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Dates to Remember

- Jan 20 Klamath Basin - SciEd Tues
- Jan 23 Bill Sullivan - Potluck
- Jan 31 February Bulletin Deadline
- Feb 4 Board Meeting

Complete current schedules at:
www.observians.org or
 Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday



EAGLES 'N MORE
 First Bus Trip of the New Year
 See Page 15

Bailout? No Way!

By Stewart Hoeg

WALL STREET CRASHES, BANKS GO BELLY-UP, automakers are on the brink... and the Obsidians pay off all of their Endowment Fund loan, rebuild their Capital and Contingency Fund and continue to offer the best outdoor activities anywhere! Thanks to careful budgeting and the generous donations of our members, the club's 2008 revenues from operations exceeded operating expenses by over \$ 5,000. In addition, premium membership contributions added an additional \$3,435 to our coffers. The club didn't completely avoid the stock market melt-down: the club's equity fund declined 37% for the year. However, equities were such a small part of

(Continued on page 4)

New Trip Chairs Onboard



Jim and Paul - Summer and Winter Trips Chairs

PAUL FLASHENBERG IS THE NEW Winter Trips Chair and Jim Pierce is the new Summer Trips Chair. Jim, Winter Trip Chair for three years, volunteered to put his skills to work as Summer Trips Chair. Paul, a member of previous summer trips committee, stepped up to serve as Winter Trips Chair. The club thanks you!

Both of these committees involve a tremendous amount of organization and work. At the October Annual Meeting Jim reported that there were 44 winter trips with 356 participants. At the end of December, Barb Revere, 2008 Summer Trips Chair, said that there were 164 trips with 1025 participants.

Paul and Jim want to make changes that will help distribute the committee responsibilities. It might not take a village to keep Obsidian trips going every week but it does take a lot of Obsidian volunteers to make sure that Paul and Jim also have time to hike and ski.

How can you support Jim and Paul? Volunteer to lead, volunteer to be on the committee, sign up for trips and spread the word to nonmembers.

Winter trips already has 51 trips scheduled from November 15-March 15.

Welcome!

New Members December

COLGAN, DON (Active)
231 West 52nd Ave, Eugene 97405
485-2787 dycolgan@comcast.net

LIZEWSKI, ED (Active)
1199 N Terry St, #265, Eugene 97402
505-0976 ed.lizski@yahoo.com

January

LAU, SANDOR (Active)
1062 1/2 Adams St, Eugene 97402
514-1151 sandor.lau@gmail.com

Many
Hands...



WE COUNTED AT LEAST 42 members who have authored articles for the 2008 *Bulletins*. That does not include the leaders who have faithfully sent in their trip reports. Our 21 committees have kept the members up to date with the latest happenings. The Bulletin Staff thanks all of you. We hope for even more interesting articles in 2009.

Contact bulletin@obsidians.org

Membership Renewal Progress

THIS YEAR'S OBSIDIAN MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS were handled very differently from previous years. Rather than including the renewal form with the September issue of the *Obsidian Bulletin*, we mailed the renewal form along with a return envelope in early September, to each member household. This was done at a significant cost (around \$350) and effort, in hopes of getting renewals quicker and more importantly, not having so many members that needed to be contacted individually because they forgot to return their renewals. A third goal was that we might have less membership drop outs.

Renewals were due by October 1st and by that time the first goal of getting renewals returned earlier seemed to be happening, with 25% more renewals returned than at that time in the previous year. But, as we approached the 1st of December, when we normally start contacting delinquent members, either by email or phone, the return rates for both years were nearly identical with approximately 460 renewals returned in each year. So the second goal of taking some of the burden off of the membership volunteers having to contact delinquent members didn't come to pass. The jury is still out on our third goal, having fewer dropped memberships, but it currently looks like there will be 10 fewer this year, but last year seemed to have a larger than normal dropped count of about 65, so it may not really be significant.

So what will we do next year? Stay tuned and we'll see.... If you have comments about the methodology of collecting membership renewals, please contact:
membership@obsidians.org .

- Barb Revere, Membership Chair

Trip and Leader Logs Updated

HISTORIAN LENORE MCMANIGAL announced that the trips taken and trips led have been counted as of December 1, 2008. Sharon Ritchie and Janet Jacobsen helped with the manual counting while John Jacobsen updated the database and website format. Lenore said, "It is difficult to manually count the trips from our handwritten logs. In September, when it is time to determine who will get a trip or leader patch, I double check several times to make sure that the members receive a patch on time."

After spending two days counting and recounting, Janet Jacobsen said, "The log books with thousand of handwritten entries are priceless. Please look at your grand total as 'almost' accurate." The 2008 statistical summaries show that from January 1st—December 1st, there were 100 leaders leading 292 trips. 342 members went on multiple trips adding up to 2,115 participants.

The club thanks Lenore, who has been entering trips since 1992. That is 17 years! Another thanks goes to the leaders who turned in those trip reports.

View the logs on the website in the members' section soon. - Janet Jacobsen

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322, Eugene, OR 97440

Website: www.obsidians.org

Board of Directors

President - Jim Duncan
Vice President - Jim Pierce
Secretary - Laurie Funkhouser
Treasurer - Stewart Hoeg
Wayne Deeter Larry Huff
Marshall Kandell Verna Kocken
Barb Revere

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

Committee Chairpersons

Byways-By-Bus.....Liz Reanier
Climbs Larry Huff
Concessions Kathleen Floyd
Conservation..... Pat Bitner
Entertainment Laurie Funkhouser
Extended Trips..... Jim Duncan
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Science & Education.....Joella Ewing
Summer Camp Lana Lindstrom
Summer TripsJim Pierce
Trail Maintenance.....Peter Green
Winter Trips.....Paul Flashenberg
Youth.....

The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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bulletin@obsidians.org

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The Obsidian Bulletin

P.O. Box 51424, Eugene, OR 97405

For reprint rights, contact above.

Deadline

**for February 2009 Bulletin
Saturday, January 31, 2009**

Assembly/Mailing Team

For December Bulletin

Assembly & Mail Manager Lou Maenz
Call Manager Vera Woolley
Assembly Team ...Myron Cook, Yuan Hopkins, Don & Barbara Payne, John & Lenore McManigal

Editorial Team

Writing & Editorial Staff Jean Coberly, Bea Fontana, Janet & John Jacobsen, Joanne Ledet, Barb Revere, Beth Roy
Copy Editors.... Jean Coberly & Beth Roy
Graphics, Design & Desktop Publishing Stewart Hoeg & John Jacobsen

Who Was Ishi?

