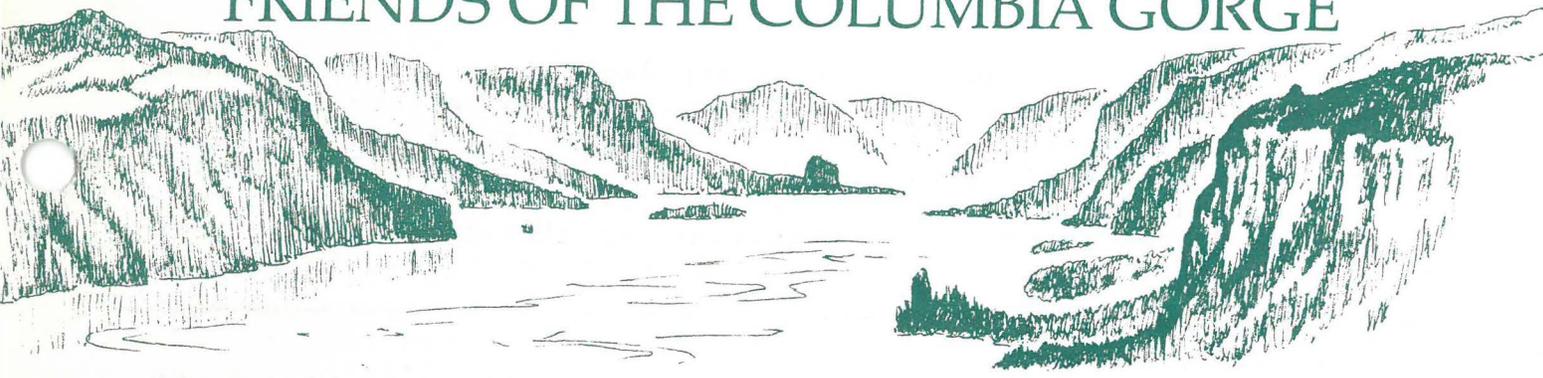


# FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE



WINDS IN THE GORGE  
Summer issue, 1983

From our Executive Director, Bowen Blair:

Why legislation?

One of the most difficult aspects for people who are opposed to a National Scenic Area designation to envision is the developmental pressure now threatening the Gorge. A typical response is "The Gorge looks great; there is no problem."

In fact, many problems exist, and these problems have the potential to cause irreparable damage. Last week, for instance, George Rizer unearthed new plans to proceed with a 65-acre, 21-lot subdivision directly across from Multnomah Falls. Mr. Rizer's initial subdivision attempt was blocked by a lawsuit in November 1981 and was the prime catalyst for formation of Friends of the Columbia Gorge. If Mr. Rizer's present plans meet the few state and local requirements which now exist in Skamania County (which does not have a zoning ordinance), his subdivision attempts may succeed.

Unfortunately, other subdivisions, including a 153-acre site near Stevenson and an 80-acre site near Skamania Landing (both in Skamania County) also are in the advanced planning stage.

A hydroelectric facility and dam on Gorton Creek, just east of Cascade Locks, also is approaching approval status. This facility would be run for personal profit and would effectively dry up Gorton Creek's hundred-foot waterfall. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has exempted this project from its licensing requirements.

Also near Cascade Locks, the State of Oregon is considering developing a full-scale, 24-hour Port of Entry which would include new highway ramps, scales, permit offices, parking areas, and restrooms. The Port of Entry would be located in the heart of the "critical lands," as they are designated in S.627, which is also true of the Rizer subdivision and the hydroelectric project.

On the federal level, the Corps of Engineers is considering dumping spoils from the new Bonneville Locks project onto Pierce and Ives Islands, two of the most pristine islands on the Columbia River. These islands serve as essential wildlife habitats and contain several endangered plant species.

Certainly, the above list is not exclusive. It should demonstrate, however, that the Gorge is increasingly subject to damaging, and perhaps irreparable, pressures. Further, existing legislation has not prevented this degradation. Unless S. 627, introduced by Senators Packwood and Hatfield (or its counterpart, HR. 1747, introduced by Congressmen Weaver and AuCoin) or similar legislation is passed in the near future, much of the Gorge's beauty will be relegated to memory.

