



Winter 2010

## Fun Events

### ***Puget Creek Restoration Work***

**2nd Saturday of  
each month**

9:00 a.m. to Noon

**Meet at**

**3505 North Alder Way.**

Parking available along Ruston Way and west side of Alder.

Walk half of a block on N. Alder Way to the entrance to Puget Park. Look for PCRS banner.

We will provide refreshments, rubber boots, and gloves. Dress for weather conditions and wear clothes you can get dirty.

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## **Earthquakes and Tsunamis**

by Michael Green and Heather Valtee

As recently witnessed in Haiti, earthquakes are one of the most terrifying phenomena that nature can whip up. Earthquakes can shatter land and buildings, and often with extreme violence.

Produced by the rapid release of energy, earthquakes are a vibration that travels through the earth's crust. Technically, large trucks that rumble down the street can cause mini-earthquakes. World wide people only hear about large earthquakes in the news but they actually happen on a day to day basis. The United States Geological Survey has documented that more than three million

earthquakes take place every year. The survey also reports that each day about eight thousand earthquakes take place which is equal to one every eleven seconds.

The main features of an earthquake include the focus, which is the location within the earth where the earthquake rupture starts. The epicenter is the point on the earth's surface directly above the focus. The effects of earthquakes on society range from economical to structural to mental. While earthquakes only manifest for a few

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## **Board with News**

by Steven Beckstead, Board Treasurer

A new year has just begun, and I would like to wish everyone reading this newsletter a happy and prosperous 2010. I would also like to thank everyone for their support of PCRS last year, for the time, talents, money, services, goods and equipment, and other support from all of you. I have been involved with PCRS for three years and each year the number of volunteers who have helped, and the number of volunteer hours given have both increased significantly. With out the support of the community we could accomplish nearly nothing.

I would like to invite people to put two events on their calendars. The First event to take note of is PCRS's annual membership meeting. On Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, from 5pm to 7pm have the meeting and a potluck. All members of PCRS are encouraged to attend. As a non-profit organization, we are required to have these meetings. Besides enjoying good food and socializing, important business is done. The membership has the chance approve the board of directors. They will hear an accounting of how PCRS is doing, what has been accomplished this past year,

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Scott Hansen, *President*  
 Mike Webb, *Vice President*  
 Larry Yother, *Secretary*  
 Steven Beckstead, *Treasurer*

**HONORARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

North End Neighborhood Council

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Edward S. Winskill  
 Michael A. Corsini  
 Dr. Sherry Graham  
 Susan Penhale

**Calling Future Board Members!**

If you are interested in filling a board position, please contact us for an application. Board meetings are the third Monday of each month, at 6:30 p.m.

The Puget Creek Restoration Society protects, enhances, and restores the Puget Creek Watershed and similar streams, wetlands, and green spaces. We serve the South Puget Sound communities and invite their participation through hands-on restoration, research, education, advocacy, and by promoting a sense of stewardship.



*A tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization*

**Boardwalk Fundraising Now Above 85%**

We are pleased to announce that PCRS has raised, through grants and donations, approximately 85% of the \$509,000 needed to complete the boardwalk project. Construction of the project will begin as soon as the remaining required permits are obtained and we will need that remaining \$75,000!

Can you contribute a few dollars? Every donation helps!

Please visit our website, [www.pugetcreek.org](http://www.pugetcreek.org), to see detailed plans for the boardwalk and informational kiosk, as well as pictures of the salmon statue that will be erected at the entrance.

Please send donations to Puget Creek Restoration Society, 702 Broadway, Suite 101, Tacoma, WA 98402. Your contribution is tax deductible, as PCRS is a 501(c)(3).



*A similar boardwalk in Alaska*

*(Board with News, continued from page 1)*

what is planned for the future etc. Finally, they have the opportunity to give input. Any member there can share any ideas or concerns that he or she may have. It is important to have members participate in this meeting.

The second event to remember is Parks Appreciation day. April 24<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am to 12 pm, people in Pierce County will join together to improve parks throughout the county. At over 50 sites, including Puget Gulch, people will pick up trash and debris, spread mulch and gravel, plant flowers and trees, trim limbs, and do other things. Take the opportunity to work at the gulch with a group of 100+ other people. Come out on Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 9am and join the fun. It is exciting to be around all those people

working together and to see all the work that gets done in three hours.