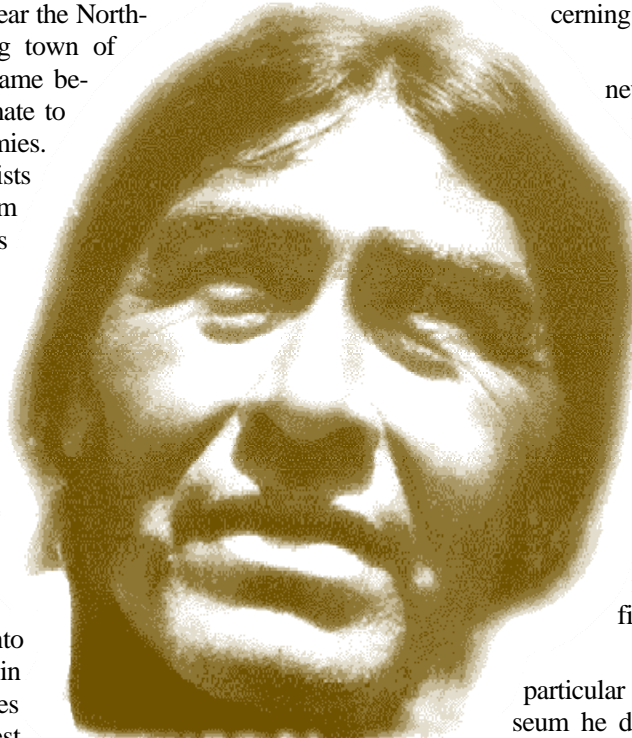
By Ann-Marie Askew

WHEN WHITE MEN CAPTURED the last living Yahi in 1911 near the Northern California mining town of Oroville, he would not tell his name because it was considered too intimate to say aloud, especially to one's enemies. Consequently, the anthropologists studying his culture addressed him as Ishi, which meant "man" in his language.

The man we call Ishi was captured, starving and naked, outside a slaughterhouse searching for food. He'd been living alone in the wild for three years after the last remnants of his tribe had perished in 1908. Gold-crazed white settlers had massacred almost all the Yahi by the mid-1860s, and the few survivors had retreated into remote caves and heavy brush in their homeland, about 40 miles north of Oroville in the southwest corner of Lassen National Forest.

Unseen for almost half a century, they hunted deer and bear with a bow, gathered acorns and berries, and fished salmon with a harpoon -- as well as pilfered food from the cabins of white settlers. When captured, Ishi was about 50 years old and was considered the last Native American to have lived his entire life in the Stone Age.

THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS enabled University of California anthropologists to bring him by Pullman train and ferry boat to San Francisco, where he was given food, clothing, medical care, and a room in the Museum of Anthropology. He immediately learned to eat with tableware, sleep on a bed, and dress like the white men who befriended him. Although he never learned to speak English fluently, he was appointed Mu-



seum Helper and served as a ready informant concerning the ethnography of his tribe.

Until he came to San Francisco, he'd never seen more than a few people at one time. Consequently, he found crowds more disconcerting than the 12-story buildings, electric lights, trolley cars, moving pictures, and horseless carriages of early 20th century civilization. However, he did not want to return to Mill Creek and Deer Creek canyons, although he accompanied several anthropologists on a short visit back to his tribal homeland.

ISHI WAS WELL-LIKED and reasonably content in San Francisco, but unfortunately he contracted tuberculosis and died in March 1916 after living in the white man's world for less than five years.

One of his Stone-Age skills might be of particular interest to fellow Obsidians. At the museum he demonstrated how to make arrow heads from obsidian. However, he informed his anthropologist friends that the black, opaque, volcanic glass is not found in his homeland, so the Yahi had to trade with other tribes in order to acquire obsidian. But after the 1860s, their ability to trade was disrupted as they hid in fear of the white settlers. Ironically, Ishi reported that in the wild he seldom made arrow heads from obsidian. Most of his arrows were tipped with

points that he had sharpened from the fragments of beer bottles discarded by the white settlers.

NOTE: This article was compiled from material in the book entitled *Ishi the Last Yahi, a Documentary History*, edited by Robert F. Heizer and Theodora Kroeber. (University of California Press, 1979). This title and 5 other books about Ishi, plus a VHS video, *The Last of His Tribe*, are available at the Eugene Public Library.

Camp Ishi - Summer Camp 2009

Mt. Lassen National Park - Lost Creek Group Campground

Choose either or both 5-day sessions!

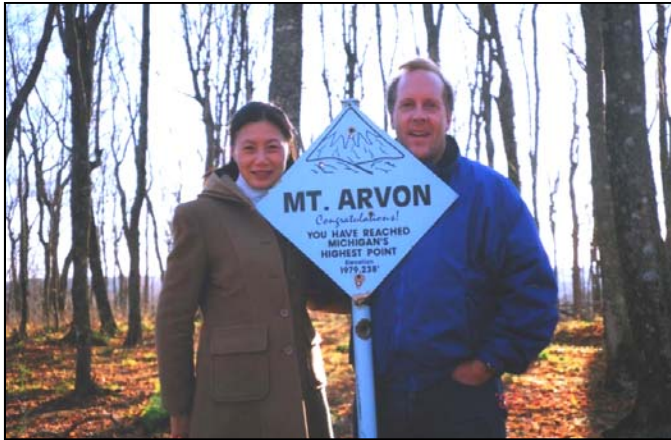
July 18 - 23 & July 23 - 28

Look for the registration form in the March 2009 *Obsidian Bulletin*. You can register at the Camp Rally on Friday, March 27, or thereafter by mail. Wendy Dame and Don Doerr are camp leaders for Session 1, and Lana Lindstrom is Camp Leader for Session 2.

The October 2008 *Obsidian Bulletin* includes an informative article by Jim Pierce about last summer's trip to Lassen, including descriptions of several spectacular hikes; as well as Kris Wolters' enthusiastic article about her first Obsidian Summer Camp. Future *Bulletin* issues will include additional information about Lassen Volcanic National Park, and you can also check out: <http://www.nps.gov/lavo/>.

Where in the USA is Steve?

WE STARTED FOLLOWING **OBSIDIAN** Steve McManigal's quest to bag the highest point in all 50 states in the July 2008 *Bulletin* with a picture of him atop Mt. Sunflower (4,039') in Kansas. We caught up with him again in the October *Bulletin* as he attempted Gannett Peak (13,804')



in Wyoming. The tale continues. Steve sent a couple of pictures of two of his latest summits: Above on White Butte (3,506') in North Dakota and at left with his wife Lulu on Mt. Arvon (1,979') in Michigan. How many more to go Steve?

Bailout? No Way! ...and Thank You, Thank You...

