dry.

Keep your party small, preferably less than five.

Litter spoils trails and their surroundings. Don't drop it, and pick up after others if possible.

Never leave fishing gear and litter along waterways. It can kill wildlife.

Remove obstacles from trails for others when possible.

Avoid disturbing wildlife, especially in winter and in calving areas. Observe from a distance.

Leave all natural things and features as you found them for others to enjoy.

Ride or travel on the uphill side of the trail to preserve tread.

Leave all gates as you find them.

Never roll rocks off trails or cliffs.

Respect and enjoy but never disturb archaeological or historic sites.

You can make a difference when fishing, hunting, or enjoying the backcountry for its own sake.

Good camping manners for everyone

Practice minimum impact camping at all time.

Pack it in and pack it out. Leave a camp cleaner than you found it.

Use camp stoves whenever possible. Otherwise, keep fires small and use existing fire sites or leave no scar by removing charcoal and replacing sod. Do not make new fire rings.

Carry water containers to reduce traffic at campsites.

Limit your stay to one spot to avoid vegetation damage.

Don't use evergreen boughs for shelter or beds.

Use latrines provided. When none exist, bury waste 5-6" deep at least 200 feet from any water source. Boaters should carry out their human waste.

Be a quiet and considerate camper. Noisy people or dogs are discourteous.

National Trails Day on the Chinook Trail!

Don't miss the opportunity to show your support for trails on June 3rd this year! Your Chinook Trail Association (CTA) is planning a fun event for National Trails Day (NTD).

We will be hiking, maintaining and dedicating the first segment of the Chinook Trail ever built on Silver Star Mountain. Construction will begin on Ed's Trail, a future trail that we will construct on Silver Star Mountain. This trail is, of course, dedicated to the memory of Ed Robertson, who together with Don Cannard, founded the CTA in 1988, and worked tirelessly toward this vision of a rim-top trail in the Columbia River Gorge until he passed away in June of last year.

This is an especially important event that everyone can get involved in. By participating in NTD, you not only get out on the path to some of the most exceptional vistas in the region, but you actually contribute to the continuing existence of trails in the region. In these days of dwindling resources for trails, your support is one of those things which keeps CTA and all trail organizations alive. We really need you!

All participants need only meet us at 134th Park and Ride in Vancouver at 8:00 AM on June 3rd and bring gloves, sturdy shoes, rain gear, lunch, and the trail-grooming or brush-cutting tool of your choice (if you have one). We'll provide souvenir NTD drink mugs, refreshments, additional tools, and more trail humor than you can handle! No prior experience with trails work is necessary, we'll be more than happy to get you into the swing of things. Most importantly, you'll go home at the end of the day knowing you worked on a trails project that is, like the Pacific Crest Trail, the Appalachian Trail, and only a few others, a truly historic and monumental endeavor! Call Larry 503-652-2241 or Joe Sunthimer 253-9619 for additional information.

By Larry Devroy, CTA Vice President



ELLEN

Just as the green-backed heron seems rooted
in the riverbank, one with the water,
yet part of the rushes, so still its fit,

just as the dove's wings leave a shadow of beauty
in the muted morning, wafting softly as a cloud,
so white its wings,

just as the fawn lies beside a fallen fir
half-hidden by ferns, disguised as tawny earth,
so tranquil, so trusting its eyes.

For ninety-one years, Ellen's footprints
have become part of the mountain paths
on Chinook Trail, Silver Star, Mt. St. Helen's,
past hay-gathering pikas scampering over talus rock,
snow-like willow ptarmigans strutting in alpine meadows,
plumes of ash that overwhelmed us all.

She has traced the currents of the Snake,
the Columbia, Sheares Falls on the Deschutes,
beside illusive American bitterns,
horned larks sustained by grasslands,
petroglyphs guarding whitewater.

She has entered the deep forests
of the Coast Range, the Olympics, the Cascades,
touched pink bitterroot growing in the high, dry air,
mountain heather blanketing the high forest.
wispy hanging moss that veils the sun,

With footfalls silent as the heron,
light as the dove's flutter,
hushed as the fawn's breath,
Ellen courses her trail,
bringing only herself,
leaving only her spirit.

Editors note: The poem 'Ellen' was written on the occasion of the dedication of the bench purchased by Dale Grams in recognition of Ellen Davis' 91st birthday. Vancouver poet Arlene Paul was commissioned by CTA to compose this fitting tribute for Ellen.

