LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CONCURRENCE!

Dear Friends:

The three and a half weeks following the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture's letter of concurrence was a period of intense frustration for everyone who worked through the Gorge Management Plan development process. The Secretary's letter of February 14 was so ambiguous, it defied interpretation. This letter, a contrivance written to appease a narrow political power base back in Washington, D.C., was typical of what we have come to expect from this Administration.

The Columbia River Gorge Commission, however, after a lengthy public hearing and debate on March 10, voted to accept the Secretary's letter as concurrence and to submit the Plan to the counties for adoption of land use ordinances and implementation.

We owe a giant "Thank You" to the following organizations who testified at the hearing and who urged the Commission to move for concurrence. The support and commitment shown by these organizations, not only in the last few weeks, but throughout this entire process, has been invaluable to our efforts.

Sierra Club  Northwest Environmental Defense Center  
The Wilderness Society  Chinook Trail Association  
Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund  National Wildlife Federation  
Oregon Natural Resources Council  Washington Environmental Council  
1000 Friends of Oregon  Columbia Gorge Audubon Society  
Wetlands Conservancy  Waterwatch

National Audubon Society

We are now ready to move forward, directing our attention to the development of strong county ordinances and working with Gorge residents to achieve that end.

We hope to see each of you out on the trails as we celebrate this Spring of 1992 with our Sensationally Scenic Saturdays. The wildflowers are spectacular this year!

FOCG Announces Second Annual Spring Series of Sensationally Scenic Saturdays

Hikers will be happy to hear that our spring hiking series is back! Friends of the Columbia Gorge is proud to announce the second annual series of eleven day-hikes. This is an opportunity for people to come out and enjoy the spectacular beauty of the Gorge. Another bonus of the hike series is the knowledgeable leaders available to answer questions and identify wildlife and flowers.

The trips are designed as hikes, so participants should be in good physical condition. All hikes are free-of-charge and carpool are available. For more information see the special insert in the center of this newsletter. Special thanks go to Julia Ferreira, who organized this important FOG program.
Volunteers are needed for our celebration of Earth Day 1992. As a result of last summer's forest fire near Multnomah Falls, there has been much rockfall and debris on the trails in the area. We will work with the Forest Service to help clean up Wahkeena Falls Trail. Meet at 8:30 am at Wahkeena Picnic Area shelter, north of the Scenic Highway, where we will be joined by Mr. Duffy Dufresne, Trails Coordinator for the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area.

The Forest Service will provide all needed tools, including hard hats. Participants should bring a lunch and dress for the vagaries of Oregon springtime weather. Wear gloves, long pants, and hiking or work boots. This is a fine opportunity to see the results of the fire and to learn how the Forest Service plans to restore the area. Long-time FOCG member, Vera Dafoe, will be in charge of the work party. Please call FOCG, (503) 241-3762, to register. The work party will be limited to a maximum of 15 people. Note: To carpool, meet 8:00 am at ODOT Parking Lot, NE 60th and Glisan.

Management Plan Ready for Gorge Counties

On October 15, 1991, the Columbia River Gorge Commission (C.R.G.C.) adopted the Permanent Management Plan for the National Scenic Area. The Plan was then submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture for his review for consistency with the standards and purposes of the Act, as required by the legislation. Under the Act, the Secretary had three options. He could determine that the Plan was consistent and concur. Secondly, he could take no action within 90 days, which would then deem the decision as concurrence. Lastly, he could determine that the Plan was not consistent with the Act, list his reasons for finding the Plan inconsistent, and deny concurrence. At which time, the C.R.G.C. could adopt his suggested changes or override his nonconcurrence.

The Secretary rendered his decision on February 13, 1991, going outside the authority of the Act, by “conditionally concurring.” The letter stated the Plan was consistent with the Act, with the inclusion of two conditions. The first condition would allow the Gorge counties to vary land use ordinances if the variation provided “equivalent or greater protection” than the Plan. As originally adopted, the Plan allowed counties to vary from the Plan only if the variation provided for greater protection than the Plan. The Secretary’s condition created an enormous potential for the counties to significantly weaken resource protection.

