

# MOUNTAINS TO *Sound*

Volume 8, Number 1

March, 2001



King County Executive Ron Sims (center) was proud of two of his staff members, Faith Roland and Mark Sollitto, who took home awards of merit at the annual Greenway celebration in December. Sims was Master of Ceremonies.

# Hall of Fame Grows and Permanent Green Embraces I-90

**K**ing County Executive **Ron Sims** led the review and applause for dozens of successful projects and initiatives at the annual Greenway celebration dinner in early December at the Museum of History and Industry in Seattle. Ceremonies concluded with the addition of five new names to the Greenway Hall of Fame and presentation of six Certificates of Special Merit to individuals and organizations that are protecting and enhancing the open space corridor along I-90.

Hall of Fame Awards were presented in two categories. Named as Greenway Builders were **US Senator Slade Gorton**, recognized for his skill and commitment in supporting federal programs to protect important natural and scenic lands in the Greenway; and **State Lands Commissioner Jennifer Belcher**, for courageous and creative leadership of the Department of Natural Resources.

Hall of Fame Pathfinder Awards were given to Greenway Trust Founder **Ted Thomsen** for his bold vision in seeing that the trails he loved needed to be part of a bigger Greenway; to **Martin Rosen**, founder of the national Trust for Public Land, who supported the



*Boeing Senior Vice President John Warner, center, was joined by loaned executive Ken Konigsmark, right, as he accepted Boeing's Greenway Hall of Fame award from President Jim Ellis.*

early days of the Greenway Trust with the resources of his Seattle staff and national organization; and the **Boeing Company**, for the breadth and depth of its donations to support creation of the Greenway, setting, "...an inspiring example of corporate leadership and individual citizenship..."

## Boeing Sends Surprise Announcement

Boeing Senior Vice President **John Warner** accepted the award

for the company and surprised the crowd of 200 people by announcing that Boeing's donation of Ken Konigsmark in the company's Loaned Executive Program, would be continued "...for as long as Ken wants to work for the Greenway." Konigsmark has been loaned, full time to the Greenway Trust for the past seven years. He has been a dynamic member of the Trust staff as Special Projects Director and was the creator and leader of last summer's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary March. Konigsmark was flabbergasted and delighted at the extension of a job he thought would end with the year 2000.

Greenway President Jim Ellis presented Certificates of Merit to **Mark Sollitto**, North Bend Council Member and head of King County's innovative Transfer of Development Credits Program; **Everett White**, chief negotiator for the US Forest Service of land exchanges that protect the forests of the future; **Faith Roland**, creative and tenacious open space land acquisition specialist with the King County Department of Natural Resources; **EarthCorps**, represented by Pieter Bohlen and Robin Clark, for the development of a global program for environmental restoration and education and the **Washington Trails Association**, for creating and expanding an outstanding volunteer program making a large contribution to outdoor recreation across Washington State.

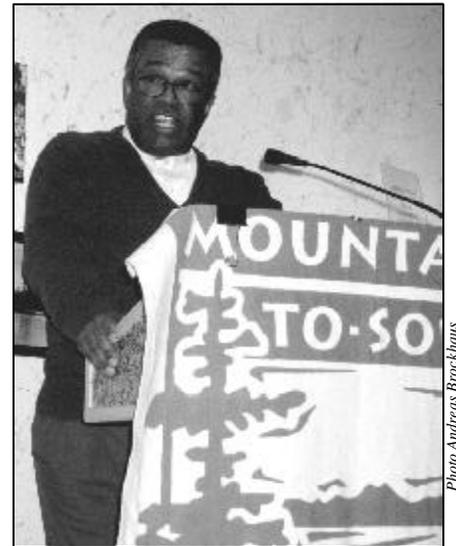
Another Certificate of Merit went to Undersecretary of Agriculture **James Lyons** who came from Washington, D.C. for the Greenway celebration. He was recognized for advocating multi-entity partnerships for the Forest Service and effectively implementing the Forest Legacy Program which has brought federal funds to help preserve working forests along I-90.

## Protected Lands Turn the Map Green

A 20-foot map of the Greenway from Seattle to Thorp is the focal point of each Greenway celebration. As forest, farm and open space lands are protected from conversion to urban uses, they change from white to green on the map. A variety of public land purchases and one huge land exchange were highlights of the evening.

