

Inside This Issue

Membership Changes	2
Potlucks	3
Summer Camp	3
Outdoor Resolutions	4
Long Johns	4
Thank You	8
Book Reviews	10-11
Board Notes	12
Trip Reports	14-16
Upcoming Events	18
Mozart Concert	
"Practice of Hope" Workshop	
Mt. Pisgah Calendar	
Calendar of Activities	19

Features by Members

Dorothy Scherer	1
My First Snowshoe Trek	5
Snow Train Special	9

Dates to Remember

Jan 27	Bill Sullivan Program
Feb 1	Board Meeting
Feb 4	Conservation Workshop

Detailed trip schedules at:

www.obsidians.org

Obsidian trips are also listed in the Outdoors pages of the Register-Guard now appearing on Tuesdays!

Interim "Potluck" Programs Resume
At [EWEB](http://www.eweb.org)

Friday January 27
With Bill Sullivan

See Page 3

Another Dorothy Who Left Kansas... But Became a Princess in Oregon!

By *Barb Revere*

Editor's Note: Over the past couple of months, Barb Revere met with Dorothy Scherer, interviewing her for this Obsidian Bulletin profile. With sorrow and sympathy for Dorothy's family, we note her passing on Dec. 24th. In recognition and gratitude for Dorothy's years as an Obsidian, what had been planned as an interesting biographical feature is now presented as a heartfelt memorial.

FRESH OFF A TRAIN from Kansas, Dorothy Spencer went for a hike with her new coworkers from the University of Oregon Library and about 40 other Obsidians. One look at the towering snow capped mountains, the forests thick with firs and the swift, tumbling river and Dorothy knew she wasn't in

Kansas anymore.

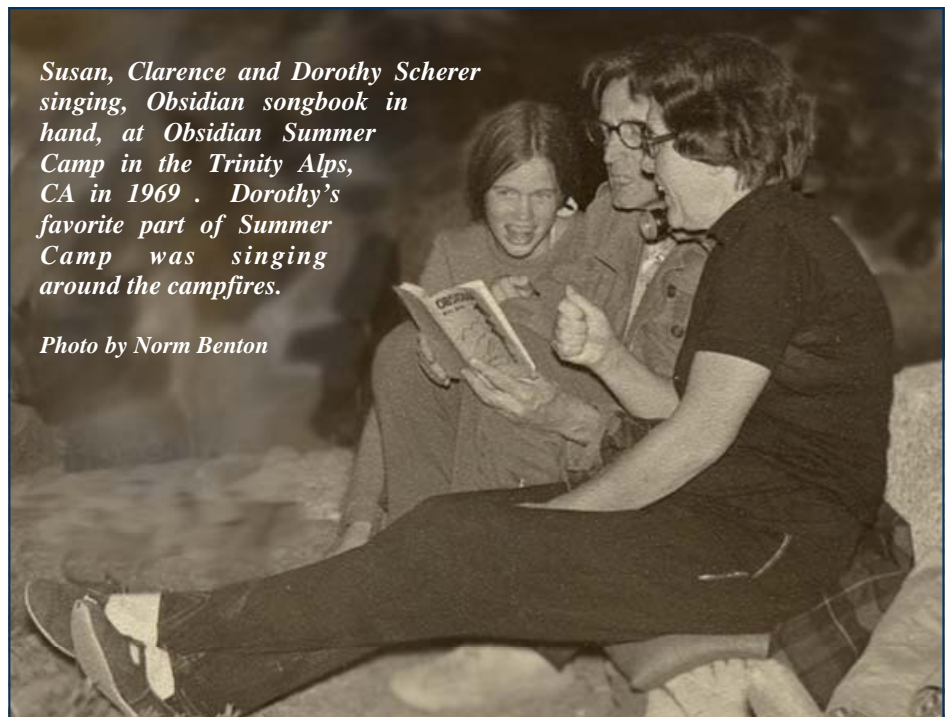
The hike was downriver along the McKenzie from Paradise Camp. It was the first Sunday in October, 1948. The cascading clear water made a huge impression on Dorothy. Also, fall frost had been at work on the vine maples and Dorothy was thrilled by the vivid colors. She knew she "was in the right place." Indeed, she was destined to become "Princess Vine Maple" when she became an Obsidian Princess.

Dorothy had developed two great passions in her 30 plus years -- books and the outdoors. The Obsidians quickly became a third and she rarely missed their regular Sunday outings -- climbing all of the Three Sisters the second summer she was a member.

(Continued on page 6)

Susan, Clarence and Dorothy Scherer singing, Obsidian songbook in hand, at Obsidian Summer Camp in the Trinity Alps, CA in 1969. Dorothy's favorite part of Summer Camp was singing around the campfires.

Photo by Norm Benton



Changes

Directory Changes

HOLLANDER, MILES

7300 N. Mona Lisa Rd. #12276
Tucson, AZ 85741-4516
1 - (520) 797-9518

KERINS, MARILYN

440 Taylor St.
Eugene, OR 97402

MORGAN, DAVID

15113 76th St. SE
Snohomish, WA 98290

Corrections

FUNKHOUSER, LAURIE

lafunkh@aol.com

Easy Emails

TO FACILITATE communicating to various Obsidian committees, the following email addresses have been established:

board@obsidians.org

Obsidian Board

bulletin@obsidians.org

Articles, letters and commentary
for the Bulletin

bustrips@obsidians.org

Byways-By-Bus Committee

climbs@obsidians.org

Climbs Committee

conservation@obsidians.org

Conservation Committee

entertainment@obsidians.org

Entertainment Committee

membership@obsidians.org

Membership Committee

summercamp@obsidians.org

Summer Camp Committee

summertrips@obsidians.org

Summer Trips Committee

trails@obsidians.org

Trails Maintenance Committee

webmaster@obsidians.org

Online Committee

wintertrips@obsidians.org

Winter Trips Committee

President's Message:

New Year Starts On Positive Note

LAST YEAR ENDED on a positive note in spite of several disappointments our club experienced. First, a winter *that wasn't* left our skiers and snowshoers with little to do. And, then, we had the long, drawn out permit process which delayed work on our lodge, leaving us without its use. I'm sure we can now all appreciate what it was like before the club had an in-town home.

As has been the case in the past, members have generously volunteered both time and financial support to the club, making it possible to move forward with the lodge reconstruction. Work is finally in progress and with luck we'll be back in the lodge in April.

John Jacobsen has been at the forefront of this effort, not only as president but also as chair of the Construction Committee, tirelessly moving ahead at each new obstacle. John has been an asset to the club since he joined over 20 years ago. He's served on and chaired many committees in addition to being president three times, all the while quietly helping behind the scenes to keep the club running smoothly. You've not seen the last of him; he'll continue leading the Construction Committee, while also picking up the Science and Education Committee and continuing his key role on the Bulletin.

THERE ARE ONLY A FEW changes to committees this year. Margaret Prentice is taking over Summer Trips. Sandra Larsen had a very successful last year as chair with a record of 160 trips reported, a tough act to follow.

Doug Nelson is handing off Conservation to Judy Newman and returning to his old Climbs post. And Ken Kodama is passing the very important Finance Committee chairmanship over to incoming board member Stewart Hoeg.

Many thanks are due to all the incoming, outgoing and continuing committee chairs...and all of our other Obsidians whose hard work makes this such a successful organization.

— Wayne Deeter

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322

Eugene, OR 97440

Website: www.obsidians.org

Board of Directors

President - Wayne Deeter

Vice President - John Pegg

Secretary - Laurie Funkhouser

Treasurer - Sheila Ward

Marianne Camp Jim Duncan

Brian Hamilton Stewart Hoeg

Anne Dhu McLucas Sandra Larsen

Board meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month, except August, at the Obsidian Lodge.

Committee Chairpersons

By-Ways By BusLiz Reanier
ClimbsDoug Nelson
ConcessionsLaurie Funkhouser
Conservation.....Judy Newman
Entertainment Kathy Hoeg
Extended Trips Lana Lindstrom
FinanceStewart Hoeg
Lodge Building.....Rob Castleberry
Lodge GroundsMax Brown
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Publicity Marianne Camp
Safety..... John Pegg
Science & EducationJohn Jacobsen
Summer CampJim Duncan
Summer Trips Margaret Prentice
Trail Maintenance..... Peter Asai
Winter TripsBill Johnson
Youth..... Andy Jobanek

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The Obsidian Bulletin

P.O. Box 51424, Eugene, OR 97405

Deadline

for February Bulletin

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Editorial Team

Marshall Kandell, Barb Revere,
Janet and John Jacobsen

Assembly/Mailing Team

For December Bulletin

Don Baldwin, Yuan Hopkins, Ray Jensen,
Marshall Kandell, Verna Kocken, Janet
Speelman, Vera Woolley
and Crew Chief Barb Revere

Bill Sullivan Presents New Central Oregon Cascades Hikes

AUTHOR, HIKING GURU and fellow Obsidian William L. Sullivan -- always one of our most popular speakers -- will present a slide program featuring new trails he's explored on Friday, Jan. 27, in the large community meeting room at EWEB. Socializing and light refreshments will be offered starting at 7 p.m., with the program beginning at 7:30.

"No need to bring anything," reminds Kathy Hoag, entertainment committee chair. "We'll provide the munchies." Until the lodge reconstruction is completed, the monthly "potluck" programs will be at EWEB...without the pots.

Sullivan will focus on an area between Salem and Bend he researched for the newly released third edition of his guidebook, *"100 Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades."* Included are paths to a little-known waterfall near Salem, a remote Deschutes River rapids near Sisters and a string of giant waterfalls in the Three Sisters Wilderness. Along the way, expect anecdotes about local history, wildflowers and lore.

