

**Peninsula Trails Coalition  
Winter Newsletter 2007 January**

**Clallam County**

The last unfinished stretch of Trail between Sequim and Port Angeles is almost finished. The trail from Priest Road to Kendall Road along Hendrickson Road is paved. Wet weather delayed construction on the remaining ½ mile from RR Bridge Park to Priest Road. Happily, there is an eagle nest nearby. We are now into the eagle-nesting season so construction has been halted until June.

**Port Angeles**

The city is planning on paving the stretch of trail from Morse Creek (east of the city) to the waterfront. If there is money left over they will use it on the stretch through the Rayonier Mill site. The City has also drawn up a bridge route for crossing Dry Creek (west of PA-at the west end of the airport) and will be making grant applications for its construction. A bridge could be in place by 2008. They are still working on a route from the Waterfront Trail to Dry Creek.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

We are making a calendar for this year's Second Saturday work parties. These work parties take place on the second Saturday (of course) of each month, last for a couple of hours and involve some light trail maintenance. For March 10 we will be pulling scotch broom in the Agnew area and for April 14 we will be washing signs along the trail and something else but we haven't figured it out. If you are interested in either one of these call Carrie (# on masthead)

**Kiosk**

Sequim would like a kiosk built sometime this fall. These are fun projects and can be an Eagle Scout project. If you are interested in taking this on call Carrie

**Newsletter Expiration**

The date next to your name on the address label is not your expiration date; it is the date your subscription to this fine, humorous publication expires. Your money helps us with all our trail building, maintenance and promotion activities. Your involvement in these activities has garnered the attention of the County Commissioners in Jefferson and Clallam Counties, and is the reason we've made so much progress. Leftover money at the end of the year, of course, is used to buy Board members new Rolex watches. (We could use a few new board members-contact us if you think you'd like to get involved.)

**Membership**

Recently we started a lifetime membership category for \$250. The most recent people to sign up are: Jan North, Nancy Kohn, Mike Langley and Anita McMillian and Richard and Whitney Miller.

## **Real People**

*From Sande Balch*

My husband and I adopted a section of the Adventure Trail last summer at Joyce Daze. We take our

responsibility to the trail seriously and regard it as a privilege to live where trails have a high priority

for recreation and adding to quality of life. Although health issues have kept us away from our treks up the trail more than we would like, there is a sense of peace that accompanies us even as we cut, dig, pull at those intruders that would like to reclaim this newly built path.

It is a special occasion when our little grandson, Kamron who is “three and change,” hikes along with us and makes a great show of “working up a sweat.” On one such day, we encountered a group of eight ladies, the Goat Girls, hiking toward us. Kamron ran to greet them with ... “Well, how is your day going? Do you like my trail? Did you see any wild critters? Do you bring me crackers? Are you tired?” ... and at least ten minutes later ... “Bye, see you tomorrow on the trail!” He talked about the nice ladies all day and we had to agree that you meet the nicest people on the trail.

## **Travel And Adventure Slide Shows**

Our travel and adventure slide shows have begun in Port Townsend and will soon begin in Sequim and Port Angeles. This is the 16<sup>th</sup> year of Traveler’s Journal in Sequim and first for the series. The PTC uses these slide shows as a way to raise money to feed volunteers working on trail projects. Last year we raised about \$4000 to buy food. We fed ‘em well and the money’s gone. More information regarding each show can usually be found in the Peninsula’s newspapers a few days before each show.

The Port Townsend Slide (Winter Wanderlust) shows have already started. Here are the remaining shows:

### Port Townsend

Winter Wanderlust 2007

Fort Worden State Park Wheeler Theater

Wednesdays – 7:30 p.m.

For more info call Jan North at 379-9637.

February 7

South to Tajikistan

An epic mountain bike expedition through towering mountain masses and remote villages of Krygyzstan, Tajikistan and Western China – all viewed with special 3D glasses, with Christine Bosa and Marlin Peterson

February 14

Penguins of Punta Tombo, Argentina

Life and research with half a million Magellanic penguins on a southern Patagonia beach, with Dr. Dee Boersma, University of Washington

February 21

Seven Moons on the Appalachian Trail

A challenging solo hike and life-changing journey of 2,000 miles on the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine, with Rick Bombaci

February 28

Cycling Thailand and Laos

Bicycle adventure through two amazingly different countries and cultures divided by the Mekong River, with Willie Weir.

