

OrHI 525



1999 Legislative Session could be trouble for Gorge protection *Citizen involvement is vital*

The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act (NSA) protects the Gorge from urban sprawl, uncontrolled development and loss of recreational opportunities. An important feature of the Act is the Columbia River Gorge Commission, a partnership of local, state and federal representatives responsible for protecting the magnificent resources of the Columbia Gorge while ensuring that all those with an interest in the future of the Gorge have their voices heard.

Today, the Gorge Commission is in trouble

In 1997 Oregon and Washington legislatures charged with the responsibility of adequately funding the Commission, cut the biennial budget of the Commission to the point where it cannot do its job effectively. This has put the entire Columbia River Gorge at risk.

This year, both Oregon and Washington governors are pushing to restore adequate funding for the Gorge Commission. However, even given this support, both state legislatures need to pass the budgets, and this could be difficult.

Opponents of Gorge protection are busy planning the demise of the

Gorge Commission. Realizing that it is politically unwise to publicly oppose the National Scenic Area, this small group of legislators is planning to further disable the Gorge Commission through more budget cuts.

In the Washington State Legislature, the current leadership will likely support adequate funding for the Commission. However, Rep. Mark Boldt (R, District 17), Rep. Jim Honeyford (R, District 15) and State Senator Don Benton (R, District 17) are expected to try as hard as ever to slash Commission funding.

Bipartisan support, which Gorge protection has enjoyed in previous Oregon legislative sessions, is key if the Gorge Commission is to receive adequate funding from the 1999 Oregon Legislature. However, the subcommittee that develops Oregon's share of the Gorge Commission budget, the Ways and Means Natural Resources Subcommittee (Joint), is chaired by Senator Ted Ferrioli (R, Dist. 28, John Day), who led efforts to cut Gorge Commission funding in 1997. Senator Ferrioli scored "0" in the Oregon League of Conservation Voter's 1997 Environmental Scorecard.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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For a copy of the Gorge Commission's budget proposal: Columbia River Gorge Commission, P.O. Box 730, White Salmon, WA 98672 (509)493-3323, crgc@gorge.net

INSIDE

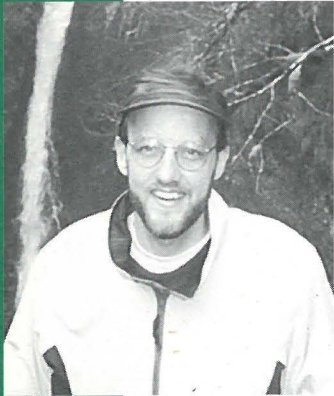
**An update
on the Bea House
on page 4**

How to make a difference

Executive Director's Letter

As

I look back on my short stint with Friends of the Columbia Gorge, one thing has dominated my short tenure here: "the house."



The question has been raised, "What harm can that one house do?" To those who have fought to protect the Columbia River Gorge for nearly two decades, the answer is simple. The house doesn't represent the end of the Columbia Gorge we know and love—it represents the beginning of the end.

Compare the housing smorgasbord of Portland's West Hills with the serene beauty of its neighbor Forest Park and you will understand this perspective. For the areas where man and machine have subdued some of nature's best shows, the march of logging, grading, paving and building began with one or two houses looking for a dynamite view. And they have opened floodgates that have yet to be closed.

The drafters of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act were acutely aware of the threat of opening floodgates. That's why homes in the "special management areas" (where the Beas have built) must be "visually subordinate" to their surroundings. Homeowners can still have a view, they just need to avoid becoming one.

photo: James O. Halloway



There are hundreds of ways to enjoy the Gorge. Above windsurfers travel from around the country to benefit from ideal windsurfing conditions.

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To those who have fought to protect the Columbia River Gorge for nearly two decades, the answer is simple. The house doesn't represent the end of the Columbia Gorge we know and love—it represents the beginning of the end.