Bill is the author of a dozen books about Oregon, including the popular "100 Hikes" series, "Oregon Trips & Trails," "Hiking Oregon's History" and a new memoir, "Cabin Fever: Notes From a Part-Time Pioneer." His journal of a 1,000-mile hike he took across Oregon in 1985, "Listening for Coyote," was chosen by the Oregon Cultural Heritage Commis-



sion as one of the 100 most significant books in the state's history. He also writes an "Oregon Trails" feature column for the Register-Guard.

A FIFTH-GENERATION Oregonian, Sullivan began hiking at the age of five and has been exploring new trails ever since. After studying at Deep Springs College in the California desert, receiving an English degree from Cornell University and studying linguistics at Germany's Heidelberg University, he earned an M.A. in German literature from the University of Oregon.

Sullivan's hobbies include backcountry ski touring, playing the harpsichord, reading foreign language novels and promoting libraries. He helped with the campaign to build Eugene's new library, serves on the Oregon State Library Board and is president of the Lane Library League, a citizen group with the goal of extending library service to the 85,000 people in Lane County who currently lack service.

Together with his brother, OSU business professor David Sullivan, Bill has co-authored two college computer textbooks, "Desktop Publishing" and "The New Computer User." Bill has also edited and published two books written by his father, retired Salem newspaper editor J. Wesley Sullivan: "Jam on the Ceiling" and "To Elsie With Love."

His first novel, "A Deeper Wild," published in April, 2000, is based on the true adventures of Joaquin Miller, the swashbuckling Oregon Country gold miner, editor, pony express rider, horse thief and county judge who won international renown in 1872 as the "Poet of the Sierras."

All Bill's "100 Hikes" books are updated every year or two to keep pace with changes due to storm damage, fires, construction and changing fee systems.

SUMMER CAMP

By Lana Lindstrom

QUESTION: *My aching back doesn't like to sleep on the ground any more and I understand there will be other options at summer camp this year. Can you tell me what they are?*

ANSWER: The other options are cabins and Adirondacks:

Cabins: There are three cabins, each with windows on two sides. Each has a small refrigerator, microwave, table and four chairs. Two cabins sleep nine people in three bunks (doubles



with singles on top). One cabin sleeps six in two similar bunks. All bunks have mattresses; you bring your sleeping bag. The surcharge is \$35 per person, per session.

Adirondacks: These are three-sided shelters with bunk beds and mattresses; you bring your sleeping bag. Four Adirondacks have four double beds each; some have ladders for access to the top bunks. A fifth shelter has two double bunks only. The surcharge is \$15 per person, per session.

Unless occupied by a family with kids who want to sleep in the top bunks, we will not maximize the number of folks in either the cabins or Adirondacks. In other words, in most

(Continued on page 13)

15 Easy to Keep Outdoors Resolutions for the New Year



By *Kristin Hostetter*
Special to the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*

Every year, my new year's resolution is pretty much the same: floss my teeth more often. I used to make loftier goals for myself, but got tired of getting depressed when I couldn't fulfill them. Yet, each year I do find myself flossing more and more -- by the time I hit 60 or so (in another 27 years), maybe I'll make it to once a day.

This year, though, it occurred to me that I could come up with a list that would make me a better outdoors person, and that it wouldn't be too hard to achieve. Here are my ideas -- I hope they help you too.



Kristin Hostetter

1. I resolve to volunteer some time on a trail crew.
2. I resolve to recruit a non-hiking friend to take an overnight trip with me.
3. I resolve to always pack a field guide, so I can learn more about the flora and fauna.
4. I resolve to lighten my pack by leaving home extraneous items.
5. But I resolve to always carry essentials -- safety gear like extra water, food and a warm jacket, to name a few.

6. I resolve to hike slower to better appreciate my surroundings.
7. I resolve to clean my boots as soon as I get home from a muddy hike.
8. I resolve to always share my Gorp with my friends.
9. I resolve to stop and talk to fellow hikers I meet on the trail rather than plug on by.
10. I resolve to always practice "leave no trace" principles.
11. I resolve to better hone my map and compass skills by practicing more.
12. I resolve to always wear sunscreen.
13. I resolve to take more pictures and give a slide show to a local Scout troop.
14. I resolve to take my son camping frequently to nurture a love and respect for the outdoors.
15. Lastly, I resolve to get out more because it does wonders for my health and happiness and restores my sense of wellbeing.

An outdoors writer for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Kristin was Backpacker Magazine's gear editor for seven years and continues to write for that publication. See:

<http://backpacker.com/experts>

She has generously allowed the Obsidian Bulletin to reprint her Seattle P-I articles.

Synthetic Long Johns Do More Than Warm Your Buns

More Wisdom from Kristin

AS A KID, I SPENT every weekend skiing with my family in Stowe, VT. I remember tearing around that mountain with my brothers and cousins, carving our own paths through the trees (long before it became hip), flying down icy pitches on chattering edges and floating through fluffy white stuff on those glorious powder days. I also remember how I froze my butt off every single time I got on the chairlift. The culprit, I believe, was my Santa-red "thermal" cotton union suit. It had buttons up the front, a trap door in the rear and I absolutely loved it.

Problem was, there's nothing "thermal" about cotton, especially when you work up a sweat carving turns, then sit for 20 minutes on a chairlift. The cotton absorbed all my sweat, then held it against my skin, so as I cooled down, it sucked every

ounce of warmth out of me. Nowadays, I never wear cotton against my skin when I'm headed into the outdoors. Synthetic long johns keep me wonderfully warm and dry so I can maintain my body heat throughout the day, even in stop-and-start activities such as downhill skiing.

With dozens of brands of synthetic longies on the market, how do you choose? Consider the following key factors before slapping down your money.

MOISTURE TRANSFER: You're working hard, you get hot, then you sweat. And unless you have a fabric next to your skin that can transfer that sweat away (also known as "wicking"), you'll soon feel like a human Popsicle. Wicking ability is what makes synthetic fabrics work so much better than cotton. Whereas cotton simply absorbs

moisture and holds it, synthetics move the moisture to the outside of the fabric, where it quickly air-dries. Most long-underwear fabrics have been treated with some sort of chemical that aids in wicking.

FABRICS: Most good longies these days are made of polyester, which wicks like a champ and wears like iron. Polypropylene stuff can still be found if you look hard. Polypro wicks well, doesn't cost much, but it's known to be dreadfully stinky, and you can't put it in the dryer or it will become Barbie and Ken size. Wool is another option. Some people find wool itchy and hot. Personally, I love it (but I'm notoriously cold-blooded). To me, high-quality merino wool feels soft as a lamb.

WARMTH: You'll find long johns in

(Continued on page 11)

My First Snowshoe Trek

By Barb Revere

Salt Creek Trail to Diamond Creek Trail

Leader: Dave Walp, River House
<5 miles, 300 ft elevation gain

AFTER A SHORT BUS RIDE on dry roads, 10 beginning snowshoers and 3 instructors from Eugene City Parks Department hopped out of the bus at Salt Creek Falls into a bright new world of dazzling white snow. The cold (low 20s) clear weather we had had for the previous five nights allowed Mother Nature to lay a half inch of ferny hoar frost over everything and the winter sun reflected in sparkling jewels from every surface.

We donned our snow shoes with a minimum of fuss -- only one strap missing from one *shoer's* binding -- and headed out the Salt Creek Trail... behind a lot of other snowshoers, by the look of the tracked snow on the trail. We stayed on trail for a mile or so, then headed cross-country on unbroken snow to learn what snowshoeing is really all about. The crust was fairly thick so we had an easy time.

ALONG OUR ROUTE Dave pointed out the different forest types as we changed elevation, soil type and terrain. He also remarked on tracks in the

snow of rabbit, coyote and weasel. Deep in a hemlock forest we happened upon the remains of a deer carcass, most of it gone, sure sign of a coyote kill, according to Dave. Later, another E.C.P.D. instructor, noted the skeletons of several beargrass blossoms breaking out of the snow along the trail (we must come back here in May and June for the wildflowers). At a nicely recovering clear-cut we had lunch and all appreciated Dave's advice to bring foam seat pads as we rested in the bright sun.

Afterward, we took turns "breaking trail" in pairs and learned how to "scout" the terrain ahead to plot the best route across a meadow, then up an abrupt, steep bank. A couple of us learned the lesson of "it looks easier that it climbs." Here we met our second trail. Pausing only long enough to dust the snow off our hats, coats and everything, we set off on our return journey on the Diamond Creek Trail. Jen Murray, our third instructor, demonstrated running and leaping as she bypassed our entire group in a flash.

This trail is heavily used and the



Cold beef on ice — lunch on the trail is always a highlight of any snowshoe trip.

Photo by Sherwood Jefferies

snow was packed down to an icy hardpan. The crampon-like devices on the bottom of our rental snowshoes were much needed! We also had to cross several little streams where the snowmelt had undermined the packed snow on the trail. But back on trail we made good time and soon we were snoozing on the ride home. Our clear skies held until we pulled into Eugene and encountered raindrops

Sherwood Jefferies was also on the trip and we both highly recommend the experience if you are a beginner and concerned about getting in over your head.

Dave's Tips

HERE ARE DAVE WALP'S "Tips for Success" (summarized and paraphrased):

- Sunscreen, extra mitts, extra socks, extra hat and the usual "essential gear" should go on all winter trips.
- Dress in three layers top and two bottom: an inner, wicking layer; middle insulation layer; outer weather protection.
- Add gaiters, scarf and insulating sit pad to "10 Essentials."
- Leave cotton clothing home, wear only wool and synthetics.
- Never hesitate to stop for snacks or water or to remove or add clothing.
- Don't use poles. Walking without poles encourages your natural gait. Walk as though you have on street shoes. Snowshoes are designed for this (*except on tight turns, this works!*)
- Traditional ash and rawhide shoes are quiet, glide and float better on deep snow and are aesthetically more pleasing.
- Newer models are nearly indestructible, require no mainte-

nance, are shorter and more maneuverable, have crampons to grip icy trails and are more readily available to rent before buying.

