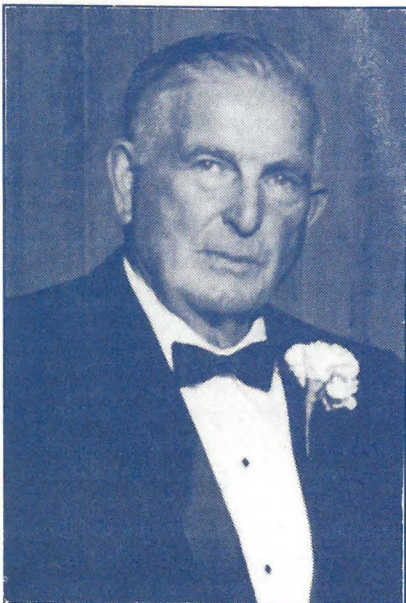


# FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE

WINTER/SPRING 1988

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Stafford Hansell, Chairman of the new Gorge Commission, to speak at FOCG Annual Meeting. See page 3.

## FOCG APPEALS PROPOSED BOUNDARIES UNDER WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT

On November 17, 1987, after two public workshops, the Forest Service released the proposed final river boundaries for the White Salmon and Klickitat Rivers — the two rivers designated as wild and scenic rivers under the National Scenic Area Act. Although the proposed boundaries for the Klickitat River are adequate, the White Salmon River boundaries, quite simply, are not.

Accordingly, Friends of the Columbia Gorge has filed an appeal of the White Salmon boundaries with the Forest Service.

The proposed boundaries are exceedingly narrow. Typically, an official study of a river (to determine whether it is eligible for inclusion under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act) incorporates 320 acres per river-mile, or a quarter mile from each bank. The proposed boundaries for the White Salmon, however, incorporate only 210 acres per river-mile, a third less than is customary in a study!

The Forest Service process for setting the boundaries seemed flawed from the beginning, as indicated by the following statement released by the agency after the workshops:

Criteria for boundary delineation begins with the objective of being as narrow as possible while still providing protection of the outstanding river values and opportunities to enhance recreation experiences.

See *Boundary Appeal*, page 5

## DRAFT FOREST PLAN WOULD INCREASE TIMBER HARVESTS

The Mt. Hood National Forest has just unveiled its long-awaited draft Forest Plan, part of which applies to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. It would be logical to expect the Forest Service to respond to federal Gorge legislation and heightened public concern for Gorge protection by proposing greater protection for national forest lands in the Gorge.

Surprisingly, however, the Forest Service proposes a giant step backward, *reducing* the level of protection in two important areas of the National Scenic Area, both of which are visible from the popular viewpoint at the top of Larch Mountain.

### Multnomah and Oneonta Basins

Multnomah and Oneonta basins contain virtually the only old-growth forest (around 2,000 acres) remaining in the National Scenic Area, complete with known spotted owl sites and three splendid marshes (one of them directly below the Larch Mountain viewpoint). These glacier-carved basins are laced with popular hiking trails: Larch Mountain Trail, Multnomah Way Trail, Multnomah Spur Trail, Franklin Ridge Trail, Oneonta Trail, and Bell Creek Trail.

Since 1975, the Forest Service has prohibited programmed timber harvest in these basins, but the draft Forest Plan now proposes programmed timber harvest (with some visual restrictions) for the area. "Programmed timber harvest" means that these areas would

See *Forest Plan*, page 8

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In the last newsletter I presented our concerns over the Forest Service's review of residential development in the National Scenic Area. An analysis of the decisions made by the agency indicated that their review was not affecting land use patterns in the Gorge. Instead, our analysis showed a Forest Service tendency to allow development, subject to restrictions, but to allow development nevertheless.

The problem with this tendency is that it does not resolve the problem of residential proliferation — the very reason that Congress enacted the National Scenic Area Act. The Gorge, as any other limited geographic area, has a finite capacity to absorb new houses, no matter what color, height or screening is required. Simple screening may be appropriate for some areas in the Gorge,\* but other areas, because of their vulnerability — i.e. wetlands, farm lands, outstanding views — cannot be developed, regardless of mitigation, without being destroyed.

An actual proposal provides the best illustration.

On July 24 the Forest Service allowed a request for a new residence (subject to approval of final design standards) on Ruth-ton Point, a sixty acre peninsula located

*\*See below, under "FOCG Spurs County Action," for an example of the problems associated with conditionally allowing development. See also the development chart for recent Forest Service decisions.*

just west of Hood River. Ruth-ton Point, one of the most scenic areas in the Gorge, has some of the best agricultural lands in Hood River County and has been cultivated by one orchard family for generations. The peninsula also has historical importance: Lewis and Clark reported in 1805 that Ruth-ton Point was the site of an Indian village.

The Forest Service's interim guidelines prohibit the conversion of agricultural land to residential development. Although just over two acres in size, there was considerable evidence that this site was "suitable for the production of agriculture" as defined by the Act. The site was zoned "exclusive farm use," the neighboring land-owner had tried to buy the site to plant orchards in 1978, and the county Planning Director had found in October, 1984 that:

Due to small parcel size, it is possible to make application for a non-farm dwelling, *however it is difficult to justify a non-farm dwelling. Furthermore . . . existing agricultural base would be negatively impacted.* [Emphasis added]

Despite this information, the Forest Service approval did not address the issues of whether the residence would convert agricultural lands to residential lands, would impact the historical significance of the peninsula or would encourage more residences to be built on the peninsula (the "cumulative impact").

Perhaps the most troubling aspect of the Forest Service decision is the failure to con-

sider the possible cumulative impact on the peninsula of approving this development, as required by the Act. Approving a residence on agricultural lands — particularly on a small peninsula that can absorb very few new residences — establishes a precedent to allow more development. This cumulative impact was acknowledged by the Hood River County administrator (in a decision also approving the residence):

Housing densities will increase in this area. This will set a precedent for other similar requests.

The one acre lot adjacent to the lot just approved for development is now for sale.

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*. . . this new decision  
is certainly the correct one  
and should be applauded.*

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It also is zoned for exclusive farm use and was offered to be bought in a 1978 letter by the same neighbor:

I would like to use your property for planting orchard. Ruth-ton Point is beautiful and I don't like to contemplate the possibility that someone might develop it into a housing project in the distant future.

The grandson of this neighbor also has tried to buy his second lot in order to plant orchards, and has offered \$10,000, a fair price considering that prime Hood River agricultural land sells for approximately \$7000 an acre. Unfortunately, the asking price is \$26,000 — hardly an agricultural price, but a price the owner feels he can receive, no doubt made more certain by the recent Forest Service approval.

