
COULEE CORRIDOR BYWAY BEAT

Volume 2. Issue 3

Coulee Corridor Consortium – Coulee Corridor National Scenic Byway July 2013

Coulee Corridor North Sign Dedication

Eighteen Coulee Corridor National Scenic Byway supporters congregated at the northern tip of the corridor east of Omak on Friday, April 19, 2013 to celebrate the installation of a permanent sign along SR 155. Tim Alling, Chair of the Coulee Corridor and Cindy Gagne, City of Omak Mayor performed ribbon cutting for the sign. It was actually installed with cooperation and coordination through the Coulee Corridor, Washington State Department of Transportation and local transportation departments, Colville Confederated Tribes, Eastern Washington University, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington State Parks, and engineers Grey and Osborne.



Tim Alling, Coulee Corridor Chair, and Cindy Gagne, Omak Mayor, perform the ribbon cutting

Adopt-A-Highway Trash Cleanup

Seven hardy souls braved gusty winds and clear weather to clean up both sides of the road on State Highway 17 mile posts 84-86 by the Lake Lenore Caves on Saturday, April 20, 2013. The Washington State Department of Transportation provided bags, colored vests, hats and signage. Those participating included Tim Alling, Ken and Barb Caylor, Jim Pritchard, Rick Heiberg, and Mark and Margaret Amara.



Jim Pritchard, Barb Caylor, and Tim Alling don colored vests



From left to right: Ken Caylor, Barb Caylor, Rick Heiberg, Tim Alling, and Margaret Amara. Present but not pictured are Jim Pritchard and Mark Amara.

The next Adopt-A Highway cleanup will be in the fall with a date still to be determined.

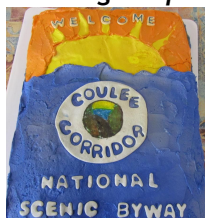
Coulee Corridor Ribbon Cutting

Besides Alling and Gagne, others in attendance included Rick Heiberg, Mayor of Coulee City and his wife, Wendy Heiberg, Jason Palmer, Colville Confederated Tribes Department of Transportation, Corina Radford, Omak Chamber of Commerce President, Denis Felton, Washington State Parks Sun Lakes and Steamboat Rock Manager, Morie Block, Grey and Osborne Engineer, Susie Barr, Warden Development Council, Todd McDaniel City of Omak Public Works, Paul Mahre, Washington State Department of Transportation, Birdie Hensley, Secretary, Coulee Corridor Consortium and her husband, Lowell Hensley, Ken Caylor, 2nd Vice Chair, Coulee Corridor Consortium, Barb Caylor, Treasurer, Coulee Corridor Consortium, and Mark Amara, 1st Vice Chair, Coulee Corridor Consortium.

The sign project was part of a \$200,000 National Scenic Byways 2003 grant that included installation of two signs, at the north end and south end of the Coulee Corridor at Omak and Othello, 40 signs identifying the Coulee Corridor on SR 17, SR 155 and US 2, and interpretive signage at a new ¼ mile trail and restroom facilities near Lake Lenore along the shoreline at Alkali Lake on SR 17.



Established sign in place along SR155



A special cake was made to celebrate the N sign installation

Association for Women Geoscientists Tours Geology of Grant County

By Mark Amara

The second weekend in April 2013, 15 women geoscientists including a few significant others from Washington, Oregon and Idaho toured some of the remarkable geologic landscapes that lie (along a portion of the Coulee Corridor) in Grant County. The geologic field trip was led by local geologic author, Mark Amara. The event was organized by Theresa Burton, Moses Lake, Association of Women Geoscientists (AWG) Pacific Northwest Chapter (PNW) Secretary and Marcia Knadle, Seattle, AWG PNW Chapter President.

The group met near Moses Lake early Saturday morning April 13 to hear about the geology of the Columbia Plateau and Okanogan Highlands. Granites of Cretaceous age and older, Miocene era lavas associated with the Columbia flow basalts, Quaternary age glacial deposits and Missoula floods features were the primary focus of the trip. The group traveled by car caravan north from Moses Lake making stops along Stratford Road and the Pinto Ridge Road, zigzagging through the town of Coulee City and stopping to view geologic features in the upper Grand Coulee before hiking approximately 3 miles RT to the top of Steamboat Rock to look at the physical evidence of glacial advances across the top of the rock and the impacts of the Missoula floods. From there, the tour group headed south on SR155, US2 and SR17 to stop at the Dry Falls panorama and the Washington State Park Dry Falls Interpretive Center. Other stops were made along the lower Grand Coulee and included a short hike to Alkali Lake. Stops at Soap Lake and the distinctive boulder field south of Soap Lake on Rocky Ford Creek completed the loop trip which covered a dozen stops and lasted all day.