- Take the boots you plan to wear when you pick up rental snowshoes. Try on both pair of snowshoes to be sure nothing is wrong with the bindings and that you know how to fasten them before you get into the snow. There is no left or right with snowshoes, however bindings fasten straps-to-the-outside.
- Any waterproof boot that fits well is okay. Use gaiters to keep the snow out.
- In deep snow, "break trail" in pairs: that is, two trekkers walk one behind the other with their footsteps just exactly one step out-of-phase -- the second person's shoe coming down right behind the first's, thus packing down the entire surface of the trail.
- Breaking trail is very hard work...don't be a hero. Always break trail only until you begin to tire, then step off-trail for someone else to pass you and take a turn.
- Take along only hearty, boon companions to have a really great time. Eventually, everyone lands keister-side down, so no poor sports allowed!

Dorothy Scherer

(Continued from page 1)

DOROTHY SPENCER SCHERER was born on a northeast Kansas farm 30 miles west of Atchison. She was educated first at Emporia State Teacher's College, where she received a B.S. in library science; then, after a summer at Columbia University in New York, she attended the University of Michigan, where she received an M.S. in library science. She then became head reference librarian at Kansas State College at Ft. Hays.

In 1948, wanting a bigger challenge after several years at Ft. Hays, Dorothy heard the head reference librarian was retiring at the University of Oregon. She applied and was hired -- but only as "a plain old reference librarian along with a lot of young girls just out of school" (the 'head' position was filled internally).

But Dorothy had fallen for Eugene and the Cascade Mountains. She loved the tall trees and stark rocky peaks that were so different from her native Kansas plains. Accepting the disappointment, she plunged into the work and very soon the head librarian recognized Dorothy's potential and put her to work in charge of the inter-library loan department. Dorothy reveled in the work and responsibility. There were few established protocols in those days and each library did things differently; Dorothy quickly began to create her own system. Later, at the request of the American Library Association, Dorothy and a group of librarians from other west coast state universities drafted an official set of rules and protocols for inter-library loans -- all in one afternoon, in Dorothy's kitchen!

While at the UofO Library, Dorothy catalogued a huge collection of old newspapers that had been collected from every newspaper in every town

across the state. "They'd been put into boxes and forgotten, then discovered when we needed the space for other things. Each edition had its own catalog card typed (by hand in those days), then sent to the state historical archive."

SHE CHERISHED HER MEMORIES OF



Clarence and Dorothy hiking at Obsidian Summer Camp, Trinity Alps, California in 1969. Photo by Norm Benton

the Princesses above all other experiences as an Obsidian.

"In the old days, most women climbed as well as hiked so we had lots of princesses. The climbers would take most anyone up the Sisters if they were strong enough and game, and we took large groups then, too. I remember 25

"...I'd already met him. In fact, he was dating my roommate, but she told me he was more interested in me. I had already hiked up to the 'dog's head' on Mt. St. Helens, so I took him up there the second week of camp. When we came down, we were known as 'a couple'."

or 30 people on one rope crossing the last ridge on North!"

Induction ceremonies for new princesses were the most fun. "We'd all dress in what we thought of as American Indian dress -- but fancy, like princesses. There was a fully scripted ceremony. Somewhere along the way this was considered bad taste and it was

stopped. After that the Princesses just seemed to fade away. We used to meet once a month and stay overnight in the lodge and have barbeques and big breakfasts and it was so much fun. I really missed it, it was so sad."

AT HER FIRST OPPORTUNITY, Dorothy went to summer camp...in the meadows of Mount St. Helens. She and her future husband, Clarence Scherer, courted that first summer at Spirit Lake on Mt. St. Helens and the summer camps became a long tradition for Dorothy. "He had been an Obsidian for three years and I'd already met him. In fact, he was dating my roommate, but she told me he was more interested in me. I had already hiked up to the 'dog's head' on Mt. St. Helens, so I took him up there the second week of camp. When we came down, we were known as 'a couple'." Dorothy says she and her roommate "made the switch agreeably," and were to remain lifelong friends.

"Later that season I went on a trip I knew Clarence had signed up for also. I saved a place on the bus for him next to me. When he boarded, he was with another fellow and he just sat down

with him, not even noticing me. I was worried. I was sure he was ditching me -- but I guess it was all right because we got married the next year and had five children in the 10 years after that."

THE OBSIDIANS HIKED LOCALLY as well as traveling to the Cascades and

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Dorothy remembers hiking all the buttes and hills around Eugene. They were privately owned and there were fences, but there were few homes and hikers were welcome, or just ignored. Dorothy and her family did a lot of hiking that way, so she was especially glad when Mt. Pisgah became a county park. "That was a wonderful thing to have that saved." A bench was installed as a memorial shortly after Clarence's death in the mid-90s, located at the top of the bend where Upper Bowl Rd. meets Plateau Rd. in the arboretum.

Dorothy made 159 Obsidian trips: 19 bus rides, 7 climbs and 133 hikes, including 17 as leader, often co-leading with Clarence. She served on the board and on numerous committees numerous times.

"After the property for the lodge was bought, we began to have lots of picnics there and Fathers' Day and Mothers' Day events -- any holiday would do. There were campouts at the lodge, too."

Only one daughter, Carol, still belongs to the Obsidians, but the other four children maintain an active interest in the outdoor pursuits they learned while on trips with family and the club. They were regulars at summer camps and Dorothy's favorite parts were the campfire sings. (Dorothy sang parts of several Obsidian songs for me while we visited for this article.) Skits at summer camp always found Dorothy in their center. Once, she portrayed Little Bo Peep herding lost Obsidian sheep. "Summer camp was family time, but more, it was community time," she says.

DOROTHY'S FAVORITE HIKE was Canyon Creek Meadows because "Three Fingered Jack rises up so steeply above the trail." If Dorothy could take just one more hike it would be Fall Creek in the Lowell Ranger District. "The creek is cold and clear and the ferns and trees and mosses are so lush...with those big rock slabs and loads of shade for when you're too hot."

Dorothy lived at Sheldon Park Assisted Living Residence and felt lucky to have two of her five children living locally. Her son Rob was "of the opinion that I have to keep walking or else I won't be able to" and visited often to take her out for walks. Her room was filled with family photos and memorabilia. Dorothy maintained her lively sense of humor and was very appreciative of friends who visited.

For Dorothy, leaving Kansas to come to Oregon was a "coming home." She didn't need Oregon to find heart, brains or courage, but in Oregon she found her spirit in the mountains and many soul mates in the Obsidian Princesses.

Oregon was her Oz.

(Note: I certainly came to like Dorothy after just 10 minutes of talking with her. She was sweet, but strong-minded, and still had a wonderful sense of humor. I enjoyed every minute of my two meetings with her. I'd see her back was beginning to hurt her and make my excuses and leave, always reluctantly. -- Barb Revere)

Dorothy Elizabeth Scherer



*I love to go a wandering
Along the mountain path
And as I go I love to sing
My backpack on my back.*

-- from Dorothy's Memorial Program

DOROTHY ELIZABETH SCHERER, 91, died Dec. 24 of age-related causes.

A long time active Obsidian, Dorothy became our 65th princess in 1950, with the name of Princess Vine Maple. She and her late husband Clarence and their entire family have always been supporters of Obsidian programs. In recognition of their generosity, the new downstairs meeting room under construction in the lodge is being named after Dorothy and Clarence.

Dorothy was born Feb. 26, 1914, in Whiting, KS, to Guy and Mabel George Spencer. She married Clarence Scherer in Eugene on Dec. 28, 1950. He died in 1995.

She grew up on a small farm and taught in a one-room schoolhouse for a year before continuing her education at Fort Hayes, Michigan State and Columbia universities. In the mid-1940s, she moved to Eugene, where she worked as a reference librarian at the University of Oregon.

Besides climbing the Three Sisters, Dorothy climbed Diamond Peak and Mt. Thielsen...and Broken Top, twice. She also led 17 trips.

In addition to the Obsidians, she was a member of the League of Women Voters and served on the Springfield budget committee and library board.

Survivors include two sons, Robert of Springfield and Richard of Lake Tahoe, NV; three daughters, Nancy Scherer of Seattle, Carol Scherer of Anacortes, WA, and Susan Weddell of Eugene; two brothers, Harvey Spencer of Sequim, WA, and Roger Spencer of Pullman, WA; and six grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Dec. 27th at St. Alice Catholic Church in Springfield. Inurnment was at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Eugene. Memorial contributions may be made to the Obsidians.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

To the following generous donors, for "honoring our past by building for our future."

