

## Northwest Trails Journal

Newsletter and Journal of the Northwest Chapter of OCTA

January 2004

President - Glenn Harrison Editor - Jim Tompkins

<http://www.nwocta.com>

### THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVATION

#### TRAIL MARKING AND MONITORING

At the chapter board meeting in The Dalles, the preservation report was a summarization of reports from four trail monitors. Those four are part of an elite group of seven people watching the trail system in Oregon and Washington. The concern is that there should be twenty-one trail monitors. Two of the seven cover six segments of the Oregon Trail. Ten segments of the Oregon, Applegate, and Meek trails are not being monitored. The Oregon Trail from Flagstaff Hill (2 segments), the Applegate-South Road (7 segments) and the Meek Cutoff all lack monitors.

Preservation is one of the cornerstones that OCTA was created upon. As good as NW chapter has become in some areas, we are lacking in preservation. It is important that chapter members learn about trail identification, marking, markers, mapping, land ownership, government agencies, trail monitors, record keeping, record sharing, financial investments, trail administration and coordination, and personal incentives.

To help remedy this situation a NWOCTA Trail Preservation Workshop has been set for June 5-6 in The Dalles at the Wasco County Museum inside the Gorge Discovery center. Four general topics will be discussed - 1) getting acquainted with everyone involved with trail preservation, 2) the problem of insufficient on site coverage of trails to be protected, 3) distribution of operating policies, procedures, etc., and 4) the need for continuing identification of possible trails, alternates, sites, graves, artifacts, etc.

If at all possible, plan on being there. See the article in the outings section of this newsletter and also look at the list of trail monitors on page two. Picture your name in one of the empty slots.



*Speaker Jim Henderson returning from photographing Oregon's largest pictograph site along the Crooked River.*

### ANNUAL MEETING RETURNS TO OREGON CITY MARCH 13

It's that time of year again. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday March 13 in Oregon City at the Museum of the Oregon Territory, same place as last year. The museum is located overlooking Willamette Falls at Highway 99E and South Second in Oregon City.



*Annual Meeting site March 13, 2004  
Museum of the Oregon Territory*

Coffee and light refreshments will be served from 9:00 AM and the meeting will start at 10:00 AM (promptly, knowing president **Glenn Harrison**). Important reports on the status of trail preservation, mapping, research, outings, and the upcoming convention are on the agenda. A buffet luncheon (the same caterer as last year) will be followed by a special visual presentation by trail photographer **James Henderson**. The meeting will include the traditional raffle as well as convention related items on sale.

The cost of attending the meeting, presentation, and luncheon is \$16. For those wishing to attend, but not participate in the luncheon, registration is \$12. Advance registration is required for those ordering lunches.

Attendees may tour the museum before or after the meeting (preferably not during) and are encouraged to pay special attention to the clothing and fashion display on the 2nd floor next to the elevator. One topic of discussion for the convention will be hostesses wearing authentic style clothing.

**Muriel Carbiener** will be bringing to the meeting, providing the weather cooperates and allows her across the mountains: 1) Books showing photos of the styles of clothing worn by people in the 40s, 50s, and 60s; and photos of styles and colors of calico fabric used at that time. 2) Some sewing patterns that can be used for making accurate historical clothes. 3) Resources for finding accurate historical sewing patterns. 4) Several dresses, slat bonnets, men's shirts and pants. 5) Some resources about historical clothing that can be found on line. Muriel would also like to encourage people to do their own research into what was worn during that time period.

**Joyce Bolerjack** requests attendees to bring items for the raffle. This year we would like everyone to bring TWO things - one for the meeting and one for the Convention. They do not need to be trail related. This will be our last chance at getting this many people together before the August convention.