(Continued from page 1)

our investments that the club's total assets only declined \$600 for the year to an ending balance of \$123,900.

Thanks to everyone for making 2008 another great year. We would particularly like to recognize the following premium donors for 2009:

Platinum Membership
\$170 or More
Pierce, Jim

Gold Memberships
\$70 - \$169

Baldwin, Ewart
Bradley, Joan
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Hunter, Don
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McManigal, Lenore
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Weaver, Elle

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Doerr, Don
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Ewing, Jack
Ewing, Joella
Fea, Margaret Lee
Fizman, Rachele

Foster, Bob
Hamilton, Brian
Hamilton, Mary
Hoeg, Kathy
Hoeg, Stewart
Houston, Lena
Hovis, Scott
Hughes, Richard
Hutchins, Patrick
Iwasaki, Sachiko
James, Daphne
Jensen, Andrew
Jones, Catherine
Kameenui, Brenda
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Manotti, John
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Milliman, Greg
Moody, Lynne
Morgan, Boyd
Morgan, Natalie
Morrison, Mary
Morse, Bill
Morse, Lois
Nelson, Doug
Neth, Effie
Newlove, Natalie
O'Donnell, Jack
Orum, Marriner
Pegg, John
Pierce, Lin
Revere, Barb
Revere, Tom
Rode, Edith
Rusow, Karla

Semans, Steve
Shirk, Velma
Smith, Nancy J.
Snell, Julie
Stockdale, Chris
Stults, Viola
Sullivan, Bill
Sundt, Richard
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Tyson, Michael
Vandeberg, Ivan
Vincent, Virginia
Wanser, Susan
Welches, Martha
Whitfield, Nancy
Williams, Birgitte
Zavela Tyson, Kathy
Zavodsky, Mel

Endowment Fund

Emlen, Clara
Froyd, Shirley
Heinzkill, Richard
Jones, Catherine

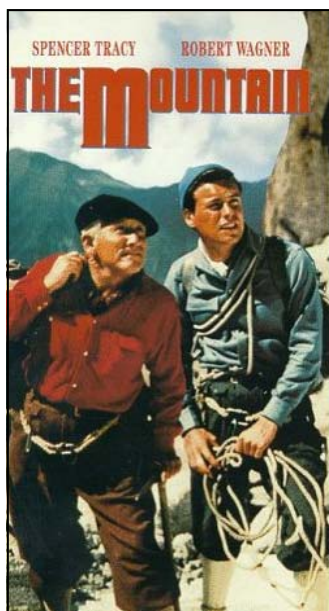
The Good, the Bad, the Ugly & the Best

By Sam Miller

A NUMBER OF HOLLYWOOD MOVIES include climbing scenes, but most climbing shown in movies is either peripheral to the storyline, overdramatized, or inaccurate. Surely, everyone remembers Captain Kirk soloing El Capitan in "The Final Frontier"? When Kirk falls, Spock catches him with a pair of jet boots. Then it's back to battling Klingons before they resume their vacation in Yosemite National Park. I watch such movies whether or not the climbing is believable because I enjoy movies and because climbing has been an important part of my outdoor life.

Four movies come to mind when I think about films and climbing. The first three require viewers to suspend belief and not be overly concerned about climbing inaccuracies. The fourth film is simply a true and amazing story. I found all of the movies entertaining.

The Mountain The 1956 film *The Mountain* stars 55-year-old Spencer Tracy and 25-year-old Robert Wagner as brothers. Tracy plays a chubby but wise retired mountain guide who accompanies Wagner on a treacherous climb to a passenger jet crashed high in the Swiss Alps. Tracy assumes their objective is to find survivors but his brother is really interested in looting the dead bodies. There's a survivor (female naturally) and much drama ensues.



For a 1950s era film the alpine cinematography is good. Tracy's feats of strength are even better. I still cringe when I think about the scene where blood oozes from his scorched hands while he struggles to hang on to a superhuman belay. The next time I need a mountain guide, I want Spencer Tracy resurrected.

The Eiger Sanction Clint Eastwood starred in the 1975 climbing-espionage thriller *The Eiger Sanction*. Clint plays a James Bond-like spy who climbs the Eiger in Switzerland. Because climbing the North Face of the Eiger is not a sufficient challenge, a secret U.S. government agency also asks Eastwood's character to assassinate members of his climbing team during the climb. This is one reason I never climb with Clint Eastwood.

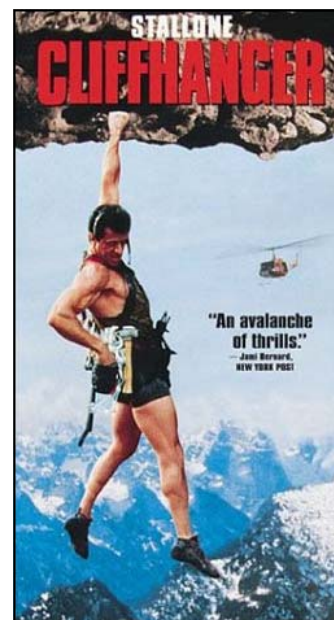
The film begins with Eastwood training for the Eiger. He does this by scaling towers in Zion and Monument Valley. These are scenic--if not necessarily logical--places to train for a treacherous alpine ice climb.



Once on the Eiger, Eastwood is the lead climber, but you can see a top rope behind him in several scenes. I guess it is possible that his character made the climb earlier in the day and dropped some extra protection for himself and his team.

In a later scene, Clint drops his ice axe thousands of feet but then it magically reappears strapped to his pack. Despite such inconsistencies this movie has terrific climbing footage by professional climbers. It should be noted that Eastwood did his own stunts and his climbing performance has been praised by professional mountaineers.

Cliffhanger Sylvester Stallone is another tough guy actor who has appeared in a climbing film. He starred in the 1993 blockbuster *Cliffhanger*. Stallone plays a rock climber who accidentally drops his best friend's girlfriend over a deep chasm. I'll also never climb with Sylvester Stallone.



The remainder of the movie involves Stallone battling John Lithgow who is a psychopath attempting to steal money from a U.S. Treasury airplane. This provides many opportunities for Stallone to mumble bad dialogue and overact. If you're disappointed by Stallone's performance, a helicopter crash and non-stop mayhem may help you forget his acting deficiencies.

Cliffhanger has great climbing sequences that were shot in the Cortina d'Ampezzo area of the Dolomites in Italy. Further filming took place in the Rockies outside Durango, Colorado. The late Wolfgang Güllich, an accomplished rock climber, performed as a climbing double for Stallone. Unlike Eastwood, Stallone did not enjoy his mountaineering stunt work. He is deathly afraid of heights; when he does appear in a climbing scene without a double, you can be confident that he was protected by a tight tether.