Donations returned with membership renewals through January 1, 2006,
to the Obsidian Building and Contingency Funds

Construction Fund

<p>Mt. Pisgah \$1-\$99</p> <p>Paul & Barbara Beard Bienvenue/Scherer Family Betty & Lloyd Bissell Deb Carver & John Pegg Mary Lee Cheadle Kent Christoferson Mary Cougill Judy Dobell Julie Dorland Charles Durham Joella & Jack Ewing Rachele Noto Fiszman Jeannette Forsman Bob Foster Laurie Funkhouser & Martin Holland-Bak Maggie Gontrum Rosella Jones Richard Heinzkill</p>	<p>Kathy & Stewart Hoeg Scott Hovis Larry Huff Sat Nam Khalsa Teresita Ladd & James Wood Ed & Ann Lichtenstein Margaret Malsch Rosemary Mason Penny McAvoy Cleora Mersdorf James Mooney Douglas Nelson Maude Nilsen Rich Peevers Ginny Reich Maryanne Reiter Sharon Ritchie P. Rodda & V. Scarpaci <i>In honor of Chris Cunningham & Pete Peterson</i></p>	<p>Karla Rusow Steve Semans Suzanne & Ted Shannon Nola Shurtleff Janet & Richard Speelman Grace Swanson Ivan Vandeberg Harold Thompson Marilyn Waff</p> <p>Diamond Pk \$100-\$249</p> <p>Ewart Baldwin Joan Bradley Linda Carnine John Cecil Wayne Deeter Bill Johnson Michael Landes Allethe Macdonald John & Lenore McManigal</p>	<p>David Meredith Gregory C. Milliman Judy Newman Jack O'Donnell Liz Reanier Vera Woolley</p> <p>Mt Thielsen \$250-\$249</p> <p>Cork & Carolyn Higgins Barb & Tom Revere</p> <p>Mt Jefferson \$500-\$999</p> <p>Margaret Wiese</p> <p>Three Sisters 1000-\$4999</p> <p>Bobbye Sorrels</p>
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Contingency Fund

<p>Contingency \$1-\$99</p> <p>Don Baldwin Louise Behnke Bienvenue/Scherer Family Anne Bonine Joan Bradley Shirley Cameron Linda Cheny Kent Christoferson Wendy Dame/Don Doerr Judy Dobell</p>	<p>Jim & Sharon Duncan Rose Mary Etter Margaret Lee Fea Margot Fetz Bep Fontana Shirley Froyd Brian Hamilton Mary Ann Holser Scott Hovis Brian Hoyland Larry Huff Margaret Huston</p>	<p>Marshall Jay Kandell Joanne Ledet Juli McGlinsky Walter & Barbara Miller Rich Peevers Jim Pierce Sharon Ritchie Karla Rusow Velma Shirk Steve Still Carol Stroud William L. Sullivan</p>	<p>Richard Sundt Dorothy Turner Virginia Vincent Sheila Ward Marian West Nancy Whitfield Birgitte Williams</p> <p>Contingency \$100-\$249</p> <p>Carolyn Kompanik Ardys Ringsdorf</p>
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Shhh...Listen Carefully and You Might Still Hear The Celebrating Aboard the Obsidian Snow Train

As we contemplate what a dollar can buy today...or even the out-of-pocket costs of participating in one of our modern outdoor trips...take a look back almost 70 years and discover a facet of the "Good Old Days" that really delivered value, and a heck of a lot of fun, for a few bucks.

Reprinted from "Snow Train Edition," The Obsidian, Jan. 25, 1937

By Norwald Nelson

THE "SNOW TRAIN SPECIAL," sponsored by the Obsidian Ski Club of Eugene, will leave the S.P. Depot at 7 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 31st, bound for Crescent Lake for a day of frolicking in the snow.

Tickets for the round trip are \$2.00, half fare for children under 12. As there are no eating facilities of any kind at the lake, everyone must either bring his own lunch, or eat on the diner, which will serve a full course dinner for 75 cents. Sandwiches at 10 cents each, coffee, milk, etc. 5 cents, will be on sale in all the coaches. The train will be parked on a siding, and kept heated all day.

The trip is open to all lovers of the out of doors, and tickets are on sale at Babbs, Hender-shotts, Montgomery Wards, Washbourne's and the Educational Activities office on the campus from Ralph Schomp. Persons contemplating taking the trip are urged to buy their tickets at once so arrangements can be made to handle all comfortably.

Bend, Klamath Falls, Salem, Cottage Grove, Corvallis and Springfield have all indicated a desire to join us in our trip, and it promises to be a great day.

Reprinted from The Obsidian, March 19, 1937

By Marjorie Thayer

AT 7:10 A.M., THE "SNOW TRAIN SPECIAL" rolled toward Crescent Lake, with 632 passengers. Entertainment consisted of walking the length of the 15 coaches and chattering with friends, singing and listening to the "Swing Band," under the direction of Carl Rooen, with Bob Gresham, Bod Kieth and Bud Lebo.

Skiing around the lake was perfect, the snow packing with little effort, making a grand track. "NO hills" at Crescent Lake is very loudly poo-pooed by those who took more than one head-on dive from going down the track that Toney Vogel started.

Snow fell the entire day, but did not seem to affect the pleasure of the skiers. Several industrial people cleared snow off the ice on the lake and enjoyed skating....

March 7th,

1937...The Obsidian Ski Club's second "Snow Train" of the season chugged and chuffed out of Eugene, loaded to the roofs with eager winter sports enthusiasts who longed for the great open spaces and glistening snow atop Oregon's Cascade mountains.

Expert and ambitious skiers took a three and one half mile cross country trip to Red Top and had grand views of Odell and Crescent Lakes, the Three Sisters, Thielson and other peaks.

Tom Kaarhus led group singing thru the cars, assisted by Joe Gerot and Percy Brown. The Swing Band under Carl Rooen made music for all to hear.

Ray Sims took moving pictures, and guarantees some good pictures for next fall's meeting.

**SNOW TRAIN
SPECIAL**
EUGENE TO
CASCADE SUMMIT
AND RETURN
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1937
SPONSORED BY OBSIDIANS - SKI CLUB
Leave Eugene 6:00 A.M.
Leave Cascade Summit 5:30 P.M.
\$1.75 Round Trip
TRAIN WILL BE PARKED FOR OCCUPANCY ALL DAY
Dining Car Will Serve Breakfast - 50¢ up
Lunch and Dinner 75¢ Each
Coffee and Sandwiches available All Day
Phone 2200
Southern Pacific
VALLEY PRINTING CO. - EUGENE

Book Reviews:

Teddy Could Be a Real Bear When it Came to Leading a "Hike!"

By Janet Jacobsen

River of Doubt:

Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey
By Candice Millard. Doubleday 2005,
\$26; available from the Eugene Public
Library

THEODORE ROOSEVELT was ready for a physical challenge after a humiliating defeat at the polls in 1912. He left for a South American tour in 1913 planning to explore several well-known rivers with six other Americans. Once there, he decided instead to "boat" down an unmapped tributary of the Amazon. The River of Doubt was a lure he couldn't resist. It was also one for which he was not prepared. Remember, that to lead a trip for the Obsidians, one must be familiar with the trip. I couldn't resist preparing two sign-up sheets, one before it was scouted and one after. Maybe you can see the importance of scouting.

Trip Description

Without Scouting First!

Cruise Navigable South American Rivers

Leader: Theodore Roosevelt
Begin Dec. 12, 1913
Elevation Gain: Unknown

WE WILL BEGIN in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and travel by boat northward up the length of the continent along well-known navigable rivers to the Amazon. We will then consider traveling up the Rio Negro and then down the Orinoco River, crossing Venezuela to the Atlantic Ocean. This will be an adventure without risk. The same meal will not be served twice in one week. Expect some big game shooting. Father Zahm is in charge and has put Anthony Fiala in charge of ordering supplies. Let one of them know what kind of tea you like. It is still not decided what kind of boat to take. Bring as

much as you like, as there will be 360 boxes to carry gear.

Participants: George Cherrie

black flies (piums). Be prepared for dysentery and malaria.

Leader will be mapping the river so

The River of Doubt was a lure he couldn't resist. It was also one for which he was not prepared.

(American Museum of Natural History), Anthony Fiala (who had led a failed Arctic expedition), Frank Harper Leo Miller (American Museum of Natural History), Kermit Roosevelt, Theodore Roosevelt (who enjoys talking and big game hunting) and Father John Zahm (traveled in S.A. in 1907).

Trip Description

If Scouted First!

River of Doubt (*Exploratory*)

Leader: Candido Mariano da Silva Rondon (assisted by George Cherrie)

Overland Journey: Dec 12, 1913 - Feb. 25, 1914

Descent of River of Doubt: Feb. 27 - April 26, 1914

Meeting Place: Columbia, along the Paraguay River

Elevation: *Not sure since river twists and turns*

ON THE LONG OVERLAND journey, expect to hike for many miles in mud and rain. Much of the gear may be lost. Be able to maneuver and to portage the heavy 2,500 pound dugout canoes in the forest for long stretches. There will be many close-up views and/or interactions with alligators, piranhas, tiny transparent catfish (candiru) which might wriggle into an unmentionable human orifice, coral snakes, poison-dart frogs, ants, termites and

expect 100 leisurely stops each day. Feel, see and hear the presence of Indians who may or may not be friendly. After an exhausting day, plan to enjoy Roosevelt's entertaining stories to make up for the shortage of food and lack of game. There will be only two meals a day. Starvation will be a definite problem. Because of the food shortage, only 3 Americans, 3 Brazilians and 16 paddlers will be able to start down the River of Doubt. There may be deaths and a murder. Alternative more pleasant river trips with better boats will be available for participants not chosen for the last and most difficult part of the trip. (*Does this sound like Reality TV?*)

WHAT TO BRING: Bring what you need to survive! Quinine and fly dope.

Last Comment about the Book

While Roosevelt was portaging rapids, Ernest Shackleton was beginning his amazing Antarctic expedition. Both expeditions reveal much about leadership and character. In *River of Doubt*, one becomes well acquainted with Roosevelt; a man struggling to survive. Here is one of his quotes: "Tell Osborn I have already lived and enjoyed as much of life as any nine other men I know; I have had my full share, and if it is necessary for me to leave my bones in South America, I am quite ready to do so."

Book Reviews:

Former Eugenean and Obsidian Took Sierra Club to New Heights

In The Thick of It; My Life in the Sierra Club

By J. Michael McCloskey, Island Press 2005, \$29.95

I MIGHT NOT HAVE READ this book if I had not met the author at the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs (FWOC) convention in August (see *October Bulletin*). McCloskey was born in Eugene in 1934 and attended the UofO law school. He was the first field organizer for the Sierra Club and the FWOC in 1961. In 1965, he moved to San Francisco and became assistant to the president of the Sierra Club. He was executive director at a time the environmental movement was making history and the Sierra Club was growing from 16,000 to 600,000 members.

Here is why I think most Obsidians will want to read it.

