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Inserts

2006 Bus Trips Schedule
Summer Camp Registration Form

Dates to Remember

Feb 24	Pot Luck - Camp Rally
Feb 26	Byways-By-Bus Rally
Mar 1	Camp Registration Due
Mar 1	Board Meeting

Detailed trip schedules at:
www.obsidians.org or
 Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

Summer Camp Registration

Details Page 9
 Registration Form—See Insert

2006 Bus Trips Schedule

See Insert

Happy 100th Birthday, Frances... *"Top of the World" to You!*

By Barb Revere

FRANCES NEWSOM, who has been an Obsidian for 55 years, celebrated her 100th birthday on Friday, January 27, with a small party of family and friends. Frances was born in Portland in 1906 and grew up in Canyon City (just south of John Day.)

"She likes to tell about growing up in Canyon City," her son Keith says. "An automobile was a big deal. You could hear one coming miles away. Everyone would run outside to watch it go by."

In 1923, when it came time for Frances to go to a university, her entire family moved west to Eugene with her. Her great love of books and learning led Frances to major in library science. After graduation, she worked as librarian at the UofO School of Architecture and Allied Arts. Frances retired in 1972. She raised two sons, Keith and Jim; both Obsidian Chiefs. Frances now makes her home in Olympia, WA.

Frances participated in 74 hikes and 144 Byways-by-Bus trips; she led four hikes



Photo by Keith Newsom

(Continued on page 7)

New Google Earth Technology Offers Vivid Proof for Conservationists

OBSIDIAN TIM HERMACH, founder & president of the Native Forest Council, has generously granted us permission to reprint articles of interest that appear in his organization's *Forest Voice* publication. "Anything in the *Forest Voice* or that we have here at the Council offices (1455 East Briarcliff Lane, Eugene) you and the Obsidians are welcome to make use of," offered Tim. For more information on the Native Forest Council and its conservation programs, check out <http://www.forestcouncil.org>.

"I generally do not write many articles," said Hermach, "rather confining myself to forthright observations regarding others -- industry, media and enviro articles and efforts -- doing our level best to keep the focus on the actual reality instead of on the industry's media hype. All too often we deal with the issues and debate on industry's terms and playing field."

Featured on the Council's website is its fascinating "Google Earth Portal," which takes the user on an eye opening conservation journey using this cutting edge technology. You can travel directly to different locations, download rendered images of scenes, save bookmarks to your computer and view an amazing slideshow. As

(Continued on page 5)

Welcome!

New Members

ANDREW, NANCY (Active)
948 E. 21st. Ave.
Eugene, OR 97405
342-5079 nandrew007@aol.com

BRANDER, STEPHEN (Active)
3902 N. Shasta Loop
Eugene, OR 97405
345-1812 stevesanb11702@yahoo.com

FREED, ROBERT (Associate)
1124 Woodside Dr.
Eugene, OR 97401
434-2313 bobfr@earthlink.net

MCCAFFREY, PATRICE (Active)
3902 N. Shasta Loop
Eugene, OR 97405
345-1812 mcpatrice@yahoo.com

SVENDSEN, GLEN (Active)
802 Sheraton Dr.
Eugene, OR 97401

Directory Changes

BLUMM, DOROTHY
494 W. 10th Ave., Apt. 113
Eugene, OR 97401

RENKERT, CRAIG
1574 Coburg Rd. #312
Eugene, OR 97401-4802
517-2266

RODE, EDITH
250 W. Broadway, Apt. 116
Eugene, OR 97401

COONS, ALLAN ahc93525@hotmail.com

FETZ, MARGOT margotf39@hotmail.com

MARSHALL KANDELL
attnmarshall@hotmail.com

WOOD, ROD woodeyedoc@aol.com

Help Wanted: Publicity

THE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE is in need of a volunteer to check the Y bulletin board, supply trip schedules and keep materials neat and attractive. We are also looking for people who like to design brochures. The old brochure needs a new look. If you are interested in either of these opportunities please contact Marianne Camp at 221-1866 to let her know your interest.

Conservation Committee

By Judy Newman

HOW BIG AN IMPACT are you making on the earth? Check out your *ecological footprint* at:

www.sierraclub.org/footprint.

Very interesting and it will, no doubt, surprise you!

The organizational meeting for our Northwest Earth Institute course, "Choices for Sustainable Living," was held on Tuesday, Feb.7th, at EWEB. At that meeting the dates, times and places for the weekly meetings (at least the first one) were decided. If you would like to join this discussion group, call me at 747-2001. The only cost for this course is \$15 for the book of readings; and books can be shared, if necessary. You can find details about the course by clicking the Conservation link on our Obsidian website's home page.

I came across a lecture series that parallels the topics covered by "Choices for Sustainable Living." called Eco Logical Culture Series to be held the 4th Wednesday of each month from February to June. Check it out at www.eugenepermacultureguild.org.

We have posted a list of environmental groups on our webpage with local telephone numbers and website addresses. Thanks to Margot Fetz for compiling this list!

January 2006 - Member Stats

Active Member	466
Associate Member	30
Honorary Member	3
Junior Member	18
Life Member	21
Total	538

Disclaimer

The Summer Camp forms incorporated in this Bulletin (Pages 9 and insert) and the inserted By-ways-By-Bus 2006 trip flyer were provided to the Bulletin as is by the respective committees.

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322
Eugene, OR 97440
Website: www.obsidians.org

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Vice President - John Pegg
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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.

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Concessions Laurie Funkhouser
Conservation Judy Newman
Entertainment Kathy Hoeg
Extended Trips Lana Lindstrom
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The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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bulletin@obsidians.org

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The Obsidian Bulletin
P.O. Box 51424, Eugene, OR 97405

Deadline
for March Bulletin
Saturday, February 25

Editorial Team
Marshall Kandell, Barb Revere,
Janet and John Jacobsen

Assembly/Mailing Team
For January Bulletin
Anne Hollander, Yuan Hopkins, Ray Jensen, Marshall Kandell, John McManigal, Tom Revere, Vera Woolley and Crew Chief Barb Revere

JANUARY REVIEW

Bill Sullivan Kicks Off Year's "Potluck" Programs

By LaRee Beckley

THERE WAS A GOOD CROWD in place to hear Bill Sullivan talk about his latest hiking guide edition at the EWEB meeting room on Friday evening, January 27, as the monthly Obsidian "potluck" presentations resumed. The aromas of the potluck were missing, but the members of the Bus Committee had graciously brought an assortment of delicious cookies.

Sullivan, a fellow Obsidian, reminded his audience how lucky he was to be able to hike for a living. About every seven years, he has to put out new editions, noting changes to previous editions (due to forest fires, for example), as well as adding and eliminating some hikes.

Sullivan's latest revision was to "100 Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades." One of the themes of his talk was hikes leading to waterfalls, includ-

ing what he called the best collection of falls in this area, those located at Silver Falls State Park. He called our attention to three waterfalls outside park boundaries. Shellburg Falls can be reached by hiking up an old road. A further foot path takes you to Upper Shellburg Falls and its cavern's roof, consisting of a 20 million-year-old lava flow. The Columbia River originally flowed here, but was eventually pushed further and further north. Stassel Falls is also in this area. Located on private land, it is observable from public access.

Another interesting falls is located at Henline Mountain. This is a good endurance hike, climbing over 2,000 feet in 2½ miles. Near the falls is an old mine entrance. Miners tunneled a quarter mile underground in a straight line looking for treasure. The end of the trail lies underneath the summit of Henline Mountain... and the under-

ground path is wet and dark, so bring a flashlight and wear good boots.

MOVING AWAY FROM waterfalls, Sullivan informed his audience about cabins near some interesting hikes. One of these is the old Santiam Pass Wagon Road near Iron Mountain. The wildflowers are spectacular near here and you will also run into the grave marker of Charity Ann Nobel, who died in childbirth while traveling the road on her way to the Willamette Valley. The road accesses the old Fish Lake Remount Depot, where a cabin can be rented for an overnight stay.

Other cabins available to rent and mentioned in Sullivan's latest edition are those at Scott Lake Campground (free, because of there being no water available), Paulina Lake Lodge, Odell Lake Lodge and Box Canyon Freeman Station, just off of Aufderheide Road.

(Continued on page 6)

POTLUCKS: COMING THIS MONTH

Summer Camp Rally

THE BIG RALLY for this year's Obsidian summer camp at Sequim Bay State Park on Washington's Olympic Peninsula will be held on Friday, Feb. 24th, in the large community room at EWEB, 500 E. 4th Street, Eugene. Socializing and light refreshments will be offered starting at 7 p.m., with the program getting underway at 7:30.

"Even if you've attended summer camp in the past, but especially if you're thinking about going for the first time," says Lana Lindstrom, "we recommend you attend the rally. We'll show slides of the area and camping facilities, including the cabins and Adirondacks so you'll know what to expect. We'll also highlight some of the logistics of staying in a developed

campground and of, course, answer questions."

INSERTED IN THIS ISSUE of the Bulletin is a summer camp registration form, along with full instructions and procedures for applying (see page 9.) Since each camper needs to submit a separate form, members may need to make extra copies of the form (or download forms from the Obsidian website). It would be a good idea to also copy or download extra copies of the rules and procedures.

