



The mission of the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition is to assist Pierce County communities in the creation and maintenance of a connected system of non-motorized trails from Mt. Rainier to Puget Sound.

June 2004

The TRAIL LINE NEWS

Vol. 18, No. 2

President's message

A red letter week!

"Success is not a destination.

It is a constant, continuous journey."

George H. Denny, President of the University of Alabama from 1912 to 1936 and in 1941

Success along the Foothills Trail has been nothing if not a continuous journey but, as the saying goes, "All good things come to those who wait."

During the week of May 10, the wait became shorter. . .much shorter! Pierce County Parks Director Jan Wolcott called me on Thursday, May 13, to proclaim it a "red letter day." He had just received the long-awaited final clearance from the Corps of Engineers to advertise construction bids for extending the trail from McMillin to Puyallup. This section of the Foothills Trail will be rail-with-trail, since it is an active railroad. Construction should begin by early August.

Earlier in the week, on Monday, more than three years after new salmon regulations stopped the construction clock, work actually began on connecting the Orting pavement, which now ends just beyond our Wetlands Bridge, with that in South Prairie.

If that were not enough, I learned the same week that phase two of the Puyallup Riverwalk had been advertised for construction, with bids opened May 27, and construction to begin as early as late June.

Success is indeed a continuing journey. Awaiting us down the trail corridor on this journey are some spectacular bridges, linkage between the Puyallup Riverwalk and the Foothills Trail, completion to Buckley, connecting across the White River to Enumclaw, segments to Wilkeson, then Carbonado and eventually Mount Rainier. We also have to get to Tacoma, Nisqually Delta and many more destinations.

Meanwhile last Thursday was not only a "red letter day," the first week of May was a big red-letter week!

Ernie Bay

National Trails Day features Rainier-to-Ruston Relay

On National Trails Day, Saturday June 5, teams of runners and walkers will compete in the second annual Rainier-to-Ruston Rail-Trail Relay. Runners and walkers will race 50 miles down the Foothills Trail, from the Carbon River entrance of Mount Rainier to the waterfront at Marine Park, ringing railroad bells in eight towns along the way and drawing public attention to the trail.

Last year's course record of 7 hours, 10 minutes, and 35 seconds stands in the balance. Will one of the teams break that record? For more information check out the race website at <http://www.rainiertoruston.com>.

Jeremy Engdahl-Johnson

Breakfast in the Woods planned for August 14

Back by popular demand, the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition will host its second annual Breakfast in the Woods on Saturday, August 14. Enjoy a scrumptious, gourmet breakfast under a canopy of old growth forest along the Carbon River near the entrance to Mount Rainier National Park.

This event was so well received last year that we constantly get questions from those who attended as to when it will be repeated. If you were not able to join us last year, make sure that you do not miss out again. Mark your calendars now.

For more information and tickets call 253-841-2570, or visit our web page at <http://piercecountytrails.org/> or email Ernie at bugtrail@aol.com.



Peters honored at Walk for Benefits

The Walk for the Benefits was held on May 15 on the seven-mile section of the Foothills Trail in Orting. The event was sponsored by Pierce County Parks and Recreation (Thomas A. Cross Endowment Fund), Good Samaritan Hospital and Foundation and the Foothills Trail Coalition to promote the benefits of a healthy life style. Net proceeds will benefit the community through the efforts of these organizations.

This annual event honors individuals who have made a difference in the community. This year's walk honoree was Claudia Peters, Pierce County's trail coordinator until she passed away in August 2003 after losing her battle with cancer. Claudia was a key figure in obtaining land for the Foothills Trail and preserving this beautiful natural setting. A true builder of community. Thanks, Claudia. We will miss you.

Members of the Foothills Trail Coalition participated in this event by providing balloons for participants. Thanks to Ken, the kids and dogs really enjoyed the balloons. Jade, Oreo, Paul, Buzz, Ed, Lola and I staffed the rest stop at the McMillin trailhead from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. John Downs was a great help in the organizational meeting prior to the event. Ken and Joan set up our booth in Orting at the park and raised about \$240, which included nine new memberships, T-shirt sales and several donations. Look for our booth this summer along the trail. Stop and say hi and make a donation.

