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Dates to Remember

Dec 15	Potluck - Nepal
Dec 16	McKinley Tragedy
Jan 3	Board Meeting
Jan 9	SciEd Tues—Fossils

Mt. McKinley Tragedy

Special Science and Education Presentation. See Page 13

Camp Pegg

January Bulletin will have the scoop.

New President Talks Softly, But Carries a Mean Ice Axe!

By Marshall Jay Kandell

NEW OBSIDIAN PRESIDENT John Pegg is most disarming. Soft spoken and mild mannered, he does not appear to be a mountain man. And, yet, he already has more than 50 club climbs to his credit, has earned the club's prestigious 10 Peak Leader Badge and is a member of Eugene Mountain Rescue, which specializes in high angle and altitude rescue operations under all sorts of situations. This year's vice president, John has been a member since the mid-1980s and is in his second tour of duty on the Obsidian board of directors.



John on summit of Mt. Hubris, on recent ascent.
Photo by Wayne Deeter

It was his father's stint in the U.S. Navy that resulted in John being born in Florida 59 years ago, one of many stops along the way during his father's time in the service. After his dad retired, the family moved to Vista, CA, where John went to high school.

(Continued on page 4)

Art & History Notes

Solving the Mystery of Our Woodland Woodcarvings

By Janet Jacobsen

TWO BEAUTIFULLY CRAFTED native maple woodcarvings hang in the new entryway of the Obsidian Lodge. Their previous resting place, in a dark space by the fireplace, hid the beauty of these hand carved woodland scenes. Ever the curious one, I wondered what their history was. They were carved by Lorie Cross in 1946; that much was discernable from the nameplate. But I was puzzled. Who was Lorie Cross...and how did these lovely carvings come to grace the wall of the lodge?

Cross, I discovered from the phone book, lives at Cascade Manor in Eugene. When I called, he responded, "Yes, I'm Lorie Cross who carves." He said he had no idea what carvings were at the lodge. Thus, I sent him an open house invitation and, luckily, his daughter was able to bring him. Afterwards, I visited him and spent a most enjoyable couple of hours as he showed me some of his carvings, explained the steps in creating a carving...and told me his story. Fascinating though his story is, it

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Welcome!

New Members

BAYLIS, PATRICIA (Associate)
222 E. Broadway, Apt 703
Eugene, OR 97401
343-5606 Patric222@netzero.com

BUSKIRK, BILL (Active)
PO Box 50984, Eugene, OR 97405
345-1445 blbuskirk@comcast.net

Reinstated Members

CHAMBERS, EMELINE (Active)
1071 Third Street
Port Edwards, WI 54469
715-887-2749

LIKES, VAN A. (Active)
PO Box 51392, Eugene, OR 97405
343-2790

SUTHERLAND, BARBARA (Active)
601 Country Club Rd #127
Eugene, OR 97401
344-8391

Traditionally Obsidians have hiked up Spencer Butte on New Year's Day. If the weather is agreeable, give it a try. Watch the website to see if a leader steps forward.

Janet Jacobsen



Bulletin Mail Box

Now that you have edited the Obsidian Bulletin for over a year, I want to compliment you for a fine job. I know next to nothing about publishing, but I can appreciate well organized format and well written and edited content.

I like the addition of the "Inside this Issue" column, to whet the readers' anticipation. The lodge remodel reports have been timely and complete. I look forward to book reviews and... "Trip Sampler" column.

I especially enjoy members writing to share their travel adventures and mis-adventures, recipes, hiking tips and interviews with Notable Members. Pat Bitner writes interesting nature articles.

More photos add interest. Digital cameras must be credited. And computers have made so many improvements possible. I am amazed and delighted with the quality of our club newsletter, put out by a volunteer staff. I read it cover to cover the day the mailman delivers it. (Can't wait for the next issue.)

Thank you for your good work. You have a great crew and network of contributors. Please carry on and know your efforts are applauded.

-- Velma Shirk

SciEd Tuesdays Ice-age Fossils Tell Story

JOIN US ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 7 P.M. AT THE LODGE, for our monthly SciEd Tuesdays, when Obsidian member and geologist Peter Rodda will present a fossil story.

Twenty-five thousand years ago, during the last glacial period, what is now San Francisco Bay was a broad, well-watered valley teeming with large, now extinct, animals--mammoth, bison, ground sloth, sabre-tooth cat, etc. A long episode of global warming changed all that and over thousands of years produced the present environment.

Fossils, found on-land and off-

shore, are keys to unraveling this history. One important piece of evidence, from an excavation in downtown San Francisco, was made available only through some undercover work--a bit of paleontological skullduggery.

About Peter: Ph.D. in Geology from UCLA; 13 years as research geologist for the Texas Bureau of Economic Geology, Austin; 26 years as Curator of Geology at the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; retired in 1997 and moved to Eugene; continuing research on California and Oregon fossils.

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322, Eugene, OR 97440

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The Obsidian Bulletin

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Deadline

for January 2007 Bulletin

Saturday, December 30, 2006

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For November Bulletin

Don Baldwin, Yuan Hopkins, Marshall Kandell, Verna Kocken, John & Lenore McManigal, Vera Woolley and Crew Chief Barb Revere

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Copy Editor Marshall Kandell
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Assembly & Mail Manager Barb Revere

Walking Among Giants with Sue Sullivan

By Chris Cunningham

ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN fortunate enough to travel to Nepal walks away with visual images that last a lifetime, from the unruly traffic flows in the capital of Kathmandu, to the rippled mountain terraces and jagged, snow-covered mountains standing boldly against azure skies.

For some people, like Obsidian couples Sue Sullivan and John Mowat, John Pegg and Deb Carver, and John and Lisa Manotti – along with other members of Eugene Mountain Rescue -- the experience of climbing a 20,400-foot peak in the Everest region of the Himalayas is more visceral, as breathing itself becomes an art transformed.



Photo by Sue Sullivan

Those of us who attend Sue's account of their journey at the December 15 potluck will experience a momentary breathlessness of our own, as we see how pack animals transport climbers' gear at high altitudes; visit handcrafted stone villages at 16,000-foot elevations; and learn about the Buddhist Sherpa culture, those rugged people who guide trekkers on trails high above the world as most of us know it.

SUE WRITES in her journal (which was excerpted in a featured Bulletin series earlier this year), "It was a clear, crisp morning at 16,400 feet. And it was like taking a walk among giants, with Lhotse hovering above us, still 12,000 feet higher."

You can read more about the trekkers' journey in Sue's expanded online journal with photos, at www.obsidians.org ...or, better yet, come to the potluck!

Potluck
Friday, December 15, 2006
Obsidian Lodge
Potluck, 6:30 p.m.
Program, 7:30 p.m.
Bring your favorite potluck dish to share...along with your own plates, utensils and cups...**and** \$1 to help cover lodge expenses.

Potlucks

November Potluck Review: *Picturing the West*

By LaRee Beckley

THE GUEST PRESENTER at the November Potluck was David Stone, a photography instructor at Lane Community College. A dedicated educator, he not only teaches his students how to photograph, but also takes them on journeys to some of the most beautiful landscapes and natural settings the west has to offer. He thrilled his audience with a show of collected photographs, accompanied by background music.

David divided his presentation into geographical regions casting images that remained with me long after the program had ended.

Oregon High Desert: Reflections in water of a solitary butte; vast desert landscapes; an owl in the night; the variegated colors of the sunset; and crescent moon in a clear night sky.

Klamath Basin: Swans and pelicans in flight; waterfowl filling the image as they land upon the water.

Oregon Cascades: Snowy peaks, waterfalls, skunk cabbage on the verge of blooming, brightly colored flowers.

Coastal Range: Salmon swimming upstream, a heron.

Oregon Coast: Seabirds on shore, a never-ending panorama of dunes, starfish and mollusks clinging to rocks.

Wild Utah: *Arches National Monument* -- a rattlesnake and Delicate Arch. *Canyon Lands National Park* -- the sun peeking through Mesa Arch, white rim cliffs, the Colorado River and the snowy peaks of the La Sal Mountains.