The club will accept registration forms and checks (no cash please) at the rally. All forms turned in at the rally or mailed in from Feb. 24th through March 1st will be treated the same.



Before the program at EWEB, you can join Obsidian friends at Fifth Street Market around 6 p.m. for dinner. All of the food court cafes on the upper level are open until 7. For questions or more information, contact Janet Jacobsen at 343-8030

Sigurd H. "Sig" Otto

A MEMORIAL SERVICE was held Jan. 26 for Obsidian Sigurd H. "Sig" Otto of Springfield, who died Jan. 14 of cancer. He was 75.

Sig was born Feb. 17, 1930, in Germany, to Paul and Martha Weber Otto. He married JoAnn Bailey on May 18, 1968, in Eugene. He attended primary and high school in Germany. At 21, he moved to Spokane, where he completed high school. He graduated from Gonzaga University in 1959 with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering.

He worked as a development engineer for Union Carbide in Chicago from 1959 to 1962. He also served in the army for four years on active duty and four years in the reserve. Otto worked for Weyerhaeuser in Springfield from 1965 to 1992.

SIG ENJOYED air shows, travel postcards, old cameras, 20th century history, classical music, reading, travel and learning about other cultures. He had tutored Asian students

in conversational English and attended classes at the University of Oregon. His family said he often told them, "America has been good to me."

Survivors include his wife; two sons, Hans of Dallas and Eric of Longmont, CO; two sisters, Orturd Oltman of Germany and Gerlind Durham of Fort Myers, FL; and two grandchildren. The memorial service was held at Major Family Funeral Home in Springfield. Private inurnment was in Willamette National Cemetery in Portland. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Sacred Heart.

Club Historian Lenore McManigal reports that Sig joined the Obsidians in 1978 "and was very active for several years." He participated in 102 activities and attended seven summer camps. He also helped as part of the Bulletin mailing crew. His last trip was in 2003.

Nora Nicolaidis

By Effie Neth

NORA NICOLAIDIS, a member of our club since March 2002, died following a long battle with cancer on January 14.

Born September 3, 1943, in Greece, Nora was raised primarily in Egypt, where her family lived and worked. Following graduation from a Greek University, Nora emigrated to the US as a young newlywed. She combined being a wife and mother of two with a very satisfying career as an architect. She moved from New Jersey to Portland in 2001 to be near her beloved daughter, a physician, and to help care for her two grandchildren.

As an Obsidian, Nora participated in 22 hikes and 2 summer camps. Nora loved hiking. Prior to moving to Portland, she hiked with the Appalachian Hiking Club and she often said hiking energized her, helped her forget her pain and extended her life. Her face glowed and her eyes snapped brightly with the sheer joy of sharing the trail and life's precious moments



Nora Nicolaidis

with friends. Nora overcame the tremendous pain of a cancer-riddled body and continued to hike up until December. Last July, she hiked in Glacier for a week, including 11 and 9-mile hikes.

Nora battled cancer since 1992. With Herculean determination, she repeatedly defied medical odds and more than once snatched herself from the Grim Reaper's grasp. A proponent of "death with dignity," when she was no longer willing to endure the pain and incapacitation, Nora chose to pass to "the beyond" surrounded by loved ones. She smiled in death as she smiled in life.

Nora's friends and hiking buddies will take her on a few more hikes to spread her ashes in some of her favorite places. Nora was an inspiration to those who knew her. We will miss the click of her hiking poles, her laughter and her Greek accented exclamations on the beauty of the scenery.

Google Earth for Conservationists

(Continued from page 1)

stated on the website, "Google Earth reinforces what the Native Forest Council has been shouting for more than a decade -- that America's forests and environment are in crisis and that immediate, bold action is necessary by our government and in our personal lives."

Hermach says, "This Google Earth tool is an amazingly useful one for all of us when checking out our future outings or analyzing the various drainages around us. If we have any doubts as to why the rivers are so muddy, even when we do not have drenching downpours, Google Earth helps us to understand. Even today, we can fly up the rivers and find tributaries entering the main streams running clear as a bell while others are extremely dirty. As you might guess, some have logging upstream while others do not.

"No wonder EWEB felt it had to dig five 500-foot-deep wells at a cost of \$16 million. Not for the stated reason of a possible 'act of God'," claims Hermach.

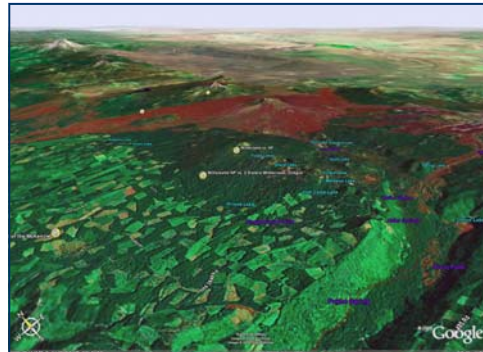
GOOGLE EARTH COMBINES three technologies to let the viewer navigate around a virtual globe. Google Earth is a free standalone program that must be downloaded and installed. It does not run from your browser, but you must be connected to the Internet to use it.

Satellite and aircraft photographs show you the land itself. Elevation data is used to simulate the terrain and model the landscape in 3-D. GPS and GIS allow Google Earth to exist, and they allow you to superimpose all kinds of information on top of the "Google Earth" as you surf around to different places.

The program provides unprecedented access to recent color satellite imagery; as well as the ability to show the terrain, roads and public land boundaries. With its ability for users to integrate their own GIS data, Google Earth can display timber sale boundaries, proposed protected areas and a wealth of other information.

THE SATELLITE IMAGERY shows roads, clear-cuts, creeks, burned areas

and other things of interest to conservationists and scientists (and the rest of us). The patches of hi-resolution satellite imagery are of such detail that one can see stumps and downed trees on logging sites...and vehicles driving on



Google image of the Three Sisters showing clear-cuts along the wilderness boundary.

roads. You can even zoom, tilt, rotate and pan your imaginary camera. Google Earth is a relatively new service and the majority of the satellite views are low-resolution. The major cities are high-res and over time more of the coverage will be, as well.

Brett Cole, in a *Forest Voice* article, says, "perhaps the most mind-blowing feature of the new Google Earth is its terrain mapping. Using elevation data, it models the entire surface of the Earth in 3-D, and the resolution of the modeling is incredible. I'm a nature photographer, and I've shot in places like the Canadian Rockies and the Peruvian Andes. Browsing these areas with Google Earth, the mountains are stunningly realistic. Every one looks precisely like my recollection of it. For the purpose of educating the public about the state of the land, Google Earth is a revelation.

"Never before has it been so easy to access recent satellite coverage of not just the U.S., but other important forest regions around the world, like the boreal forests of Canada and Russia, and the tropical rain forests of Brazil. It's important to remember what you're seeing while using it. While it may seem like a fancy computer graphics special effect -- and it is -- Google Earth is showing you satellite photos,

and they're all recent, none more than a year old. They're a factual, indisputable overall record of the state of America's forests, and in the forest conservation movement that's something hard to come by.

"**THE DEPRESSING NEWS,**" notes Cole, "is that the view Google Earth shows us is pretty horrible! In two days of browsing I was able to see shockingly bad evidence that made my opinion as a pseudo-expert in the field go from bad to worse. Starting at home, the view using 2005 satellite photos confirms what people have known for decades now -- the forests of Oregon and Washington have been devastated by industrial logging. The Coast Range and Cascades are seas of clear-cuts on both public and private lands, with the small federal wilderness areas and state parks standing out like sore thumbs.

"The steep mountainous national forests in the Cascades have been logged to tatters. Google Earth confirms everything people in the Pacific Northwest have been screaming about for years -- huge clear-cuts on private lands, rampant clear-cutting on public lands, mazes of logging roads to nowhere and, above all, the fundamental re-shaping of the land imposed by this legacy of logging. Until now, it was exceedingly difficult and expensive for the public to obtain satellite photos of Canada (or the U.S. for that matter), but now they're on Google Earth for all the world to see.

"More than a decade ago," says Cole, "activists and celebrities rallied the world's attention to large-scale clear-cutting on Vancouver Island in British Columbia. They struggled to get photos and video from flyovers out to the world. With very high-resolution satellite coverage for much of Vancouver Island, Google Earth lets you fly around every hill and valley for a truly shocking tour of the worst-case scenario for industrial logging. Over in central B.C., there are veritable oceans of clear-cuts covering thousands of square miles dwarfing anything that Oregonians experience."

-- Marshall Jay Kandell

Bill Sullivan Kicks Off Year's "Potlucks"

(Continued from page 3)

One may also find fire lookouts available to rent, but Sullivan didn't seem to encourage this, as he compared them to "iceboxes shaking in the wind" during the winter, when most just happen to be available.

The next area on Sullivan's list was Mt. Jefferson and the changes brought about by the B&B fire in 2003 that burned up a third of the wilderness area. He reminded us that fires in the Cascades are on a 200 year cycle, which makes for even-aged stands, and hotter, more intense fires. Fires are an integral part of the ecosystem, however, and, among other positive results, they open up the forest so that huckleberries and bear grass will grow.