## NW Chapter Directory

### President & National Board

*Glenn Harrison* Albany, OR  
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### Vice President & Editor

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[tompkins@bctonline.com](mailto:tompkins@bctonline.com)

### Past President & National Board

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### Secretary

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### Treasurer & National Membership

*Joyce Bolerjack* Bellevue, WA  
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### Board of Directors

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### Mapping and Marking

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### Preservation Officer

*Vic Bolon* Sequim, WA  
[bolonv@yahoo.com](mailto:bolonv@yahoo.com)

### Trail Monitors

#### Oregon Trail (8)

*Gail Carbiener* (2), *Keith May* (4)

#### Barlow Road (2)

*Roger Riolo*, *Jim Tompkins*

#### Applegate's South Road (7)

#### Meek Cutoff (1)

#### Free Emigrant Road (1)

*Gary Brumbaugh*

#### Naches Pass (1)

*Dick Pingrey*

#### Cowlitz Trail (1)

*Chuck Hornbuckle*

### Webmaster

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### National Board

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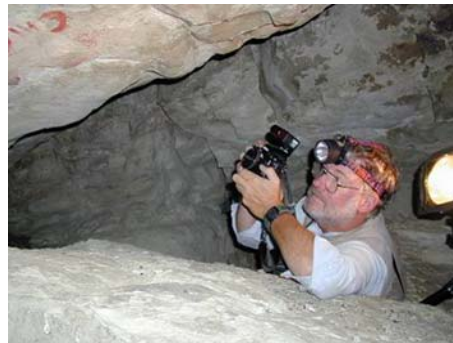
## ANNUAL MEETING SPEAKER JAMES HENDERSON

### What's a Signature Worth:

### Linking Historical Names to Photographs

Scientific photographer, **Jim Henderson**, presents a first look at last summer's photographic results from the Overland Trails National Database project. He was awarded a Long Distance Trails matching grant in 2001 to record the remaining emigrant names along the Oregon-California Trails and to publish the names linked to their signature photographs in a database on the Web, today's presentation will be a brief look at last summer's findings. He will show enigmatic names painted in red that have been lost until now.

Henderson is recognized for unique photographic procedures that he has developed to enhance faint inscription names, Native American pictographs, and medieval frescos. In 1999 he was the first American to receive the Lennart Nilsson Award in Photography for his pioneering work on American Indian pictograph photography.



*Henderson photographing a pictograph site near Mitchell, Oregon, at night.*



*An example of Henderson's polarized digital photography. Register Cliff name written in red paint of some kind that he discovered this summer. The top image is enhanced polarized lighting, the bottom image is the computer enhancement of the first one.*

## NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED

The Northwest Chapter is an affiliate of the Oregon-California Trails Association, a non-profit association with members representing 45 states (all except Delaware, Maine, Mississippi, North Dakota, and West Virginia), the District of Columbia and seven foreign nations (Canada, England, Germany, Japan, Sweden, Switzerland, and Zimbabwe).

NW chapter relies upon the national organization for many things including expertise, financial assistance, liability insurance, and our tax free status. For those reasons it is a requirement that ALL members belong to the national association. Chapter membership is optional, but national is required. Many individuals belong to more than one chapter.

Membership chairperson **Joyce Bolerjack** (how many hats does she wear for NWOCTA?) says that Second Notices have been sent out on Chapter Membership Renewals. She also underlines the need for members to renew or initiate their National Membership, a requirement necessary in order to be entitled to be Chapter members.



### DO YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

Please let Joyce Bolerjack know when you change your street or e-mail address. You can reach her at 10813 NE 20th St., Bellevue, WA, 98004 or at [jbolerjack@comcast.net](mailto:jbolerjack@comcast.net).

Visit our chapter website at <http://www.nwocta.com>

## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We look forward to a great year in OCTA and NW OCTA. Our Chapter Election Committee, composed of **Wayne Burck** and **Burr Fancher**, counted the ballots. You have reelected all 4 officers and **Rich Herman** to the board. Our chapter committees have functioned well and will continue. Thank you for taking the time to offer your suggestions for outings, activities and speakers on the recent survey.

**Chuck Hornbuckle**, **Vic Bolon**, and **Jenny Miller** investigated an area on the Oregon Trail where logging had occurred. While an attempt had been made to protect the trail, some carsonite markers were missing and debris remained on the trail. Responding to a letter that I sent on behalf of NW OCTA, we received a cooperative response. We will need to replace some missing markers.

To give you an overview of what will be happening in 2004, here is a partial list. The January Board meeting was held in Vancouver, Washington, on January 17. Convention planning followed and continued the next day.

Saturday, March 13, from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, the Annual Meeting will again be held at the Museum of the Oregon Territory in Oregon City. New sound equipment will be used and a great program is planned. Using PowerPoint technology, **James Henderson** will show some of his high resolution photographs taken in Nebraska and Wyoming. **Muriel Carbiener** will display "Clothing for the Oregon Trail" and answer individual questions to help us prepare for "authentic" clothing to wear at the convention. All members are encouraged to attend.