From other places

The Pacific Regional Trails Council's purpose is to encourage and help make possible the development and completion of all types of trails throughout the Pacific Northwest region encompassing Montana, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia and Alberta.

The Chinook Trail Association was represented last fall at a workshop titled "Connecting Links" conducted by PRTC.

The Autumn issue of our newsletter, "Trail Links" presented the idea of a Columbia River Trail connecting all the communities of the Columbia River, British Columbia to the Pacific Ocean. And some people think the Chinook Trail is an ambitious project. If you wish more information on this project you may write Robert Parlette, Complete the Loop Trail Coalition, PO Box 2136, Wenatchee, WA 98807.

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

May 27 (N)* Tarbell-Silver Star area

June 3 NATIONAL TRAILS DAY (N),

July 13 Recognition of CTA volunteers by

WA State Parks, Beacon Rock State Park

July 18-23 (N) Construction Campout

Silver Star Mountain. Participants need

not stay entire time, call to reserve spot

however: Joe Sunthimer 253-9619 or Robert

Anderson 254-2371.

September 16, 30 location to be announced

October 14, 28

November 4, 18

November 5 Chinook Trail Annual Meet-

ing, Skamania Lodge

*All work parties depart from 134th

(N) or Highway 14 (E) WDOT Park and

Ride locations depending upon whether

going east or north. Car pooling will

occur, all departures scheduled for 8:00

am. Participants are asked to wear heavy

boots, and bring work gloves, lunch, drink-

ing water and appropriate clothing for an-

anticipated weather.

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 253-9619

Summer Work Party

Vern Swaim

Glenn Lamb

Advisory Board

Bobbi Bindreiff

Steve Tubbs

Joanne Swanson

Larry Swatosh

Russ Jolley

Dave Cannard

Joe King

Newsletter Deadline Aug 15

Chinook Trail Board Members Held Retreat

On the weekend of January 27, the Board of Directors met at Menucha in Corbett, Oregon to set and prioritize goals for 1995; and beyond. Under the leadership of facilitator Marc Veneroso, we hammered out a fairly lengthy list of goals, both short and long term, dealing with such things as membership increase; funding and grant writing; improving relationships with land holders and government agencies; and the nuts and bolts of building trails. It was a great retreat and we accomplished a lot.

On the 4th of March, we again met at the Office of Port of Camas/Washougal and began to explore how to implement these goals. We divided the work into four committees: membership, finance, trails, and public relations/promotion; and selected chairpersons for each committee.

With the completion of the Squaw Butte Connector Trail in 1994, we took a big step forward not only in realizing the vision of the Chinook Trail, but in establishing ourselves as a credible trails organization in the Pacific Northwest. This year we move on toward the summit of Silver Star. On June 3, National Trails Day, we begin work on Ed's Trail. We will also have the official dedication of the Squaw Butte Trail. It will be an historical event. I hope to see all of you there.

Ted R. Klump
President

Rock Creek Camp Host

The Washington Department of Natural Resources is looking for a camp host for Rock Creek Campground, located in north eastern Clark County. If interested call Charles North, Recreation Forester WDNR 1-800-527-3305-1-1-5 through the Castle Rock Office.

ABOUT OUR BOARD MEMBERS

Roger Anderson

A Washington native, Roger Anderson was born in Puyallup. He and his parents moved to Stevenson in 1958 where his father worked in the plywood mill. His mother was involved with several community organizations.

Roger enjoyed hunting and fishing with his father, who taught him to respect the land. He soon became interested in the plants and animals and learned to identify many of them.

After graduating from Stevenson High School, Roger moved to Mt. Vernon, Washington where he received an Associate degree in Park Management from Skagit Valley College.

Roger moved back to Stevenson and was employed briefly at Beacon Rock State Park. He was then hired by the Forest Service at the Wind River Ranger Station where he was trails maintenance foreman.

In 1982 he transferred to St. Helen's Ranger District where he was in reforestation of the Mt. St. Helen's blast area.

During the winters he enrolled at Clark College in the horticulture program. After receiving an Associate degree in Horticulture he worked Royal Oaks Country Club as landscaper.

In 1989 Roger was hired by Clark County Parks Department where he is in charge of trail maintenance.

Roger is also a Master Gardener, a hike coordinator for the Wilderness Wanderers hiking club and has been a member of the Chinook Trail Association for four years. He currently lives in the Brush Prairie area where he collects and grows a wide variety of plants species.

Chinook Trail Association

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



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Ted R. Klump

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