Fortunately, however, the Forest Service has tentatively decided that it will not approve residential development upon the second lot. Although too late to undo its decision pertaining to the first lot, this new decision is certainly the correct one and should be applauded.

## FOCG SPURS COUNTY ACTION

From the considerable number of phone calls from members received by the Friends' office, we know that many of you have noticed a new, unscreened mobile home in the Dodson/Warrendale area. The bright yellow mobile home was placed parallel to the Scenic Highway in Warrendale and is startlingly visible from both the scenic Highway and Interstate 84.



*Ruth-ton Point, covered in forest and orchards today. A request for a new residence on a 2-acre lot here was recently approved.*



## ALL ABOARD FOR A MOUNTAIN PICNIC ON THE MOUNT HOOD RAILROAD

Mother's Day Special Saturday, May 7, 1988

Friends of the Columbia Gorge members and their friends have an unusual opportunity to ride a reserved car on the historic Mount Hood Railroad on May 7, 1988.

From the early days of the century, a railroad train has taken regular trips from downtown Hood River, Oregon, through the beautiful orchard and forest land of the Hood River Valley, up to Parkdale on the north flank of Mount Hood. It has been 30 years since passengers have been able to ride that train, and recently, it was in danger of being closed down altogether.

Things have changed this year because of the purchase of the 22-mile line from Union Pacific by a group of Hood River investors led by Jack Mills. They had heard of Union Pacific's plans to tear up a section of the historic railroad and sell it for scrap, and were shocked. The line had serviced the orchards and lumber mills of the Hood River Valley since 1906. They saw it as both a link to Hood River's colorful past and a key to its future economic recovery. They pleaded with Union Pacific to keep the line running. Union Pacific's answer was simple: buy the railroad and operate it yourselves. So, they did. The revitalized railroad began trial runs in January, and will open for regular passenger service in April.

The Mount Hood Railroad has made a special car available for Friends of the Columbia Gorge on Saturday, May 7, 1988. We will meet at the Mount Hood Railroad Depot at 10:00 a.m. to board the train. After enjoying spectacular vistas as we ascend the north slopes of Mount Hood, we will stop at Parkdale for a hearty alpine picnic. Accordion maestros Walt Aeppli and Dieter Nachman will be on hand

throughout the trip to play and sing Bavarian mountain railroad songs. FOCG Board Member Kate Mills is making arrangements to bring the best of local Hood River food and drink to our picnic spot among the apple blossoms. We will reboard the train and be back at Hood River by approximately 5:00 p.m.

The cost of this special trip will be \$50.00 per person. In honor of Mother's Day, a 20% discount is available for family groups of 3 or more. Proceeds will benefit Friends of the Columbia Gorge. Seating is limited, so early reservations are recommended. The cut-off date for reservations is April 1, 1988. To hold your reservation, we must receive payment in full by that date. To reserve seats, call the Friends office at (503) 241-3762, or return the reservation form on this page with your payment.

## GORGE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN TO SPEAK AT ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Friends of the Columbia Gorge has been set for the evening of March 31, 1988, at the Portland Garden Club, 1132 S.W. Vista Avenue in Portland, Oregon. As usual, the meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. and, after a break for a brown-bag supper get-together, conclude with a featured speaker and a photographic presentation.

Stafford Hansell will be our featured speaker this year. Stafford was appointed to the new Gorge Commission last April by Governor Neil Goldschmidt of Oregon as one of the state's three representatives to the bi-state commission. Shortly after the commission's formation, they elected Stafford as chairman.

Stafford brings to the job an impressive background, from his more earthy accomplishments as a hog farmer in his home town of Boardman Oregon, to his many years of public service. He served 18 years in the Oregon legislature and 14 years on the Oregon Emergency Board. He was director of the Oregon Executive Department under Governor Bob Straub, and also served terms as director of the Oregon Historical Society and the Oregon Community Foundation. Last but definitely not least, he served as chairman of the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development from 1983 until he accepted his post with the new Gorge Commission.

Stafford will speak to the FOCG membership on his vision for the future of the Gorge and what he hopes to accomplish in his work with the new Gorge Commission.

Further information on the Annual Meeting will be mailed to FOCG members in early March.

### FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE MOUNT HOOD RAILROAD TOUR Saturday, May 7, 1988

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats on the FOCG Mount Hood Railroad Tour.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations must be received before April 1, 1988.

Departure Time: 10:00 a.m.

Meet at: Mount Hood Railroad Depot  
I-84 southeast of Exit 63

Cost: \$50.00 per person;  
20% discount for groups  
of 3 or more

Return reservation form to:  
Friends of the Columbia Gorge  
P.O. Box 40820  
Portland, Oregon 97240

Report, continued from page 2.

We called the Multnomah County planning department and discovered that the mobile home had been approved in August, 1985, more than a year before the National Scenic Area Act was passed. The county permit had required the owner to abide by several conditions, including retention of the existing trees on the site (in order to screen the mobile home from the Interstate and the Scenic Highway). According to the county planning department, the owner has ignored the permit in several respects:

- a second driveway was constructed on the lot without permission (county standards limit access to one per lot);
- the new driveway removed trees which screened the mobile home from the Interstate; and
- the one tree remaining in the front yard was topped to such a degree that it no longer provides necessary screening.

Perhaps spurred on by our phone call, the county has sent a letter to the owner which "offer[s]" certain "steps . . . as remedies" to this problem, including elimination of one of the driveways and the planting of new evergreens 8-10 feet tall. I am sure our members are eagerly awaiting the results.

This case does emphasize two important points. First, it indicates the high level of involvement of our members, and how critical this involvement is.

Second, it ably illustrates the problems involved with approving developments subject to conditions, or "mitigation" as it is often known. All too often developments are approved — subject to conditions — by trusting agencies, and the conditions are neither implemented nor enforced.

The conditions may not be implemented



*This bright yellow mobile home in the Dodson/Warrendale area faces the Scenic Highway and the Interstate, and has been noticed by many FOCG members.*

for a variety of reasons: the original landowners might sell their house and the new owners not feel similarly restricted, the owners may decide to improve their views (after all, a tree that screens a view of the house may also screen the occupant's view), trees might blow down and not be replaced, or a landowner could simply have underestimated the cost of building his house — the screening expenses are usually last on the list.