A WORLDWIDE PERSPECTIVE

This month Chairperson Nancy Russell will travel to Hamburg, West Germany, where she will attend the International Working Conference on "New Directions for Conservation of Parks and Related Reserves." She will be the guest of the two sponsoring organizations, National Parks and Conservation Association, Washington, D.C., and the Verein Naturschutzpark. Twenty-five distinguished conservation leaders from North America and 25 from Europe will discuss innovative approaches and important current issues in park conservation. The objective is to learn about the European concept of the "Greenline Park" or, as it is called in the United States, "National Scenic Area."

This invitation to a representative of Friends of the Columbia Gorge indicates the widespread interest in the potential of the Columbia River Gorge as one of the great greenline parks of the world-- a park concept that protects a magnificent scenic and cultural resource while preserving compatible historic economic uses and allowing an intermixture of public and private ownership.

The National Parks and Conservation Association has taken a particular interest in the Columbia Gorge. Paul Pritchard, President of NPCA, toured the Gorge in 1981; National Parks and Conservation Magazine has published two articles about the Gorge; and

the organization provided testimony for Senator Packwood's recent hearing.

All of this interest underlines the national significance of the Columbia Gorge. We will report on the conference in the next issue of Winds in the Gorge.



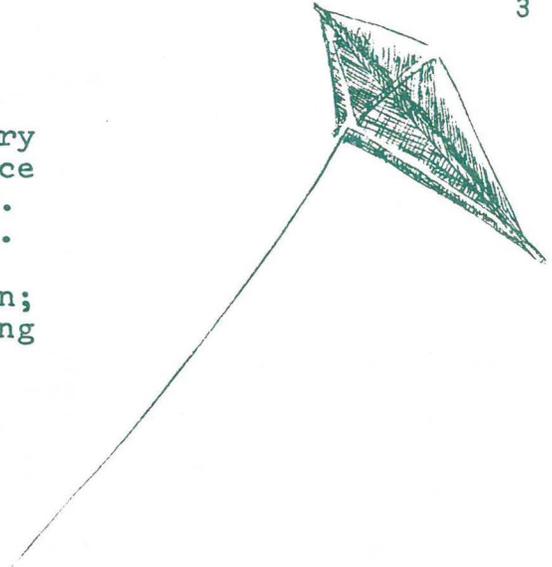
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*Friends of the Columbia Gorge is a nonprofit educational corporation dedicated to preserving the scenic, historic, and economic resources of the Columbia River Gorge for future generations.*

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## A "HOTTEST DAY OF THE YEAR" TREAT

That recent Saturday when the mercury hit 100 made us think of the most perfect place to be the next time the thermometer goes wild. You probably guessed correctly--Oneonta Gorge. You won't burn your feet on the sand; it's shady so you won't have to worry about sunburn; and there's an occasional drop of water blowing down from above to cool your head. Walking on the floor of Oneonta Creek looks as cool as it feels. We love the deep moss, the cool green plants, the bobbing water ouzels, and, of course, the splashing waterfall at trail's end.



## NEW TREASURES FROM THE PAST

We hope you noticed the item in the March 1983 Sunset magazine about our historic Kiser Brothers photographic exhibit in the Vancouver office. The Kiser collection was also featured on KGW-TV's P.M. Magazine on Friday, May 27. Selected photographs were shown and Scott Brown's "Columbia River Gorge" was played in the background.

The Sunset article produced some exciting and unexpected fallout from both Rosalia and Spokane, Washington. Helen Moe of Rosalia sent Friends of the Columbia Gorge a collection of photographs taken by her father, James H. Mitchell, between 1903 and 1908 when he was a watchman on the railroad and lived at Cascade Locks, Oneonta, and The Dalles. These photos are now displayed with the Kiser collection in Vancouver.

Donald E. and Beverly Olsness of Spokane sent us a booklet of superb Benjamin A. Gifford photographs published in 1902. This charming booklet, Snap Shots on the Columbia, is also available for you to see in the Vancouver Friends' office. Come on in.

