

# FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE  
WORKING TO PRESERVE, PROTECT

WINDS IN THE GORGE  
Fall Issue, 1981

Dear Friends:

As you are aware, the overall purpose of the Friends of the Columbia Gorge is to protect the scenic and historic values of the Columbia River Gorge, as they exist today, for the enjoyment of future generations.

The proposal which we believe to be the most flexible and the most effective to accomplish this purpose is by an Act of Congress declaring the Gorge a National Scenic Area.

In April we released our legislative concepts for a National Scenic Area to the public. During the following months we met with public officials, organizations and residents throughout the Gorge and the states of Oregon and Washington discussing our proposal and asking for comments. We then began the work of redrafting our original concepts into bill form, based on the many comments we received.

In September we were ready with a draft bill and presented it publicly to the Washington Governor's Select Committee. This committee is studying management alternatives for the Gorge and will

make its recommendations to Governor Spellman by the first of December.

In the meantime, the Oregon Congressional Delegation has begun circulating our draft bill to the governors of the two states, the Washington Congressional Delegation, and all affected jurisdictions within the Gorge asking for specific comments and suggestions by mid-November.

This is an important time for us -- federal legislation is under serious consideration. We need to write our congressmen and governors supporting efforts to declare the Gorge a National Scenic Area.

Enclosed with this newsletter, is a list of names and addresses by state and districts of these public officials. A short, concise letter stating your support is all that is needed. Letting your elected officials know your stand on issues is an important part of making government operate for you. Your individual efforts have brought us so far -- let's keep on till we win.

## NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

How does one get from being sponsor of a picnic across from Multnomah Falls back in July, 1980, to being the chairperson of a thriving organization calling themselves Friends of the Columbia Gorge in little more than a year?

The old saw about "great oaks from little acorns" is applicable to a degree. A seed was planted that July afternoon among Columbia Gorge lovers at our picnic in the heart of the Western Gorge. The seed sprouted; our tree is growing and the branches are growing in strength every day.

Among the guests at the picnic was Multnomah County Executive, Don Clark, a long-time Gorge admirer. Clark called together a group of us to form an organization that could study the options for protection of the Gorge and devise a reasonable and fair plan for management of the Gorge. A plan that would protect its significant scenic, historic, and cultural features.

In February, 1981, we published a "discussion" paper outlining our proposal. We travelled up and down the Gorge attending meetings and listening carefully to citizen response to our concept of a "National Scenic Area."

In March we were incorporated as Friends of the Columbia Gorge with the much appreciated assistance of Terry Yamada and Mike Ryan of McLaughlin, Gunnar, Woods and Wilcox. We set ourselves up in an office in the Dekum Building, and we hired Carol Kirchner as executive director. Sally Russell came on as the office manager. So we were in business!

Our goal was to raise the discussion of the future of the Gorge wherever we could. We developed our membership brochure, published educational materials, including beautiful posters, and we took the issue to public forums and editorial boards. We sponsored another picnic and a variety of hikes, an art show at Multnomah Falls, and we guided busloads of Gorge fans and congressmen on scenic tours. Our Wasco County group held a preview showing of "Who is Watching," the gorgeous

multi-media slide presentation of Columbia Gorge history.

In September we augmented our efforts in all six Gorge counties by opening our Seattle office at 112 Fifth Avenue North, Seattle, Washington, 98109. Doug Jewett, Seattle City Attorney, heads our Washington effort with the able assistance of Kristine Simenstad. Kristine and I went on a press tour of Eastern Washington in late September. We visited Ellensburg, Yakima, Pasco, Pullman, Walla Walla and Spokane on the Washington side.

Our Seattle sponsor list is growing and we have planned two October events there: a luncheon October 20 at the Washington Athletic Club and a Wine and Cheese party at the Seattle Pacific Science Center on October 29.

We could not have accomplished any of our work without the help of our volunteer workers - a force of dedicated people of impressive quality. This list of talented people who have come to our assistance is immensely gratifying: attorneys, political experts, artists, writers, and business managers.

Thanks to all of you.