The conditions may also not be enforced for a variety of reasons. The most common reason, however, is that the managing agency simply does not have the time — or the resources — to continually monitor the conditions. Usually an agency will not know that conditions are being violated until a neighbor, or watch-dog organization, alerts it. Once it is aware of the violation, other problems arise: will most

agencies spend the time and effort (investigation, official notice to the landowner, a hearing, a possible appeal) in order to restore a few trees? Probably not.

A better solution may well be to require landowners in particularly sensitive areas (assuming, of course, that the area can tolerate any development) to post mitigation bonds as a condition of receiving a permit to build. The bond would cover the cost of implementing the necessary conditions should the landowner fail to properly implement the conditions.

## FOREST SERVICE ACQUISITION PROCESS CONTINUES

The Forest Service has done excellent work implementing its land acquisition responsibilities under the National Scenic Area Act. This facet of its responsibilities is very

## U.S. FOREST SERVICE DECISIONS ON PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE GORGE November 17, 1986 — December 28, 1987

	Residential		Land Partitions		Subdivisions		Mobile Homes		Zoning Changes*		Hydroelectric**		Surface Mining		Logging***	
	In GMAs	In SMAs	In GMAs	In SMAs	In GMAs	In SMAs	In GMAs	In SMAs	In GMAs	In SMAs	In GMAs	In SMAs	In GMAs	In SMAs	In GMAs	In SMAs
Consistent	57	5	12	0	2	0	17	1	2	0	0	0	4	1	6	12
Inconsistent	0	9†	0	2†	0	0	0	1†	0	0	0	1	1	2†	0	2
Pending, Vested or Other	18	26	5	1	2	0	6	4	2	0	1	0	7	4	0	4
Subtotals:	75	40	17	3	4	0	23	6	4	0	1	1	12	7	6	18
TOTALS:	Total Residential = 115		Total Land Partitions = 20		Total Subdivisions = 4		Total Mobile Homes = 29		Total Zoning Changes = 6		Total Hydroelectric = 7		Total Surface Mining = 19		Total Logging = 24	

\*Two zoning changes are pending outside the CRGNSA's boundaries on the tributaries.

\*\*Five hydroelectric projects are proposed outside the CRGNSA's boundaries on the tributaries: 1 is inconsistent, 2 are consistent, and 2 are pending.

\*\*\*The Act does not allow regulation of logging outside SMAs.

†The USFS has no discretion over these projects. The Act requires that they be held inconsistent.

important since it removes lands which usually are of scenic, natural, cultural or recreational value from the threat of residential development.

The National Scenic Area staff is currently working on 61 land acquisition cases which comprise approximately 4,590 acres. The agency has completed 25 purchases to date, totalling 2,593 acres, at the cost of \$3,051,700. These acquisitions (all accomplished on a "willing seller" basis) represent considerable progress, especially since the acquisition staff was finally on board only in June.

The Forest Service has given priority to those "hardship" cases in the National Scenic Area where the owners — usually because of medical or financial hardship — must sell their land. Without the Forest Service, many of these landowners would not have been able to find buyers for their property, and would have suffered considerably. Ten of the purchases have been "hardship" cases.

One of the most significant acquisitions by the Forest Service was the Lauderbach property in Klickitat County. The Lauderbach property, which consists of 1,909 acres, includes dramatic and sweeping views of the eastern Gorge, a natural stone arch, a mountain stream and numerous Indian "vision quest" sites. This property, purchased from the Trust for Public Land, represents some of the most valuable land in the entire National Scenic Area.

Once the Forest Service has completed the acquisition of the pending 61 cases there are an additional 70-75 cases ready to be considered. The agency's National Scenic Area headquarters in Hood River continues to receive several inquiries each week, so acquisition will assuredly continue well into the future.

— Bowen Blair, Jr.

## KEY

GMA	= General Management Area (USFS has full discretion)
SMA	= Special Management Area (USFS has limited discretion)
Consistent	= USFS has determined that proposed development is consistent with the National Scenic Area Act
Inconsistent	= USFS has determined that proposed development is inconsistent with the National Scenic Area Act
Pending, Vested or Other	= Usually a pending decision or a project which has a vested right to continue



FOCG Board Chairman Nancy Russell stands next to a Douglas fir tree 22 feet in circumference. Photograph by Vera Dafoe.

### Boundary Appeal, continued

Unfortunately, when an agency commences this process with that attitude — to draw the lines as narrowly as possible (which certainly is *not* required, nor encouraged, by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act) — the chances are great that important resource land will be excluded from the final boundaries.

This is precisely what happened. The boundaries have excluded (and, in at least one case, removed from the temporary boundaries) several areas of critical scenic, natural, recreational, scientific and cultural significance.

Two of the most important unprotected areas occur along the east bank of the White Salmon. One area, between the towns of BZ and Husum, contains valuable deer and elk habitat, particularly during the winter season. The Washington Department of Game joined the Friends (and other organizations) in reasoning that this area should be protected within the boundaries. This land is owned by Longview Fiber Company, which has girdled most of the oak forest (including some trees that are several hundred years old), evidently in order to replace the oak with Douglas Fir — a more commercially viable species.

FOCG also appealed the Forest Service decision to exclude a sensational area of old growth Douglas Fir and Ponderosa Pine forest adjacent to the habitat section. This stand of old growth trees is unique in the mid-Columbia region, some of the trees being 500 to 700 years old. One giant measures 22 feet in circumference and is located within the traditional quarter mile boundary used to study these rivers, yet still was excluded! This land is owned by the SD&S timber company, which does not bode well for the old growth.

Another area left unprotected by the final proposed boundaries is an area of prime

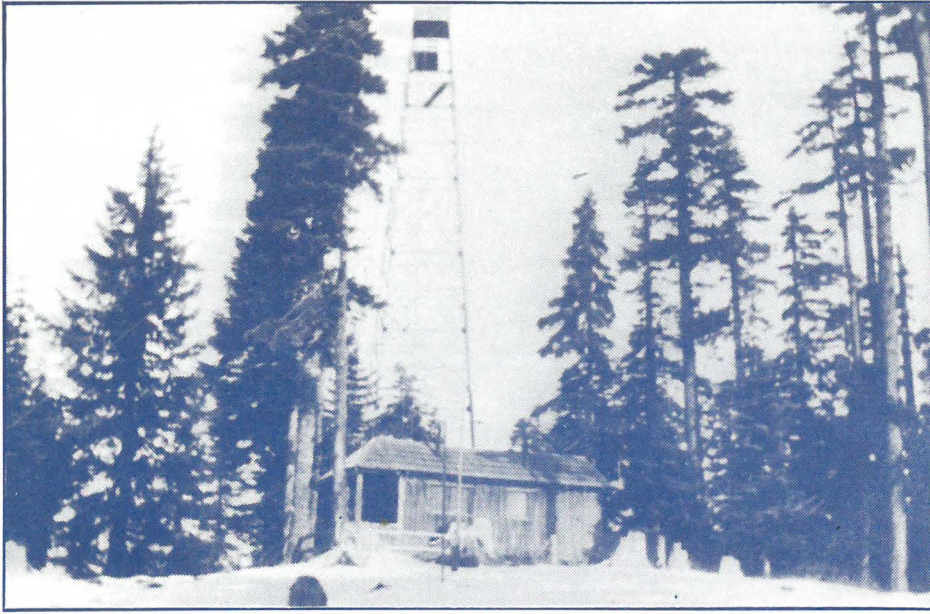
cultural importance — Rattlesnake Creek canyon. This canyon, historically used by Native Americans, contains an Indian graveyard and a 20 foot watergall and plunge pool. The creek also will be important to anadromous fish runs when they are reintroduced into the White Salmon.