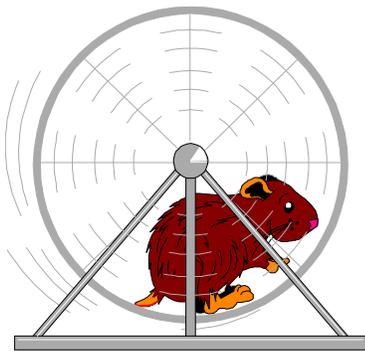
Over 200 individuals, families and groups partici-



Foothills Trail Coalition Vice President Ken Woolery displays a "Walk for the Benefits" poster honoring cancer victim and long-time Pierce County Trails Coordinator Claudia Peters who died last fall. The walk, held on May 15, was a joint venture of the Pierce County Parks, Good Samaritan Hospital and the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition.

pated this year. The weather was typical Northwest cloud cover with occasional drizzle, but the walk was fun for all. Come join us next year.

Marie Bailey Reed



Trails or the gym?

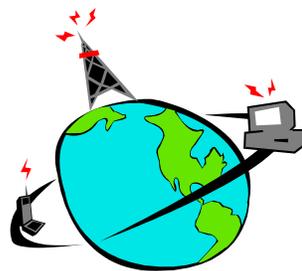
A study performed last year at the University of North Carolina found that access to trails, greenways and safe places close to home and work was a leading contributing factor to whether or not people got regular exercise.

You can find an article of this important study at: http://cbc.ca/stories/2003/08/28/Consumers/exercise_030828

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How to reach the
Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition



We want to hear from you!

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P.O. Box 192, Puyallup, WA
98371-0021
Telephone number:
253-841-2570
E-mail address:
bugtrail@aol.com

CALENDAR

Monthly Meetings

June 24

July 22, August 26

September 23, October 28

November 23 (Tues.)

December 23

Monthly meetings are held on 4th Thursdays (except Nov.) from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Puyallup Public Library, south entrance. 324 South Meridian Street

National Trails Day

June 5

Foothills Coalition Retreat

June 19, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Puyallup Library

Engles' Picnic

June 24, 6 to 9 p.m.

(see story this page)

Breakfast in the Woods

August 14

(see story on page 1)

National Trails Symposium

October 21-24

Austin, Texas

(see story on page 6)

Work Parties

Check the website below or email Don Partington at don.partington@metrokc.gov for details.

Weekly Meetings

At Charlie's Restaurant

Every Wednesday at noon at

Charlie's Restaurant,

113 East Main, Puyallup.

All are welcome.

For more information

Call 253-841-2570

Or email bugtrail@aol.com

<http://piercecountytrails.org/>

"To disbelieve is easy; to scoff is simple; to have faith is harder."

Louis L'amour

"I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving."

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

Mountaineers and ardent trail advocates Stan and Helen Engle of University Place enjoy a well-deserved rest along the Foothills Trail. Stan and Helen led the original Mountaineer familiarization hikes along the Foothills Trail in 1986. Stan also served for many years as a charter board member and treasurer of the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition. Both Stan and Helen were recently honored by Puyallup's Tapestry Singers group with a lifetime award for their volunteerism and community service. Stan was recognized for his work with the Foothills Trail and Mountaineers, and Helen for her accomplishments with the Tahoma and National Audubon Society, and general environmental activism.

Potluck picnic at Engles' June 24

All are invited: Audubon, Mountaineers, Foothills Trail, Cascade Land Conservancy, Citizens for a Healthy Bay, Carbon River Corridor and more to the Engle garden, 4011 Alameda Avenue, University Place on Thursday, June 24, 6 to 9 p.m.

