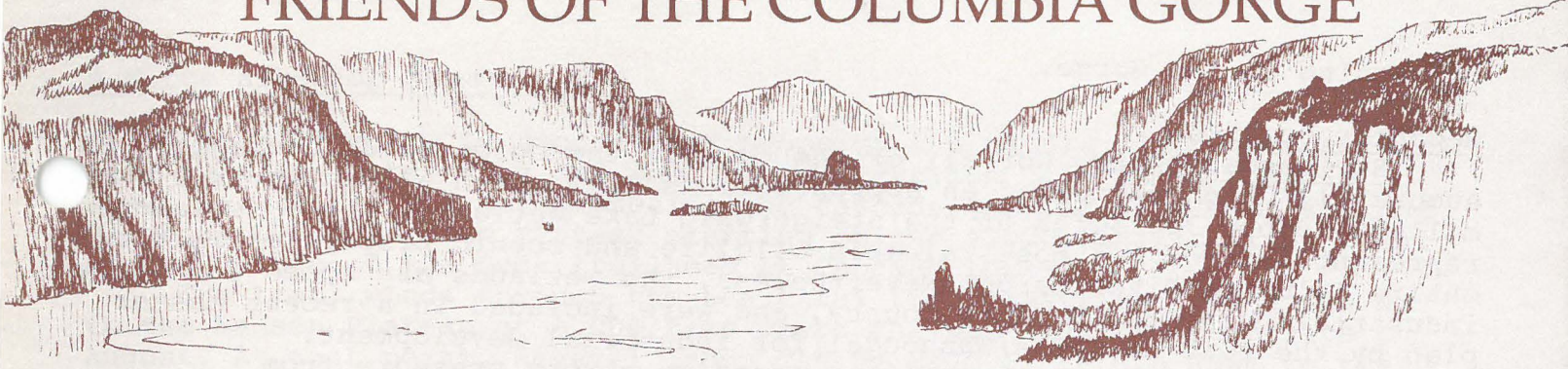


# FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE



Summer/Fall Issue

## Executive Director's Report

This summer has been a particularly active period for Friends of the Columbia Gorge and others who are concerned about the Gorge's future. Incompatible developments, which will irrevocably damage areas of prime importance in the Gorge are proceeding at an alarming rate. Unfortunately, Congressional efforts to enact strong federal legislation such as the Packwood/Hatfield bill, S.627, have not kept pace with the development pressures.

### Major Gorge Developments

Jung subdivision. On August 7, the Skamania County Planning Commission overwhelmingly approved the preliminary plat and final environmental impact statement for the California-based Elizabeth Roane Jung Land Trust's subdivision, two miles west of Beacon Rock, across from Oregon's Horsetail Falls. The 83 lot subdivision, built upon undeveloped wetlands and shoreline, includes the dredging of a four acre deep water harbor, the filling of wetlands with 170,000 cubic yards of material, and the installation of septic tanks for the majority of lots. Skamania County, meanwhile, is making no progress towards the enactment of a zoning ordinance.

Port of Entry. The State of Oregon has narrowed its selection process to four sites, all within the Gorge, for its proposed Port of Entry. The Port of Entry, which will service and regulate eastbound truck traffic on I-84, consists of ten acres of asphalt, twenty-four hour lights, scales, ramps and office building. One site which is receiving serious consideration is immediately adjacent to Lewis and Clark State Park, just east of the Sandy River - the very portal to the western Gorge.

Wells Island. The Port of Hood River is concluding its study period for development of recently acquired Wells Island. Among development alternatives for the island, a natural area which is home to the eighth largest Great Blue Heron rookery and the third largest Canada Goose nesting site on the three hundred miles of Columbia River from the Pacific Ocean to McNary Dam, are a conference center, interpretive buildings and docking facilities. Anticipated future plans for the island include overnight lodging and food services.

Pierce Ranch. The donation this January by Gorge resident Lena Pierce of 319 acres of her extraordinary, valuable Skamania County ranch to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service already is in jeopardy. The city of North Bonneville maintains that a recent lawsuit entitles it to these lands, a portion of which the city had slated before the donation for residential development. North Bonneville has promised to press for a court order to return the National Wildlife Refuge to the city.