The Friends' appeal has been joined by appeals from two other conservation organizations, Friends of the White Salmon, and the Columbia Gorge Coalition. A third party — the SD&S timber company — has also appealed the Forest Service decision, maintaining that the proposed final boundaries are too broad.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO RESIGN

For the past five years, since December of 1982, Bowen Blair, Jr. has ably steered Friends of the Columbia Gorge as its Executive Director. Under his direction, the Friends has obtained some major victories: a significant expansion of the membership; the successful appeal of a proposed 83-lot riverfront subdivision and marina, Hidden Harbor, downriver from Beacon State Park; the successful appeal of a proposed conference center on Wells Island; passage of state legislation to protect the Gorge's waterfalls; and, of course, the most far-reaching accomplishment during his tenure, passage of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act.

Bowen has tendered his resignation as Executive Director, and will be moving on to other endeavors this coming June 1. It will be difficult to replace him, so an energetic recruitment campaign is beginning for a new Executive Director. If you know someone who is a good candidate, please have him or her send a letter (no phone calls, please!) to the Friends' office requesting more information about the position and the recruitment process.



The Forest Service cabin used by Tex Sloat and Frank Rypzinski. Photograph taken by Tex Sloat in the spring of 1928.

## LIFE ON LARCH

by F. W. "Tex" Sloat

Larch Mountain, in the Mount Hood National Forest, slightly overshadows its sister mountain in Washington (*Ed. Note: also named Larch Mountain*) by some 560 feet. Someone must have mistaken the tamarack trees for larch as there are reportedly no true larch on either mountain.

In 1928 the writer was stationed on Larch, Oregon, during the fire season, as a forest service patrolman. My boss was district ranger Eugene Wheeler of the Columbia Gorge District at Herman Creek.

My partner, Frank Rypzinski, was the look-out and at times we traded positions for a change of pace. Our comfortable cabin consisted of two rooms, a bedroom with bunks in the rear and separated by a partition from the main room. The cooking stove was an old black iron affair which would be an antique today. On one wall hung a large American flag with the stars on the right. Years later it was pointed out that this was improper — shame!

Close to the cabin was the steel tower, 90 feet in height. Frank used to enjoy running up and down the ladder with the iron hobs in his boots beating out a rhythm of sorts on the ladder's rungs.

The little cubicle atop the tower, reached through a trap door, held the Osborne fire finder and the telephone, the latter providing our link with the ranger station at Herman.

I have been informed that the old tower, or parts, are at the district station and are used for repairs. The concrete blocks to which it was bolted can still be seen up the trail from the parking lot. The view from the summit is truly magnificent, and it has changed for the better. We used to look out

at miles of white snags, trees killed by the fires which swept the Gorge. Now it is all green.

There were no roads to Larch and all supplies were packed in by the mule train, using the trail east and down Herman which was the most suitable for the animals. The route up from Multnomah Falls was heavily used by hikers who would ride the train from Portland which arrived at the falls shortly after midnight. Their goal was to view the sunrise from the pinnacle, now called Sherrard Point, named after the former supervisor of the Mount Hood National Forest.

They were a noisy bunch, out for a good time, and we had little sleep after they arrived. My patrol was down to the highway and the lodge on one day and south into the Bull Run Reserve the next. The crew at the lodge was always contacted and we had the privilege of eating there for half price but I never felt that flush. I have fond memories of "Ma" Spencer who operated the curio shop and was a friend of everyone. Drinking water was carried from a spring half a mile down the south side and the water for washing was brought in by the mules when they were available. Larch was a nice place to be and a secret was a small swamp where lived the prettiest rainbow trout. Occasionally we would have two for dinner — a self-imposed limit.

This past summer we drove to Larch on the paved road, and as I walked up the trail to the site of the old cabin, the birds singing in the tree tops, I am sure, were the ghosts of 60 years ago reminding me of those carefree days.

Ever since the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act was signed into law on November 17, 1986, Friends of the Columbia Gorge has been reassessing its work and rededicating itself to its goal of permanent protection of the many special resources of the Columbia Gorge.

In May of 1987, the Board of Directors held a weekend retreat at which they reviewed the past work of the Friends and the type of work that would be needed in the future. The result was a detailed list of goals, the most important of which have now been expressed in a new, formal mission statement which was adopted unanimously by the Board at its October 29, 1987 meeting:

"Friends of the Columbia Gorge shall vigorously protect the scenic, natural, cultural, historic and recreational values of the Columbia River Gorge, encourage compatible economic development within the urban areas, and educate people about the Gorge in order to gain the public support necessary for effective implementation of the National Scenic Area Act."

The new mission statement emphasizes the continuing importance of vigilance on behalf of the Gorge now that the Act is in place. It expresses the Friends' concern that new development should be focused within existing urban areas. Finally, it highlights the special attention we will be giving to public education about the continuing need to protect the Gorge.

Beginning with this issue of the newsletter, the new mission statement will appear on the back page in place of the old "statement of purpose."

## HIKE LEADERS NEEDED

The Eighth Annual Gorge Hiking Weekend will be held this year on Saturday, June 18, and Sunday, June 19, 1988.

Last year, we offered 42 hikes, with a wide variety of skill levels and scenery. We are always interested in hearing from hike leaders who can show us a new trail or give us a fresh look at a familiar one. If you have experience at leading hikes and would be interested in serving as a volunteer hike leader this year, please contact the Friends of the Columbia Gorge office at (503) 241-3762. We will need detailed information on the hike you would like to lead by February 15 so that it can be printed in our Hiking Weekend brochure.

