

Chinook Trek #66

**Newsletter of the Chinook Trail Association** 

January 2016

# Annual Meeting set for Sunday, Feb. 28, 2016, Noon-2:30 p.m.

Water Resources Center 4600 S.E. Columbia Way, Vancouver, WA 98661

**Gala Miller**, Community Engagement and Title II Projects Coordinator at the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, will be our annual meeting featured speaker. Set up will be at 11:00 a.m. if anyone wants to help. Opening remarks will be at noon, after which the buffet lunch catered by C & L Catering will commence, followed by the featured speaker. Hope to see you there for fun and food and to get a glimpse into the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.



Gala Miller, Community
Engagement and Title II Projects
Coordinator at the Gifford Pinchot
National Forest

#### **Exploring the 41 Road**

By Evan Hull

On May 16, 2015, Roger Anderson, Phil Delany, and Evan Hull drove on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest 41 Road from Sunset Falls Campground until it terminated at a berm about nineteen miles later. The purpose of exploring the 41 Road was to determine where the Chinook Trail could be located from Bluff Mountain to the Pacific Crest Trail. There is an existing trail from Silver Star Mountain to Bluff Mountain.

They stopped at Fourth of July Camp where there is a water source. The party scouted for the Snag Creek Trail. At the berm, the trio walked about a mile on the decommissioned 41 Road near Mowich Butte. The Pacific Crest Trail crosses a little further along the path.



Roger Anderson and Phil Delany at Fourth of July Camp off GPNF 41 Road

## **Annual membership dues** are due February 28th

By Evan Hull

Membership dues are a very important part of the yearly budget. Membership dues are due on or before February 28, 2016. An envelope is provided for your convenience. Or you can pay dues at the annual meeting that day. Senior or student dues are \$20; individual is \$35; family is \$50; and benefactor is \$500. Checks should be made payable to "Chinook

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Roger Anderson and his dog exploring the 41 Road



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#### **CTA Annual** Meeting

Sunday, Feb. 28, 2016 Noon - 2:30 p.m. Water Resource Center Vancouver



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### **National Public Lands Day**

By Phil Delany

During the 2015 National Public Lands Day on Saturday, September 26th, CTA president Evan Hull and board member Phil Delany spent several hours scouting a potential new trail. We bushwhacked through clear cuts and heavy brush to lay out a new section of trail. This will be part of DNR's new 17-mile project. DNR has the go-ahead to add 17 miles on new, non-motorized trail to the Yacolt Burn area. DNR Recreation Manager, Ryan Schriner, has asked user groups to take on various sections of new trail. CTA has been tasked with section two, a four-mile new trail just west of the Cold Creek Day Use Area. This was our first attempt to locate the new trail and we plan to spend more time out in the area scouting. DNR would like to have the rough trail alignments complete by next summer. The actual trail would begin in a couple of years. This is a chance for CTA to put our mark on some new trails and there will be opportunities for trail work parties.

### **American Hiking Society National Trails Day® 2015**

By Evan Hull

On Saturday, June 6, 2015, the Chinook Trail Association, U.S. Forest Service, Washington Trails Association, and Friends of the Columbia Gorge partnered for AHS National Trails Day® at the U.S. Forest Service Sams Walker Day Use Area south of Highway 14 near Skamania off Skamania Landing Road in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

Attendees gathered at 9 a.m. and worked until 1:30 p.m. Much work had been done by WTA and the U.S. Forest Service in preparation for the work party. Some of

#### Annual membership dues and special appeal - cont'd

Trail Association."

A special appeal is also being requested in order to recoup \$869.48 spent in November 2015 for two tote tracks. CTA owns three totes which are used to haul materials to the trail under construction. The totes are used frequently and one of the totes needed new tracks. Any donation to this fund would be geatly appreciated. The other two totes will need new tracks at some point.

Thank you for your contributions to the success of the Chinook Trail.



CTA volunteers Phil Delany, Bob Baker, and Larry Swatosh

the tasks at the work party were laying gravel on the trails, brushing, and tread work. Among CTA members volunteering with the trail work were Phil Delany, Bob Baker, Ted Klump, Evan Hull, and Carol Boyer.

CTA members Bob Scullin, Larry Swatosh, and Judy Swatosh prepared a BBQ lunch for everyone after the work party was finished. It was a fantastic lunch and gave everyone a chance to talk, visit, and network.