



# Deli Llama Fall Newsletter 2008

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<http://picasaweb.google.com/lamamaster.bob/DeliLlama08Pictures#>

One of our greatest blessings over the years is sharing our llamas with experienced mountaineers. Many of these folks were involved in early explorations of trails and peaks in the North Cascades and Olympics. Some even provided leadership in forming the National Parks and saving these and other areas for ours and future generations. Ted Beck is one of those pioneers and we have had wonderful times sharing both Olympics and Cascades treks with him, his wife Ruth, and their friends over the years.



Big Beaver Trek May 15-17 2008 edited from Ruth Becks' trip journal.

My worry for weeks before the trek was the weather. The coldest April on record! Will it rain all three days? Is this going to be a misery trip? Why did Ted pick mid-May in a cold spring? Will my hip be OK?

May 15<sup>th</sup>, was clear and pleasant with a forecast of mid 80's for the trek. What amazing luck! We met at the trailhead with Bob and Marianne our friend Anna and another person, Robert. Along the trail red-flowering currant and false lady's slipper, an orchid 6" tall purple-pink petals, celebrated spring. I found one patch of minuscule minulus nearly hidden under a rock and chocolate lilies on a sunny hillside.

Near camp Big Beaver River is roaring and powerful. We crossed by a suspension bridge where water splashed and poured more than a creek in spite of spring flood.

Big Beaver Camp is in on a peninsula where the coastline meets the trees and is complete with sturdy outhouses, heavy timber tables and large metal containers to protect food from bears. A large and usually busy camp in the summers with many small and large group camps, this time of the season was mostly empty and very private. Robert's Father and his crew built the camp as a boat camp in 1963, before the trail was made. The lake, which usually comes all the way up to the trees, was a hundred yards away as the lake was down 125ft., according to Ted's estimate, due to the late snowmelt. After setting up camp and a delicious meal of Bob's special Moroccan lamb we headed for a restful sleep.

The second day we hiked up the Big Beaver Valley. The trilliums were coming into bloom all along the trail. In marshy areas beautiful stands of skunk cabbage were mirrored in ponds. We shared the trail with snow banks but it didn't stop our journey.

Ted, Anna, and Bob headed up further to reach the old growth cedars while I sat by a large pond, overflow from the Big Beaver and listened to the bird chatter and whistle and grouse drumming in the distance.

Ted had Anna take pictures up at the old growth forest near a camp he had been to in 1968 with friends. When they first saw those huge trees they decided to fight the raising of Ross Dam another 122 feet and save the cathedral of old cedars. This trek was Ted's reunion with the Big Cedars.



Sunday morning began with breakfast pancakes, pack up, and the return hike to the Ross Dam Trailhead. Hugs and good byes all around still in the sunshine which was perfectly timed for our hike to Big Beaver Valley.

For information on Ted's hike in 1968 and saving of the old growth forest of the Big Beaver Valley follow or copy the link: [http://www.northcascades.org/public\\_html/winter0607.pdf](http://www.northcascades.org/public_html/winter0607.pdf)

### **The Wild Cascades**

**The Journal of the North Cascades Conservation Council Winter 2006-2007 Page 9 The Elderly Birdwatchers Hiking & Gripping Society, 1968-2006 — Ted Beck and Pat Goldsworthy**

Crater Lake Jack Mountain Trek- August 31-September3, 08



**Thanks for another marvelous trek! It was so beautiful out there and you two are wonderful to be with. You really made the trip easy and fun for us. We need a longer trek next year. Maylee**



Gouche Painting by Lane Johnson  
on the Tenderfoot Adventures Trek Larch Pass July 08

From Rachel Bramson- Bridge Creek PCT South, Early July, 08

**W**e had a great adventure with Bob and Marianne and the llamas! My kids loved the hiking and camping. My husband and I loved the freedom of having all our needs attended to, including supplies, destinations, delicious meals. My daughter loved Irving the llama and got to know each one by name. The peaceful, serene presence of our “silent brothers” made the trip especially memorable. I love the picture of my daughter leading the llamas through a beautiful meadow



– it shows what great travel companions they are! Bob and Marianne are wonderful hosts, full of surprises and gifts from their rich life experiences. The wildflowers were so gorgeous; I was inspired to try out my photography skills capturing the essence of lilies, lupine, wild rose, Queen’s cup. My husband, children and I will always cherish the memories of our family adventure in the Cascades. Thanks Bob, Marianne, and all the llamas!



*Hi Bob and Marianne. Here are some pictures from our trek to Larch Pass. Thanks again for a wonderful trip  
Ron Mc Connell*

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