The brochure will be available in late April, and will include descriptions of every hike offered, along with general information about participating in the Hiking Weekend. All hikes are free.

# 1987 MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

## Part I

A total of 736 responses were received on the membership questionnaire distributed with the August 1987 newsletter. The responses have been entered on our office computer by volunteer Linda Hopkins, and we now have a wealth of information about our members.

Friends of the Columbia Gorge has a diverse and very supportive membership, with some interesting overall characteristics.

The overwhelming reason why members joined was to preserve the scenic beauty of the Gorge (94%). Two strong supporting reasons were preserving the wildlife and plants of the Gorge (78%) and helping to stop inappropriate development in the Gorge (72%). Favored activities of the 57% of members who frequently or occasionally enjoy recreation in the Gorge include sightseeing by car, hiking, picnicking, enjoying birds and wildflowers, and photography. Our members support many other nonprofit organizations in addition to Friends of the Columbia Gorge. Almost all belong to at least one other nonprofit, with over half belonging to five or more.

As might be expected, the largest concentration of our members (39%) live in Multnomah County, Oregon, the largest population center within an hour's drive of the Gorge. Another 7.7% live in the other 5 Gorge counties. We have members all over the Northwest, however, and even outside the Gorge states of Washington and Oregon.

A report on the results for Questions 8-16 will appear in the next newsletter, with information on demographics and how our members view FOCG's direction for the future.

Following is a chart showing the responses to Questions 1-7.

### 1. Why did you become a member of Friends of the Columbia Gorge?

I wanted to help preserve the scenic beauty of the Columbia River Gorge	94%
I wanted to help preserve the wildlife and plants of the Gorge	78%
I was disturbed by inappropriate development in the Gorge and wanted to help stop it	72%
I often visit the Gorge for recreational purposes, and wanted to be sure that I could continue to do so	46%
I live in the National Scenic Area and supported the National Scenic Area Act	6%
A friend urged me to join	5%
Other	6%

### 2. Do you engage in recreational activities in the Gorge?

Yes, frequently	21%
Yes, occasionally	36%
Yes, but rarely	32%
Never	8%

### 3. Activities pursued in the Gorge:

	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Total
Sightseeing by car	22%	42%	19%	83%
Hiking	20%	32%	18%	70%
Enjoying wildflowers	16%	34%	13%	63%
Picnicking	5%	29%	18%	52%
Photography	12%	25%	13%	50%
Birdwatching	6%	19%	10%	35%
Camping	2%	9%	18%	29%

Fishing	1%	4%	10%	15%
Windsurfing	1%	1%	9%	11%
Sailing	0.1%	1%	10%	11%
Hunting	0.1%	1%	8%	9%
Other	2%	3%	2%	7%

### 4. Importance of FOCG membership benefits:

	Highly Impor.	Somewhat Impor.	Not Impor.
Helping to preserve and protect the beauty and other special qualities of the Gorge through public education	89%	8%	0.3%
Helping to preserve and protect the beauty and other special qualities of the Gorge through litigation	83%	11%	1%
Helping to create new state or federal parklands in the Gorge	55%	27%	5%
Helping to create new recreational opportunities in the Gorge	21%	36%	22%
Receiving the newsletter	21%	53%	13%
FOCG-sponsored hiking trips in the Gorge	11%	34%	36%
Doing volunteer work for FOCG	5%	17%	48%
Socializing with other FOCG members	2%	19%	55%
Discounts on travel-related services such as restaurants and lodging	1%	15%	62%
Discounted or free posters, calendars, T-shirts, etc.	1%	12%	66%
Other	1%	0.4%	0.3%

### 5. County of residence:

Multnomah County, Oregon	39%
Wasco County, Oregon	2%
Hood River County, Oregon	0.7%
Sherman County, Oregon	0.1%
Other counties in Oregon	28%
Clark County, Washington	4%
Skamania County, Washington	0.7%
Klickitat County, Washington	0.3%
Other counties in Washington	16%
Outside Washington and Oregon	10%

### 6. Membership in other nonprofit organizations

Members belonging to:	
no other nonprofit organizations	2%
1-2 other nonprofit organizations	12%
3-4 other nonprofit organizations	28%
5 or more other nonprofit organizations	56%

### 7. Membership in other conservation organizations

Members belonging to other conservation organizations	86%
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# VOLUNTEER REPORT

## Office Volunteers

Jane Mersereau, who has been volunteering regularly in the Friends' Portland office on Wednesday mornings, has just landed a full-time job. We are sorry to lose her as a volunteer, but are happy she has found a job she likes.

We could use an office volunteer to take Jane's place. No experience is needed. We will train you in answering telephone calls and assisting the Office Manager in various clerical tasks. We are always happy to provide references for regular volunteers who are looking for full-time employment. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Darcy Williamson, our office manager, at (503) 241-3762. Various time-slots are available, both in the morning and in the afternoon.

## Galleria Christmas Store

Our deepest thanks to Elva Olson Michael, who put in over 200 hours between Thanksgiving and Christmas managing our store at the Galleria. We cleared over \$6,000, which will be put to work protecting the Gorge. We also thank Elva's volunteer sales crew and others who helped make signs and transport merchandise: Sally Anderson, Marie Hall, Elizabeth Handler, Linda Hopkins, Jeanne Norton, Ed Robertson, Allison Russell, Bruce Russell, Nancy Russell, Dottie Schoonmaker, Barbara Setterlund, Georgia Slack, and Kitty Wheeler.

## Calendar Editor Needed for Newsletter

Do you enjoy getting on the telephone and finding out what's happening in all the towns up and down the Gorge? Would you enjoy seeing your own work in print four times a year? If so, you may be interested in becoming the volunteer Calendar Editor for the Friends of the Columbia Gorge Newsletter.

The job requires one to two days of work about every three months. Previous experience is not necessary, although basic typing skills would be helpful. Some of the telephone calls will need to be made during the workweek. FOCG will reimburse long-distance telephone charges paid by the volunteer.

If you are interested in becoming the Calendar Editor, please call Margaret Donsbach at the Friends office, (503) 241-3762.

*Forest Plan, continued from page 1*

be responsible for contributing to the annual allowable cut of the Mt. Hood National Forest.

## Nesmith Plateau

Nesmith Plateau is a large, west-sloping plateau northeast of the Larch Mountain viewpoint. It includes several important trails: Nesmith Point Trail, Bell Creek Trail, Yeon Mountain Way, Horsetail Creek Trail, and Moffett Trail. The latter two trails are part of the east-west Talapus Trail through the high country of the Gorge. Also included are Nesmith Point itself, McCord Creek Basin (with many fine wetlands), and the string of marshes at the head of Horsetail Creek.