I hope 1999 brings a conclusion to the Bea House saga, with the courts finding what the Gorge Commission found: that the house violates the National Scenic Act and must be moved.

In 1999 Friends will also focus our attention on the Columbia River Gorge Vision 2000 Campaign. The Vision 2000 coalition does not make the news like the Bea House because it is more about building trust and relationships, and finding common ground in projects benefiting the Gorge. Not the stuff of newspaper headlines, but nevertheless, something our kids and grandkids will thank us for.

On the subject of thanks, let me extend my deepest appreciation for your support in 1998. I hope Friends of the Columbia Gorge will continue to earn your confidence and trust in 1999.

Sincerely,

Kevin Gorman
Executive Director

Conservation Update

Open Pit Quarries Continue to Threaten the Gorge

by Beth Englander and Michael Lang

The National Scenic Area Act requires the protection and enhancement of scenic, natural, cultural and recreation resources within the Columbia River Gorge. In spite of this, open pit quarries continue to threaten the scenic beauty and natural heritage of this natural wonder.

The problem is two-fold. In some cases, unauthorized rock quarries continue to operate in violation of the National Scenic Act. In other cases, new quarries receive approval in violation of mandatory standards intended to ensure protection of scenic vistas in the Gorge.

Recently, the Skamania County Board of Commissioners approved a rock quarry and processing operation near Table Mountain. The proposal originally called for removing and processing 4.5 million cubic yards of rock over a twenty year span, an operation that would significantly and adversely affect resources in the area, including:

- Habitat destruction impacting two species protected by the National Scenic Area Act, the Larch Mountain salamander and the Pika.
- Damage or destruction to important cultural resource sites.
- Significant ground disturbance, dust, and truck traffic, which in turn would severely ravage the area's scenic beauty and significantly alter the landscape.

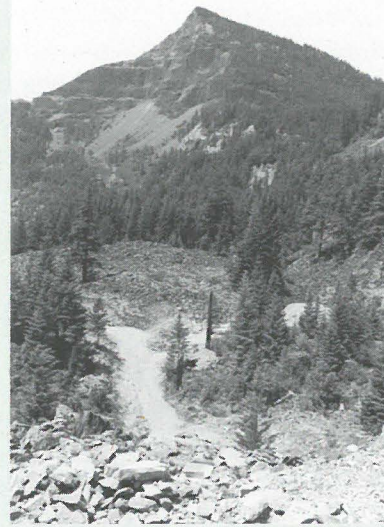
Over the past year and a half, Friends worked with the applicant, representatives of local and state agencies and tribal representatives to bring the proposal into compliance with the National Scenic Area Act. In order to protect important wildlife habitat and cultural resource sites, the scope of the proposed quarry was reduced significantly.

Unfortunately, the county planning department and the applicant failed to take mandatory measures to ensure that the quarry is properly screened from key viewing areas. In addition, there is insufficient information in the record regarding the slope stability of the area (the entire area south of Table Mountain is geologically unstable). Significant ground disturbance as a result of quarrying has the potential to destabilize rock and cause slides in the area surrounding the quarry, resulting in damage to natural, scenic and/or cultural resources.

On January 15, 1999, Friends filed an appeal of the Skamania County Commissioners' approval of this large-scale mining operation. Our appeal focuses on the decision's lack of measures to ensure that the quarry and processing operations are properly screened from key viewing areas (the Columbia River, I-84, the Historic Columbia River Highway and the Bonneville Visitor's Center).

By challenging this decision, Friends is working to ensure the quarry complies with the resource protection measures in the National Scenic Area Act. We also hope that this action will reinforce one of the mandates of the Scenic Act – to encourage economic growth in appropriate locations, while protecting the natural, scenic, cultural and recreation resources of one of our greatest natural treasures, the Columbia River Gorge. ■

photo: Michael Lang



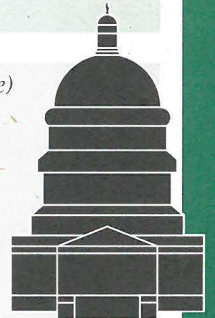
Site of the proposed quarry at the base of Table Mountain. This site is visible from key viewing areas in the Gorge and is home to two threatened species: the Larch Mountain Salamander and the Pika.