Rural Preston was the focus of many open space successes. In the past two years, the industrial-zoned Parcel B has been purchased by King County and four other properties on the edge of I-90 have been optioned and purchased by the Trust for Public Land, (TPL) thanks to the work of project manager **Kent Whitehead**. TPL is in the process of selling each property to King County Parks which has tapped funds from various public sources.

On stage for applause for their work on these parcels were King County Council Member **Louise Miller**, Citizens Open Space Committee member **Carol James**, Preston Arboretum founder **Susan Bond**, State Department of Natural Resources administrator **Clay**



*M.C. Ron Sims, King County Executive, told the audience, "these lands being added to public ownership are not just Greenway building blocks, they give us and the people of the future the kind of insurance policy for a healthy environment that only such large forests can provide."*

**Sprague**, Forest Service representative **Ray Abriel** from Portland and **Faith Roland**, King County Department of Natural Resources (KCDNR).

Little Leaguer **Jacob McClelland** came up to share credit with Master of Ceremonies **Ron Sims** and Cascades Land Conservancy Director **Gene Duvernoy** for preserving two significant properties for ballfields in Preston.

Duvernoy was a key player in another huge open space victory, helping County Council Member **Larry Phillips** and county staffer **Mark Sollitto** reveal the 423-acre Grand Ridge – Mitchell Hill Connector, achieved through the county's new Transfer of Development Credits Program and supported by the City of Issaquah and the Port Blakely Development Company.

**Brad Pruitt**, State DNR administrator of the federal Forest Legacy Program, was applauded for his crucial role in the success of many Preston transactions, including acquisition of the forested, 53-acre Leong property, just north of town on the Raging River.

Sims then congratulated his Parks Director **Craig Larson** for acquisition of the 120-acre Clay Pit, the last, big in-holding in Cougar Mountain Wildland Park, south of I-90 between Bellevue and Issaquah.

A spirited cheer went up for public purchase of a huge private parcel in the middle of Tiger Mountain. State Lands Commissioner **Jennifer Belcher** was given personal credit for decisive action in buying the long-desired, 640 acres of Section 12.

#### Gorton's Support Seen Everywhere

Throughout the evening, Sims recognized the role of **Senator Slade Gorton** in many Greenway projects. The Senator was in Washington, D.C., but his daughter **Sarah** and granddaughter **Betsy Nortz**



*Everett White, left, acquisitions officer for the U.S. Forest Service, is joined by a happy Mark Boyar of the citizens group MidFORC, to reveal 556 acres of public acquisitions on scattered parcels in the Middle Fork Valley of the Snoqualmie River. Gene Duvernoy of the Cascades Land Conservancy also played a key role.*



*Elizabeth Lunney, executive director of the Washington Trails Association, accepted an Award of Merit from President Jim Ellis for her organization's large contribution of labor and planning to build and maintain trails in the Greenway and across the state.*

nized for the 32,000 acre public acquisition were **Charlie Raines** of the Sierra Club Checkerboard Project, **Everett White** of the Forest Service, **Mike Yeager** of Plum Creek Timber and Undersecretary of Agriculture for the Forest Service, **Jim Lyons**.

The role of "most spectacular land save" of the past two years was given to Snoqualmie Point on Rattlesnake Mountain and again, Gorton was recognized for a crucial role. His allocation of \$10-million from the Land and Water Conservation Fund enabled the Trust for Public Land to purchase 130 acres just a minute from I-90. This vantage point provides 180-degree views of the front range of the Cascades, from Mt. Baker on the north to the Snoqualmie Summit on the east. "This view is unmatched anywhere in Western Washington," Sims said. He hailed Snoqualmie

City Administrator **Gary Armstrong**, **Peter Scholes** and **Tom Tyner** who negotiated for The Trust for Public Land, **Undersecretary Lyons** and **White** from the Forest Service and Senator Gorton's granddaughter **Betsy Nortz**, for the spectacular addition to the Greenway.

#### More to the Greenway than Lands

Sims told the crowd that the Greenway Concept Plan, developed in 1993, had envisioned a variety of landmarks and projects carried out by people all along the corridor. "Tonight, we have plenty of great things being done by Greenway partners," he said.

