Buckley to Orting Half Marathon

by Richard Pasquier, Race Director

The first of what is expected to be many Buckley to Orting (B&O) Half Marathons has come and gone. On Saturday, July 27th, 2013, a total of 110 people made their way through the 13.1 mile, scenic course.

Here is a list of the top finishers by category for the event.

- Female - 17 years of age and under
  Samantha Patterson from Puyallup in 1 hour 38 minutes
- Female - 18 to 39 years of age
  Brittany Hodgson from Tacoma in 1 hour 35 minutes
- Female Masters
  Lanette Blume from Tacoma in 1 hour 44 minutes
- Female Super Masters
  Phyllis Welker from Tacoma in 2 hours 30 minutes
- Male - 18 to 39 years of age
  Mike Stone from Graham in 1 hour 19 minutes
- Male Masters
  Doug Stucki from Auburn in 1 hour 37 minutes
- Male Super Masters
  John Selby from Tacoma in 2 hours 5 minutes

We received lots of kudos from the runners, who thought the course was wonderful, the race was well run, and were going to tell friends and fellow running club members about the race.

We also had a mother with a stroller do the entire 13.1 miles, with her small son running a good portion of the run as well!

Next year’s race will be better than ever, the bugs should be worked out with the volunteers, and the Pierce County 4X4 Search and Rescue is ready, willing, and able to assist again!

The Coalition has renewed my contract to direct next year’s races, and

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the end of trail asphalt south of Buckley. Hopefully, Pierce County will be in a position to acquire grants for the 2015 construction season. The extension of the Foothills Trail to Buckley will have great economic value to Buckley and the rest of the trail.

In 2011 the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition purchased a parcel of land at a real estate tax foreclosure sale to assist in the expansion of Mt. Rainier National Park. We sold the land this year to the National Park Service (Mt. Rainier) and made a profit on the investment which in turn can be used to help other trail organizations when needed. To that end we have donated $1,000 to The Rails to Trails Conservancy for an appeal they are working on to the United States Supreme Court of a case concerning the Medicine Bow Trail in eastern Montana. Why give money for a trail in eastern Montana? Well, the title to all of our trail is based on many court cases throughout the nation, forming what lawyers call case law. That law determines who owns the title to the trail. We relied on other people’s money and other court cases to help determine how to build our trail and who to purchase land from. We did have our court case, and, thanks to Donna Tait and the law firm of Gordon Thomas Honeywell in Tacoma, we won even after it was frivolously appealed all the way to the United States Supreme Court.

We are aware of what our court costs were, so your Coalition Board felt we needed to give back to the trail community nationwide with this donation, because this case, if won, will form more case law for future trails.

The Coalition Board also donated $500 to the Town of Wilkeson in order to construct a skateboard park which will be adjacent to the current paved trail in Wilkeson.

Wishing you a Joyful Holiday Season!
During the October/November meetings of the TWBC the following items were discussed:

Washington State DOT representatives, Steve Fuchs and T. J. Nedrow, provided information on the proposed Gateway Project, involving State Route 167 (Tacoma) and State Route 509 (SeaTac) to improve transportation to major ports. John Selby requested an up-date on possible trail segments near the State Route 167 portion of the project. For the Gateway Project to move forward the Legislature will need to pass a $1.8 billion transportation measure.

Bryan Flint reported on progress in getting Tacoma Water, the City of Tacoma and Pierce County Parks to move forward with getting the Pipeline Trail useable. Bryan serves on the Public Utility Board and Tacoma Metro Parks Foundation and also involved County Councilman Rick Talbert and City Councilman Marty Campbell in the quest for a useable trail from Tacoma to Puyallup.

October 8, 2013, John E. Berry III, Blake Trask (Bicycle Alliance of Washington), and I met with Puyallup area legislative representatives, Senator Bruce Dammeier and Representative Hans Zeiger. We requested their support with RCO grants when Pierce County Parks obtains the right of way required to complete the final piece of the Foothills Trail, South Prairie to Buckley. Both Dammeier and Zeiger advised they were ready and eager to help with funding completion of the Foothills Trail if County Parks is able to acquire the needed right of way.

