

Chinook Trek #18

April, 1996

## Construction Season Begins

The 1996 construction season for the Chinook Trail Association begins with a new trail construction project. Approval has been received from Clark County to begin the nine-mile Bells Mountain connector. This segment will connect Moulton Falls County Park lands with the Washington Department of Natural Resources Cold Creek Campground.

CTA, under the leadership of Joe Sunthimer, has been locating the best possible route and doing preliminary survey work.

The first work party will be at Moulton Falls County Park on April 13th. As with all work parties, they originate with an 8:00 am rendezvous. We anticipate being at Moulton Falls by 9:00 am for those who wish to go directly to the work site. (See info on other work parties for place of origin and estimated time of arrival, tools, etc.) Call Roger Anderson at (360) 254-2371 for info.

On the 27th of April we will be on Hamilton Mountain. There are several projects needing attention. Those wishing

to go directly can join with us in the upper parking lot near the newly refurbished picnic area at 9:00 am. Call Ted Klump, (360) 695-7149 for additional info. Free camping is available on this day if space is available, courtesy of the park.

May 11th finds us working on Ed's Trail on Silver Star Mountain. This trail is nearly completed. There will be a degree of hiking involved with this outing, about a long mile at the most. So if you want to stretch your legs for a late spring walk amid the wildflowers of Silver Star, this one is for you. Again, CTA will furnish tools to those needing them. For information, call Joe Sunthimer (360) 253-9619.

May 25 is a return to Ed's Trail for additional trail work.

June 1, National Trails Day, finds us back at Moulton Falls. The earlier work party should see most of the brushing completed, so on this one it is anticipated we can perform some pretty significant tread work with pulaskis, McClouds,



shovels and various hoes. Bring your favorite tool or Chinook Trail will provide same. Call Roger Anderson, (360) 254-2371 for additional info.

For information for those work parties, call the names and phone numbers indicated. However, it is not necessary to call to reserve a spot. Carpooling will be available.

These are the regularly scheduled work parties. Others will be occurring in a more spontaneous manner. If you wish to be involved on other days of the week, call any of the people listed for the particular trail of interest and more up-to-the-minute information will be available. Larry Devroy has been in touch with Pete Bond, Oregon State Trails Coordinator, and there will be some work information on some of the Oregon trails for the fall.

## National Trails Day, June 1

National Trails Day will officially be celebrated by the Chinook Trail Association with a huge effort to build the Bells Mountain Connector Trail starting at Clark County Moulton Falls Park. On Saturday, June 1, participants will gather at the 134th St. Park and Ride at 8:00 am, with departure occurring as soon as participants are registered. Those wishing to go directly may register at Moulton Falls Park at 9:00 am. CTA will provide needed tools. Those wishing may bring their own favorite trail building tool. A sack lunch, drinking water, work



gloves, boots and appropriate work clothes are in order for the day. Carpooling will be available.

Special arrangements are in the works for corporate sponsors to provide snacks and other amenities. This has always been a gala event with large numbers of workers enjoying a day of construction and the friendship which comes from working together to construct a trail. It was just the sort of work party which pushed the Squaw Butte connector and Ed's Trail to completion in '93, '94 and '95.

For more information, call Roger Anderson at (360) 254-2371.

PLEASE JOIN WITH US IN MAKING THIS A SUCCESS!



# Cedar Creek Falls Trail and Platform Dedication

The formal dedication of the Cedar Creek Falls Trail and Viewing Platform will occur on Saturday, May 4th at 11:00 am. Jennifer Belcher, Land Commissioner of the Washington Department of Natural Resources, will accept the trail on behalf of WDNR.

Light refreshments will be served. A special musical treat is in store for all attendees. A short two-mile hike is planned along Cedar and Cold Creeks. This will follow the dedication ceremony and a walk on the trail. The trail has been designed and built for those with limited mobility. It will be a part of the Chinook Trail when the Bells Mountain connector is completed. Participants are encouraged to bring a sack lunch and drinking water and enjoy the picnic grounds of the Cold Creek facility.

The Cedar Creek Falls Trail and Overlook was constructed with over 2,000 hours of volunteer time by the Chinook Trail Association. Over 2,000 feet of treated poles for curbs, 2,100 lineal feet of rebar for anchors, over 70 feet of elevated walkway was constructed, over 500 feet of horse trail was relocated and more than 300 tons of crushed rock were used in its construction. More than \$17,000 in materials and equipment rental and purchase went into this project. The SWIFT Foundation and the Meyer Memorial Trust were major contributors to the success of this project. Also, the Greater Vancouver Kiwanis Club contributed volunteer time as well as \$500 to the project. The many contributors to the 1995 Quest fundraiser also made this project successful. Youth in the Summer Youth Employment and the Re-entry Programs administered by ESD 112 participated in its construction. The Clark Public Utility District Community Action Program provided valuable workers and equipment.

