

# FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE

## SPRING 1993 NEWSLETTER

319 S.W. Washington Street, Suite 301, Portland, Oregon, 97204

Telephone: (503) 241-3762

### LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends:

With the Gorge Management Plan now ready for implementation—thanks in no small measure to the hard and dedicated work of scores of loyal volunteers—we enter a new phase of activities at Friends of the Columbia Gorge.

Now, rather than fighting to pass the National Scenic Area legislation or struggling to keep adequate protection in the Management Plan, we face new challenges. In addition to our ongoing role to see that the Act is implemented, our attention will turn to individual issues. To name a few, currently we are addressing forest practices in the Gorge (see story, page 6), restoration of the Historic Columbia River Highway (see story, page 3) and cumulative effects of development activities.

For us, it will be an invigorating time. In moving to a different phase of protecting the Gorge, we must be flexible enough to adjust to new needs and demands.

Our role continues to be that of a watchdog for the Gorge. We will be drawing upon our volunteers in new ways as issues and opportunities unfold—specific protection matters that will require intensified grassroots involvement.

The notion that our work is done—with the Act in place and the Management Plan all but implemented—is not accurate. The job of protecting the Gorge continues; there are many battles to be fought and won.

On behalf of our staff and Board of Directors, I invite your continued support and participation in this essential work.



### *Friends of the Columbia Gorge Announce 13th Annual Hiking Weekend*

**Theme—The Oregon Trail**  
**Dates—June 19 & 20**

This year's Hiking Weekend features 51 different events including a horse trail, new hikes, bike trip, mountain bike outing, rafting, run on a segment of the Historic Scenic Highway and volkswalks. In all, 32 groups are participating, many which are new.

Much appreciation goes to **Al, Fred and Moe Jubitz** at Jubitz Corp. for their contribution to fund printing of the Annual Hiking Weekend brochure, and to graphic designer **Marilyn Holsinger** for her third year of designing the brochure. Thanks also to Irish Setter for its rate reduction. See the enclosed special insert for all the details on this marvelous weekend.



Hiking on Archer Mountain

Photo: Ken Denis



## Update: FOCG Files Notice of Intent to Sue Over East Pit

An announcement earlier this year that Hood River County was issuing a bid solicitation to potentially remove more rock from its East Pit quarry has triggered action by Friends of the Columbia Gorge to file a 60-day notice of intent to sue the Gorge Commission to force the County to phase out the pit. The quarry is located in a sensitive area along the Historic Columbia River Highway.

Since then, there has been some movement in a long-standing negotiation and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was started in January 1992 between the County, State of Oregon, U.S. Forest Service and Gorge Commission. The goal had been to achieve an agreement to resolve mining and forestry issues on lands owned by the County and designated "Open Space" by the Commission.

In 1988, the Forest Service determined that the pit was inconsistent with the National Scenic Area Act and that it should be phased out in 3-4 years. But, by January 1992, four years after the inconsistency review, no progress was made in phasing it out.

### *The Problem is That It's Inconsistent*

The MOU task force has lost sight of the problem. The issue is straight-forward: the East Pit was found to be inconsistent with the NSA by the Forest Service five years ago. The Forest Service has neither monitored nor enforced its inconsistency review. Because the Forest Service did not meet its obligations, the Scenic Area has been forced to deal with a far bigger problem than ever was warranted.

Now we watch Hood River County officials demanding the value of the pit be assessed as though the National Scenic Area or its own county regulations never existed, and as though no visual impacts or degradation were occurring to the sensitive resources of that area. This is outrageous because the County acknowledged the sensitivity of this area and quarry expansion limitations in its 1986 scenic overlay zone background report.

FOCG, in recent testimony, cautioned the Gorge Commission against signing onto any agreement that focuses on compensation to Hood River County as opposed to preservation of this magnificent stretch.

FOCG suggested the Commission consider two possible solutions to the problem. The least desirable solution would require the Forest Service, using its condemnation authority, to acquire the land. The preferable solution would be the Forest Service amending the inconsistency review to include a one-year phase-

out reclamation plan that would restore the area. The County should then return the land to the State of Oregon in the same condition, manner and for the same value that the state gave the land to the county years ago. The County will benefit greatly from a park in this scenic corridor, but has preferred to focus on business as usual.

The pit sits along a five-mile stretch of the Scenic Highway between Hood River and Mosier

that contains the Mosier Twin Tunnels. The corridor is a very high priority to reclaim as a park and bicycle-pedestrian route. This part of the Gorge is particularly notable because it is a highly scenic and botanically unique area representing the transition from the wet, western Gorge to the drier plant communities of the eastern Gorge.

Funds have been allocated through the National Scenic Area Act to restore portions of the highway. This includes opening up the tunnels, which would allow complete use of the area. This park proposal is part of both the NSA Management Plan and the preliminary Oregon State Parks Master Plan.



*Hood River County's East Pit is an eyesore along a scenic stretch of the Historic Columbia Gorge Highway, site of a proposed park.*

*Photo: Ken Denis*

### *Historic Gorge Maps Available*

The Historic Preservation League of Oregon (HPLO) has republished its popular map, *Oregon Routes of Exploration: Discover the Historic Columbia River Highway*.

The illustrated guide, which shows historical features, parks, natural resources and scenic areas, sells for \$2 each. The fold-out map also contains a written history of the highway.

Order from the HPLO, PO Box 40053, Portland, OR, 97240, or by calling (503) 243-1923.



## Funds Approved to Rebuild Tanner-Eagle Creek Highway Section

Congratulations to the coalition of organizations and all who participated in convincing the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) to allocate \$707,000 in federal funds to rebuild a 1.5-mile segment of the Historic Columbia River Highway between Tanner and Eagle creeks.

**Richard Ross**, a transportation planner for the City of Gresham who represented the Historic Preservation League of Oregon (HPLO) in the effort, says that an additional \$167,000 in state money also will be added to the project.

The mission of the coalition, Restore the Road '93, to which Friends of the Gorge belongs, is to locate funds to repair and reopen 30 miles of the highway from Warrendale to Mosier for pedestrian and bicycle use.

At its Feb. 17 meeting, the OTC approved a plan to use federal transportation enhancement funds under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) for the segment, which has been closed to vehicles for some 55 years. Work will include removing fallen rock and restoring viaducts and rock guardrails.

Built between 1913 and 1919, the Scenic Highway has been on the National Register of Historic Places



Tooth Rock section of Scenic Highway between Tanner Creek and Eagle Creek.