**Marie Ruby** of the Seattle Public Utilities Cedar River Watershed was recognized for major renovations at the popular Rattlesnake Lake recreation area and for current development of a watershed interpretive center at the lake. **David MacDuff** from development firm Intracorp was joined by Greenway Board member **Joanna Buehler** for credit in building huge public open space and water quality protections into the new Cougar Mountain East Village housing development. Buehler helped represent Greenway goals in the four-year planning of the development.

Another development project along the 100-mile Greenway corridor was recognized when **Mike Moyar** of Trendwest Resorts

**"Living with Carnivores"**  
**Workshop - Issaquah High School, 700 2nd Ave. SE, Issaquah**  
**Thursday, March 22, 6-9 p.m.**

A free public information presentation by wildlife experts on bears, cougars, wolves and coyotes, providing insights on biology and behavior of each carnivore plus tips to minimize conflict with each. The workshop is sponsored by US Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, USDA Wildlife Services, Defenders of Wildlife, Wolf Haven International, NW Ecosystem Alliance and Insight Wildlife Management. Contact Julie Palmquist, 360.264.4695 or [julie@wolfhaven.org](mailto:julie@wolfhaven.org).

added trees to the map to reflect the proposed resort's commitment to significant buffers on the Cle Elum River and for sponsorship of a tree planting along I-90. Right on the highway, at 13 places, the state Department of Transportation has added Greenway logo trailblazer signs and Regional DOT Administrator **John Okamoto** enjoyed a round of applause for the continuing support of his agency and staff for Greenway projects.

The popular Issaquah Fish Hatchery is being improved with better design and extensive educational displays and **Steve Bell**, Executive Director of Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery was recognized for his work to improve all elements of the hatchery program. Support for the program also came from former and current state legislators **Kathleen Drew** and **Dino Rossi**.

**It's About the Future; It's About the Past**

The Greenway plan urges preservation of the unique history of local communities amidst growth and change. Two big projects completed in 2000 visibly advanced that goal. In Kittitas County, eight interpretive signs detailing the local history of a specific place have been installed, thanks to a grant from the Washington Forest Protection Association. The Kittitas signs make a total of 24 history signs funded by WFPA since 1993. WFPA consultant **John Giese** was applauded for his energetic and creative role in supporting the idea within WFPA and seeing the projects through as an advisor. **Nancy**

Summit citizens, led by **Patti Murphy**, joined forces with the Greenway Trust, WFPA, Puget Sound Energy, the WSDOT, Webb Moffett, Booth Creek Ski Holdings and the Mountaineers Foundation, to fund and build a community Welcome Kiosk that devotes 60 square feet to the history of the Summit. **Jerry Schutz** of WSDOT, **Dave Moffett**, **Sue McLain** of Puget Sound Energy and **Del Fadden** of the Mountaineers Foundation joined Giese and Rottle in accepting congratulations. Adding

to the festivity, the partners received a state WSDOT Heritage Corridors award for Best 2000 Partnership and **Bobbie Garver** from WSDOT handed out crystal award plaques to each participant.

**Important Trail Links Make it into Plans**

For two years, the Greenway Trust has been working to link the I-90 trail system that ends on Beacon Hill to the Seattle waterfront through a maze of freeway overpasses, streets and train tracks. The apparent solution to the tangle turned up in a proposed overpass highway, SR 519, designed to get trucks off I-90 and I-5 and efficiently to the Port of Seattle. In May, 2000, the

