



Spectacular views of the Columbia River Gorge as seen from the Cherry Orchard Trail.
(Photo provided by Aubrey Russell.)

Cherry Orchard Permitting Process Moves Ahead

by Don Cannard

I thought you would like to learn of the work already accomplished on Cherry Orchard.

Before any work began on improving the trail, CTA had to apply to the Columbia River Gorge Commission for a construction permit. We secured from the Klickitat County Assessors office the legal description of all properties involved as well as those of adjacent property owners.

After several trips to scout the most desirable section to be improved in this first round of trail improvements, Aubrey Russell representing the Russells, Jim Slagel, trails engineer, and myself, walked the old trails on the

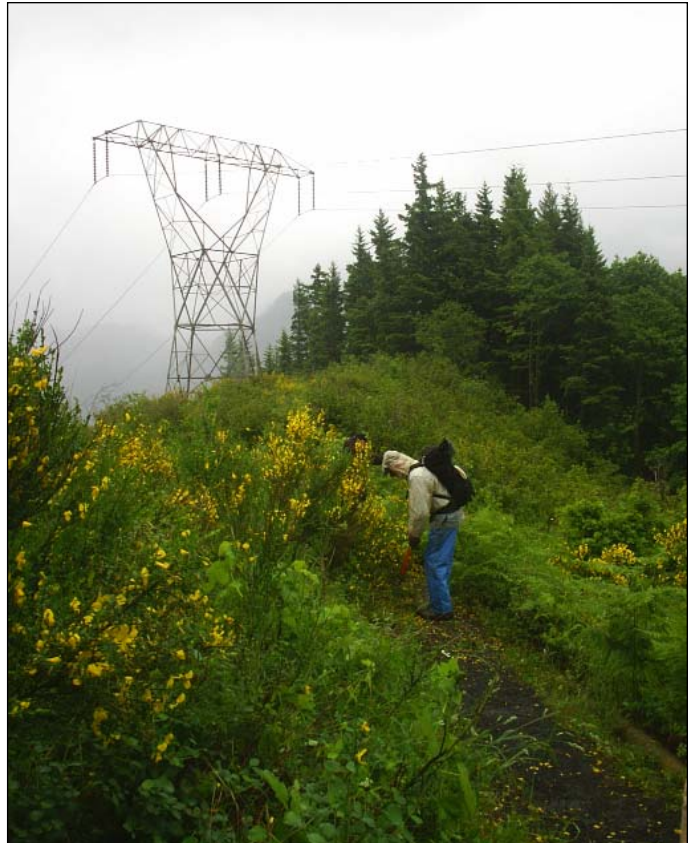
Cherry Orchard. Krista Theis walked the proposed trail and conducted the botanical survey as required for the permit. Barbara Robinson, a local gorge resident, was very helpful in assisting us in our deliberations. Phil Delaney, Daryl Hoyt, Paul Cannard, Bob Scullen, Fred Rogers, and Roger Anderson were among those from Chinook Trail assisting in this process.

The proposed trail location was presented to the Gorge Commission and they in turn presented this to the five concerned Indian tribes, the US Forest Service Archeologist, Fish and Wildlife, adjacent property owners, and the public for comment. There was concern expressed that the proposed trail is *continued on page 3*

National Trails Day 2008 held June 7, 2008



Fog lends beauty to the trees on National Trails Day 2008.
(Photo provided by Megan Raymond.)



Cutting brush on National Trails Day 2008.
(Photo provided by Megan Raymond.)

President's Message

By Megan Raymond



Megan Raymond
CTA President

National Trails Day 2008

The volunteers coordinated carpools to Beacon Rock State Park where this year's National Trails Day was held. Despite the low cloud cover and drizzle, the work party went on as planned. The turnout was great and we had plenty of volunteers. We went up in groups. One group went up to Don's Cutoff Trail on the back side of Hamilton Mtn. to cut out some downed trees on the trail and cut off low limbs and do some brushing. Another group did some waterbars up to the pool of the winds and brushing. And the third group did brushing and trail clearing at the trailheads. The public appreciated all that we did for the trails and many hikers on the trail expressed their gratitude for the work we are doing.