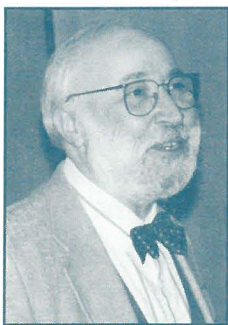
Photo: Ken Denis

since 1982. Since then, the state of Oregon has done well at improving and restoring used sections of the highway, according to **Nancy Russell**, Chairman Emeritus of Friends of the Gorge. Russell reports that the OTC's action to use ISTEA funds represents the first significant effort to connect and improve unused portions for recreational purposes.

The Restore the Road '93 coalition will continue to meet to discuss plans to promote restoration work and to obtain additional funding. Those interested in more information may contact Ross, Portland, at 235-8194.

## Annual Meeting Roundup

Friends of the Columbia Gorge gathered on Sunday, March 14 at the newly built Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, Wash. Members enjoyed exploring the facility and grounds, meeting friends and sharing their passion for the Gorge.



Ron Brentano

The program was *The Oregon Trail* slide presentation, originally prepared by **Bruce & Nancy Russell**, and presented by **Ron Brentano**, Chief Field Representative, Oregon Historical Society.

The annual Volunteer Award was given to **Ken Denis** for his outstanding contributions to this newsletter and much additional volunteer work, including chairing the FOCG Adopt-a-Highway Program. In recognition of his efforts, FOCG Chairman **Debbie Craig** presented Ken with a print of a wildflower painting by Harry Wentz.



Debbie Craig

## 1993 Audit Complete

The audit of the financial statement and balance sheet of Friends of the Columbia Gorge for the period ending December 31, 1992, has been completed. **Carol M. Jones**, Certified Public Accountant, prepared the audit.

Ms. Jones found that the financial statements presented the financial position fairly and in conformity with accepted accounting principles.

Appreciation goes to **Helen Ehelebe**, our office bookkeeper, and **Mike Ryan**, Treasurer. Copies of the financial statement are available in our office for review.



Volunteer of the Year Ken Denis, left, received this colorful painting in appreciation for his many hours of volunteer work for FOCG. Debbie Craig, FOCG Chairman, does the honors.

Photo:  
Felice Denis



## Reflections of the Gorge

### *Savannah Restoration Project Takes Root at Chicken Charley Flat*

*Russ Jolley, who contributed this article, is the author of Wildflowers of the Columbia Gorge field guide. Russ has been active for many years in preserving the botanical heritage of the Gorge.*

If you drive west from The Dalles sometime this spring, stop at Chicken Charley Flat and take a look at the ongoing native plant restoration project. Named for nearby Chicken Charley Island, the flat is located near milepost 68, at a point where the guardrail swings almost 200 feet away from the freeway pavement, enclosing an area of three or four acres.

We don't know what Chicken Charley Flat looked like before the railroad and highway were built, so this is only restoration in the general sense of bringing local native plants to a totally disturbed waste area. We envision a pine-oak savannah typical of the East Gorge.

In 1989, we (individuals from the Native Plant Society, Portland Garden Club, Friends of the Columbia Gorge and The Nature Conservancy) started the project at Chicken Charley Flat, in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).

Since the site was mostly rocky, ODOT brought in gravel from their Mosier pit. This is pit-run sanding gravel, still containing lots of fines and rocks as well as gravel. This "soil" was spread over the area at depths ranging from two inches to as much as five feet, with the average depth probably about 12 or 14 inches. Our job was to get native plants of the area to grow here.

The project was planned to take place in five annual stages, beginning in 1989. The fifth (last) stage will be started in the fall of this year. Seed collected in late spring and summer are sown in November, after the gravel has been wetted by fall rains. The seeded area is then lightly raked.

#### *Only Native Species Introduced*

We decided to plant only those native species that are found naturally within a one-mile radius of the site. As it turns out, most of the native plants of this part of the Gorge appear to do quite well in pit-run gravel. Some 31 species of wildflowers and four species of bunchgrasses have successfully been grown from seed at Chicken Charley Flat. Many of the seedlings were germinated at the greenhouse of the Portland Garden Club and tended by its members under the guidance of Emilie Frisbee.

Three other species were generously seeded but thus far have yielded only one seedling each and 12 species yielded no seedlings at all thus far. We are confident that some of these will show up eventually. On the other hand, six native species have arrived on their own and seven native shrub species have been brought in, either as seedling transplants or as cuttings.

In 1990 and 1991, about 200 *Penstemon barrettiae* plants were rescued from destruction at the Hood River County quarry (see article, page 2). The formerly doomed plants are now doing well at Chicken Charley Flat.

Finally, we have brought in ponderosa pine seedlings, most of which have prospered, and Oregon white oak seedlings, most of which have not survived.

Our work continues. We still need volunteer help to collect seed this summer so that we can plant the fifth stage in November. In addition, help is needed to keep Chicken Charley Flat as free from noxious weeds as possible, especially diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*). If you are interested in volunteering, contact the FOCC office for more information.

Also, keep in mind that the first part of May is the ideal time to explore this area and see the penstemon and Oregon Sunshine blooming.



*Bright yellow wall flower (Erysimum asperum), left, purple lupine, right above, and Bitter Root, right, are typical of species being introduced to Chicken Charley Flat. Photos: Ken Denis*



## *Gorge Commission to Implement Gorge Management Plan*

**M**oving into its next phase of activity, the Gorge Commission soon will begin to implement the Management Plan for the National Scenic Area. Under the Act, counties are required to develop ordinances consistent with the Management Plan, which was adopted in October 1991. If they fail to do so, the Commission then implements the Plan for them and they are not entitled to any of the funds made available by the Act.

Thus far, Skamania and Multnomah counties have submitted ordinances to the Commission. At the Commission meeting on March 30, these ordinances were reviewed and discussed with the Commission staff. The Multnomah County ordinance was returned for technical errors; the county has since corrected these errors and is set to adopt it in May. Following that, they will resubmit the ordinance to the Gorge Commission for review.

Skamania County's ordinance was returned for inconsistency. Friends of the Gorge commented on this ordinance at great length, pointing out the inconsistencies. These included omission of "Open Space"

in the Special Management Area, omission of mineral extraction regulations, variances not permitted under the Plan and other issues. The Gorge Commission voted unanimously to return the ordinance back to Skamania County for corrections on inconsistent items. The county has until the end of July to resubmit an ordinance to the Gorge Commission.

None of the remaining counties (Clark, Klickitat, Wasco and Hood River) have adopted ordinances to submit to the Gorge Commission as of yet. The Commission has developed and adopted an ordinance for these counties and will begin implementing the ordinance this June. Clark and Klickitat Counties have not begun to develop an ordinance. Hood River planning staff has begun developing an ordinance, but has not yet released anything to the public.