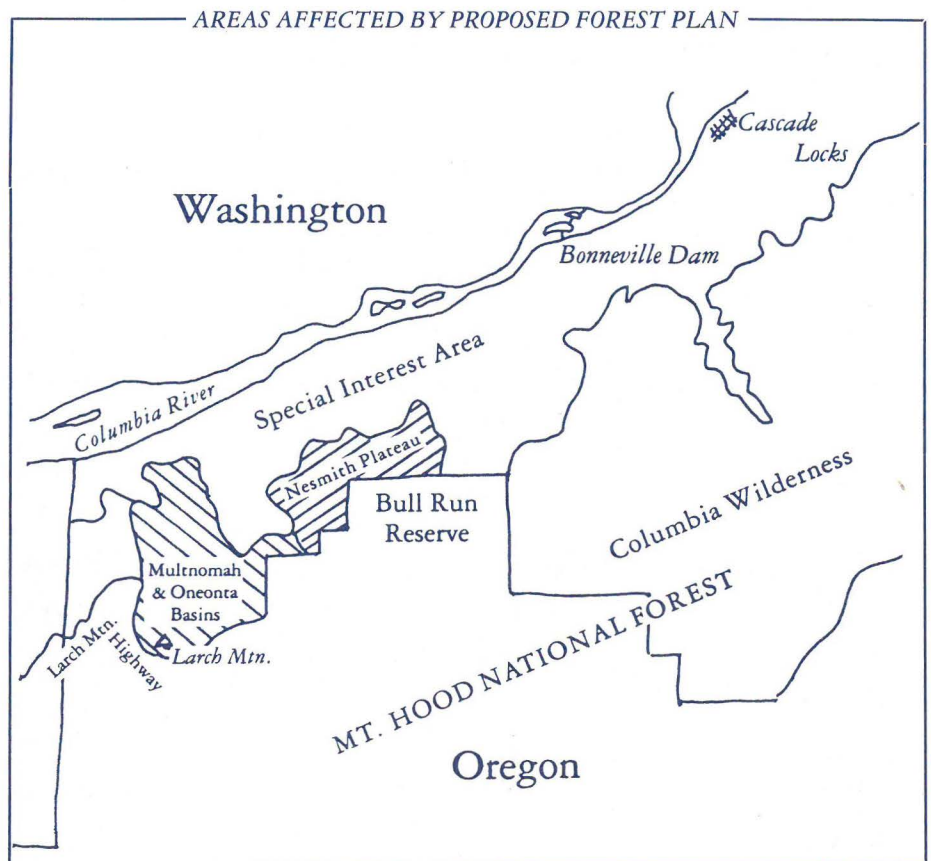
For this plateau area, the Forest Service proposes intensive timber management. Like the Multnomah and Oneonta basins, the Nesmith Plateau is within a Special Management Area of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. The National Scenic Area Act clearly states Congress' intent that the scenic, recreational and natural resources of the Special Management Areas be protected. Timber management would greatly harm, and could destroy, these resources.

## How FOCG Members Can Help

Friends of the Columbia Gorge strongly opposes these proposed changes, which — if implemented — could dramatically reduce the quality of these areas. We propose, instead, that no programmed timber harvest be allowed in either of these areas. (At present, there is no programmed timber harvest in the Multnomah and Oneonta basins and in most of the Nesmith Plateau area.)

If you would like to see these areas remain in their present pristine condition, drop a note to the Mt. Hood National Forest, asking that the areas be classified as Special Interest Areas, with no programmed timber harvest. Write to:

David G. Mohla, Forest Supervisor  
Mt. Hood National Forest  
2955 N. W. Division Street  
Gresham, Oregon 97030





## SEATTLE OFFICE CLOSING

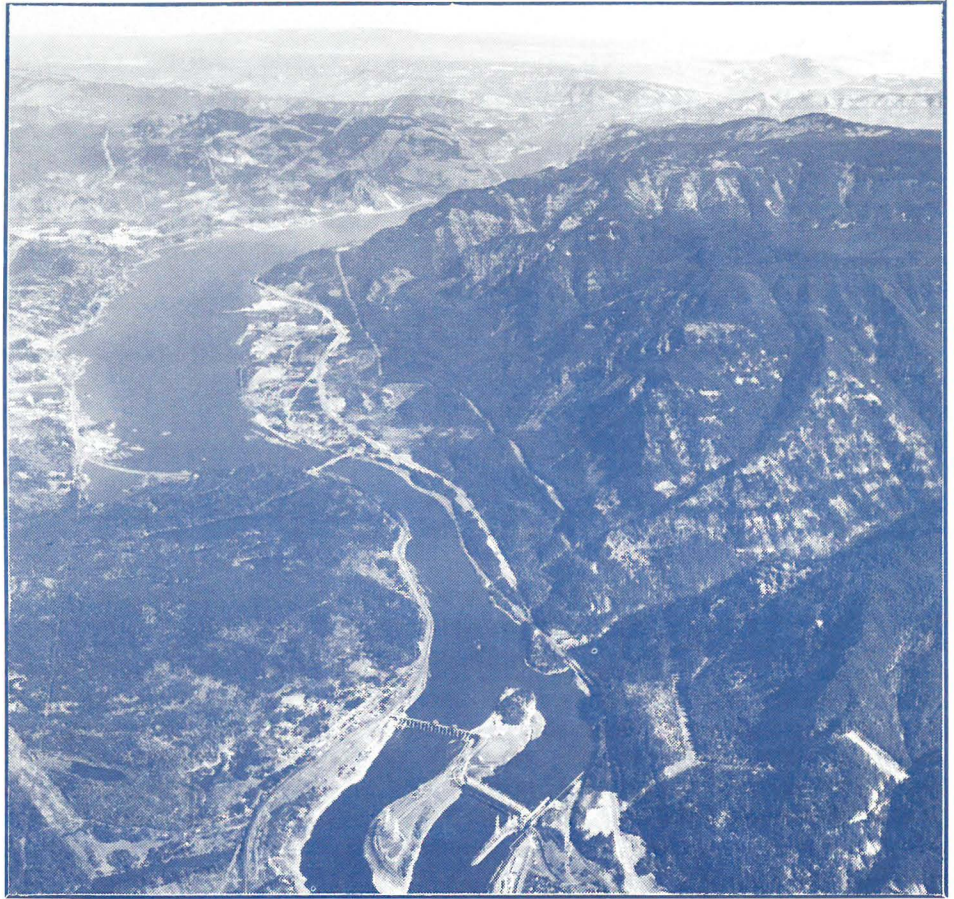
Friends of the Columbia Gorge has strong ties in both of the states which share the Columbia River Gorge. Although our main office is in Portland, Oregon, which is the largest city in close proximity to the Gorge, we have maintained a branch office in Seattle, Washington, since 1981.