The rain was persistent but so were the volunteers. It did make for a wet time but the clouds shifting through the trees was almost magical. I would like to give a special thanks to our cooks and the rangers at Beacon Rock State Park and to also thank all of the volunteers who made it out to help. We hope you all join us next year.

Our thanks to Cascade Dental for financial support, The Columbian for advertising, and Safeway Stores for food support.

Annual Meeting Reminder

Just to let everyone know, the annual meeting is set for Sunday, November 2nd, 2008. This is our 20th anniversary and some special items are planned for this event. Come celebrate our accomplishments at the Water Resources Center in Vancouver, Washington. More information to come. Watch your mailboxes for your invitations.

Larry Swatosh Named Outstanding Clark College Alum



Larry Swatosh with his wife in Russia.

Larry Swatosh, former three-term Chair of the Chinook Trail Association, was named in April as the Outstanding Clark College Alum for 2008.

Larry was recognized for his many years of service to the community through his participation on numerous boards and committees. He formed his own company, DSP Architecture and has been retired for several years from the firm.

He has been a 23-year member as an active participant in the Rotary Club.

His experiences as an architect served him well as he reviewed trail plans and various graphics produced by the Chinook Trail Association.

Congratulations, Larry!

Chelatchie Prairie Trail and Rail Advocates Meet

Chinook Trail members Florence Wager, Paul Clare and Don Cannard met with Pat Boss, Governmental Relations person for the PVJR (Portland Vancouver Junction Railroad) to discuss many topics related to upgrading the rails and constructing a trail adjacent to an operating railroad. We hikers refer to the railroad and trail as the Chelatchie Prairie RR and Trail. PVJR sees no problems with operating a rail line with an adjacent trail. There has been some effort to move the trail away from the rail line and run it along streets and roads. CTA opposes that idea. It was discussed to form a partnership so that as sections of the rail line are improved the trail could also be included in the development. We are pleased with this initial contact with a potential partner.

Cherry Orchard — continued from front page

near a protected Native American site. It was recommended that additional archeological examination be conducted before work proceeded. We employed a qualified archeologist who has conducted this survey. Nothing of significance was discovered. As soon as notification is served to the interested parties we should receive a go-ahead unless there is an appeal.

Appeal

It has been exciting to hear from so many long time Chinook Trail supporters and their support of the Cherry Orchard project. A letter of thanks contained the info on the permitting process referred to in this newsletter. A contribution envelope has been included with this mailing for those of you missing the earlier opportunity to participate.

Thank You to our Contributors

We are grateful to the following Cherry Orchard contributors. Their contributions will be used to improve the trail leading to spectacular views of the Columbia River Gorge, wildflowers and great hiking. Contributors are: John Coyle, Margery Reed, Richard Pope, Jill McLean, Marianna Kearney, Dorothy Sainz, Mervin and Joella Wolf, Edward and Edwyna McAninch, John Frewing and Gayle Kauffman, Michael Skaife, Doris and Keith Henson, Stephen Dorner, Nancy Ellifrit, Bill Lodge and Jeannie Brust, Richard and Dorothy Lukins, Sue and Wilson Cady, Roger Cole, Jennifer Cannard, Eugene and Sarah Lewins, Elizabeth Perry, Walker Paynter, Betty Avery, Gareth and Deann Wilson, John Wondrack, Jane and Walt Hillemann, Mary Ann and Glenn Teague, Leslie Labbe, Mariha Kuechmann and Jackson Welch.

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 local, state and federal agencies and other appropriate entities to develop this regional recreational and transportation resource.

CTA Board Members

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 Evan Hull Larry Swatosh

Advisory Board

Bobbie Bindreiff Mitch Bower Russ Jolley
 Paul Cannard Kelly Punteneay 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
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 Phil Delaney Tarbell 360-789-2296
 Andrea & Jerry deRuyter Bells Mountain West 360-263-5097
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Full Color Version of Newsletter Available via Email

This newsletter may be received in full color as a PDF email attachment. Adobe Acrobat Reader will allow you to view it. If you are not already on our list and would like to receive it this way in addition to the black and white mailed version, simply email your request to vistatype@gmail.com with "Subscribe Chinook Trek" in the subject line and you will be added to the subscriber list.



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Sun., Nov. 2nd
ANNUAL MEETING



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