**Transportation arrangements are being provided by C-TRAN. Those wishing to attend will be transported from the Van Mall C-TRAN terminal to the site.** The bus will leave promptly at 9:15 am and will return at about 2:30 following the dedication and short hike. Individuals needing special transportation accommodations should call 693-8819 in advance. Directions to Cold Creek Campground are included elsewhere in this newsletter for those wishing to drive their own vehicles.

All participants who assisted in the construction of this facility and the public are invited to attend the function. For more information call Don Cannard, (360) 694-4033.



**Daryl Hoyt, White Salmon, operating his loader on the final workday at Cedar Creek Falls.**



**President Ted Klump making the final pass compacting the crushed rock on Cedar Falls.**



**Cedar Creek Falls Overlook, completed and survivor of the flood of '96, awaits the May 4th Dedication and users.**

(All photos by Don Cannard)



# CTA Thanks Questionnaire Respondents

by Larry Devroy

The CTA Board wishes to thank all members and others who have returned the questionnaire included in last quarter's newsletter. The effectiveness of this organization depends entirely on your involvement and this is one simple way to help us gain an understanding of how best to represent your interests! If

you just didn't find the time to respond, didn't receive a copy of the questionnaire, or just wish to let me (Larry Devroy) know your thoughts regarding any CTA matters, call me at (503) 652-2241 (home) or (503) 378-3805, Ext. 285 (work) and I'll make sure that your voice is heard. By the way, you can still send in

your questionnaires, there is no deadline for their return. One additional item will be mentioned here: we need a chairperson for the CTA Annual Meeting Committee to work with guidance from Don Cannard to get the Annual Meeting organized. Please call Don or myself to volunteer. Thank you.

## The Desert-Parsleys

by Russ Jolley

Western North America is the home of the desert-parsleys, i.e., plants of the genus *Lomatium* (Low-may-shum). There are about 79 known species of *Lomatium*. All have flowers borne in an umbrella-like arrangement, with colors of different species ranging from white to brown, but most commonly yellow. The plants range in height from 2 inches (*Lomatium piperi*) to 6 feet (*Lomatium dissectum*).

The desert-parsleys are definitely spring wildflowers. In the Gorge, all *Lomatium* species begin flowering sometime before mid-April and finish flowering sometime before mid-June. After this, all of the above-ground parts of the plant die back. Thus far, 14 species of *Lomatium* have been found in the

Gorge. One species, *Lomatium triter-natum*, is common throughout the length of the Gorge. Another species, *Lomatium martindalei*, is found only in the western half of the Gorge. The other 12 species are characteristically plants of the eastern Gorge. One of these, *Lomatium grayi*, is easily identified because of the strong but not unpleasant aroma given off by its foliage.

Of the 14 Gorge desert-parsleys, two are Columbia Gorge endemics, that is, they are found only in the Columbia Gorge and vicinity. These are the red-flowered *Lomatium columbianum* and the yellow-flowered *Lomatium suksdorfii*. The latter species is named after Wilhelm Suksdorf, the foremost botanist of the Gorge, whose name is attached to several

other native plants of the Gorge. Because of its very limited range and abundance, *Lomatium suksdorfii* is listed as "Sensitive" (needing protection) by the Washington Natural Heritage Program and "threatened throughout its range" by the Oregon Natural Heritage Data Base.

For those interested in pursuing an acquaintance with the desert-parsleys, nine different species can be found in the Catherine Creek Natural Area, six miles east of Bingen, managed by the US Forest Service.

(Russ Jolley is author of "Wild-flowers of the Columbia Gorge," published by the Oregon Historical Society Press.)

## Directions to Cold Creek Campground and Cedar Creek Trail and Overlook

Starting from State Highway 500 travel east from Interstate 5. At about Fourth Plain 500 turns north and becomes State Highway 503 (NE 117th Ave.). Just past Prairie High School at the signal turn right (east) to 119th St. Travel on 119th for 2.8 miles. At the stop sign turn left (north) on 182nd Ave. for one mile to 139th St. Turn right to 139th. Remain on 139th for 2.3 miles, 139th becomes NE Rawson Road at a rather sharp turn to the left, use caution at this intersection as oncoming traffic does not stop. Follow Rawson for 2.7 miles until it becomes a gravel road. At this point you leave county maintained road and enter on WDNR maintained road. This is the 1400

Road. You will keep left at two intersections. Travel for 2.9 miles to the second intersection. The road becomes the 1000 Road. Continue on the 1000 Road for 1.3 miles until reaching the Larch Mountain Honor Camp, take the right hand road for 1.8 miles. Just past a stream and trail crossing watch for a road with an open yellow gate on the left. It is the 1300 Road.