The second condition required the Columbia Gorge Commission to “utilize its discretion to maximize the protection of private property rights.” This “condition” is vague and opens the door to significantly weakened protection of Gorge resources.

The C.R.G.C. held a public hearing on February 10, 1992, to accept comment on the Secretary’s letter. Approximately 75 people testified. Friends of the Columbia Gorge, joined by other environmental organizations, encouraged the Commission to accept the Secretary’s letter as concurrence and to submit the Plan to the counties to draft consistent land use ordinances.

After much discussion and three failed motions, the C.R.G.C. voted 9-3 to treat the letter as concurrence. The motion also requires the C.R.G.C. to take up a modified version of the Secretary’s conditions as possible amendments to the Plan.

The proposed amendment will add a paragraph to the Plan that says the Commission “took care in preparing the Plan and will continue to ask that its actions comport with evolving state and federal law concerning protection of private property rights.” The "equivocality" concern will be handled through a modified amendment allowing the counties' ordinances to vary from the Plan only in a few instances. Friends of the Gorge Land Use Counsel, Gary Kahn, is reviewing the motion to assess the impact. The Commission will consider these amendments after it develops rules to guide the amendment process. The Plan will now be sent to the Gorge counties for development of land use ordinances to implement the Plan.
OUTREACH PROGRAM BEGINS WORK ON COUNTY LAND USE ORDINANCES

On February 10, 1992, the Wasco County Planning Commission and the Wasco County Citizen Advisory Group completed their review of county land use ordinances in compliance with the National Scenic Area Management Plan.

As our newsletter goes to print, Tamra Lisy, Friends of the Gorge Education Outreach Coordinator, is working with residents to bring them up-to-date and encourage their participation in the adoption of these ordinances. FOCG has reviewed the Draft Ordinances and has met with local residents. We are pleased with the results of this process. Wasco County Planning staff, Planning Commission, and Citizen Advisory Group should be commended for an excellent job. They have integrated the best of existing ordinances with the provisions of the Management Plan to present strong county ordinances.

There are still concerns regarding the county’s takings liability, and the Friends of the Gorge supports the county in the request to the Gorge Commission to resolve this. FOCG will work with the counties and the Gorge Commission to solve the liability problem.

Gorge counties now have 270 days to enact land use ordinances consistent with the Management Plan. We look forward to working with Gorge residents to develop effective land use ordinances. For more information, contact Tamra Lisy, (503)241-3762.

1992 Annual Meeting

On March 6th, the Friends’ 1992 Annual Meeting celebrated another successful year of hard work for Gorge protection.

We all enjoyed the hospitality of the Oregon Historical Society, and Greg Bettis, founder of Rock Art Research Education, provided us with a slide presentation: Rock Art of the Pacific Northwest: A Vanishing Cultural Resource.

Our volunteer of the year, Sherry Grove, was presented with a framed photograph of the Gorge landscape from the Rowena Plateau, an area not far from Sherry’s home in The Dalles. Sherry has been a valuable asset to the Friends and to the preservation of the Gorge. She has worked to strengthen fire protection standards, protect Squally Point from intensive recreation development, and she has been an active participant in the development of Wasco County’s land use ordinances. Sherry deserves all the “Thanks” we can send her way.

Debbie Craig, Board Chairman, presents Sherry Grove the Volunteer of the Year Award. Photo: Ken Denis.

Trillium Blossom. Photo: Ken Denis

Thank You!

Friends of the Columbia Gorge thanks the following foundations for their generous support in 1991:

- Adams Foundation
- Bullitt Foundation
- Clark Foundation
- Collins Foundation
- Herbert A. Templeton Foundation
- Jackson Foundation
- Jacobs Foundation
- NW Fund for the Environment
- OCRI Foundation
- Portland Garden Club
- Ralph L. Smith Foundation
- Tucker Charitable Trust
- Wessinger Foundation

1992 Audit Complete

The audit of the financial statement and balance sheet of Friends of the Columbia Gorge for the period ending December 31, 1991 has been completed. Carol M. Jones, Certified Public Accountant, prepared the audit.