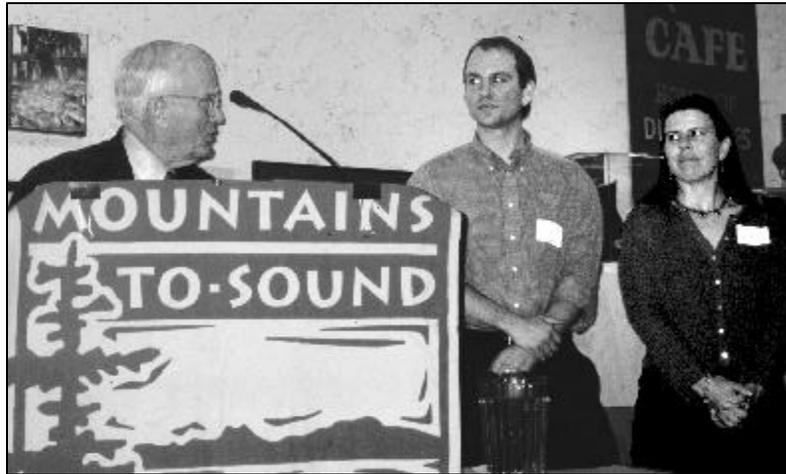


Photo: Andreas Brackhaus

*EarthCorps Leaders Robin Clark and Pieter Bohlen accept Certificates of Special Merit for their organization which has built an international environmental restoration program for young people who work on many Greenway projects.*

many jurisdictional partners in this planning effort signed a Memorandum of Agreement that includes a Greenway trail link in the project design. It also includes two "Mountains to Sound" plazas where the trail touches down near Alaskan Way. Sims recognized WSDOT Administrator **John Okamoto** and Seattle Transportation trails specialist **Pete Lagerwey** for their tenacious support of the Greenway trail plan.

Lagerwey was joined by Seattle Parks Superintendent **Ken Bounds** for applause on successful grant applications for the Greenway trail system and for the success of Seattle's recent \$200-million bond issue to add to and support city parks and trails.

To recognize the success of the Greenway Trust Environmental Education Program in reaching over 4000 King County students and 71 teachers, Sims recognized the program director **Sally Luttrell-Montes** and program sponsors **Bonnie Bunning** of the state DNR and **Don Thieler** from King County.

**Trail-builders Recognized**

Many groups are joining Greenway volunteers to develop a network of trails in the scenic corridor along I-90. The three-mile Squak Mountain Access Trail connecting with downtown Issaquah generated applause for **Steve Dubiel** of EarthCorps, **Greg Ball** of Washington Trails Association, **Steve Drew** of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, **Jennifer Thomas** from State Parks, **Steve Williams** from King County Parks and **Margaret Macleod**, Interagency Trails Coordinator. Williams, Dubiel and Ball were also applauded for completing a trail link in Coal Creek Park.

**Gary Wivag** came to the party from Cle Elum to put a boot on the Greenway map for his work chairing the Coal Mines Trail Commission and guiding major, visible improvements on the 6-mile trail between Cle Elum, Roslyn and Ronald. Greenway advisor and historian **Morris Jenkins** was also recognized for his compilation of upper Kittitas County history in a trail guide booklet.

**10th Anniversary March Spurs Many Trail Improvements**

When it came time to celebrate the many improvements on the



Photo: Ken Konigsmark

*Marie Ruby points to plans for the new Seattle Watershed Interpretive Center at Rattlesnake Lake. She was recognized in at the annual celebration for heading design and construction of the new educational facility and overseeing improvements at Rattlesnake Lake.*

**Rottle** of Jones and Jones Landscape Architects was also congratulated as the chief designer of the signs which recently won a national award from the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Of all the history signs along the Greenway, the biggest was also finished in 2000 thanks to a four-year partnership. Snoqualmie

Greenway backbone John Wayne Pioneer Trail in Iron Horse State Park, the audience was reminded of the difficult old days with a picture of the gaping hole in the trestle that used to make the Hall Creek crossing a major obstacle. The next slide showed the new trestle in place with bicyclists and hikers sailing across the smoothly decked and railed trestle. State Parks Assistant Director **Larry Fairleigh** was applauded for this improvement as well as new decks and railings all along the trail, four new campsites installed and an extensive series of trail orientation and historic interpretive signs from Cedar Falls to Ellensburg.

The John Wayne Pioneer Trail lies on the abandoned rail bed of the Milwaukee Road and a new citizens group has sprung up with great success to restore the railroad's depot in South Cle Elum. **Russ Holter** and **Donovan Grey** were recognized as the leaders of the non-profit Friends of the South Cle Elum Depot. Both the depot project and the state parks interpretive signs were made possible in part by donations from Puget Sound Energy and Puget executive **Jerry Henry** was warmly applauded for his company's support of Greenway projects.