ONE OF THE AREAS impacted by the B&B fire was Duffy Lake. The fire killed all the trees on Duffy Butte, but left a green rim of trees around the lake.

Luckily, Canyon Creek Meadow was left untouched by the fire. The hike to it starts out in a burned over area, then goes through a partly burned area to the lower meadow, until the unburned upper meadow is finally reached. Carl Lake and Table Lake were also relatively unchanged by the fire.

Sullivan also discussed the previously named Squaw Creek, now called Whychus, which means a place to cross water. Indian pictographs are found along the creek, which flows through the town of Sisters and then into the Deschutes River. Recently, the public gained new access to the area along Whychus Creek. The story goes it was previously

owned by someone dealing in illegal drugs who had threatened people with his gun to keep them away. However, the owner was eventually arrested and the state took over the land and put in a trail to the pictographs. The previously named Squaw Creek Falls, now called Chush Falls, are along this creek. Carver Lake, at the 8,000-foot level on South Sister, is the headwaters of the Whychus. There is a sand dam keeping Carver Lake intact and if the bulge growing on the southwest side of South Sister were to blow, it is possible the dam could be destroyed, flooding Whychus Creek and possibly the town of Sisters.

SULLIVAN RECOMMENDED Mirror Lake as a place to camp near South Sister and get away from crowds. However, it is located directly over the "bulge," and there isn't a trail leading to it; so you may have to have a GPS and know how to use it in order to find the lake, plus your way back.

The final area Sullivan discussed was Diamond Peak, which actually has five summits and is the least climbed of the prominent peaks in the Cascades. The wildflowers and bear grass make the hike a worthwhile venture and Bill's book describes how to reach the first false summit, and then how to get around the piles of rocks in order to get to the true summit further on the trail.

It was a good night for getting together with new and old Obsidian friends, eating cookies, listening to an entertaining speaker and dreaming about some summer hiking.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

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

Donations to the Obsidian Building Fund, January 1, 2006 to February 1, 2006

<p>Mt. Pisgah \$1 - \$99</p> <p>Mr. & Mrs. Bob Adams <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>Tyler Burgess <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>Alecia Ingallinera-Clarke <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>Claude & Dorothy Gerlach <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>Marie Kim Phung Hoag & W. Scott Hoag <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>John & Janet Jacobsen <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p>	<p>John & Lenore McManigal <i>In Memory of Dawn Newsom</i></p> <p>John & Lenore McManigal <i>In Memory of Barbara Hasek</i></p> <p>John & Lenore McManigal <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>Kevin Keeley & Eileen McNutt <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>Bill & Beverly Medford <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>Hortie Reed Ordl <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>Sharon Ritchie <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p>	<p>Kathryn Ruttencutter <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>Virginia & Lawrence Schmidt <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>John & Margaret Waddell <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>Ralph & Melba Wilson <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>Diamond Pk. \$100-\$249</p> <p>Mary Bridgeman <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p> <p>Timothy J. Scherer <i>In Memory of Dorothy Scherer</i></p>	<p>Mt. Thielsen \$250-\$499</p> <p>Bill & Beki Montgomery</p> <p>Three Sisters \$1000-4999</p> <p>Bobbie Sorrels <i>In Memory of My Daughter Lynne Pershing, and her Father-in-law, Aaron Novick</i></p>
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Happy 100th Birthday, Frances...

(Continued from page 1)

and 10 bus trips. She climbed seven mountains: Diamond Peak, Thielsen, Washington, Broken Top and the Three Sisters...South twice. These days, she likes to tell her podiatrist that her "feet have climbed several mountains."

FRANCES LOVES WILDFLOWERS and to prove it we note that her last hike with the Obsidians was to Iron Mountain in June 1981 -- at the age of 75. When she became the 76th Obsidian Princess, she was given *Princess*

Alpine Phlox as her name, after the small, five petal blossoms that grow among rocks in the Cascades.

She has attended many summer camps over her more than half a century as an Obsidian. One of her fondest memories is the 1953 camp at Glacier National Park. Clarence "Clancy" Bankhead was the regular bus driver who got the Obsidians to their summer camp destination. That year, he continued to taxi everybody around at the park, taking hikers to either side of the

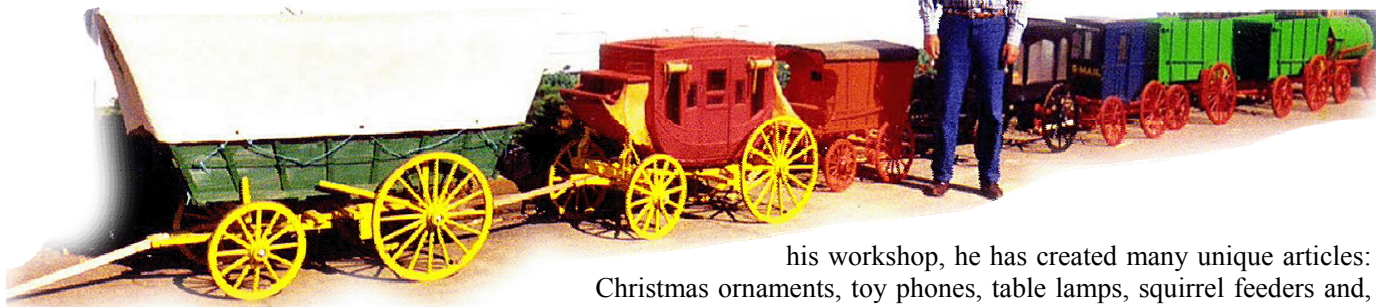
Continental Divide, then picking them up on the other side at the end of the day. The whole trip was a "magical time" when Obsidians walked from deep stream-carved valleys to the "top of the world" and back, every day.

Editor's Note: Anyone wishing to send Frances a belated birthday card can send it in care of her son, Keith Newsom, 417 Rogers St., Olympia, WA 98502; and he will get it to Frances, who is residing in an assisted living facility near him.

McManigal's Wagon Train

WAGON MASTER -- John McManigal, a member of the Obsidians since 1960, has for his many services and talents, which have contributed to the growth and vitality

been recognized and applauded of our club. Less well known are his artistic skills. In



his workshop, he has created many unique articles: Christmas ornaments, toy phones, table lamps, squirrel feeders and, especially, replicas of vintage wagons...shown here on display in his driveway. Perhaps, he could be persuaded to parade them in the Eugene Celebration.

-- Ray Jensen

Construction Progress

JANUARY RAINS HAVE CAUSED significant delay to our lodge renovation and expansion project, but with the recent improvement in weather, 2G Construction is making good progress. Footings and the slab have been poured, the concrete block walls are up and framing has begun. The renovation of the bathrooms and hallway is also underway.

Estimated construction completion has been pushed back approximately one month to mid-April.



BOARD NOTES

February 1, 2006

Board members present: Wayne Deeter (president), John Pegg (VP), Sheila Ward (treasurer), Laurie Funkhouser (secretary), Marianne Camp, Brian Hamilton, Jim Duncan, Stewart Hoeg and Anne Dhu McLucas. Also present: Doug Nelson, Judy Newman, Sharon Ritchie, Bill Johnson, Elizabeth Reanier, Lenore and John McManigal, Marshall Kandell, Max Brown, Barbara Bruns, Kathy Hoeg. The January meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Umpqua CD matured, funds were placed in the checking account. In addition, CDs were reinvested to mature in February and March in anticipation of payment of construction bills. The board approved payment of the following bills: EWEB, \$164.46; Publications (bulk mail \$125 & Insta-Print \$442.75); Sharon Ritchie (Membership postage/business cards \$100.52, postage/publication \$58.10); Lenore McManigal (Historian/Librarian, binders \$10.74); Bill Johnson (Winter Trips postage \$15.60); Stewart Hoeg (Entertainment, coffee \$63.35).

Old Business

Construction (Brian Hamilton): The contractor updated the schedule showing "substantial" completion by April 14. Due to rainy weather, construction has been delayed by four weeks and the contractor hopes the procurement of a roof beam will not cause further delays.

Fund Raising (Sharon Ritchie): As of this date, \$69,270 (\$62,951 Lodge Renovation Fund, \$6,319 Construction Fund) has been donated. Numerous donations were made in memory of Dorothy Scherer. Tyler Burgess submitted \$50 to the building fund from sale of her "Walk With Me" calendar.

Restricted List (John Pegg): Based on committee recommendation, the board voted to restrict a nonmember to "A" or easy hikes.

New Business

Lodge Insurance (Barbara Bruns): The current value of the lodge for insurance purposes is \$219,000. Based on information from the insurer, the suggested rate of coverage for the location/area of the lodge is \$106 per square foot, which would increase the value to \$336,550

(total 3,175 square feet per renovation/expansion X \$106). The property insurance premium would increase by about \$320. Concerns regarding the suggested rate as well as the amount of "personal property" coverage were discussed and may be revisited. The board decided to obtain property insurance coverage at this time based on increased property value of \$336,550.

Annual Reports: Wayne reminded the required committee heads to submit annual reports for 2005 with the focus on financial summary at the next board meeting.