(continued from front page)

Legislative Session

Take Action

Complete Gorge protection is only possible with a fully funded Gorge Commission. Within the past few years, however, the Gorge Commission has suffered such severe budget cuts that it can't do its job. Unless the Gorge Commission receives complete funding from Oregon and Washington, the future of the Gorge is at serious risk. Contact your legislators and tell them that **Gorge protection is a top priority!** (See page 1 for contact information.) Each legislature must pass a budget that funds the Gorge Commission at \$1,754,000 — as outlined in the Commission's 1999/2001 Budget Request Summary. At a minimum, the legislatures should fund the Commission at the governors' requested level (\$1.3 million). Act now, a priceless treasure hangs in the balance. ■



Gorge Commission Rules that Skamania County Erred in Approving the Bea House

Property rights group threatens to appeal decision in attempt to dismantle Scenic Area Act

by Michael Lang

In a dramatic demonstration that the National Scenic Area Act still has teeth, the Gorge Commission ruled January 25 that county agencies and the landowners committed such egregious violations of the Gorge Act that there is no legal recourse but to move the house.

If they abide by the Commission's decision, the landowners have the opportunity to move into the house in a matter of months — and they will still live in one of the most beautiful spots on earth. However, it looks like this could be headed for a protracted legal battle.

Skamania County is expected to file an appeal of the Gorge Commission's decision, and the landowners threaten to do so as well (and may have done so by the time you read this). While there are a number of avenues the appeals process can take, one thing is almost certain: if the Gorge Commission's decision is appealed, the Beas won't be moving into the house anytime soon.

The landowners are represented by the extremist property-rights organization Pacific Legal Foundation, whose agenda in appealing the Gorge Commission decision appears to have little to do with the best interests of their client and more to do with dismantling the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act, and thus furthering the organization's anti-protection agenda.

On top of the time and expense associated with a lengthy court battle, and the possibility that it could be years before the Beas move into their home, the

Gorge Commission's decision will likely prevail. The Commission's findings and conclusions site numerous examples of violations on behalf of both Skamania County and the landowners, including:

- The county planning department erred when it failed to locate the structures in sites that minimize visibility from key viewing areas;
- Findings in the county record stating that the structures would be screened by existing topography and vegetation were incorrect;
- While the County approved a one-story house with a daylight basement and a loft, the landowners built a three-story house that exceeds the height limitations;
- Though aware of a number of the building violations, Skamania County repeatedly failed to take any enforcement actions.

The National Scenic Area Act requires the protection of the Gorge's natural and scenic resources. The Act also allows for new development, but only if planning agencies and developers site and design new development to avoid adverse impacts to the Gorge's scenic, natural, cultural and recreational resources. If county agencies and developers fail to carry out this responsibility, and the Gorge Commission is unable to ensure compliance with environmental laws protecting the Gorge, then the entire structure of the National Scenic Area Act crumbles.

The Gorge Commission should be applauded for fulfilling its duty and reaching a decision that complies with the National Scenic Area Act. If the Commission's decision is appealed it will no longer be an issue of a landowner and a house — it's about dismantling the Scenic Area Act. ■

Planned Giving

Save the Gorge and Tax Dollars at the Same Time

Many of our donors do just that with a gift of appreciated assets such as stocks. These gifts can provide big tax savings to you while providing a full value gift to Friends.

This past year Friends members gave nearly \$40,000 in stock gifts. Other members provided support for Gorge protection through simple bequests in their wills and through gifts of other types of appreciated assets, including art work.

