

# MOUNTAINS TO *Sound*

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**The 10th Anniversary Mountains to Sound March: Crossing the Raging River while hiking from Snoqualmie Point to Preston on the 7th day of the 10-day trek from Thorp to Seattle in July.**

# 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mountains to Sound March



## BLESSED BY GREAT WEATHER, HEALTHY HIKERS AND GOOD FOOD

In keeping with a 10-day run of good fortune, the rains held off on the final day of the Greenway 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary March until the dignitaries had spoken and the crowd at the Seattle waterfront were given cheers and a last farewell. Then, for the first time in several weeks, it poured.

Good fortune dogged every mile of the 130-mile trek across the mountains for 60 hikers who made the entire journey and many others who joined for one or more days. The Year 2000 event, which took place on July 13-22, commemorated the 1990 March that led to the organization of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. The 2000 March also celebrated 10 years of successful work by the public, private and individual partners in the Trust, to set aside a beautiful and accessible piece of the northwest landscape as population booms in the Puget Sound region. Press coverage of the March, east and west of Snoqualmie Pass, highlighted the scenic and recreational assets along the Interstate 90 National Scenic Byway. Just before the March began, the Washington State Department of Transportation installed new Greenway marker signs at eleven locations along I-90.

The 130-mile March was conceived of by Ken Konigsmark, a Boeing loaned executive who has served as Greenway Special Project Director for seven years. Konigsmark raised the funds to support the March and, assisted by Margaret Macleod, Ralph Owen and Doug Schindler, planned logistics for every aspect of the event. That included detailed scouting of the hike route, transportation for people and camping gear every day, breakfast, lunch and dinner for the marchers, live entertainment at every evening camp site, participation by mayors and dignitaries at several stops, development

of a fund to enable more young people to participate and provision of personal energy and enthusiasm to get from 60 to 100 people moving each day.

“Two years ago when Ken thought of this event, we all thought he might be finally biting off just a bit more than he could chew,” says Greenway President Jim Ellis. “But you can never say that about Ken Konigsmark. He pulled off an incredible feat and all the participants agree it was a masterpiece.”

The March included the option of a four-day ride on horse drawn wagons, from Thorp to Tinkham Campground. Day Four began at Hyak with a send-off from US

Senator Slade Gorton who then walked with his family and the marchers through the 2.3-mile Snoqualmie tunnel on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail.

Twenty young people participated in the March, nine with the support of REI. The March was also supported on a daily basis by Doug Schindler, Amy Glaub, Nancy Keith and Amy Brockhaus of the Greenway staff; teacher

Chris Broderick; caterer Joe Schindler; Simon Jaynes, R.A. Arancio-Parrain and Gibran Ramos from the environmental restoration organization EarthCorps; Deb Balogh delivering morning coffee donated by Starbucks and Mike Yaeger, a public relations intern from Central Washington University.

Major donors to the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary March were: **REI, the Mountaineers Foundation, Puget Sound Energy, Cougar Mountain East Village, the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, Weyerhaeuser, Green Trails Maps, Mountainstar Resort, Talking Rain, Bay Pavilion at Pier 57, Cadman, Inc., Honey Bucket, Opus Northwest, Issaquah Arts Commission, EarthCorps (formerly Cascadia Quest and the King County World Conservation Corps), Booth Creek Ski Holdings and Issaquah Kiwanis.**

“

Some of my favorite moments on the March were talking to the adults. They would listen to what you had to say. One conversation I remember was with Kristi McClelland. We talked about the Greenway, the environment and logging. She talked to me as an equal not as a kid.

Eric Messerschmidt, 14

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# JULY 13 KICK-OFF IN THORP

Marchers had their choice of a wagon train, biking or hiking along the John Wayne Pioneer Trail for the first four days of the March.



Morris Jenkins, left, Kittitas County historian, helped Master of Ceremonies Phil Backlund, Central Washington University, begin the March festivities at the Thorp Grist Mill on July 13.

“

Life goes on everyday as we take for granted all of the possessions we have, the friends we've made. We think we are happy living in our 'cookie cutter' houses with our 'cookie cutter' jobs. We look to the hills and see nothing except how much farther we have to drive on the highway. But then, we take a different turn on this road of life. We meet new people and all of a sudden, the hills are valued and become a challenge and no longer viewed as an obstacle.