The city of Sumner now has about a thousand feet of new trail paved. This allows users to travel from north of the library all the way to Stewart Avenue (8th Street) and up the steep trail to Lakeland Hills. This trail also includes a new bridge crossing near Sumner’s golf course.

We received news that mountain bike trails would not be built in Wapato Hills Park due to concerns heard from the South End Neighborhood Council. Metro Parks will focus efforts to get the new bike park in Swan Creek Park fully functional. In the South End, efforts will be directed toward a bike park at the SERA Center and Oak Tree Park along the City Water Ditch Trail.

At the Forever Green Trails Board meeting on October 9, 2013, I was pleased to hear that Terry Lee and Peninsula Parks District are making progress in getting the Cushman Trail extended both towards Purdy and the Narrows Bridge.

Stadium Way is now open for biking and walking pleasure with new bike lanes, smooth pavement, and wide sidewalks overlooking Puget Sound. I believe we may still find it difficult to travel from Pacific Avenue to Stadium Way in order to cross where freeway traffic merges onto Stadium Way.

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Networking for Trails

Puyallup Riverwalk
by Mark Palmer, P.E., LEED AP, City Engineer, Public Works, City of Puyallup

Here is an update on the Riverwalk Trail, Shaw Road to 33rd Street SE/134th Avenue East. The city of Puyallup is in the final assembly of plans and specifications at this time. The plan is to advertise for bids on November 1st with a bid opening of November 26th. The intent is to have the acceptance of the construction contract before the City Council on December 10th, 2013. With contract paperwork, holidays, scheduling a preconstruction meeting and normal allowances for notice to proceed, it will likely be early January 2014 before construction will commence in earnest.

Puyallup Riverwalk Beautification
by Ernie Bay

Puyallup Riverwalk users can look forward to colorful hillocks and patches of spring flowering bulbs and a variety of wildflowers beginning early next spring compliments of Friends Of The Riverwalk (FRW) volunteers and donors. The soil was moved from parking lot construction at Veterans Park and fertilized with TAGRO provided by the Puyallup Parks Department. Additional plants provided by FWR members and garden enthusiasts Singh and Pam Dhillon were planted at the 11th Street trailhead.

How Well Do You Know Your Pierce County Trails?
by John Selby, Board Member

Here’s your chance to win a one-year membership renewal in the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition! All you have to do is to be the first to name the trail and the location of the photo above.

Bev Pierson correctly identified the photo in the last edition which was taken on the Scott Pierson Trail at the tunnel under South 19th Street in Tacoma. She pointed out that “The people on the right are standing in front of the relief sculpture of Scott in the concrete wall, but if you look carefully you can see part of the rear tire of his bike and the wooden box he made for the back of his bike to carry our little dog Bijou.”

Please respond with your answer to “Where is this?” under the adjacent photo to John Selby at JohnSelby16@gmail.com.

Good luck! The winner will be announced in the next issue.
On a blustery spring morning, April 14th, in a lowland valley under the shadow of Mt. Rainier, a small but energetic group of Bonney Lake citizens and trail supporters gathered excitedly to join City of Bonney Lake council members for the groundbreaking ceremony of the first mile of Fennel Creek Trail. Just a few months later on a sunny October 26, amidst autumn foliage, Bonney Lake citizens and trail supporters again joined the Bonney Lake City Council led by Mayor Neil Johnson in the trail ribbon cutting ceremony and inaugural walk on the first mile of Fennel Creek Trail located along Fennel Creek near the Willowbrook neighborhood.

Under the yellow leaves fluttering down from shoreline Maple trees, around 100 attendees enjoyed walking the one-mile-long trail which winds its way along Fennel Creek between the Willowbrook neighborhood storm water ponds and 38 acres of city-owned wetlands.