Friends' Board establishes Endowment Program

In late 1998 our board of directors voted to establish an Endowment Program. By allocating \$300,000 from our reserve account the board established the fund and now plans to raise an additional \$300,000 over the next several years to grow the fund to \$600,000. Earnings from the fund will remain in perpetuity and will serve to permanently enhance our program with the addition of a full-time attorney and additional outreach and communications staff.

For more information on our Planned Giving Program contact Development Director Jane Haley.

1999 Spring Wildflower Hikes

Friends of the Columbia Gorge presents its 1999 Spring Wildflower Hike Series. These hikes are scheduled to promote an awareness and appreciation for the beautiful Columbia River Gorge, and to follow the wildflower bloom as the season unfolds in the Gorge. Participants should be in good condition and be prepared for the weather.

What to Bring: Daypack containing lunch, water, rain gear, extra clothing (sweater, cap & gloves), insect repellent, first aid kit, camera, binoculars, and other personal items. No alcohol, drugs, fire arms or pets. *Wildflowers of the Columbia Gorge* by Russ Jolley is a field guide many participants carry on these hikes.

What to Wear: Long sleeves, long pants, lug-soled, waterproof hiking boots are recommended.

Carpools: Depart at 8:00 AM from the S.E. corner of Gateway/99th Avenue Park & Ride. From I-84 eastbound, take Exit 7. Turn immediately right onto 99th Avenue. Second meeting places are listed with each hike. Donation to drivers of 5 cents per mile per rider. Bridge tolls (75 cents each way) and trailhead parking passes (\$3 per car at Dog Mountain) are shared.

General Information: Prior sign-up is not necessary. Hikes will not be canceled because of rain, and weather tends to be drier east of Hood River. Participants accept responsibility for their own safety. All mileage given is round trip. For additional information, contact Friends at (503) 241-3762.

MARCH 20 - MEMALOOSE HILLS EAST LOOP (new)

FOCG board members Chris Beck and Lester Baskin and hiking enthusiast Aubrey Russell will lead us on a Memaloose Hills ramble when the Grass Widows are in full flower. Loop hike starts at Memaloose Rest Area, heading southeast cross-country to Dell Road; circling back to Memaloose Overlook; and taking Chatfield Road back to the rest area. Waterfalls, flowers, stunning river & mountain views. Hike 5-6 miles with 800 ft. elevation gain. 2nd meeting place: 9:30 AM Memaloose Rest Area (I-84 eastbound after MP 72).

MARCH 27 - LYLE CHERRY ORCHARD-BIG BENCH LOOP (new)

Wildflower expert Barbara Robinson and Friends' Chair Emerita Nancy Russell will lead us to and around the Big Bench to Lyle before climbing to the higher benches and east to the abandoned cherry orchard. Great views and flowers too. Trail recently reconstructed. Hike 5-6 miles with 1,400 ft. elevation gain. 2nd meeting place: 9:45 AM at unmarked trailhead parking lot (Hwy. 14 MP 77.4, 12.2 miles east of Hood River Bridge).

APRIL 3 - ROWLAND LAKE LOOP

Wildflower guides Ray Hayden, Barbara Robinson and Nancy Russell are back again to lead this hike near Catherine Creek. The loop north of Rowland Lake includes historic wagon roads and incredible views. Emerge on the open plateau at 1,300 feet. Hike 7 miles. 2nd meeting place: 9:30 AM at Rowland Lake public fishing access (Hwy. 14, 5.8 miles east of Hood River Bridge, left on Road 1230, then .4 miles).

APRIL 10 - COLUMBIA HILLS PRESERVE

Two hikes in one. Former Dalles Mountain Ranch owner, Pat Bleakney, and Gorge enthusiast Bill Daniels will lead us through the DNR's Natural Area Preserve to a flower-filled oak grove and spring (6 miles and 1,000 ft. elevation gain). Weather permitting, Bill Daniels will continue to Stacker Butte's summit for outstanding views (addl. 2.5 miles and 400 ft. elev. gain). 2nd meeting place: 9:45 AM at Horsethief Lake State Park Day-Use Area (I-84 Exit 87, cross river, then north 3 miles on US 197, then east 1.5 miles on Hwy. 14).