The tone of the book is set by an introductory poem by Joaquin Miller:

*"View once Columbia's scenes, then roam no more;  
No more remains on earth for mortal eyes.  
The palisades defy approach and rise  
Green-mossed and dropping to the vaulted skies."*

## IN REMEMBRANCE

*Gifts were given to Friends of the  
Columbia Gorge in honor of:*

*Tom McCall  
by Elizabeth Ducey  
by Villa Garden Club*

*Earl H. Roberts  
by Evelyn Roberts*

*Michael C. Zander  
by A. H. Zander*



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS IN THE GORGE, Summer 1983

- May 30-  
September 30      Columbia Sightseer Tour Boat. 2-hour trips, 3 times daily. Adults \$7.50, children \$5. 20% discount during June.
- June 11      Rock Climbing Class. Full day lesson rock climbing in the Gorge. 7:30 am-6 pm, \$25. Portland Bureau of Parks & Recreation, 426 NE 12th Av., Portland. (503) 248-4018.
- June 18-19      3rd Annual Gorge Hiking Days. Hikes sponsored by Oregon and Washington outdoor clubs, and Friends of the Columbia Gorge. Call FOCG offices for details: Portland (503) 241-3762; Vancouver (206) 694-6717; Seattle (206) 622-4590
- June 18-19      Dougan Falls Fair. Camp Wa-Ri-Ki, Washington. Dorothy Pointek, 835-5443.
- June 21-23      Columbia River Gorge Class. Study of the Gorge's wonders, colorful past, and uncertain future. \$33. Mini-college/Oregon State University Extension Service, Milam Hall 31, OSU, Corvallis, OR 97331. (503) 754-3684.
- June 25-26      Columbia Gorge Bike Trip. 90-mile, 2-day trip up Oregon Scenic Highway and back on Washington shore. \$10. Portland Bureau of Parks & Recreation, 426 NE 12th Av., Portland. (503) 248-4018.
- June 30      Mt. Hood Loop Day Trip. Bus departs 9 AM, 17th & Multnomah Sts., Portland. Ride to Timberline Lodge, Hood River, Multnomah Falls, Crown Point. \$11.75. Portland Bureau of Parks & Recreation, 426 NE 12th Av., Portland. (503) 248-4018.
- July 1-4      Old-fashioned 4th of July. Parade, dancing, food, fireworks. Washougal, Washington.
- July 2-4      Old-fashioned 4th of July. Stevenson, Washington.
- July 14-17      10th Annual Camas Days. Camas Centennial celebration. Camas, Washington.
- July 14-17      Fort Dalles Days Rodeo. The Dalles, Oregon.
- July 24      Friends of the Columbia Gorge Fourth Annual Picnic.
- August 12-14      Portage Days Festival. Parade, food and game booths, entertainment, salmon feed, beer garden, fireworks, Bridge of the Gods road run. Cascade Locks, Oregon.
- August 20      Rushing Water Fair. Washougal, Washington.
- August 25-28      Skamania County Fair & Timber Carnival, Stevenson, Wa
- September 11      Bike trip to Oneonta Gorge. Ride from Lewis & Clark State Park to Oneonta. Picnic lunch included. \$5. Portland Bureau of Parks. (503) 248-4018.

## JUNK? TREASURES!

What started as a capital idea for a Vancouver neighborhood garage sale to help raise funds for the Friends quickly expanded beyond just the neighborhood. Plans are now for the sale to be held August 26 & 27 at a central location to be announced. The sale will include plants as well as the usual household items, large and small. Here's a ready-made opportunity for people in the Vancouver area to get rid of surplus items for a good cause. So search your attics, garages, closets and cupboards. Then call Phyllis Clausen (206-693-1530) if you have contributions for the sale.

\*\*\* For those of you who don't live in the Vancouver area, here's a chance to get a group of friends together, and organize your own garage sale to benefit FOCG. Individual initiative in fundraising is appreciated as we search for ways to support our conviction that the Gorge must be preserved. YOU can make a difference.

### Why I Chose to Live in Vancouver, WA

There are many arguments to involve people in the preservation of the Gorge -- its uniqueness, beauty, potential and the threat of unwanted developments. The one that particularly concerns me is the quality of my environment. I, like so many Northwesterners, as a transplant from elsewhere in the U.S.. My choice of living here is exactly that -- my choice. Involved largely in my decision to settle in the NW was the beauty and close proximity of the Columbia Gorge. I respect the rights of property owners in the Gorge, but I wish they would respect mine. I do have a right to speak out strongly as to the future of the Gorge, and I will urge others whose choice was to live here, to do the same.

Anne Olwine, Clark County Chair

### PUGET SOUND AREA

The Seattle office has spent a great deal of time this past month visiting various newspapers and editorial boards around the State of Washington and bringing them up to date on the Governors' proposed legislation. Olympia, Tacoma, the Seattle Post Intelligencer, Bellevue Journal American, Yakima, Spokane and the Tri-Cities have been visited. The Seattle office in conjunction with Vancouver and Portland is working hard to keep abreast of the legislation which may be sent to Congress within the next month by Governor Spellman and Governor Atiyeh.