- The first 46 pages are about small town Eugene, where McCloskey hiked

and climbed with the Obsidians. Karl and Ruth Onthank of Eugene mentored him in his early conservation activities. He was a part of the conservation projects in the 1960s, which included the Minam Valley of the Wallowa Mountains, Rock Mesa with Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness, boundary changes at Mt. Jefferson, Sky Lakes near Crater Lake, Alpine Lakes in the Cascades and the watershed of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River.

- His candid observations of factions, disagreements, problems and successes make one realize how difficult it is to make progress. In the early years, the Sierra Club had members who wanted the focus on "outings" rather than conservation. McCloskey was able to navigate those different points of view and help the club embrace more conservation issues.

- The author's strategies for researching and developing visionary

plans for threatened areas were practical. Many of his ideas were implemented in later years. One can learn a lot from his approach.

- He acknowledges that the younger generation has a different perspective and we need to listen even more to their concerns.

- It is interesting to read about controversial David Brower, politicians and James Watt.

Some details will be of more interest to researchers. I appreciate that McCloskey took the time to share his perspective of the Sierra Club and the conservation movement. It is clear his hard work and honesty made a difference. He is a thoughtful person who listens and articulates positions in a careful manner. I hope he will be able to make an "author" stop at our lodge when the renovation project is completed.

Long Johns

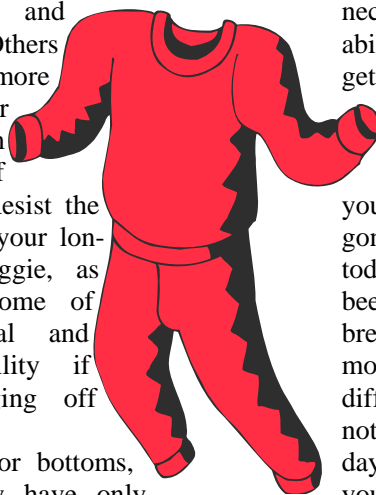
(Continued from page 4)

a variety of weights and thicknesses. For people who tend to sweat a lot, lightweight fabrics are the ticket because they wick the fastest. Lightweight are also great for warm-weather outings, where you want that first layer to keep you dry and take the chill off, but not make you melt. Mid-weights work well in spring and fall and for highly aerobic winter activities like cross-country skiing and running. For extremely cold climates, or for more sedentary sports like ice-fishing or wildlife watching, thick, plush "expedition" weight longies are the way to go.

FIT: Some people like a body-

hugging fit, which clings to your skin and therefore gets that moisture moving quickly and efficiently. Others prefer a more athletic cut for optimum freedom of movement. Resist the urge to buy your longies too baggie, as they lose some of their thermal and wicking ability if they're hanging off your body.

STYLE: For bottoms, you typically have only one option: tights. Take it or leave it. In tops, you'll find a couple of choices.



Standard crewnecks are always your cheapest route, whereas zippered turtle-necks cost a bit more, but give you the ability to vent your chest when things get steamy. Sometimes you'll find regular turtle-necks, which are the warmest way to go.

THE STINK FACTOR: Let's face it. If you spend all day sweating, you're gonna smell, well ... sweaty. Many of today's long-underwear fabrics have been treated with an "anti-microbial" brew that helps keep those little stink molecules at bay. In some cases, the difference can be noticeable. In others, not so much. My advice: If, after a long day on the slopes or in the mountains, you often say to yourself, "Man, I stink!," then it might be worth your while to go for an anti-microbial fabric.

BOARD NOTES

January 4, 2006

Board members present were President Wayne Deeter, John Pegg (VP), Sheila Ward (treasurer), Brian Hamilton, Stewart Hoeg, Sandra Larsen, Marianne Camp and Laurie Funkhouser (secretary). Also present: Sharon Ritchie, Doug Nelson, Janet and John Jacobsen, Rob Castleberry, Marshall Kandell, Kathy Hoeg, Judy Newman, Max Brown, Margaret Prentice, Liz Reanier and Bill Johnson. The minutes of the December board meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The report may have some slight adjustments in the interest amounts as well as capital gains on investments, but will be confirmed once 1099s are received. CDs have been reinvested for maturity dates which coincide with the construction schedule. Donations (\$65) were received in memory of Dorothy Scherer. The board approved payment of the following bills: EWEB, \$144.41; (Publications) bulk mail \$125, Insta-Print \$438.50 and Marshall Kandell/bulk mail permit \$150; Rob Castleberry (lodge construction, equipment rental), \$112.58; (On-line) Wayne Deeter \$24.95 and Hurricane Electric \$299.40.

Old Business

Construction (John Jacobson): Construction has begun! Wet weather has caused some delays, but it is still anticipated the lodge will be available for occupation the end of March.

Fund Raising Update: Sharon Ritchie reported \$68,220 has been raised for Lodge construction/renovation.

2006 Proposed Budget (Stewart Hoeg): The budget presented by Ken Kodama in Dec. was approved with an additional \$150 allocated for the Climbs Committee.

The Finance Committee will be meeting to develop recommendations to increase revenues. Stewart also acknowledged the generosity of the Bus Committee that "has historically greatly benefited revenues by making large donations from funds that exceeded the final costs of bus trips."

Restricted List (John Pegg): A meeting will be conducted in January.

New Business

Constitution & Bylaws Review: Wayne called attention to the constitution and

bylaws. A discussion ensued regarding qualifications for membership.

Committee Reports

Summer Trips (Margaret Prentice): There will be a callers meetings on January 11. Committee members approved: Sue Archbold, Anne Bonine, Jean Coberly, Julie Dorland, Larry Dunlap, Joella Ewing, Jane Hackett, Janet Hall, Janet Jacobsen, Diane Jeffcott, Sherwood Jefferies, Sandra Larsen, Joanne Ledet, Becky Lipton, Helen Martz, Barb Revere, Tom Revere, Ruth Romoser, Barbara Schomaker, Clare Tucker and Margaret Prentice.

Winter Trips (Bill Johnson): Four trip reports received: 27 members, 4 non-members and 1 young adult participated for a total of \$44 in trip fees. Five trips were canceled.

Climbs (Doug Nelson): Committee members approved: Larry Huff, Andy Jobanek, George Jobanek, John Pegg, Sue Sullivan, and Doug Nelson.

Trail Maintenance (Peter Asai): Committee members approved: Rick Ahrens, Scott Youngblood, John Cooper and Peter Asai. See story, page 14.

By-Ways-By-Bus (Liz Reanier): Currently 13 trips have been planned for 2006, with main event a trip to Yosemite for 7 days, 6 nights (June 5 – 11) and a 3 day/2 night mid-September trip on the Rogue River and southern Oregon coast. Committee members approved: Liz Reanier (chair), Bette Hack (secretary), Ben Jeffries (treasurer), Lenore McManigal (auditor), Rick Ahrens, Ethel Allen, Ewart Baldwin, Barbara and Paul Beard, Patricia Bitner, Mary Lee Cheadle, Evelyn Hile, Pat Jeffries, Ray Jensen, Rosella Jones, Verna Kocken, Barbara and Don Payne, Janet and Richard Speelman, Mary Ellen West and Vera Woolley.

Summer Outing (Jim Duncan): Committee members approved: Jim Duncan, Rick Ahrens, Marianne Camp, Bob Dark, Wayne Deeter, Kitson and Peter Graham, Ken Kodama, Lana Lindstrom and Sharon Ritchie.

Extended Trips (Lana Lindstrom): Committee members approved: Sharon Ritchie, Rick Ahrens, Leila Snow and Lana Lindstrom.

Conservation (Judy Newman): Committee members approved: Judy Newman

and Juli McGlinsky. Eldon Haines and Linda Rose, owners Oregon's first "net-zero energy" home (Rose House), will present the May potluck program. Also, see story on Page 18 and the Obsidian website for information on the Northwest Earth Institute's "Choices for Sustainable Living" class in February.

Publications (Marshall Kandell): Committee members approved: Marshall Kandell, John and Janet Jacobsen and Barb Revere.

Entertainment (Kathy Hoeg): January, February and March "potlucks" will be held at EWEB. Committee members approved: Kathy Hoeg, Sharon Duncan, Beth Kodama and Lana Lindstrom.

Science & Education (John Jacobsen): Committee members approved: John Jacobsen and Rick Ahrens. John also reported that he is hoping to start monthly presentations.

Membership (Sharon Ritchie): Committee members approved: Shirley Cameron, Shirley Froyd, Anne Bonine, Martha Welches, Chris Shuraleff, John Jacobsen and Sharon Ritchie. Total membership count is currently 531.

Publicity (Marianne Camp): Committee members approved: Marianne Camp, Bob Huntley and Rick Ahrens. The committee hopes to look at designing a new pamphlet.

Concessions (Laurie Funkhouser): Committee members approved: Laurie Funkhouser, Susan Archbold, Sharon Duncan.

Online (Wayne Deeter): Committee members approved: Wayne Deeter and John Jacobsen. Wayne also reported that the form for entering trip reports is now available at the website and reports may be submitted online!

Finance (Stewart Hoeg): Committee members approved: Stewart Hoeg, Sheila Ward, Dan Christian, John Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Liz Reanier.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): Jan Jacobsen reported that the trip logs were counted from 9/11/04 to 12/31/05 (15 months). Approximately 320 members participated in trips during this period. Trip reports which have not been returned are not included in the count.

Safety (John Pegg): Committee members approved: Bill Johnson, Liz Reanier, Sue Sullivan, Sandra Larsen, Deb Carver and John Pegg.

Summer Camp

(Continued from page 3)

cases, the top bunks will be used for storage. The registration form will ask if you want to share one of the facilities with your friends or family and we'll do our best to accommodate your requests. Be sure to come to the Pre-Camp Rally on Friday, Feb. 24, to see pictures of these sleeping accommodations so you can make an informed decision.

Q. *I would like to stay for both sessions. Will that be an option?*

A. If there's space available after everyone who wants to go has registered, yes, you can stay for two sessions...for double the fee, of course. This camp is going to be exceedingly popular and there's a maximum of 80 slots per session, so our first priority is to accommodate all those who want to go for one session.