AWG is an international organization which seeks to enhance the quality and participation of women in the geosciences as well as introduce girls and young women to careers in the earth sciences. The Pacific NW Chapter covers a wide range of geosciences disciplines and career paths with opportunities to network and mentor. Information about the Association for Women

Geoscientists may be obtained by connecting to www.awg-ps.org or to the national website at www.awg.org.

The geology tour is one of many trips that may be available for interested groups in this area. The Coulee Corridor Consortium may be contacted to find out about upcoming events or to request special tours along the Coulee Corridor National Scenic Byway. The Coulee Corridor byway covers the area between Omak and Connell on State Routes 155 and 17 and US2 with associated loops and spurs. The Coulee Corridor Consortium promotes programs that enhance the preservation and development of its features and activities. The Consortium also functions to help educate and inform residents and travelers about the benefits and values of the natural, scenic, historical, recreational, cultural and other resources along it. Anyone interested in joining the Coulee Corridor Consortium is encouraged to become a member. Check the organization out at www.couleecorridor.com or contact one of the board members.



Posing next to glacial erratics on top of Steamboat Rock are (left to right, top row) Amanda Miller and Ralph Dawes; (middle row) Yonara Carriho, Brandy Rinck, Lina Ma, Megan Scott, Michael Carlson, Lynn Simmons, and Mark Amara. The bottom (or front row) consists (left to right) of Shari Silverman, Keith Olson, Melissa Carley, Marcia Knadle, Christina Johnson and Theresa Burton.

Byway Beat Briefs

Flood Fest Planned

According to Chris McCart, Interpretive Specialist at Dry Falls Visitor Center, Sun Lakes/Dry Falls State Park will be conducting Flood Fest 2013 at the Dry Falls Visitor Center 9-5 pm Saturday September 14th, 2013. There will be local experts conducting programs on geology, local vendors (including food), Native American groups and much more. It should be a great time. Direct questions to McCart at Dry.falls@parks.wa.gov.

Coulee Corridor Consortium Web Site Committee Seeks Volunteer(s) To Help Maintain it

Anyone interested in helping the Coulee Corridor Consortium maintain its web site is urged to contact one of the CCC board members, Tim Alling, Mark Amara, Barb or Ken Caylor or Birdie Hensley.

Small Cadre of Dedicated CCC Members

A list of the 19 current members who support efforts of the CCC can be viewed on the web site at www.couleecorridor.com.

Web Site Enhancements Progressing

The refurbished web site is up and running. Check it out at www.couleecorridor.com. Digital pictures are needed to keep it current so please submit your photos to chair@couleecorridor.com

Row Crops Grace Base of Steamboat Rock?