APRIL 17 - SEVENMILE HILL (new)

Follow wildflower author Russ Jolley to witness the impact of the August 1998 grass fires on this prime wildflower area. Russ will take us to the top of this ridge (1,200 ft. elevation gain) for great scenery and views of the river. 2nd meeting place: 9:30 AM at Memaloose Rest Area (I-84 eastbound MP 72).

APRIL 24 - DESCHUTES RIVER

Desert Trail Association's Ross Edginton will lead us up to Ferry Springs for terrific views encompassing four counties. Return along the riverside past historic sites. Hike 8 miles with 750 ft. elevation gain, with four cattle stiles to

negotiate. 2nd meeting place: 9:45 AM at Deschutes River State Park (I-84 eastbound Exit 97, then 4 miles east).

MAY 1 - TRIO OF GORGE RAMBLES (new)

Russ Jolley will take us to some interesting, new and unnamed places in the east end of the Gorge on the Washington side. Very photogenic. 2nd meeting

place: 9:45 AM at Horsethief Lake State Park Day-Use Area (I-84 Exit 87, cross river, then north 3 miles on US 197, then east 1.5 miles on Hwy. 14).

MAY 8 - MAJOR CREEK RANCH-CATHERINE CREEK (new)

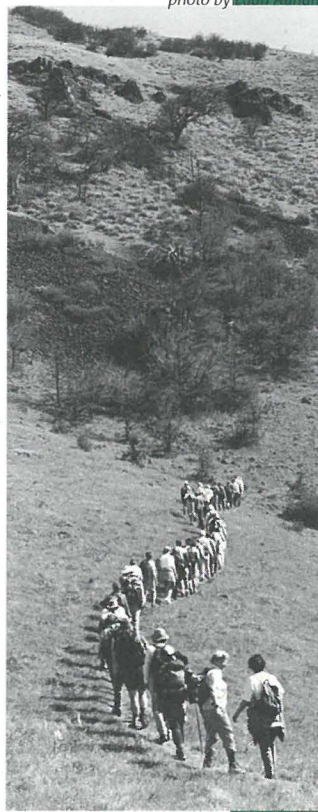
Wildflower guru Russ Jolley will join Nancy Russell to lead a scenic, flower-filled route between Major Creek and Catherine Creek. Walk along the banks of Major Creek and then climb 1,800 feet to the summit of Tracy Hill. Hike 6 miles.

2nd meeting place: 9:30 AM at Major Creek Ranch (Hwy. 14, 5.8 miles east of Hood River Bridge, left on Road 1230, then 2.7 miles — driveway on right .2 mile after crossing Major Creek).

MAY 15 - BONNEVILLE TO THUNDER ISLAND, CASCADE LOCKS (new)

Follow Gorge photographer Ken Denis on an 8.5 mile stroll along the Historic Columbia River Highway on a new state park trail. Travel around Tooth Rock on a viaduct and cross Eagle Creek on the original 1915 bridge. Pass by stands of old-growth forest before crossing under I-84 and on to a lunch spot at Thunder Island. Minimal elevation gain on paved surface. 2nd meeting place: 8:45 AM at Bonneville (I-84 Exit 37).