There will be dancers, licensed falconers with their birds, native plants for sale, a photo exhibit, earth-friendly crafts and games for kids of all ages. There will be displays by our allied organizations. Children and grandchildren are most welcome. And don't forget how great the food is at these events! The Engles furnish coffee, punch and crusty buttered rolls. Guests are asked to bring a hot or cold entree, plus a salad or dessert, your own table service and a sit-upon if desired. Beer and wine is BYO.

No signup necessary. Rain does not cancel. The Engles' home is a half-mile south of Fircrest Golf Course. Parking on Alameda and on Kootenai, the lower street (come in lower gate).



For more info: Helen or Stan, 564-3112, Hengle@earthlink.net



Edgewood

Letters of support have been coming in for the grant proposals the City of Edgewood is writing to Conservation Futures and the IAC for the purchase of the Edgewood section of the Interurban Trail. With the right-of-way purchase agreement complete in Milton, Edgewood momentum is definitely heating up. Conservation Futures presentations by grant applicants will take place in July. Call Dave Lorenzen at Edgewood City Hall, 952-3299, in June to get the particulars. Your support is VERY important.

Diane Kerlin

Milton

The Milton City Council has been advised that the King County portion has been purchased from Puget Sound Energy. Entranco, the firm hired by the city to design and develop the trail, has scheduled to start development in about a year.

The city recently approved a 20-year, master development plan for the Lloyd's gravel pit area on the northwest side of the Sweetwater Creek (east fork of the Hylebos) which parallels the trail. One of the possibilities with this development is that they will build a sky bridge across the creek linking their development to the trail. Negotiations continue over who will maintain the bridge after it is built.

Letters were written in support of the Conservation Futures grant application for the Edgewood portion of the trail, without which the 3.2-mile Milton section is just about useless. The Interurban Trail is a truly regional

project and the link through Edgewood to the existing and planned trail network in the valley is vital.

Milton Loflin

Enumclaw

Our State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) process is just about concluded. We are still looking for donated materials for the trail base and anyone who has heavy equipment for clearing and grubbing work. The tree stumps from the previous work parties are almost all removed from the site. City staff is in the process of finishing the design work and beginning the process of creating a bid document. If all goes well, we're still planning a late summer or early fall construction project!

John Keates

Memberships and donations received

\$18-25

Alan & Eloise Adair, Janie Aiken, Elizabeth Albecker, Alicia Alexander, Mariella Arnold, Laura & Joel Attaway, Bill & Roddi Barton, Carl & Candace Berner, Nels & Winfred Bjarke, Susan L. Blank, Marguerite

Boerner, Marilyn Bown, Joy & Jim Brewer, Don Brown, Jack & Billiee Brown, Tom Bryant, Kenneth Buck, Manfred Buder, James & Mary Ann Burt, Paul M. Carbaugh, David & Linda Clark.

Rose Clark, Doris Clayton, Larry Coghill, Ronald & Elizabeth Coopers, Leroy & Margaret Corben, George Coulbourn, Lorne & Celene Cross, Ruth H. Daugherty, Donna Dippolito, Mickael Dobb, James & Susan Dovre, John & Theresa Downs, Stan & Helen Engle, Lois & Gary Erath, Renee & John Estey, Gino & Florence Fabiani, Gerry & Terry Fabre, Hwa-Tsun & Frances Feng, Foothills Historical Society, Jay & Peggy Fuchs.

Jack Gallagher, Peggy Sue Gerlock, Chuck & Thelma Gilmer, Calvin & Amy Goings, Jeff & Margie Goulden, Scott & Judith Groff, Herman & Alma Groninger, Mark & Nancy Grubb, Josephine Gunderson, Kenneth & Lavonne Hagen, Steven Hagoski, Nora Page Hall, James Hamre, David & Deborah Hansen, Diane & Robert Harris, Susan L. Harris, Nikki Blevins & Madison Levi Harrison, Susan & Fred Hemmer, Nancy & Michael Herold, Alan & Marion Hokenstad, Mark Holfeld, Jan Hunter, Louis Iverson, Sondra Johnson,

continued on next page

Foothills Trail Coalition Board

President	Ernie Bay	253-848-7718	bugtrail@aol.com
Vice President	Ken Woolery	253-863-4774	no e-mail
Treasurer	Art Robinson	253-964-3387	ajr4142@worldnet.att.com
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	Paul Jacobson	253-848-5585	peejay@nwlinc.com