The film contains many humorous errors. There are tropical

(Continued on page 6)

The Good, the Bad, the Ugly & the Best

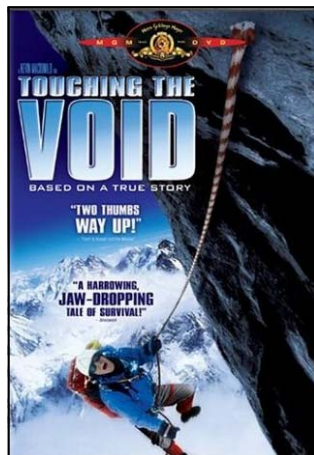
(Continued from page 5)

fruit bats hibernating in the Rocky Mountains. There are also scenes that convey the wrong impression about climbing. Harness buckles bend like taffy; bolt guns instantly set anchors in rock. Stallone rappels off ANY climb regardless of the terrain. He jumps 30 feet or more with full climbing gear. But the best scenes involve him scaling jaw-dropping routes in sub-zero temperatures wearing a sleeveless tee-shirt. There was simply no other way to show off his steroid enhanced musculature.

Stallone's "Rocky and Rambo" sequel franchises may possibly continue with a *Cliffhanger* sequel. It is reported that he is in negotiations to revive his *Cliffhanger* character for a movie tentatively titled *The Dam*. The plot is unknown, but one can imagine a storyline where Stallone is enlisted by the BPA to thwart a group of eco-terrorists attempting to restore salmon habitat by breaching the Grand Coulee Dam. Imagine free climbing the dam and its towers. Add some river rafting and barehanded salmon fishing, and a good time is guaranteed for all.

To appreciate what may be in store with a possible sequel, check out the original *Cliffhanger* movie trailer at: www.zuguide.com/index.php#i3909.

Touching the Void My favorite climbing movie is based on my favorite book about climbing--*Touching the Void*. The 2003 movie by the same name is a docudrama which recreates Joe Simpson's and Simon Yates' near fatal attempt to climb the 20,813 foot Siula Grande in the Peruvian Andes in 1985. It was independently produced in the United Kingdom



If you've read *Touching the Void*, you know the story of their amazing ordeal. If you haven't read the book I won't reveal the outcome. Both the book and the movie will appeal to mountaineers and non-mountaineers alike. The events portrayed in the film actually happened, and the film is faithful to the book.

Touching the Void combines interviews conducted with Simpson and Yates along with a reenactment of their climb performed by actors and experienced mountaineers. Filmed on location in Peru, the actors and climbers used authentic 1980s climbing gear such as straight-handle ice axes and foot-fang crampons. The scenery is terrific, and the climbing details are accurate.

This haunting tale is a far better thriller than anything Hollywood has ever produced in terms of representing the beauty, skill, and danger associated with climbing. If you watch one climbing movie, watch *Touching the Void*.

Other Obsidian members' comments about climbing films:

JOHN PEGG: My favorite climbing related movie is, I think,

The Mountain with Spencer Tracey. Some of the scenes are a little comical, such as the one where he is belaying his brother with a hip belay while standing on the edge of a cliff. A mountaineer of that era would have found a sitting position so as not to be pulled over the cliff. But I like the actors and the old climbing equipment. The story, looking for a lost airplane and finding money is prescient of an incident that really happened in Yosemite in the sixties where climbers discovered an airplane wreck stuffed with marijuana! Another good one is *Touching the Void* which mixes interviews with re-enactments. All the climbing stuff is very authentic. One of the climbers uses a stitch plate (belay device) which is the same as the one I first used climbing. There are too many bad movies to mention, but among the worst has to be *Vertical Limit* (2000) about climbers trapped on K2. It could be retitled "Fun with Dynamite."

SUE SULLIVAN: By far the best I have seen is *Touching the Void* (I own a copy (DVD) of it; hey - we could have a "climbing movie night at the lodge" series, how's that for an idea?). I have seen *Eiger Sanction*, an old movie involving climbing and espionage, starring Clint Eastwood. It's a bit hokey but entertaining and has great scenery. Don't look too carefully at the details if you're a climber. I haven't seen it in years, so it might be pretty funny and dated now. There are of course a lot of other films that are more in the vein of documentaries—the Banff Mountain Film Festival covers them every year—and many of these are excellent. If people are interested in mountain films, the Banff Festival sponsors a road show that comes around every year with a condensation of the best from the film festival. (The U of O Outdoor Program helped sponsor this event at McDonald Theater last April.)

BARB REVERE: I really don't know that many climbing films. I'm no climber and my memory is bad, though that means I can watch favorite movies over and over with increasingly shorter intervals in-between. But, from best to worst: 1 - *The Eiger Sanction*, 2 - *The Final Problem* starring Jeremy Brett is the last episode of a television series, *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*. Holmes and Moriarty grapple at the edge of Reichenbach Falls near Meiringen, Switzerland. Check out Wikipedia for more information about the setting. 3 - *Third Man on the Mountain* (1959 Disney) stars James MacArthur climbing the Matterhorn and it also has nice scenery.

JANET JACOBSEN: I just viewed a restored version of *Lost Horizon*, a 1937 film directed by Frank Capra, based on the novel by James Hilton. Through the years the film was edited apparently to remove 27 minutes of pacifist scenes and supposedly Communist themes. The original soundtrack was eventually recovered but seven minutes of video had to be replaced with still shots.

The visible breath of the actors inside the freezing, crashed aircraft and on the frozen trek to Shangri-La was one feature that was realistic. That is because the scenes were filmed inside the Los Angeles Ice and Cold Storage Warehouse, at a temperature between 20-24 degrees Fahrenheit. Cornstarch

(Continued on page 7)

Volunteers, Food, Prints, Song & Dance

Volunteer of the Month



DAVE PREDEEK was featured as Volunteer of the Month in the December 28, 2008 *Register Guard* with the headline "Keeping the Outdoors Great." In past issues, the *Bulletin* has explained how Dave has led the

Monday Morning Regulars to remove invasive plants and he helped in the seed-processing barn at Buford Park. A way to thank Dave is the next time you hike up Pisgah, take time to appreciate the open meadows that at one time were overtaken by brush. Scout for some of those native plants that might have sprouted from the native seeds that Dave planted.