The trail then crosses Fennel Creek on a bridge which continues onto an elevated boardwalk over wetlands areas under a high tree canopy of Western Red Cedar and deciduous trees with an understory of Pacific Northwest native plants.

The sounds of trickling water, birds and breezes in the trees make this trail and boardwalk a delightful outdoor experience where citizens can for the first time in the history of Bonney Lake discover and experience for themselves the beauty of our local Fennel Creek Watershed and its Pacific Northwest habitats.

From the elevated walkway, there is a third mile of Fennel Creek trail which winds up stone steps across steep forested slopes which lead out of the lowland Fennel Creek valley to the upland section of trail which levels off adjacent to Victor Falls Elementary and the Fennel Ridge Estates neighborhood.

The seven mile long Fennel Creek Trail Plan, begun in 1990 and adopted by council vote in 2007, provides links to local natural land and water features, to gorgeous Victor Falls, Allen Yorke Park, the Buckley Flume Trail and Foothills Trail, to salmon spawning areas upstream from the Puyallup River and to Bonney Lake parks, historic sites and cultural features in a populated area. Recreation uses include walking, biking, horseback riding, bird and wildlife watching, photography as well as numerous opportunities for environmental education.

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Tacoma’s Urban Trails Update November 2013

by Diane Wiatr, Active Transportation Coordinator, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability/City Manager’s Office, City of Tacoma

**Prairie Line Trail**

The Prairie Line Trail (PLT) is planned to run through the heart of downtown Tacoma. It will be constructed from S. 25th St. through University of Washington, Tacoma campus and down to the Thea Foss Waterway on an historic BNSF rail corridor that helped establish the city in the 1870s.

UWT completed design for the section of the trail that runs through their campus and expects to begin construction in 2014. The City applied for a Transportation Alternatives grant from the Puget Sound Regional Council and will probably receive $1.9 million and begin construction of the section between Pacific Avenue and the Foss in 2014. The PLT is important as an historic location for an active transportation corridor, linear park, and green space for visitors and broader Tacoma community. It will connect to the Thea Foss Esplanade, another of Tacoma’s great assets and investments, and ultimately, one day to Point Defiance Park.

**The Pipeline Trail**

The Pipeline Trail stretches from East 40th near McKinley Avenue to East 72nd Street and Waller Road in Tacoma, then to approximately 128th Street East along the Pipeline Road in Pierce County. It is approximately nine miles in length. Also known as the Cross-County Commuter Connector Trail, it is envisioned the Pipeline Trail will eventually connect to the Foothills Trail near Orting, providing an opportunity for active, multi-modal transportation between urban centers.

The City of Tacoma, in partnership with Pierce County, Metro Parks, Tacoma Housing Authority, and Tacoma School District, recently completed a paved section of the Pipeline Trail spanning the Pipeline Road between East 48th and 56th Streets. Since this segment of trail opened in early May, community members have found it to be a great asset, providing a smooth surface for both pedestrians and bicycles. Future phases of the project will likely include a connection to the Tacoma

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Tacoma Urban Trails Continued from Page 6

Dome Station to the North, and extension into Pierce County to the South.

The City of Tacoma and Pierce County are in conversation about applying for the Puget Sound Regional Council’s Countywide grant funding in spring 2014 for engineering and construction of the Pipeline Trail between S. 56th and S. 84th.

Water Ditch Trail

Source: City of Tacoma October 2013

The Water Ditch Trail is in South Tacoma and runs generally parallel to South Tacoma Way (STW). Sections of the Water Ditch Trail have been constructed south of 41st. City of Tacoma is currently working on construction of traffic signals at South 56th and 74th so pedestrians and cyclists can better navigate crossing these busy arterials. Construction of the remaining gaps of the trail south of 56th Street is expected to be completed in fall of 2014.