More places in Utah: *San Rafael Swell* -- colorful rock formations. *Capital Reef National Monument* -- red rock formations, Indian pictographs and brilliant red flowering cacti. *The Henry Mountains*. *National Bridges Monument* -- sandstone bridges carved by wind and water. *Zion National Park* -- waterfalls over towering rock mountains. *Bryce Canyon* -- bright red standing rocks, flowers and arches. *Escalante County* -- waterfalls in the desert, a fake ghost town (the set of "Gunsmoke"). *Coyote Buttes* -- an amazing landscape of sandstone mountains, known as "The Wave." *Bear River National Wildlife Area*.

Arizona: The Grand Canyon and Antelope Canyon.

Nevada: Lehman Caves and the Valley of Fire.

California: The Redwoods (and rhododendrons); Death Valley; Salton Sea; and Lava Beds National Monument.

The show concluded with photos of the photographers (we assume David Stone's students), as they bent, contorted and crouched, taking their best shots of the extraordinary scenes.

Solving the Mystery:

(Continued from page 1)

solved only part of the puzzle. I now knew who the artist was, but not how the carvings got to the lodge. His tale does, however, lead in a roundabout way to the missing pieces.

Lorie's Story

THE DEPRESSION and the Dust Bowl chased Lorie's family from Texas to Colorado and, when Lorie was 16, on to Lafayette, OR. In 1939, not able to go to college, Lorie, 18, joined the National Youth Administration (a federal program established to help youths find part time work). Very shortly thereafter, on an icy cold day, he found himself along with 99 other boys on a flat bed truck traveling to Eugene. They took up residence at an old CCC camp on the west side of

Skinner Butte.

His introduction to the camp was anything but smooth. Upon arrival the head of the camp pointed at a pile of straw and empty sacks and told the boys to each make a tic (mattress) to go on the old army cots on which they were to sleep. That same night, according to Lorie, the administrator built a fire in some old stove barrels. The heat from the fire melted the snow on the roof. All night, the boys had to keep shifting their cots around dodging the leaks.

THIS BEGAN AN IMPORTANT part of Lorie's adult life. The part time jobs arranged for the boys were at the Eugene Vocational School (located at

Madison and 7th and the precursor to Lane Community College). Half the day the boys built various items for the school; the other half they spent going to the school themselves. Lorie, considered too small to be the carpenter he wanted to be, was sent to the design school, where he eventually learned about photography, poster painting, woodcarving and the use of power tools. Local trades people were instructors. Interestingly, in a small world sort of way, Dot Dotson, a charter member of the Obsidians, was one of his teachers.

When Lorie went to his first class, the teacher, Art Clough, handed him a

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Carries a Mean Ice Axe

(Continued from page 1)

JOHN EARNED A B.A. at San Diego State, majoring in English and philosophy; then got a master's in literature at Northern Arizona. It was while at Northern Arizona that he realized he needed to take something that could actually get him a job and earn him enough to support himself. Having developed an interest in libraries, he decided to get another master's in library science...a decision that took him to the University of Oregon, primarily because "it was the cheapest accredited library school on the west coast."

The early '70s were not a good time for employment here, however. John did get a job in the library at Lane Community College...temporarily filling in for a woman on maternity leave. Soon out of work again, John sought help at the state unemployment office, where they were so impressed with him they said, "why not work here?"

AND, SO, HE DID. For the next 30 years!

Now retired, he worked on a variety of programs implementing changes in laws and policies. He was involved almost exclusively with unemployment insurance, changes and training.

The move to Oregon did more than just jumpstart his career. Surrounded

by wonderful outdoor opportunities, he jumped in with both feet. He remembers buying a pair of heavy and blister producing hiking boots at Maddox Outdoor & Pipe Shop (*can anything be more incongruous and, yet, typically Eugene?*). And he started climbing mountains.

If he was going to be carrying around an ice axe, John figured he ought to learn how to use it properly. And he was smart enough to realize he should get some real training if he was to safely reach the summits of the serious peaks. So, he signed up for his first Obsidian Climb School back in the '80s. At climb school in the early '90s he met Deborah Carver. "We did a couple of climbs with the Obsidians and one thing led to another," John recalls. They've been man and wife since 1999.

IN AN INTERESTING TWIST of fate, Deb is currently the UofO's dean of libraries. John doesn't remember their common shared interests in library science coming up during their "getting to know each other" days.

In addition to serving as matchmaker, the Obsidians also provided many long and lasting friendships. "When you do outdoors activities with people," says John, "there's a real bonding, especially with climbers.

There's a lot of trust involved when you're belaying at the end of a rope."

JOHN AND DEB were part of the group of climbers who traveled to Nepal this year. Their adventures were described in a multi-part Bulletin feature (which can also be found with a full array of photos on the Obsidian website) and will be the subject of this month's potluck presentation by fellow Obsidian Sue Sullivan.

John enjoys skiing in the winter and has developed a new interest in biking, particularly bicycle touring.

In addition to serving as vice president, John has also chaired the Safety Committee for the past few years.

Highly proficient with an ice axe, John will now try his hand at wielding another tool which can also be quite tricky...*a gavel!*

A Short Parting Note

ONE NEED ONLY LOOK at recent issues of this Bulletin to see how successful the 79th year of this club has been. Thanks are due to those many volunteers for making this possible. I'm sure that under John Pegg's presidency the 80th year will continue the success.

-- Wayne Deeter

Our Woodland Woodcarvings

(Continued from page 4)

chisel and told him to carve a gull. Lorie had never even seen one! Although this may seem like an ignominious beginning to a career, it was not. The teacher was well known in the area for his carvings. In fact, in the Knight Library reading room are beautiful cedar panels carved by him. Clough started the Grey Gypsy Craftsmen artisan group. He and Lorie became good friends later in life.

Lorie worked hard at school and became acquainted with another student, Thuman Lanning, who currently resides in Springfield. Lanning was working on a carving of a salmon that first day in class and Lorie was tremendously impressed by the work. Interestingly, the gull Lorie began his carving career on that first day and Lanning's salmon can still be seen at the Forestry Building in Salem.

A FEW YEARS LATER, Lorie, by now an accomplished artist and designer, took his portfolio to Boeing in Seattle and landed a job in the pattern shop for 90 cents an hour. However, this was not to last. World War II had begun and following the lead of a number of his friends he enlisted in the navy. Four years later, he returned to Eugene and carving. His first project was to help Clough and a few ex class members create a carving for the Mahlon Sweet Airport (which was located at 18th and Chambers). It took the group six months to complete the carving of Paul Bunyan and his blue ox, Babe. This wonderful piece can now be seen behind the security gates at the "new" airport.

Although Lorie did not become a member of the Grey Gypsy Craftsmen, he did work with them on a number of carvings, including the two woodland scene carvings at the lodge. Lorie, by the way, went on to own his own construction company and eventually became the owner of the Lori Cross Paint and Wallpaper Shop.

So, now we know where the carvings came from, but part of the puzzle

remains: Why are they there?

Solving the Puzzle

THIS PART OF THE PUZZLE required even more sleuthing, for which I owe a big thanks to Rick Ahrens. While researching the lodge's history he made a serendipitous discovery. A



Lorie Cross with his carvings. Photo by Stewart Hoeg

1963 Obsidian Bulletin article related the story of George Korn donating the carvings to the Obsidians. That find led me to a 1948 Bulletin article and then to Korn's obituary. Most of the puzzle pieces were coming together.

From the 1995 obit I learned that Korn was born in Davenport, Iowa in 1898, attended Patterson Grade School and graduated from Eugene High School. He ran track and played football at the UofO. In 1919, he opened the Korn Bakery with his father and brother. Korn and his wife owned and operated the Willamette Pass Ski Area until the early 1960s. They oversaw the installation of the Poma-Lift, as well as the openings of many new trails and a ski school.

George was an active Obsidian and the story of how he donated the plaques is not only interesting, but gives us an insight into the man.