Mike Adams, 16

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It was dirty, grimy, dusty, painful and hot and buggy and I loved every minute of it. I think I will invest \$\$ in Moleskin.

Barb Bratlie

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“ The 10-day hike rocked! I made new friends, great views. The bad thing is the blisters, but I had a good time and I'd do it again.

Ted Griffin, 13 ”

This was the second Mountains to Sound March for Greenway Trust Founder and Board Secretary Ted Thomsen and his wife, Gretchen.

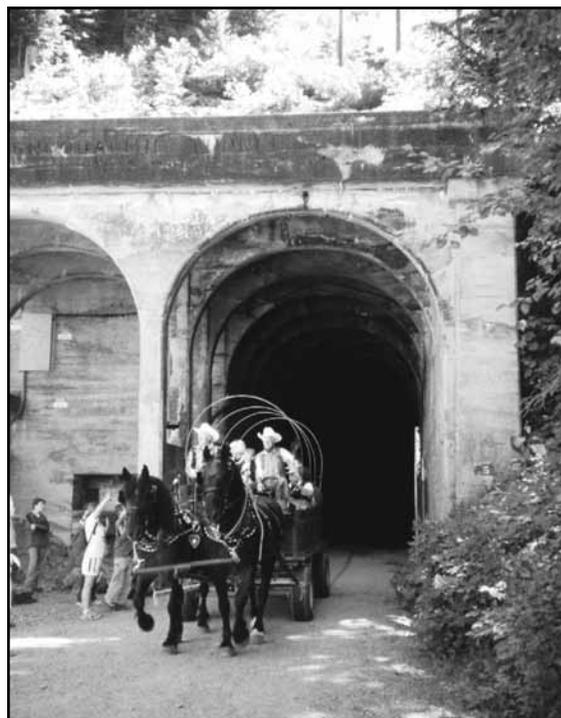


Nightly entertainment for the Marchers, and often the public, began with Wylie and the Wild West, a yodeling cowboy band, playing at Fireman's Park in South Cle Elum.

# SNOQUALMIE PASS - GREAT MOUNTAIN VIEWS AND THE TUNNEL!



*Hyak campground.*



*Snoqualmie Tunnel on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail in Iron Horse State Park.*

“ The porta-potties mounted on the wagon added a new dimension to bathroom etiquette. The occasional bump on the trail was inspiration and led to speedy action. We had some wonderful teenagers on the March. Their determination and grit while pounding out the miles was inspiring. I was particularly delighted with how the youngsters and the senior members interrelated.

Howard Carlin

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*Youth volunteers who have done environmental restoration work in the Greenway were invited to participate in the March thanks to support from REI. From left, Ariane Lotti, Ted Griffin, Nick Klacsanzky, Mike Adams, Chris Klacsanzky, Jeff Shane, Jeff Ligda and Sean Bishop.*



*Deb Balogh, left, brought hot coffee donated by Starbucks to sleepy-eyed Marchers each morning. Seattle City Councilwoman Jan Drago, right, hiked with her two grandsons.*

“ I walked for awhile with the State Park Ranger John and he suggested we share his bike and trade off riding and walking. He said we could leave the bike on the trail for the next one to pick up. Well, I was walking and talking and absent-mindedly walked right by the bike. When he didn't see me with it, he called Ken and he spotted it and put it in the wagon. Surprisingly, the next day, John loaned me the bike for the whole day through the Snoqualmie tunnel and down to the Tinkham campsite. That was a life-saver for me because my feet had gotten really sore walking from Easton to Hyak. That day on the bike enabled me to finish the March all the way into Seattle.

Steve Haeck

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*Ralph Owen, hike leader and renowned trail builder.*

“ In the 10-day hike, the most valuable and meaningful event was the connection with the wilderness. Being in the wilderness that long gives you a connection you can't find anywhere else – connections to the feeling of nature's soul. It's pain, spirit and many emotions. On the Greenway, you are no longer separate from it, you're its friend, its support, its watcher. You can learn much knowledge in the wilderness. I recommend spending time alone in the natural state of beauty – the forest.

