



Annual Meeting

Sunday, Nov. 11th, 12 Noon

Chinook Trail's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 11th. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. C & L Catering will provide us with the usual scrumptious lunch. The cost will be \$25 per person. Vegetarian fare will be available. The meeting will be held in the historic Covington House at 41st and Main Street in Vancouver. Having a meal in one of the oldest structures in Vancouver will be a treat in itself and you are bound to be thrilled.



Mike Houck

Presenting our program will be Mike Houck, adjunct professor at Portland State College. Mike has received many awards for his work in saving and interpreting the urban environment in Portland and regional areas. You may best remember him as 'the' Urban Naturalist with the Portland Audubon Society. He also co-authored the guidebook *Wild in the City, A Guide to Portland's Natural Areas* with M. J. Cody. We are very

privileged to have Mike for this special event. Mike is not only knowledgeable but an entertaining presenter also. His topic will relate to the importance of trails in the urban planning picture. Special awards will be presented to individuals giving unselfishly of their time and talents in furthering the value of trails. Watch for your special invitation to be mailed later.



The Covington House, erected in 1848 by Richard and Anne Charlotte Covington on Fourth Plain, was once the center of social activities for the entire region, and was a boarding school in 1850. It also housed the first piano in the Oregon Country.

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Trail Steward Phil Delaney Loves the Mountains

Phil Delaney is the Trail Steward for portions of the Tarbell Trail. You might say he tends this as if it were his own. Well, it practically is! Phil and his wife Susie live only two miles from the Tarbell picnic area in northeast Clark County in the Dole Valley area near Silver Star Mountain. Phil has worked on many of the Chinook Trail work parties, cutting brush, installing water bars, surveying future trail activities and rebuilding failed trail sections. Phil, in his former life, was a machinist for over 35 years. He enjoys hiking and does so each week. He has climbed high peaks like Mt. Hood, Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Rainier, Mt. Adams and Mt. Shasta. Recently he spent some time in Colorado where he and his daughter climbed a number of 14,000-plus peaks. Thanks, Phil, for stepping up.

President's Message

By Larry Swatosh

This summer started with a fairly successful National Trails Day. This was CTA's fifteenth year of celebrating the event and we did it with a work party staged out of Cold Creek Campground. We accomplished about a mile and a half of brushing and tread work and some clean up of five bridges to remove accumulated rocks and dirt. We finished the day with an excellent barbecued lunch and the awarding of souvenir CTA "bucket" hats and raffle prizes.

We planned several more work parties but had to cancel some for lack of response. However, two small-scale local work parties on Ellen Davis Trail helped prepare the area for upcoming reconstruction work to improve the grade and make the trail accessible to disabled users.

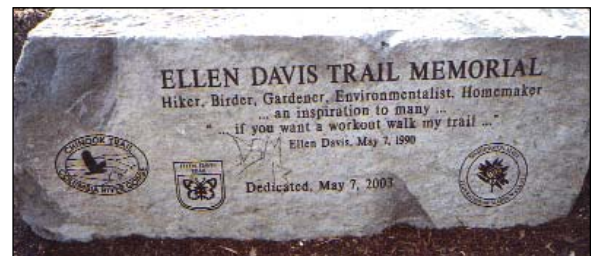
Your president has now displayed the Chinook Trail Association name in Russia and the Ukraine. We traveled over 1,000 miles on the Russian waterways from Moscow to St. Petersburg and the picture shown here is from our visit to Red Square and the Kremlin. It was a fabulous trip.

Hope to see you at the Annual Meeting.



Ellen Davis Trail Update

CTA has held several work parties on the Ellen Davis Trail. Chainsaws were used to cut back vegetation crowding in on the trail. A local contractor pushed back intruding blackberries and re-established the tread to a proper width and degree of slope with his caterpillar. We are now in the process of spreading new gravel on the tread. It is hoped it



will be finished before it rains. The overall goal for the trail is to upgrade it to urban standards. This means no grade will be more than 5% and the tread will be 12 feet in width. CTA has met with Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation personnel David Judd, director, and Lisa Goorjian, trails supervisor, about the steps to be taken to achieve this goal. Parks will essentially handle necessary permitting and CTA will seek funding and rebuild where needed to meet these standards. The Ellen Davis Trail will be the connector between the planned Chelatchie Prairie Trail and Discovery Trail. When completed the trail will be ADA accessible its entire length.

If interested in assisting with this, contact Don Cannard, Ellen Davis Trail Steward, at 360-694-4033.

Mission Statement of the Chinook Trail Association (CTA):

- Advocates development of a Columbia River bi-state loop trail;
- Provides information and education to develop public support;
- Monitors and participates in route selection, design standards, trail development and maintenance in an ongoing spirit of conservation to preserve the natural beauty of the Gorge;
- Cooperates with appropriate local, state and federal agencies to develop this recreational resource.

National Trails Day at Cold Creek June 2007

By Andrea deRuyter

The morning started at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 2nd at the parking lot of the PUD on Hwy. 503 where folks met to carpool up to Cold Creek. Others met us up at the parking lot at Cold Creek at 9:00 a.m. The goal for the day was to clean up one to two miles of Cold Creek Trail. Approximately 20 volunteers showed up to do the work. We broke into groups and headed out down the trail. Brush was cut back, bridge decks were cleared of debris from the winter storms, and drainage ditches were cut in or cleaned out. One of the more involved projects consisted of an impromptu installation of a culvert at a site where a culvert was already installed a little too high up on the trail. Remembering seeing a culvert pipe along the trail a little ways up, a volunteer hiked up the trail to see if he could find it. In the meantime, a ditch was cut into the uphill side



Head chef Bob Scullin and assistant Judy Swatosh oversee the food.