Committee Reports

Summer Trips (Margaret Prentice): One trip report received from 2005 involving 7 members, 2 nonmembers for total fees of \$15. The schedule for 2006 currently has 94 trips consisting of 81 hikes, 11 bike trips and 2 backpack trips with a total of 46 leaders. The leaders meeting has been scheduled for April 17. Dr. Larry Dunlap will give a practical first aid presentation for leaders on May 22 at the lodge.

Winter Trips (Bill Johnson): 8 trip reports received (7 online!) involving 65 members and 16 nonmembers; total fees, \$129.

Climbs (Doug Nelson): Committee met in January and will be putting together a preliminary schedule shortly. The committee met with Obsidians and EMR personnel to firm up plans for the spring Climb School (April 20- 23, 27-29). Eugene Parks and Rec will not participate this year, but will have equipment available. Promotion of the Climb School will be through the Bulletin, word of mouth, posting of flyers, etc.

By-Ways-By-Bus (Liz Reanier): The committee authorized \$2,000 be forwarded to Obsidians, Inc.: "*\$1,000 to the General Fund and \$1,000 to the Building Fund, earmarked for audio visual equipment and accessories*" -- the latter contribution being a memorial to departed long time riders: Dorothy Scherer, Mary Millman, Barbara Hasek, Bea Lefevre and Paula Vehrs. Liz extended "Thank you for all the years of service" to retiring committee members: Frances Newsom, John and Marian Borchart and Dody Leppman. For 2006, 13 trips are planned. Rally Feb. 26 at

EWEB.

Conservation (Judy Newman): Board approved additional committee members Anne Hollander and Margot Fetz. The committee agreed to meet on second Wednesday each month. Margot compiled a list of local environmental organizations (placed on the Conservation webpage on the Obsidian website). Julie McGlinsky and Anne will be contacting speakers and training trip leaders to participate in "conservation hikes" to take place in the spring. Judy is checking into making available for purchase fair trade/shade grown coffee beans at potlucks with proceeds contributing to the coffee expense of summer camp and other Obsidian events. Nine signed up for the "Choices for Sustainable Living" course.

Publications (Marshall Kandell): January Bulletin -- 490 printed (\$442.75), 452 mailed (\$116.69).

Entertainment (Kathy Hoeg): Eighty attended January potluck featuring William Sullivan. \$58.00 fees collected. The February potluck will be the Summer Camp Rally.

Membership (Sharon Ritchie): Five new members. Total members to date: 536 (464 active, 30 associate, 3 honorary, 18 junior, 21 life).

Publicity (Marianne Camp): Brian Hamilton represented the Obsidians at the REI Winter Festival. REI put in a good effort and Marianne said Obsidians should continue to participate in the Festival.

Online (Wayne Deeter): The committee continues to keep the website up to date. January was spent primarily helping the Summer Trips Committee put together the 2006 schedule.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): Lenore has recorded all of the trip reports she has received. Margaret Prentice of Summer Trips is assisting by emailing trip reports to Lenore to expedite the recording due to difficulty obtaining access to the information at the website.

Lodge Building (Rob Castleberry): Board approved the committee members Craig Renkert and Becky Lipton. A work party is tentatively planned for mid-March.

Lodge Grounds (Max Brown): Board approved committee members John Jacobsen and Doug Nelson.

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION INFO

Registration/Deposit: You may register in person at the Friday, February 24 rally (see below) or mail your registration beginning February 24. All forms postmarked from February 24 thru March 1 will be treated the same, i.e. as though they were received on the same day. Members will have preference over non-members.

To register, complete a Registration form and return one for each member of your party, along with a non-refundable deposit of \$20 per person. One check for multiple registrations in the same envelope is OK. Make the check payable to "Obsidian Summer Camp Fund" and mail to:

**Obsidians, Summer Camp Registration
P. O. Box 51424
Eugene, OR 97405**

Final Payment: The balance of the camp fee is due on or before **May 1, 2006**.

Cancellation Policy: The Summer Camp Committee recognizes that sometimes cancellations are unavoidable. However, because there are some fixed costs, and in fairness to those on the Waiting List, the cancellation policy is as follows:

- ▶ The original deposit of \$20 is non-refundable.
- ▶ Cancellations made prior to June 1: a full refund, less the deposit, will be made.
- ▶ Cancellations made on or after June 1: if your vacancy is filled, the full fee, less the deposit, will be refunded after camp. If your vacancy is not filled, no refund will be made until after all camp expenses have been paid in full. At that time, funds permitting, the fixed costs of camp will be determined and a percentage of the fee will be refunded.

Waiting List: Each session of camp is limited to 80 persons. If more register initially, we will hold a lottery. If one session fills, but the other doesn't, those folks who checked "I am flexible" on the registration form will be slotted into the session with vacancies.

Those names not drawn in the lottery will be placed on a waiting list. A waiting list will also be established for all others who submit their registration forms after March 1 and will be based on the postmark on the envelope. Persons on the waiting list will be told their position on the list. If you want to remain on the list, your check will be deposited. If your name moves to the Final List, you will be contacted again; final payment will be due by May 1. If you decide to remove yourself from the Waiting List, your deposit will be refunded. Those persons remaining on the Waiting List when camp starts will receive a deposit refund after camp.

Summer Camp Rally: Friday, February 24 is the camp rally. The meeting will be held in the EWEB meeting room, 500 E. 4th St. beginning at 7:00 PM. We'll discuss camp logistics and show slides of the cabins and Adirondacks and surrounding area. Cookies and tea/coffee will be available. You may turn in your registration form and check at the Rally or mail it in.

Booklets: A Summer Camp booklet which contains detailed information regarding the campsite, the area, medical facilities, what to bring, etc. will be provided to registrants who have paid in full (one per family). It will be available at the April 28 and May 19 potlucks at the Lodge.

Check-in: Campers are welcome to arrive after 1:00 PM on the first day of each session. All food will be provided beginning with dinner the first night and ending with breakfast on the last day.

Questions: Lana Lindstrom, 683-1409, lane_lindstrom@hotmail.com
Jim Duncan, 343-8079, jameslduncan@prodigy.net

FOR REGISTRATION FORM SEE INSERT



Hikes

Rebel Rock

June 26, 2005

Leader: Larry Huff

14 miles, 3,200 ft. ("C")

WE MET AT 8 A.M., as I posted, but could have started earlier as it is a long hike. It bothered me for a while. The morning was overcast and remained that way to a bit beyond the trailhead at the confluence of Rebel Creek and the South Fork of the McKenzie. The first 5.5 miles follow Rebel Creek through a verdant, forested canyon -- all uphill. It then tops out on a forested plateau at a junction. We took a breather and it was brought to my attention that I led this section way too fast. Some in the group were pondering shortening the hike by sticking with the loop trail and not going to the top of Rebel Mountain. We were able to compromise by spreading out the weight of some of the packs. Most importantly, I agreed to slow the pace (I'm learning to lead as I go).

We took a left at the junction, east-bound for about 1.1 miles through a swamp of skunk cabbage and devil's club until we reached an old shepherds' camp and the head of Rebel Creek. At this point, the hike takes on its most esteemed part -- going off-trail for 2.5 miles with the goal to come out to the south flank of Rebel Rock. We aced this first section and came out at the rock in an alpine meadow under blue sky...and an incredible view of the Three Sisters. One person said it was reminiscent of Julie Andrews in the opening meadow scenes of the "Sound of Music." I concur. It is a beautiful backcountry location.

We scrambled up the base of the rock through some pretty loose scree to a fine location just below its summit. We paused to eat lunch and get to know one another; then headed first north and then west over the summit of Rebel Mountain (different than the *Rock*), admiring the meadows and views as we descended the Rebel geologic area and explored the

terrain. A little further we met the loop trail we left some time ago. The last two points of interest are Rebel Lookout, which is in rapid decay; and the old helicopter pad atop the summit of the loop trail, which is our last chance to look upon the Sisters Three and stately Mount Jefferson. Then it is all downhill. All our group were incredibly strong hikers, with lots of enthusiasm. I am happy to have had the opportunity of spending the day with them: nonmember Debra Higbee and members Claudia Arias, Larry Huff, Doug Nelson, Karen Rayle and Steve Shriver.

Three Mile Lake/Tahkenitch State Park

December 4, 2005

Leader: Becky Lipton

6 miles 650 ft. ("B")

AFTER MORE THAN A WEEK of very rainy days in Eugene, nine happy hikers were delighted to escape the soggy valley and head to the coast with partly sunny skies. We enjoyed the ever changing lush ecosystems for which this area is known -- including low grassy dunes, a beach walk, our lake of course and high forested dunes. After basking in the warm sun and losing ourselves to the sound of breakers during lunch, one of our more imaginative hikers found an unusually long strand of kelp and started a game of jump rope on the sand while chanting "Mable, Mable, set table." 'Twas a great escape and grand day, indeed! Participants: Barb Bruns, Rob Castleberry Sherwood Jefferies, John Lee, Becky Lipton, Bonnie Richman, Nancy Whitfield and nonmembers Patrice McCaffrey and Sue Myers.