Henry stayed on stage and was joined by **George Graham**, CEO of Asplundh Tree Company, standing in for regional manager **Mic Kavan** to take credit for Puget's and Asplundh's continuing donation of financial and labor support of the annual Day in the Greenway. Asplundh crews and equipment perform large-scale maintenance work on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail and Puget Sound Energy funds the annual volunteer's picnic.

**Robin Hansen** of Cadman was applauded for her company's donation of many thousands of tons of delivered gravel used in Greenway volunteer projects.

### Logging Roads Keep Disappearing

The latest achievements of Greenway volunteers in taking out and re-vegetating abandoned logging roads were honored. In 1999, the crew of young people, guided and supervised by specialists from EarthCorps, moved from the visible Zorro roads above the Middle Fork Valley to the back side of Mailbox Peak. This Greenway program is funded by King County's Wastewater Treatment Division as part of the Biosolids Forestry Program. Funding comes from the savings to King County when it recycles EPA-approved biosolids close by on the Weyerhaeuser Snoqualmie Tree Farm, making the timber company another key supporter of the summer youth work.

In 2000, for the first time, Greenway volunteers worked on US Forest Service land in the Hansen Creek valley south of I-90, removing three miles of abandoned and eroding roads and re-vegetating with biosolids compost and grass. They will return in a year to plant trees on the restored hillside. Sims welcomed Forest Supervisor **John Phipps**, District Ranger **Rudy Edwards** and Forest Service hydrologist **Karen Bergeron** as new partners in the six-year road-removal partnership. He also recognized the crucial role played by the field project supervisors from EarthCorps, represented by **Robin Clark**. Joining them on stage were volunteers **Eric Messerschmidt** and **Christine**



*The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Greenway celebration ended with a big surprise for Trust President Jim Ellis, right. Instead of handing out the awards, he received one from his board and staff. Sims was joined by Trust Executive Director Nancy Keith, center. Ellis was proclaimed the Greenway Hero of the Decade for teaching them to "wear Seven League boots, leap intractable obstacles, save majestic mountains, rescue threatened forests, fish and wildlife and never give up!"*

**Reed** from the Youth Volunteer Corps.

### Biggest-Yet Outdoor Projects Mark 2000

Between January and July of 2000, hundreds of people were drawn out into the Greenway corridor on two large projects. From January through April, people of all ages joined the "200,000 Trees in 2000" campaign which exceeded the planting goal in just four months. MC

**Ron Sims** was joined by County Council member **Larry Phillips** for recognition of the county's monetary and staff support of the project that planted 230,000 conifer seedlings in King County parks and open space lands. Along with county support, Greenway Trust field program manager **Doug Schindler** gathered support from the national organizations American Forests and the National Tree Trust. (American Forests' Global ReLeaf program is



*Photo Doug Schindler*

*Bellevue High School students were among hundreds of volunteers of all ages that put the "200,000 Trees in 2000" project over the top in its planting goal and made it the largest volunteer planting project in the United States.*

sponsored by local retailer Eddie Bauer.) Again, EarthCorps field staff members supervised the many days of planting and **Betsy Adams** and **Amanda Wendt** joined Sims and Phillips for applause.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary March Across the Greenway was the second unique event of 2000.

Conceived and led by staff member **Ken Konigsmark**, this 10-day trek across the Cascades from Thorp to the Seattle waterfront engaged over 100 people in some or all of the hike. Major supply and logistics needs were supported by financial donations from REI, Puget Sound Energy, Cougar Mountain East Village, Mountaineers Foundation, Issaquah Alps Trails Club, Cadman Inc., Weyerhaeuser, Mountainstar Resort, Booth Creek Ski Holdings and Opus Northwest.

Capping off the spirit of the evening, Konigsmark in full trail gear, leaped to the middle of the stage and used a bullhorn to roust all the Marchers in the audience to one final version of the official 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Marching song. In this spirit of enthusiasm and song, Sims and Trust President **Jim Ellis** bestowed Hall of Fame awards and Certificates of Merit.