George co-chaired a three day welcoming party being sponsored by the City of Eugene, the University of Oregon, the UofO Ski Club and the Obsidians to pay tribute to Olympic skiing gold medalist Gretchen Fraser of Vancouver, WA -- who learned to ski from her husband on the slopes of Mt. Hood and was the first U.S. skier to win an Olympic gold medal (1948 at St. Moritz).

Welcome events included an Obsidian banquet, a raft trip down the McKenzie, the Mortar Board Ball, breakfast with the Princesses, a tour of the city, the position of honorary referee at the UofO football game and a ski trip to Sunshine Shelter. George had the two 16" x 5' wood plaques carved from native maples by Lorie Cross, having held them for many years until they could be presented to the Obsidians when they acquired a lodge building of their own. The banquet provided just the right occasion.

Now we know Lorie carved the plaques and George presented them in 1948 (and again in 1963).

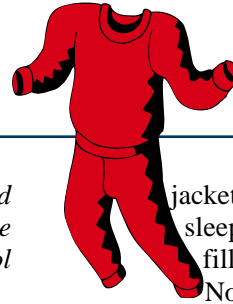
LORIE REMEMBERS George Korn as an energetic and interesting fellow who sometimes acted as mentor at the vocational school. George was older and had a bit more money than others and he possibly commissioned the work.

Lorie is not sure how George contributed or how he ended up with the panels. A modest man, Lorie certainly doesn't see himself as the "noted wood carver" mentioned in the 1963 Obsidian article, nor does he want to take all of the credit for the carvings. According to Lorie, "There are uncertainties in the article."

Shedding new light on the carvings has given them a history for all of us to appreciate and enjoy. With Lorie's help, I think "most" of the questions have been answered.

(The above feature is part of a continuing series researched by Janet Jacobsen and Rick Ahrens on the history of the artists and photographers who have masterpieces displayed in the Obsidian Lodge.)

Ask Kristin: Hot Tips on Long Johns



By Kristin Hostetter
Special to the Seattle Post-Intelligencer

DEAR KRISTIN: *I will be moving to colder climes soon and need long johns. My husband swears by polypro, but all the info I've seen says it smells badly and that polyester and wool work better. I am a cold-sleeping female. What do you think*

-- K.H.

DEAR K.H. -- Polypro was all the rage back in the '70s, but has practically gone extinct because of the glut of way better base-layer options we now have. My favorites are polyesters and wools. Polyesters are soft, quick to wick and dry, and many have been treated with anti-microbial potions that really keep stink to a minimum. Wool is another great bet. And don't be concerned about the itch-factor; today's wool base layers feel almost cottony. For colder climes, they are supremely warm. For a run-down of some of the top base layers (and other types of clothing, too), check out the September issue of Backpacker, which features the magazine's annual Apparel Guide. More than 250 products were tested and experts picked the best of the bunch.



Kristin Hostetter

DEAR KRISTIN: *I bought some polypropylene long underwear that's supposed to wick away the moisture from my skin. If I wear regular cotton underwear underneath the long underwear, am I defeating the wicking properties of the polypropylene?*

-- G.A.

DEAR G.A. -- You guessed it. Wearing cotton under your new polypro would be sort of like slathering a beautifully marinated steak with ketchup. Cotton undies will soak up all your sweat and just hold it there next to your skin, where it could cause chafing or irritation. The whole point of the polypro is to wick that sweat away from your skin, where it can evaporate. Loads of outdoor companies make synthetic skivvies (and bras for you girls) in all sorts of styles -- boxers, briefs, even hybrids of the two. Check at your local outdoor shop.

DEAR KRISTIN: *I'm looking at down jackets. Some labels say 650-fill, some say 700-fill -- what does it mean? Is it a unit of density of the down material, or the quality of the down material, or is it something else? How does it relate to the degree of insulation of a jacket or a sleeping bag, for that matter?* -- J.G.

DEAR J.G. -- Picture this: You take an ounce of down and dump it into a big old beaker from science class with cubic inch marks on the side. If it takes up 650 cubic inches, it's called 650-fill down. If it takes up 700 cubic inches, it's, you guessed it -- 700-fill. You get the point. But what the heck does it mean? When it comes to down, fluffier is better. The higher the fill power, the fluffier the jacket. The fluffier the

jacket, the warmer you'll be. (The same goes for sleeping bags.) You'll pay a premium for higher fill powers, because the pure feathers are scarcer. Nowadays, the highest fill power number you'll see is 900. It's supremely cloudlike stuff, the cream of the crop. On the lower end, you'll find 550-fill, which often has little twiglike feather pieces mixed in -- you can actually feel them when you handle the down. Bottom line: go with the highest fill power you can afford.

DEAR KRISTIN: *When on a hike, is a good pair of trail shoes good enough, or do you think I still need to wear boots? I have always hiked in boots, but it seems there are some really nice shoes on the market these days.*

-- W.C.

DEAR W.C. -- The line between boots and shoes is a blurry one. Most people think of boots as high cut and shoes as low cut. But really, if you have strong ankles and won't be carrying a big load, low- or mid-cut shoes will be just fine.

What's more important, me thinks, is the underfoot stiffness of the midsole. I recently returned from a five-day tromp through Utah's Glen Canyon area, and though my shoes were light and low-cut, the underfoot was stiff and protective, which was a good thing, considering all the rocky, dry streambeds I was walking through. The key is to find the lightest footwear that still provides the support you need.

DEAR KRISTIN: *My wife doesn't like to use hiking trail outhouses. The only way I can convince her to hike with me is to stick to a very short trail, where bailout is always an option. This doesn't cut it for me. What should I do?*

-- M.J.

DEAR M.J. -- Time for a little potty training! This fear of relieving oneself without the modern miracle of plumbing is a common problem with newbie hikers and campers. Usually, once they just do it a few times, the fear fades away. I can relate, though, to her repulsion with outhouses. The thing is, if an outhouse is available, that means it's a fairly high-use area, so it's important to use the facility and concentrate the impact (as opposed to finding your own spot).

Here are a few outhouse tricks of the trade I've mastered over the years: 1. Have your t.p. out of its bag and ready to go, so you can spend as little time as possible in the odiferous chamber. 2. Crouch, don't sit. It's good for the quads and minimizes potential for contact with, well, gross stuff. 3. Leave the door open so you don't feel so freaked out (chances are there's no one else around). 4. Tie a clean-smelling bandana around your nose and breathe through your mouth!

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>

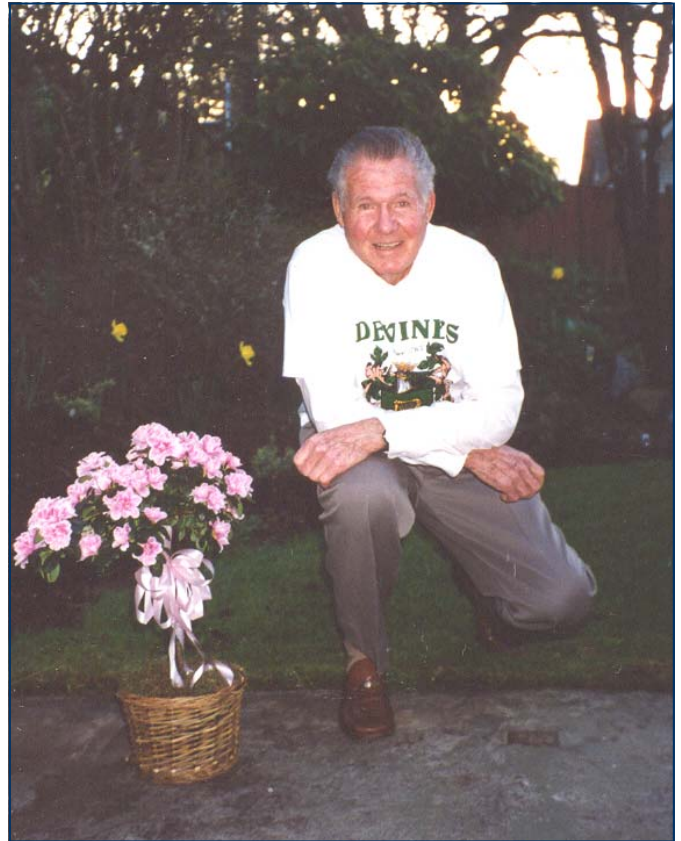
She has generously allowed the Obsidian Bulletin to reprint her Seattle P-I articles.