Another option is to make a private reservation at Sequim Bay State Park (\$23 per site). You'll then be able to do activities with your friends, but meals will be on your own. You may also want to relocate to one of the campgrounds on the northwest or west side of the Olympic Peninsula for easier access to some of the other areas; e.g. the Hoh River Basin, which is about an hour drive from Sequim.

Q. *I really don't want to drive by myself and I don't know anyone else. Can you help me find a rideshare?*

A. Yes, and if this is your first time to camp, we'll assign you a camp buddy...someone who will introduce you to others and generally show you the ropes.

Q. *What kind of activities are available in the Sequim area?*

A. There's more than enough to keep you busy for five days in this friendly town even if you don't hike! Here is a sampling of possible activities:

- Hike 11 miles roundtrip along the Dungeness Spit, the longest natural spit in the U.S., and tour the lighthouse at the end. Note: for another visit, you can actually stay at the lighthouse for a

week and be the host/hostess!

www.newdungenesslighthouse.com



Dungeness Spit

- Rent a sea kayak or bring your own and paddle the shoreline on the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Dungeness Bay or Sequim Bay.

www.dungenesskayaking.com,

www.bosunlocker.com

www.atkayaking.com



- After all the hiking or boating, soak sore muscles in the hydrotherapy pool at the Sequim Aquatic Recreation Center (SARC) or swim laps in the Olympic sized pool. www.olympen.com/sarc

- Hike the 12-mile Tubal Cain Mine trail, about 22 miles from camp. The rhododendrons should be in full bloom.

- Take the four times a day ferry from Port Angeles to sunny Victoria. \$9.50 one way.

www.ferrytovictoria.com

- Take a leisurely stroll around downtown Sequim. Have a latte, check your e-mail at the library, visit an art gallery, museum

www.sequimmuseum.org

or the Audubon Center

www.dungenessrivercenter.org

- Walk along the bluffs in the Dungeness Recreation Area, sit on a bench and become one with the world.

- Ride a bike (your own or rent) from camp to Port Angeles on the

Olympic Discover Trail. It's approximately 40 miles roundtrip. Part of the path is a converted railroad track and there are several county parks along the way to stop and rest in or turnaround.

www.olympicdiscovertrail.com



Olympic Discover Trail

- Tour a local winery or two (www.wineryloop.org) or check out one of the many lavender farms (www.lavendergrowers.com). Sequim is the lavender capital of the world.

- Get face to face with wild critters at the Olympic Game Park

www.olygamefarm.com.

- Raft the Elwha River (class 2+) on a guided trip (Port Angeles area).

www.raftandkayak.com

Next month's Bulletin will include the summer camp registration form and all the rules, regulations and deadline information. The time to decide whether or not you would like to attend this year's summer camp is now...so you can get your applications in on time. In the meantime, if you have any questions, feel free to contact either:

Lana Lindstrom at

lindstrom@hotmail.com 683-1409;

or Jim Duncan at

jameslduncan@prodigy.net 343-8079.

Summer Camp 2006
Sequim Bay State Park,
Olympic Peninsula,
Washington

Session 1: Monday, June 26 -
Saturday, July 1

Session 2: Saturday, July 1 -
Thursday, July 6

TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Hikes

Mt. Pisgah

November 18, 2005

Leader: Lana Lindstrom

8 miles, 2,000 ft. ("B")

A 15 person train left the north parking lot in 1/2 mile visibility. After stripping along the way (well, at least a



Photo by Barb Revere

Obsidians in the mist.... On Pisgah

few garments were shed), we lingered at the top; still couldn't see very far, but we could feel the sun. Hopeful that the fog would lift soon, we hiked the road to the east parking area. Wrong! Snacks were quickly eaten in conditions identical to those in the north lot. We looped back via the east trail and then back down the face. After good conversation and hiking, we were ready for some real soup in our tummies! The hikers were: Dave Becker, Anne Bonine, Dan Christensen, Jim and Sharon Duncan, Tom Gould, Dick Hildreth, Richard Hughes, Barb Revere, Sharon Ritchie, Jeanne Schmidt, Sheila Ward, Lana Lindstrom and nonmembers Tom Berkey (now an Obsidian!) and 14-year-old Branden O'Guinn.

Lower McKenzie River Trail

December 7, 2005

Leader: Margaret Prentice

6 miles, 200 ft. ("A+")

AFTER TWO CANCELLATIONS and one no-show the five people remaining could fit into one car. We parked at the McKenzie Ranger Station, crossed the highway and headed along the river. It was cold, 28 degrees, but that made the snow crisp and crunchy under our feet and encouraged us to keep moving. The water was high and swift. At this time of year the mosses are bright green and varied and we enjoyed the beauty and peace of the woods. We ate lunch at Lost Creek where Bob spied a ruby-crowned kinglet. We then retraced our steps and by the time we returned it was snowing. This was a first time on this portion of the trail for all except the leader. I enjoyed being with this very companionable group and want to thank Bob for driving. Participants: Tom Adamcyk, Sherwood Jefferies, Bob & Doris Jones and Margaret Prentice.

Amazon Headwaters/Raptor Center

December 10, 2005

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

3 miles, 430 ft. ("A")

THURSDAY MORNING, I received a phone call from a man who wanted to sign up for my "advanced" three mile hike, as listed in the Register-Guard. Since he totes a 50 lb pack on his daily workout hike, I suggested this might not be the hike for him. Try Rebel Rock in the spring. I was again surprised on Saturday morning, when I stood by the mailbox under the brilliant blue sky and opened the R-G to see a photo of an owl at the Raptor Center on the front page. Ten of us met at the gate at the end of West Amazon and everyone was pleased to get a Wayne Deeter topo map of the Ridge-line and Amazon Trails in the Spencer Butte area. In the past month, Wayne has hiked these trails with his GPS so he could mark the trails on the topo map. Temporary signs are posted to help hikers navigate the detour to the powerline road and the beginning of the new Amazon Headwaters Trail. Due to the cold tem-

perature, the detour was not muddy. We walked up the mile long trail that is now completely graveled to the Fox Hollow parking lot.

Bill Prentice met us for the tour of the Raptor Center just across the road. We were fortunate that Jean presented a short program featuring Lorax, a horned owl.



Photo by Bill Prentice

Anne McLucas shared a few owl calls that were quite impressive. The two nonmembers asked for membership forms and we were back at the cars by noon. Back home, I received a phone call from someone who wanted to know if it was too late to sign up for the trip. Participants: Nonmembers Julia Richardson and Glen Svendsen; members Tom Adamcyk, Jean Coberly, Walt Dolliver, Janet Jacobsen, Sherwood Jefferies, Anne McLucas, Bill and Margaret Prentice, Ruth Romoser.



Trail Maintenance

Spencer Butte Park

December 10, 2005

Leader: Peter Asai

WE CONTINUED OUR collaborative trail maintenance project with the Eugene Parks Dept. at Spencer Butte Park. Five stalwart Obsidians, including the reigning and future club presidents, joined Matt McRae from the Parks Dept. to continue to improve the hiking experience at the park. John Jacobsen, Wayne Deeter, Joanne Ledet, Rick Ahrens and Peter Asai met on yet another chilly, but sun soaked morning -- further evidence of cosmic blessings on this endeavor.

This day's task was to install trail

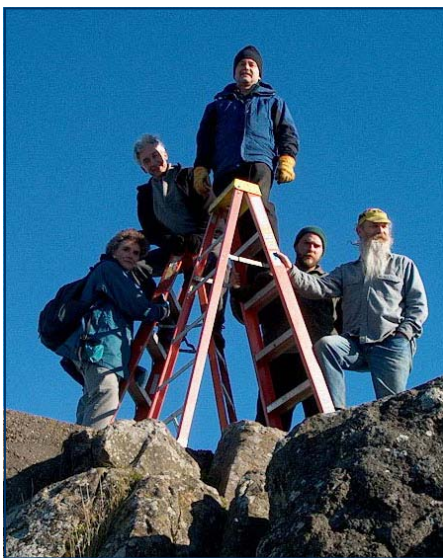
markers along the steep western trail to guide hikers to the summit. With the help of ladders, hammers and reflective aluminum markers, trees were strategically tagged, showing hikers the main route to the summit and, more importantly, the route down.



Photos by John Jacobsen

Matt, Rick and Peter marking the way.

The trail up through the rocky outcrops was quite icy at about the half-way point. We were disinclined to use that route to come down. The route was marked all the way to the end of the tree line. We carried ladders and materials to the summit, where we used the ladders to reach the highest elevation. We took the east trail down to avoiding toting the ladders over icy rocks.



Joanne, Peter, Rick and Wayne set a new summit elevation record on Spencer Butte.

Our next trail maintenance trip will be on Sunday, January 22nd.



Ski Trips

Mystery Ski Trip

December 29, 2005

Leader: Wayne Deeter

X/C Ski, 8 mi., 1,500 ft. (Intermediate)

I **POSTPONED THE TRIP** a day as it was raining in the passes on Wednesday morning. One potential participant couldn't make the rescheduled date, so non-member Bob Haberman was the only one joining me. We spent an hour and a half driving to Willamette Pass trying to decide where to ski. Conditions were surprisingly good; the decision to postpone was a good one. It had snowed several inches that night and it was cold, so we had some very nice powder on top of a hard crust, making for fast skiing. Maryanne Reiter and friends showed up at the Gold Lake Sno-Park just behind us, and headed off for parts unknown. Bob and I skied up past the Westview Shelter and over to Eagle Rock for a short break. Diamond Peak was out in its full glory, but Lakeview Mountain was shrouded in fog. Alas, no eagles were spotted this day.

