

National Trails Day, Saturday, June 7

Ted Klump, president of the Chinook Trail Association, and Roger Anderson, Trails Chair, announced that National Trails Day activities will be conducted on the Squaw Butte and Ed's Trail segments of the Chinook Trail on June 7th. These segments join the WDNR Tarbell Trail system. When the Bell's Mountain segment is completed, it will join the proposed Chelatchie Prairie Trail enabling the user to travel from Moulton Falls County Park to Silver Star Mountain in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest by way of WDNR Tarbell Trail, a

distance of nearly 20 miles.

Participants will gather at 8:00 am at the WDOT Park and Ride on June 7th. Our work on this day will be to clear off brush from as many of the nine miles of proposed right of way as possible. Bring your favorite hand pruners, pruner saws and other cutting tools. CTA will also have tools available from our inventory, as well as from participating agencies. Only clearing of brush and down material will be conducted at this time. Unlike last year, the heavy work of putting in the tread will be done later.



President's Column

by Ted Klump

June 7th is the fifth annual National Trails Day—a day set aside to celebrate volunteerism in the maintenance and construction of hiking trails. Since the first NTD in 1993, the Chinook Trail Association has been involved in construction of new trail segments of the Chinook Trail. It is rewarding to be a part of NTD and see what can be accomplished with volunteer efforts. Unfortunately, one day a year is not enough to realize our vision.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that if we are going to build the Chinook Trail and maintain it after it is constructed, we must multiply our efforts several fold. We have developed good partnerships with USFS, DNR, and State Parks to secure easements across lands under their stewardship, but they don't have the resources either financially or in manpower to maintain our trail system. Indeed, since 1991, the CTA has been largely responsible for maintaining trails at Beacon Rock State Park. Budget cuts have seriously crippled trail maintenance efforts across the country. In 1994, the USFS was able to maintain only 50 percent of its trail systems in Washington and Oregon. By 1996, they were able to accomplish but 30 percent of needed work. And this at a time when the competition for backcountry recreation is at an all time high. In order to secure a lasting future for hiking and other forms of outdoor recreation, it will be necessary to implement increased volunteerism, both in terms of frequency and intensity.

The Chinook Trail Association is an all volunteer organization. We need a lot of people to help make it function. Over the last eight years, the organization has grown and the same few people are handling our increased responsibilities. If we are to continue in our quest for the Chinook Trail, we need more help. Don't think just because you are unable to work on trails, your talents cannot be used. The tasks that need doing are many and varied. Currently, we need people to serve on the board of directors, on the membership committee and help with membership renewals. We need an historian, and people to help with the newsletter. And the list goes on, not the least of which is the importance of financial support to help with ongoing expenses. Our vision is grand and the task before us is awesome. I invite you to be a part of history. Come help us build the Chinook Trail.

Current volunteer positions that need to be filled:

1. Two positions open on the Board of Directors
2. Membership Committee Chair
3. People to work on the newsletter
4. Historian
5. Someone(s) to organize and chair a fund-raising committee
6. People to help organize and produce the annual meeting
7. People to help organize National Trails Day



Bells Mountain Access Assures Chinook Trail Route

Final paper work is being completed to enable the Chinook Trail access across privately owned Stimson Timber lands on Bells Mountain in east Clark County.

Access permits, licenses and easement agreements between the Washington Department of Natural Resources and Stimson Timber were carefully worked out by Jan Gano, Regional Manager; Seth Macki, District Manager; and Marc Engle, Battle Ground Unit Forester. These arrangements have been made possible through diligent pursuit by these individuals. We are pleased the Stimson Timber Company has shown itself to be such a good corporate friend and steward for the Chinook Trail. Ted Klump, CTA president, states, "Though WDNR's prime responsibility is not as a recreation provider, we are pleased WDNR is helping build the Chinook Trail in such a cooperative manner."

