



Barbara Walker Trails Symposium

By Steve Jones

Because the Chinook Trail traverses Oregon trails, including trails in the Portland Metro Area; and because the CTA Board is currently invested in promoting all 300 miles of our trail; Steve Klump and Steve Jones attended the Barbara Walker Trails Symposium (Wednesday, June 26, 2019) at the Metro Building in Portland.

Shirley Craddick, Metro councilor, gave an overview of Metro's vision of 1,000 miles of Trails. Metro has been working for decades to help local cities plan and build a 1,000-mile connected network of regional trails. Right now, there are about 400 miles of trail. On November 5th, Metro voters approved a new bond measure for \$475 million that will continue to expand the network in Oregon.

Shirley also discussed a Parks and Nature initiative plan for racial equity. This initiative is ready for the implementation stage. Along with hiring policies, as funding is identified Metro will purchase and preserve access to land important for or significant to communities of color and indigenous peoples.

Metro will bring park providers and communities of color together to create a regional vision for urban nature parks and regional trails in underserved areas using a racial equity lens.

Next was the keynote speaker, Pam Slaughter, who is the founder of People of Color Outdoors. As a child Pam lived in the St. Johns area. At that time, it was almost rural and had a lot of undeveloped and natural areas. Pam started a neighborhood exploring club and led hikes in the neighborhood. As the children grew up, many of them moved on to other things but Pam still loved hiking.

Later she started the Portland chapter of Outdoor Afro to help adults realize the pleasures of hiking. She tells of meeting people who shared her outdoor enthu-

siasm and a few who didn't think black people should be hiking.

Next, Alexis Gabriel, Portland Pathways Coordinator, spoke about Access and Inclusion and new ways to think about what a successful trails system should look like. There needs to be a variety of features and amenities for different needs and individuals. Metro wants to create a culture of safe and welcoming features that find ways to accommodate people of different ages and hiking speeds. One idea is to have signs in multiple languages.

Methods to access a trail need to be widely available. For example, there needs to be more information on how to use mass transportation. Along with that, how can we improve technology to prepare people for the trail? For example, trail information should include the type of trail surface. For trail planning, designers need to think about trails lasting a long time and there needs to be accommodations for different ages and abilities.

A possible trail access model of mass transportation to a destination is the



casino busses which come to many locations twice a week. You can catch a ride at one of 19 locations in the Portland/Vancouver area. The gorge busses could follow this same model and in addition the Gorge busses need to be publicized more because people don't know about them.

Arlene Kimora gave the summary of the seminar stating it will take a long time to achieve these goals. New trails will be added. Some, like the Salmonberry

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National Public Lands Day September 28

By Steve Jones

Public Lands Day was Saturday, September 28th and is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer event for public lands. With groups in the area working together to restore and sustain the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the theme of this year's volunteer event was "Bridging the Gorge Through Shared Stewardship."

Several of our members joined work parties in the Columbia River Gorge organized by Cape Horn Conservancy, Washington Trails Association, Friends of the Gorge, Trail Keepers of Oregon, Pacific Crest Trail Association, and others to give back for the trails we enjoy.

I joined the work party at Sams Walker, a US Forest Service trail west of Beacon Rock. This is a wheelchair accessible trail with views of the Columbia River. This old homestead has meadows, seasonal wetlands, Oregon oak, ash, and black cottonwood. Deer, black bear, coyote, ruffed grouse, woodpecker, and red-tailed hawk all live in the area.

Unfortunately, invasive blackberries also thrive here. Our day of service was to cut, hack, and dig out the blackberry brush which was encroaching on the trail. It was a perfect day for trail work with cool



Bagley Beaver and friends

temperatures, clouds, sun, and a brief rain shower. There were about 15 of us working together to clean the trail and beat back blackberries. When we wrapped up about 1 p.m., the trail was again in excellent shape for people to stroll along the winding paths.

Afterwards we drove to Beacon Rock State Park for a lunch hosted by REI. The lunch featured speakers from the various trail associations present as well as Washington State Parks, Oregon State Parks, and Dan Little, Oregon's First Gentleman. Washington State Parks Junior Ranger mascot Bagley Beaver was present (but mascots don't speak).

With continued budget cuts to the US Forest Service, volunteers are critical to keeping trails open. Anyone can volunteer so that everyone can enjoy nature's beauty.