Kristine Simenstad-Mackin, our Associate Director in Seattle, has been a valued staff member since the Seattle office first opened. For some time, Kristine has been working part-time as a therapist in addition to her work for the Friends. Recently, her practice has grown by leaps and bounds, limiting the amount of time she has had available to spend in the Friends' offices.

At the same time, the need for permanent staff in Seattle has lessened. Our efforts to pass legislation required staff in Seattle to work closely with Washington legislators and other state representatives. Now, with the National Scenic Area Act in place, the most pressing need is for a regular staff presence in the Gorge — especially in White Salmon, Washington, where the Gorge Commission is located, and in Hood River, Oregon, where the Forest Service's Gorge office is located. Both cities are readily accessible from Portland.

It was with great reluctance that the Board of Directors decided to close the Seattle office in January of 1988. Friends of the Columbia Gorge continues to receive strong support from Seattle area residents who, like all of our Washington supporters, are crucial to the success of our work.

During the past few months, Friends staff have made several trips to Seattle to stay in touch with area supporters. These trips have been very useful, both in producing new ideas for the Friends and in keeping Seattle supporters informed of our current efforts. We expect to take many more trips to Seattle in the future.



Photograph of the Cascade Locks area from *Cataclysms on the Columbia*. The deep curve in the river above Cascade Locks is the result of the Cascade Landslide about 1260 A.D., which "shoved the river a mile to the south and produced a 200 foot high dam, which lasted long enough to give rise to the Indian legend of the 'Bridge of the Gods.'" Photograph by Delano Photographics.

## BOOK REVIEW

Allen, Burns and Sargent, *Cataclysms on the Columbia*, Timber Press, 1986.

The Columbia River Gorge was shaped by some of the most dramatic events ever to occur in nature: a series of floods so enormous we can hardly comprehend their size. Repeatedly, prehistoric Lake Missoula — a lake one-fifth the size of today's Lake Michigan — burst its boundaries, loosing a wall of water hundreds of feet high to surge at speeds up to 50 miles an hour across the Columbia River drainage basin. The authors do not exaggerate when they characterize their story as one of "passion and violence in the creation and shaping of the heavens and earth."

But the book also tells a human story as fascinating as the story of the floods. Geologist J. Harlen Bretz did the detective work that uncovered the history of the floods. He then spent more than 40 years fighting for his theory's acceptance by the scientific community. Far more was involved than academic egos. Acceptance of Bretz's flood theory meant altering cherished assumptions about the fundamental nature of geologic change.

It was not until 1971, when Bretz was almost 90 years old, that he saw his work

become a standard of geologic thinking. In 1979, he won the prestigious Penrose Medal of the Geologic Society of America. Today, the floods that shaped the Gorge are known as "the Bretz Floods."

There is something in this book for everyone interested in the Gorge and the forces that shaped it. The first sections of the book tell the story of Bretz, his detective work, and the way the floods happened. These chapters are entertaining and admirably clear even for readers with little or no background in geology. The final chapters, supplemented with dozens of photographs, give a more detailed picture of the geologic features which provide the evidence for the Bretz Floods.

*Cataclysms on the Columbia* is available at most major bookstores in the Northwest. John Eliot Allen, the primary author, is Emeritus Professor of Geology at Portland State University, and is a member of Friends of the Columbia Gorge. For information about having your copy of the book autographed by Professor Allen, call the Friends' office at (503) 241-3762.

— Margaret Donsbach

### In Memoriam Contributions

Dr. Donald McKinley  
by  
Maria Delapoer

## BOWEN BLAIR, JR. TO SPEAK AT ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CONFERENCE

The Executive Director of Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Bowen Blair, Jr., will be a panelist for a Columbia Gorge Legislation and Protection workshop, as part of the Sixth Annual Western Public Interest Law Conference. The Conference will be held in Eugene, Oregon, on March 4-6, 1988.

Other speakers include Michael McCloskey, National Chairman of the Sierra Club, Captain Paul Watson, founder of the controversial Sea Shepherd Society, Professor William Rodgers of the University of Washington law school, and Professor George Coggins of the University of Kansas law school.

The conference events are oriented toward both legal practitioners and environmentally concerned citizens. It is sponsored by the University of Oregon School of Law's Western Natural Resources Law Clinic and



## WELCOME TO OUR NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Friends of the Columbia Gorge recently added a new membership category for people who wish to make their membership in the Friends permanent. A warm welcome to our first Life Members:

Elizabeth M. Brooke  
Jane Thompson Farrow  
Eric L. Griswold  
Ronna and Eric Hoffman  
Mignon M. Johanson  
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Roberts

by Land, Air & Water, a law student environmental research group.

There is no registration charge for non-lawyers who register in advance. Early registration for lawyers is \$30, and registration at the door is \$35. For more information about the conference, contact the Western Natural Resources Law Clinic at the School of Law, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon 97405; (503) 686-3822.

## ANDY DIGNAN RESIGNS AS NEWSLETTER EDITOR

This newsletter marks the first issue in two years that has not been prepared, edited, and ushered through the printing process by Andy Dignan, a woman as talented at finding the right creative spark for an article as she is at keeping a budget within bounds.

We miss Andy, but expect that her creative stamp will linger for some time to come. Many readers have commented on how much they have enjoyed the newsletter since she began as volunteer editor.

In addition to serving on the Board of Directors of Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Andy serves on the Board of the Albertina Kerr Centers for Children. Recently, Andy was asked to become the board liaison between AKCC and the Department of Human Resources Mental Health Division. Unfortunately, her new responsibilities will not leave her time to continue as the Friends' newsletter editor.

Andy is enthusiastic about her new position, but looks back on her days as newsletter editor with fond memories. She was glad to learn, through the recent questionnaire, that "the newsletter is read and people do enjoy and get a great deal out of it." She also expressed her confidence that the newsletter will continue to grow and improve.

The newsletter is now being edited and produced by the Friends' staff. (See the Volunteer Report on page 8 for information on an opening for a volunteer Calendar Editor.) We appreciate Andy's confidence, and are grateful for the fine example she has set.