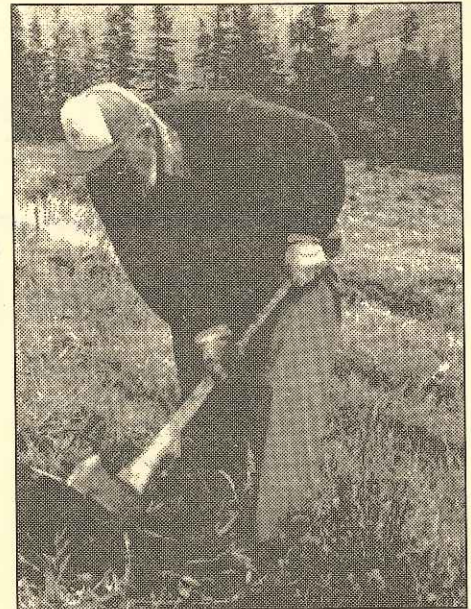
This segment of the Chinook Trail will connect the proposed Chelatchie Prairie RR Trail (Clark County owned) and the 30-mile WDNR Tarbell Trail system

which in turn connects with the trails of Silver Star in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

Larry Smith, newly appointed Director of the recently reorganized City of Vancouver and Clark County Parks Departments stated, "I am very pleased this project, which has been a vision for many years of the former County Parks staff, is continuing to move forward. Under our newly combined and reorganized Vancouver Clark Community Parks Department, an IAC grant application has been prepared and recommended to this session of the legislature in hopes of securing funds to complete the construction of this portion of the trail."

National Trails Day, June 7 activities will take place on this trail route (see articles on NTD).

(Special update: The IAC is recommending to the Washington Legislature that this trail project be funded by an appropriation to the IAC.)



Paul Clare on a work party. Work parties build and maintain the Chinook Trail.

Photo by Don Cannard

Cape Horn Overlook and Park Truly a One-of-a-Kind Opportunity

Dan Huntington, Prindle resident, is the prime mover behind the proposed Cape Horn Overlook and 45 mile trail linking Stevenson and Washougal. The trail runs via Archer Mountain, Beacon Rock State Park, the Pacific Crest Trail, Green Leaf Mountain, Beacon Rock State Park and the Pacific Crest Trail. Dan is encouraged by the endorsements the project is receiving.

The Skamania County Chamber of Commerce presented the idea to the Skamania County commissioners who originally endorsed the Overlook concept. The Vancouver City Council, the City of Washougal and the Clark County commissioners are some of the endorsing organizations. Since then, the Skamania County commissioners have rescinded their endorsement. It is hoped they will reconsider and support this truly once-in-

a-lifetime opportunity. It would be a shame to lose this chance.

All eyes are focusing upon this session of the Washington State Legislature. Ted Klump, Chinook Trail President says, "If the Legislature can consider building a stadium in Seattle, it can darn well see to it that funding is available to Southwest Washington for the Cape Horn Project. At a time when tourism plays such an important economic role in the state's financial picture, funding from the state will assure a perpetual return. This is particularly true when the investment from the private sector is nearly a third of a million dollars to build the trail."

Federal funding may be available this year to assist with the purchase of some of the key properties in the gorge for this project.

US Senator Slade Gorton is expressing a keen interest in this project and will also be looking for ways the Federal Government can assist. Let him know of your interest.

The Honorable Slade Gorton
United States Senator
500 W. 12th
Vancouver, WA 98660
(360) 696-7838

For more information, call Dan Huntington at (360) 253-1120 or Ted Klump at (360) 695-7149.

A Tribute to Photo-Journalist Jim Hughes

By Don Cannard

Photo-journalist Jim Hughes offered his services to the fledgling Chinook Trail Association with his customarily modest comment, "I think I could help you folks out." And help he did!