Robert Engwall Devine

BOB WAS BORN on July 23, 1917 in Honolulu, HI. From his earliest memory he felt called to the sea. His Swedish grandfather had been a sea captain and that was what Bob wanted as well. His first voyage was as a stowaway from San Pedro, CA, to Honolulu at the age of 16. He wanted "work experience," so he would be taken seriously when he applied for a job. He became a cadet in the Merchant Marine at the age of 20 and worked his way up to captain. His first command was a liberty ship during World War II in the Pacific. He grew a mustache so his men would show respect and so, once again, he would be taken seriously.

After the war, Bob married and had two sons, Robert and Brad. He worked as a lab assistant at Cal Tech so that he could be a full-time husband and dad; but, again, the sea called and Bob spent the last 10 years of his career as captain of an oil exploration ship for Global Marine. His relief captain suggested he try Eugene as a place to retire. It was a perfect fit for Bob. The first weekend he lived here he went to a dance, met an Obsidian and took his first Obsidian hike on that Sunday in June, 1979. Bob went to five summer camps and climbed Middle Sister and Diamond Peak. He did a total of 181 activities with the Obsidians -- a combination of hikes, summer camps, ski trips and bike rides. To celebrate his 65th birthday, Bob did a solo bicycle trip to Denver.

Bob was a great traveler. He and his former wife -- Obsidian Leona Devine -- canoed, hiked, skied and backpacked in the United States and Canada. They took numerous trips to Europe and Asia. I met Bob bicycling. One Sunday, he showed this rookie how to lock up her bike properly and we, too, went on to have great travel adventures. I already miss Bob's dry wit, his quiet charm and calm acceptance of life's difficulties.



Bob is survived by his first wife, Beverly Grant; second wife, Leona; two sons; granddaughter; and final partner, me.

-- Gayle Berge

(NOTE: An open house and informal get-together to enjoy Bob's memory has been scheduled for Monday, January 8th, from 2 to 4 p.m. at 1860 Olive Street in Eugene.)

John Borchardt

OBSIDIAN JOHN William Borchardt of Eugene died Nov. 14 of age-related causes at 89. He was born Nov. 28, 1916, in Germany, to John and Anna Brager Borchardt. He married Marian Falloon on July 27, 1957, in Fall City, NE.

Borchardt served in the Army Air Corps in World War II. He taught physical education at Auburn University and was a swim coach and professor of physical education at the University of Oregon. He was a veteran of more than 40 club bus trips.

Survivors include his wife Marian (also an active Obsidian); a son, John of Pleasant Hill; three daughters -- Jeanne Chocek and Susi Borchardt, both of Huntington Beach, CA, and Joni Borchardt of Eugene -- a brother, Elmer, of Milwaukee, WI; and three grandchildren.

Kay Ullman

AMEMORIAL SERVICE was held on Nov. 20 at St. Alice Catholic Church for Obsidian Kay J. Ullman of Springfield, who died Nov. 11 in a pedestrian-automobile accident at age 72.

Born Sept. 9, 1934, in Hopkins, KY, Kay had worked as a traffic engineer for TCI Cable. Survivors include four sons -- James of Gresham; Steven of Concord, NH; Jeffery of Georgia; and Edward of Eugene -- and a brother, Jerry Satterfield, of Prescott, AZ.

According to Historian Lenore McManigal, Kay went on six bus trips.

Board Notes

December 6, 2006

By Laurie Funkhouser, Secretary

Board members present: President Wayne Deeter, VP John Pegg, Treasurer Sheila Ward, Brian Hamilton, Sandra Larsen, Jim Duncan, Stewart Hoeg and Marianne Camp. Others present: Larry Huff, Barb Revere, Andrew Sullivan, Margaret Prentice, Liz Reanier, J. Scott Hovis, John Jacobsen, Julie Dorland, Sharon Ritchie, Rob Castleberry, Peter Asai, Judy Newman, Marshall Kandell, Kathy Hoeg, Joella Ewing, Jim Pierce, Sharon Duncan, Doug Nelson, Bea Fontana and Secretary Laurie Funkhouser. November minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Board approved payment of the following bills: Publications (Insta-Print \$444.75, P.O. bulk mail 106.44, P.O. bulk mail permit \$160); J. Jacobsen (Contingency Fund, entertainment \$210); Sheila Ward (administration \$16.67); Laurie Funkhouser (Concessions \$14.45); EWEB \$123.17; M. Prentice (Summer Trips \$35); Sharon Ritchie (Membership badges \$675, postage \$39). In addition, the Finance Committee requested the treasurer to move \$20,000 from checking to a CD.

New Business

Committee Chairs: President-Elect John Pegg announced appointment of the following committee chairs for 2007:

Summer Trips

Jan Jacobsen/Barb Revere

Winter Trips

Jim Pierce

Climbs

Larry Huff

Trail Maintenance To be announced

By-Ways-By Bus

Liz Reanier

Summer Outings

Jim Duncan

Extended Trips

Lana Lindstrom

Youth

J. Scott Hovis

Conservation

To be announced

Publications

Barb Revere

Entertainment

Kathy Hoeg

Science & Education

Joella Ewing

Membership

Julie Dorland

Publicity

Ann McLucas

Concessions

Laurie Funkhouser

Online

Wayne Deeter

Finance

Stewart Hoeg

Library/Historian

Lenore McManigal

Lodge Building

Brian Hamilton

Lodge Grounds

John Jacobsen

Safety

Doug Nelson

Thanks to all past-Chairs for their service and a warm "Welcome" to the new chairs.

2007 Budget Presentation (Stewart Hoeg): The proposed 2007 budget includes revenues of \$22,960 (2006 - \$16,900) and expenses before loan repayment to the Endowment Fund of \$19,200 (2006 - \$17,260) for a net positive cash flow of \$3,760. The 2007 cost of the loan repayment to the Endowment Fund is estimated to be \$2,000 which will result in \$1,760 available to rebuild the Contingency Fund. Most of the budgeted increased revenue (\$5,000) is due to the new \$30 membership fee. The greatest increase in budgeted expenses are for publications (\$600) and insurance for the Lodge (\$500).

Committee Reports

Summer Trips (Margaret Prentice): Nine trip reports with 47 members and 15 nonmembers for revenues of \$108; two outstanding reports with an additional \$37. The committee is considering changing the callers meeting from January to February with the completed summer trip list being published in the April Bulletin, rather than in March. The Board supported any changes the committee wished to make.

Winter Trips (Jim Pierce): Five trip reports (all hikes), with two trips canceled and two rescheduled (38 members, 5 nonmembers, revenues of \$63). There are 67 more winter trips on the

schedule. In addition, good discussions took place at the Leaders/Co-Leaders meeting presented by Scott Hovis Nov. 29 (12 attendees).

Trail Maintenance (Peter Asai): Monthly trail maintenance trips for Spencer Butte Park have begun. There is a need for trip leaders (a limited function since the city supervises, provides equipment, etc.).

By-Ways-By-Bus (Liz Reanier): Committee is finalizing 2006 matters (financial and trip reports) and deep into the planning of the 2007 schedule. The one long trip to Canada is already fully subscribed with a wait list started. Currently, the treasurer shows a \$5,000 balance which is from the deposits for the Canada trip. An Eagle Trip will be led by Liz Reanier and Rick Ahrens Feb. 20-21.

Entertainment (Kathy Hoeg): 75 attendees for November potluck (and 86 for the presentation). Fees collected, \$89!

Science & Education (John Jacobsen): 44 attended the Nov. 14 presentation by Rick Ahrens; \$32 in fees. Upcoming presentations: Dec. 14 (7-9 p.m.) "Sacred Season" by Rick Ahrens at the Eugene Garden Club; and Dec. 16 (11a.m.) Tragedy on Denali by Joe Wilcox at the Lodge. The next Sci-Ed Tuesday will be Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. with Peter Rodda presenting a program on surreptitious fossil hunting in downtown San Francisco.