Memberships (continued)

John & Gale Keats, Diane Kerlin, Ken & Donna Kinnear, Chris Kucklick, Michael Kupfer, David Lee, Milton & Doris Loflin, Lance Marshall, Gordon McCarrell, Joseph McGuire, Daniel McNabb, James Meier, Walter Croshaw & Joanne Merrill, John & Joyce Miller, Kim Miller, Cynthia Mishi, Bruno Ndergard, Nelson-Hayden, Carolyn Nelson, Jim Oberlander, John Olson, Harley & Jeanette Otis, Carol & Walter Ottoson, Anne S. Percival, Lawrence & Wilma Peterson, Robert & Laurine Peloli, Irene Potter.

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Trail Counts*

Period	Counts/day
Puyallup Riverwalk	
04-03-15	129
04-03-22	119
04-04-05	153
04-04-26	167
Foothills Trail**	
04-03-05	514
04-03-12	549
04-04-02	459

* Counts under-represent users by approximately 20 percent as determined by onsite observations which have found that people walking in pairs or trios were counted as one person.

** Near the Orting Eagles Club

Stewart, Viora Strait, Vernal & Jeanie Sumner, Theodore & Gisella Taranovski, J.T. & Ruth Terlouw, John & Yolada Thompson, Robert & Linda Tibeau, Barbara Veal, Robert & Eve Waters, Barbara Webber, Elmer & Betty Weir, Doug Wenzel, William & Nancy Wheeler, Gerald Whitehorse, Louis & Ingrid Whittaker, Robert & Corrine Wilkinson, Robert & Rosalind Willis, Joe H. Wise, Michael Wood, William Woodard, David R. Ziegler, Gerald A. Zeigler.

\$26 - 99

Wolfram Abicht, David & Liz Berry, Rina Boyd, Ward & Irene

Bradley, Roy & Sandra Buelers, William & sigrid Bulley, Kathleen Fazio Carter & Douglas Carter, Ron & Marty Celestres, Gully Collier, Lisa Corkum, Kevin & Carol Curtin, Patricia Czekaj, Frank Danes, Colleen Dixon, Michael A. Doyle, Carl & Dinni Fabiani, Richard Ferguson, Doug & Colleen Gant, David & Patricia DeGroot, John & Elise DeGuseppi, Michael Donahue, C.K. Duffy, Timothy & Patty Golob, William & Mary Haire, Frank & Linn Jacobs, Bertil & Nancy Johnson, Burton & Doris Johnson, Carol & Leonard Kalapus, Thomas & Mary Koon, Robert & Karen Koreis, Robert & Florence Larsen, Richard T.
continued on next page

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 Get 50 cents off any drink, 16 oz or larger, with this coupon.

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Memberships and donations (continued)

Larson, Marlene's Market & Deli, Ray S. McCaskie, D.R. McLaughlan, B. Scott McLaughlin, James F. Meier, The Mountaineers Tahoma Branch, Roger & Dorothy Neill, Daniel & Katie Neyens, Nicholson's Sumner Pharmacy, Allan & Cheryl Ohlson, Robert & Ann Parks, Nancy & Rick Patterson, Douglas & Barbara Peterson, Beverly Pier-son, Janet Clark & Randall Redding, Paul & Judy Rice, Judith Rivera, Marcus Roening, Jorunn & Harley Ruff, John & Thelma Sacklin, Wolfe & Beverly Schneider, Louise & Fred Schumock, Ann Seago, Gary & Donna Shouse, Mardell Rediski & Haven Silver, George & Gail Sleet, Peter Stanley, Gary & Beverly Strodz, Donna Tait, Jim Tomola, Al M. Truscott, Daniel, Beverly & Matt Villwock, Bruce & Jacqueline Waddell, Donald Weber, Bob & Liz Webster, Robert & Linda Welander, James Olp & Sue Weston, Lee & Tyra Winegar.