Summer Camp Food

Ever wonder what happens to left over summer camp food? This past year, some was sold on the last day of camp, some that couldn't be hauled back to Eugene was given to the Yankee Fork Dredge Volunteers, and some was given to Obsidian, **JOELLA EWING** to use for her monthly home cooked meals for those in need at the Eugene Service Station. December 22, fellow Obsidian member **DOROTHY TURNER** and I went with Joella to help serve the holiday meal of roast beef, baked potatoes, and gravy that she had spent three days preparing. She baked 150 individual three-layer cookie bars nestled in holiday muffin papers. Joella said that for those bars, "I used the chocolate chips, cream cheese, powdered sugar, graham cracker crumbs, coconut, walnuts, brown sugar and butter left over from summer camp. Toffee bars and lemon bars used the rest of the butterscotch chips, flour, oil, etc."

Joella said that for a meal she served last fall, she used all the left over deli packaged meat on open face sandwiches with mashed potatoes on bread topped with the meat and lots of gravy. "They love being able to make a choice, something that's rare in their circumstances." Joella served her hot meal to one hundred men and women. Many knew her name and all thanked her for her gift.

Mythology, Ethology...

RICK AHRENS was featured in the January 09 *Northwest Senior and Boomer News*. The reporter, Janice Dresser, attended his slide program, "Mythology, Ethology, and Biology of Animals" that he gave in November for BOGS (Birds of Oregon and General Science.) In two hours, Rick covered many aspects of the human-animal relationships. Rick is a member of BOGS, a group that meets monthly at the Campbell Senior Center. Rick's programs are also popular with the Obsidians. His next Obsidian gig is co-leading the Eagles'N More bus trip February 17-18 (Tues-Wednesday). It is always fun to go to Klamath Falls with Rick to see the eagles and lots of birds. Contact Liz Reanier(687-1925) or Rick Ahrens (689-3996) for more information.

Song & Dance

BRENNEN BABB-HACKETT, junior Obsidian member, is part of the chorus in the musical, *Chicago*, that opens January 15 at South Eugene High School auditorium stage. Watch Brennen sing and dance in what should be an outstanding production. Tickets will be \$12 for adults and \$8 for students. They can be purchased through the box office at 687-3521 or online at www.southeugenetheater.com This musical will run January 15-17, 22-24, 29-31 at 7:30 p.m. each night.

Prints



More than a few years ago, several members tried to find out if two prints found at the Lodge were valuable. Janet Jacobsen has been entrusted with the prints and asked to continue the search. An Internet search has not been successful.

If you have any advice, please contact Janet at jbjacobsen@comcast.net. They are probably woodblock. An ocean scene has printed on it in pencil: '13/13 D'apres Winslow Homer ennoyer 84'. The second is a New England landscape which has the words: 'Home III Chine Colle' 2/4 84'.

The Good, the Bad, the Ugly & the Best

(Continued from page 6)

(snow) swirls around the actors perched a few feet above the floor. The avalanche and Himalaya landscapes were from a black and white documentary. That is why the film had to be shot in black and white, not color. All of this and more is explained in the bonus features on the DVD

VIDEO CLIMB DUDE: Whadaya wasting your time on those

old flicks? Check out www.videoclimb.com for the best climbing videos on the net. You can see a real climb of Shangri La. And don't miss the PG rated comedy show on El Capitan. This guy takes a shower on the ascent.

Touching the Void, *Third Man on the Mountain*, and *Lost Horizon*, are available at the Eugene Public Library. Netflix has the others except for *The Mountain*.

BOARD NOTES

December 3, 2008

By Laurie Funkhouser, Secretary

President Jim Duncan called the meeting to order. Board present: Laurie Funkhouser, Jim Pierce, Marshall Kandell, Barb Revere, Verna Kocken, Wayne Deeter, Larry Huff, and Stewart Hoeg. Others: Paul Flashenberg, Brian Hamilton, John and Janet Jacobsen, Pat Bitner, Sue Sullivan, Larry Huff, Doug Nelson
Treasurer's Report: Bills approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summer Trips (Jim Pierce): Approved Committee: Jim Pierce, Chair; Joanne Ledet, Assistant Chair; Daphne James; Norma Lockyear; Karla Rusow; Pat Soussan; Chris Stockdale; Elle Weaver; Effie Neth; Jennifer Barnes; Helen Martz; Linda Danielson; Lyndell Wilken; Walt Dolliver; Jim Floyd, Valerie Metcalf, Judy Terry, and Mary Hamilton. The team will be selecting their functions and meeting in January.

Winter Trips (Paul Flashenberg): Approved Committee: Chris Stockdale, Elle Weaver, Daphne James, Jim Pierce, Paul Flashenberg. There are now 49 trips on schedule.

Climbs (Larry Huff): Approved Committee: George Baitinger, Wayne Deeter, Steve Kuhn, Doug Nelson, John Pegg and Sue Sullivan.

Trail Maintenance (Peter Green): Approved Committee: Matt Bell, Janet Jacobson, and hopefully Becky Hansen. The next outing is Sat. Jan. 24th at 9am

Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom): Approved Committee: Jim Pierce, Nancy Whitfield, Laurie Funkhouser, Melody Clarkson, Scott Hovis, Don Doerr, Wendy Dame, Jim Duncan, Lana Lindstrom, chair.

Conservation (Pat Bitner): Approved Committee: Pat Bitner, Chair, Margot Fetz and Judy Newman. First meeting on 12/26/08 where information was provided by members regarding their activities in the past. Met with Sci Ed on Jan. 5 to coordinate activities and plan Sci Ed programs. Hikes and other related activities will be offered.

Publication (Barb Revere): Approved Committee: Jean Coberly, Bea Fontana, Stewart Hoeg, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Joanne Ledet, Lou Maenz, Barb Revere, and Beth Roy.

Entertainment (Laurie Funkhouser): Approved Committee: Stephen Brander, Kathy Hoeg, Yuan Hopkins, George Jeffcott, Patrice McCaffrey, Chuck Wagar, Sue Wolling, Mary Morrison, Denise Butler, Linda Danielson, Carol Fairbanks. Sam Houston. Scott Hovis, Darlene Mancuso. Tom Musselwhite and Susan Wanser. No potluck took place in December due to weather conditions. Bhutan presentation by Chris Stockdale has been rescheduled for May 2009.

Science and Education (Joella Ewing): Approved Committee: Rich Ahrens and Tom Musselwhite. Met with Conservation to discuss how our committees can work together. We will provide writing materials and stamps at SciEd programs on current environmental issues so those who wish to can write on-the-spot letters to appropriate legislators/agencies

Membership (Barb Revere): Approved Committee: Margaret Prentice, Helen Martz, Moshe Rapaport, Shirley Froyd, Janet Jacobsen, and Julia Richardson. One new member approved. 528 as of 1/4/09 paid members compared to 539 members as of 1/2/08.