Membership (Sharon Ritchie): Two membership applications approved by board. Total members to date: 578.

Concessions (Laurie Funkhouser): Sales = \$64.50.

Online (Wayne Deeter): Wayne planning to double the committee members. He also informed committee chairs of the options available in e-mail/web page addresses to help communication within committees, etc.

Lodge Building (Rob Castleberry): Rob continues to work with EWEB regarding replacement of the power pole to protect the Lodge's electrical service.

TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Hikes

Canyon Creek Meadows

October 7, 2006

Leader: Pat Adams

9 miles, 1,400 ft. ("B")

OUR GROUP OF FOUR drove east for two hours to the Jack Lake trail-head. The parking lot was full of hunters' rigs, but the sun was high, we never saw hunters or game and we never heard a shot. We set out at 10 through nearly two miles of burn. The woods greened as we came to Canyon Creek, the meadow and a great view of Three Fingered Jack. We cleared tree line and hiked a thousand feet up moraine to the viewpoint and lunch. Sky and horizon were clear with good views of the PCT and strikingly bare Cascade peaks. We returned by the north leg of the loop towards Wasco Lake, taking in the broad reach of the fire. I felt lonesome for my saws. The group included Obsidians Ann-Marie Askew (our driver), Glen Svendsen, saddle weary leader Pat Adams and soon to be Obsidian Ed Durkee. We were back well before dark.

Cemetery Walk

October 22, 2006

Leader: Janet Hall

8 miles, 500 ft. ("B")

BARBARA MORGAN and I began at the Amazon parking lot and headed south. We veered to the west to head up a "secret" path that wound up at our first cemetery, where we had beautiful views to the north of Eugene dressed in its fall glory. Upon hiking to the other side of the cemetery, we went by another "secret" path that took us past an inquisitive goat before we got to a street that led us uphill then down to our second cemetery. This time, we had a great view of the east hills as we hiked down to Willamette St. We crossed Willamette and headed east before turning north to the third cemetery. We paused for a brief lunch on a very cold bench as we ate among the tombstones. After lunch, we continued north to the campus cemetery before heading back to parking lot. On the way to the lot, Barbara got entranced with a house being relocated and paused to observe the goings on. It was a beautiful sunny fall walk.

Heceta Head/Hobbit Trail

October 28, 2006

Leader: Sandra Larsen

6 miles, 400 ft. ("B")

SIX HIKERS met me at Muriel Ponsler Wayside to start this popular coastal hike.

The sun was shining and the tide was out as we started walking south on the beach on this beautiful windless morning. A heron stayed just ahead of us as we walked along. We went up the Hobbit Trail and then continued to the lighthouse for the WOW views. Some of the group took the short lighthouse tour and the rest ate lunch and basked in the sun. After lunch, we returned to the trail, crossed the highway and went along the China Creek Trail, and through the campground to return to our cars. This was a first time on this trip for some of the group and we even had someone who had just moved to Eugene. The group had several opportunities for photo taking. This trip never disappoints, even when it is foggy or even drizzly. Members Jennifer Barnes, Daniele Delaby, Sandra Larsen, John Lee and Margaret Prentice; nonmembers Keith Christensen, Nathan Thompson and Bill Ward.

Springfield Art History Walk

November 3, 2006

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Photo: Barb Revere

4 miles, 0 ft. ("A")

SIXTEEN OF US were delighted the rain held off for our walk in downtown Springfield. We met at the Springfield Depot, where I gave everyone a Ziploc bag with two maps: *A Walk of Art; A*



Obsidian hikers visit 1900 Paris café ...face a long wait for a table!

"I can name only a handful of the hikers in the photo," says hike narrator Barb Revere, "but leaning on the furniture, between tree and the 'no parking' sign, is F. Scott Fitzgerald. Seated at the table are Vincent Van Gogh (left) and Paul Gauguin. The black brim of Aristide Bruant's hat and his face are barely visible above Carol Petty's head. Bruant is seated inside the 'café,' not standing out on the 'sidewalk.' The gaggle of seven Obsidians are completely obscuring Toulouse-Lautrec, seated at his regular table. Interestingly enough, Isadora Duncan is partially obscured by Sharon Duncan."

Self-guided Cultural Tour and the *Washburne Historic District*. A representative of the Chamber of Commerce gave a short talk about the history of the depot. From the depot, we walked a few blocks east to admire the long Lane Transit Depot tile mural of the forest beginning at one end with sunrise and spreading toward flying bats at evening. We then followed the map to view 18 diverse examples of community art and buildings.

The McKenzie River Mural and *Bob the Dog Visits the Old Growth* were among the first surprises for those who were unfamiliar with Springfield. The Oregon Trail Mural at 500 Main Street had 43 subjects for us to discover. Stopping at The Moderns on the west wall at 602 Main Street, we picked out Van Gogh, Fitzgerald, Gauguin, Lautrec, Duncan, and Hugo. Still under construction, the Wildish Theater, 3A Academy and the five story St. Vincent DePaul building will certainly add more spirit to downtown.

In front of City Hall we smiled at the whimsical *Balancing Act* sculpture featured a rhino balancing a gymnast holding a bird of prey. Then it was up the stairs to the City Hall Gallery for exhibits and historical photographs. Too bad we didn't have enough time to explore the Emerald Arts Gallery and the Springfield Museum. With the Washburne map in hand, we began walking through the residential area looking for 15 homes, examples of bungalow, homestead, Queen Ann and colonial styles. We saw many houses with historical signs identifying the names of the original occupants and the year they were built. By 11 a.m., we were back downtown ready for lunch. Some went to Joaquin's for homemade tamales, while others went to Ruthie B's. The rain started while we were at lunch!

It was an out of the ordinary trip for all of us. My thanks to nonmember Mindy Hollenbeck, who scouted out the trip with me and planned the route; to Sharon Duncan for collecting the fees; and to Barb Revere for sweeping. Members Suzanne Clark, Daniele Delaby, Sharon Duncan, Giselle Garrity, Jane Hackett, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen, Terri Mason, Carol Petty, Dorothy Quirk, Ginny Reich, Barb Revere, Barbara Schomaker and Barb Sutherland; nonmembers Joanne Gulsvig and Mindy Hollenbeck.



Happy group at Skinner Butte Park. Urban hiking at its finest.

North Shasta Loop
November 15, 2006
Leader: Ruth Romoser
5 miles, 500 ft. ("A")

ELEVEN HIKERS spent a wonderful two hours on an urban hike up North Shasta and down Agate St., crossing 30th and walking thru the cemetery. During the hike we saw two deer. We then jaunted up the hill and down to our cars. This walk is fun to do with views of Eugene, deer and city history. Members: John Agnew, Paul Flashenberg, Jim & Kathleen Floyd, Tom Gould, Dick Hildreth, Bob Moffitt, Mary Morrison and Ruth Romoser. Nonmembers: Fred Thomas and Hedy Stolen.

Skinner & Gillespie Buttes
November 18, 2006
Leader: Janet Jacobsen
Photo: Carmen Nichols
6 miles, 500 ft. ("A")

NINETEEN PEOPLE showed up for the first "winter hike" on the schedule. We met at the Campbell Senior Center parking lot and hiked up the gravel trail to the east end of Skinner Butte at 682 feet. The fog never lifted to show off the panoramic views. The butte was known as "Ya-Po-Ah," which means *high place* in the language of the Kalapuya. It was used for ceremonial dances. We took note of the giant "O" emblem representing the

UofO, the base of the old wooden cross that was on the butte from 1939-1964, and the flagpole. From the west end of the butte, we headed down past the *Columns* to the marker designating the site of Eugene Skinner's cabin. Dave Predeek told us only the north side, near the Columns has the native grasses that were so prevalent on the butte until residents planted trees. We then walked through the River Play Discovery Village on our way to the bike path. Since the next two restrooms were locked, we walked a bit faster to Valley River Center.