No matter where it happens much good is done for the community that day. Here are the numbers Metro Parks has listed on their website for Parks Appreciation Day 2009:

**2009 COUNTY-WIDE ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Estimated 1,175 volunteers, 3,525 hours  
 \$49,696 estimated equivalent value received  
 Over 111 bags of litter collected  
 Over 3,224 plants planted  
 Over 263 yards of mulch / chips spread  
 Over 131 yards of debris collected  
 Over 119 trees planted

**2009 METRO PARKS TACOMA ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Estimated 1,022 volunteers, 3,066 hours  
 \$42,304 estimated equivalent value received  
 Over 29 bags of litter collected  
 Over 12 yards of gravel spread  
 Over 289 yards of mulch / chips spread  
 Over 25 yards of debris collected  
 Over 250 trees planted  
 Over 20 yards of fall material spread

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In total, 2,197 volunteers worked 6,591 hours worth \$92,000. 2007 and 2008 had similar totals. The community receives real benefit from the work that is done on this one morning

Parks Appreciation Day is a day to celebrate Arbor Day, Earth Day, and national Parks Week in one event. It is a time for the people of Pierce County to have fun together improving parks throughout county. I look forward to Parks to it each spring. Chances are the weather will be good. Come out, and bring along your family and friends. If you belong to a group such as a church or a club, suggest that they participate. Whether you come with a group or alone, just come out and join in the fun.

(Earthquakes, continued from page 1)

brief moments, aftershocks can continue for weeks and the damage can continue for years.

If you are interested in more information on earthquakes, more can be found at <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes>.

Another catastrophe that results from earthquakes is a tsunami. Also being called seismic sea waves or, incorrectly, tidal waves, a tsunami generally is caused by earthquakes, less commonly by submarine landslides, infrequently by submarine volcanic eruptions, and very rarely by large meteorite impact in the ocean. Tsunamis are typically due to earthquakes occurring over a very long period time underneath or near the ocean floor. These large earthquakes create movements in the sea floor. The continents and sea floor that cover the earth's surface are part of a world-wide system of plates that are in motion. These motions are very slow, only one or two inches per year. Earthquakes are caused when the edges of plates, called fault lines or



faults, run into one another.

[www.ecy.wa.gov](http://www.ecy.wa.gov)

A powerful earthquake in 1700 in our area had the magnitude of eight to nine; above is a picture of the result.

Below the surface of the water, a landslide off of the mouth of the Puyallup River caused a tsunami in the Puget Sound in 1894 that killed two people. The tsunami took out three hundred feet of docks and engulfed many houses in Tacoma's Old Town and along what is now Ruston Way.

In 1964, an earthquake in Alaska fueled a thirteen foot tsunami in Seaview, Washington.

Between 1872 and 1980 Puget Creek has been shaken by fourteen earthquakes and nature's impulse was the trigger to fifteen landslides.

In the future, tsunamis could impact Puget Creek. When tsunami waves come in contact with the shallow water of Puget Creek their heights will most likely exceed 5 meters.

## THANK YOU

to the 1,715 volunteers that assisted PCRS during 2009 by donating 11,463 hours of their time!

## THANK YOU

to our new and returning members, whose donations keep PCRS running!

## THANK YOU

to our members who donated extra in the last month to keep the office open and running! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

### New Members

*Thank you and welcome to PCRS!*

G&T Services  
Ann Williams  
John Taylor  
Patricia Chandler, MD  
Richard Dorer  
Ralph Klose  
Rick Valtee  
Becker/Selkin Family

### Renewing Members

*Thank you for your continued support!*

Patricia Tyvand  
Chris Webster  
Allison Odenthal  
Steve Hale  
David & Betsy Potts

### Can you help?

Due to a shortage of funds available to PCRS through grants this quarter, we find ourselves in need of extra donations from our friends and members. Donations are needed to pay the rent and utilities for the office. PCRS does not have any paid employees at this time, so all donations will go directly to funding the day to day activities of our organization. Funds that have been raised for the boardwalk and other specific needs cannot be used to keep the office open.

# Join the Puget Creek Restoration Society

**Note: The PCRS is a 501c(3) organization and your dues are tax deductible.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## Membership Dues - Please choose one:

\_\_\_\_\_ Business - \$50/year

\_\_\_\_\_ Family - \$30/year

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual - \$20/year

\_\_\_\_\_ Work nine or more volunteer hours

\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Which of the following types of activities are you interested in? *Please check all that apply.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Office work

\_\_\_\_\_ Research

\_\_\_\_\_ Restoration activities

\_\_\_\_\_ Education/Outreach

\_\_\_\_\_ Legislative issues

\_\_\_\_\_ Salmon enhancement projects

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