Amazon Headwaters to Dillard Road

January 18, 2006

Leader: Margaret Prentice

4 miles, 500 ft ("A")

CHECKING OUT THE START of the trail at W. Amazon we found that, unless one were young and agile enough to leap across the swollen creek, it presented a barrier...and the way around it was a muddy mess. So, 11 of us met instead at the Fox Hollow Ridgeline Trail parking lot. The day after the "great rain," we

were well prepared with boots, rain gear and a few umbrellas. Surprise! Mother Nature favored us with a dry morning.



Photo by Tom Gould

First, we hiked down the Headwaters Trail, muddy here and there, with the creek and several tributaries rushing and tumbling down. We turned back after reaching the bottom of the trail, where it meets the yet to be opened official starting point. We then hiked the Ridgeline Trail to Dillard Road and back, pointing out along the way portions of the trail built by Obsidian volunteers. We were all happy to be out enjoying the lush forest after all the rain. It was especially good having Norma hiking with us again. As soon as we got back into our cars the rain started! Participants were: Sharon Duncan, Margo Fetz, Tom Gould, Sherwood Jefferies, Bob and Doris Jones, Sandra Larsen, Norma Lockyear (*her first Obsidian trip since her accident*), Margaret Prentice, Nola Shurtleff and nonmember Helen Rockett .

North Shasta Loop

January 25, 2006

Leader: Ruth Romoser

5 miles, 500 ft. ("A")

ELEVEN OBSIDIANS enjoyed a morning hike from Amazon Community Center, along West Amazon, to the top of North Shasta Loop. The weather was cool -- with rain drops -- and there were nice views of Eugene. As we hiked down along Agate Street we all walked and talked with everyone. This is a simple, fun two-hour hike! Participants were John Agnew, Tom Berkey, Max Brown, Pat Esch, Tom Gould, Robert and Doris Jones, Sherwood Jefferies, Marshall Kandell, Sharon Thomas and Ruth Romoser.



Ski Trips

Redtop Mountain

January 8, 2006

Leader: Gordon Sayre

X-Ski, 7 miles, 2,000 ft (Difficult)

IT WAS A PERFECT POWDER DAY in the Cascades. Jan Anselmo told me the Snotel station near Pengra Pass reported 13 inches the night before our trip. We took two cars to Oakridge, where we met the Jensens and Anselmos. All 10 participants were experienced Obsidian skiers and nearly all had done Redtop before. This was fortunate, because the trail-breaking was difficult and the route-finding more of a challenge than I remembered from my one previous outing on Redtop Mt. GPS waypoints are helpful here. It took us 3.5 hours to get up and 2.5 down. At the top we were partly in cloud, but enjoyed shimmering snow and glorious untracked powder. If only there were more open slopes on the trip down! Some parts are a challenging slalom between the trees. The top is fabulous on a powder day. Participants were: Jan and Rich Anselmo, John Hegg, Dick Hildreth, Chris and Kathy Jensen, Sam Miller, Gordon Sayre, Bob Smythe and Lyndell Wilken.

Midnight Lake

January 8, 2006

Leader: Laurie Funkhouser

X-Ski, 6 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

FOUR VEHICLES with 11 people headed up Highway 58 to Gold Lake, encountering snow flurries at approximately 3,000 feet! After moving our vehicles to allow the snow plow to clear the parking lot, we headed up the trail. Charlie, Scott and Martin alternated breaking trail in the 8+ inches of fresh, fluffy snow. We skied towards Bechtel Shelter, via Abernathy Road, taking the second "Y" for a shortcut through the trees to return to Abernathy Road. A couple of groups caught up with us shortly before the shelter (due to the great trail breaking), so we opted to lunch at the crest of the hill above the shelter. Re-energized, we headed up the trail towards Midnight Lake, reaching it

as the sun peeked through the clouds! The crew returned by the same route, minus the shortcut through the trees. Due to the recent rain and snow, the terrain was undulated, exposing creeks and water areas. Thanks for a great day! Participants: nonmembers Barbara Aten, Barbara Boyland, Glen and Scott Svendsen; and members Mari Baldwin, Laurie Funkhouser, Martin Holland-Bak, Bob Huntley, Daphne James, Laurie Reed and Charlie Van Deuson.

Sand Mountain Traverse

January 15, 2006

Leader: Sam Miller

X-Ski, 9 miles, 1,500 ft. (Moderate)

THE SAND MOUNTAIN/Little Nash ski loop offers something for everyone. There's flat terrain, moderate uphill and long stretches of gradual downhill. During our nine-mile trip we encountered excellent snow conditions and several divisions of snowmobiles. As Obsidians, we practiced peaceful co-existence and smiled at our fellow travelers through the din and haze of their engines. Our group for this outing consisted of Dave Jensen, Dave Predeek, John Hegg, Tom Peterson, Lyndell Wilken, Sam Miller and non-member Brenda Kameenui.

Willamette Pass

January 19, 2006

Leader: Peggy Lee Mathes

Downhill Ski, "as hard as you want"

THIS YEAR'S DOWNHILL ski group included four Obsidians. Two other hopefuls were not able to go due to a lack of snow drivers. Road conditions were packed snow, not too icy. The day was beautiful, with occasional snow showers. The skiing was good where the slopes were groomed properly. Unfortunately, many of the intermediate slopes were not groomed or only had a narrow swath of groomed trail, leaving heavy powder on the rest of the trail! Why this was done is a mystery to me. Also, the high speed lift to the top and backside of the mountain was not operational until around noon. Despite these glitches, the group had a delightful day of downhill fun. Participants were Rick Ahrens (our most capable driver), Laurie Reed, Chris Shuraleff and Peggy Lee Mathes.

Ray Benson Snow Park

January 21, 2006

Leader: Sandra Larsen

X-Ski, 6 miles ("B")

DID WE EVER HAVE SNOW... great powder and lots of it! This was the first time I had led this ski trip for the club. Twelve eager skiers left Eugene in three cars. We reached the snow park in Santiam Pass about 11:15 after one car chained up. We did the north loop trail to Brandenburg Shelter, starting under cloudy skies. The sun peeked out for a short while and some of us got to break trail, so we got a workout which made us appreciate our lunch. After some tough going atop the windy ridge, we made it to the shelter with Doug McCarty in the lead. At the shelter, we joined several others to make about 20 people cozying up for lunch. After lunch, we returned via the same route, forgoing the loop trail. We returned to the cars about 4, which made a long but delightful day for the following participants: nonmembers Chris Christensen and Judy Reminger; and members Anne Bonine, Stephen Brader, Sandra Larsen, Patrice McCaffrey, Doug McCarty, Carol Petty, Sharon Ritchie, Suzanne Steussy, Charlie Van Deusen and Nancy Whitfield.

Rosary Lakes

January 29, 2006

Leader: Douglas McCarty

X-Ski, 7 miles, 800 ft. ("B")

WE STARTED OUT with storm warnings and rain falling, but everyone was game to go. In fact, the road was not bad up to Willamette Pass, although it snowed non-stop during our sojourn above 5,000 feet. All participants enjoyed a very nice climb through fresh powder to Lower Rosary Lake. We made one attempt to get to the middle lake, but decided breaking trail through two feet of fresh powder just seemed to enhance the views from the lower lake. We reconvened at the lower lake and ate lunch on our skis, gazing at the lake. The leader convinced everyone the middle lake looked exactly the same, only smaller. Skiing down in the snow was pleasant and gave rise to Robert Frost's "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening." Participants: Mari Balch, Les and Marian Brod, Brian Hamilton, Doug McCarty, Carol Petty, Glen and Scott Svendsen, Jerry Welsh, Nancy Whitfield and nonmembers Dave Jensen and Brenda Kameenui.



Snowshoe Trips

Gold Lake via Marilyn Lake

December 11, 2005

Leader: Laurie Funkhouser

Snowshoe, 5 miles, 300 ft. (Beginner)

WITH THE TEMPERATURE HOVERING at 25 degrees in Eugene, the spirited group of 13 snowshoers arrived at the Gold Lake parking lot shortly after 10 a.m., greeted by blue skies and 37 degrees. Glen Svendsen connected with the group at Gold Lake, bringing the total to 14 participants. Received greetings and a report on conditions from Wayne Deeter, then departed. Headed up Gold Lake Road for a short distance, then turned off to weave thru the trees (boughs loaded with snow and icy spots underneath; otherwise, the snow was perfect... light and fluffy) to catch the first glimpse of pristine Upper Marilyn Lake. Reached the Gold Lake Shelter shortly after noon to lunch and soak up the sunshine. Took a short jaunt up Salt Creek to view Gold Lake. With the sun starting to set and the temperature dropping, we headed up Gold Lake trail for the return trip. Thanks to all of the participants for a great first excursion for the season: nonmembers Glen Svendsen, Kristen Higgins and Robin Forster; and members Anne Bonine, Barbara Bruns, Bob Huntley, Daphne James, Laurie Funkhouser, Martin Holland-Bak, Nancy Whitfield, Pat Esch, Sharon Ritchie, Stewart Hoeg and Walt Dolliver.