Wasco County will hold public hearings May 5 and 19 to gather public input on a county ordinance for the National Scenic Area. This is the third round Wasco County has gone through since beginning this process in March 1992.

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### *Volunteer Activities*

**T**he 1993 Northwest Trails Fair was held at the World Forestry Center Sunday, March 7. Thank you to volunteers who worked the booth, which was coordinated by FOCG Board Member **Jeanne Norton**. Thank you also to **Darren Provost** and **Kitty Shaver** for their help distributing information and answering questions about FOCG.

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Working with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), nine volunteers beautified a two-mile stretch of the Historic Columbia

River Scenic Highway on Saturday, April 17, picking up litter from the Oneonta Trailhead to the Multnomah Falls viaduct.

A big thank you to **Ken Denis** who organized the event and chairs the FOCG Adopt-A-Highway program and to the following volunteers: **Ken Denis, Felice Denis, Renee Scott, Mitch Neuharth, Pat Sims** and **Laura Castleberry**, along with **Chris Bruer** and **Alicia Simons** from Explorer Post 309, and **Jenny Simons** (Alicia's mother).

## *FOCG Legal Update*

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### *Miller v. Columbia River Gorge Commission*

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**P**rotection of the Gorge has prevailed in the Oregon Court of Appeals on a challenge of a Gorge Commission decision affecting a property owner in Rowena, just west of The Dalles. The Court on March 17 upheld the Commission's denial of the property owner's application to divide a 1.65-acre parcel into two residential lots. FOCG was granted status to intervene.

The Commission, in denying the request, was concerned that approval would set a precedent with a possible result of 99 additional 0.8-acre parcels in the area, adjacent to the Scenic Highway. The appellants contended that the Commission's decision was wrong and that denial constituted a taking of private property without compensation.

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### *Birkenfeld*

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Three motions to dismiss a lawsuit challenging the Gorge Commission's authority to make land use decisions and asserting that certain such decisions constitute a taking of private property without compensation were argued April 1 in U.S. District Court in Yakima. A decision is expected imminently.

The lawsuit, filed by several quarry operators, timber companies and individuals, seeks a determination that "Open Space" and other land use designations in the National Scenic Area Management Plan are illegal and constitute a taking. Defendants are the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, states of Oregon and Washington, and the 13 Gorge commissioners individually.

FOCG, acting as an intervenor, moved to dismiss on the grounds that individual commissioners could not be sued in federal court.



## *Forest Practices: Gap in National Scenic Area Act*

As good as the National Scenic Area Act is, one of its gaps is the lack of regulation of forest practices. This means that, in both Oregon and Washington, special attempts must be made to ensure that scenic and natural resource issues are considered in proposed harvesting of forest lands.

The NSA Management Plan does contain several designations of the most sensitive forest land as "Open Space", thus preventing harvesting. However, this is one of the issues being challenged in the *Birkenfeld* lawsuit (see *Legal Update*, page 5). The Forest Service has only recommendation authority in the Special Management Areas. There are provisions allowing the Forest Service to review the site plan for forest practices on non-federal land, but has no enforcement authority. While the Forest Service has condemnation discretion to purchase threatened sensitive lands, it has refused to use that authority. Throughout the NSA, forest practices fall under the respective state's laws.

Hence, for the most part, the Act does little to influence forest practices in the Gorge. This is a particular concern on the Washington side, which has extensive private forest lands whose topography lends itself more easily to harvesting.

In order to address the situation, Friends of the Columbia Gorge is looking at legal avenues in Washington state through which the issue of scenic value protection can be addressed. There is no better time for this than now. With timber prices being driven sky-high, we are seeing a fairly dramatic increase in timber harvest applications on the Washington side.

Currently, FOCG and the Columbia Gorge Audubon Society are pursuing an appeal on Underwood Mountain at the east end of Skamania County—the highest point in the mid-Gorge. There is excellent local support for our appeal of the renewal of an approval for a 220-acre clearcut. In addition, this area has experienced continual harvesting for some time, with cumulative impacts that well illustrate the scenic considerations involved.

The goal is to trigger Washington's State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA). This would be accomplished by getting the state's Forest Practices Appeal Board to recognize "scenic impacts" as being as critical to forest practice review as are natural and other resource impacts.

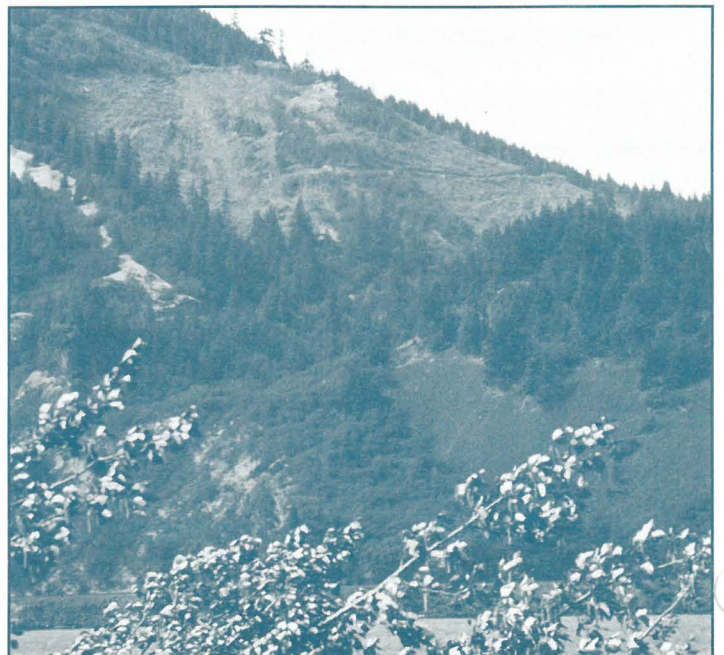
We are asking the Washington Department of Natural Resources to require the applicant to follow the process outlined by the SEPA, which may include filling



*Forest practices such as this along the Burlington Northern right-of-way are not covered under the National Scenic Area Act. Friends of the Columbia Gorge is pursuing a test case in Washington to trigger the State Environmental Policy Act on logging applications.*

out an environmental checklist or completing an environmental assessment. The appeal is before the Washington Forest Practices Appeal Board and is expected to go to hearing this summer.

This issue of sound forest management is not just a Columbia River Gorge or NSA issue. It also is an issue that faces the entire Northwest as timber and environmental interests try to find the right balance-point between protecting scenic and natural resources and allowing timber harvesting.