We then proceeded down the PCT. Under the trees the snow was often thin and icy. At Pengra Pass we turned left towards Odell Lake. We took the high trail (no known name) that parallels Odell, then turned up the Yoran Lake trail. Conditions were similar as those on the PCT to the north of Pengra Pass -- some nice spots, but thin and icy under trees. Conditions improved as we got to higher elevations. Lunch was above West Bay Creek.

After lunch, we continued on up the Yoran Lake trail for about a mile, then took a bearing and headed for Midnight Lake. This was a big mistake. We had to climb what seemed to be an icy cliff, then got stuck in an endless thicket of small hemlock trees. We abandoned the attempt to go directly to Midnight Lake and instead headed through more open territory to the PCT. (A review of the map after getting home suggests a better plan for this loop is to go about ½ mile further up the Yoran Lake trail, then head NW to intersect the PCT.)

After skiing a short ways up the PCT we decided we had done enough for the

day so turned around and headed back. We stopped at Midnight Lake on the way back, then returned to the car via Pengra Pass and Abernethy Road. We got back to a bustling Sno-Park just behind John Mowat.



By-Ways By Bus

National Bicentennial Exhibition: Lewis and Clark

December 1, 2005

Leader: Ray Jensen

T **HIS COMPREHENSIVE** exhibit, which is on a nationwide tour, will continue at the Oregon History Center in Portland until March 11, 2006. About two hours are needed to examine and enjoy the many maps, artifacts, equipment, armaments, personality sketches, videos and more. Also, there is an emphasis on the culture, life and contributions of the Native Americans they met en route.

What turned out to be a fascinating prelude was our time at Lewis and Clark College, which has custody of over 5,000 vintage books and documents pertaining to the expedition. At the elegant Frank Manor House, archivist Doug Erickson talked to us in the Armstrong Lounge, a nicely furnished drawing room with a roaring fire to add to the atmosphere. Doug displayed several vintage and very valuable books, some nearly two centuries old and some in foreign languages. His half hour with us was excellent and much appreciated. We also visited the Flanagan Chapel and, finally, had a great lunch at the cafeteria at Templeton Commons with the students. Our thanks to Sherry Manning in the provost office for arranging a great experience.

Although the weather was cold and wet, we did have our morning coffee break at the Tualatin rest area under cover during a dry moment. Driver Gary Tolle got us through the Portland labyrinth and returned us to Shopko at precisely 6:05 p.m., a time predicted by our fearless leader. Riders: Ethel Allen, Ewart Baldwin, Mary Bridgeman, Mary Lee

(Continued on page 16)

Summer Trip Planning — A Warm Idea in January!

YES, WE KNOW IT'S COLD outside, the trails are hiding in snow banks and the mosquito repellent is tucked away somewhere in a cabinet. Nevertheless, we are reminded by Summer Trips Chair Margaret Prentice that it's time again to develop the summer hike schedule.

"It needs to be ready for the March Bulletin," she says, "so everyone will be getting a call or email soon from a member of the Summer Trips Committee."

We should all be thinking about the trips we'd like to lead, urges Margaret, who suggests the Obsidian website -- where you can check out trip reports from past years -- as an excellent resource for ideas. Take a look at the hikes in Bill Sullivan's books, many of which have never been led.

"We need A, B and C hikes, urban hikes, wilderness hikes, coastal hikes, historical and nature hikes and, of course, bike trips," says Margaret. "We had a good variety last year; with 161 hikes led by 85 leaders. It takes many leaders to have a strong hiking schedule and hiking is the

backbone of the club. And we need new leaders to replace some of our older Obsidians.

"**LEADING A HIKE** is rewarding both for the participants -- helping members and nonmembers discover new places -- and the leader, who can choose when to revisit favorite locations and share his or her enthusiasm with others."

There will be a helpful trip leaders' meeting in April, especially important this year, even for veteran experienced leaders, as the method of submitting reports by email has been improved and will be much easier. Watch for further details on the meeting and, in the meantime, the committee urges you to think "Summer Hikes" and be receptive to the calls from committee members Sue Archbald, Anne Bonine, Jean Coberly, Julie Dorland, Larry Dunlap, Joella Ewing, Janet Hall, Janet Jacobsen, Diane Jeffcott, Sherwood Jefferies, Sandra Larsen, Joanne Ledet, Becky Lipton, Helen Martz, Margaret Prentice (chair), Barb and Tom Revere, Ruth Romoser and Barbara Schomaker.

Bus Trip Reports

(Continued from page 15)

Cheadle, Barbara Chinn, Kent Christoferson, Wayne Deeter, Rachele Fiszman, Jeanette Forsman, Dora Harris, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen, Ben Jeffries, Ray Jensen, Rosella Jones, Verna Kocken, Cleora Meradorf, Natalie Newlove, Judy Newman, Don & Barbara Payne, Virginia Prouty, Liz Reanier, Paula Sievers, Dorothy Sstrom, Julie Snell, Grace Swanson, Mary Ellen West, Christy White; and nonmembers Pat Brill, Donna Halker, Andrea Nix and Edith Rode.

Festival of Lights/Safari/ Dinner

December 13, 2005

Leader: Bette Hack

WE LEFT EUGENE at 1 p.m. under foggy skies. As we headed south on I-5 the fog lifted and we had partly cloudy skies, some sun and a very nice December day. We took the Cottage Grove exit to see the lighted covered bridge, but it was too early in the day. So, we drove some of

the back roads in Cottage Grove and saw another covered railroad bridge. We continued on to Wildlife Safari where guest services gave Liz Reanier and Verna Kocken two tickets -- one for everyone to get hot chocolate and one to ride the train. Everyone followed Dick and Janet Speelman to the train station and later to the snack shack for our hot chocolate.

We began gathering in the White Rhino Restaurant about 4:30. It was very festive. There were Christmas decorations everywhere and, as darkness approached, the whole restaurant was surrounded by colored lights. Our turkey or lemon chicken breast was served buffet style, although the waitresses served each person and the tables were set with white table clothes and napkins and there was plenty of coffee and cranberry sauce. Dessert was either pumpkin pie and whip cream or cheesecake. Dennis, our host, introduced the staff following dinner.

We left about 7 and drove back to Roseburg and the Festival of Lights. We went through twice as it is impossible to take in everything the first time. There were many lighted animals, the American flag, war scenes and many Christmas

legends depicted in lights. It was crowded, as this was a free night, but we left our contribution anyhow. We drove around Roseburg for a view of the community college while Verna Kocken described some of the buildings on the campus. We arrived home about 9:30.

Thanks to John Bunker, our driver; Mary Lee Cheadle for taking reservations; Verna Kocken and Liz Reanier; Dick and Janet Speelman; and to Barbara and Paul Beard, who brought delicious Christmas goodies and sparkling cider for our rest stop south of Rice Hill. Those enjoying this festive occasion were: Ethel Allen, Ewart Baldwin, Paul and Barbara Beard, Paula Beard, Pat Brill, Mary Bridgeman, Mary Lee Cheadle, Sharon Cutsforth, Connie Dooley, Virginia Gilbreath, Jean England, Fay Englund, Margaret Fea, Rachele Fiszman, Janice Frawley, Bette Hack, Mary Ann Holser, Dora Harris, Georg Jaschek, Miriam Jaschek, Verna Kocken, Connie and Ed McIndoo, Barbara and Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Edith Rode, John and Nancy Schreiner; Julia Snell, Dick and Janet Speelman and Vera Woolley.

Lodge Renovation and Expansion Underway

AT LAST!

Construction began mid-December with excavation and grading. Wet weather has caused some delays, but it is still anticipated the lodge will be available for occupation around the end of March. As we go to press forms for the footings are being set. Once the concrete work for the footings are in, hopefully we will not be so susceptible to foul weather.



Dues Don't Do It All!

DURING 2005, Obsidian dues were collected from 489 members and put into the club's general fund. By dividing that 489 into each of the fund's expenses, we can determine how much of that expense was covered by dues:

accountant fees	\$ 1.07	membership	0.70
administration	0.34	property tax	4.80
building	0.40	publications	13.40
climbs	0.05	publicity	0.32
entertainment	0.15	safety	0.06
fees/dues/donations	0.80	trips-summer	0.88
income tax	0.45	trips-winter	0.18
insurance	2.68	utilities	2.88
librarian/historian	0.01	online	0.50
			=====
		TOTAL	\$ 29.67

“FROM THESE NUMBERS,” notes Obsidian Treasurer Sheila Ward, “you can see that our \$20 membership dues do not cover all the costs of operating club activities. We do depend on our trip fees and in this past year it was for almost a third of the expenses.”

At the January board meeting, Finance Committee Chairman Stewart Hoag announced that his committee would be discussing ways and means of increasing and/or developing new revenue sources to present for board consideration and approval this year.

UPCOMING

An Obsidian Celebrates Mozart's 250th Birthday

January 27

THE OREGON MOZART Players are celebrating the 250th anniversary of Johann Chrysostom Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's birth this month with a week of events culminating in a gala concert at the Hult Center on the composer's January 27 birthday.

One of the highlights of the celebration week will be a free concert presented by the UofO School of Music at 5:15 p.m. in the Collier House on campus.

Music professor Anne Dhu McLucas -- who serves as an Obsidian board member as well as on the board of the Oregon Mozart Players -- will be joined by clarinetist Michael Anderson and violist Margrate Gries in this period instrument concert. Anne will be at the piano. The program's featured work will be Mozart's "Kegelsatt" Trio.

"Practice of Hope" Workshop, February 4th

OST OF US ARE concerned for the earth and many of us have become discouraged by what we see happening all around us. Give yourself the gift of attending a "Practice of Hope" workshop on Saturday, Feb. 4, at EWEB. Pre-workshop refreshment will be at 9:30 a.m. and the workshop from 10-noon.