Publicity (Elle Weaver): Approved Committee: Marshall Kandell, Mary Hamilton, Janet Jacobsen and Martha Welches. Working on a brochure to highlight information about the club.

Concessions (Kathleen Floyd): Approved Committee: Sharon Duncan. No revenue nor expenses for December.

Online (Wayne Deeter): Approved Committee: John Jacobsen. Other members may be added in the coming months.

Finance (Stewart Hoeg): Approved Committee: Dan Christensen, Jean Coberly, John Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, and Liz Reanier.

Lodge Building (Doug Nelson) Approved Committee: Brad Bennett, Sue Carey, Jim Dotson, Brian Hamilton, Juli McGlinsky. John McManigal, Lenore McManigal, Pat Soussan, John Pegg and Larry Huff.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen) Approved Committee: Pat Adams, Rick Ahrens, Brad Bennett, Max Brown, Jim Dotson, Jim Floyd, Brian Hamilton, Stewart Hoeg, Brenda Kameenui, Gary Kirk, Darlene Mancuso, Chuck Mitchell, Doug Nelson, Effie Neth, John Pegg, Jim

Pierce, Dave Predeek, Pat Soussan, A large tree came down in late November near the Lodge gate. Work party held January 6, to cleanup debris that came down during recent winds. Another tree down recently near lower parking lot.

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of 2009 Budget: Stewart Hoeg provided a summary of the 2009 budget. Budget provides \$27,000 revenue and \$18,000 expense. Approved.

Car-Pooling Fees Ad Hoc Committee Report: Brian Hamilton, Chair. Members: Larry Huff, Barb Revere and Stewart Hoeg. Formed to explore a permanent formula for carpooling. Decided we should not require volunteer drivers to subsidize the riders. Recommendations: (1) the carpool fee be based upon 2/3 of the IRS Mileage Rate divided by 4 (driver plus three riders) (2) The rate be reviewed at the beginning of the Summer Trips and Winter Trips season (3) A surcharge of \$.02 per mile be applied for conditions that require traction devices or chains. Discussion took place: the rate is a guideline, the average rate of other clubs is \$.15/mile, this not enforceable, difficult to make it fair, concerns carpooling expenses affect participation. MOTION to table until February.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Members 2009: Approved.
Letters supporting grant for Friends of Buford Park and Mt. Pisgah and Oregon State Parks: Letters sent.

Nonmember trip fees for urban hikes: Janet Jacobsen asked that the Board consider a lower non-member trip fee for in-town hikes. Some of the leaders have expressed discomfort in seeking the \$5.00 non-member fee. A later suggestion was to offer free urban hikes.

Discussion of summer trips (and winter trips) schedule, calendar, etc: Discussion took place on ways to improve the Summer and Winter Trips structure. By decreasing the recruitment time would avoid asking leaders to commit to a trip in such an advance time frame. Subcommittees would be able to recruit trip leaders in waves. Historically, the trips were under one chair and the Bus Trips then Winter and Summer Trips branched off. Discussion will continue at the February Board meeting.



Why Wilderness?

By Pat Bitner, Conservation Chair

"Wilderness designation is the highest level of protection available for our public lands. There is no better way to protect clean drinking water, wildlife habitat, carbon-storing old growth forests and backcountry recreation opportunities than to designate Wilderness areas. Currently, only 3.7% of the state of Oregon is protected as Wilderness"

....Eric Fernandez. Oregon Wild

AS 2008 COMES TO A CLOSE, Oregon awaits a final conclusion to the Bureau of Land Management's proposed Western Oregon Proposed Revision (WOPR) plan. The WOPR would gut the Northwest Forest Plan, which limited the amount of timber removal from Oregon's forests and protected wildlife threatened by intensive clear-cuts, most famously, the spotted owl. The BLM's final approved version would increase logging on BLM Western Oregon land by over 300%. Gov. Kulongoski's objections to the BLM's interpretations of EPA regulations, and its ending consultation with scientific experts, should buy enough time for a new administration to decide its fate. Environmentalists' concerns are many, including planned clear cut logging of remaining pockets of old growth forest, and reduced requirements to protect streams from pollution from stream-bank logging.

The Mt. Hood Wilderness Bill was passed by the House in 2006, and then in 2007 was amended by Sens. Ron Wyden and Gordon Smith to protect 128,600 acres of Mt. Hood forestland. The proposed legislation would close 15% of Mt. Hood National Forest to logging or road building, adding to the 19% of the forest already wilderness area. The bill also

would add 34,545 acres to national recreation areas within the forest. Only limited logging or road building would be allowed under tight restrictions.

The Mt. Hood Wilderness Bill's passage in the Senate has been put on hold until the next session. Senator Tom Coburn, (R. OK), once again blocked passage with a threatened filibuster in the last session. Not his first filibuster threat, he succeeded in delaying passage for 2008, but Sen. Wyden's office asserts the bill will pass when the Senate has more time to deal with Coburn and his objections to "pork spending".

Rep. Peter DeFazio, with Rep. Earl Blumenauer and Sen. Ron Wyden, has introduced legislation to protect "Oregon Treasures". In June, 2008, our legislators introduced the "Oregon Treasures Bill" to protect 143 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers that feed the Rogue River. They introduced their bill on the 40th anniversary of the inclusion of the Rogue in the original Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. A very important part of this bill would provide protection to the Rogue's tributary streams, keeping them free of dams and landslides to preserve prime salmon and steelhead habitat in the main Rogue stream. The Rogue is one of the last, best habitat strongholds for salmon on the Pacific Coast. The WOPR, discussed above, would allow clear cutting on the lands surrounding the Rogue tributaries, causing extensive pollution to the streams. Also included is an expansion of the 480-acre Oregon Caves National Monument, bringing more trails and activities into the Monument. It would also protect the River Styx which flows through the caves, as a Wild and Scenic River.



FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS

76th Annual Conference
Selma, Oregon - October 10-12

Reported by Shirley Cameron

THE SISKIYOU WILD RIVERS, part of the Klamath Siskiyou bio-region, includes five National Wild and Scenic Rivers and is world renowned for its diversity of rare plants. The conference site was Deer Creek Center, the research and educational station of the Siskiyou Field Institute. Participants explored the theme of "Challenges of the Future: Forests, Fish, Farms and Fools". Obsidian member Tim Hermach, of the Native Forest Council, energized us as only Tim can do, with an urgent plea for preserving "Forests for the

Future". Other speakers spoke about forest fauna, farms, fish, and fuels for the future. A panel discussion on conservation challenges for the new administration was moderated by Barry Snitkin and included Mort Mondale, Joe Fontaine, Michael McCloskey and Julie Norman. There was much "food for thought" at the conference. The need to protect our forests for the future is a big issue. The WOPR proposes to increase logging by 400%, with 70% of it from clear cutting, and with one-half of it being done in riparian areas. It would add 1200 miles of logging roads. Also, serious changes are needed to ensure a future for salmon, perhaps even through the removal of some dams. The 76th was a fine conference of the FWOC. The 77th conference may be held in the Northwest again. Obsidians are encouraged to attend.

TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Byways By Bus

Christmas Lights

December 11, 2008

Leader: Barbara Payne

HO HO HO MERRY CHRISTMAS! We started our night on the town by first having pizza at Papa's Pizza. Then it was off to ShopKo to wait for our limos to arrive. We had a fabulous two-hour ride around town looking at all the beautiful lights. There were twenty-eight of us having a good time, including members Ethel Allen, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Paula Beard, Mary Lee Cheadle, Sharon Cutsforth, Rose Mary Etter, Barbara Flanders, Dennis Flanders, Bette Hack, Donna Halker, Dora Harris, Marcia Jordan, Dot Leland, John McManigal, Lenore McManigal, Barbara Payne, Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Dick Speelman, Janet Speelman, Viola Stults, Mary Ellen West and Vera Woolley; and nonmembers Edith Canoy, Gayle Downing, Carol Volesky and Barbara Wilson.



Hikes

McKenzie River Trail

October 26, 2008

Leader: Jane Hackett

13 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

SIX OBSIDIANS TOOK ADVANTAGE of a great fall day to hike the top 13 miles of the McKenzie River Trail. The upper six miles take you past all of the McKenzie River falls, each with a different point of view. The last seven miles take you through a beautiful mixed forest, with a lot of time spent under a big-leaf maple canopy that just glows gold. The trail's last great site is the Blue Pool, no falls at this time of year, but the pool was bigger than I have ever seen it. The last two miles out to Trail Bridge, where the cars were left, were a little long. The trip is a shuttle, so two of us drove up to the top of the trail, above Clear Lake, to retrieve our last car. It was a great day and trip! Members: Jane Hackett, Marianne Camp, Pat Soussan, Rebecca Lipton, Sachiko Iwasaki and Valerie Metcalfe.

Eel Creek

November 9, 2008

Leader: Jane Hackett

6 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)

ON A SEMI-STORMY DAY, a car load of two Obsidians and two nonmembers made the trip through the rain to Eel Creek. Fortu-

nately for us the weather was broken clouds and stormy seas with little rain. This time we hiked directly to the ocean and then north on the beach so we could take advantage of the ocean view. Then lunch on the beach and poking around on the deflation plane to find our way back to the dunes, which meant a fifty-foot walk through wet overgrown bushes. A good workout back across the dunes made this a good day, along with a brief stop for coffee and a snack in Old Town Florence. Members: Jane Hackett and Moshe Rapaport; nonmembers: Ed Lizewski and Sally Morris.

Museum Walk

December 5, 2008

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

3 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)

Photo: Jim Pierce



IT WAS A SUNNY DAY FOR OUR WALK from Amazon Community Center to the U of O campus in search of Obsidian connections. We walked a few blocks to the Masonic Cemetery to hunt for the Yoran, Collier, and Scott tombstones. Next stop was the Knight Library where we took note of the outside sculptures: Pegasus, The Seasons, the Tree of Knowledge, and the Fifteen Sentinel Library Heads. Inside we visited the Special Collections room to study the six panels in two carved murals: Trails in the Shadow of Hood, Halcyon Days at the Foot of Mt. Jefferson, Before the Spires of Three Fingered Jack, Mt. Washington, The Three Sisters, and Mt. Thielsen. One of the carvers, Art Clough, taught Lorie Cross who later made the carvings at the Obsidian Lodge. We gained a bit of elevation when we walked up three flights of stairs to view the glass Luminated Manuscripts. Dick Hildreth entertained us with filming location details for Animal House as we wandered through campus to the Natural History Museum. There we found the next Obsidian connection: hob-nailed boots in the shoe exhibit, the type of footwear early Obsidian climbers wore to trek up mountains. After lunch at the Museum of Art, we toured the exhibits, taking pause at the prints of the sacred Mt. Fuji. Back out in the sun, we quickly walked back to our cars. Members: Walt Dolliver, Jane Hackett, Dick Hildreth, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen, Jim Pierce, Ruth Romoser and Barbara Sutherland.

Eagle's Rest

December 7, 2008

Leader and Photo: Jim Pierce

5.2 miles, 1,600 ft. (Moderate)



NINE NOBLE HIKERS got an early start on this relatively nearby trail. The conifers, vine maples and rhododendrons glistened from recent rains. The trail is a gradual climb over the 2.6 miles up to the rocky cliffs of Eagle's Rest, and we spotted Mount June under the clouds on the way up. Near the top, the mist discovered gravity, the rain started in earnest, and our only views were of clouds. We retreated off the top for lunch at Ash Swale Shelter. Due to the rain, the trail had muddy sections with evidence of mountain bikers. We scurried down to the parking lot, which was now packed with mountain bikers. Sandor Lau and Ed Lizewski enjoyed their first hike as members. Participating Obsidians were Sue Meyers, Sachiko Iwasaki, Lynne Moody, Charlene Pierce, Becky Lipton, Sandor Lau, Ed Lizewski and leader, Jim Pierce; and nonmember Sally Morris accompanied the group.

Mt. Pisgah Summit Trail

December 11, 2008

Leader: Barb Revere

3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Easy)

THREE OF US ARRIVED AT THE TOP OF THE HILL in a bright fog, letting us know that if we'd climbed Spencer Butte we'd have been in the sun and had an interesting view. But no matter, we all enjoyed the climb, agreeing it was good to get together and good to get outside. Mike enthusiastically took the membership form offered and we look forward to seeing him in the future. Members: Janet Jacobsen and Barb Revere; nonmember: Mike Bullington.