Ms. Jones found that the financial statements presented the financial position fairly and in conformity with accepted accounting principles.

Appreciation goes to Helen Ehelebe, our office bookkeeper, and Mike Ryan, Treasurer. Copies of the financial statement are available in our office for review.
Reflections of the Gorge

River Rock Art: Images Left on Stone

The following was submitted by Greg Bettis, Founder of Rock Art Research Education.

For generations people have traveled to Celilo Falls on the Columbia River to make their homes or to trade for goods. Due to the abundance of food, life was rich for these early inhabitants. Still visible today, rock paintings (pictographs) and carvings (petroglyphs) on the cliffs above the river illustrate the lifestyle and beliefs of the Indian people who lived in the area. Characteristic of the Columbia River style of rock art is the Tsagaglalal (“She Who Watches”) design. Numerous hunting scenes also depict the important relationship between hunting and rock art.

Questions about rock art still challenge science today: Who created it? How old is it? What was the function and meaning of the images? Some information about the art was passed down through generations in the form of stories, tales and legends. Before 1910, Edward Curtis, a photographer, reported a story told to him by the Indian people about an ancient Wishram woman chief. The story tells of a mythological animal, “Coyote,” who came to The Dalles area and asked the Chief if she treated her people well or was she an evil person. She told Coyote that she taught her people to live well and build good houses. Coyote said that the world would soon change and that women would no longer be chiefs. He then changed her into a rock with the command, “you shall stay here and watch over the people who live here. All people know that Tsagaglalal sees all things, for whenever they are looking at her, those large eyes are watching them” (Strong 1967: 108-109).

With the advance of European settlers into the area came their infectious diseases. These plagues wiped out as much as 90% of the native population in the Lower Columbia River region. Evidently, Tsagaglalal came to be associated with death. Before the back waters of the Lower Columbia River Dams inundated this area, bone and stone images of Tsagaglalal were recovered from cremation burials. Found in association with trade items of copper and iron, these figures and designs were securely dated to the Historical Period between A.D. 1700 and A.D. 1840, just before and during the first entry of white man into the Pacific Northwest.

Among the Wishram Indians, curing sickness was a specialty of the shaman. The Indians believed sickness was caused by evil spirits who invaded a person’s body. Shamans cured by driving out the evil spirits with stronger and more powerful spirits. With the constant presence of death and the lack of response to the shaman’s traditional cures, we can now understand why these people had a fascination with dying and developed a death cult guardian spirit. On the cliffs high above the ancient villages, Tsagaglalal still watches in silent tribute to a vanished culture.

For the Indian people, the creation and the function of rock art served as a means to communicate and gain control of the spirit world. Most spectacular are rock art panels showing scenes of communal hunts. Such depictions bring to life the hunting culture and the associated rituals of these tribes. Communal hunts were complex affairs which involved the efforts of men, women and dogs, and often required the construction of nets, traps or drive lane fences. These hunting depictions were designed to aide in a successful hunt. Rock art also gave thanks to the animal spirit for allowing themselves to be harvested.

Friends of the Gorge Announce 12th Annual Hiking Weekend

The twelfth annual Friends of the Columbia Gorge Hiking Weekend will be held on Saturday, June 20, and Sunday, June 21, this year. Many hikes will be offered ranging from easy to strenuous. The hikes are free of charge, and the general public is invited. The trips will be led by experienced guides, knowledgeable about specific areas of interest, who will be able to answer questions and point out special Gorge features of particular interest.

This year the After Hike Rendezvous will be entertaining as well as informative. Saturday will feature a game of Gorge Trivia Pursuits II” with returning guests: Gorge historian Tony Midson of Portland State University and Rick Zenn of the World Forestry Center. On Sunday, riverman and author Sam McKinney, of the Oregon Historical Society, will be on hand to talk with you about treasures of the Columbia.