*Clearcuts above Drano Lake on the Washington side of the Gorge.*

*Photo: Ken Denis*



## What's Happening in the Gorge

### May

**Through June 1. The Columbia Gorge: Historic Photographs from the Sam Hill Collection.** Photographs by landscape photographer Albert H. Barnes of the Gorge in the early 1900s. Maryhill Museum. For information, call (509) 773-3733.

**Through Nov. 15. West to the Oregon Territory.** The great westward migration and the embellishment of the journey through time, highlighting how popular western folk culture shaped our visions. Maryhill Museum. Call (509) 773-3733.

**15th. Ruckel Creek Trail Hike.\*** 7-mile hike with 2,800-foot elevation gain. Second meeting place at 9:15 a.m. is Eagle Creek Exit 41, by the stone restrooms near fish hatchery.

**20th. Columbia Gorge Audubon Membership Meeting.** Slide presentation, *Beauty and the Beast in the Columbia Gorge*. Klickitat Valley Bank, White Salmon, 7 p.m. Contact Dan Dancer for information, (509) 493-1757.

**22nd. Grassy Knoll Hike.\*** 8 miles with 1,500-foot elevation gain. Second meeting place at 9:45 a.m. is west end of Dog Mountain trailhead parking lot, on Hwy. 14 about 12.5 miles east of the Bridge of the Gods.

**22nd. Group Empowerment and Building Coalition.** Workshop, led by Cheyenne Chapman of the Oregon Alliance for Progressive Policy, is meant to help progressive groups in the Gorge empower themselves and each other. Hosted by Columbia River Fellowship for Peace and OAPP. Call (509) 364-3578 for info.

**29th. Dog Mountain Hike.\*** 7 miles with 2,900-foot elevation gain. Second meeting place at 9:45 a.m. is trailhead parking lot, on Hwy. 14 about 12.5 miles east of the Bridge of the Gods.

### June

**4th through August 24. Views of Washington: Historic Photographs from the Sam Hill Collection.** View scenes captured by Tacoma landscape photographer Albert H. Barnes. Maryhill Museum. Call (509) 773-3733.

**5th. Hamilton Mountain Hike.\*** 9 miles with 2,200-foot elevation gain, passing waterfalls, wildflowers, cliffs and beautiful views. Second meeting place at 9:30 a.m. is trailhead parking area in Beacon Rock State Park, .5-mile north of Hwy. 13.

**12th. Larch Mountain Hike.\*** 6-mile loop hike which enters a majestic old growth forest, passes by Multnomah Marsh, then tops out on Sherrard Point for a Cascade panorama. Second meeting place at 9 a.m. is Lewis & Clark State Park, Exit 18, in front of the stone restrooms.

**17th. Columbia Gorge Audubon Membership Meeting.** Program to be announced. Time, place, contact person same as May 20.

**19th. Lucky 13th Annual Hiking Weekend.** See insert for details.



Phlox, left, and Trillium, right.

### July

**15th. Columbia Gorge Audubon Membership Meeting.** Slide show of the Siberian Forest. Time, place, contact person same as May 20.

**17th. Pacific Crest Expedition.** Explore edible plants of Pacific Crest trail along where it meets the Columbia River Gorge, hosted by John Kallas. Upland hike to reveal some of the Gorge's wild food. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., \$22; pre-registration is recommended. Carpool (\$3) from Mall 205 parking area in front of cinemas, corner of SE Washington near SE 102nd Avenue, near MAX stop. Call Wild Food Adventures at (503) 284-1094, 5:30-8:30 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

### July 25th Annual Summer Picnic

Mark your calendars now for the Friends of the Gorge 13th Annual Summer Picnic.

Time and place to be announced.

\* First meeting place for all spring hikes is the ODOT parking lot, NE 60th and Glisan, Portland. Parties leave there at 8:30 a.m. Second meeting places are to accommodate those living outside the Portland area. A \$1 fee, payable at the hike, helps FOCG's educational outreach program.



Photos: Ken Denis



## MISSION STATEMENT

*Friends of the Columbia Gorge shall vigorously protect the scenic, natural, cultural, historical and recreational values of the Columbia River Gorge, encourage compatible economic development within 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.*

### Staff

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*Land Use Counsel*

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Helen Ehelebe

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*Receptionist/Clerk*

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## MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

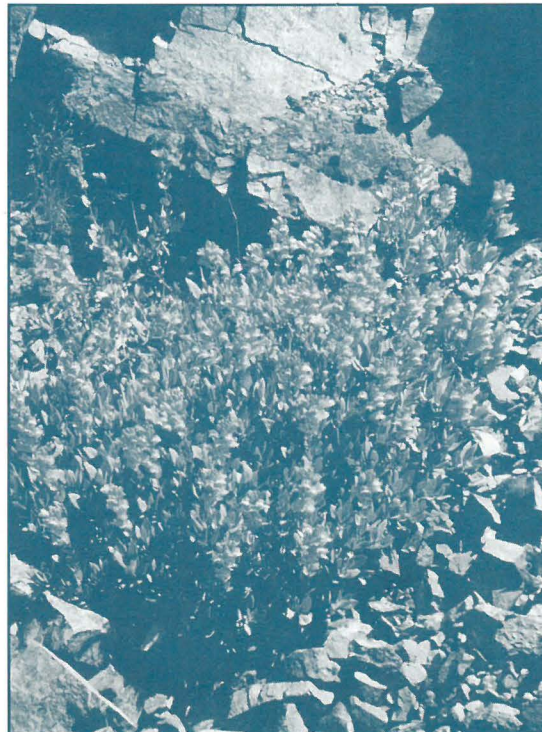
*Friends of the Columbia Gorge wishes to thank the following people who have made memorial contributions since our last newsletter:*

*In memory of Alma Kohlmeier:*

*Aaron and Helen Cohen*

*In memory of Bonnie Peabody:*

*Minnie Sherman and Helen Sherman Cohen*



*An explosion of color greets visitors to the Columbia Gorge this spring. Here Barrett's Penstemon (Penstemon barrettiae), left and above, clings to a rocky outcropping. Barrett's Penstemon is among the species being planted at the Chicken Charley Flat restoration project (story on page 4).*

*Photo: Ken Denis*



Friends of the Columbia Gorge  
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Portland, OR 97204  
(503) 241-3762

## Gorge Hiking Weekend June 19 & 20, 1993

**LEADERS** from thirty-two local outdoor groups are volunteering their time and expertise to guide you all over the Gorge. Choose from over fifty different trips.

**WALK** in an old-growth forest or behind a waterfall; climb a high mountain peak or follow a deep river canyon.

**JOIN** the 13th Annual Gorge Hiking Weekend. See why the Columbia River Gorge is a world-famous attraction and how magnificent it is in its natural beauty.