## A FEW WILDFLOWER SHIRTS STILL AVAILABLE

Our beautiful new Gorge Wildflower shirts were tremendously popular at our Galleria Christmas store this year. Most categories sold out.

However, we still do have fashion-cut scoop-neck t-shirts for women left, as well as a number of cozy sweatshirts. These are available by mail-order from Friends of the Columbia Gorge. So if you had your heart set on a Gorge Wildflower shirt for Christmas and didn't get one, you still have a chance — while they last.

### GORGE WILDFLOWER SHIRTS — ORDER FORM

Fashion-cut scoop-neck t-shirt  
Snug fit sizes: M, L, X-L

Sweatshirt

Medium only, fits wide  
range of sizes

Price	No.	Size(s)	Total Price
\$12.00			
\$24.00			



Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_

Add \$1.50 per item  
postage and handling \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February — May, 1988

## FEBRUARY

### GORGE COMMISSION MEETING

**Event:** Regular meeting of Columbia River Gorge Commission  
**Where:** Hood River (location not final at press time)  
**When:** Tuesday, February 23  
For more information: Columbia River Gorge Commission  
(509) 493-3323

### EDUCATIONAL SERIES

**Event:** Educational series on environmental issues, with featured speakers, including David Brower on March 1  
**Where:** Lewis and Clark College  
**When:** February 22, 24, 25 and March 1, 2, 3; 7:00 p.m.  
For more information: Chris Brun, (503) 245-6103

### MUSIC

**Event:** Performance of Aoyama Gakuin University Symphony Orchestra from Tokyo, Japan  
**Where:** Garfield Performing Arts Center, Camas, Washington  
**When:** Friday, February 26, 8:00 p.m.  
For more information: Camas-Washougal Chamber of Commerce  
(206) 834-2472

## MARCH

### ART SHOW

**Event:** Watercolor Society of Oregon Touring Show  
**Where:** The Dalles Art Center, The Dalles, Oregon  
**When:** March 1-26  
For more information: (503) 296-4759

### HIKING

**Event:** Weekend field trips sponsored by The Nature Conservancy and the Mid-Columbia Chapter of the Native Plant Society  
**Where:** The Nature Conservancy's Tom McCall Preserve at Rowena Plateau  
**When:** Weekends, March - June  
For more information: The Nature Conservancy,  
(503) 228-9561

### GORGE COMMISSION MEETING

**Event:** Regular meeting of Columbia River Gorge Commission  
**Where:** Stevenson/Carson area (not final at press time)  
**When:** Tuesday, March 15  
For more information: Columbia River Gorge Commission  
(509) 493-3323

### MARYHILL MUSEUM

**Event:** Museum opens for season  
**Where:** Maryhill Museum, Maryhill, Washington  
**When:** Tuesday, March 15  
For more information: Maryhill Museum,  
(509) 773-3733

### GOLDENDALE OBSERVATORY DINNER-DANCE

**Event:** A stardust Dinner-Dance  
**Where:** Senior Center, Goldendale, Washington  
**When:** Saturday, March 19, 7:00 p.m.  
For more information: (509) 773-4424

### TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

**Event:** Dick Pintarich speaks on the history of the Columbia River Gorge  
**Where:** Troutdale City Hall, Troutdale, Oregon  
**When:** Sunday, March 20, 2:00 p.m.  
For more information: (503) 665-0423

## APRIL

### FESTIVAL

**Event:** Northwest Cherry Festival  
**Where:** The Dalles, Oregon  
**When:** April 8-10  
For more information: The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce  
(503) 296-2231

### POW WOW

**Event:** Celilo Wyam Pow Wow and Salmon Feast  
**Where:** Celilo Village, 10 miles east of The Dalles, Oregon  
**When:** Saturday, April 9  
For more information: The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce  
(503) 296-2231

### SPORTS EVENT

**Event:** Lewis and Clark Preview Run  
**Where:** Goldendale, Washington  
**When:** April 9-10  
For more information: Goldendale Chamber of Commerce  
(509) 773-3400

### TRAILS CONFERENCE

**Event:** Trails Conference and Exposition, sponsored by Oregon Recreational Trails Advisory Council  
**Where:** World Forestry Center, Portland, Oregon  
**When:** Saturday, April 23  
For more information: Oregon Parks and Recreation Division  
(503) 378-6824 or 378-6305

# Friends of the Columbia Gorge

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## FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE Winter/Spring 1988 Newsletter

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### MISSION STATEMENT

Friends of the Columbia Gorge shall vigorously protect the scenic, natural, cultural, historic and recreational values of the Columbia River Gorge, encourage compatible economic development within the urban areas, and educate people about the Gorge in order to gain the public support necessary for effective implementation of the National Scenic Area Act.

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<i>Staff</i>	<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	<i>Contributing Writers</i>
Bowen Blair, Jr., Executive Director Margaret Donsbach, Director of Development Darcy Williamson, Office Manager	Margaret Donsbach  <i>Calligraphy</i> Howard Johnson	Bowen Blair, Jr. Margaret Donsbach Russ Jolley Nancy N. Russell F.W. "Tex" Sloat

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS: APRIL (*continued*)

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**FESTIVAL**  
**Event:** Blossom Festival  
**Where:** Hood River Valley, Oregon  
**When:** April 16-17  
For more information: Hood River Chamber of  
Commerce  
(503) 386-2000

**FESTIVAL**  
**Event:** Rock Creek Indian Root Festival  
**Where:** Rock Creek Indian Longhouse, Goldendale, Washington  
**When:** April 23-24  
For more information: Goldendale Chamber of  
Commerce  
(509) 773-3400

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### MAY

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**KLICKITAT COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM**  
**Event:** Museum opens for season  
**Where:** Klickitat County Historical Museum, Goldendale,  
Washington  
**When:** Sunday, May 1; hours 10 a.m.-6 p.m., closed Mondays

**MOUNT HOOD RAILROAD TOUR**  
**Event:** Friends of the Columbia Gorge Mount Hood  
Railroad Tour  
**Where:** Mount Hood Railroad Depot and points beyond  
**When:** Saturday, May 7, 10:00 a.m.  
For more information: Friends of the Columbia  
Gorge,  
(503) 241-3762

**SPORTS EVENT**  
**Event:** Celilo Cup Run  
**Where:** Goldendale, Washington  
**When:** May 7-8  
For more information: Goldendale Chamber of Commerce  
(509) 773-3400

**FESTIVAL**  
**Event:** May Fest  
**Where:** White Salmon, Washington  
**When:** May 21-22  
For more information: Goldendale Chamber of Commerce  
(509) 773-3400