President’s Message

Advocating for all

The Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition is no longer just about the Foothills Trail. We broadened our scope years ago by consensus demand of our members. We were there when John Selby, Dianne Kerlin and Jeff Goulden wanted help promoting the development of the Interurban Trail through the City of Edgewood. We have helped clear trails in Enumclaw, and Coalition members are active in Ashford, Tacoma, Pacific, Sumner and other areas. We have ceased being only about one trail. This newsletter includes regular reports from many communities in the section "Networking for Trails." We’ve changed to meet the demands of our mission statement: to assist Pierce County communities in the creation and maintenance of a connected system of non-motorized trails and greenways from Mt. Rainier to Puget Sound.

Advocating for all trails or anything drives every project along more quickly. We are the main advocates for trails throughout Pierce County and connections to adjoining counties’ trail systems. What we advocate and support are better defined as links between where we live, work and play.

As you will read in this issue’s article “From the Saddle,” the horse-riding faction of our Coalition is reaffirming its positive presence as a users’ group with the Pierce County Parks and Recreation Department. I sincerely hope that all the rest of us will continue to enjoy the benefits of their strong work and conservation ethic. We cannot call ourselves a true Coalition without a strong association with the equestrian community, the Wheelman, Mountaineers and Volkssport.

So, who are we, and how can we improve what we do? November’s elections reaffirmed for all of us that nothing just gets done because it is a good idea, or it “just needs to.” Things get done because people with different interests get together, form coalitions and expect results. The Foothills Trail Coalition provides a valuable framework for networking strategies, defining the community improvements we are looking for and speaking with greater effectiveness as a coalition, instead of remaining divergent individuals with lone voices.

This Coalition is our best

Notice of Annual Meeting

The Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition announces its Annual Meeting for Thursday, February 22 at the Puyallup Public Library for the purpose of electing its Board of Directors and conducting other business as may be presented to the Board.

Nominated for the Board of Directors are:

Retiring as of 2007
(eligible for reelection)
Buzz Grant
Markus Dennis (appointed)
Pat Johnson
Art Robinson
John Olson
Paul Jacobson

New recommendations
John Selby
Mary Colquhoun
Gerald Larson
Robert Larsen
Sharon Hlavka

In accordance with the by-laws, a member of the Coalition may also be considered 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 signature of ten Coalition members or ten
President’s message (continued)

voice when it comes to assuring that hiking, biking, skating and equestrian pathways that serve to connect our communities in a healthy way actually get built. All the trail projects that get exposure in these pages won’t get built without a consistent voice that has integrity and is results driven to advocate in their favor. In the public market place of many requests for municipal improvements, trail plans will continue to languish without our strong voice.

The new year, 2007, will be a great year to refine and improve our efforts. In fact these days, improvements either happen or the message gets stale like most baked goods other than Twinkies. - Buzz Grant

Annual Meeting (continued)

percent of the Coalition membership, whichever is less. The elected Board of Directors will elect officers at the first board meeting following the Annual Meeting.

Please plan on attending. We must have a quorum for the annual election of our Board Members.- John Downs, Vice President, and Ernie Bay, Nominating Committee

Thank you, Pierce County Parks

For each of the past two years, Pierce County Parks and Recreation has been a key sponsor of the Rainier to Ruston Rail-Trail Relay and Ultra (www.rainiertoruston.com), a major fundraiser and public awareness raiser for the Coalition. They have generously supplied chalk and equipment for marking the course, traffic cones, megaphones and volunteers. Most significantly, they have paid $1,500 toward the cost of placing portable toilets at every exchange along the 50-mile course from Mt. Rainier to Ruston Way.

Next year, Director Kathy Kravit-Smith has promised to increase that donation to $2,000. Thank you, Kathy!- John S. Selby

Letters

We are seniors, 77 to be exact. But not too old to enjoy the easy/moderate grade of your trail – and the beautiful scenery!

Thank you for making it available to us.—Pat & Jay Allison

When will Pierce County government figure out that more staff or consultants are needed at the parks and recreation department, so that we can save money on these trail projects and complete the system within our lifetimes? In addition to the Cushman Trail, we need staff working on the proposed trail from Ashford to Elbe. We also need staff working on extending the Puyallup Riverwalk Trail to the Melroy Bridge where Fife is supposed to take over. We also need a staff person working with other communities like Tacoma, Fife, Milton, Edgewood, Pacific, Sumner, Bonney Lake, Buckley, Enumclaw, Carbonado, Wilkeson, Fort Lewis, Eatonville, Lakewood, University Place and others to get trail placed on

continued on next page

Thank you, Pierce County Parks

For each of the past two years, Pierce County Parks and Recreation has been a key sponsor of the Rainier to Ruston Rail-Trail Relay and Ultra (www.rainiertoruston.com), a major fundraiser and public awareness raiser for the Coalition. They have generously supplied chalk and equipment for marking the course, traffic cones, megaphones and volunteers. Most significantly, they have paid $1,500 toward the cost of placing portable toilets at every exchange along the 50-mile course from Mt. Rainier to Ruston Way.