Members of the Friends of the Gorge will be sent copies of the complete Hiking Weekend brochure in early May. If you need extra copies or have questions, call Friends of the Columbia Gorge, (503) 241-3762.
Late last summer work finally was completed on the Herman Camp to Wyeth portion of the Gorge Trail No. 400, the low elevation route that eventually will traverse from Troutdale to Hood River. From I-84 this new stretch would appear to be entirely a hike through woods. Au contraire! Indeed there are trees, but the tread also passes beneath impressive rock outcroppings not seen from the highway plus lofty Indian Point, which is, and crosses several large, moss covered talus slopes that afford far-ranging views to the north and particularly photogenic ones up the river.

With its modest distance and elevation gain, this new section is a perfect early season hike for rousing motor skills, muscles and beginning the long chore of toughening feet. And speaking of the latter, although the tread of this section, which was built by both volunteers and Forest Service crews, is excellent, it has some rocky stretches and unseasoned feet would be happier in hiking boots.

One of several options is to do just the new section by hiking from Wyeth to Herman Camp and retracing your route (6.0 mile round trip with an elevation gain of 850 feet). A second possibility is to establish a car shuttle and start from the Columbia Gorge Work Center, climb to Herman Camp and then continue east to Wyeth (4.5 miles one way with 800 feet uphill). If you are unfamiliar with the stretch between the Work Center and Herman Camp, the second option is recommended. However, if you’re an old timer you’ve probably done that section up from the Work Center quite enough and you’ll prefer the first alternative.

Drive on I-84 to the Wyeth Exit No. 51. At the end of the exit turn right and then turn right again and in 0.2 mile come to the entrance to Wyeth Campground. If the campground is open, turn left and head south for several hundred yards, staying right where spurs head off and following signs to Trailhead, to the parking area at the road’s end. If the campground is not yet open, park so you are not blocking the gate.

To establish a car shuttle, with the second car continue west from the campground entrance along Herman road for 3.5 miles to an intersection. Turn left and continue another 0.6 mile to the Work Center. If the campground here is open, turn left and drive up to it. If not, turn left into the next driveway immediately to the west, curve right and park at the far northwest end of the work center, being careful not to block the doors of the large green building. The trailhead here is unsigned, but obvious, as it climbs to the west from the parking area. After winding up a bit, this route connects with one from the campground. Continue uphill, cross a narrow power line access road, traverse and after one set of switchbacks come to the connector to the Pacific Crest Trail, which doubles as a section of the Gorge Trail No. 400 between here and Cascade Locks. Turn left and after 200 yards come to a large open area. Cross it in the same direction you were heading, stay right where the road curves up from the left and walk up along the road about 0.5 mile, leveling off before coming to the clearing at Herman Camp 1.4 miles from the starting point. Turn left, after about 50 feet veer left onto the signed Gorge Trail, walk on the level for a couple of hundred feet and then begin descending. The Gorton Creek Trail continues east — and soon up — from Herman Camp.

If you’re beginning from the trailhead parking area at Wyeth campground, walk south along an old road bed from the trailhead parking for 120 yards to a junction. Turn right, cross the bridge over Gorton Creek and climb for a bit before leveling off and coming to the first of several open slopes. At around 1.4 miles, cross Grays Creek, pass under Indian Point and traverse the most westerly of the talus slopes, which affords particularly good views. Wind Mountain is across the river and Dog Mountain is to the northeast. Enter continuous woods, cross a small creek, an old road bed and then climb a bit more noticeably before that level stretch just prior to Herman Camp.

Friends of the Gorge Wildflower Apparel
Hike the Gorge sporting beautiful Gorge wildflowers on one of our short-sleeve or long-sleeve T-shirts. Sweatshirts, nightshirts, aprons, and our new tote bags are also available.

Contact Friends of the Gorge office for order form and more information. (503) 241-3762.

1992 Columbia River Gorge Calendar - Color photographs by Craig Tuttle. Special price, $5.00.
In 1986, as part of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act, Congress designated an eight mile stretch of the White Salmon River a National Wild and Scenic River. The outright designation by Congress is in line with the impressive values and resources of the White Salmon River.