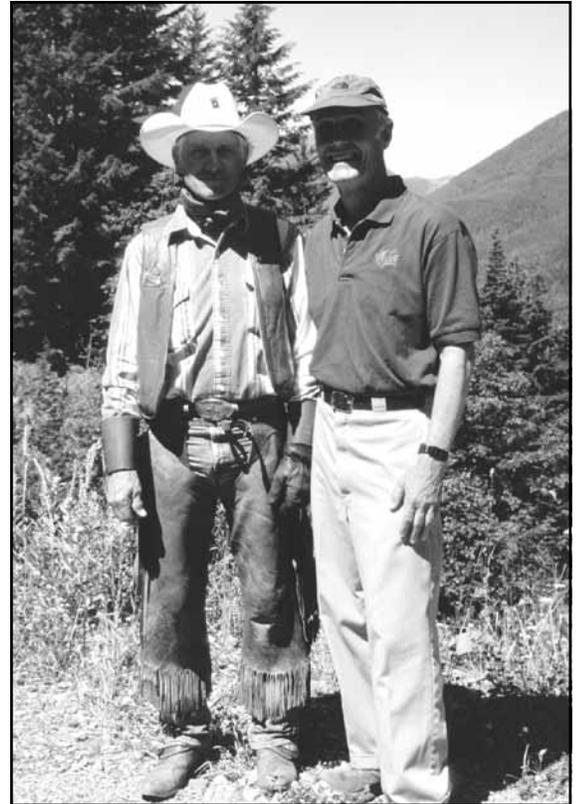
Nick Klacsanzky, 15

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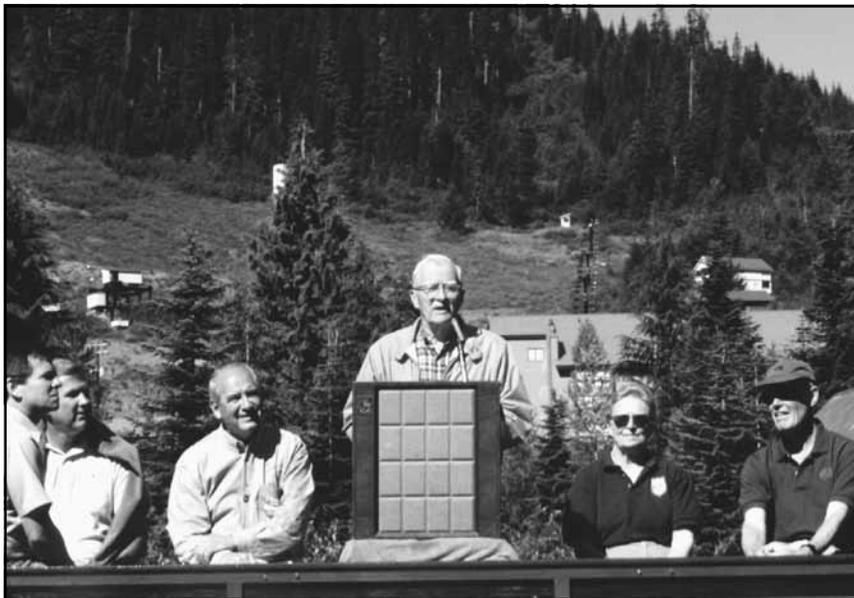
“ The Camaraderie among the group was GREAT! New and old friends sharing stories of blisters and bruises while still smiling and marching onward made the difficult trek not so bad after all. Super organizing, fun kinds of entertainment, and of course excellent dinners. Walking onto Pier 57 for the music and fanfare was a great way to end the event and to tell the others, 'See you next time!' Having the Greenway along our mountain freeway is the best way to say, 'This is our way to make tomorrow a better day.'