Next year, Director Kathy Kravit-Smith has promised to increase that donation to $2,000. Thank you, Kathy!- John S. Selby

Letters

We are seniors, 77 to be exact. But not too old to enjoy the easy/moderate grade of your trail – and the beautiful scenery!

Thank you for making it available to us.—Pat & Jay Allison

When will Pierce County government figure out that more staff or consultants are needed at the parks and recreation department, so that we can save money on these trail projects and complete the system within our lifetimes? In addition to the Cushman Trail, we need staff working on the proposed trail from Ashford to Elbe. We also need staff working on extending the Puyallup Riverwalk Trail to the Melroy Bridge where Fife is supposed to take over. We also need a staff person working with other communities like Tacoma, Fife, Milton, Edgewood, Pacific, Sumner, Bonney Lake, Buckley, Enumclaw, Carbonado, Wilkeson, Fort Lewis, Eatonville, Lakewood, University Place and others to get trail placed on

continued on next page
Letters (continued)

the ground. I am frustrated that progress on trail development is going way too slowly.-
Bob Myrick

CALENDAR

MEETINGS
Monthly board meetings are open to all members and are generally held on 4th Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Puyallup Public Library, south entrance. 324 South Meridian Street Monthly meetings may be rescheduled due to holiday conflicts. Check our web site for changes.

Weekly Meetings at Charlie’s Restaurant
Every Wednesday at noon at Charlie’s Restaurant, 113 East Main, Puyallup. All are welcome.

EVENTS
February 22
Annual Meeting
(see story page 1)

June 2
Rainier to Ruston Rail-Trail Relay and Ultra
National Trails Day

For more information
Visit our website: www.piercecountytrails.org
Or email foothills@piercecountytrails.org

Society as we know it is almost a conspiracy against human health. One of the main forces working to counteract that is the trailman. – Stewart Udall

Markus Dennis

Markus Dennis, a native of Greenfield, Indiana, became appointed to a vacant board position early this year, and has since been a driving force in many projects. An elite and multi-sponsored runner, Markus directed the expanded Rainier to Ruston 50-mile trail run from Mt Rainier to Ruston Way (Tacoma). The event was begun by our newsletter editor John Selby as a modest event three years ago.

The nationally recognized run celebrated National Trails Day, and promises to be a growing fundraiser for the Coalition as it is repeated in future years. In August Markus mustered the assistance of more than a dozen Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition volunteers, among others, and almost single handedly promoted, organized and directed the Cascade Crest Classic 100-mile endurance run in Easton, east of Snoqualmie Pass.

Markus is a scholar of ancient history and Judo-Christianity among other interests, and is also an ardent trail supporter, outdoor enthusiast and adventurer extraordinaire. Time off the trail is invested in reading, writing and tending to his Bonsai collection of more than 20 trees. You will find him easy to know. He never meets a stranger.

South Prairie Run with Salmon successful

Well, the turn out was a little on the slim side, but those runners and volunteers that turned out had a great time. On September 30, supported by a contingent of town supporters and council members, nine runners ran the course along the Foothills Trail toward the Carbon River and back to South Prairie. Another group of youngsters ran or walked to the "duck pond" just a half mile west of town. At the end of the run refreshments and prizes were offered and awarded.

Sponsors included FleetFeet Sports of Bonny Lake, Starbucks Coffee and some anonymous donors. Volunteers included members of the city council, the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition, and the Foothills Courtesy Patrol. The city and Coalition are looking forward to sponsoring this event again next year to allow even more people to "Run with the Salmon."- John Downs
Hello, we’re horse riders! I’ve got to say thanks to all of you who responded to my request for comments in the last newsletter and/or your signature on the petition that was available at the Coalition’s booth at the Puyallup Fair in September. You encouraged me to carry the flag for equestrian trail users to meet with Kathy Kravit-Smith, Director of Pierce County Parks and Recreation, and two of the department’s trail staff members, Skip Ferrucci and Grant Griffin.

I don’t dare say, “Mission accomplished,” but I can say, "Message delivered, received and action being taken." The experience was very encouraging for a number of reasons. How can I not be impressed when Grant Griffin asked about renting a horse to understand our perspective “from the saddle”?

1) The “Equestrian Trail Users’ Guide” to cooperative use of the Foothills Trail will receive an update and a new look with the assistance of the department’s public relations specialist.

2) A punch list of obstruction concerns for equestrian users on sections of developed trail was accepted and will be forwarded to the department’s maintenance staff.

3) The trail’s stewards made a commitment to ongoing two-way communications. Great Linda, but what about the next sections of trail to be developed? There too, Pierce County Parks committed to reviewing the plans that are being developed for the South Prairie to Buckley section and respond back to yours truly on behalf of all of us.