Salt Creek Falls/Eagle Rock

January 14, 2006

Leader: Barbara Bruns

Snowshoe, 4 miles, 400 ft. (Advanced Beginner)

CANCEL THE SNOWSHOE TRIP? Just because of rain and a snow level up to 6,000 ft.??? Well, lucky for us, the snow level dropped to 3,000 ft. We did, however, go to Plan B, as there was limited snow cover at Salt Creek Falls. We continued higher to Gold Lake SnoPark to travel to Eagle Rock. It was an enthusiastic group, delighted to be out of the Eugene rain, and we enjoyed a wonderful day in the mountains with light snow. We decided to be on the safe side and we all chained up when we reached the snow

level. One of our group, Virginia, has some nifty tire covers that went on in a jiffy. The other two cars were jealous, as we struggled with our "easy on" chains. Scott, a high school senior who was on the trip with his dad, was extremely helpful. We all stopped in Oakridge on the way home to savor the day with coffee, soup and goodies at McGillicuddy's. We welcomed a new member (Glen Svendsen) and it was the third trip for Patrice McCaffrey and the second for Virginia Rice and Stephen Brander. Fun day!!

Participants were nonmembers Stephen Brander, Patrice McCaffrey and Virginia Rice; and members Anne Bonine, Barbara Bruns, Daniele Delaby, Yuan Hopkins, Sherwood Jefferies, Jack O'Donnell, Glen and Scott Svendsen, Sheila Ward and Nancy Whitfield.

Midnight Lake

January 15, 2006

Leader: Craig Renkert

Snowshoe 6 miles, 500 ft. (Intermediate)

WARM RAIN for the last several weeks had flooded many rivers, but a couple of days before the trip the temperature dropped (as did the snowline, to 2,000 ft.), resulting in a lot of new snow in the mountains. We had picture postcard scenery, including a bald eagle, on our drive up Willamette pass. We needed to chain up just above the railroad trestle (or have a 4x4 and adequate tires). The sky was clearing and no precipitation was forecast. From the Gold Lake snow park, we set out up Abernathy Road toward the Bechtel Shelter. Up to the Westview Shelter trail junction we followed a trail made by some boy scouts from Corvallis heading home after a night at the shelter. After that, we broke trail all the way to Midnight Lake, sometimes sinking over a foot in fresh powder snow. It was tough going at times, but the pleasure of good company and good weather made the task enjoyable. We paused on the road above the Bechtel Shelter (it looked like some people had spent the night there), before we headed up to Midnight Lake, where we lunched in the sun beside the lake. After lunch, we headed back to the cars via the same route and back to Eugene, stopping in Oakridge for a warm drink. I think we would all agree the conditions were about as-good-as-they-get. Participants were: nonmembers Ruth Anonym, Joyce Baker, Bob Freed, Barry Smith and Jessica Westin; and members Ken and

Mary Frazer, Daphne James, Sherwood Jefferies, Craig Renkert, Suzanne Steussy and Nancy Whitfield.



Byways By Bus

Harrison Hot Springs

August 15 - 19, 2005

Leaders: Liz Reanier, Ben Jeffries

FORTY-TWO OBSIDIANS and guests traveled 1,155 miles round trip to Harrison Hot Springs, a resort 120 miles east of Vancouver, B.C. It was a return visit for some, but most of us had just heard about it and were anxious to try it out. A special thanks to John Bunker, bus driver for Oregon Coachways, who provided invaluable help to me in planning and during the trip.

Day 1 was a long travel day, but we did have a special stop in Olympia, WA, for our lunch stop and a visit with Frances and Keith Newsom. It was great to see Frances. I kept thinking she was traveling with me, as she did for many years. We lucked out on the Seattle traffic and made it to Tulalip for our night stay early. Here, we picked up our last rider. Most were shuttled over to the casino for dinner.

Day 2 started with finding the bus garage to replace a malfunctioning part (only taking 10 minutes before we were back on the road). The historic Dutch town of Lynden was our morning break. Everyone scattered for a looksee, shopping or finding food. John Bunker became the tour guide for our border crossing, since he is the expert. The beautiful Minter Gardens (laid out in a thematic way) was our big stop for the day, and our lunch stop. Now, it was time to head for Harrison Hot Springs and a three night stay. Aside from getting together for group activities, everyone enjoyed the amenities of the resort, hiked around town, shopped and congregated in hot pools by evening. It took a little creativity to find supplies and restaurants and, unfortunately, shopkeepers kept short hours, so our shoppers came home richer. The excitement many watched from their decks was a windsurfer vs. boat collision and a helicopter airlifting him away.

Day 4 was a gorgeous day for our boat ride on the lake. Stewart Hoeg was very busy taking pictures I am anxious to see. Even Mt. Breckenridge was in view. The boat had limited seating so a few went on the afternoon trip and went over to the Kilby farm first. The boat riders went to Kilby in the afternoon. The surprise today was in the afternoon when we came in and found our room keys didn't work. Oooops! I had it fixed in no time. The border crossing was easy, thanks to John Bunker.

We stopped in Fife and we all scrambled to our choice of fast food. Then it was rest stops and no bad traffic to Eugene. It was a fun trip, lots to do and I didn't hear grumbles...just, "when can we go back?" Special thanks to Ben Jeffries for all his work planning our time at Harrison Hot Springs and taking care of all the finances.

Traveling on the trip: Ewart Baldwin, Helen Barnard, Dick and Mary Bentsen, Pat Bitner, Mary Lee Cheadle, Kent Christoferson, Mary Ann Cougill, Marjory Creuger, Rose Mary Etter, Margaret Fea, Rachele Fiszman, Bea Fontana, Jeannette Forsman, Bette Hack, Dora Harris, Evelyn Hile, Kathy and Stewart Hoeg, Mary Ann Holser, Marjorie Jackson, Ben and Pat Jeffries, Rosella Jones, Verna Kocken, Dot Leland, Kathy Madden, Cleora Mersdorf, Maude Nilsen, Barbara and Don Payne, Virginia Prouty, Liz Reanier, Julie Reifel, Dorothy Sistrom, Nan Smith, Julia Snell, Gene Thaxton, Millard Thomas, Bonnie Ward, Cristy White, Vera Woolley and Ellen Zigler.

Mt. St. Helens **October 4-5, 2005** **Leader: Liz Reanier**

TWENTY-NINE RIDERS (including 4 guests) traveled north with our usual rest stop south of Portland. Then, to the Ridgefield Game Refuge for a tour of the Cathlapotle Plank House, dedicated in the summer of 2005. It is located on a site Lewis and Clark visited at the west end of the Columbia River. Then on to Kalamama Marine park for lunch. Next stop was Castle Rock, home of the Cinedome, to view the eruption of Mount St. Helens. Then we traveled five miles east to the Washington's Mount St. Helens visitor center. The day was gorgeous, but predictions were for rain. I gave driver John Goddard orders to stop at most of the viewpoints so we could take pictures. The hillsides were brilliant with vine maple and other colorful trees amid the forest of noble fir. The view at Coldwater Ridge, seven miles from the mountain, was clear and impressive. We turned back to Castle Rock and Kelso with a beautiful sun setting, which is something we seldom get to see. No one seemed too upset about our late arrival at the motel and for dinner.

Day 2 -- A drizzling, foggy, windy day had been forecast. But the farther in we traveled, the better the weather became. It was clearing some by the time we stopped at the bridge viewpoint. The bridge (longest on the highway) is 2,730 ft. long and 370 ft. high. There are 14 bridges on the memorial highway. Nothing opens until 10 a.m., so we had lots of

time to view the area. Still no elk. At an elevation of 2,300 feet the view was spectacular. We arrived at Coldwater Ridge Interpretive Center about 9:30, so many hiked around the center and enjoyed the sunshine before entering the center. Everyone had Golden Age Passes, which made admission easy. Most of us took in the videos at each stop as they had different themes. Some took their coffee break in the cafeteria. (There is a view there, also.) As we were busing to Johnston Ridge, we located a small herd of elk. This stop, 53 miles east of I-5 is the end of the road from the west. The ranger presentations are excellent and the video is a grand finale. At 12:30, we boarded the bus for our return trip as we wanted to have time to view the elk again; and we had a lunch date at Hoffstadt Bluff for 1 p.m. After lunch, everyone got their last views of the mountain, shopped and watched the glass blowing demonstration. At 2:30, we boarded the bus for home with a rest stop and coffee break on our way home. There should be lots of good pictures of the trip. A great time was had by all.

On the trip were: Ethel Allen, Ewart Baldwin, Barbara and Paul Beard, Paula Beard, Mary Lee Cheadle, Mary Ann Cougill, Elaine Creuger, Jim Creuger, Marjory Creuger, Judy Dobell, Rachele Fiszman, Bette Hack, Dora Harris, Mary Ann Holser, Yuan Hopkins, Edna Hunsaker, Rosella Jones, John and Lenore McManigal, Cleora Mersdorf, Joyce Norman, Barbara and Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Edith Rode, Julia Snell, Dick and Janet Spielman and Vera Woolley.

Calling all Summer Trip Leaders...

THE SUMMER TRIPS Committee has been hard at work emailing and calling prospective trip leaders and if you haven't yet responded, now's the time, says Margaret Prentice, committee chair. "A full and varied schedule is our goal. We're aware it's difficult to set a date far in advance; but, if necessary, a trip can always be rescheduled," she says.