\$100 - 499

Vernon Angeline, Ernie & Ellen Bay, John Blanus, Terry & Neila Kaye Bohn, Bernard D. & Patricia Borilla-Osborne, James & Margaret Dovey, Robert Ettinger, Sylvia Feder, Gary Fredrickson, Dan Grimm, Alfred Hoffman, I.E. & P.L. Huntsinger, Tracie Johnson, Nathan A. Kirk, Randolph M. Lindblad, Robert J. Lucas, William & Janice Ludwig, Sarah Officer, Parks 52 Realtors, Gwen & Philip Phibbs, Judy Pigott, Kazu Y. Quaranto, Sherry Schmidt, Phillip & Joy Schneider, Stephen & Julie Scofield, Robert & Kathy Spence, Joseph & Margol Tucci, George & Marie Weis, William & Gayle Weyerhaeuser, Melanie & Charles Wilkinson, William & Nancy Wittenberg, Jan & Shirley Wolcott, James M. Worley, Robert & Patricia Young.

Thank you!



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National Trails Symposium announced

Calling all trail professionals, advocates, vendors and enthusiasts! It's time to brush up your proposals, schedule the dates, reserve your booth space and nominate your best programs, projects and people. Get ready for the 17th National Trails Symposium, to be held in Austin, Texas, October 21-24, 2004.

Planning team members are developing the most innovative, practical, diverse and inspirational conference yet to showcase our theme: The Emerging Role of Trails in American Lifestyles. Trails are no longer the exclusive domain of the solitude-loving wilderness seeker or the dedicated fitness enthusiast.

Whether facilitating transportation alternatives, providing recreational and educational opportunities, encouraging well-being, exploring history and heritage or bringing together people of all ages and connecting communities, trails have become a prominent factor in how and where we choose to live our lives. The prominent role of trails in the American lifestyle contributes significantly to its phenomenal popularity and growth.

Over 800 attendees are expected from across the nation and internationally. The symposium attendees typically consist of 65 percent agency representatives and 35 percent private sector advocates. The extensive exhibit hall will feature the American Lifestyle Trail and Greenway designed and built by sponsor/exhibitors. This is the premier opportunity to see state-of-the-art products and services. The National Trails Awards Program is one way American Trails recognizes the tremendous contributions of volunteers, profes-

continued on next page

Symposium (continued)

sionals and other leaders who are working to create a national system of trails for all Americans. It's time to begin planning your nominations for National Trails Awards, to be announced at the symposium.

For the most current information on the symposium, sponsorship opportunities, hotel reservations and registration information, visit the American Trails website at www.americantrails.org/Austin.

Transcontinental trails in use

Have you ever dreamed of crossing the whole country on a trail? You now have the choice of several transcontinental trails. First, there is the American Discovery Trail (ADT) between Point Reyes, Calif., near San Francisco and Cape Henlopen, Del. It was researched in the early 1990s and is in use by hikers and cyclists. As much as possible is off-road trails, primarily for hiking, but most is on lightly traveled roads. Much of it is marked with ADT blazes, and turn-by-turn listings are available at the web site: <http://www.discoverytrail.org/index.html>.

Adventure Cycling, based in Missoula, Mont., has researched and mapped three cross-country routes for cycle touring: (1) the

A bevy of volunteers turned out on Saturday, April 24, to celebrate Parks Appreciation Day by landscaping the center island of the McMillin Trailhead parking lot. Under the direction of Coalition President Ernie Bay, volunteers planted a variety of native plants in addition to a pair of Pom Pom Pines, wildflowers and a selection of chrysanthemums for fall color. Native plants including kinnikinnick and Oregon grape holly were donated by Paul and Diane Williamson of Todd's Nursery. Other costs were shared by Pierce County Parks Department and the Foothills Trail Coalition.