Frankly, the response I received from the folks at the parks department gives me renewed hope that horse riders won’t have to stampede to be recognized as trail users any longer. I’m willing to give it a try.

Want more? Kathy has extended a special invitation to meet with her, Grant and other members of the department at their headquarters in Lakewood. They want to meet each of you directly. I’ll keep you posted.- Linda Clark

Tots get ready, get set for Run for Salmon Race in South Prairie

Improvvisors do not look upon change as an obstacle; we look at is as fuel. We know that the next great idea lies just on the other side of the change. We are constantly asking ourselves “What can I do to incite change!” Well? - John Sweeney
Flooding prompts work parties

Our next two work parties will be cleaning up the flood mess at the REI rest stop and cutting saplings in the Wilkeson stretch. This fall we’ve been clearing part of the undeveloped trail between Buckley and South Prairie. We’ll continue this effort as time permits. It sure is nice to walk a section of undeveloped trail that has been freshly brushed and mowed!

We are negotiating with the county to let us work on a couple more spots. If you would like to join us in the fun, we typically work for a few hours on a Saturday morning after a hearty breakfast at a local diner.

Call Don Partington at 253-863-5307 for specific dates.

Bollard safety revisited

In our September newsletter an article titled “Bikes and bollards don’t mix” alerted cyclists to the dangers of bollards. Since then, we have learned of more incidents and injuries to cyclists hitting bollards, posts imbedded in the trail to prevent vehicle access. In the accidents of which we are aware, the cyclists were wearing helmets which, in most cases, prevented serious head injury.

Three members of the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition have been working closely with Pierce County Parks and Recreation on solutions to making the bollards more visible and safer. Some of the ideas discussed are: painting the bollards with highly visible paint, painting a stripe on the trail leading up to...
Bollards (continued)

the bollards, painting a diamond around the bollards and removing some of the bollards that are not needed. Resolution of this problem is a very high priority within the parks department.

Most of these accidents have been attributed to inattentiveness. Cyclists riding close together in groups and riders distracted by activities along the trail have been some of the major causes. The parks department and the Coalition will work at making the bollards safer, but we all need to do our part by being more alert when riding.

—Russ Matthews

Along the Foothills Trail...

Mother Nature’s devastating “shock and awe” display of rivers on a rampage leaves us stunned and dismayed as flood waters once again scourge the valleys surrounding our beautiful Mount Rainier. Why is it that, just about the time you think you’ve got the world by the tail on a downhill run, nature lets loose and tells you who’s boss? So what do we do now? Lots of elbow grease and some money will restore our trails within and without Mount Rainier National Park, but our hearts go out to our riverside friends suffering the brunt of the deluge with property damage and loss of homes. Let’s support them in any way we can as they attempt to recover.

In sharp contrast to stormy and wet November, the past October 23.
Dixie (continued)

summer was sunny and dry for a prolonged period of time, allowing full use and enjoyment of "our" trail. Members of the FRTTC were thrilled to receive the Conservation Partnership Award from Cascade Land Conservancy at the October meeting. Our own Helen Engle, first winner of CLC’s Lifetime Achievement Award presented the award to our board members.

The sun shone on most of the interesting and innovative events that kept the Foothills Trail humming with worthwhile, fun-filled activity throughout the year leading up to the award. In September the Coalition partnered with Mount Rainier National Park in sponsoring a Puyallup Fair booth. It was a hit, especially with the enthusiastic kids’ love affair with the train bells. The Rainier to Ruston theme relates to our major fund-raising R2R Relay and to Mount Rainier’s future Carbon River area expansion. In late September, the FRTTC partnered with the City of South Prairie, for its first annual “Run with the Salmon.” Of course, the ungrateful salmon not only didn’t show up on time, but also failed to RSVP. Wait until next year!

The Safe Rider Campaign, in partnership with Pierce County Parks and Recreation, the Safe Kid Coalition and Subway continues through the end of December. Helmet-wearing kids on wheels still have a chance to be “cited” as a Safe Rider and receive a delicious Subway deli-round.

Hope to see you on upcoming trail cleanup parties in partnership with the Pierce County Good Guys.

Happy Trails and Peace out y’all!—Dixie Gatchel

Carbon River Pony Club cleans up trail

It was a cool, drizzly evening in early September when the Carbon River Pony Club got together to pick up garbage along the trail from the South Prairie trail head to Arline Road. Earlier that day I talked with Buzz Grant, FTC President, who offered these inspiring words: “Please thank the kids for their service. [Tell them] that we are the government and that to make things run efficiently we all need to step up to the plate and do small parts that benefit the big picture. Thanks for their help.”

This was an epiphany to me. I thought, yes, we are the people! This is America. We have both the freedom and the responsibility to form our government the way we want it. We can not expect someone else to do it.