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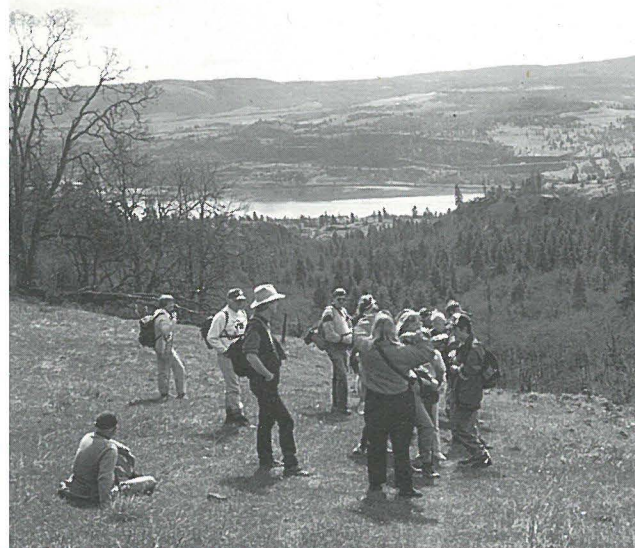
MAY 22 - MOSIER TUNNELS & TOM McCALL POINT

FCCG vice-president Rick Ray will lead us into the restored Mosier Tunnels from the east end. Then we will drive to Rowena Overlook and hike to the summit of Tom McCall Point for spectacular wildflowers and views, then descend to Rowena Plateau's vernal ponds. Hike 7 miles with 1,250 ft. elevation gain. 2nd meeting place: 9:15 AM at Mark O. Hatfield Trailhead near Mosier (I-84 Exit 69, left on Rock Creek Road, under overpass and 1 mile west).

MAY 29 - DOG MOUNTAIN LOOP

Political pundit Tim Hibbitts will lead us to the balsamroot meadows on the upper slopes of this classic Gorge summit. Expansive Gorge and Cascade views from Puppy Lookout and above. Hike 7 miles with 2,900 ft. elevation gain. *Trailhead parking pass required.* 2nd meeting place: 9:15 AM at Dog Mtn. Trailhead (Hwy. 14, 12.5 miles east of Bridge of Gods).

photo: Ken Denis



Hikers enjoy the view at Catherine Creek.

JUNE 5 - WAHKEENA TO AK-WANEE (new)

Gorge enthusiasts Caroline & Ken Bailey will take us on this delightful 7.5 mile hike with 1,650 ft. of elevation gain, beside the many cascades of Wahkeena Creek to its spring, where the creek pours out of the ground. Travel through old

Columbia River Gorge Vision 2000

Campaign Update – Getting it off the ground

One of the challenges of any new campaign effort is getting it off the ground successfully.

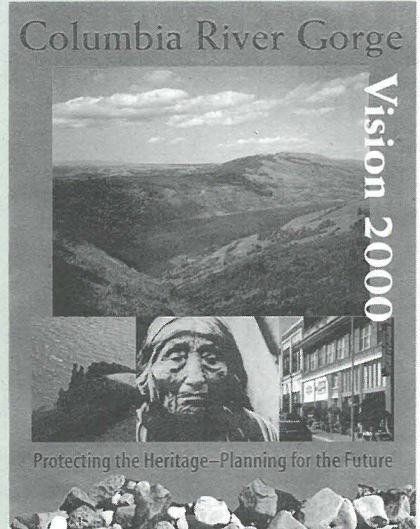
The Columbia River Gorge Vision 2000 coalition campaign has high aspirations — enhancing and protecting the Gorge through promoting and implementing positive projects and efforts — and in order to ensure success, the coalition campaign is taking the time to do it right through forming a Vision 2000 steering committee.

The Vision 2000 steering committee will target specific projects highlighted in the Vision 2000 publication for concerted, coalition effort. Public education about the National Scenic Area Act and the work of the Vision 2000 coalition will also be a priority.