The annual schedule must be finalized by the end of February for inclusion in the March Bulletin. If you have questions or if you have little or no experience as a leader and would like to share the responsibilities with a co-leader the committee will find you a partner. Call Margaret at 687-5850 or email her at summertrips@obsidians.org.

THE BIG ANNUAL Leaders' Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 17th. At that time, there will be a demonstration of

how to submit reports online. You'll find it a much easier process than before and you won't need to provide a hard copy!

At the January callers' meetings at Janet Jacobsen's the highlights were the demonstrations by Wayne Deeter and John Jacobsen of how to use the website www.obsidians.org/strips. "We suggest you check it out and see which hikes are already scheduled, their dates and leaders," says Margaret. "If you haven't yet decided which hikes to lead, you can review past trip reports on the Obsidian website. These go back many years and one can learn when mosquitoes, poison oak, snow levels and hot weather are at their worst...or best, take your choice! Another valuable resource is Bill Sullivan's books -- including his new book, which includes hikes we've never had on our schedule."

UPCOMING

Winter Sampler

BARB REVERE and Winter Trips Chair Bill Johnson have looked over upcoming trips and selected a few for special mention. If you are leading a trip and would like us to know why you think it will offer something special, email us: bulletin@obsidians.org.

Saturday, February 18 -- Maiden Peak -- When asked why he likes to lead this 12-mile advanced cross country ski trip, leader Harold Thompson said: "The premier winter ski destination from Willamette Pass is without a doubt the summit of Maiden Peak: starting on the Pacific Crest Trail, skiing past Rosary Lakes and then up to the top at 7,818 feet! Often windy and cold, but always rewarding and beautiful. Then the fun really begins. A 2,000-foot drop back down towards Rosary Lakes, with the chance to cut as many turns as one could hope for. Great for working on those telemarking skills. The final three miles are an easy slide from the lakes back to the cars. This trip requires good backcountry ski skills, best with wider skis and skins for traction on the way up."

Same Day, Feb. 18 -- Square Lake - This 5-mile intermediate cross country ski trip led by John Pegg goes through the area of a major fire of a few years ago. If you have been on the PCT north out of the access at Santiam Pass you have seen the damage the fire did to the forest floor. This trip will give you a look

at the damage.

Wednesday, February 22 -- Spirit and Moon Falls -- This beautiful, close-in 5-mile ("A") hike led by Wayne Deeter features two stellar waterfalls. Located in the upper Layng Creek drainage, which provides the water for Cottage Grove. The drive up and back along the Row River is also very interesting. After you take this hike, you'll no longer ignore the little gems in the back pages of Bill Sullivan's local trail guide. There are 100 worthy hikes described in 11 pages; often overlooked, these trails offer solitude and the trail less taken.

Saturday, February 25 -- Sardine Butte -- An 8-mile advanced cross country ski trip. *Sardine Butte?* Never heard of it! This is exactly what leader Brian Hoyland is looking for. "My intent is always to try to lead a trip to a nearby beautiful place that is off the beaten trail. I intentionally try to pick remote, unheard of places...that are seldom visited by other hikers, climbers or skiers...." In the Fall Creek drainage, this butte is one of the area's higher peaks, has old growth forest, rocky outcroppings and is sure to have good snow pack. The start and stop points will depend on the snow conditions on the day of the trip.

Sunday, February 26 -- Berley Lakes -- This 8-mile intermediate cross country ski trip led by John Mowat starts at the remains of the old Santiam Pass Lodge and follows the old Skyline Trail until it meets the trail off the PCT going to Santiam Lake. The forest here did not get burned out. You have to be careful to

find the turn to the lakes, as it is not well marked.

Saturday, March 4, West Eugene Wetlands -- Although this is a 6-mile hike it is easy enough to still be an "A" outing. By late February, many migratory birds will be returning to the valley and, on this walk, with leader Chris Cunningham, you're sure to spot something new to add to your birding list.

Saturday, March 11--Trestle Creek Falls -- This "A" hike follows a 3.4-mile loop with a 900 ft. elevation gain. Ever watched an American water ouzel slip behind the curtain of water at a falls? Did you think, "That'd be neat; wish I could do that"? Well, you can, by joining Anne-Marie Askew on this hike just east of Cottage Grove. Thundering water, delicate ferns, moss covered and rain slicked rocks -- everything you expect on a waterfall hike. Anne-Marie takes out-of-towners here for "a taste of wilderness" without the long drive. With the heavy rain we've had, it's a good year to revisit some falls you haven't seen in a while. Give this hike a try -- two lovely waterfalls in one short loop.

Sunday, March 12 -- Fawn Lake -- This trip is usually done as a cross country ski trip, but this late in the winter snowshoes should be a better choice as the trail tends to be icy. It should be interesting to get around the huge Doug fir blocking the trail on snowshoes. There are lots of open places to stop for lunch at the lake. Craig Renkert leads this 7-mile advanced snowshoe trip.

Trip Logs Updated on Website

By Janet Jacobsen

OBSIDIAN TRIP LOGS provide a handwritten history for each member. Historian Lenore McManigal, uses trip reports to faithfully record the information on individual log sheets. This year, I did the yearly counting for the trip totals on our website, so I can take credit for any mistakes.

The December 31, 2005 updated logs on our website reflect the number of trips, bus trips and summit climbs for each member. "Trips" is a general term that includes winter and summer trips, summer camp hikes as well as climbing activities that do not result in reaching summits.

UNFORTUNATELY, if a leader does not turn in a trip report, trip participants can't get credit for their efforts. All trip

reports received after December 31st will be included when the totals for 2006 are compiled.

The reason we started counting trips in 2001 was to present the newly designated trip awards. Lenore and I decided at that time to break the count into the three statistical categories mentioned above. From the time we last counted in September 2004 (a span of 16 months), our logs show 321 members participating in bus trips, climbs and trips. There were 87 members who offered to lead summer trips.

John Jacobsen developed the database that does the counting and sorting. You can check the results on our website and see where you stand toward being awarded a trip patch.

Spring Climb School

THE CLIMBS COMMITTEE, in conjunction with Eugene Mountain Rescue, will once again present the Obsidians' annual spring climbing school this year.

This is an entry level mountaineering class with an emphasis on providing the basic skills needed to climb safely with a group in alpine mountaineering environments -- where travel may involve ascending glaciers or negotiation of steep rock. It is recommended for new climbers who would like to participate in any "technical" or roped climb or those who would like to refresh their climbing skills. Prerequisites for the course include being in reasonably good physical conditioning; being age 16 or older (or at least 13, if accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult); and, adds climbs chair Doug Nelson, "a willingness to have a great time!"

Classes, to be taught by Obsidian and EMR volunteers, include two evening classroom sessions (April 20 and 27) and two full-day field sessions (*Rock*, April 22 or 23; and *Snow*, April 29). The cost is \$60, payable in advance. All climb gear needed for the class (except ice axes) will be provided. Members of the Obsidians or EMR will receive a \$5 discount, with an additional \$5 discount for those who can provide their own climb gear. All proceeds go to support the Obsidians and EMR.

The climb school will be offered first to Obsidians and EMR, then to the general public. Class size is limited. For more information, contact Doug at 746-6774 or spdougfld@aol.com. To register: contact George Baitinger at 344-9345 (home), 346-2927 (work) or gbaiting@uoregon.edu.

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.

HANDS-ON NATURAL SCIENCE FOR KIDS! Sat., Feb. 25, Noon-1:30 p.m.: The natural world is waking up for spring. Laura McMasters, interpretive naturalist, will teach children to ask questions and form theories about what they observe outdoors and will tell stories about nature using some exciting props! We'll also explore the Arboretum, collect samples and inspect them close up with microscopes. Laura will bring live critters for kids to touch and hold. Fee: \$10.

INTRODUCTION TO BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION -- Sat./Sun., March 18/19, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Learn the basics of drawing plants from seasoned botanist, illustrator and teacher Dr. Linda Ann Vorobik. She'll introduce participants to basic drawing skills, parts of the plant and the field of botanical illustration through demonstrations and lectures. Dr. Vorobik will demonstrate use of water color and pen & ink for finishing illustrations beyond pencil sketches. Mornings begin with a lecture and demonstration followed by supervised sketching; afternoons include lecture, demonstrations and sketching time. The workshop closes with a friendly critique of drawings produced. All skill levels are welcome; accomplished artists can learn from added botany skills and skilled botanists will learn to draw. Fee: \$125 (\$100 MPA, NPSO or GNSI members).