Armed with Buzz’s words and a few of my own on civic duty and responsibility we headed off to the trailhead. When we arrived some 20 kids and parents were already gearing up. They paired off and proceeded to hunt for garbage. The kids were excited and giggling, and when they found garbage you would have thought it was lost treasure. I heard the kids joking with each other about who had more and which team was the most efficient.

On the way back it was starting to get dark. It was cold and the raining. One of the parents drove by and asked if any of the kids wanted a ride back, but there were no takers. I looked up from under my drenched hat to see my six-year old skipping down the trail with an older kid. When you are six, nothing is greater than getting some attention from a teenager, or even an “almost a teenager” (which is anyone older than six and younger than 13).

When we got back to the trail head we jumped into the car. I was feeling a bit remiss for not giving my responsibility speech when my daughter proclaimed, “That was so much fun! When can we do it again?” I thought to myself that it was fun to see all the kids laughing and talking and doing something together.

Then she said “Mom, we are so lucky to have such a wonderful trail near our house. It is great that we can help to keep it beautiful.” Well said, well said. And I realized they didn’t need my speech. Sometimes in trying to teach we learn.—Linda Clark

[Editors note: Carbon River is a chapter of the United States Pony Club, http://www.ponyclub.org/. Pony Club is one of the leading junior equestrian organizations in the world, represented throughout 30 countries. They stress teamwork, sportsmanship and horse management. The Carbon River Pony Club has adopted a section of the trail.]
Where can you be retired (or not) and exercise your body and your hobbies at the same time? Bikers, hikers, runners, walkers (some with baby strollers and/or dogs), horseback riders and inline skaters are doing just that by joining the Courtesy Patrol—the perfect, service-oriented, ultimate outdoor activity!

Courtesy Patrollers get away from the hectic, modern world and explore nature’s points of interest along the 15 miles of paved Foothills Trail between the East Puyallup and South Prairie trailheads. On patrol we see: Van Lierups bulb farm (daffodils and tulips in season); Christmas tree farms; pumpkin and rhubarb farms; bison grazing in the field; wild berries, and cultivated strawberries and raspberries (in season); sports fishermen seeking salmon on the rushing Carbon and Puyallup rivers; the R.E.I. Wetland and Wildlife Preserve and sightings of blue heron, ducks, eagles, coyotes and even a rare black bear or cougar; the communities of Alderton, McMillin, Orting, Crocker and South Prairie; and Mother Nature abounding all around with majestic Mount Rainier looming overhead!

In addition to our regular duties as Courtesy Patrollers, we encourage helmet safety on the trail. The following story proves that we’re having an effect. Late this summer, eight youngsters with their two mothers were riding the trail on bikes and inline skates. Only the four-year old was wearing a helmet. He became an instant hero as he received a Subway Safety Certificate, entitling him to a free Subway sandwich. The Courtesy Patrol issues this recognition to safety observing youth in conjunction Pierce County Parks, Safe Kid Coalition and Subway. The story doesn’t end there. A week later at the McMillin Trailhead, the courtesy patrolman who issued the safety citation was suddenly surrounded by seven helmeted kids with hands out. He quickly realized it was the previous helmetless group earning their safety citation for a sandwich.

“Where have you been? We’ve been here every night looking for you!” they questioned. “We haven’t had dinner yet and we’re going to Subway.” After a cheer they rode off in the setting sun, heading for the East Puyallup Trailhead and salivating for the anticipated seven free subs.

On Veteran’s Day, Courtesy Patrol members held a meeting to reorganize and establish a new vision. After eight years of service to the Coalition, the growth and future planned expansion of trail necessitated this action, according to Dr. Ernie Bay and Jan Wolcott, founders, and Buzz Grant, current FTC President.

The overflow crowd met at O’Farrell’s Restaurant in Puyallup for breakfast. Attendees included Mariella Arnold, Robert and Gloria Banken, Ernie Bay, John Ernest Berry III, Mary Colquhoun, Ed Davis, Markus Dennis, Dixie Gatchel, Buzz Grant, Bill Harmon, Marty Humphreys, Florence Larsen, Gerald “Jerry” Larson, Russ Matthews, Dottie Selby and special guest Ed Wilson, trail lover from Enumclaw and retired eastside Mount Rainier ranger. Many of the attendees were either veterans or spouses of veterans, and we all celebrated their service to our country and protecting our way of life. It was a very patriotic moment that touched everyone in attendance.

Participants voiced their opinions and selected the following committees and leaders:

- Technical Advisor: Ernie Bay
- Special Events: Ed Davis
- Communication Aid: Dixie Gatchel
- Equipment and Safety Compliance Coordinators: Bob Larsen and John Ernest Berry III
- Program Chairman: Markus Dennis

Openings remain for a monthly meeting administrator and a secretary. Individual job descriptions will be distributed to each courtesy patroller.