Design and construction of the remaining length of the Water Ditch Trail corridor along STW east of M Street will be phased. Tacoma has yet to determine whether this section of the corridor will be on-street bike lanes or a facility separated from the roadway. The City will be reaching out to the public and businesses along STW in 2014 to determine the alignment. This corridor will ultimately connect to the Prairie Line Trail.

Fennel Creek Trail Continued from Page 5

I encourage local residents and businesses to become familiar with the Fennel Creek trail plan and support the ongoing construction of this recreational resource along our beautiful Fennel Creek “greenway” corridor for the enjoyment of citizens and visitors of all ages and ability groups.

The environmental, historical and recreational resources of the Fennel Creek Trail are a gift for us all.

Tacoma Wheelmen Continued from Page 3

I am very pleased to report Puyallup seems to be moving ahead with building the JEB III Way spur from Shaw Road to 134th Avenue East to provide easier access to the Foothills Trail.

The next TWBC Government Affairs meeting will be the first Tuesday of the month at the Harvester Restaurant in the Stadium District at First and Tacoma Avenues. Start time is 6 p.m.

“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”
Ralph Waldo Emerson
I am excited to begin the process once again toward making the Rainer to Ruston Rail-Trail Relay and Ultra (R2R) and the B&O Half Marathon better than they have ever been.

I want to thank all of the great volunteers we had for the B&O, because without them, the race would not have been as great as it was.

We had over 100 participants, and if we do it right, we will have over 300 next year.

In the next few months, the race committee will be getting together and will need Coalition members to step forward and take control of certain committees to make the races as great as they can be.
Memberships/Donations

The Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition is a non-profit organization with a mission to assist Pierce County communities in the creation, maintenance, and usage of a connected system of non-motorized trails for healthier people from Mount Rainer to Puget Sound.

Barclay, Scott & Janet  
Bivens, Kerry  
Toyota of Puyallup  
Brenneman, Ruth E.  
Crawford, Michael & Sheila  
Croshaw, Joann Merrill & Wally  
Doyle, Michael A  
Engle, Helen  
Grena, Richard  
Kenney, Mary & Jim  
Kikuchi, George  
Klickitat Trail Conservancy  
Kuehn, Randy G.  
Larson, Michael Jarvis & Craig  
Leonard, Leon & Janet  
Livingston, T. J.  
Martin, Keith  
Miller, John K. & Joyce  
Monaghan, Dolly  
Partington, Don & Robin  
Peranzi, John  
Schulz, Rainer  
Skinner, John & Barbara  
Strait, Viora L.  
Tacoma Wheelmen Bicycle Club  
Visnaw, Paula  
Wagner, A. Elaine  
Wilde, Christine Fabiani  
Wilkinson, Melanie S. Ito & Charles  
Zulauf, Allen & Ellen

Veterans Park - Flag Raising

by Bill Hilton, Editor

On November 4, 2013, an inaugural flag raising event was held for the new flag pole installed at Veterans Park, which is located at the 5th Street NE Puyallup Riverwalk Trailhead. While the weather was brisk and sunny there was a great turnout to commemorate the flags (U.S., WA State, MIA/POW) be raised into place. While it may seem a while ago it has really only been just over a year (August 20, 2012) since Veterans Park was first dedicated along the Puyallup Riverwalk Trail.

Pictured are Veterans Mark Thompson and Tom Shriver. Photo provided by Tom Shriver.

LtoR: Veterans John Johnson, Art Bell, Mark Thompson, Rex Faubion, Tom Shriver, Leroy Schmidt, Dave Schweim, and Bob Kastama. Photo provided by Tom Shriver.
Meetings:

Monthly Board Meetings:
Open to all members and are generally held on the 4th Thursday from 7-9 p.m. at the Heritage Quest Research Library located at 1007 Main St., Sumner. Monthly meetings may be rescheduled, so check our website at www.piercecountytrails.org for changes.