Jim was a member of the original 20 or so individuals who met weekly as a 'select committee' to form CTA, develop early operating procedures, mission statement and guidelines for implementing the vision of the Chinook Trail. He set the format and level of quality for our newsletter, the *Chinook Trek*. He designed and produced our brochure which is still timely today. It is widely acknowledged as a quality item. He took many photos for CTA and presented them to us with the comment, "Feel free to use them any way you wish." Pretty generous offer. Jim wrote the narration and developed the slide show we still use to tell the Chinook Trail story with some occasional timely slide updating. He designed and constructed our display board exhibit. We have added up-to-date photos and a lightweight display board.

Jim put us in touch with Gail Saunders, a former colleague and graphic artist for the US Forest Service. She designed our logo to which Ed Robertson added color. Jim, with Gail's assistance, designed and produced our masthead for the *Chinook Trek* and our stationery.

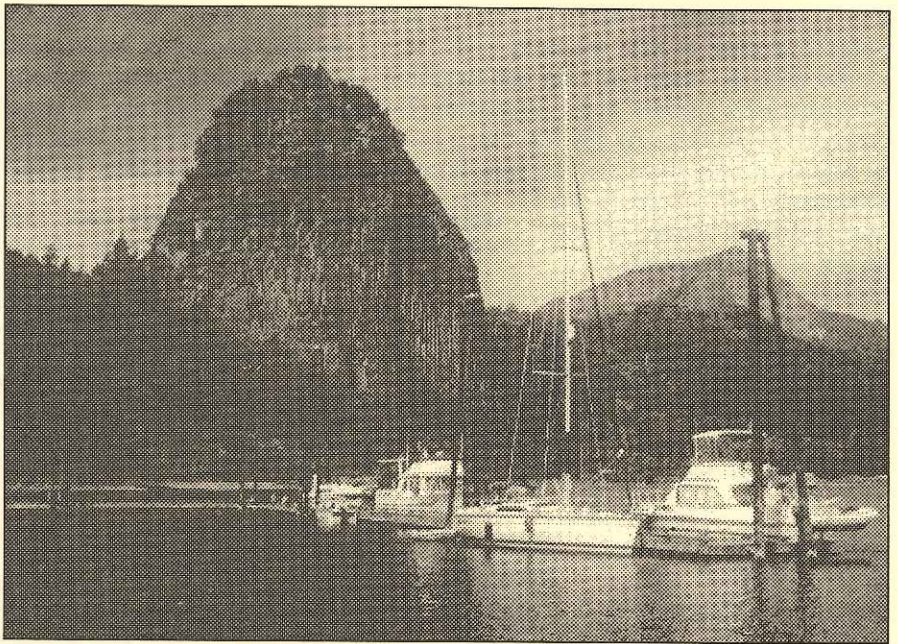
Jim began his work experience as the first fulltime photographer for the Vancouver Columbian in 1954. It was then I first met Jim as we both attended Vancouver School Board meetings, he as a reporter for the paper and I as a representative of the Vancouver Department of Classroom Teachers. Jim went on to work for the Washington Department of Natural Resources where he instituted many journalistic innovations. Foremost is that agency's "*The Totem*" which to this day is one of the WDNR public communication vehicles.

Jim's final career change came when he moved to the Regional Office of the United States Forest Service in Portland as a Public Affairs officer. He retired and went on to form the Photo-Venture company with his wife Priscilla. Priscilla, by the way, assisted him with many of the contributions he made to the Chinook Trail.

Jim was under contract over the years for a variety of projects. He spent a year documenting activities in Skamania County for the Skamania Chamber of Commerce. He did a photo history of the construction of the Skamania Lodge. You will see many photo credits with Jim's name in a variety of northwest and national publications. And so his legacy lives.

We were saddened when Jim passed away on January 20th following a courageously fought bout with cancer. Jim would have been 70 in July.

I know I will always think of Jim's modest offer for help each time I work on the newsletter, send out a letter on our stationary, or hand out a patch or brochure.



Beacon Rock State Park is site of several work parties this season.