It was a short walk past Willagillespie School and up Clinton Drive to Gillespie Butte, where we paused to look at the monuments in the cemetery. The fog was even thicker, so instead of enjoying the views of Skinner and Spencer Butte, we walked through the magnificent grove of white oaks. Margaret Prentice pointed out the small plaque on one of the oaks identifying it as a Eugene legacy tree. The possible age is from 100 to 200 years. We took the north trail along the river back to the De Fazio Bridge and the Campbell Center. It took three hours with our stops and starts. It was great hiking weather with hikers who ambled together so I didn't have to "keep track." Members: Jane Allen, Max Brown, Daniele Delaby, Walt Dolliver, Julie Dorland, Sharon Duncan, Tom Gould, Yuan Hopkins, Richard Hughes, Janet Jacobsen,



Fall fell along the North Fork of the Middle Fork of the Willamette River trail.

Lana Lindstrom, Carol Petty, Dave Pre-deek, Margaret Prentice, Barbara Schomaker, Nola Shurtleff and Michelle Tambellini. Nonmembers: Dave Compton and Carmen Nichols.

North Fork of Middle Fork Willamette River

November 19, 2006
Leader: Chris Stockdale
Photo: Zella Andreski
12 miles, 100 ft. ("C")

IT SEEMS VERY FEW are aware of this beautiful trail so easy to get to. Perhaps, we should keep it that way, because if it becomes "discovered," the crowds will descend. Although the forecast called for rain and wind (this is November, after all), 12 Obsidians headed to Westfir and the trailhead (which goes upriver from the parking lot on the other side of the covered bridge). One of the joys of this parking lot is restrooms with running water and hot air hand dryers -- a bonus at the end of a wet, cold hike.

We had a variety of hiking speeds, but with no trail junctions to mislead people, groups took their time. Thanks to the unusual amount of rainfall, the river was a spectacular sight, with white water roaring over many small waterfalls and rapids. Enough fall foliage remained to add color to what was a rather grey day.

Mushrooms of all sizes and colors seemed to be popping out of the ground. At the lunch spot -- a reasonably dry area sheltered by trees and right by the river -- one carload decided to turn back, while the others kept going. The end of the trail is, however, still an unknown, as nobody wanted to continue past about the six-mile mark, knowing they had to hike back those same six soggy miles. This trail is apparently under construction to extend along the river to the Kiahanie campground; but, with the reduced budget for the Willamette National Forest, this may take many years to accomplish.

The wind and rain picked up as we headed back. The group all agreed it's a beautiful trail with much to offer, whatever the weather. Hikers were: Zella Andreski, Jim Clarkson, Jim & Kathy Floyd, Dick Hildreth, Daphne James, Bill McWhorter, Mary Morrison, Sam Miller, Jim Pierce, Chris Stockdale and Martha Welches.

Turkey Stuffer Walk
November 23, 2006
Leader: Janet Jacobsen
3 miles, 0 ft. ("A")

SEVERAL PEOPLE called interested in an Obsidian turkey stuffer walk, but none wanted to go to Lively Pool in Spring-

field for the annual Thanksgiving Day "Turkey Stuffer" 5K run/walk. By 8 a.m., the parking lot was overflowing. Somehow, I managed to find a place to park close to the pool. Around 1,000 people started out at 8:30 on the walk/run through the neighborhood. When I slowly walked over the finish line, I heard the announcer say, "There goes 65-year-old Ms. Janet Jacobsen over the finish line." There were a few claps! Many participants and family members, including me, took advantage of the free swimming. It was a festive community event. There were even a few runners in turkey costumes.

Sweet Creek
December 3, 2006
Photo Barb Revere
2 miles, 350 ft. ("A")

WHAT A DAY!! Seven adventurous Obsidians piled into one van to enjoy Sweet Creek gorge and falls. Mike Stalberg of the Register Guard met us at the Sweet Creek parking lot to do a story. The river level was down from the peak in November, but still strong and scenic. Hundreds of photos were taken and six species of ferns were admired. We finished the hike by noon. It was such a marvelous day, we drove on to Baker Beach for a couple hours of beach strolling. The pounding surf was fringed with veils from a slight off-shore breeze. Finally we had to leave the warm sun and head HOME. Members enjoying the day: Daniele Delaby, Barb Revere, Barbara Schomaker, Chris Stockdale, Barbara Sutherlin, Michelle Tambellini and leader, Jim Pierce.



Bike
Trips

Alvadore & Beyond
October 21, 2006
Leader: Peter Graham
35 miles ("B")

SINCE THE ALVADORE library was closed on Saturday and seven of us coincidentally had our bicycles with us, we set out to explore the countryside around Franklin and points beyond. We mostly avoided busy traffic, but not the "big hill." A few bikers/hikers vowed to

make it up in one fell swoop *next time!* Participants included Laurie Funkhouser, Peter & Kitson Graham, Stewart Hoeg, Penny McAvoy and soon to be members Sue Carey and Kaushik Vacdyanathan.



Trail Maintenance

Dome Rock

October 11, 2006

Leader: Rob Castleberry

10 miles, 700 ft. ("C")

FIRST SCHEDULED for Sept. 30, our outing ended badly when, only a few miles from the trailhead, a major engine problem forced us to turn back to town. Thanks to nonmembers Paul Flashenberg and Andrew Watson for their gracious patience and supportiveness during a very frustrating and disappointing day. I'd promised Bob Obermeyer, trails chief at the Middle Fork RD, that we would clear the trail. Nonmember Erik Muller and I set out again on Oct. 11, stopping at the ranger station to pick up a "wheel" for

measuring trail length. Dome Rock stands high above the Middle Fork south of Hills Creek Reservoir, at the end of Staley Ridge, an arm of the Calapooya Mtns. In an area seldom visited by anyone but loggers and hunters, it's a delightful trail that rollicks delightfully along the ridgetop with great views, rocks and botanical diversity.

Problems: (1) it's far from town; and (2) it takes a 2.4 mile (our measurement!) walk along an old washed-out logging spur to reach the official trailhead. (Views from the road are excellent thanks to downslope clearcuts.) The Forest Service hadn't been around to clear the trail in five years; clearly it's been in danger of slipping off the map. We hauled along a chainsaw, cut 24 logs blocking the way and removed other branches and debris, as well. After a leisurely late lunch on top of Dome Rock, we enjoyed our walk back over the freshly cleared trail, and got back to town at 8:30 p.m.