FRIENDS OF  
THE COLUMBIA GORGE

Beacon Rock, 1906



O.H.S. #262

*Come hike with us!*

13th Annual Columbia River  
**Gorge Hiking  
Weekend**  
June 19 & 20, 1993

### WHAT TO BRING:

Lunch, water, first aid kit, insect repellent, sun block lotion, sun hat, rain gear, camera, binoculars. No animals, radios or alcohol.

### WHAT TO WEAR:

Long sleeves and long pants recommended. Sturdy hiking shoes that are lug-soled and waterproof. No sandals!

### CAR POOLING

Donation to driver of 5¢ per mile is recommended.

DOT = Dept. of Transportation parking lot,  
NE 60th & Glisan, Portland



### GENERAL:

Prior sign-up is not required except as noted. Children are allowed at leader's discretion but must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Participants accept responsibility for their own safety. Because some flora and fauna may bite back on a few of the trails, stay on paths to reduce possibility of contact with poison oak and ticks. All mileages given are round trip.

### QUESTIONS:

For details on individual events, contact the leader. For general information, call Friends of the Columbia Gorge (503) 241-3762.

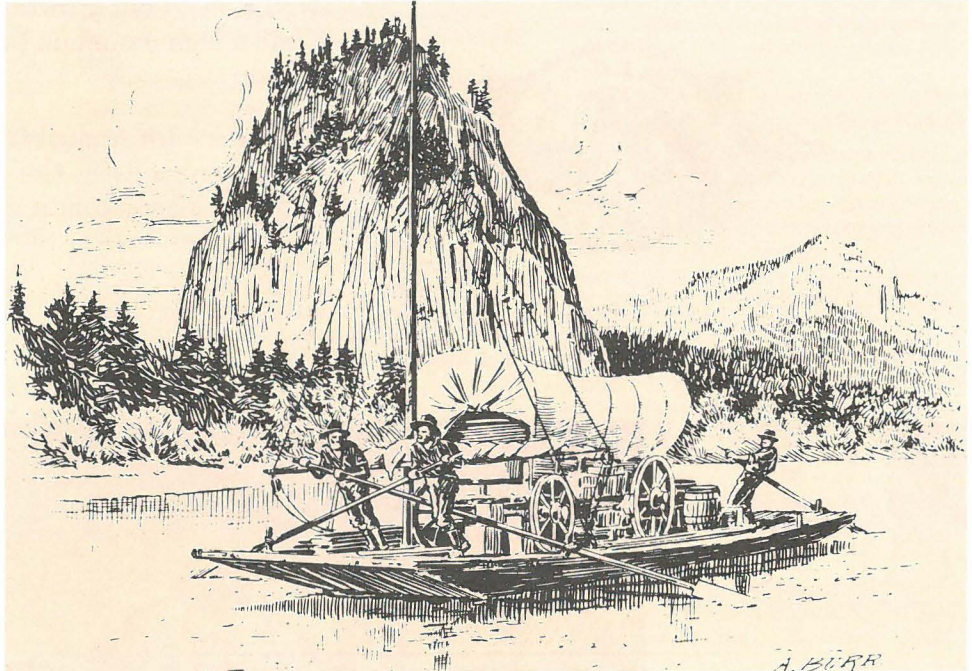


# Gorge Hiking Weekend

## Saturday & Sunday, June 19 & 20, 1993

*"The scenery all along the Columbia, both above and below the Cascades, is said to be the most beautiful of any on the Continent; which cannot be fully described by other than an artist's pen."*

from the Oregon Trail diary of Harriet A. Loughary, 1864



Oregon Historical Society #5229

### Hikes are coordinated by Friends of the Columbia Gorge with these participating organizations:

Bergfreunde Ski Club  
Chemeketans  
Chinook Trail Association  
Clark County Water Resources Council  
Columbia River Volkssport Club  
Desert Trail Association  
Friends of the Columbia Gorge  
Friends of Tryon Creek State Park  
Lake Oswego Recreation Department  
Mazamas  
Multnomah County Parks  
Native Plant Society of Oregon—  
Mid-Columbia Chapter, Portland Chapter  
Nature Conservancy  
Nature Friends Northwest  
Oregon Equestrian Trails

Oregon State Parks  
Over-the-Hill Gang  
Portland Wheelmen Touring Club  
Parmigans  
P.U.M.P. (Portland United Mountain Peddlers)  
REI (Recreational Equipment Inc.)  
Sierra Club—Columbia Chapter,  
Loo-Wit Chapter  
Skamania County Historical Society  
Trails Club of Oregon  
Upward Trails  
USDA—CRG National Scenic Area, Mt. Adams  
Ranger District, Wind River Ranger District  
Vancouver Audubon Society  
World Forestry Center

#### Special Thanks to:

Julia Ferreira, chairman  
Ray Hayden, committee  
Marilyn Holsinger, graphic designer

Irish Setter, typesetter  
Nancy Russell, advisor  
Mary Vranizan, publicity

This hiking weekend made possible by a contribution from





# SATURDAY HIKES, June 19, 1993

## EASY HIKES

Up to 5 miles; less than 1,000-foot elevation gain

**Wind River Nursery** Walk through old-growth forest in Thornton T. Munger Research Natural Area; then tour nursery and greenhouses where seedlings are growing for reforestation.

**WORLD FORESTRY CENTER:** Rick Zenn (503) 228-1367. Meet 8 AM World Forestry Center or 9:45 AM Wind River Ranger Station.

**Wyeth Bench Segment** Hike on Gorge Trail 400 from Herman Creek to Wyeth Camp with many vistas. Forest Service personnel will discuss trail planning, construction and maintenance.

**CRG NATIONAL SCENIC AREA:** Duffy Dufresne and Gina Mondragon (503) 386-2333. Meet 10 AM Herman Creek Horse Camp, Cascade Locks Exit 44, then east on Hwy 30 and Forest Lane.

**Horsethief Lake Indian Rock Art** Visit the site of a former Wishram Indian village with an archaeologist. See pictographs and petroglyphs on rock cliffs. Hike 2-3 miles over occasionally steep, rocky terrain. Be prepared for intense sun, ticks, and possibly rattlesnakes.

**SKAMANIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY:** Cheryl Mack (509) 395-2501. Meet 10:30 AM Horsethief Lake State Park camping area.

**Lower Deschutes River Trails** Family oriented hike on 3 loop trails along the Deschutes River. High desert setting with desert flora and fauna, historic sites, splendid views. The sun shines on the east side! Walk up to 8 miles. 750-foot elevation gain.