To become involved with Columbia River Gorge Vision 2000, contact the Friends' office, (503)241-3762, info@focg.org ■

The Vision 2000 publication is available throughout the Gorge and the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area, including these sites:

Cascade Whitewater Company, Hood River, Oregon
Friends of Clark County office, Vancouver, Washington
Friends of the Columbia Gorge office, Portland, Oregon



Klindt's Booksellers and Stationers, The Dalles, Oregon
Keith Liggett, Stevenson, Washington
Middle Mountain Tax Services, Hood River, Oregon
Stevenson Community Library, Stevenson, Washington
Vancouver Community Library, Vancouver, Washington
White Salmon Community Library, White Salmon, Washington

Columbia River Gorge Vision 2000 is a coalition of concerned individuals, organizations and businesses, from both within and outside of the Gorge, who came together to take action on behalf of one of our greatest natural treasures — the Columbia River Gorge. The Vision 2000 coalition effort will work hand-in-hand with the National Scenic Area Act to protect the heritage of the Gorge and to plan for its future.

growth forest where 1991 Falls Fire made its mark and to Multnomah Creek for lunch at a scenic overlook. Join the Ak-Wanee Trail, passing some of the 1996 rockfalls and the Elevator Shaft. Car shuttle. 2nd meeting place: 8:30 AM at Wahkeena Falls (I-84 eastbound Exit 28, then 2.6 miles east).

JUNE 12 - CAPE HORN (new)

Gorge activist Dan Huntington will lead us through recent acquisitions in the National Scenic Area which offer fabulous views of the west end of the

Gorge. This 5.5 mile hike is part of planned trail from Washougal to Stevenson. Pioneer Point's breathtaking view will be worth the 1,100 ft. of elevation gain. 2nd meeting place: 8:30 AM at Pendleton Woolen Mills in Washougal (Hwy. 14 eastbound, left at Washougal 15th St. traffic light, then right on first street, continue to parking lot).

JUNE 19-20 - ANNUAL GORGE HIKING WEEKEND

Brochure will be available from Friends by May 15th. ■

Friends News...

New Year Brings New Gorge Advocates to Friends

The new year brings with it three new board members to Friends of the Columbia Gorge:

North Cheatum, Hood River:

Owens and operates Apeasay Orchard, grower of specialty organic apples and pears. North has lived in the Hood River Valley for 14 years and has also served on the board of Friends of Timberline.

Favorite spot in the Gorge: North Lake on the shoulder of Mt. Defiance. "I'm drawn to it because it's beautiful and we share the same name."

Kim Gilmer, Washougal: Born and raised in Camas, Kim has witnessed the spread of urban sprawl to Washington's western end of the Gorge. Kim is currently the recreation supervisor for the city of Lake Oswego and a rock climber, hiker and skier.

Favorite spot in the Gorge: Table Mountain in Washington, the view from Rock of Ages toward Saint Peter's dome in Oregon.

Gay Jervey, Mosier: A geologist and long-time activist for improving recreation access in Mosier, Gay is a strong proponent of the Mosier 20/20 Project, an economic development plan to improve Mosier's recreation opportunities. Gay also serves on the board of the Columbia Gorge Windsurfing Association.

Favorite spot in the Gorge: The mouth of Mosier Creek. ■

Electronic Activism

It's the '90s (for a little while longer, anyway), and the time is ripe to take your activism online. Join Friends' volunteer e-mail brigade! You will join over 100 volunteers who receive weekly notices about volunteer opportunities and activities, along with regular requests for volunteer assistance.

Just send your e-mail address (via e-mail, of course) to Julee at julee@focg.org ■

photo:Ken Denis



A shooting star pops up from under a rock.

Friends' Speakers Bureau spreads the word

After two training sessions, Friends now has a 20-member volunteer speakers' bureau that is ready, willing and able to talk to your group, company, organization or association about the important work of Friends of the Columbia Gorge.

Friends' presentations include a beautiful 20-minute slide show about the Columbia River Gorge, and covers topics including:

- the who, what, where and how of Friends of the Columbia Gorge;
- the challenges and threats facing the Gorge today;
- the new campaign for Gorge protection — Columbia River Gorge Vision 2000; and,
- opportunities for involvement on behalf of one of our greatest natural treasures — the Columbia River Gorge.