NTD 2007 volunteers take a break to pose for the camera. Shown are (back row) Bill, Evan Hull, and Jim Wood, and (front row) Hank Berquist. Not shown are Fred Rogers and Phil Delaney.

of the trail to allow water to travel down to the new culvert site and the ditch where the culvert would be placed was cut out. No luck on finding the culvert pipe.

After four hours of work, the crews headed back to the campsite and enjoyed a barbecue of burgers and hot dogs, chips, watermelon and cookies. Thanks go out to Cascade Dental who donated very generously allowing us to purchase the food for the barbecue and to enable us to purchase caps for all the volunteers which Larry gave out along with a handy little pocket knife from the Chinook Trail Association. A big thank you goes to head chef Bob Scullin, assisted by Sue Cannard and Judy Swatosh, for preparing the food for the barbecue and grilling the burgers and dogs.

This year, we did a raffle during lunch. Thanks to the generous donations from HOSTS Learning, Megan Raymond, and Jerry and Andrea deRuyter, everyone was able to get a prize. And most of all A BIG THANK YOU to all the wonderful individuals who came out on their Saturday to volunteer to keep our trails in good condition.

After lunch, Bill, Hank, Jerry, and Andrea headed back up to the culvert site carrying wood to create the culvert. After a lot more digging, some engineering and nailing, the culvert was installed and covered with dirt. Ah, done for the day with the main goal accomplished.

National Trails Day 2008

National Trails Day 2008 is planned for Beacon Rock State Park. It will be held on June 7th, 2008 (the first Saturday in June). Save the date on your calendar. We have applied to SWIFT for funds to provide materials for upgrades of the Hadley and Little Beacon Rock Trails to assure the safety of wheelchair users.

Bells Mountain Run

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to jog the entire 29-mile length of the Bells Mountain National Recreation Trail? Well, Mark Passmore and two fellow joggers from Portland did just that! The following is Mark's accounting of their odyssey.

"Three of us completed the 29 miles in a seven-hour run. It was super, especially the section from Tarbell to Silver Star and then to Bluff Mtn. We did a car drop at Bluff Mtn. trailhead and drove back to begin our run at Lucia Falls. From Lucia we ran to Bluff Mtn. trailhead to our second car. We wanted the elevation gain. Our watch computed 6000 feet of climbing by going west to east on this trail. We had a mixed weather day—some sun, clouds, rain at Silver Star and then more sun at the end. It was a good adventure day!!! We did not see any wildlife which was surprising. We thought maybe we'd see a deer or elk.

"The only confusion en route was finding the section beyond Bells Mtn. up to Tarbell. There were a lot of what we thought were ATV trails that made it difficult to know if we

were on the correct trail or not. If that section could have flags on trees or some type of markers, it would be great. Once you get to the campground (where Tarbell begins) then it is easy to follow the route. I got the maps we needed at REI using the National Geographic in-store map builder. They worked pretty well and it was just that one section that was confusing."

CTA is pleased the run was successful. We also have concerns about the ATV misuse of the trail. In fact, we don't believe we are obliged to care for this trail if WDNR doesn't post and enforce the no vehicle measure for this trail. CTA has no enforcement ability on any trails.

Thanks Mark, for your account of your jog.

Opportunities for Volunteers

Areas where help can be used: trails and hike coordinators, tool stewards, trail steward assistants, working in the office, helping with mailings, newsletter, membership, and writing grants. As you can see, there is a job for every talent.

CTA Board Members

Don Cannard, Co-Founder 360-694-4033
 Larry Swatosh, President 360-694-1313
 Megan Raymond, Vice President
 MarCine Miles, Secretary
 Dave Sanks, Treasurer 360-834-6103
 Bob Scullin, Tool Steward 360-834-7892
 Paul Clare, Newsletter Editor 360-892-8173
 Membership Chair POSITION OPEN
 CTA Business Office 360-883-6211
 Vern Swaim Bill Byrd Bob Scullin

Advisory Board

Bobbi Bindreiff Mitch Bower Russ Jolley
 Paul Cannard Kelly Puntaney Steve Tubbs
 Florence Wager

Trail Stewards

Trail Stewards provide a valuable service to CTA and the hiking community. Following are the names, phone numbers and areas covered by our stewards. Stewards survey the trail, suggest work party activities and some even work on the trail. There is room for helpers on these tasks. Give them a ring.

Steve Tubbs Silver Star 360-993-2729
 Don Cannard Ellen Davis 360-694-4033
 Phil Delaney Tarbell 360-789-2296
 Andrea and Jerry deRuyter Bells Mountain West 360-263-5097
 Hank Berquist Bells Mountain East 503-285-5819
 Kelly Puntaney Chelatchie Prairie 360-921-8374

E-Mail: cta@pacifier.com
Website: www.chinooktrail.org
Business Office Phone: 360-883-6211



Chinook Trail Association
 P.O. Box 397
 Vancouver WA 98666 0397



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Nov. 11th
 ANNUAL MEETING

MARK YOUR
 CALENDARS