Regular Courtesy Patrol meetings will be held on the second Saturday of every continued on next page
Patrol (continued)

month except December at O’Farrell’s Family Restaurant (behind Fred Meyer on River Road) unless notified differently. Arrive by 8:30 a.m. if you desire breakfast before the business meeting begins at 9 a.m.

Join the Courtesy Patrol, hand out Safety Citations to happy kids and take part in the ongoing growth of the Foothills Trail from Tacoma’s Ruston Way south-east to Carbonado and Mount Rainier and north-east to Buckley and Enumclaw. Trust me, you’ll get high on your own adrenalin. Courtesy Patrollers are needed to cover the growing expanse of trail! Be in on the ground trail! If you are interested in joining us, please call Jerry ”Captain 2Wheeler” Larson, Courtesy Patrol Chairman, at 253-845-7219.—Jerry Larson

Networking for Trails

Buckley

In October, the Buckley City Council awarded a contract to Rodarte Construction to extend the Foothills Trail within the city from the armory near the log show grounds to the White River. The new section will be nearly a half mile long and will complete the Foothills Trail through Buckley. Construction began on November 6, but so did the rains. This type of construction is weather dependent, so delays are to be expected. Hopefully, construction will be completed by the first of the year, giving the citizens of Buckley a new section of trail as a Christmas present.

The Cities of Buckley and Enumclaw along with King and Pierce Counties continue to work together on bridging the White River and connecting our two trails. Buckley is also working to develop a city-wide trail plan that will connect trails and sidewalks to all areas and parks within the city.

The Buckley trail extension project is being funded by the City of Buckley and an IAC Grant. The Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition will be donating up to $2,500 for a rest area along this new section of trail that will have either benches or picnic tables. The city will be accepting other donations for trail amenities. If you would like to donate, please contact the City of Buckley at 360-829-1921.—Pat Johnson

continued on next page
Networking (continued)

Cushman Powerline

Pierce County received an IAC grant for construction of the Cushman Trail, so, hopefully, we will see some progress. They decided to go around a very small wetland just south of Borgen Boulevard, and the required land acquisition has delayed the project. I would have preferred them to build an elevated causeway through this area to allow close viewing of the wetland and a more direct route. We would’ve also saved valuable time that would’ve reduced the cost of the project.—Bob Myrick

Edgewood Interurban

In the September issue I reported that we were waiting for results of the IAC grant request for design and development of the Edgewood portion of the Interurban Trail. Unfortunately, we did not quite make the cut for that grant. Some funding for design of the phase one section, between 114th Ave. and Military Rd., is being requested in the city budget for 2007. Final budget approval will come next month, and in early budget study sessions, this request has been left in. If approved, this will mean that we can move forward another small step in 2007.

The City of Edgewood has approved an ordinance creating a parks and recreation advisory board. As a recreational facility and linear park, the Interurban Trail will be one of the areas of responsibility for this board. Several Foothills members who are also Edgewood residents have applied for positions on the board. Appointments should be finalized within the next couple of months.—Diane Kerlin

Fife Interurban

Park on the south side of I5 off the 70th Avenue overpass in Fife and hike, run or mountain bike the old Interurban right-of-way across the 15-acre Lower Hylebos Nature Area to the Milton trailhead on Porter Way near the ball field. From Kent St. above the ball field, Milton’s Interurban Trail follows East Hylebos Creek "over the hump" and down Jovita Canyon in Edgewood. If you live in Fife, call the park department and ask them to get on the ball and maintain their portion better and get moving on trail construction. You could also decide to adopt the Fife portion of the Interurban Trail and cut back the blackberries and pick up litter.—Bob Myrick

Pipeline

Theresa Turpin from Parametrix has completed a draft feasibility study for the Cross County Commuter Connector Trail, stretching from Freighthouse Square to Orting via the Pipeline Trail and South Hill Puyallup. There are some serious ownership issues along the Pipeline Trail, but Buzz Grant is studying what can be done to place a trail on the City of Tacoma’s pipeline easement. We have tried to emphasize that each major segment of this trail system is important and should be built regardless of whether or not we can have a continuous trail along the corridor.—Bob Myrick

144th Street

The Pierce County Council recently adopted an amendment regarding the Cross-County Commuter Connector Trail. This amendment funds preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition and construction of the 144th Street... continued on next page
Networking (continued)
Trail [connecting South Hill Park and the Pipeline Trail on the west to the Tacoma Reservoir and, eventually, the Foothills Trail at McMillin]. This trail is a component of the larger Cross-County Commuter Connector Trail currently recognized within the Capital Facilities Plan and is also identified within the South Hill Community Plan. A total of $769,700 of park funds will be made available for the 144th Street Trail. In addition, a companion amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program allots $130,000 of funding to the 144th Street Trail, a non-motorized transportation project.