For more information about training to join our speakers bureau, or to arrange for a Friends presentation, contact Julee Wasserman, Friends' volunteer coordinator. ■

Art of the Gorge

Portland's Antoinette Hatfield Gallery showcases the recent works of Jack Balance during the month of February. Balance's illuminated landscapes of the Gorge, Mt. Hood and the Cascades are in a style reminiscent of 19th century painters from the Hudson River School.

Call the gallery at (503)224-3583 for more information. ■

Friends of the Columbia Gorge

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Portland, Oregon 97204
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info@focg.org

Mission Statement

Friends of the Columbia Gorge shall vigorously protect the scenic, natural, and cultural and recreational resources within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

We fulfill this mission by ensuring strict implementation of the National Scenic Area Act; promoting responsible stewardship of Gorge lands and waters; encouraging public ownership of sensitive areas; educating the public about the unique natural values of the Columbia River Gorge and the importance of preserving those values; and working with groups and individuals to accomplish mutual preservation goals. —Adopted November 20, 1997

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Thank You for your special contributions

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IN MEMORY OF RAY STEED
MARNA MOORE

Photo: Three bridges over Moffett Creek: the top bridge is I-84 eastbound, the middle is I-84 westbound and, in the foreground, is the Moffett Creek Arch — an engineering marvel when it was constructed in 1915.

Friends of the Columbia Gorge

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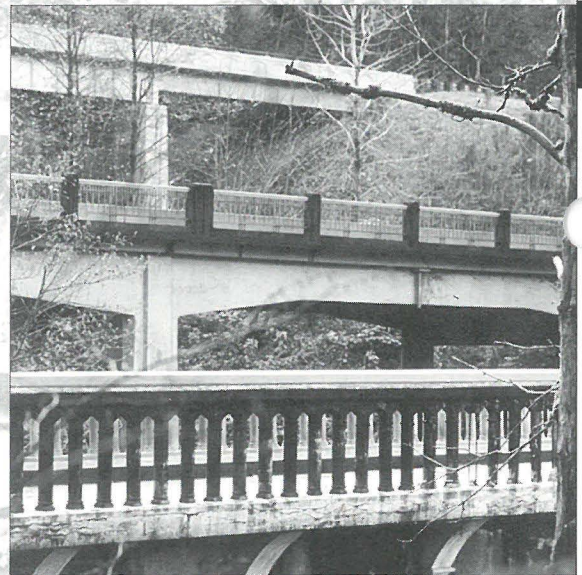
The following article is a new feature in the Friends newsletter. We hope to share a bit about Gorge history, sites, flora and fauna in each issue. If you are interested in contributing to this feature, contact the Friends office.

Did You Know?

Gorge facts & photo by Ken Denis

Did you know...

One of the bridges shown is an engineering marvel. In its time it was the longest, three hinged, re-enforced concrete arch bridge ever built, but it no longer carries traffic. Do you know where it is?



Did you know...

The Oregon side of the Columbia River Gorge contains another highway besides I-84 — the Historic Columbia River Highway. Completed in 1915, the 74-mile Historic Highway was the first major paved highway in the Northwest, and some 60 miles of the Historic Highway are still in use today (though only 40 miles are open to vehicular traffic).

Within the past few years, several sections of the old Historic Highway have been reopened for walking and biking; the Mosier Twin Tunnel section will open this fall. A recently opened portion of the highway runs from Tanner Creek east (near Tooth Rock) to Eagle Creek and on to Cascade Locks. Another section begins at Tanner Creek and heads west to Moffett Creek.

The Columbia River Gorge contains many fascinating areas and opportunities for exploration (some of which will be featured in this year's Spring Wildflower Hikes) — so get out there and explore! ■

Ken Denis is a member of Friends' board of directors. Ken lives and works in Portland, but spends much of his free time hiking, exploring and photographing the Gorge. Questions or comments for Ken can be directed to the Friends office.