The workshop is being presented by Dick and Jean Roy, co-founders of the Northwest Earth Institute. Some of you will remember the NWEI discussion course, "A Sense of Place," that was held last spring for fellow Obsidians -- one of six courses developed by the Roys. This should be a dynamic presentation by two individuals who have been volunteering full-time since 1993 in service of the earth. For more information, email me at newman@uoregon.edu or give me a call at 747-2001

*Judy Newman, Chair
Conservation Committee*

Science & Education Night

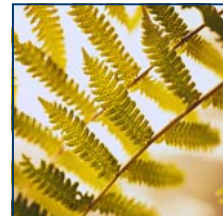
The Science and Education Committee plans to begin regular monthly Science and Education Nights at the lodge when renovation work is complete. Suggestions about a night to hold them that would not conflict with too many other functions would be helpful. Suggestions of speakers, topics or people who might like to be on the committee and help organize the events are also welcome.

Contact John Jacobsen johnwjacobsen@comcast.net or 343-8030.

Events at Mt. Pisgah

For information about and registration for the following events, call: 747-1504. References to member and nonmember fees refer to Arboretum membership, not Obsidian membership.

MOSS & FERN WALK, Sat., Jan. 21, 1-3 p.m. -- Identify mosses and ferns and learn about their unique life cycles and growth habits with botanist and Eugene Natural History Society president David Wagner. Donation: \$3. Meet at visitor center, rain or shine.



WINTER TWIG WALK, Sun., Jan. 22, 10 a.m.-Noon -- Ever wonder what plants you're looking at in winter? Join botanist Dr. Rhoda Love and learn to identify the diverse trees and shrubs of the arboretum without their characteristic leaves. Donation: \$3. Meet at visitor center, rain or shine.

LICHEN WALK, Sat., Feb. 4, 10 a.m.-Noon -- Learn about the symbiotic relationships between algae and fungi that create the many species of lichens; and explore their ecological importance in Oregon forests and woodlands with local expert Daphne Stone. Donation: \$3. Visitor center, rain or shine.

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY IN A DIGITAL WORLD, Sat. & Wed., Feb. 4 & 8, 1-4 & 6:30-8:30 p.m. -- Introductory workshop led by professional photographer David Stone will take the mystery out of all those knobs, wheels and buttons on that little computer-with-an-eye. Participants should bring their cameras and instruction books. Fee: \$20 (\$17 members). Visitor center.

SINGLES HIKE, Sat., Feb. 11, 10 a.m.-Noon -- Explore the arboretum's less traveled areas with Tom LoCascio, site manager of 24 years. After the hike, warm up with hot drinks and snacks. Donation: \$3. Visitor center, rain or shine.

ILLUSTRATING NATURE: LAND OF LICHENS, Sat., Feb. 11, 1-4 p.m. -- Join natural science illustrator Kristine Kirkeby and go beyond line drawing. Learn to render texture, highlights, shadows and shape with the use of coquille (stipple) board. A short supply list will be provided upon registration. Fee: \$20 (\$15 MPA members). Arboretum office.

ELDER WALK (55+): WINTER WONDERLAND, Fri., Feb. 17, Noon-2 p.m. -- An informative winter stroll. Explore the effect the changing seasons has on the flora and fauna at the arboretum with nature guide Tom Bettman. Refreshments provided. Donation \$4. Visitor center, rain or shine.

Bulletin Classifieds

For Sale

Mountain Bike. Fuji Diamond Lite III. Like new. Under 30 road miles, no off road miles. \$1,500 firm. Contact John Lee, 541-741-2867 or scp@efn.org.



For Sale

I've got a pair of boots and snow shoes down here with me in Las Vegas, and I don't think I'll need them! New, never used. Vermont Tubbs "Katahidn" model. 25" x 8" "bear paw" style aluminum frame with plastic deck/lashing. \$110 plus shipping. Also, a pair of once worn, on the sandy beach, snow/climbing boots. Scarpa Triolet size 10.5 leather climbing boots. Medium-heavy weight with inner/outer padded tongue suitable for use with crampons. Vibram soles with a rubber rand bonding them to the sueded green leather uppers. Soles have crampon notches. \$70 plus shipping out of LV. Contact: Christopher Miller, PO Box 28018, Las Vegas, NV 89126, (206) 930-0003 or chris@csm.tc



Help Wanted

Have desktop publishing expertise? Would you like to get some? No pay, but we're an equal opportunity employer! Contact the Publications Committee at:

bulletin@obsidians.org.

Obsidian Goodies

T-shirts, \$10 (no matter design or size); sweatshirt, \$15; cap, \$15; mug or tumbler, \$10; whistle, \$3. Contact: Laurie at 206-2303 or lafunkh@aol.com.

Note: There is no charge for placement Obsidian Bulletin Classified ads; however, only members can place ads and preference will be given to ads that relate to the club's mission and our members' outdoor activity interests.

Obsidian Calendar

January

- 14 Sat **Salt Creek Falls**, S'Shoe 4m **Beg**,B.Bruns (485-7285)
- 14 Sat **Square Lk/Jack Mdws X-Ski Adv**, .Slipp (503-582-1100)
- 15 Sun **Midnight Lake**, S'Shoe 6m **Int**,C.Renkert (485-5217)
- 15 Sun **Sand Mountain**, X-Ski 9m **Adv**,S.Miller (484-4586)
- 18 Wed **Amazon Headwaters**, 4m **A**, M.Prentice (687-5850)
- 19 Thu **Willamette Pass**, D'Hill,P.Mathes (485-1356)
- 21 Sat **Abernethy Road**, X-Ski 10m **Adv**, .B.Johnson (746-1513)
- 21 Sat **Ray Benson**, X-Ski,S.Larsen (687-2589)
- 22 Sun **Redtop Mountain**, X-Ski 8m **Adv**,J.Hegg (484-0619)
- 22 Sun **Spencer Butte**, Trail Maintenance, P.Asai (933-3927)
- 25 Wed **South Shasta Loop**, 4m **A**,R.Romoser (726-8154)
- 27 Fri **New Hikes - Central Oregon Cascades--Sullivan**
- 28 Sat **Marilyn Lakes**, S'Shoe 4m **AdvBeg**, ... S.Hovis (345-7788)
- 29 Sun **Midnight Lake**, X-Ski 6m **AdvBeg**,D.Jeffcott
- 29 Sun **Rosary Lakes**, X-Ski 7m **Int**,D.McCarty (342-6962)
- 29 Sun **Salt Creek Falls**, S'Shoe 4m **Beg**, S.Hoeg (484-6196)

February

- 4 Sat **Bechtel Shelter**, S'Shoe 4m **Beg**,M.Camp (221-1866)
- 4 Sat **Fuji Shelter**, S'Shoe 11m **Adv**, S.Hovis (345-7788)
- 5 Sun **Fawn Lake**, X-Ski 7m **Int**, B.Huntley (687-1823)
- 11 Sat **Hobbit Trail/Heceta Head**, 6m **B**, A.Askew (687-1659)
- 12 Sun **Fawn Lake**, X-Ski 7m **Int**,D.Jeffcott
- 12 Sun **Gold Lake**, S'Shoe 4m **Beg**, S.Hoeg (484-6196)
- 18 Sat **Maiden Peak**, X-Ski 12m **Adv**, ... H.Thompson (683-8942)
- 18 Sat **Square Lake**, X-Ski 5m **Int**, J.Pegg (343-0909)
- 19 Sun **Gold Butte**, X-Ski 8m **Adv**, K.McManigal (503-635-9973)
- 21 Tue **To be announced**, S'Shoe **Int**, G.Roe (1-503-316-5064)
- 22 Wed **Spirit and Moon Falls**, 5m **A**,W.Deeter (942-0824)
- 24 Fri **Summer Camp Rally**
- 25 Sat **Sardine Butte**, X-Ski 8m **Adv**,B.Hoyland (338-9881)
- 25 Sat **W Eugene Wetlands**, 6m **A**,C.Cunningham (344-0486)
- 26 Sun **Berley Lakes**, X-Ski 8m **Int**, .. J.Mowat (342-6546)

March

- 4 Sat **Salt Creek Falls**, S'Shoe 4m **Beg**, J.Pierce (344-1775)
- 5 Sun **Gold Lake area**, S'Shoe 6m **Int**, J..... Agnew (484-5725)
- 11 Sat **Trestle Creek Falls**, 4m **A**, A.Askew (687-1659)
- 12 Sun **Fawn Lake**, S'Shoe 7m **Adv**,C.Renkert (485-5217)
- 18 Sat **Sand Mt bushwk**, X-Ski 10m **Adv**, B.Johnson (746-1513)
- 24 Fri **Rioja Region of Spain--Reuls**
- 25 Sat **Indian Ridge**, X-Ski 12m **Adv**, B.Hoyland(338-9881)

April

- 1-2 Sat-Sun **Maiden Pk Sh**, X-Ski 12m **Adv**, Johnson (746-1513)
- 7 Fri **Siltcoos Rv-Carter Lk Dunes**, 5.5m **B**, ..S.Ward (686-5679)
- 12 Wed **Alton Baker bike trail**, 4m **A**,R.Romoser (726-8154)
- 22 Sat **Brice Creek Trail**, 6m **B**, J.Ledet (683-2603)
- 28 Fri **Topic to be announced--Dan Gleason**

May

- 19 Fri **Rose House: Net-Zero Energy Home-Haines**, Rose, Potluck
- 20 Sat **The Twins**, X-Ski 8m **Int**,W.Deeter (942-0824)
- 27 Sat **3 Sisters Trv**, X-Ski 35m **Adv**, McManigal (503-635-9973)



Winter comes to Midnight Lake. Photo by Wayne Deeter

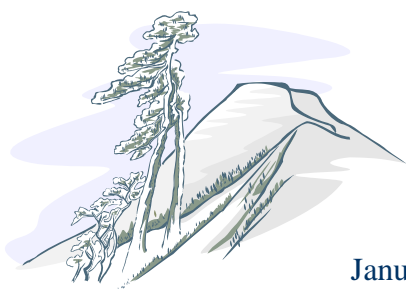


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