Obsidian Calendar

February

18 Sat – **Maiden Pk**, X-Ski 12m Adv..... H.Thompson (683-8942)
18 Sat – **Square Lk**, X-Ski 5m Int, J.Pegg (343-0909)
19 Sun – **Fawn Lk**, X-Ski 7m Int, D.Jeffcott (344-6447)
19 Sun – **Gold Butte LO**, X-Ski, Adv McManigal (503-635-9973)
22 Wed – **Spirit and Moon Falls**, 5m A,..... W.Deeter (942-0824)
24 Fri – **Summer Camp Rally**, Potluck
25 Sat – **Sardine Butte**, X-Ski 8m Adv B.Hoyland (338-9881)
26 Sun – **Berley Lakes**, X-Ski 8m Int..... J.Mowat (342-6546)
26 Sun - **Byways-by-Bus Rally**

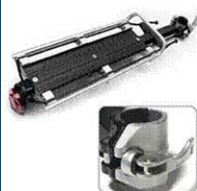
March

4 Sat – **Salt Creek Falls**, S'Shoe 4m Beg J.Pierce (344-1775)
4 Sat – **W Eugene Wetlands**, 6m A C.Cunningham (344-0486)
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**, X-Ski 10m Adv B.Johnson (746-1513)
24 Fri – **Rioja Region of Spain**--Reuls, Potluck
25 Sat – **Indian Rdg LO**, X-Ski 12m Adv... B.Hoyland (338-9881)

Bulletin Classifieds

For Sale

- **SUPER WARM POLAR FLEECE** weight 300 pants (inseam length=25"), drawstring elastic waist stretches to 30" -- \$25
- **STEEL CRAMPONS** (small), excellent shape -- \$30
- **LA SPORTIVA MOUNTAINEERING BOOTS**, women's size 5½ to 6 (not sure, worn off) worn only a few times. New = \$250, yours for \$150.
- **TOPEAK QR PACK-RACK** for bike. Connects to seat post. Fits any bike. Lightweight. New at REI, \$44, yours for only \$25.



- **TOPEAK QR BEAM** rear bike rack. New at REI=\$44.00; Yours for only \$25. Used only a few times for daytrips. Very versatile! Designed to stand up to the rigors of mountain biking, this rack works well for road bikes as well. T6 aluminum construction; hinged seat post clamp with aluminum quick release for easy mounting; carries up to 20 lbs. One size fits all seat posts.

— **Kathy Jensen**, jensenc@efn.org

ALPINA BACKCOUNTRY ski boots, size 45. Excellent boot, too large for current owner (purchased same boot in smaller size); fits NNN backcountry binding. \$40

— **Chris Jensen** – 782-2581, jensenc@efn.org

CATALYTIC HEATER--OLYMPIAN WAVE 6, designed for RVs, safe to 12k, feet, no flame/flue w/cover. +30 LB. LP CYLINDER, w/guage + STAY FLOW PLUS KIT for operating heaters, stoves,grills from your RV- LP tank. Orig cost \$500, asking \$220.

-- **Richard Hughes** 541-683-1409, rjhheal@yahoo.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.



Mt. Hood, Cooper Spur on left skyline, contrail to Seattle. Photo by Wayne Deeter on a recent ski trip.



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February 2006

SUMMER CAMP 2006 REGISTRATION FORM
Each camper must submit a separate form and submit to:

Obsidians, Summer Camp Registration
P. O. Box 51424
Eugene, OR 97405

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-Mail: _____

City, State, Zip _____ Age, if under 18: _____

I prefer (check one) : Session 1 (June 26-July 1) Session 2 (July 1-July 6)

If applicable, also check: It doesn't matter; I'm flexible

If space is available, I would like to stay for both sessions. The cost below will be doubled. Include only one \$20 deposit

Base Cost per session per person (tents or RV and food): Free – Child Age 0-5 \$92 – Child Age 6-11

\$185 – Age 12-Adult *Member* \$220 – Age 12-Adult *Non-member*

Cabin (surcharge of \$35 per person): I would like to stay in a cabin. If possible, I would like to share it with: _____

Adirondack (surcharge of \$15 per person): I would like to stay in a 3 sided hut. I would like to share it with: _____

Base Cost for Tenting/RVing (Child Age 12+ - Adult): \$185 Per Member \$220 Per Non-Member	\$
Base Cost for Tenting/RV ing (Child Age 6-11): \$92	
Surcharge for Cabin: \$35	
Surcharge for Adirondack (3 sided hut): \$15	
Sub-Total	
(Minus non-refundable deposit of \$20 which is attached)	(20)
Balance Owed - to be paid no later than May 1, 2006	\$

A **non-refundable** deposit fee of **\$20.00** must be included for **each** registration. A single check may be used for multiple registration forms mailed in the same envelope. Mail to: *Obsidians, Summer Camp Registration, P. O. Box 51424, Eugene, OR 97405*

Is this your first Summer Camp? Yes No

Please indicate your dietary restriction: No restrictions Semi-vegetarian (fish & chicken) Vegetarian

Do you have limitations that should be considered when the duty roster is made up (e.g., bad back, etc? If so, specify below).

If you are camping in a RV, what type of RV will you bring? Type _____ Length _____ ft.

RECOGNITION OF RISK AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, am aware that outdoor activities can be dangerous and present occasional hazards not encountered in everyday life. I am prepared to deal with and accept all risks of this activity and associated activities as my own responsibility. I am responsible for providing my own equipment, including first aid supplies and medicines. In consideration of OBSIDIANS, INC. sponsoring and granting permission for me to participate in this activity, I release OBSIDIANS, INC., its officers, agents and members from all claims on account of my death or injury resulting from any act, or failure to act, even if negligent, during my participation in this activity, including travel to and from the activity, and any associated activities.

By your signature below, you certify that you have read and understand all the conditions listed above.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

If minor under 18, parent or guardian must sign instead.

You may download this form at www.obsidians.org in the Members Only section under Documents

OBSIDIAN BUS TRIPS RALLY

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2006 1-3:30PM

AT EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD

(ITS THE BUILDING NORTH OF THE FOUNTAIN)

BRING YOUR CALENDAR AND CHECK BOOK AND SIGN UP !

HEAR! HEAR! THE LONG BUS TRIP IS TAKING RESERVATIONS

MT. LASSEN AND YOSEMITE PARKS

JUNE 5-11, 2006

Leader: Liz Reanier 687-1925

COST: \$600 members, \$ 614 non members

RESERVATIONS: \$125 deposit NOW

\$25 cancellation fee

Partial payments of \$275 April 2, \$200 or Bal. May 1

Send Reservations to: Janet Speelman 344-3019

1496 West 28th, Eugene 97405

Note all food costs are the individuals responsibility

Lodging: CURRY VILLAGE, east end of valley directly below Glacier Point. Tent cabins, not a fancy lodge.

Communal bathrooms, several food options, free shuttles, free guide to programs and sights.

Two full days to enjoy the park sight seeing and hiking or a more structured option for a group guided tour of the park and guided tour to the Mariposa Grove by bus.

Itinerary: I-5 to Redding, I-5 to west entrance to Yosemite, 2 full days in park leaving the 5th day back to Redding, then round trip to Mt. Lassen and last day I-5 to Eugene. There will be lots of stops, picnic lunches and photo stops along the way.

OBSIDIAN BUS TRIPS FOR 2006
FOR COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF THE TRIPS SEE THE RALLY
SHEET. OR CONTACT A COMMITTEE MEMBER OR LIZ REANIER

ALL RIDERS MUST EITHER BE AN OBSIDIAN OR A SPONSORED
GUEST. IF YOU DO NOT KNOW ANYONE CALL LIZ 687-1925

NO.	TITLE OF TRIP	DATES	COST
1	HISTORIC HOMES OF EUGENE LEADERS: MARY ELLEN WEST / BETTE HACK	APRIL 6	\$24(26)
2	MEET MOTHER OF MERIWETHER LEWIS LEADER: RAY JENSEN	APRIL 18	\$38(40)
3	THOMPSON'S GRIST MILL & OTHER TREASURES OF BROWNSVILLE LEADERS: MARY ELLEN WEST/ RAY JENSEN	MAY 2	\$33(35)
4	FINDING THE LOST COUNTY OF UMPQUA LEADERS: RAY JENSEN/ VERNA KOCKEN	MAY 23	\$29(31)
5	MT SHASTA, MT LASSEN, YOSEMITE LEADERS: LIZ REANIER /DON PAYNE	JUNE 5--11	\$600(614)
6	YAQUINA HEAD BIRDS- OREGON COAST AQUARIUM LEADERS: RICK AHRENS/LIZ REANIER	JUNE 20	\$38(40)
7	WILDLIFE IMAGES-WILDLIFE REHAB CENTER LEADERS: RAY JENSEN / LIZ REANIER	JULY 12	\$34(36)
8	GREAT OREGON STEAM-UP LEADERS: JOHN MCMANIGAL /RAY JENSEN	AUG 5	\$29 (31)
9	OREGON ZOO LEADERS: RICK AHRENS / LIZ REANIER	AUG 15	\$30(32)
10	SW. OREGON- ROGUE, COAST & REDWOODS LEADERS: BARBARA & PAUL BEARD, EWART BALDWIN	SEPT 11-13	\$300(306)
11	MT. HOOD, LUNCH AT TIMBERLINE LODGE LEADERS: BARBARA & DON PAYNE/ LIZ REANIER	OCT 3	\$62(65)
12	FALL COLOR- KING ESTATES -COVERED BRIDGES LEADERS: BETTE HACK / LIZ REANIER	OCT 17	\$42(44)
13	SHORE ACRES LIGHTS, SEA LIONS, SEALS LEADERS: LIZ REANIER / RICK AHRENS	DEC 1	\$30(32)