**Vic Bolon** has arranged for a Trail Mapping Workshop including practical experience for Saturday & Sunday, June 5 & 6 at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center at The Dalles, Oregon. I encourage your participation if you are interested in mapping any trail or segment.

**Dave Welch** and the convention planners are working hard to offer an excellent OCTA Convention experience. I hope you will attend in August and take part. Many are already looking forward to helping. You will want to "do it all."

The 3rd annual NW OCTA Fall Picnic will be held at Borst Park in Centralia, WA on September 18. **Joanne & Ralph Heinz** will present their program "Oregon Fever" in costume.

If you are interested in running for a position on the national OCTA Board, applications are being sought by the National Nominations & Leadership Committee.

Upcoming NW OCTA Board Meetings will be Sunday, September 19, 2004, 10:00 am-3:00 pm, Centralia, WA, (the day after the Chapter Picnic on the 18th in Borst Park) and Saturday, January 15, 2005, 10:00 am-3:00 pm, Albany, OR, (the day before a 2:00 pm program Mary Bywater Cross "The Ties that Bind: Quilts of Community").

- *Glenn Harrison*

## NATIONAL PRESIDENT RICHARD PINGREY CONCERNED ABOUT EDUCATION

An area of OCTA's activities that is of special interest to me as a former teacher and college administrator is our educational programs. I suspect this is also an important area of interest to many of you as well. **Bill Hill** is chairman of the OCTA Education Committee. Bill has done a very good job in this capacity but we have not given him the support and resources he should have for the task of fully developing our educational programs.

I am hopeful that our educational programs will become a very significant part of OCTA's over all activities. Perhaps we need to have a special meeting of OCTA leaders who share the interest in educational programs to develop a strategy for our over all educational activities and programs. As OCTA president I want to do all I can to make certain

OCTA's educational programs are second to none. Working together I am sure we can accomplish much. For the most part Bill has been left to carry out our educational programs with limited help. I hope we can change that and get many people involved in a variety of programs and projects that are related to education.

A copy of this letter is going to other OCTA members who have experience in the field of education. I am hopeful that many of them will contribute their ideas and their time to assist with this effort. I am sure there are many, many more people that would be willing to help if we simply ask them to participate.

- *Dick Pingrey National OCTA President*

# THE PEOPLE OF NWOCTA

## CHAPTER LOSES MEMBERS

OCTA has recently lost a charter member. **Dr. Richard Koch** of Pilot Rock passed away Oct. 12, 2003. As a testament to his impact on people, over 350 people came to his funeral. Some left because there was no room. He was a very generous man and very involved with local communities. He provided health care for many local people, even when they could not afford it. It is said that he forgave thousands of dollars during the years of his practice. He also sponsored students in higher education. Chief Jesse Jones of the Umatilla Reservation said that he quietly saved many people.

He had many interests. Sports and hunting with his black labs were among his favorite activities. He was also known to be a great practical joker.

His involvement with OCTA was mostly financial (as far as I've been able to find out), paying his dues and following activities through the newsletters and Overland Journals.

It was said that he delivered almost 2000 babies in his career. I feel honored that I was one of them.

- *Jenny Miller*

**Daryl Whiteley's** wife passed away Dec. 17, 2003. Most all members knew her. His address is 1708 East Street, Baker City 97814 (541) 523-2709. Joyce sent a card from the Chapter. She states, "it is sad when you have to purchase these cards 3 and 4 at a time."

## NATIONAL LOSSES

It is my very sad duty to tell you that **Bob Wier** passed away on October 31 at the age of 56. Bob had been suffering from liver disease for the last few years and recently he fell and broke his hip. Following hip replacement surgery, he contracted an infection and he was simply not able to fight it off.

As you all know, Bob was the technical genius behind OCTA's Internet presence. Bob and I "met" on the Internet, through a genealogy forum, in the late 1980s. Before long, we were plotting and scheming about how to bring OCTA into the Internet age. The Overland Trails list was our first venture in that direction, followed soon thereafter by the OCTA website. Everyone should be as lucky as I was to find such an amiable work partner.