Once completed, the 144th Street Trail will provide a continuous three mile trail system connecting the Meridian Habitat Park, Firgrove Pond, South Hill Community Park, Heritage Recreation Center and Half Dollar Park.—Calvin Goings

Scott Pierson
The Scott Pierson Trail is virtually completed, and you can inspect it on weekends when construction is stopped. Get on the trail near the Target store on South Union and SR16. Park at the far SE corner of the area at the Galaxy Theater sign. You can proceed east past Snake Lake and Cheney Stadium to the new tunnel under South 19th Street and observe the artwork cast into the concrete retaining walls. Above the tunnel is written, "Passage to the Narrows" on one side and "Tacoma, City of Destiny" on the other side. You can also get on the trail here by park-

continued on next page

Puyallup Riverwalk
Construction on Puyallup’s new phase 2 of its Riverwalk upstream of SR-512 was rudely interrupted by the early November flood, but is back in progress. Other than a few parts of previously completed trail sections being covered with several inches to two feet or more of mud and sand, the trail fared remarkably well. This answers the question that we have so often heard over the years, "What’s going to happen to the trail when the river floods?"—Ernie Bay

Puyallup Riverwalk during November flood. Photo by Courtesy Patrollers Doug & Kathie Carter.
Members and donors listed

$18 – 25

Renewals (continued)
cival, Chuck & Phyllis Pyle, David & Kathleen Rohrer, Larry Sandnes, Janet Sebastian, Laurie Selle, Nicci Allen & Dan Shultz, Viora Strait, Arthur Sutton, Robert E. & Linda Tibeau, Jim & Anita Tomola, Yen-Vy Van, Michelle Werner, Marlys Williams, Laurie Youngblood

$26 - 50
Gwen Austin, Frank Baker, Madelyn Barry, Edward Boemermann, Glenn & Maureen Brown, Joann Merrill & Wally Croshaw, Frances W Feng, Buzz Grant, Teri Tomatich & Bryan Habeck, Martha A Hartley, Sven & Pamela Holm, Carol & Len Kalapus, Mary & Jim Kenney, Dolly Monaghan, Tom & Christie Monpapas, Mat & Connie Reitzug, Scott Richardson, Dr Gary D & Rosalyn Rock, Rebecca M. Splinter, Paul & Chris Swinehart Jr, Robert & Becky Trent, Bob & Liz Webster

$51 - 100
Joseph H Lee, Dennis & Bev Miller, Adalynn Simmons, Janet Sweeney, Ed Vervoort, Robert & Patti Young

$101+
Paul E Anderson, Judy Pigott

Where do I find my tree?
The Foothills Rails-To-Trails Coalition’s ‘Trees For The Trail’ program has been a tremendous success since its inception in 1992. It continues to provide members the opportunity to invest in the beautification of the trail and add to the enjoyment of its users. Like all investments however, this one has its risks, some of which were anticipated like tree mortality, tag loss due to deterioration with age, and enveloping tree growth.

The initial trees for the trail were Douglas fir saplings and later a few donated Grand firs situated along the then undeveloped Soler Mile near Arline Road just outside of South Prairie. Most survived, but a few trees nearest Arline Road were shortly stolen and others died of natural causes. Despite having been hidden by an annual, suffocating tangle of blackberry and wild cucumber for several summers, the survivors now tower twenty to thirty feet over the trail. Sadly, as expected, most of the tree tags were lost to time and tree growth, but the legacy prevails.

The next trees for the trail were the now-spectacular rows of flowering plum trees that put on a parade of pink throughout the city of Orting in the spring, and coppery purple foliage in the fall. Regrettably, nearly all of the tags on these trees were stolen or vandalized within the first month that they were placed. Once again however, the trees themselves flourish.

Later trees for the trail were planted along the two-mile section from the Whitehawk development to the McMillin Trailhead. These are a combination of flowering plums, flowering crab apples, and other flowering and shade trees, and are for the most part doing well. An exception had to do with the destruction of more than thirty thriving, flowering plums in 2003 by road crews preparing a deceleration lane for a new section of the Village Green development. We managed to salvage most of the tags and prevailed upon Village Green to replace the trees, which they did. Unfortunately, they responded too well and replaced the trees with nearly in kind specimens and not in the dormant season. The trees have survived our recent summer droughts, but would now be far healthier had they been smaller plants and planted in late fall or early spring. Just within the last month still another string of 16 three-year-old trees was mysteriously removed from just south of the mature trees between the trail and SR-162 in front of the High Cedars development. Fortunately, these were not tagged at the time. Such are the risks.

On the positive side, tagging will be in place by the end of the month for nearly 200 trees, mostly planted since 2000. Some of
these, like the trees replaced by Village Green, were already tagged, but will now be reassigned in an orderly manner to allow people to find a particular tree or trees. Lost or damaged tags for this section have been reproduced and commingled with salvaged tags to enable a consistent alphabetization. This will apply only to those trees located between the McMillin trailhead and Whitehawk development. Our records for earlier plantings have unfortunately been lost or misplaced.