Charlie Chat - Weekly Luncheon:
Informal luncheons from 12-1 p.m. are held at Charlie’s Restaurant, 113 East Main, Puyallup. All are welcome to come and share what they have been doing to promote the mission of the Coalition. No business is conducted even if a quorum of members is present.

Courtesy Patrol Meetings:
Scheduled on 2nd Saturday of each month at High Cedars Golf Course, 149th Street Court East, Orting. No-host breakfast starts at 8 a.m. and the casual meeting at 9 a.m. with a free-for-all discussion about the past, present and future of the Courtesy Patrol. Guest speakers and training sessions are often included. For more information please contact Ernie Bay at (253) 848-7718 or bugtrail@aol.com.

Friends of the Riverwalk Committee:
We are an informal group of volunteers devoted to the enjoyment and betterment of the Puyallup Riverwalk. Please join us for most Monday mornings* at 9 a.m. at Mrs. Turner’s Restaurant, 701 East Main, Puyallup. *call prior to confirm in case of cancellation. Ernie Bay (253)-848-7718, bugtrail@aol.com. or Bob Kastama 253-435-1637, kastamaq@gmail.com, Puyallup City Parks 253-841-5447

Events:

Work Parties RSVP to Don Partington at 253-820-8411 or cedarfamily@comcast.net

Notice of Annual Meeting & Dinner

The annual meeting and dinner for the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2014, at High Cedars Golf Course in Orting.

The doors will open at 6:00 pm for registration and socializing with dinner served promptly at 6:30 pm. Following dinner, there will be a brief business meeting to update the membership on upcoming events, past year’s accomplishments and voting for board of directors. Everything should wrap up about 8:00 pm.

Directors serve a period of three years, and each year five members are up for election. In accordance with bylaws, a member of the Coalition may be considered as an eligible candidate for Director by submitting a petition of nomination to the Board of Directors not less than 21 days before the Annual Meeting. Such petition must include the valid signatures of 10 Coalition members or 10 percent of the Coalition membership, whichever is less.

The candidates seeking consideration for the five open Director positions are listed below:

Jenny Appel    Dave Seago    Ken Woolery
Bryan Bowden   John Warhol    Don Rich
Bill Hilton

Please RSVP no later than January 19th to Pat Johnson at pat.johnson@tx3.net or 253-229-1595. In order to make sure we have enough meals to serve everyone and not pay for more meals than necessary, pre-registration is important. All those that register on or before the 19th will be entered into a drawing for a prize.

The cost of the dinner is $15 and money will be collected at the door. Like last year, this should be another fun evening with many fun elements and a few chances to win a contest or two.
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Events:

- Work Parties
  RSVP to Don Partington at 253-820-8411 or cedargroup@comcast.net

Calendar of Events

Membership makes a difference!

The work we are doing is made possible because of your membership and generous support. Credit cards accepted.

☐ $20 Single
☐ $30 Family
☐ $50 Pathfinder
☐ $100 Trail Builder
☐ $200 Corporate (Includes a 1 year ad in the Trail Line News)
☐ Please email my newsletter to ____________________________

The mission of the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition is to assist Pierce County communities in building, maintaining, and promoting a network of safe, non-motorized trails that provide healthy recreation and transportation options.

Charge my ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard CCV No: __________________________ Expiration: ____________

Name: ________________________________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________
City: ______________________ Zip:____________
Phone: __________ Signature:__________________________
Email: ________________________________________________________________

Mark your categories, mail form and check to: Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition P.O. Box 192, Puyallup, WA 98371-0021
WEBSITE UPDATE

Our new Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition website will be on line sometime in December, 2013. The web-address will be the same as the current address:

http://www.piercecountytrails.org/

The Website will feature current maps, information for the cities on the trail, PayPal capability, photos, videos, and other features. We look forward to receiving any input you may have or learning if there is additional information you would like to see on the website. Please advise us at: Foothills-Trail@msn.com

The new website is being designed by Brandcraft Media in Puyallup, WA.