USE EXTREME CAUTION AS YOU EXIT ONTO THIS ROAD ON A CURVE. PROCEED AROUND THE CURVE SO ONCOMING TRAFFIC CAN SEE YOU BEFORE TURNING ONTO THE GATED ROAD. Proceed down the 1300 Road about 3/4 of a mile

and turn left into Cold Creek Campground. Cedar Creek Falls Trail leading to the Overlook can be found immediately across the footbridge leading to the covered picnic area.

It is recommended traveling with lights on as the upper roads are narrow with numerous private road and driveway intersections. The gravel roads can be dusty, impairing vision. Road signs can be missing at some junctions. A good road map source to help your travels in and around rural Clark County is ARNOLD'S ROAD MAP OF CLARK COUNTY.



## 1996 Spring Work Schedule...

Please mark your calendar as this is the only notice you will receive on these dates due to newsletter schedule. (Exception will be the August 17th date.) (WP=Work Party)

- April 13** Moulton Falls WP  
**April 27** Hamilton Mountain WP  
**May 4** DEDICATION OF CEDAR CREEK FALLS TRAIL AND OVERLOOK  
**May 11** Ed's Trail WP  
**May 25** Ed's Trail WP  
**June 1** NATIONAL TRAILS DAY  
 Moulton Falls WP  
**August 17** ED'S TRAIL DEDICATION

### Please Note:

Carpooling available. All work parties to the east depart from the Pendleton Woolen Mills parking lot in Washougal. Work parties to the northeast depart from the WDOT Park and Ride at 134th Street. All departures are scheduled for 8:00 a.m. and ETOR is 4:30 p.m.

Bring your own trail tools. CTA will also provide tools if you have none. Wear appropriate work clothes including work gloves and boots and bring your own drinking water and lunch. Work parties will be held rain or shine so bring rain gear.

## CTA Board Members

Ted Klump, President	695-7149
Larry Devroy, Vice President,	
Membership	652-2241
Fred Rogers, Secretary	256-2927
Florence Wager, Treasurer	694-2364
Roger Anderson	254-2371
Don Cannard, Newsletter	694-4033
Paul Clare	
Bruce Davis, Public Information	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
Vern Swaim	
Glenn Lamb	

## Advisory Board

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

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# Ed's Trail Dedication Set For August 17

Saturday, August 17, 11:30 am has been set for the dedication of the 1.5 mile long hiker-only Ed's Trail #180 on Silver Star. This is a special trail with its route following the top of Star Creek Canyon and skimming along the bluffs of Silver Star.

The route travels through a newly discovered natural arch. Photographers will want to capture this one.

For those new to the organization, the trail was named after Ed Robertson, co-founder of the Chinook Trail Association. It was so named in the current USFS Forest Plan prior to Ed's passing.

There will be a reading of a poem dedicated to Ed and the trail by Vancouver writer and poet Arlene Paul. Incidentally, Arlene and Ed were former plant buffs and enjoyed sharing their knowledge of the botanical wonders of the alpine reaches of Silver Star.

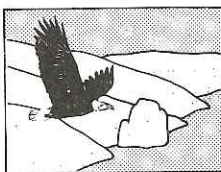
Special music is being arranged as well as a guided flower walk by botanist Russ Jolley, author of "Wildflowers Of The Columbia River Gorge." Ed and Russ worked together on several botanical projects on Silver Star and in the Columbia River Gorge.

Accepting the completed trail will be representatives from Mt. St. Helens District and the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

The dedication will take place on Ed's Trail where it junctions with the Chinook Trail #180B on the ridge paralleling the upper portion of the former 4109 Road. Those wishing to carpool may meet at the WDOT Park and Ride at 134th Street near the junction of Highways 5 and 205 at 8:30 am. Those wishing to go it alone can meet the group at the Sunset Campground around 9:30 or you can proceed up to the new trail head on the 4109 Road. There is parking and restrooms at Sunset. Carpooling could also take place there. Bring a sack lunch and drinking water and appropriate clothing for the weather and plan to hike about a mile to the dedication site.

A special stone plaque will be installed on the location marking the trail and commemorating it to Ed.

All in all, it should be a very special day. For more information contact Doc Cannard, (360) 694-4033.



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

**CEDAR CREEK FALLS  
 TRAIL & OVERLOOK  
 DEDICATION  
 SATURDAY, MAY 4th**

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