**DESERT TRAIL ASSOCIATION:** Darlene Nelson (503) 644-8033. Meet 8 AM DOT or 10 AM Deschutes River State Park, Celilo Exit 97, then 4 miles east.

## VOLKSWALKS

AVA sanctioned events. May be walked free or for credit, but all must sign in and carry a start card. Set your own pace; route is well marked. Commemorative pins available.

**Horsetail Falls & Oneonta Gorge** A 12 K walk rated 3+ which follows the scenic highway to Horsetail Falls, crosses narrow Oneonta Gorge and goes behind Ponytail Falls, returning on forest trail.

**COLUMBIA RIVER VOLKSSPORT CLUB:** Howard Bauer (503) 252-2683 or Marge Lucas (206) 574-1998. Start any time 8 AM to 1 PM Bonneville School in Dodson, Exit 35.

**Elowah Falls** Two options are offered: A 10 K or a 12 K walk rated 3+. A scenic walk along Frontage Rd. with exceptional views of the Gorge. Visit upper Elowah Falls; longer option visits lower Elowah Falls, returns on forest trail.

**COLUMBIA RIVER VOLKSSPORT CLUB:** Marge Lucas (206) 574-1998 or Howard Bauer (503) 252-2683. Start any time 8 AM to 1 PM Bonneville School in Dodson, Exit 35.

## MODERATE HIKES

Up to 10 miles; up to 2,500-ft. elevation gain.

**Dry Creek Falls Loop** Scenic 6-mile hike to a forgotten waterfall at base of cliffs below Benson Plateau. Ascend via Pacific Crest Trail; return via rural road.

**SIERRA CLUB:** Harry Lofton (503) 282-4671. Meet 9 AM DOT or 10 AM museum in Cascade Locks Marine Park, Exit 44.

**Greenleaf Overlook** Washington's Pacific Crest Trail leads to idyllic Gillette Lake in shadow of Table

Mountain and on to a viewpoint of spectacular Oregon cliffs across the Columbia. Hike 6½ miles.

**NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON:** Carroll Dubuar (503) 234-4135. Meet 8:30 AM DOT or 9:30 AM trailhead 2 miles west of Bridge of the Gods, north side of Hwy 14.

**Tom McCall Preserve** Leisurely paced 1,000-foot climb to Tom McCall Point for far-ranging views. Leader is knowledgeable about flowers, geology and history.

**NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON:** Keith Chamberlain (503) 478-3314. Meet 10 AM Rowena Crest Viewpoint, Mosier Exit 69, then east on Scenic Hwy for 6.6 miles.

**Angels Rest** Pleasant 5-mile hike along a tumbling creek, over a rustic bridge, and up to spectacular rocky outcroppings 1,600 feet above the Columbia River with views in all directions.

**PTARMIGANS:** Hank Bergquist (503) 285-5819. Meet 10 AM at trailhead, Bridal Veil Exit 28, then proceed to junction with Scenic Hwy. Park in gravel lot on right.

**Larch Mountain Historic Railroads** Travel back in time and explore abandoned railroad beds; scramble past fallen trestles; loiter to examine railroad camp sites and machinery. Hike 6 miles.

**MAZAMAS:** Bus Gibson (503) 252-4475. Meet 8:30 AM Lewis & Clark State Park, Exit 18.

**Wahkeena to Angels Rest** A diverse and delightful 7-mile hike up cascading Wahkeena Creek to its spring, then across forested slopes to spectacular rocky outcroppings 1,600 feet above the Columbia River with views in all directions.

**BERGFREUNDE SKI CLUB:** John Neal (503) 246-7084. Meet 9 AM Barbur Blvd. Transit Station or 9:30 AM restaurant area in Burns Brothers truck stop, Troutdale Exit 17.

**Augspur Mountain** A challenging and scenic 6-mile hike ascending via the moderately steep north ridge. Abundant flowers in open summit meadows. 1,400-foot elevation gain. Sturdy cars with good tires are needed for car shuttle.

**MAZAMAS:** Frank & Charlotte Head (503) 253-4632. Meet 8 AM Lewis & Clark State Park, Exit 18, or 9 AM Dog Mountain trailhead on Hwy 14 twelve miles east of Bridge of the Gods.

**Grassy Knoll & Beyond** Old Cascade Crest Trail starts steeply up ridge in forest, but then opens out to a Gorge and Cascades panorama and wildflower meadows. Hike 7 miles with 1,500-foot elevation gain.

**OREGON STATE PARKS:** Pete Bond (503) 378-5020. Meet 9 AM historical marker, north end Bridge of the Gods.

**Archer Mountain** 7-mile hike up historic Mazama route to summit of this westernmost promontory on the Washington side of the Gorge. Several outstanding viewpoints; some steep places with moderate exposure; lug-soled boots required. 1,900-foot elevation gain.

**MAZAMAS:** Roy Stout (503) 253-8170. Meet 9 AM DOT or 9:30 AM Pendleton Woolen Mills parking lot off Hwy 14 in Washougal.

**Eagle Creek** A 13-mile hike past Tunnel Falls that features waterfalls, lush forests, and a deep canyon with sheer cliffs on both sides. Not advisable for children. 1,000-foot elevation gain.

**CHEMEKETANS:** Tom Talbott (503) 588-7083. Meet 9 AM Shari's Restaurant, Oregon City, on Hwy 99-E just north of I-205 bridge across the Willamette, or 10 AM trailhead, Eagle Creek Exit 41.

**Three Corner Rock** Hike 9 miles through varied terrain along a remote section of Pacific Crest Trail; includes meadows, flowers, and exceptional views from impressive summit. 1,900-foot elevation gain.

**REI:** Jacqui Bostrum (503) 283-1300 or 635-5523. Meet 9 AM historical marker, north end of Bridge of the Gods.

**Stebbins Creek** Pleasant, forested 9-mile hike up the western side of the Three Corner Rock trail. Pass interesting rock outcroppings; charming creek-side lunch spot at forks of Stebbins Creek. 2,000-foot elevation gain.

**CHINOOK TRAIL ASSOCIATION:** Ed Robertson (206) 694-1648 or Paul Clare (206) 892-8173. Meet 8 AM Hwy 14 Park & Ride near Pearson Airport or 9:30 AM Washougal River trailhead.

**Multnomah Creek** 10-mile trek winds along many cascading waterfalls, through stands of old-growth trees, and past wildflowers in the forest openings. 2,500-foot elevation gain.

**TRAILS CLUB OF OREGON:** Fay Akerson (503) 646-9314. Meet 8 AM DOT or 9 AM Multnomah Falls Lodge by the drinking fountain.