The U.S. Forest Service, the lead administering agency, conducted studies which confirmed the river's values. Under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act only one outstandingly remarkable ("OR") value is required for classification. To date, the following five "OR" values have been identified for the designated segment of the White Salmon.

**Outstandingly Remarkable Values**
- resident fisheries
- whitewater recreation
- hydrology of the river
- geology of the canyon
- American Indian cultural sites

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires that the administering agency establish detailed boundaries for the designated segment of the river and its adjacent and related land area, and prepare a comprehensive management plan to provide for the protection of the river values.

Initial public meetings were held in 1987 and 1988 to exchange information and concerns. A Task Force was formed in early 1989 to identify issues, determine the significance of the river's resources, and to develop management alternatives and their possible effects. In September, 1990, the formal comment period ended on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) which presented a range of considered alternatives to the public. Many of the respondents, including Friends of the Columbia Gorge, favored Alternative #2, the most protective of the alternatives.

At this time, the Task Force was unable to agree on a preferred alternative and, therefore, the Forest Service was given the responsibility. In November, 1991, the Forest Service released the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), and alternative #6 as the final decision.

The FEIS and preferred alternative inadequately addresses impacts and protection of indicator species such as the pileated woodpecker. The management boundary does not contain threshold quantities of suitable habitat for this species. The Forest Service's own data and management recommendations for the pileated woodpecker confirm this.

In addition, no "OR" value was given to the White Salmon's biota. Biodiversity has been an issue from the beginning. Members of the scientific community, including the Forest Service's Region 6 ecologist, who have knowledge of the White Salmon's biota have indicated that "OR" status must be given to this resource to provide protection. But this is not the case in the preferred alternative, and the boundary is too narrow to protect the biodiversity.

With closer examination and comparison of the DEIS and the FEIS, there appears to be inconsistent information to support a less protective alternative as proposed in alternative #6. Presently, following the lead of the Friends of the White Salmon, Friends of the Gorge has joined forces with other environmental groups to appeal this decision.
WHATS HAPPENING IN THE GORGE

April

Maryhill Museum: Maryhill opens its 1992 season with Ancient Images of the Columbia River Gorge, March 15 through July 19. The exhibition compares traditional basketry and beadwork created by the Wasco/Wisham people of the Columbia River Gorge over the last 2000 years with contemporary Native American artists. Call for information and times, (509)773-3733.

2nd. Angels Rest Hike. Sponsored by Lake Oswego Recreation Department. Meet 8:45 a.m. at Lewis & Clark State Park, Exit 18 off I-84. For more information, call (503)636-9673.

4th. Catherine Creek East Hike. FOCG Sensationally Scenic Saturday; see insert.

8th. Columbia Gorge Audubon Membership Meeting. All interested people welcome. Care Corner, Hood River, 6:30 p.m.

9th. Horsetail Falls Hike. Sponsored by Lake Oswego Recreation Department. See April 2nd, for time and meeting place.

11th. The Cherry Orchard Hike. FOCG Sensationally Scenic Saturday; see insert.

16th. Mosier Twin Tunnel Walk. Sponsored by Lake Oswego Recreation Department. See April 2nd, for time and meeting place.

18th. FOCG Earth Day Work Party. See article on page 2.

25th. Deschutes River Trail Hike. FOCG Sensationally Scenic Saturday; see insert.

30th. Gorge 400: Wyeth Bench Hike. Sponsored by Lake Oswego Recreation Department. See April 2nd, for time and meeting place.

Balsam Root. Photo: Ken Denis.

May

2nd. Weldon Wagon Trail Hike. FOCG Sensationally Scenic Saturday. See insert.

2nd. Chinook Trail Association Hamilton Mountain Work Outing. Participants need to bring their favorite trail building tool, a sack lunch, sturdy boots, work gloves and appropriate gear. Meet at WA Department of Transportation Park and Ride located near Chaklov Monument on Hwy 14 east of I-5 at 8 a.m. For more information, call Don Cannard at (206)694-4033.


7th. Eagle Creek Hike. Sponsored by Lake Oswego Recreation Department. See April 2nd, for time and meeting place.