Carol Madison

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*"Happy Jack" Price, wagonmaster, left, enjoys the views near Snoqualmie Pass with U.S. Senator Slade Gorton.*



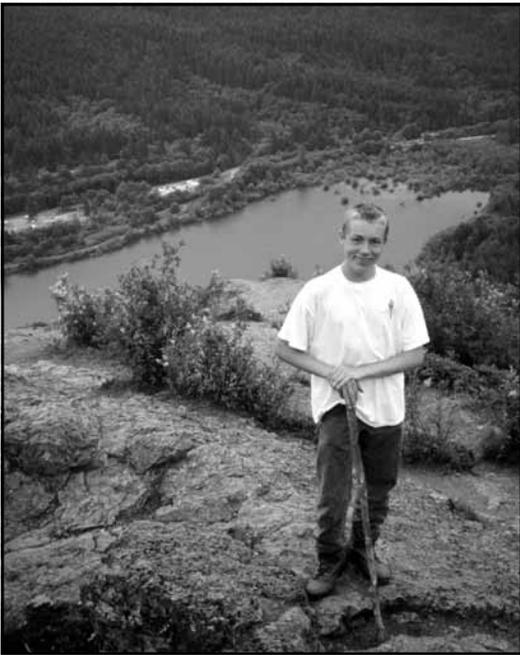
*Greenway President Jim Ellis addresses the Marchers on July 16. Seated on the wagon are, from left, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Supervisor John Phipps, King County Councilmember Larry Phillips, Snoqualmie Pass resident David Black, State Parks Commissioner Joan Thomas and U.S. Senator Slade Gorton.*

SEVEN PEOPLE WALKED EVERY STEP OF THE 130-MILE HIKE: RALPH OWEN, CAROL MADISON, RALPH O'MEARA, SEAN BISHOP, CHRIS KLACSANZKY, NICK KLACSANZKY AND ERIC MESSERSCHMIDT.



*Dinner each night was quite a spread! Christie's Catering provided a Hawaiian dinner at Rattlesnake Lake. RA, left, and Simon, upper right, take a break from hauling Marchers' gear to have dinner.*

# MARCHERS CROSS RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN AND THE ISSAQUAH ALPS



“ Days spent walking in sunny glades, shaded trails and stretches of road, up early in the morning...doesn't sound like what a teenager should enjoy. But this has been the best ten days of my life...

Sean Bishop, 15

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*Ray Mullen, Kimberly Larkin and John Mullen of the Snoqualmie Tribe performed traditional music at Snoqualmie Point.*

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..I pressed forward along the narrow trail toward my destiny: the peaks of Tiger Mountain. The blood coursed through my veins, my spirit soared. I was at peace. I was at one with nature; looking in awe at the beautiful world around me. ...as I bounded forward to the top of the mountain. Finally I reached the peak. As I gazed out across the land, 2,000 feet below, I realized that this was a moment I would remember for the rest of my life.

Jeff Ligda, 17

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*Mike Adams and Eric Messerschmidt enjoyed a square dance in Preston.*

“ There was such really good positive energy the whole time. More camaraderie than I've ever dealt with; no bickering or quarrelling at all. The fun of it got us going time and again. When the Sousa marches were played by the band at Snoqualmie Point camp, Doug McClelland got us all up and marching around and being silly, when we thought we were too tired to do a thing. The same was true with the square dancing at Preston. We all had blisters and Paul told me he just didn't dance, but that caller got us up and moving and Paul danced to the end. He said his wife would be so excited because now he could dance with her.

Sandy Gildroy

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*Lunch on top of Tiger Mountain.*

# JULY 22 - THE FINAL DAY ON THE SEATTLE WATERFRONT



One of two grandparent/grandkid teams, Joy Peterson, 74, and Natalie Kach, 11.

“ Doug and I enjoyed the March so much – thank you to all the Greenway staff. From someone who has only been camping once and has not done a lot of long hikes, I am looking forward to participating in the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary March.

Lita Swanson

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Ken Konigsmark, loaned to the Greenway Trust by the Boeing Company, had the idea for the March and carried it out. "I hope everyone involved is as proud as I am of what we did...130 miles in ten days, overcoming blisters, bonding together, and creating enthusiasm to sustain the Greenway for another decade," says Ken. He was doused by some enthusiastic Marchers at the final celebration.