Our immediate plans for the future include

- 1) increasing awareness of the Gorge in the Puget Sound area and some of the negative pressures which are affecting it;
- 2) significantly increasing our membership in the Puget Sound area; and,
- 3) combining the preceding strategies to enable Friends of the Columbia Gorge to ensure the enactment of strong federal legislation to protect the Columbia River Gorge.

I would like to thank all the Washington members for responding to our letter for membership renewal, and want you to know that we are well aware that we could never have accomplished what we have without you. Thank you and please stop by the office anytime.

Kristine Simenstad

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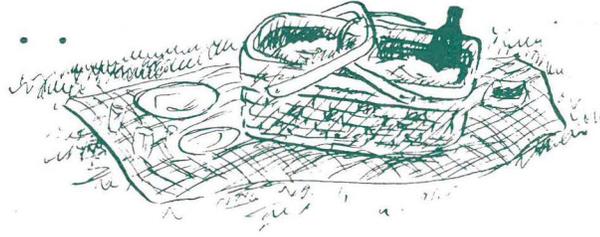
WHAT NEXT?

FOURTH ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC .....SUNDAY, July 24

The Friends' 4th Annual Summer Picnic is scheduled the Sunday before the full moon..... Come and frolic during the day on breath-taking grounds in the heart of the Gorge, then settle on the lawn with your picnic basket and help yourself to desserts and beverages supplied by the Friends. This is your annual opportunity to enjoy this special spot with one acre of riverfront directly across from Multnomah Falls.

Look for your invitation in the mail. Tickets are available from the Friends' offices: \$15 individual, \$25 family.

You'll never regret having come . . .



YOUR PART

Keeping up the momentum . . .

You should have received a letter from our Executive Director, Bowen Blair, explaining the proposed Governors' legislation, and the importance of increasing our membership. We realize that this may not be an appealing task for some of you, but how about inviting over a group of friends for a barbeque and having someone from our staff to show our multi-media slide show on the Columbia River Gorge and say a few words about the future of the Gorge?

Keep talking to your friends. Tell them why National Scenic Area designation is vital if the Gorge is to be truly well protected for the future. Need some help organizing? Call one of our offices and we'll help you help all of us.

WHAT A TEAM!

How much any organization or business can accomplish is directly related to the number of people who work for it. The Friends have had an excellent reply to the volunteer questionnaire we sent out in late April. A big thank you to you who responded.....If we haven't been in contact with you already, we're simply waiting for the perfect moment. If you think you'd like to help us once and again, or on a steady basis, and intended to send a flyer in and never got around to it, please give our offices a call and let us know.

And furthermore (on the same note).....

Do you know (or are you) a printer? Because of the enormous amount of communication to our members we felt was necessary during the past few months, we have been looking for ways to curb our costs in this area. If you have any leads, suggestions, ideas, please give one of our offices a call. Thank you!

Short Notes.....

\*\*\* Do you want to let more people you know get a better grasp of Friends of the Columbia Gorge - our activities, resources, direction? Let us help you plan an afternoon or evening event with you.

\*\*\* Is there anything you think FOCG should be doing? We are open to suggestions. Are you willing to give us a hand?

\*\*\* Cramped quarters: The Portland office needs more shelves, a filing cabinet and a long table -- If you saw our back room, you'd know why...

\*\* Planning a trip in the Gorge? Give us a call and if we can't give you the specific information you need we'll tell you where to find it.

What DO we do?

Here is a smattering of what FOCG does as an organization... we provide information about the Gorge - keep members informed by mailings - organize educational events - set up booths at fairs - coordinate with environmental organizations - produce public service announcements - send out speakers with our speakers bureaus - seek continual exposure and awareness of the Columbia River Gorge.

We are also supervising the printing of a Columbia River Gorge Calendar for 1984, to be available later this year.

Since January of this year we have had over 68 requests for our speakers bureau, and we have spoken to over 2070 people. We have been to garden clubs, conferences, visitor and convention association meetings, given bus tours through the Gorge, talked to schools... to give you a beginning idea.

# FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE

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July 24  
Sunday

Summer!  
Picnic!