## STRENUOUS HIKES

Steep, rugged trails; high elevation gains. Excellent physical conditioning required.

**Rock of Ages Ridge** 4-mile fun climb up a steep trail to natural arch, the Devil's Backbone, and a view-packed rocky ridgecrest. 2,500-foot elevation gain.

**UPWARD TRAILS:** Lynn Wunische (503) 668-8950. Meet 9 AM Lewis & Clark State Park Exit 18 or 9:45 AM Horsetail Falls parking lot.

**Indian Point Loop** A 9-mile hike following Gorton Creek trail steeply up from Herman Camp to a unique viewpoint for Gorge scenery. Loop return down massive Nick Eaton Ridge. 2,600-foot elevation gain.

**MAZAMAS:** Chuck Carson (503) 659-8394. Meet 8 AM DOT or 9 AM Char-Burger parking lot, Cascade Locks Exit 44.

**Wygant Peak-Mitchell Point Loop** Hike 12 miles to visit two Gorge highpoints with abundant flowers and superb views. Some cross-country scrambling between Wygant Peak and the Post Road. Ascend north side of Mitchell Point, a very special place. 2,200-ft. elevation gain.

**MAZAMAS:** Gerry van Deene (503) 669-0778. Meet 7:45 AM DOT.

**Mount Defiance** Climb infamous Mt. Defiance, highest point in the Gorge! 4,900-foot elevation gain to summit, but majestic panorama makes it all worthwhile. Ascend via Starvation Ridge; descend via Mt. Defiance trail for a 14-mile loop.

**PTARMIGANS:** Bill Rudberg (206) 694-0826. Meet 7 AM Cascade Park Cinemas, across from Mill Plain Fred Meyer, or 8 AM Starvation Creek rest area Exit 55.

## BIKE TRIP

**Multnomah Falls and Beyond** Bike the Scenic Highway, climb to Crown Point, then a fast descent to Multnomah Falls; continue to Ainsworth State Park. Flat return option; 42-mile ride.

**PORTLAND WHEELMEN TOURING CLUB:** Paul Roscoe (503) 234-2732 or Keith Ticknor (503) 654-3276. Meet 8:45 AM Lewis & Clark State Park Exit 18.

## HORSE TRIP

**Beacon Rock State Park/Hardy Creek** A 12-mile ride with wide Gorge vistas. 2,500-foot elevation gain. Must have own horse; shoes recommended. *No horse rentals available.* Call for directions.

**OREGON EQUESTRIAN TRAILS:** Bonnie Stockman (503) 655-6286 or Valerie Lantz (503) 668-3083. Meet 10 AM Beacon Rock State Park equestrian area.



# SUNDAY HIKES, June 20, 1993

## EASY HIKES

Up to 5 miles; less than 1,000-foot elevation gain.

**Wahclella Falls** Gentle 1½-mile family oriented hike especially for young children. Features bridges and waterfalls. Optional picnic lunch at Bonneville followed by guided walk across the dam.

**FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE:** Debbie & David Craig (503) 636-2451. Meet 10 AM Bonneville Exit 40. Turn right at end of exit to trailhead parking area.

**Columbia Dike Nature Walk** Explore along the river in the magic of the late afternoon. Destination is Gibbons Creek and the Purple Martin nest boxes just at feeding time. Bring binoculars. Naturalist Thom McConathy will accompany group.

**VANCOUVER AUDUBON SOCIETY:** Maryanne Lovell (206) 835-3115. Meet 4 PM at dike. Park at far end of 32nd Street, off Hwy 14 in Washougal.

**Pool of the Winds** 4-mile walk following the Hamilton Mountain trail to the rock-walled chamber enclosing the Pool of the Winds at Rodney Falls. Bring a lunch for the picnic area at base of trail.

**NATURE FRIENDS NORTHWEST:** Jerry Alves (206) 834-7002. Meet 12 Noon at trailhead ½ mile north of Hwy 14 in Beacon Rock State Park.

**Sandy River Gorge** Descend into the Sandy River Gorge to explore its rich diversity of plants and animals and see a fine example of old growth Douglas fir forest. Hike 5 miles. Bring sturdy footwear. Please register by calling:

**THE NATURE CONSERVANCY:** Susan Caldwell (503) 228-9561. Meet 10 AM Lewis & Clark State Park, Exit 18.

## VOLKSWALKS

AVA sanctioned events. May be walked free or for credit, but all must sign in and carry a start card. Set your own pace; route is well marked. Commemorative pins available.

**Horsetail Falls & Oneonta Gorge** See Saturday description.

**Elowah Falls** See Saturday description.

## MODERATE HIKES

Up to 10 miles; up to 2,500-foot elevation gain.

**Wind Mountain** The Bob Kuse Memorial Trail on this Gorge landmark is well graded, presents remarkable views from the summit, and has many fine examples of Indian vision-quest sites. Hike 4 miles; 1,200-foot elevation gain.

**OVER-THE-HILL GANG:** Bob Miller (503) 292-2104. Meet 9 AM NE 16th & Halsey or 10 AM north end Bridge of the Gods.

**Triple Falls Loop** A 5.7-mile loop through exceptionally beautiful woods, scenic overlooks, and three of the most spectacular waterfalls the Gorge has to offer: Horsetail, Ponytail, and Triple Falls.

**SIERRA CLUB:** Steve Fradkin (503) 293-0760. Meet 9 AM DOT.

**Lacamas Park Loop** A 7-mile woodland and meadow loop following streams, lakeshore, and visit several waterfalls. 500-foot elevation gain.

**MAZAMAS:** Helen Running (503) 252-5202. Meet 9:30 AM K-Mart, NE 122nd & Sandy, NW corner, or 10 AM trailhead, 3rd St. in East Camas across from American Legion Hall.

**Wahkeena Falls/Multnomah Falls Loop** Enjoy a feast of waterfalls, towering old-growth forest on this 6-mile hike. Visit Wahkeena Spring, wonderful vistas

of the Gorge.

**WORLD FORESTRY CENTER:** Phyllis Towne (503) 223-3723. Meet 9 AM World Forestry Center or 9:45 AM at Wahkeena Falls parking lot.

**Aldrich Butte & Beacon Rock** Hike to former fire lookout site in mid-Gorge area (4 miles, 1200-foot elevation gain). Then cross 25 bridges and make 52 switchbacks on nicely engineered trail up Beacon Rock, a Gorge landmark (2 miles, 850-foot elevation gain).