*Photo Andreas Brockhaus*

## MARCH MEMORIES

The burnished gold of Easton grasses glowing in the morning sun  
The cool gray mist curling round the upper reaches of Rattlesnake Ledge



### HIKING

The pounding lyrics of "Cows With Guns" echoing off Issaquah windows  
The harp and flute delicately plaiting their themes to the cries of the loon

The tortured toes bound up for yet another day

The relieved smiles of the swimmers floating in Lake Washington

The miles of flat, flat feet on trail, step after step, heel and toe

The steep, switchbacking trails winding up from the lakes and through the hills

The making of sandwiches Rush! Eat breakfast! Rush! Get lunch!  
The waiting for dinner Rush! Get in line, Ahhh! More delicious than before

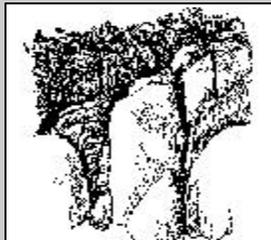
The thunder of I-90 and horse hooves in the tunnel  
The lark singing to waken us

The remote quiet of the eastern slopes  
The bustle of the city streets

The Greenway

- Dianne Hoff, Greenway Board Member, written after the 130-mile, 10th Anniversary Mountains to Sound March, July 2000

Some twenty thousand years ago the Puget Sound area was visited by a series of glacial advances and retreats. A huge megaglaciar from Canada, the Fraser River ice-sheet, filled Puget Sound and then worked its way up the Cascade river valleys to meet glaciers coming down from the mountains.



### ROCKS

The advancing glacier stopped above just North Bend where all of the rivers of the Western Cascades coursed around the edge of the huge ice dam, dumping their gravel. As the glaciers advanced and retreated over thousands of years, a series of

lakes formed behind the gravel dams and periodically broke through — filling the Upper Snoqualmie Valley with gravel hundreds of feet deep.

About twelve thousand years ago, when the ice sheet retreated to the area we now call Snoqualmie Falls, it paused for a geological while. All of the Cascade rivers to the north were rushing through what is now the Tokul Creek drainage basin and around the margins of the ice-sheet, bringing gravel with them. As this gravel built up, it filled the original riverbed of the Snoqualmie and forced the stream over on to bedrock — blocking it from returning to its normal channel.

When the glacier finally retreated, the Snoqualmie River cut down to the rock, forming Snoqualmie Falls, as we know it today.

- Dave Battey, Snoqualmie Valley Historical Society

# Greenway People:

Some people head out of youth in a straight line for a life's work; others find their path continually branching. Sally Jewell, a founding member of the Greenway Trust, has been a brancher. She began as a mechanical engineer, took a giant step into banking and now, in her mid-forties, she has jumped into the world of global retailing as the Chief Operating Officer of Recreation Equipment Inc, the Seattle outdoor co-op. Adding to this busy life, she has been named president-elect of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and will assume leadership duties in September, 2001.

In person, Sally Jewell has the easy informality and directness that suggests a home-grown westerner. In fact, she was born in London, England with a doctor father who wanted to live and work in a wider world. He found a job teaching at the University of Washington in 1959 and the family never left. Sally attended Renton High School and she smiles when she says her ambition as she entered the University was to be a dental hygienist.

### University Reveals New Vistas

Instead, she met her future husband Warren Jewell and his courses in Mechanical Engineering looked more interesting. She was one of 20 women among 400 men graduating in Engineering in 1978. Summer jobs during college years entailed projects that fascinated her: figuring out insulation for the Alaska pipeline; studying the factors in marine corrosion. Out of school, she went to work for Mobil Oil Company. "Nowadays, this would seem odd, but at the time I had this idea if would be fun to work on off-shore oil platforms." Instead, Sally and Warren Jewell had assignments in the southern Oklahoma oil patch. "We wanted to get back to the northwest," she says. "We missed the kind of outdoor life you can have here. Leaving the Northwest is good for people who have grown up here. Until you leave, you don't really know what you have."

So they began looking for new jobs, putting the place of work ahead of the line of work and Jewell found a branching trail. She had done both engineering and administrative work in the oil industry and in the early 1980s, banks were beginning to lend to oil companies. Seattle's Rainier Bank wanted expert guidance on the industry and they hired Jewell to bring her knowledge to lending. "Many banks went down because they got into that area too fast," she says, "I guess I helped Rainier avoid that." As a result of saving Rainier from disasters that hit other banks, at the age of 26, Sally Jewell was heralded in the local press as a business phenomenon. "Lending is really a pretty common sense thing: you figure out who is most likely to pay you back. I was sort of a seat of the pants banker, I guess; I learned the business on the job." As banks merged, Jewell rode the tides to higher and higher shores becoming, in 1993, the CEO of West One Bank Washington. When ownership changed again, she went to Washington Mutual to head up their new commercial banking operation.