Miscellaneous. Numerous other developments, including a \$5.5 million hydroelectric project on a magnificent one hundred foot Gorge waterfall and the eventual placing of spoils from the excavation of new locks for Bonneville Dam on environmentally and scenically important sites, are

proceeding in the Gorge.

#### Recent successes.

Steigerwald Lake. Not all of the news in the Gorge is discouraging. On August 11, Congress passed an appropriations bill which allocated \$8.5 million to buy 700 acres of the Steigerwald Lake wetlands. These wetlands represent some of the most valuable wildlife and scenic properties in the entire Columbia River Gorge. Nevertheless, the wetlands are zoned for heavy industrial purposes by Clark County, and were included in a recent master plan by the Port of Camas/Washougal for industrial development.

Oregon's Senator Mark Hatfield, despite strong pressure from development interests, was instrumental in the successful passage of the bill, which also included \$1.5 million for acquisition of other critical Gorge properties. Senator Hatfield was absolutely correct when he stated: "this is clearly the most significant action taken by Congress to protect the Columbia River Gorge from improper and unwanted development."

BLM Land Transfer. The Friends were able to stop a proposed land transfer of 100 acres of BLM land to the State of Oregon last month. The transfer was against BLM policy and would have removed a shield of federal laws which currently protect at least two endangered plant species on the parcel. The property, designated an Area of Critical Environmental Concern by the BLM, is located in the western end of the Gorge, near Lewis and Clark State Park.

#### Public events.

Packwood Picnic. On Memorial Day, Oregon Senator Bob Packwood, the leading Congressional advocate for strong protective legislation, toured the western Gorge by boat. Afterward, Senator Packwood addressed a crowd of over 400 Friends' members and forcefully reaffirmed his support for Senate bill 627, which presently has 44 cosponsors in the Senate.

Giersdorf Presentation. On July 5, the Clark County Business Roundtable hosted Robert Giersdorf, president of the Travel Industry Association of America. In his presentation, Mr. Giersdorf stressed that passage of S. 627 would be an economic boon to the Gorge and Southwest Washington. In a follow-up letter to questions posed on July 5, Mr. Giersdorf stated that: "the single most significant step the business community could capitalize upon the Tourist Industry --- is to get the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area legislation passed at the earliest possible moment."

Opposition. Our opponents, Columbia Gorge United, who are opposed to comprehensive planning in the Gorge, also have been busy. On June 9, CGU hosted former Washington Governor Dixy Lee Ray, who railed against Gorge legislation, defined planner as "somebody who never gets anything done," and denounced "environmental extremists" whom she blamed for doing away "with the best insecticide the world has ever had, which was DDT."

#### Legislation.

Progress on Gorge legislation has slowed considerably, mostly because of the priority of Wilderness legislation. Washington Senators Evans and Gorton have requested another field hearing for Gorge legislation, and November 8 is a date receiving consideration.

Meanwhile, Crown Zellerbach, which was instrumental in the drafting of the Governors' compromise legislation, HR 3853, has started a major offensive against S. 627, the Packwood/Hatfield bill. Although the Packwood/Hatfield bill expressly prohibits the use of condemnation in non-critical Gorge lands, and prohibits condemnation even in the critical lands where the property is used for single family residential, farming or grazing purposes, a recent Crown Zellerbach publication based the company's opposition to the Packwood/Hatfield on the "proposed unlimited use of condemnation powers by the federal government." Evidently, Crown Zellerbach

has apologized to Senator Packwood.

Finally, the Lake Tahoe bistate compact, which is strikingly similar to the Governors' compromise legislation, received yet another blow from the courts. A federal judge ruled that the development plan drafted by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency would allow immediate development without assuring environmental safeguards, and accordingly placed an indefinite ban on new construction around Lake Tahoe. The San Francisco Examiner editorialized:

The bistate agency (TRPA) richly deserves the legal trouble it has incurred with its needless approval of questionable growth patterns without the necessary safeguards for the vulnerable lake.