“ I asked one of the men who had hiked the entire hike what his favorite day was. He said he wanted to think about this and found me an hour later. He said it wasn't that he had a favorite day. Instead, was incredibly impressed with how every need he had was fulfilled shortly after he thought of it – whether it was for drinks, food, entertainment, bandaids, etc. When I relayed this to Ken, his response was, "Well, that's what a year and a half of planning can do."

Sally Luttrell-Montes

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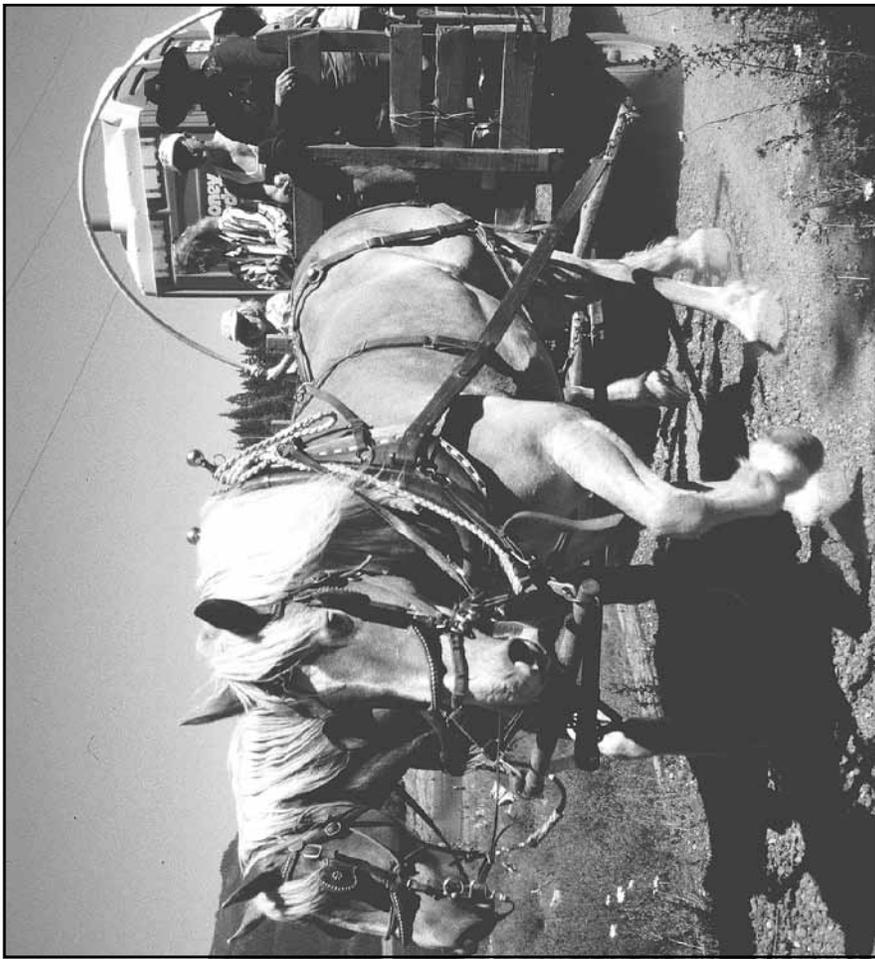


Seattle Mayor Paul Schell addressed the Marchers at the ending celebration on the waterfront. Holding the Greenway banner are Rory Stanley, left, and Geoffrey Morgan at Bay Pavilion, Pier 57 on the waterfront.



The final group celebration at the Sound. Over 100 people Marched on Day Ten.

# MOUNTAINS TO Sound



**History in the Making:** The 10th Anniversary Mountains to Sound March brought hikers, bikers and wagon trains across the length of the Mountains to Sound Greenway. From Thorp to the Seattle waterfront, participants traveled for 10 days and 130 miles. Here, Prince and Noah, with drivers Carla and Deanna, pull the most important wagon of all - the one with the Honey Buckets!

**Mountains to Sound Greenway Mission:** Protect and enhance scenic beauty, recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat, historic communities and healthy economies in a multi-purpose Greenway along Interstate 90 from the shores of Puget Sound over the Cascade Mountains to the Kittitas Valley foothills. Help make this human and natural heritage visible and accessible to all people.

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