Meanwhile, anyone who has identified and become attached to a previously tagged tree and wishes it to be retagged accordingly, please let us know and we will oblige. Otherwise, please look for your currently assigned tree according to the accompanying list. Also, please note that trees in this group can be located by number as well as alphabet. Every tenth tree has a numbered tag with an “E” for east of the trail (highway side) and “W” for west. Subsequently planted trees will be identified only by number.

We apologize for those tree tags that have become irrevocably lost, but hope that all investors will take solace and pride that their tree(s) live on and provide pleasure to all.—Ernie Bay

01 E Carol Anderson
02 E Aaron Baker
03 E Butter Ball
04 E Victoria Elizabeth Bay
05 E Beamer
06 E Terry BerryBicycle Federation of WA
07 E Patricia Bonilla-Osborne
08 E Meredyth Boyd
09 E Breanna Boyd
10 E Tiffany Boyd
11 E Bob & Pat Branson
12 E Anna L. Brown
13 E Don Brown
14 E Jacob Brown
15 E Claire Bulley
16 E Emily Irene Bulley
17 E D & M Bulloch
18 E Bunbun
19 E May Ann & Bill Burt
20 E Earl-Helen-Dee Byers
21 E Walso Carlson
22 E Spencer Allen Cole
23 E Emily Coulter
25 E Merry Cummings
26 E Mary Cushman
27 E Bill & Ruth Daugherty
28 E William Daugherty
29 E Ann-Marie Davidson
30 E Bonnie Davidson
31 E H. Jas Davidson MD.
32 E Jim Davidson
33 E The Dobb Family
34 E James & Margaret Dovey
35 E Brant Driedger
36 E Grant & Andrew Duchesne
37 E Ezra Egolf
38 E Lilyn (Queenie) Egolf
39 E Ken Edle
40 E Robert E. Erringer
41 E Teri L. Erwin
42 E Adrian Ettlinger
43 E Robert Ettlinger
44 E Melissa Finfrock
45 E Corrine Flannigan
46 E C. H. Fowler
47 E Marie Fries
48 E Mary Fries
49 E Charles R. Frye
50 E George W. Furlong
51 E Ralph & Sheila Furlong
52 E Gertrude Gant
53 E Sarah & Bob Garmire
54 E Pat Getchell
55 E Clarence O. Gilbertson
56 E Harold Gillspie
57 E Helen L. Goel
58 E Floyd Clinton Gossard
59 E Jeff-Margie-Molly Goulden
60 E Alexander Jay Griffin
61 E Whitney K. Grimm
62 E The Groffs
63 E Nora Page Hall
64 E Stan & Mary Hampl
65 E Mary Hiff
66 E Jackie Holmes
67 E James Hamniss
68 E Pat Hamniss
69 E Larry Helgeson
70 E Lee Hennings
71 E Lynn Hennings
72 E Rocky Henrickse
73 E Al Hoffman
74 E Alfred & Betty Hoffman
75 E Dakota Hunt
76 E Fred & Margie Hoheim
77 E Dewitt T. Hunter M.D.
78 E Penny & Irv Huntsinger
79 E Jay M. Irwin
80 E Judith K. Irwin
81 E Harry M. Irwin
82 E Krista L. Irwin
83 E Elliott Jackson
84 E Rosy Jackson
85 E Barbara Jacobi
86 E Frank & Linn Jacobs
87 E Linn Jacobs
88 E Martina Jacobs
89 E Bertil F. Johnson Family
90 E Grace Johnson
91 E Marylou M. Johnson
92 E Morgan Johnson
93 E Elaine Kubota & Chris Jordan
94 E Jim Kenney
95 E Mary Kenney
96 E Bob Kloster
97 E Robert Kloster
98 E Pamela Knight
99 E Karin Larkin
100 E Randolph M. Lindblad MD
101 E Melissa Lodney
102 E Carolyn Mastin
103 E Clara Leigh Mastin
104 E Keith Maxfield
105 E Ed Mazza
106 E Pat McCain
107 E M. Ellen McKenney
108 E C. Melvin McKenney
109 E Dorothy McLaughlin
110 E Jerry McLaughlin
111 E John & Joyce Miller

continued on next page
### Trees (continued)