Now, quite simply, is the time to prevent the careless development and irresponsible planning which is happening at Lake Tahoe from reoccurring in the Columbia River Gorge.

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Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Inc.  
Winds in the Gorge  
Summer/Fall Issue 1984

Editor: Sally Russell

Contributing writers:

Bowen Blair  
Sally Russell  
Nancy Russell  
Kristine Simenstad  
Paula Zenk-Jones

Staff: Bowen Blair, Executive Director  
Peggy Gallup, Office Assistant, Portland  
Kristine Simenstad, Associate Director, Seattle  
Marie Pampush, Associate Director, Portland

Offices:

Portland  
519 SW Third Ave. #810  
Portland, OR 97204  
(503) 241-3762

Vancouver  
1703 Main Street  
Vancouver, WA 98660  
(206) 694-6577

Seattle  
600-First Avenue #102  
Seattle, WA 98104  
(206) 622-4590

## Cascade Landslide -- What Really Happened?

The following are excerpts from one person of the Bridge of the Gods Indian legend. It can be read in its entirety in Bridge of the Gods, Mountains of Fire by Chuck Williams. The geologic excerpts are from The Magnificent Gateway by John Eliot Allen.

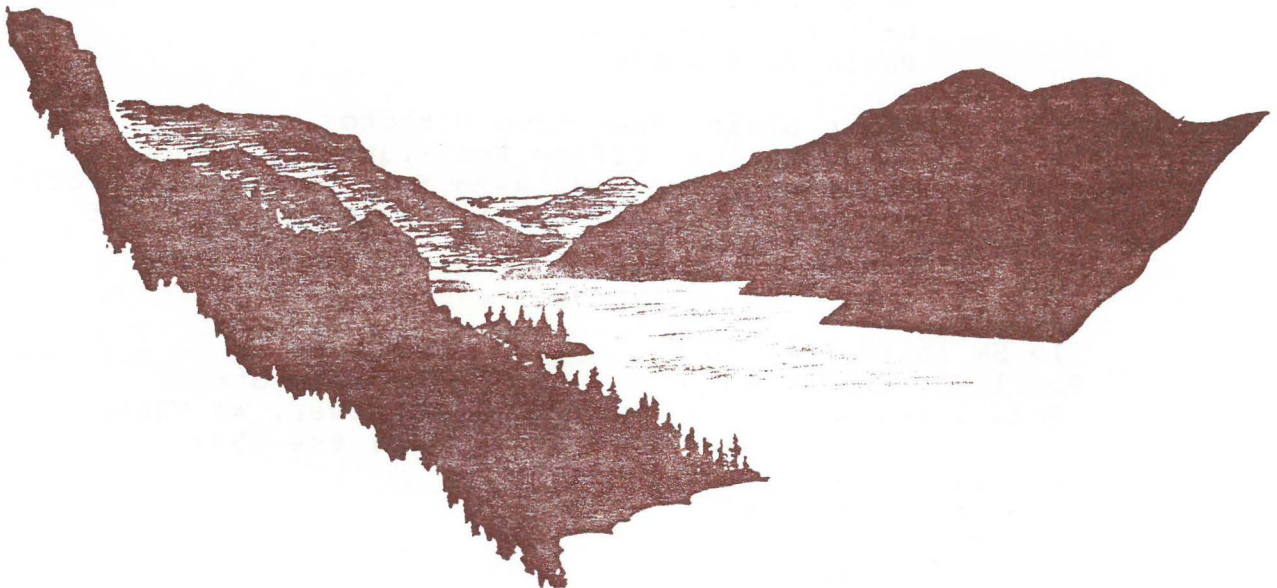
### LEGEND

"Long, long ago, when the world was very young and the people hadn't come out yet, Earth was inhabited by huge animal-people who hunted, fished, dug roots, lived in houses, married, made many mistakes and generally lived as humans later did. (p.29, para.1, Bridge of the Gods)

In the western side of the great sea lived 2 sons of the Great Spirit: Wy-east (Mt. Hood) and Pah-toe (Mt. Adams). Their Great Spirit had shot two arrows into the air - one to north of the Columbia, the other to the south - and told the brother to settle where the arrows landed. After many years of living together happily, a beautiful woman mountain moved in to the valley between the brothers. She fell in love with Wy-east, the smaller mountain-god, but liked to make him jealous by flirting with good-natured Pah-toe. Soon both brothers fell madly in love with her and began to quarrel with each other over matters of little importance. At first they only growled at each other and stamped their feet, shaking the ground. Coyote tried to reason with the once-close brothers, but to no avail. The brothers then threw fire and rocks at each other, and the black smoke from their terrifying battle hid the Sun, bringing darkness to Earth.