Once again, sad news. Our great friend and wonderful trails champion, **Dr. Ron Lund**, died on December 30. Ron, who was president of Wyoming OCTA from 1990-1991 and again from 2000-2002, epitomized the concept of "gentleman." Anyone who was privileged to spend just one hour in his presence will never forget the kindness and compassion that filtered from the core of this delightful man. Incredibly distinguished in every aspect of his life, Ron rarely spoke of his many accomplishments, preferring instead to ask about your life and your achievements.

- *Lesley Wischmann*

**Jana Marshall**, wife of former OCTA president **Ross Marshall** of Kansas, was an able assistant to her husband and an active member in her own right.

## OCTA TO CREATE MEMORIAL FUND

**Travis Boley**, the new OCTA national manager writes "During the fourteen weeks that I've been on the job, OCTA members **Bob Wier, Ron Lund, Luis Escalante** and **Jana Marshall** passed away. OCTA members call HQ wondering if there's a memorial fund to which they can contribute in order to ensure the lasting memory of these fine people. I can tell from the numerous phone calls and emails I've received that these folks were well-liked and highly regarded. Although I joined the organization too late to meet these people, I feel like I know them somewhat from the comments that I hear and read. I know I certainly missed out by never having met them.

Though OCTA has long accepted memorials on behalf of deceased loved ones, there has never been an official outlet to accept such donations. We here at HQ are now pleased to announce that a memorial fund is in place. All such donations in the future will go into an endowment fund, meaning the principle will never be touched and the designee's legacy will live on in perpetuity.

In addition, all such memorials will be posted in the quarterly newsletter and on the website. A plaque will also hang in the HQ building in Independence that will forever memorialize deceased OCTA members. This plaque will be displayed at all OCTA conventions as well.

I am in the process of adding a new section to the website ([www.octa-trails.org](http://www.octa-trails.org)) as well. This will be the obituary section. If you would like to add an obituary to the site, please forward it to me at [tboley@indepmmo.org](mailto:tboley@indepmmo.org). An additional link at the end of each obituary will allow you to see a memorial to OCTA via a secure link with a credit card. Of course, you can still send a check or money order to HQ as well.

It's a difficult task that we face in overcoming the loss of these key individuals. But by memorializing and contributing to OCTA's endowment, you can ensure that the legacy of your loved ones continues on well into the future. Please look for more information on these upcoming programs in the next issue of *News from the Plains*."

This editor will be forwarding obituaries from the previous year's editions. If members wish to send their own or memorialize others who were not covered in the newsletter, feel free to contact Travis Boley at [octaassociationmanager@travis\\_boyce@hotmail.com](mailto:octaassociationmanager@travis_boyce@hotmail.com).

## ELECTION RESULTS

In mail-in elections, Northwest Chapter has elected a full slate of officers and a new board member. **Glenn Harrison** has been re-elected chapter president. **Jim Tompkins, Marley Shurtleff**, and **Joyce Bolerjack** have been re-elected vice-president, secretary, and treasurer respectively. **Rich Herman** was elected to the board of directors.

You are encouraged to inspect the left edge of page two of this newsletter. It has e-mail addresses for all officers as well as names of directors and trail preservation monitors.

# OUTINGS & ACTIVITIES

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NATIONAL CONVENTION: Red Lion Inn at the Quay and Fort Vancouver NHS Vancouver, WA

August 10-14

#### FORT VANCOUVER CONVENTION REPORT

All of the major pieces are in place for a spectacular OCTA National Convention in Vancouver, August 8 through 15. In addition to the normal complement of high quality tours, workshops, and lectures, we will present an expanded entertainment program.

Included are a diverse set of re-enactors and interpreters including **Carl Allen** as Woodie Guthrie, **Phil and Vivian Williams** "Fiddling on the Oregon Trail," **Susan Buttrille** on the women's trail perspective, **Tom Laidlaw** as the Hudson Bay Company's William Cannon, **Pat Courtney Gold** on the Native American's encounter with Lewis and Clark, and **Marv Ross and the Trail Band** with a new program of Oregon Trail and Lewis and Clark-era music.