### Banks Encourage Other Investments

As Sally and Warren Jewell pursued the pleasures of outdoor life in the Northwest, she also began to spend time volunteering for community organizations. "That's one of the things about banks," she says, "they're always pretty deeply involved in community support work." Her bosses encouraged her to join non-profit boards and charitable organizations and she became increasingly engaged in serious volunteer work. She is or has been a Board member with many local organizations such as the Alliance for Education, a coalition of Seattle business leaders supporting

# SALLY JEWELL



Photo Nancy Keith

Sally Jewell

the needs of the school system, the YWCA, the Corporate Council for the Arts and the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce. She also serves on advisory councils for the University of Washington colleges of business and engineering.

“There seems to be a piece of us that is not fulfilled if we don’t find a way to give back to the world we are part of. When you do find a way to give back, you’re more of a whole person, you feel more effective in everything you do and you cross over into a group of people who care about the needs of others. At least that’s the way it happened with me.”

The Jewell family, which includes children Peter, age 16 and Anne, 15, have made full use of the great outdoors of the Pacific Northwest with regular camping and kayak outings. Two summers ago, she dashed up to Whatcom County after a day at the office, joined friends, scaled Mt Shuksan and was back for a Greenway meeting before the workday started on Monday. Last summer she climbed Mt. Baker with her son Peter.

## Greenway Ties Many Interests Together

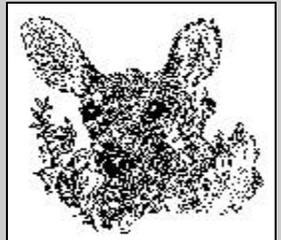
After serving the Greenway Trust as treasurer for 10 years, Jewell took on leadership of fundraising in the Trust’s current 2000-2003 Major Donor Campaign. When founding President Jim Ellis decided that he would prefer being President Emeritus, Sally Jewell was the natural choice of the Greenway board to assume the leadership role. “No one can fill Jim’s shoes,” she says, “and it’s a little intimidating to even have a title he has carried. But he has been a great inspiration to me personally, in the realm of public service and with the Greenway, he has built such an amazing momentum that I’m excited to try to keep that up. We’re all amazed that we’ve built this substantial land base of protected forests. It started as a vision and now it’s become a real legacy we can leave to our kids. They’ll be appreciating it when we’re gone. Now that we have put the Greenway together, we need to enlist all the people of the Northwest in taking pride in it and taking care of it.”

Cougars, also known as mountain lions, panthers or pumas, are the largest carnivores (meat eaters) in Washington State. The bobcat and lynx are much smaller. Grizzly and black bears are omnivorous rather than carnivorous since they regularly incorporate a wide variety of vegetation into their diets along with meat.

Although they eat mainly deer or elk, cougars also commonly eat porcupines, raccoons and other small mammals. They hunt by ambush and pouncing, much the same as a domestic house cat. Cougars grow to be about 7 feet long with tail accounting for about 3 feet of that length. Large adult males may reach 200 pounds while females are only about 120 pounds.

Cougars are territorial: males maintain a home range of 100 square miles while females have smaller territories. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife estimates that there are about 2,500 cougars in the entire state. In recent years, the number of cougar sightings in suburban areas has increased dramatically. This may be due to increased human encroachment on cougars’ traditional territories. The animals may be adapting and becoming more accustomed to human activity.

- Reprinted with permission from the King County Wildlife Program Newsletter, Fall 1998



ANIMALS

Dinner plate size mushrooms pushing through the earth, covered in twigs, moss and soil cause the students to stop and exclaim over their discovery. Excited about the sights in the fall forest they notice tree ears, pink jelly-like mushrooms and rotten logs covered with brown mushrooms in rows like people in a movie theater.