Finally they stopped to rest. When the smoke cleared away, their beautiful white coats had disappeared and the landscape was devastated. The forest and the plants the people ate had burned; the animals had fled or been killed. The villages were also burned, and the people had fled or hid in caves. Worst of all, the brothers had shaken the ground so hard that a hole was broken through the mountain range between them. The great inland sea escaped through the hole, and the torrent enlarged it into a huge tunnel. During the darkness, the Beautiful Woman Mountain had hidden in a cave. (pp29-30, para 4,5, 2nd column)

The Indian legends continue and describe the Bridge of the Gods, the migration of salmon up-river, the curse of "sun" on bats and the fall of the Bridge. All of these stories coincide somewhat with actual geologic history. In the next newsletter, the effect of the ice age on Gorge development and the Indian legend of the Bridge of the Gods will be described



## Cascade Landslide -- What Really Happened?

### GEOLOGY

During the last glacial lowering of sea-level, man certainly crossed over into North America on the Alaska land-bridge from Asia probably as long as 35,000 years ago." (page 59, para 1, Magnificent Gateway)

The last chapter in the location and development of the present Gorge was initiated by three processes which occurred 5 to 1.8 million years ago. Along with other volcanoes, Mt. Hood and Mt. Adams began their activity, termed "volcanism." The outbreak of dozens of volcanoes built up gray basaltic lava and diverted the Columbia River to near its present course.

The second process was diastrophism; the up-arching of the Coast Range and the Cascade region between the Willamette and Hood River Valleys. Between Hood River and The Dalles, similar forces folded the Yakima Basalt into a series of five arches and downwarps. The third process, erosion, was the cutting of the canyon through these folds and the Cascade arch. This rise of the Cascade arch completed the climatic division of the Northwest into a western moist and an eastern dry section. About 2 million years ago, vegetation was becoming more like modern forms on both the east and west sides. Large horses grazed on the western grasslands; as well as elephants, who were beginning to be important in the moist western plains. (p 39-44 The Magnificent Gateway)

Paula Zenk-Jones



### Hot and sunny day chosen to honor Senator Packwood

It seems that most picnics suffer from cold wind, rain or bugs, but FOCG's May 28 picnic at Menucha was an exception. May 28, Memorial Day, was the second hot and sunny day of 1984 at the end of the wettest May on record. By noon the parking lot at Menucha was overflowing; 400 FOCG members and their friends attended.

Scott J. Brown entertained with song and guitar and Brock Evans talked to us about some of the many conservation efforts he has been involved in. Brock is on leave of absence as Vice President for National Affairs of the National Audubon Society and is running for Congress in Washington State's 1st Congressional District. Brock Evans was one of the first national conservation leaders that co-chairs Dave Cannard and Nancy Russell met in Washington, D.C. in 1982.

As lovely as the day was, it literally was not all smooth sailing. Senator Bob Packwood, the guest of honor, was down on the windy river, attempting to board a wildly rocking sail boat with several media people carrying bulky T.V. equipment. The dock didn't fit the craft and the result was a sunburned Senator several hours late. Senator Packwood is worth waiting for. He delivered a lively, informative, and encouraging speech, enjoining us to keep up our good work. We will keep up our good work.

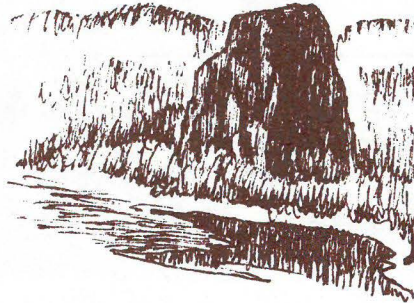
Southwest Washington News

Do SW Washington Friends Volunteers make a big contribution to the effort for preserving the Gorge? You bet!

