Mt. Hood Chapter OET 2009 report

Clackamas Lake Campground Corrals, Mt. Hood National Forest, Zigzag Ranger District:

Project to build 30 stalls in 11 campsites at Clackamas Lake Campground started in 2007. Six sites were completed in 2008/2009. The remaining five sites will have rails and gates installed in 2010. In addition to the volunteer labor, Mt. Hood and North Valley Chapter members supplied and operated a trackhoe, dump truck, tractor, generators, chainsaws and tools.

At the request of Mt. Hood Chapter OET, Hood River Ranger District replaced 17 rails at the Lost Lake Horse Camp. Mt. Hood Chapter also submitted comments for improvements in running the horse camp during the contractor comment period in 2009.

Trail Skills College: Our chair, Barb Adams, served on the committee for the first ever Trail Skills College for Cascade Locks (southern Washington and Northern Oregon). More than 150 volunteers took part in the Friday through Sunday classes ranging from trail work to first aid.

Trail work in 2009, Mt. Hood National Forest:

- 1. Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness, Zigzag Ranger District: Douglas Trail, six miles; Eagle Creek Trail, six miles; and four miles of Plaza Trail. In addition we cleaned up Douglas Trailhead, an annual event.
- 2. Pacific Crest Trail, Hood River Ranger District: In 2008 advocated for a youth crew to repair slumping tread on our Caretaker section of the Pacific Crest Trail. In 2009 logged out seven miles of the PCT to get the repair crew into the site. Caretaker of 14 miles of the PCT for the previous five years, Mt. Hood National Forest, Lolo Pass to one mile north of Indian Springs.
- 3. Badger Creek Wilderness, Barlow Ranger District: Logged out Tygh Way Trail, three miles.
- 4. Sandy River Delta Park in the Columbia River Gorge, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area: Two chapter members are on the board of "Friends of the Sandy River Delta", Pammy Hirigaray and Barb Adams. Dave Adams mows six miles of trail twice yearly at the SRD. Both of these trails were overgrown by scotch broom and briars when we got permission to clear them. Mt. Hood volunteers take part in monthly work parties. Our chapter restored a third trail this year that had been overgrown by blackberries and shrubs.

Total miles trail work in 2009: 32 miles. Total hours 812.

This year we submitted comments on the **Road Decommissioning Proposal** for Zigzag Ranger District. Two proposed closures are of particular interest to equestrians:

- 1. Proposed closure of Douglas Trailhead by the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness. This trailhead provides access to Douglas, Eagle, McTyre Ridge and Plaza Trails.
- 2. Proposed closure of road 380 by Riley Horse Camp. This road provides loop opportunities, especially for winter riding. The road can be combined with the Cast Creek/Horseshoe Ridge Loop, or for a separate ride using Lower Horseshoe. Comments were submitted regarding these closures and our chair met with the Forest Service on a tour of possible new trailheads.

These road decommissioning proposals will continue into 2010.

Speakers:

Trainer <u>Joe DeHerrera</u>; <u>Kathleen Walker</u> Awards Presentation, Zigzag Ranger District; <u>Natalie McGowan</u>, equine nutrition; <u>Kim McCarrel</u>, "Oregon Trails and Horse Camps"; <u>Mark Kersey</u>, Using a Compass; <u>Clarissa Zuver DVm and Kelleyerin Clabaugh DVM</u>, Columbia Equine Hospital, Horse Health.

Volunteers in Action:

In 2009 chapter members worked <u>812 field services hours</u>. Most of the hours were earned logging out trails, building corrals at Clackamas Lake and working for the Sandy River Delta. Eleven volunteers qualified for Trail Park Passes from the Forest Service (16 hours or more) and six qualify for recognition from OET State (30 hours or more). A total of 21 members volunteered for Field Services.

Mt. Hood Chapter OET 2009 Report continued

Leaders 2009:

Chair...Barb Adams Vice-Chair...Linda Lesowske Secretary...Pam Hirigary Treasurer...Marge Reed Quartermaster...Bunny Peschke &

Teddy Bear Parade...Linda Lesowske.

Corncob Ranch & Spray Rodeo Memorial Day Weekend...Pam and Lot Scholz.

Joe Graham camp out and pot luck, July Pot Luck, Deschutes River Ride...Deniece Tucker.

Sandy River Delta....Pammy Hirigaray is leading the OET effort to provide a good experience for all users. Clackamas Lake Corrals...Jeff Miller and Dave Adams.

Crew Leaders...Harold Kenny and Dave Adams.

Saw certification....Harold and Dave and Nancy Carpenter.

Debbie Stice...Trail Pals Corporate Sponsor for Round-up.

Play Day...Diane Treat, Marge Reed, Doris Schnelle and Barb Adams.

The most trail-clearing while on vacation...Pam & Lot Scholz and Harold Kenny.

Volunteers Field Services:

Receiving Trail Park Passes this year from the Forest Service:

Dave Adams, Barb Adams, Harold Kenny, Jeff Miller, Pam Hirigaray, Nancy Carpenter, Mary Blankevoort, Pam Scholz, Lot Scholz, Harold Moyer and Lauri Malone.

<u>OET State Recognition</u>: Mt. Hood Chapter... Members receiving OET State Recognition: More than 30 hours....Pammy Hirigaray, Pam Scholz, Lot Scholz.

More than 100 hours...Harold Kenny, Dave Adams, Barb Adams

Volunteer hours:

2009... 812 hours 2008... 1,329 hours 2007....1,131 hours 2006... 1,167 hours