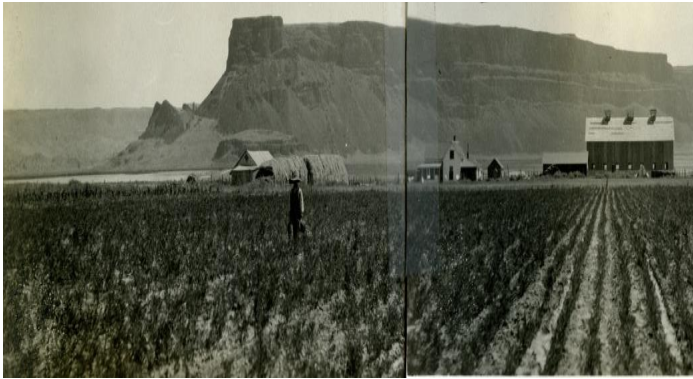


Photo courtesy of the Baldwin Family circa early 20th century

Besides being near significant cultural landmarks and adjacent to other amazing geologic features, the area around Steamboat Rock was utilized by stockmen and farmers near the turn of the 20th century. Before the development of the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project the area around the base of the Rock was known as the Steamboat Rock Stock Company named by George Baldwin, who owned several thousand acres near the turn of the 19-20th century. Farmland and orchards were irrigated from Devils Lake, a mile long lake 100' deep. The original lake was capable of irrigating up to 5000 acres and the stock company operations were diversified enough to grow wheat, barley, corn, alfalfa, orchards and vegetables. The company's headquarters sported a dairy barn, ice house, other barns, and a main ranch house. The ranch prospered until a fire in 1912 destroyed much of it. Baldwin kept the property but moved to the mouth of Northrup Canyon until 1917 when the ranch was sold to Otis Martin. Under Martin's tenure, it became known as the Lincoln Stock Farm, diversified to hogs and sheep while maintaining the cattle operation. Additional houses were built, sheds and bunkhouses were constructed and the main building was special with a walled-in refrigerator. The Bureau of Reclamation bought the ranch in 1942. Most of the ranch is now under the waters of Banks Lake as part of the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project (CBIP). The CBIP which began irrigating farmlands in the early 1950s and now waters more than 670,000 acres in Grant, Adams and Franklin Counties.

NPS Has New Superintendent

Dan Foster is the new superintendent for the Lake Roosevelt National Recreational Area. He is located in the National Park Service Coulee Dam office. He is also the superintendent for the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail which runs from Missoula, Montana and across Eastern Washington and down to the mouth of the Columbia River. Foster has been with the NPS for 20 years in various positions. A Park Service news release states "His depth of experience working with neighboring communities, multiple agencies, tribal governments, military branches, and the public will serve him well in this new assignment." NPS and the Coulee Corridor have been partners in the past and that relationship will continue in the future.

Deadline for October Byway Beat Articles

Submit articles to Birdie Hensley or Mark Amara by September 15, 2013.

Newsletter Editors

Mark Amara

Birdie Hensley

Contributors to this issue – Chris McCart, Jim Pritchard, Birdie Hensley, and Mark Amara

Though much of the original ranch is occupied by Banks Lake, Steamboat Rock State Park, in the vicinity of the Baldwin ranch, preserves the area's natural beauty and history while allowing year-round recreational use of the area. Steamboat Rock State Park is located off SR155 north of Mile Post 15 along the Coulee Corridor National Scenic Byway.

Cut here and return with your membership materials

The Coulee Corridor Consortium wants your help and is asking that people consider becoming 2013 members of the organization which is a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization with tax exempt status. Benefits of organizational membership include: supporting the Coulee Corridor Consortium, keeping abreast of and participating in new activities and events sponsored by the Consortium along the Coulee Corridor National Scenic Byway, opportunity to help leadership by focusing positive attention on the corridor, participation in Big Event fundraiser each year, be placed on mailing list for quarterly newsletter, and receiving increased member visibility on the Coulee Corridor website.

- \$15.00 Individual Membership Fee
- \$25.00 Family Membership Fee
- \$50.00 Business, Non-Profit, or Other Membership Fee
- Other _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Web page listing: _____

Send applications and checks to Coulee Corridor Consortium, PO Box 123 Grand Coulee, WA 99133

Coulee Corridor Consortium Officers

Tim Alling í í Chair

Mark Amaraí . 1st Vice Chair

Ken Caylorí . 2nd Vice Chair

Birdie Hensleyí Secretary

Barb Caylorí Treasurer

Get Involved With Coulee Corridor Consortium Committees:

National Scenic Byways

Marketing

Grants

Fundraisers

Newsletter

Memberships

Website Updates

Contact the Coulee Corridor at

www.couleecorridor.com or call (509) 634-1608

Editor's Note: Coulee Corridor Consortium Meetings are held Monthly throughout the Region

Coulee Corridor Holds Regular Meetings

The public is invited to attend any of these Friday lunch time events to find out what is happening and to participate in events and activities.

July 19, 2013í . Corral Restaurant, 120 S Main, Warden

August 16, 2013í Country Kitchen, Ephrata

September 20, 2013í Michael Js, 710 Columbia Road, Connell

October 18, 2013í Beach Bar & Grill, 8198 State Highway 262, Mardon Resort

November 15í Pepper Jacks, 113 Midway Ave, Grand Coulee

December 20í Donø, 14 Canna N, Soap Lake