42 workers at the FOCG Clark County Fair booth gave their invaluable help to educate fairgoers concerning developmental threats to the Gorge, and in the process, obtained over 1100 signatures on our petition.

The dedication of our volunteers was summed up by one couple who, after paying their own way into the fair, working a five hour shift, and then purchasing two t-shirts commented: "we had fun and will help next year," an offer we accept with gratitude.

Phyllis Clausen



Report from Seattle

The Seattle office has spent the summer building membership in the Puget Sound area and throughout the State of Washington. We have 246 new members from our major mailing which began in late June.

Due to recent media coverage from the Seattle P.I., an article by Shelby Scates and an editorial in the P.I., visibility of this issue has been raised a great deal in the area. The Seattle office has had many calls requesting our multi-media slide show. We have been presenting the slide show twice a week. Plans are underway for the annual Puget Sound area fundraiser which will take place sometime in October.

As always, I invite you to drop into the FOCG office in Pioneer Square at any time. We have t-shirts and posters on sale along with hiking and travel information. Most importantly, we will be able to update you regarding action currently undertaken on the Gorge protection issue.

Thank you for your help and support.

Kristine Simenstad

IN MEMORIUM

Contributions have been made to Friends of the Columbia Gorge in memory of

Mrs. Spencer Biddle (Alice Tucker)  
by Paula Madden  
Mrs. Donald McGraw  
Mrs. William N. Bailey  
Judith S. Hoffman  
Sir James and Lady McDonald  
Mr. and Mrs. William Feldenheimer  
Abbot L. Mills

Dorothea Gilbert by Ann W. Stratton  
Michael C. Zander by Jim Zander  
Walter D. Harrison by Frances C. Torney  
Aleph S. Johannsson by L.S. and A.S. Johannsson  
Ole and Gudrun Elle by Bette Lou Karamanos

## Calendar of Events - Fall 1984

Bonneville Dam Visitors Center 10:00-6:00 until Labor Day, then 9:00-5:00. 7 days/week.

1. Interpretive Walks Washington Shore Visitors center - 10:00-5:00 on the hour.

2. Audiovisual Program (slides and movies) 10:30-5:30; on the 1/2 hour.

3. "River Renditions" Music of the Columbia Gorge. Weekends and holiday afternoons.

### AUGUST

Aug. 3 - Sep. 21 Exhibit\* "The Quilt: New directions for an American Tradition." Maryhill Museum

### SEPTEMBER

Sep. 2 and 3, 11-5pm Summer Sundays in the Park. Guy Talbott Park, Latourell Falls, along the Old Columbia Gorge Scenic Highway.

Sep. 2 Dennis Doyle and Gold Rush.

Sep. 3 Woodwind Conspiracy and John Richards German band.

Sep. 9 Rock Climbing. Learn the basics. Fee \$23.00, includes leaders, equipment and transportation. Meet at 17th Multnomah parking lot.

8:00am-6:00pm. Portland Parks 248-4018.

Sep. 23 Picnic and Gorge Ride. Depart Lewis and Clark State Park 8:30am or Corbett High School 9am. Lunch provided. Return 5pm. Fee \$5.00.

Portland, Parks Bureau 248-4018.

### OCTOBER

October 13 & 14 Harvest Festival, Hood River Cannery. Sponsored by Hood River Chamber of Commerce. Over 60 booths, 10k run, entertainment. Call (503)386-2000, Tina O'Banion..

October 28 Multnomah Falls Yacht Cruise. A Sunday afternoon yacht cruise, Board 11:45am Jantzen Beach Safeway Parking lot, \$15.00. Call 248-4018 Portland Parks Bureau.

### NOVEMBER

November 17 Dinner. "Saturday Night Insomniac Special"; dinner and star watching. Leave 4pm, back in Portland 2:30am. Call (503)248-4018.