9th. Wyeth Bench Photo Hike. FOCG Sensationally Scenic Saturday; see insert.

10th. Columbia Gorge Audubon Membership Meeting. All interested people welcome. Care Corner, Hood River, 6:30 p.m.

13th. Horsetail/Oneota Gorge Loop Hike. FOCG Sensationally Scenic Saturday; see insert.

18th. Larch Mountain Hike. Sponsored by Lake Oswego Recreation Department. See April 2nd, for time and meeting place.


Balsam Root. Photo: Ken Denis.

June

6th. Wind Mountain & Fort Cascades Loop Hike. FOCG Sensationally Scenic Saturday; see special insert.

6th. Chinook Trail Association Pacific Crest Trail Work Outing. Participants need to bring their favorite trail building tool, a sack lunch, sturdy boots, work gloves and appropriate gear. Meet at WA Department of Transportation Park and Ride located near Chaklov Monument on Hwy 14 east of I-5 at 8 a.m. For more information, call Don Cannard at (206)694-4033.

10th. Columbia Gorge Audubon Membership Meeting. All interested people welcome. Care Corner, Hood River, 6:30 p.m.

18th. Larch Mountain Hike. Sponsored by Lake Oswego Recreation Department. See April 2nd, for time and meeting place.

August 2nd. FOCG Annual Summer Picnic. This year, at the mouth of Major Creek, west of Lyle, WA, you can enjoy views of Memaloose Island, the Mosier cherry orchards, and Mt. Hood. Mark your calendar now!

MISSION STATEMENT

Friends of the Columbia Gorge shall vigorously protect the scenic, natural, cultural, historic and recreational values of the Columbia River Gorge, encourage compatible economic development within the urban areas, and educate people about the Gorge in order to gain the public support necessary for effective implementation of the National Scenic Area Act.

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Memorial Contributions

Friends of the Columbia Gorge thanks the following people who have made memorial contributions since our last newsletter:

In memory of Bob Sidney:  
Marion and Paul Roy

In memory of Elizabeth Dimon:  
Marie Hall-Steinberg

In memory of Michael C. Zander:  
Mr. and Mrs. Edmund L. Zander

In memory of Jonathan Newman:  
Charles F. Ehelebe

In memory of Peter Wilson:  
Susan and Philippe Bodin

In memory of Joseph Stil III:  
Marie Hall-Steinberg

Savor the Gorge this Spring on our Series of Sensationally Scenic Saturdays

| WHAT | A series of ten day-hikes sponsored by Friends of the Columbia Gorge. These are designed as hikes, so participants should be in good physical condition. |
| WHERE | Meet 8:30 AM at Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) parking lot, NE 60th & Glisan, Portland. Second meeting places are given to accommodate persons living outside the Portland area. |
| WHAT TO BRING | Daypack containing lunch, water, rain gear, extra clothing, insect repellent, camera, binoculars, first aid, and personal items. No animals, please. |
| WHAT TO WEAR | Long sleeves and long pants recommended. Sturdy hiking shoes that are lug-soled and waterproof. |
| CAR POOLING | Will be arranged among participants at ODOT each Saturday. Donation to drivers of 5¢ per mile is recommended. Bridge tolls are shared. |
| GENERAL INFO. | Prior sign-up is not necessary. Hikes will not be canceled because of rain. Remember, weather near Hood River is usually great! Participants accept responsibility for their own safety. All mileages given are round trip. For more specific information, contact FOGC, (503) 241-3762. |

April 4 — Catherine Creek East. Wildflower expert Barbara Robinson will lead us up the east canyon of Catherine Creek—we did the west canyon last year—past the natural desert to wildflower-studded open country with spectacular views. Hike 6 miles with 1000 ft. elevation gain. Second meeting place is 9:30 AM at Bridge Mart, north end of Hood River Bridge.