**TRYON CREEK DAYTRIPPERS:** Ron Christensen (503) 636-5808. Meet 9:15 AM DOT or 10:15 AM North Bonneville Dam Visitors Information Center off Hwy 14.

**Shellrock Mountain/Mitchell Point** First, hike 2½ miles with 1,200-foot elevation gain to observation station on Shellrock Mountain, crossing and exploring an early wagon road. Next, we'll move east, hiking 3 miles with 1,000-foot elevation gain to Mitchell Point, crossing another old wagon road. Far-ranging Gorge views, slopes of wildflowers.

**TRAILS CLUB OF OREGON:** Mel Taylor (503) 639-9160. Meet 8:30 AM DOT.

**Washington's Larch Mountain** From Grouse Vista, hike 6 miles on the *other* Larch Mountain to bear-grass meadows, summit microwave tower, and far-ranging views of the west end of the Gorge.

**SIERRA CLUB:** Diana McConkey (206) 835-7748. Meet 8:30 AM Pendleton Woolen Mills parking lot, Washougal.

**Nestor Peak** 8-mile hike in the Buck Creek area to a 3,088-foot summit with a working fire lookout tower. 2,000-foot elevation gain. Panoramic views abound.

**CHINOOK TRAIL ASSOCIATION:** Heather Rosenwinkel (503) 244-9016. Meet 8 AM DOT or 9 AM Bridge Mart, just east of the north end of the Hood River Bridge.

**Silver Star Mountain** 9-mile loop hike from Squaw Butte past waterfalls, Sturgeon Rock, and Indian vision-quest sites to 4,390-foot summit carpeted with wildflowers. Great views of Cascade volcanoes. 2,000-foot elevation gain.

**PTARMIGANS:** Norm Becker (503) 231-1919 or Chris Paulson (503) 235-1311. Meet 7:30 AM Hwy 14 Park & Ride near Pearson Airport.

**Cougar Rock/Franklin Ridge** 9-mile hike follows the dazzling series of waterfalls above Multnomah Falls. Deep forest dotted with flowers and a spectacular viewpoint complete this perfect Gorge experience.

**LAKE OSWEGO RECREATION DEPARTMENT:** Peggy and Jim Bell (503) 636-3392. Meet 8 AM north end of Robinwood Shopping Center, Hwy 43, West Linn or 9 AM Multnomah Falls Lodge.

**Munra Point** This is a fun climb, extremely steep with considerable exposure, not to be attempted by the inexperienced. Ice ax or hiking cane recommended. Summit views are impressive. We'll take it easy and descend carefully.

**BERGFREUNDE SKI CLUB:** John Neal (503) 246-7084. Meet 9 AM Barbur Blvd. Transit Station or 9:30 AM restaurant area in Burns Brothers truck stop, Troutdale Exit 17.

**Hamilton Mountain** 9-mile loop hike past beautiful waterfalls to rocky outcroppings of Hamilton's dramatic cliffs. View the Columbia and the Cascade Landslide far below. 2,200-foot elevation gain.

**MAZAMAS:** Rose Marie Gilbert (503) 762-2357. Meet 8:30 AM K-Mart, NE 122nd & Sandy, NW corner, or 9:30 AM trailhead ½ mile north of Hwy 14 in Beacon Rock State Park.

## STRENUOUS HIKES

Steep, rugged trails; high elevation gains. Excellent physical conditioning required.

**Dog Mountain** A moderately paced 7-mile hike will be a continuous ascent; views of the Gorge and the Cascades are spectacular. For flowers, this is the ultimate. 2,900-foot elevation gain.

**CHEMEKETANS:** Alma Wells (503) 363-9073. Meet 8:30 AM DOT or 9:30 AM trailhead 12½ miles east of Bridge of the Gods on Hwy 14.

**Herman Creek Trail** Forested 15-mile hike up Herman Creek canyon to ancient cedar grove at Cedar Swamp Camp, venue of the spotted owl. 2,700-foot elevation gain.

**MAZAMAS:** Richard Getgen (503) 452-0685. Meet 8 AM DOT or 8:45 AM Columbia Gorge Work Center.

**Table Mountain** Fairly rugged hike to the flat-topped 3,420-foot summit of this Gorge sentinel. Impressive views of Gorge and surrounding glaciated peaks; slopes should be ablaze with wildflowers. Hike 11 miles; impressive elevation gain also!

**MAZAMAS:** Jim Wallace (503) 640-2090. Meet 7:30 AM DOT or 8:15 AM Beacon Rock Rest Area on Hwy 14.

**Ruckel Ridge Loop** This steep 9-mile hike has some exposure up to Benson Plateau. Return along the scenic Ruckel Creek trail with viewpoints, hanging flower gardens, Indian pits. Trail gains 3,900 feet in elevation, is precipitous and narrow in places. Not for the timid hiker!

**SIERRA CLUB:** Karen Ashford (503) 287-9612. Meet 8 AM DOT or 9 AM Eagle Creek Exit 41 by stone restrooms.

## RAFT TRIP

**Sandy River Raft Trip** Paddle yourself in our 4-person rafts on an all-day 11-mile trip accompanied by an Oxbow Park Naturalist. Reservations required by June 4. \$25 per person. Call for reservations.

**MULTNOMAH COUNTY PARKS:** Kathie (503) 248-5151. Specify you are with Friends of the Columbia Gorge.

## RUN

**Mosier Tunnel Run** A 10 K run along a scenic section of the old Columbia River Highway, now closed to traffic. Moderate grade changes, lots of views.

**FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE:** Mike Ryan (503) 223-6597. Meet 7:30 AM DOT or 9 AM at road gate 1.4 miles east of junction of Old Columbia River Drive with the Mt. Hood Hwy #35.

## HORSE TRIP

**Table Mountain Ride** A 12-mile ride on Washington's Pacific Crest Trail north toward Table Mountain. 2,900-foot elevation gain. Must have own horse; shoes recommended. *No horse rentals available.* Call for directions.

**OREGON EQUESTRIAN TRAILS:** Bonnie Stockman (503) 655-6286 or Valerie Lantz (503) 668-3083. Meet 10 AM North Bonneville trailhead 2 miles west of Bridge of the Gods, north side of Hwy 14.

## BIKE TRIP

**Gorge Trail 400** Mountain bike the Gorge Trail east from Eagle Creek to Wyeth Campground. 12-mile one-way ride passes rock pinnacles, talus slopes, wispy waterfalls; has many short, steep pitches and switchbacks. Flat return option along highway; ride up to 30 miles total.

**P.U.M.P.:** Jeff deAlmeida (503) 768-9265. Meet 10 AM Eagle Creek outer parking lot by stone restrooms, Exit 41.