Photo by Jim Hughes

Jim's modest, "I think I could help you folks out," is a gross understatement of the value of his help and assistance to the Chinook Trail and its 'Quest'!

The following quote by Ansel Adams reflects Jim's thinking: "My approach to photography is based on my belief in the vigor and values of the world of nature, in aspect of grandeur and minutiae all about us. I believe in people, in the simpler aspects of human life, in the relation of man to nature. I believe man must be free, both in spirit and society, that he must build strength into himself, affirming the enormous beauty of the world and acquiring the confidence to see and to express his vision. And I believe in photography as one means of expressing this affirmation and of achieving an ultimate happiness and faith." (Ansel Adams, 1982)

Contributions are being received in his name to the Chinook Trail Remembrance Fund.

The Chinook Trail Association gratefully acknowledges the following Remembrance Fund gifts received as of February 18 in memory of Jim Hughes:

Bill Satterthwaite, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Herman, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Clare, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Johnson, Florence Wager, Lavone Cable, Grace Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. John Satterthwaite, Nancy Ellifrit, Theresa Nanney, Roy Brothers, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Baskett, Don and Sue Cannard, Kenneth and Dorothy Hughes, Merle and Nancy Pugh, Pearl Gora, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Burns, Mr. and Mrs. William Watson.

Earth Action Day, Sat., April 19

Chinook Trail Association is celebrating Earth Action Day by sponsoring a trail project on the Ellen Davis Trail north of Leverich Park. Meet at the Water Resources Center for a kick-off with a free pancake breakfast at 8:30 or be at the south parking lot in the JD Ross Complex north of Vancouver at 10:00 am. Bring your own tools for shoveling gravel, garden rake and/or pruners to attack blackberry vines and English ivy. The work site is on the premises of the abandoned BPA gardens. Some off-trail work on the garden site will also be done. Work gloves, boots and rain gear plus your lunch and drinking water are in order. Ellen Davis will be with us. Come share the day with Ellen and be a part of a historical garden scene. Participants will return to the Water Resource Center at 2:00 pm for concluding events.

Ted Klump, CTA President, loads "Tote." Tote will be used on Earth Action Day on the Ellen Davis Trail.

Photo by Don Cannard



The Eagle is in the Air



Our "Quest" fund drive has taken off with welcome donations thus far (as of February 18) from: Daryl Hoyt and Krista Thie, Emil and Doris Brookings, Don and Sue Cannard, Joyce Kilpatrick, Donald Sterling, Jr., Nicolas Dodge, Connie Jeffrey, L. Paul Greenland, Dan and Val Ogden, Glenn Lamb, Barbara Farrow Walker, Clarence and Arlene Paul, Ron Matela, Larry S. Shaw, Keith and Doris Henson.

CTA Board Members

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 Jan Breneman, Corresponding Secretary
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Work Party Dates

Mark your calendars now
 for the following work party dates:



April 12 Indian Creek, Hood River. Carpool at Lewis and Clark State Park east parking lot near restrooms

April 19 Earth Action Day. (See article above.)

April 26 Hamilton Mountain at Beacon Rock State Park. Carpool at
& May 10 Washougal Woolen Mills west parking lot or meet at Beacon Rock upper parking lot at trailhead near restroom at 8:00 am.

May 2 Bells Mountain portion of CT. Carpool from 134th Street WDOT
& June 7 WDOT Park and Ride or meet at Cold Creek Campground at 9:15.

All work parties depart shortly after 8:00 am and return by 4:45. As arrival back to carpool locations cannot be guaranteed, volunteers who have a definite appointment back home may want to take own car. Travel is usually on passenger car accessible roads.

Reminder: All participants must wear work boots, long pants, long-sleeved shirts, bring own lunch, drinking water and appropriate clothing for rain or shine. Sun and insect lotions are advised.

For additional information: call Ted Klump (360) 695-7149 or Roger Anderson, (360) 254-2371.



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**National Trails Day
 June 7th**