Northern Tier from Seattle to Bar Harbor, Maine, (2) the original Trans-America Trail (1976) from Astoria, Ore., to Yorktown, Vir., and (3) the Southern Tier Route from San Diego to St. Augustine, Fla.

These are all on shared public roads, most of which are lightly traveled back roads. Adventure Cycling publishes map sets showing the roads and services along them for these routes and several others. See more at <http://www.adventurecycling.org/routes/index.cfm>.

Kinnikinnick — The leaves were used by the Haida as a diuretic in kidney diseases and infections of the urinary passage. "Kinnikinnick" is said to be an Algonquian term meaning "smoking mixture." The dried leaves were smoked by a number of coastal groups within the last two centuries. . . Commercial tobacco, once it was available, was preferred, although some people extended their tobacco supply by mixing it with kinnikinnick leaves. (*Plants of the Pacific NW Coast*)

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Letter received

Greetings!

I have been following the efforts of your group for years, and have enjoyed riding my bike on the completed sections of this wonderful trail as they roll on towards South Prairie, Cascade Junction and beyond.

Yesterday, a friend and I ventured to Wilkeson, to explore the town and see if any of the right-of-way from the switchback up around the hill to Carbonado was hike-able.

We were thrilled to find that the right-of-way looked as though it had been just cleared yesterday! We walked all the way up to the top of the hill, and estimated that we got about half the way to Carbonado, before turning around and heading back down to Wilkeson. On our way down, we were passed by four young men on mountain bikes, so we assume the trail is bike-able now between the two towns.

Our visit to Wilkeson also took in the historic Wilkeson Elementary School (1912), Wilkeson's City Hall, the Forest Service visitors center (open on Sunday!), Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, the remains of the coking ovens and the tail end of the switchback track which has been left in place for the annual Wilkeson railroad handcart races. We also purchased snacks and drinks at the local grocery store, which had several interesting historical photographs and articles on the town.

We never would have discovered so much about Wilkeson, nor ever thought to spend an afternoon there if it hadn't been for the trail. I know that Wilkeson has been a vocal opponent of the Foothills Trail being extended into their community, and I think this is a shame. It would be a HUGE

benefit, and a community asset (much like the original railroad must have been) for local residents and visitors alike.

I applaud your group's continued efforts to expand the marvelous bike/pedestrian trail system in this part of Pierce County. Now that Orting is turning into wall-to-wall suburban sprawl, it is hard to imagine how this recreational/non-motorized transportation corridor could have EVER been provided today if it hadn't been for the foresight of those of you who fought to save the right-of-way of the aban-

doned Northern Pacific Railway through this area. Let's hope Burnett, Wilkeson and Carbonado wake up to the same reality before it's too late!

Thanks so much for all your hard work. It is most appreciated!

Drew Robinson
Seattle, WA 98101



[Editor's note: For more on the economic benefits of trails, read the article titled "Trails mean business\$" in the summer 2004 edition of "Rails to Trails," the newsletter of the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy or on their website at <http://www.railtrails.org/>.]



It's a good sign, despite appearances. This sign blocking the way to the Wetlands Bridge is testimony that the Orting-South Prairie section of the Foothills Trail is now under construction. This section of the trail will be closed to all users for most of the summer, until construction is completed.

An advertisement for Bonney Lake Bicycle Shop. The text is arranged in a rectangular frame. At the top, "Bonney Lake" is written in a cursive font, followed by "BICYCLE SHOP" in large, bold, sans-serif letters. Below this is a stylized graphic of a bicycle frame. Underneath the graphic, there are two columns of text listing services and products: "• ACCESSORIES" and "• TUNE-UPS & REPAIRS" on the left; "• SCHWINN REDLINE" and "• GT • K2 • CRUISERS" on the right. At the bottom left, the phone number "(253) 863-5145" is prominently displayed. At the bottom right, the address "19102 HWY 410 BONNEY LAKE, WA OFF HWY 410 ... BY N.A.P.A." is listed.