April 11 — The Cherry Orchard. FOGC Chair Emeritus Nancy Russell will lead a new shorter route with severe elevation gains than last year’s hike to the deserted cherry orchard. Description in Winter 1991-92 FOGC Newsletter article, “Feature Hike of the Quarter.” Hike 4 very scenic miles with 1400 ft. elevation gain. Second meeting place is 9:30 AM at Bridge Mart, north end of Hood River Bridge.

April 18 — Wahkeena Falls Trail Work Party. Please see article in this issue.

April 25 — Deschutes River Trails. Desert Trail Association President Ross Edginton will lead us on newly-developed loop trails along the lower Deschutes River in a high-desert setting with desert flora and fauna and historic sites. Hike up to 8 miles with 750 ft. elevation gain. Meet 8:00 AM at ODOT for car pooling. Second meeting place is 10:00 AM at Deschutes River State Park, Celilo Exit 97, then east 4 miles.

May 2 — Weldon Wagon Trail. Klickitat County trails advocate Darvel Lloyd of the Flying L Ranch will lead us along a pioneer route with open slopes of wildflowers and views of the idyllic White Salmon Valley. Description in Spring 1991 FOGC Newsletter article, “Feature Hike of the Quarter.” Hike 7½ miles with 1500 ft. elevation gain. Second meeting place is 9:45 AM at White Water Market on east side of Hwy. 141 in Husum.

May 9 — Wyeth Bench Photo Trip. Hiking guidebook authors Don and Roberta Lowe will share photography tips along this very scenic new segment of Gorge Trail 400. Bring 35mm cameras and be ready for new vistas in the Gorge. Description in this FOGC Newsletter article, “Feature Hike of the Quarter.” Hike 9 miles with 1000 ft. elevation gain. Second meeting place is 9:30 AM at Herman Creek Horse Camp, 2½ miles east of Cascade Locks on Forest Lane Road.

May 16 — Eagle Creek. FOGC Chair Debbie Craig will lead us past many waterfalls, lush forest, spectacular cliffs, deeply-cut gorges, behind a waterfall, to Cross-over Falls. Hike 13 miles with 1000 ft. elevation gain. This hike is not recommended for young children. Second meeting place is 9:15 AM at Eagle Creek trailhead, Exit 41.

May 23 — Aldrich Butte. Mazama trail enthusiast Helen Hibbitts will lead us along Washington’s Pacific Crest Trail past Gillette Lake and Carpenters Marsh to a fire lookout site with extensive mid-Gorge views. Description in Summer 1991 FOGC Newsletter article, “Feature Hike of the Quarter.” Hike 11 miles with 1500 ft. elevation gain. Second meeting place is 9:30 AM at Tamanous trailhead, north side of Hwy. 14 and 2 miles west of Bridge of the Gods.

May 30 — Dog Mountain. Gorge-lover and political pundit Tim Hibbitts will lead this classic Gorge flower hike with slopes of wildflowers in bloom and remarkable Gorge and Cascade views. Hike 7 miles with 2900 ft. elevation gain, and well worth it! Second meeting place is 9:45 AM at trailhead parking lot on Hwy. 14, about 12½ miles east of Bridge of the Gods.

June 6 — Wind Mountain and Fort Cascades Loop. Long-time trails advocate Ron Christensen will lead a 4½ mile hike of Wind Mountain, a Gorge landmark with spectacular summit views and many fine examples of Indian vision-quest sites, with 1100 ft. elevation gain. Then we’ll follow the flat 2-mile Fort Cascades Historic Trail along the banks of the Columbia River. Second meeting place is 9:30 AM at historical marker just east of north end of Bridge of the Gods.

June 13 — Horsetail Falls/Ooneonta Gorge Loop. Conservation activist Mary Mason will lead this waterfalls favorite with an interesting new approach by using Gorge Trail 400 through the Valkyrie. Hike 8½ miles with 750 ft. elevation gain. Second meeting place is 9:15 AM at Bonneville School in Dodson. Exit 35, then east on Frontage Road, 0.6 mile to McLoughlin Parkway, turn right and drive up to school parking lot.

June 20-21 — 12th Annual Gorge Hiking Weekend. Brochure will be mailed to FOGC members in mid-May.