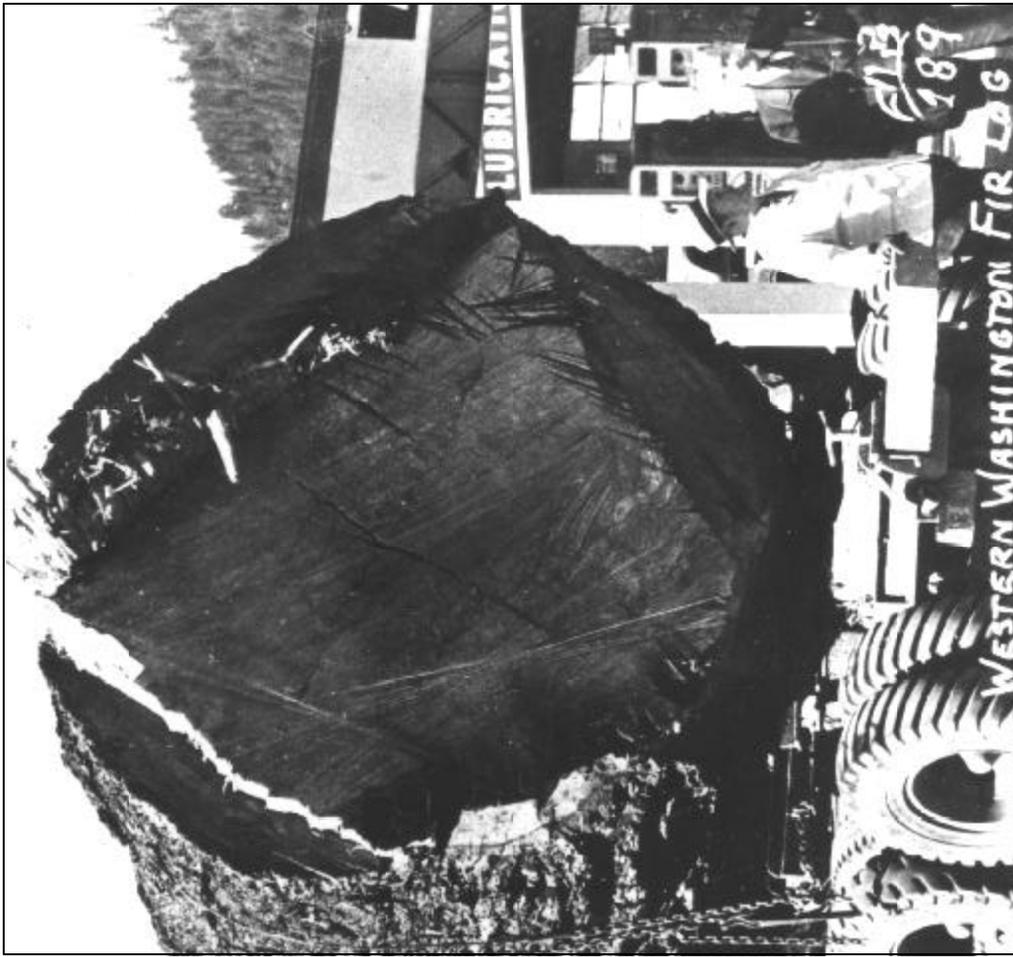
The trail around Tradition Lake at Tiger Mountain offers ample opportunities in the fall to learn about the misunderstood Kingdom of Fungi. Since mushrooms grow on the ground, on trees or on downed logs it is understandable that most Mountains to Sound Greenway students assume they are in the plant kingdom. Mushrooms and fungi are not plants or animals. They inhabit a kingdom all their own. Out of the 70,000 species of fungi about 250 are considered edible. Another 250 could kill you or make you wish you were dead! Fungi are an important piece in the forest ecosystem. They can degrade just about anything except some plastics and some pesticides. Mycorrhizae fungi associate themselves with up to 90% of plants in nature and are beneficial if not essential to our environment. They regulate uptake of nutrients, seek out nutrients from a wider area than the organism itself can, and improve the texture of the soil.



FORESTS

- Sally Kentch

# TO U N TO Sound



When old growth forests were still plentiful in the Cascades, trees the size of this Douglas Fir came rolling down the highways to the mills and ports of Puget Sound. Photo courtesy of Paul Dorpat.

***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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*Mountains to Sound* is a quarterly publication of the

Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. To receive a

regular copy, call the Greenway office, or e-mail

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