Port Angeles –Adventure Traveler’s Slide Shows

Port Angeles Senior Center

For more information call Gunvor Hildal 452-8641

Feb 9<sup>th</sup>-Buhtan- Sam Baker

Feb 16<sup>th</sup>-Australia – Hiking Western Australia’s 600 mile Bibbulmun Track. - Carrie Kalina

Feb 23-Southern France by Bicycle and Boat -Kathe Smith

March 2 Alaska- a boat journey up the Inside Passage to Geographic Harbor- Paul Lutus

Sequim

Traveler’s Journal

Sequim Middle School

Thursday evenings at 7:00PM

For More Information Call Dave Le Roux at 683-7180

February 1- Kathe Smith: France – bateau et velo

February 8-Christine Bosa/Marlin Peterson Asia: “South to Tajikistan- a bicycle journey to the Silk Road

February 15-Willie Weir:Thailand and Laos by bicycle

February 22- Paul Lutus Alaska: a boat journey up the Inside Passage to Geographic Harbor

March 1-Dave Shreffler/Ann Soule: Gates of the Arctic National Park: Alaska’s Ultimate Wilderness

March 8- Zack Holmes: Greece-Sailing the Aegean

March 15- Sam Baker: The Kingdom of Bhutan

March 22- Brian Marts: Antarctica- a climbing adventure

## **Wanted**

Jan North is looking for someone to take over her job as coordinator for next year. If you are interested come to Wanderlust program Wednesday nights, or call her at 379-9637.

## **Olympic Crew Summaries for Summer of '06**

From *Daniel Collins, Olympic Regional Coordinator* for the Pacific Northwest Trail Association

### **Quilcene Ranger Corps**

The Corps completed it's 14<sup>th</sup> year with 16 crew members and 2 crew leaders performing 2,000 hours of trail maintenance principally on the Lower Mount Zion and Snow Creek Trails of the Hood Canal Ranger District.

This popular trail program is a collaboration between the WSU Extension 4-H program, Pacific Northwest Trail Association, Hood Canal Ranger District and the Olympic National Forest. The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 is the funding mechanism behind this program and has again funded it's continuation in 2007. In March, I will be recruiting students for this year's trail crews.

### **SKY Olympic Peninsula**

The SKY Education Program is in it's 5<sup>th</sup> year and hired 6 crew members and 1 crew leader to focus on trail maintenance activities of the western side of the Olympic Peninsula. The program is also funded by the Rural Schools Act and is being renewed for 2007. Key collaborators include Clallam County, Jefferson County, Pathways to Success, the Quileute Indian Tribe, the Hood Canal and Pacific Ranger Districts. In March I will be re-establishing contracts with collaborators and recruiting students for our trail summer season.

### **Never underestimate the value of a volunteer (or a volunteer coordinator)**

Volunteer Coordinator for Clallam County Parks Department, Kathe Smith, logged a total of 3,556 volunteer hours on county park projects. The breakdown was: 2266 hours for the Weekday Wonders Work Crew (the Tuesday volunteer group) 1031 hours from individual and service group projects and 259 for the Adopt-a-Park program.

Lorrie Campbell, Volunteer Coordinator for the Olympic Discovery Trail tallied the following for 2006/2007:

Thursday Trail Crew 2491 hours/ 3453 hours  
Second Saturday work parties 390 hours/ 178.5 hours  
Adopt-a-trail PA to Sequim 741.75 hours/ 684 hours  
Adopt-a-trail Adventure Route 32 hours/ 372 hours  
Other 346.5 hours/ 290.5 hours

TOTAL –(2006)-4001.25 hrs, (2007) 4978.00 hrs

## **Adopt-a-trail**

We have two sections of trail that are in need of adopters- Lewis Road to Siebert Creek and Kitchen-Dick Road to Vautier. Contact Carrie Kalina if you are interested.

### **Winter storms-***from Lorrie Campbell*

It seems like it has been non-stop. A storm, then another, then another, and just this week another. We had wind, and snow, and rain, and then more wind, wind, wind. And now more snow.

But the Olympic Discovery Trail volunteers rallied, and cleared the trail over and over. They even smile when they do it! They know how important it is to keep the trail open for the trail users, for those that the trail is a part of their daily lives.

Between Port Angeles and Sequim, adopt-a-trail volunteers and the Thursday Trail Crew, plus the trail users who I know do work when they are out there on the trail, cleared down trees and branches. Some trees have done minor damage to fences. The County Road Department also chipped in with cutting the most difficult trees, as well as with a nice job of sweeping (before the last storm, but it was beautifully clean for a little while at least!)

Out west on the Adventure Route, trail volunteers and the Chain Gang spent tons of time clearing down trees. The damage to the Adventure Route was substantial. In many cases, fallen trees ripped up portions of the trail, and a lot of trail needed to be rebuilt. The cutting was quite dangerous, and a lot of skill was needed to safely get the trail open again. Officer Beltrami cut a huge quantity of scary trees – and we can all be glad he is still around to tell about it!

Also on the Adventure Route, the ceaseless rain has shown us where drainage was adequate and where it was not, and these issues are being worked on now by the Thursday Trail Crew and the Chain Gang.

In this challenging winter, it is great that Clallam County Sheriff Department, Clallam County Road Department, county trail volunteers, Peninsula Trails coalition volunteers, and the public can work together to keep the Olympic Discovery Trail open and usable for everyone.