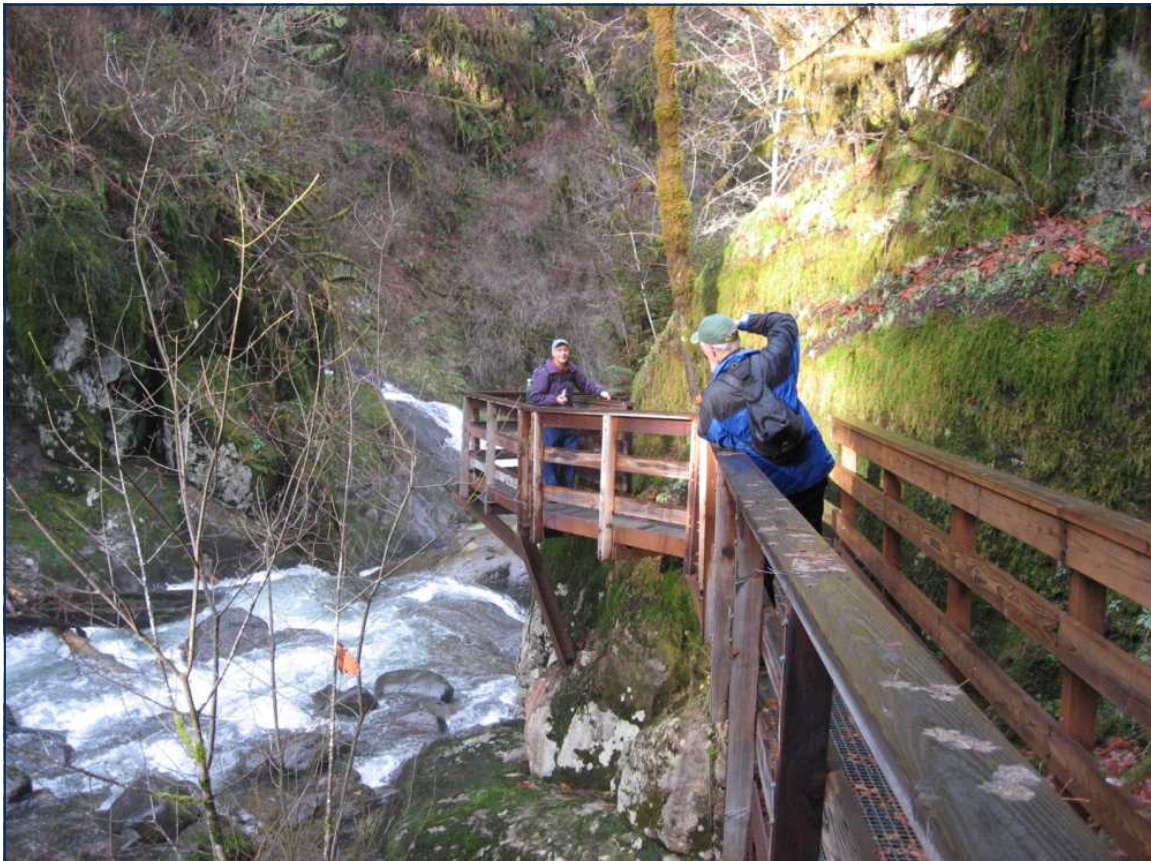
Spencer Butte

November 19, 2006

Leader: Peter Asai

TRAIL WORK at Spencer Butte continued

on a windy, chilly Sunday morning. The task was a tall order of trail construction, working to overcome natural obstacles to create a trail passable for power wheelbarrows. Three Obsidians and one non-member worked with two City Parks staff to further a project aimed at the eventual creation of an elevated stonework path from the tree line to the summit of the butte. This will hopefully eliminate the innumerable pathways steadily eroding the sensitive environment of the summit area. A discrete, unmistakable path will require the use of power wheelbarrows to bring tools and materials to the summit area. Wheelbarrows must find a way past several areas of impassable rock outcrops in the path lower on the trail. The Obsidians are helping provide labor to build new rock footings essential for constructing trail modifications. The work was hard labor, but educational and challenging. The small group used the native rock available onsite and made a good beginning on a long term project using pry bars, a jackhammer and various rock smashing tools. Stalwart Obsidians were John Cooper, Larry Dunlap and Peter Asai,, enormously assisted by the youthful strength of non-Obsidian Matthew Bell.



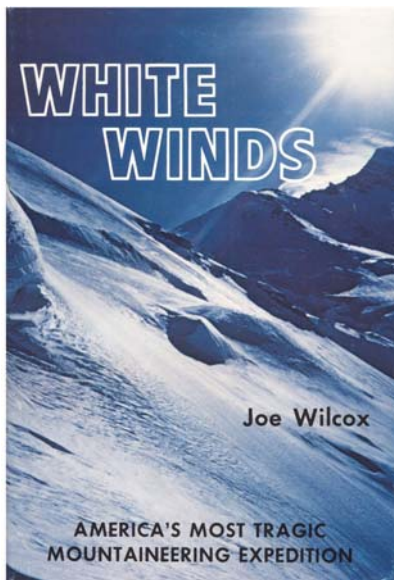
Mike Stahlberg, Register-Guard Outdoors Editor and hike participant, snaps a few of Jim Pierce, leader of the Sweet Creek hike. See the full report on the previous page. Photo by Barb Revere.

UPCOMING

1967 Mt. McKinley Climbing Tragedy Special Presentation Saturday, December 16

IN 1967, 12 climbers mounted an expedition seeking the summit of Alaska's Mt. McKinley – the monster mountain called Denali and the highest point in North America. Of the 12, only 5 survived what was, at the time, the worst disaster in American mountain climbing history. Among the lost were Obsidians Jerry Clark and Mark McLaughlin...in whose memory our lodge's climbing wall has been dedicated.

Joe Wilcox, the leader of the expedition, will present a special program commemorating the dedication of the climbing wall at **11 a.m. on Saturday,**



Dec. 16, at the lodge. Members and the public are welcome. The program is sponsored by the club's Science & Education Committee.

A limited number of copies of "*White Winds*" – the now out-of-print breathtaking account of the climb written by Wilcox – will be available for purchase at the program.

For more information, call 343-8030 or check our website at:

www.obsidians.org.

The dramatic story of the ill-fated expedition will also be told in a special feature in the January Bulletin.

Barb's Sampler: Tripping into the New Year

By Barb Revere

Fri., Dec. 22 -- Big Lake -- X-Ski, moderate. Lana Lindstrom leads this seven-mile cross country ski trip at Santiam Pass. The trail loops around the lake and offers premier views of Mt. Washington, Belknap Crater and Mt. Scott to the south; while flat-topped Hayrick Butte stands sentinel to the north. The trails are easy, but distance gives this trip a "moderate" rating.

Thurs., Dec. 28 -- Mystery XC -- X-Ski, difficult. There is an adventure awaiting anyone who undertakes this mystery trip led by Wayne Deeter. The destination is revealed only on the day of the trip and you should plan for a distance of around 8 miles with 2,000 ft. of elevation gain. To find out if a "mystery trip" is right for you, go to www.obsidians.org...click "The Report Page" -- "Winter Trips" -- "By Leader" -- and, finally, scroll to "Deeter." There are two previous mystery trip reports to enjoy.

Sat., Dec. 30 -- Ray Bensen SnoPark -- X-Ski, moderate. There are many trail options in this snopark, which is

part of the greater Santiam Pass Winter Recreation Area. Last year, leader Sandra Larsen set out to lead the south loop trail to Brandenburg Shelter. The group was slowed by so much fresh snow that they returned from the shelter over their already "broken" trail rather than complete the loop. This five-mile trail offers fine views of Mt. Washington and Three Fingered Jack, with only 100 ft. of elevation gain.

Mon., Jan. 1 -- Cape Mountain -- Hike, moderate. On the coast, north of Florence and south of Yachats, this trail climbs to the former site of a fire lookout. One of the hike's attractions is a *hitsu*, or native hunting shelter, constructed along the way. Effie Neth leads this eight-mile "B" hike with 1,200 ft. elevation gain.

Sat., Jan. 6 -- Gold & Marilyn Lakes -- Snowshoe, easy. Laurie Funkhouser leads this beautiful five-mile snowshoe trip with 100 ft of climbing. Last year, snow was piled six feet deep on the bridge crossing -- higher than the handrails of the bridge! Some of our party lunched beside a warm woodstove in

the Gold Lake Shelter, but the sun was so inviting, two of us plopped sown on the snow to eat and were entertained by gray jays that flitted about in the pine trees next to us.

Same Day (Jan. 6) -- Mountain View Loop -- X-Ski, moderate. Clearcuts may look ugly to you in summer, but leader Bill Johnson knows they make great skiing terrain. This six-mile trip in the Maxwell Butte Snopark affords fabulous views of Mt. Washington and the Three Sisters, all without much climbing.

Sun., Jan. 14 -- Rosary Lakes -- X-Ski, difficult. This trail crosses some steep slopes, but the ride down and the views are well worth it. You'll be gliding through Ponderosa pine forests and viewing Pulpit Rock on this 12-miler led by Bill McWhorter. Plan on about 1,000 ft. elevation gain.

If you will be leading a trip and would like us to highlight it in next month's Sampler, tell us what's so special about the trip in an email to: bulletin@obsidians.org.



Put yourself in the picture!

Watch for details of the upcoming Crater Lake trip in your January Bulletin. Leader: Sharon Ritchie.



Upcoming By-Ways By Bus

Eagles in February

AN EAGLE TRIP will be led by Liz Reanier and Rick Ahrens February 20-21. This always popular trip still has space available. For information contact Liz Reanier 687-1925.