Bonney Lake
BICYCLE SHOP
• ACCESSORIES
• TUNE-UPS & REPAIRS
(253) 863-5145
• SCHWINN REDLINE
• GT • K2 • CRUISERS
19102 HWY 410
BONNEY LAKE, WA
OFF HWY 410 ... BY N.A.P.A.

Along the Foothills Trail...

Spring has sprung magnificently along the Foothills Trail as the long-awaited construction of the trail extension from Wetlands Bridge, east of Orting, to South Prairie trailhead is finally underway. Clay and I resumed our courtesy bike patrols in April after a five-month hiatus while I recovered from hip replacement surgery. I am overjoyed to be back in the saddle, not only to see the spring extravaganza of flora and fauna, but also to socialize with the many new friends we have made since we began patrolling three years ago. Our loyal trail supporters smile these days as excitement builds and they dream of new adventures when this portion of the trail is completed in September—just in time to catch the salmon run along South Prairie Creek.

And that is not all the good news! Our terrific Pierce County Parks Director, Jan Wolcott, reports that, depending on the weather window of opportunity for construction, work will start on the western portion of the trail from the McMillin trailhead to Puyallup's Meeker Junction by fall. At least Jan hopes to have a good gravel base in place for all you commuters if paving is not feasible until next spring. This portion will be trail-with-rail, similar to sections of the Interurban Trail in King County.

We challenge the few doubters out there who fear that trails will impact them negatively to join us on a courtesy patrol. Once they observe, first hand, the positive force that trails have in forging community involvement and spirit, they will convert to trail supporters quickly. Promise! For example: We often see the Ptarmigan Ridge school kids, donned in black shorts and

white tees, jogging along the trail during the early part of the school day. One day we encountered a number of US Forest Service rangers striving to pass the firefighter's pack test. On a daily basis, we meet and greet seniors, many in their 70s and 80s, moving along the trail afoot or on wheels as if they were 20 years younger. We also meet and admire many good, caring folks as they train for a myriad of good-cause fundraisers by walking, running or biking many miles along the trail to get in shape for the big event. The greatest thrill of all is to see the young family groups, happily building tradition as they enjoy, together, all that the trail has to offer.

Some recent treats we have encountered along the trail in the realm of flora and fauna include: One morning last week the field on a trailside farm that had gone unnoticed on our way out had suddenly blossomed into a beautiful sea of buttercups on our way back. Wow! It is also fun to try and keep ahead of the beaver band that busily gnaws

away at the cottonwood trees lining the Carbon River east of the Voights Creek Bridge. One day last week we got all excited, and then a wee bit deflated, when a loud series of rat-a-tat-tats that followed us down the trail turned out to be from a northern flicker rather than the pileated woodpecker that we had hoped to see. Eagles soar aloft on many occasions. It is not unusual to startle a deer or a coyote along the way, and we sometimes find signs of bear and cougar along the less-traveled parts of the trail.

Last, but not least, trails build citizenship and constituency. Clay and I have been, what we jokingly term, congenital volunteers during all our entire, long lives. We agree unequivocally that we have never, ever met such generous, hard-working volunteers as those working tirelessly, without glory, to foster trails with the Foothills Trail Coalition. You will be so pleased if you join us.

Peace out y'all, and happy trails!

Dixie Gatchel, Courtesy Patrol

Orting's Park Bench Caffe & Eatery is always a pleasant stop and starting point for Foothills Trail users.

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 Builder
- \$25 Couple
- \$50 Trail
- \$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 _____

Charge my VISA or Mastercard

No: _____ Exp: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____

Mark your categories, mail form and check to:

Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition
P.O. Box 192, Puyallup, WA 98371-0021

***Member retreat
planned June 19***

The Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition retreat will be held Saturday, June 19 at the Puyallup Public Library from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The topics on the agenda will be the mission and vision statements, the budget and the bylaws. All members are welcome, but please RSVP to Ernie at 253-841-2570 or 253-848-7718.

"Even smiling at someone, I feel as if I'm doing something to make the world a better place."

Danny Glover

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