112 E    Amy Mork  
113 E    Bert Mork  
114 E    Dave & Denise Martenson  
115 E    Owen Mortensen  
116 E    Anna Mullen  
117 E    Gabe Mullen  
118 E    Sam Mullen  
119 E    Ralph & Karen Munro  
120 E    Dale Murray  
121 E    Bike  
122 E    Peggy O’Conner  
123 E    Bernard D. Osborne  
124 E    Berni & Pat Osborne  
125 E    June Osborn  
126 E    Park 52 Inc.  
127 E    Scott Pierson  
128 E    Claudia Peters  
129 E    David Wendell Peterson  
130 E    Lawrence H. & Wilma Petterson  
131 E    Kathy Phibbs  
132 E    Kathleen Elizabeth Phibbs  
133 E    Sugar Plum  
134 E    Jean & Brett Pullen  
135 E    Andrew Raves  
136 E    Katie Raves  
137 E    Donald Elmer Reed  
138 E    Robert Riddell Family  
139 E    Tom Riddell  
140 E    Nichols Rivera-Lough  
141 E    Jim Rooker  
142 E    Pearl Rose  
143 E    Brandon M. Rydberg  
144 E    Gregory Scott Ross  
145 E    Carl Scheyer  
146 E    Beverly Schneider  
147 E    Phillip & Ann Schuler  
148 E    Dave Schultz  
149 E    Maia Schumacher  
150 E    Mt. Rainier Guest Services  
151 E    Robbie Simmons 1984  
152 E    Kend. Chi, Mar, Mit Simmons  
153 E    Briana Simson  
154 E    Colin SimpsonRiley Simpson  
155 E    Taylor Simpson  
156 E    Pearl Simpton  
157 E    John & Barbara Skinner  
158 E    Bob & Mary Ellen Smith  
159 E    Pete & Evon Smith  
160 E    Gladys Sorenson  
161-164 E    Jamie & Krk Star  
165 E    Paul Stilnovich  
166 E    Linda Talley  
167 E    Burt Thomas  
168 E    Charles E. Thompson  
169 E    Tippie  
170 E    John Ton  
171 E    Elinore E. Ulman  
172 E    Vadheim  
173 E    Dan, Bev & Matt Villwock  
174 E    Hopi Vogel  
175 E    Sophia Vogel  
176 E    Raul Wallenberg  
177 E    Dr. Don & Marny Weber  
178 E    Laura Marie Welander  
179 E    Ralph & Dena Wessels  
01 W    Bob Wiggins  
02 W    Deborah Wiggins  
03 W    Whitney Wiggins  
04 W    Ethyl Wilkinson  
05 W    Glee Willis  
06 W    Everett Withrow  
07 W    Rebecca Witt  
08 W    Jan & Shirley Wolcott  
09 W    Art Woolery  
10 W    Jim & Marlyce Worley  
11 W    Bob Young  
12 W    Owen Zurcher

---

### Foothills’ Best Places

This is the first of a regular *Trail Line News* feature extolling the virtues of “neat places” aside or near our beautiful Foothills Trail. In this issue the spotlight shines on Trailside Connection Espresso & More. Access is convenient whether by auto or afoot or on wheels from the trail. TCE is on the right hand side of SR 162 just as you enter South Prairie. Cheryl England, new owner, has spared no expense in making TCE an attractive stop. The menu features delicious drinks, sandwiches and snacks to slake your thirst and fill your tummy. Prices are reasonable with daily specials. Comfortable benches and chairs—some under cover—and bike racks invite customers to bide a while, enjoying their latte, smoothie or whatever.

Cheryl England and her son Jason ride their bikes in Orting. They rent bikes and helmets from Brian Baucus at Trailside Cyclery. (Trails not only build community but are good for business).
New Members Always Welcome
If you appreciate the work that we are doing and wish to see more trails, please consider joining us. Foothills Trail memberships start at $18 single and $25 family. Credit cards accepted.

☐ $18 Single ☐ $25 Couple ☐ $50 Trail Builder
☐ $100 Hero ☐ Even more! Honorary Member

Trees for the Trail / Orting Trail Kiosk Engraved Bricks

____ Number of tree(s)
____ Number of brick(s)
@ $50 per tree or brick = $ ___________
Name(s) to appear on Tree Tag or Brick __________________

Mark your categories, mail form and check to:
Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition
P.O. Box 192, Puyallup, WA 98371-0021
Email: foothills@piercecountytrails.org

Best Places (continued)
Tiger) are also there at times to lend a hand. Do you enjoy watching the “Deadliest Catch” video shows on the Discovery Channel? If so, get Mike to talk about his adventures as captain of one of the daring fleet of crab boats that ply the dangerous waters of Alaska’s Bristol Bay in search of the prized crab. Mike dreams of opening a “Deadliest Catch” fish stand next to Trailside Connection someday. Eight-year old Jason is a delightful addition to the crew, which includes some of the best baristas on the circuit. Stop by – you’ll like it!

P.S. In line with full disclosure: I admit personal bias, because TCE has been our favorite latte stop along the trail since opening several years ago. And, lovely lady Cheryl volunteered to have my dearest Clay’s memorial benches installed on site just out of the goodness of her heart. Thank you, Cheryl, Mike and Jason.—Dixie Gatchel