November 28 Hike. Eagle Creek-Herman Creek Traverse: 8 miles, 1,580 elev. gain. Portland Parks 248-4018.

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### VOLUNTEER CARDS

In the last newsletter we enclosed a card for people interested in volunteering to fill out. We have not been able to contact everyone, but you can be sure we will let you know when help is needed. You volunteers are a very important resource. Thanks!

P.S. We still need individuals who will come into the office on a regular basis and will help with the day-to-day work.

### BOOK CASE--TABLE--FILING CABINET--(SMALL) REFRIGERATOR

Do you have some of these waiting unused in your house???? Remember your contribution is tax-deductible. These are items which would help us organized in the Portland office a little better. (ask Peggy)

### GROWING PAINS

A very special thanks goes to Pendleton Woolen Mills for use of their computer to store and sort our membership information -- our membership grew so much we outgrew our current system, contributed to us by Murray Jencks. We will now be able to process membership more accurately and effectively.

## A Gorge Hike for Summer's End

Most hikers are in good enough shape by the middle of the summer to take on a few more miles and some rapid elevation gain. With that in mind, as well as the joy of seeing the Cascade gentian in bloom, why not climb up to the Benson Plateau starting on the #2000 Pacific Crest Trail at the Bridge of the Gods trailhead at Cascade Locks?

The trail winds through the beautiful fir forests for ten miles up to the Benson Plateau at 4,000 feet where the gentians bloom in late August. At that point, several loops can be made to return down to the river level. We like the #405 Ruckel Trail; it's steep and dramatic with great views over the Gorge. There is a charming little stone bridge over Ruckel Creek as it meets the Old Scenic Highway about two miles west of Cascade Locks. At this point, it's time to explore an unused section of the Scenic Highway (trail #400) as you make your way happily (and perhaps a bit tired) back to your car at the Bridge of the Gods trailhead.

By the way, if you don't have one, now is the time to pick up Jack Grauer's Columbia River Gorge: An Enjoyment Guide at the Friends of the Columbia Gorge office. Price \$2.00. The excellent maps show the Benson Plateau trails, as well as all the others. You will get many ideas for new hikes and never get lost.

Nancy Russell

### CONTRIBUTIONS

We need help!! Not only do we need those contributions from individuals, but we also need help in obtaining sizable contributions. Call the Portland office (503)241-3762 if you can help us in this area.

### WINTER PICNIC

This popular event, put on by the Friends of the Columbia Gorge, is a great way to meet many fun and interesting people while participating in the most important Portland FOCG fundraiser of the year. Would you like to be the head of the committee this year? Please give us a call.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

As you noticed, we include in each newsletter a calendar of events. If you know of an event or belong to an organization that sponsors events pertaining to the Gorge, please let us know so that we can include it in our calendar.





Although leaving Friends of the Columbia Gorge was not an easy decision to reach, I am very excited about my move to Central Oregon -- the new opportunities and challenges.

As with any transition, it provides an opportunity to look back. I joined Friends of the Columbia Gorge 3 1/2 years ago, just as the organization was moving into its first office and hiring the first Executive Director. I volunteered to do whatever needed to be done.

I am amazed at the progress this organization has made.

How clearly I can remember when Columbia River Gorge was not a household name, and when protection of the Columbia Gorge was an idea, a dream that needed to be fulfilled -- and no one was sure if it would happen.

What a change today. Congress recently worked on an appropriations bill for the purchase of some very sensitive parcels of land in the Columbia Gorge. Congressmen and Senators speak as if protective legislation is going to happen. And the subdivisions that we predicted would appear in the Fall of 1980 are indeed happening, as evidenced today by the Jung subdivision in Skamania County, so close to Beacon Rock State Park.

What has impressed me most, though, is the dedication and contributions individuals have made to Friends of the Columbia Gorge; people motivated by their conviction that this indescribably beautiful place must remain to be enjoyed and used sensitively in the future.

My thanks goes to all of you who have given to FOCG in so many ways, helped me get my job done, and so enjoyably.

Thank you!

# FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE

519 sw Third Avenue, Suite 810 • Portland, Oregon 97204

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