**Lethene Parks** has put together an interesting and challenging set of workshops. On Tuesday there will be an all-day genealogy workshop with workshops on conventions and chapter development later in the day. Late Thursday afternoon we will have an on-site archeology workshop at Fort Vancouver as well as workshops on pioneer music, interpretive planning and the use of artifacts and replicas in teaching history.

Our concluding event, the barbecue, will be held on the grounds of the Fort Vancouver Historic Reserve at the Pearson Air Museum. Our venue looks out on the fort which will be highlighted by the setting sun as the evening proceeds. The museum will be open at no charge to all attendees.

Over 75 chapter members have volunteered to help at the convention. The tasks requiring the most people involve registration (**Muriel Carbiener**), chapter sales (**Joyce Bolerjack**) and the raffle/silent auction (**Suzanne Hornbuckle**). With many volunteers, the work periods will be short (probably two hours). If you have volunteered "to help where I can" they have your name and you will be contacted. However, don't hesitate to contact them directly if you want to help in one or more of these areas. All three will be located in or adjacent to the lobby.

Also, we still need volunteers to coordinate risk management, dispatch tours and support events such as collecting tickets. Please contact **Dave Welch** if you can help in any of these areas.

See you in August at Fort Vancouver. Roll On, Columbia, Roll On! - **Dave Welch** [welchdj@attbi.com](mailto:welchdj@attbi.com)

#### FALL PICNIC: Fort Borst Park, Centralia, WA September 18

Mark your calendars early for this post-convention blow-out. A pot-luck lunch is followed by an "Oregon Fever" presentation by **Joanne and Ralph Heinz**.

#### CONVENTION TEACHERS PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIPS

**Jenny Miller**, NW chapter board member and educator from Hermiston, is coordinating with **Keith May** of Pendleton in an experimental program at the Vancouver convention. Teachers can attend the convention, enjoy all of the activities members enjoy each summer, and get college credit in return. So, if you understand extension hours, salary placement credits, PDUs or Clock Hours, we have something for you.

The Heritage Institute of Antioch University of Seattle will certify 5 credit hours for teachers enrolled in this special "class." Teacher "students" must attend sessions and tours and then complete the required post-class work assigned by instructor **Keith May**, a previous OCTA Teacher of the Year for classes such as this.

In addition, the NW chapter has authorized five \$200 scholarships for selected teachers. Any Oregon or Washington teacher or substitute may apply by April 1st. Recipients will be selected on the basis of a statement they make on how they plan to use the knowledge gained in Vancouver this August.

It is possible that there may be more than the \$1000 NW chapter allocated for scholarships, as some businesses have agreed to match funds for teachers in their districts. Applications may be obtained by calling Jenny (541-567-2468) or Keith (541-276-8206) as soon as possible. All applicants will know of their scholarship status in time to fill out the convention registration packet.

#### TRAIL MAPPING WORKSHOP: Gorge Discovery Center The Dalles, OR June 5-6

**Vic Bolon** has arranged for this first ever chapter workshop on trail preservation. All trail monitors, potential trail monitors, trail mappers, persons helping place Carsonite or other trail markers, and just plain interested people are encouraged to attend.

Information about the need for this workshop can be found on page one of this newsletter.

Registration information will be included in the April newsletter. Mark Saturday June 5th and Sunday June 6th on your calendars now.

#### FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

Upcoming NW OCTA Board Meetings will be Sunday, September 19, 2004, 10:00 am-3:00 pm, Centralia, WA, (the day after the Chapter Picnic on the 18th in Borst Park) and Saturday, January 15, 2005, 10:00 am-3:00 pm, Albany, OR.

**The 2004 slate of outings will be announced at the March 13 Annual Meeting and advertised in the April newsletter.**

## OUTINGS & ACTIVITIES PREVIOUS EVENTS



*Free Emigrant Road  
marker placement  
October 10*



*Free Emigrant Road  
marker dedication  
October 11*

## FREE EMIGRANT ROAD SIGNING: Crescent Lake, OR October 10-11, 2003

On October 10 with a light snow covering the ground an historical marker was placed along a hiking trail near the parking lot on the south side of Crescent Lake. The October 11 dedication was attended by 50 people including 10 Elliott wagon train descendants and several OCTA members. Several people were recognized for their efforts to locate and preserve the memory of this trail and the people who traveled on this route over the Cascades and into the Willamette Valley. Following the dedication, 13 of us walked for five miles in the rain with snow on the ground along the Free Emigrant Road. It was like reliving some of the hardships encountered 150 years before.