Canada in June

THE BUS COMMITTEE will have one long trip in 2007 – a six-day journey into Canada’s City of Vancouver, Sunshine Coast and Sea to Sky Region. Scheduled for June 24-29, the popular trip has a 44 passenger limit, which has already been filled, with a waiting list being maintained.

Trip cost estimate (there are still a few uncertainties) is US\$711, which will include bus transportation, hotel/motel accommodations, ferry costs, all attractions and a four-hour dinner cruise.

For information about the trip, call leader Ben Jeffries at 683-8403 or co-leader Don Payne at 746-1964. Deposits (\$100) should be sent to Liz Reanier, 853 Ascot Drive, Eugene 97401.

Middle Fork Ranger District Launches Volunteer Program

THE MIDDLE FORK Ranger District, near Oakridge, offers snoparks and hundreds of miles of associated ski trails and several shelters. To assure safe and reliable access, ski trails must be maintained throughout the season. Volunteers are essential in getting the necessary work completed to provide a high quality winter sports experience. The district has launched a new volunteer program to match volunteers interested in winter recreation activities to volunteer activities.

The program offers three volunteer opportunities:

- **Trail Reconnaissance:** This is a way for new volunteers to experience a variety of trails. Volunteers will ski or snowshoe assigned trails, noting where clearing and other maintenance is needed, what signs exist along the trail and what signs are needed at trailheads and trail intersections.

- **Adopt-a-Snow Shelter:** An opportunity for groups. Volunteers responsible for a shelter will arrange for stocking the shelter with firewood, serve as hosts when appropriate and work with the forest service to perform routine maintenance and selected improvement projects.

- **Adopt-a-Ski Trail:** Blue diamond marked ski trails are located outside of designated wilderness areas. Volunteers are matched with specific trails, based on interest, ability and need. Volunteers will perform light maintenance, report trail conditions, maintain markers and provide general oversight of their adopted trails throughout the season.

For more information, contact: Ryan Brown, Middle Fork Ranger District, (541) 782-5211 or mbrown@fs.fed.us

Winter Trips Notes...

THE WINTER TRIPS LEADER training was held November 29th. Thanks to organizer Scott Hovis and all participants.

There are over 70 winter trips on the schedule. I hope you get out and enjoy a few. Check out the latest trip schedule on the website. We are always ready to add new trips, especially for next spring!

The Winter Trips Committee has a couple openings, since some of our team have moved on to chair other committees. If you can help with administration of winter trips, please contact me.

--Jim Pierce, Winter Trips Chair

Events at Mt. Pisgah

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

WINTER SOLSTICE Nature Readings, Thurs., Dec. 21, 5:30-7 p.m. Nature and literature lovers honor the solstice and share the beauty of the written word. This event, facilitated by Daniel Ray, features nature-inspired music pieces between readings. Participants are encouraged to bring their own writings; works by their favorite authors and poets; or just come to listen. Refreshments provided. Suggested donation: \$2. Meet in the visitor center.

DRAWING WINTER TREES, Sat., Jan. 13, 1- 4 p.m. The beautiful exposed skeletons of the arboretum's deciduous trees give an opportunity to study their unique shapes. Join natural science illustrator Kristine Kirkeby and study the tree shapes and learn how to best visually depict their characteristics. Basic drawing skills and lessons will be used to produce sketches with form and texture, with hints on how to add foliage come spring. In arboretum office. A short supply list provided upon required pre-registration. Fee: \$20 (\$15 MPA members).

NATURE JOURNALING, Sat. Jan. 20 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Slow down and spend a day submersing yourself in nature. Learn to preserve found forest objects like a beautiful fall leaf, a dragonfly wing, a feather or a pattern on a lichen. Learn interesting techniques to transfer patterns, like the rough bark of a tree or of a bark beetle path into your journal. Longtime Eugene resident Kermit Horn conducts the class. In the visitor center. Pre-registration required. Fee: \$15 (\$12 members). Materials provided, but participants will need to provide their own journals.

MOSS AND FERN WALK, Sat. Jan. 20, 1-3 p.m. Get up-close and personal with water-loving plants that characterize the lush Pacific Northwest forest. Identify mosses and ferns and learn about their unique life cycles and growth habits. Botanist and Eugene Natural History Society president David Wagner leads. Suggested donation: \$3 (MPA members free). Meet at the visitor center, rain or shine.

Obsidian Calendar

December

13 Wed – TBAJ.Agnew (484-5725)
14 Thu – Hoodoo - Downhill, D'Hill, C.Shuraleff(726-8416)
15 Fri – Mountain Climbing in Nepal.....Sue Sullivan - Potluck
16 Sat – Fawn Lake, X-Ski 7m M, D.Jeffcott (344-6447)
16 Sat – Marilyn-Gold Lk, S'Shoe 5m 200' M, . Hoeg (484-6196)
16 Sat – Tragedy on Denali Joe Wilcox, SciEd
22 Fri – Big Lake, X-Ski 5m 50' M,L.Lindstrom (683-1409)
22 Fri – Maxwell Butte, S'Shoe, S.Hovis (345-7788)
25 Mon – Gold Lk, X-Ski/S'Shoe 4m 400' E, . Wolling (345-2110)
28 Thu – Mystery , X-Ski 8m 2000' D,W.Deeter (942-0824)
30 Sat – Gold Lk., X-Ski 4.5m 200' E,Hamilton (343-6550)
30 Sat – Ray Benson, X-Ski M,S.Larsen (687-2589)

January

1 Mon – Cape Mountain, 8m 1200' M,E.Neth (484-6210)
1 Mon – Tahkenitch Dunes, 6m 200' M,S.Ward (686-5679)
6 Sat – Gold Lk, S'Shoe 5m 100' E,L.Funkhouser (206-2303)
6 Sat – Mtn Vw (Ikenick), X-Ski 6m M, ... B.Johnson (746-1513)
6 Sat – Potato Hill, S'Shoe, S.Hovis (345-7788)
7 Sun – Square Lake, X-Ski 8m 1000' D, J.Pegg (343-0909)
9 Tue – Fossils in San Francisco Peter Rodda, SciEd Tues
14 Sun – Rosary Lk, X-Ski 12m 1000' D, McWhorter (345-8099)
14 Sun – Sand Mtn Lp, X-Ski 9.5m 1000' D, S.Miller (484-4586)
14 Sun – Square Lk X-Ski 8m 1000' D, ...Slipp (1-503-582-1100)
17 Wed – McKenzie Rv TR, 6m 200' M, .. M.Prentice (687-5850)
20 Sat – Heceta Head 6m 800' M, A.Askew (687-1659)
20 Sat – Rosary Lk, X-Ski 7m 800' M, R.Peevers (541-688-0882)
20 Sat – TBA, X-Ski D, J. & L.Manotti (342-5357)
21 Sun – Gold Lake, X-Ski 5.4m 300' E, .A.McLucas (485-5608)
26 Fri – New Hikes in Northwest Oregon..... Sullivan, Potluck
27 Sat – Fawn Lake, X-Ski 7m 800' M, B.Huntley (687-1823)
27 Sat – Gold Lk, S'Shoe 5m 350' M,M.Camp (221-1866)
27 Sat – Rosary Lk, X-Ski 6m 800' M, .L.Funkhouser (206-2303)
28 Sun – Spencer Butte, Trail Maintenance, P.Asai (933-3927)

Bulletin Classifieds

For Sale

Thousand Trails/NACO Membership, \$2,000

Contact Laurie Funkhouser 206-2303

For Sale

Barrecrafters Roof Mounted Ski Rack \$35.00

Contact Sandra or Chris 687-2589

Stolen Ski Gear!

I would like to replace it with used equipment. Climbing skins, a hard shell (preferably) or ski parka, and daypack.

Contact Van Likes 343-2790 vanlikes@comcast.net.

Obsidian Goodies

T-shirts, \$10 (no matter design or size); sweatshirt, \$15; cap, \$15; mug or tumbler, \$10; whistle, \$3.

Contact Laurie 206-2303 or lafunkh@aol.com.

Note: There is no charge for placement of 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.



Let it snow. let it snow. let it snow. Cabin at Gold Lake Snow Park - Photo by Stewart Hoeg



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