Nancy N. Russell  
Chairperson

FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE  
"WINDS IN THE GORGE"

Published Quarterly

Editor . . . . . Eileen M. Cebula

Contributing Writers:

Nancy N. Russell  
Carol Kirchner  
Sally Russell

Friends of the Columbia Gorge is a non-profit educational corporation dedicated to preserving the scenic, historic and economic resources of the Columbia River Gorge for future generations.

PORTLAND OFFICE: 519 SW Third #303  
(503) 241-3762 Portland, OR  
SEATTLE OFFICE: 112 Fifth Ave. N.  
(206) 622-4590 Seattle, WA

## MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

Friends of the Columbia Gorge has provided various functions in keeping with the goal of maintaining educational activities and at the same time striving for further membership and involvement. Such benefits have had tremendous success and have included:

- \* Scenic Hike in the Gorge, which included boat rides, a tour of the Cascade Locks Museums, hiking through the Gorge.

- \* Art exhibit and sale at the Multnomah Falls Lodge.

- \* Picnic at The Shire, which is river frontage along the Washington shore directly across from Multnomah Falls, and the property of Friend member, John Yeon.

- \* Premier showing of "Who is Watching" Gorge slideshow; fundraising and open house held at the historic Williams Home in The Dalles, Oregon.

- \* Wine and Cheese event highlighted by the slideshow presentation at the Pacific Science Center in Seattle, Washington.

## SLIDESHOW IN ACTION

Friends of the Columbia Gorge has recently acquired an outstanding multi-media slide show. The

show was produced for Friends of the Columbia Gorge together with the Columbia Gorge Environmental Council by Craig Collins and Gary Braasch.

At the present time Friends of the Columbia Gorge is developing a speakers bureau which will include the slideshow entitled "Who is Watching" and a speakers kit.

This will be used for presentations to various organizations throughout Oregon and Washington in furthering public awareness.

Refer to the Calendar of Events for upcoming slideshow presentations that you may be interested in attending.

## WANT TO HELP, BUT DON'T KNOW HOW?

We are always looking for a helping hand to promote the Friends of the Columbia Gorge. Whether it's answering phones to circulating petitions or writing your congressmen, there is a place for you.

Assistance is needed in these areas:

- \* Circulate petitions and raise awareness of the existence of FCG and its purpose.

- \* Coordinate membership activities and work on fundraising events.

Continued on page 4

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Columbia Gorge One-Day Excursions are now available by Columbia Sightseer Tours. Included in the one-day trip is a boat cruise from Portland to Cascade Locks, a Columbia River Salmon dinner, and the return trip aboard Amtrak. For further information on this spectacular sightseeing excursion, write Columbia Sightseer at P.O. Box 307, Cascade Locks, OR 97014 or P.O. Box 413, Stevenson, WA 98648.

December 3

Official public premier showing of "Who is Watching" slideshow on the Gorge and a print exhibition at the Western Forestry Center, located next to the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry. This is a combined venture with The Friends and the Columbia Gorge Environmental Center. Wine and cheese will be offered. Admission will be charged to support the preservation of the Columbia Gorge.

Ways to Help continued from page 3

\* Identify particular groups or organizations that would like to hear and see our presentation.

\* Help to market Columbia River Gorge Posters.

\* Write your congressmen in Washington, D.C. about the Gorge and its significance.

\* Encourage other friends to join the Friends of the Columbia Gorge.

If you would like to help in the office, some specific tasks would include answering the phone, typing letters, helping with large mailings to other members and organizations, and anything else that might arise.

Just give us a call at either office, in Portland (503) 241-3762, or Seattle (206) 622-4590, and we

will see how we can work together as a team to spread our membership and promote awareness of the Friends of the Columbia Gorge.

### SCENIC POSTERS ON SALE

Available now, exclusively in our Portland and Seattle offices of Friends of the Columbia Gorge is a beautiful, extraordinary scenic photographic print of a wonderfully captured moment in the Columbia Gorge by Northwestern photographer, Gary Braasch. Full color posters are \$5 apiece and well worth the price.

# FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 2623  
Portland, OR

519 sw Third Avenue, Suite 303 • Portland, Oregon 97204