## CHAUTAUQUA AT CHAMPOEG

Saturday, February 21 2:00 pm, **Pat Courtney Gold** - The Chinookan Nations Encounter the Corps of Discovery  
Saturday, March 20 2:00 pm, **Susan Butruille** - Westward I Go Free: Women & Freedom in the Frontier West  
Both at Champoeg State Heritage Area, OR. Free but \$3 parking.

## DIDN'T OREGON BEGIN AT SOUTH PASS?

In William T. Templeton - A Pioneer Family & Genealogy & History, we find an example of Jonathan Keeney's helpfulness. This was before Jonathan went searching for gold and operated his ferry on the Snake River. He was living near Brownsville, OR.

"When the family arrived in the Willamette Valley they stopped in Howell Prairie near Salem because the oxen could go no farther, and were cutting logs to build a shelter for the winter, when Jonathan Keeney, another good Missouri friend who came a year earlier heard of them and went down with fat oxen and said, 'Come on Billey you haven't reached Oregon yet', and brought them on to the Calapooia Valley, letting them live in a small cabin on his place and supplied them with fresh meat and flour. A real friend."

## KEEP TRACK OF VOLUNTEER HOURS

OCTA volunteers support the National Park Service efforts to increase public awareness, education, and enjoyment of the western migration trails. In return the NPS, through its Challenge - Cost Share Projects, provides funding so that OCTA members may mark and map these trails. Adequate NPS funding of these efforts is determined by Congress, and documented volunteer efforts can be expected to influence Congressional decisions.

Volunteer hours used to report to the NPS need not be restricted to trail marking. Writing for the newsletter, helping at the Vancouver convention, leading (not just participating in) NW chapter tours or hikes, or serving on the board are some forms of volunteering for the chapter as well as placing markers or mapping the trail.

All that is required, besides the volunteer work, is to keep track of the events, dates of volunteer activity, total hours volunteered (including planning, participation and travel to and from the event) for each activity, any non-reimbursed cost for food and lodging, and mileage getting to, during and returning from the event.

Contact **Chuck Hornbuckle** for information or report forms at 7245 118th Ave SW, Olympia, WA 98512 or e-mail him at [hornbucklecs@juno.com](mailto:hornbucklecs@juno.com).

# ANNOUNCING

The 2004 Annual Meeting of the Northwest Chapter  
of the Oregon-California Trails Association.

Held in Oregon City, Saturday March 13, from 10:00 Am to 3:00 PM,  
at the Clackamas County Historical Society's  
Museum of the Oregon Territory.

All members, potential members, and friends are encouraged to attend.  
If you bring a guest and they join National and Chapter at the meeting,  
you will receive a prize from the Chapter?

Please bring TWO raffle items - one for the Annual Meeting and another for the convention

**REPORTS OF CHAPTER ACTIVITIES**

**PERIOD CLOTHING DISPLAY**

**RAFFLE**

**BUFFET LUNCHEON**

**MUSEUM TOURS**

**SALE ITEMS FOR VANCOUVER CONVENTION**

**HEAR OCTA PRESIDENT DICK PINGREY AND MANAGER TRAVIS BOLEY**

**AUGUST FORT VANCOUVER CONVENTION NEWS**

*WHAT'S A SIGNATURE WORTH?*

**PHOTOGRAPHIC PRESENTATION BY JAMES HENDERSON**

**\$12 registration includes all activities.**

**\$16 registration includes all activities and luncheon.**

*Please fill out the following coupon, clip it and send it in by March 1st.*

## 2004 ANNUAL MEETING Registration

Number of people in party \_\_\_\_\_

Registration for meeting and program only \_\_\_\_\_ at \$12 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration for meeting, program, and luncheon \_\_\_\_\_ at \$16 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

[meat and cheese sandwich buffet, broccoli and potato salads, desserts, and soft drink]

**Nametags should read:**

We need a firm count **before** the meeting, so **please** remit the above amount to NWOCTA and mail to  
**Joyce Bolerjack**

10813 NE 20th  
Bellevue, WA 98004-2907

**To assure a seat and lunch, please respond by March 1st**

Please bring two raffle items - one for the Annual Meeting and another for the convention