In Memoriam ~ Sue Cannard

Text by Ted Klump

Sue J. Cannard, wife of CTA co-founder Don Cannard, passed away on August 31st. She was 89. Sue grew up in Vancouver and graduated from Vancouver High in 1948. In 1950 she married Don and together they raised seven children.

Sue was founding Co-President with her husband Don of the Vancouver Chapter of Audubon. She also served as President of The Vancouver Garden Club, and The Minnehaha Social Club. She was tapped to serve as a member of the Washington Recreation Coalition, which funded grants and lobbied for open spaces and parks across the state. She was an active participant and member of Columbia Land Trust and Friends of the Columbia River Gorge. In 2001, Sue received the Clark County Woman of Achievement Award. Sue was a very gracious lady and we are all the poorer by her passing.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.



Trails Symposium

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Trail, will take a long time, at least five years and probably longer.

There should be better information on existing websites. People don't hike many trails because they don't have the information to make a successful hike. It is important to engage with one another and provide safety on the trail, acknowledge fellow hikers, and be there for one another.

Because our trail will someday be an international destination, many of these ideas could be applied to the development and promotion of the Chinook Trail.

Cold Creek ADA Trail Maintenance Party October 12



Replacing the Trail Timbers

Picture by Evan Hull

Thanks to DNR staffer Carith Kamermans—excavator operator extraordinaire—we had gravel and new trail “timbers” (to replace the rotten ones defining the trail). Ted Klump, Jim Anderson and Bob Horn manned the ‘totes,’ hauling gravel to the low spots on the trail. The picture above shows the work of elevating the trail over a small culvert, making the trail more suited for ADA users. A bit of brushing and a lot of camaraderie completed the day.

Saturday, October 12 was the perfect day for trail work. Joined by members of the Mt. St. Helens Chapter - Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Washington Trail Riders Association and Washington Trails Association, CTA members gathered at the Cold Creek Day Use Area for coffee and donuts and a pep/safety talk before heading out to groom the ADA trail to Cedar Creek Falls.



Totin' Gravel

Picture by Steve Klump

500 Days on the Trail with Ted

By Steve Jones

Ted Klump, our past President and current Office Manager, recently achieved a rare milestone. Ted has volunteered 500 work days on trails with the Washington Trails Association (WTA). Over the past two decades or so, Ted has worked on most trails in Southwest Washington.

On Friday, October 18th we met at Leonardo's Pizza to celebrate Ted and thank him for his efforts. One of Ted's favorite areas to work is Beacon Rock State Park and Ted continues to volunteer there.

Washington Trails Association lists the Bridge Trail in Beacon Rock State

Park as one of its Signature Projects of the last 20 years and Ted spent many days helping to construct this trail in all kinds of weather. Ted recalled one work party where they had to shovel snow off of the trail to start work for the day.

Ted joins just 25 other people who have achieved at least 500 volunteer work days in the more than 50-year history of WTA.

Thanks, Ted, for all those days spent with WTA, the hundreds of days spent with the Chinook Trail, and the many days being a one-man work party. You inspire us all!



Ted Klump



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New Membership Perk

The folks at Columbia Sportswear have just invited us to join their program to receive periodic passes to shop at their Employee store. This offer is available *ONLY* to current members of the Chinook Trail Association. Members will receive periodic invitations to shop at their store in Portland. The invitation also allows up to four guests to come along for the shopping.



Columbia Sportswear is one of the premier outdoor gear companies in the world and a responsible corporate member of the Pacific Northwest outdoor community. Discounts typically run 40–50%. Our first opportunity to shop is November 29th to December 22nd.

Holiday shopping anyone?

The Chinook Trail was founded in 1986 as a non-profit 501c3 organization. The vision of the Chinook Trail Association (CTA) is to assist in the planning and construction of a 300-mile loop trail encircling the Columbia River Gorge, from Vancouver Lake to Maryhill, Washington and Biggs, Oregon to Portland and then back to Vancouver. The Chinook Trail is in the Washington State Trails Plan, the Oregon State Trails Plan, the Columbia Trails Plan, and Greater Metro trails plan utilizing the 40 Mile Loop Trail. Where and when appropriate, the CTA will participate in the maintenance of the trail system.