Amtrak to Portland

December 9, 2008

Leader: Barb Revere

4 miles (urban walk), 0 ft. (Easy)

THE AGENDAS OF THE THIRTEEN OBSIDIANS who signed up for this train and walk trip to the Rose City included "a good meal somewhere", "the Portland Art Museum", "a tour of Portland public buildings", "parks" and "Powell's City of Books". The train was fun with lots of conversation or quiet reading and napping. Some found the dining area more convivial than regular seating. In Portland we walked quickly to Henry's Twelfth Street Tavern for great food and more conversation. After lunch, we split up: four made their way directly to the art mu-

seum, eight attempted one-half the walking tour of Portland's public buildings and one had errands of her own. Those who toured the public buildings found that the old city hall building was the highlight of the walk. We couldn't resist the red cushion in place for viewing (without getting a crick in the neck) the suspended artwork in the old city hall rotunda. The attraction of the Portland Art Museum, aside from the permanent exhibits, was "Wild Beauty," pictures of the Columbia Gorge from 1867 to 1957. Imagine embarking up the Columbia Gorge carrying an 18x22" "mammoth format" wooden camera, a "dark tent" and all the chemicals and other supplies needed to prepare glass plates with a "wet collodian process"-- with few trails! The photos were exquisitely presented in black and white. These photographers were crack technicians and had an artistic eye. We enjoyed the exhibit very much. I'm thankful to the group for taking a chance on this unusual trip and for arriving at Union Station in time for our return trip. Well ahead of time as it turned out, as the 6:15 pm train became the 7:00 pm train. Members: Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Dick Essenberg, Margaret Essenberg, Yuan Hopkins, Sachiko Iwasaki, Janet Jacobsen, Lou Maenz, Jim Pierce, Barb Revere, Ruth Romoser, Elle Weaver and Nancy Whitfield.



Spencer Butte

January 1, 2009

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

6 miles, 1,500 ft. (Moderate)

THOSE OF US WHO ARRIVED EARLY at the Amazon Community Center picked up 100 or more *Eugene Weekly* pages that were spread like snowfall from the parking lot to the bike path. We picked up some more litter at the Fox Hollow parking lot before we started up to the Spencer Butte Summit. Some muddy trail sections, barely discernible rain, and a few gusts on top had little impact on our hardy group of seven. On the way down we cheerfully greeted many New Year's Day hikers. Especially delightful was a four-year-old hiker hailing each of us with "appy ew ear." Jim Pierce took us on a side trip from the main trail to see the new stone wall bridge where in November the Obsidians helped with a large planting project. The trip took three hours and ten minutes. Members: Lynda Christiansen, Janet Jacobsen, Sue Meyers, Mary Morrison, Jim Pierce and Barb Revere; nonmember: John Tesdell.

Barb's Sampler:**10 Ways to Start Your New Year Right!**

Sat., Jan. 17 – Rosary Lakes – S'Shoe, difficult. With solemn Pulpit Rock looming above and the lakes strung along the trail like beads, you'll realize that the Forest Service had a theme going here. The Cascade views are divine and the rest stops heavenly on this pilgrimage led by Matt Bell. *Eight mi., 500 ft.*

Sat., Jan. 24 – Berley Lakes – X-Ski, moderate.

On a fair weather day, stunning views of Three Fingered Jack await the lucky skiers who visit these two lovely alpine lakes. Your trailhead is in the Santiam Junction area and off the beaten path of most skiers. Join leader Brian Hamilton and pray for one of Oregon's crystal clear winter days. *Eight mi., 530 ft.*

Sun., Jan 25 – Midnight Lake – X-Ski, moderate.

High above Odell Lake's west end sit many much smaller lakes, all linked together by the Pacific Crest Trail. After leaving the hubbub of Gold Lake Sno-park, Midnight Lake

is the first snow-blanketed "meadow" along the forested trail. Laurie Funkhouser leads this moderate trip that is sure to become a favorite. *Six mi., 600 ft.*

Same Day – Sand Mountain – X-Ski, difficult. Sam Miller leads this more challenging run from Santiam Pass and the Big Lake area. Views can be spectacular here without the usual crowding experienced at the closer in sno-parks. *Nine mi., 1000 ft.*

Sat., Jan. 31 -- Maiden Peak Cabin – S'Shoe, difficult. Matt Bell leads this trek to a shelter NE of the Willamette Pass ski area and on the west shoulder of Maiden Peak. The cabin is heated by solar panels and is a welcome place to have your well-earned lunch break. Under sunny skies and with good snow, this trip can't be beat. *Twelve mi., 900 ft.* Note: You can also ski to the same destination, led by Lyndell Wilken, on Thurs., Feb. 12th.

Sun., Feb. 1 – Maklaks Trail – X-Ski/S'Shoe, moderate. Your route is a little used trail on the southern base of

Maklaks Mountain where crowds are thin and the snow is deep (we hope). Leader Lana Lindstrom says the terrain is fairly gentle, so you'll have a good chance to work on your technique while enjoying a great day out skiing or snowshoeing – both techniques are welcome. *Six mi., 300 ft.*

Sat., Feb 7 – Potato Hill – S'Shoe, difficult. After skiing out Jack Pine Rd. to join the Hashbrown Loop trail, you'll then climb without a trail to the summit. In prime weather this mountain near Santiam Pass has great views of many nearby peaks. Leader Scott Hovis says the length and elevation change give this trip a "difficult" rating. *Four miles, 1100 ft. elevation change.*

Sun., Feb 8 – Fuji Creek Shelter – S'Shoe, difficult. Starting just off highway 58, about ¼ mile beyond Salt Creek Falls sno-park, this trail climbs a steep ridge and connects to the Waldo Lake Rd. With two cars you can do a one-way trip.

Twelve mi., 1200 ft., led by Daphne James.

Tue., Feb. 10 – Sweet Creek – Hike, easy. An all season favorite, this hike explores the weeping rock crevices and overhangs of a little canyon in the Coast Range with many waterfalls. Walkways and platforms get you up close and... wet! Bring good rain gear and a baggy for your camera. You'll walk at a photographer's pace, have time for hundreds of shots (bring extra cards/ film) and come away knowing more about ferns than you expected to. Photographer and "fernologist" Jim Pierce leads this lovely amble. *Less than three mi. and only 250 ft. elevation gain.*

Sun., Feb. 15 – Fawn Lake – X-Ski, moderate. South of Odell Lake and on the NE boundary of Diamond Peak Wilderness, this trail leads into a valley embraced by Lakeview and Redtop mountains. The scenery is fabulous and so is the solitude that is likely to be yours when you take this trip led by Brian Hamilton. *Six 1/2 mi., 600ft.*



Surviving a Night in the Snow - Recovery or Rescue?

By Barb Revere

SUN., FEB. 8: CATASTROPHE! You are alone. You're in the wilderness, you don't recognize the trail junction ahead, and you are completely lost. You're exhausted, wet, and cold. It's almost dark. Can you survive the night with what is on your back, in your pockets and in your day pack? Will you be "rescued" or "recovered"?

Doug McCarty is leading a day trip entitled "Gold Lake Survival" and it involves primarily a "thought experiment". He says it is 20% physical and 80% psychological and it will be very safe. "The goal is to get people to think hard about the harsh reality of spending a night in the wild prepared only with a day tripper's backpack...with the ultimate goal that they



Photo by Clare Tucker

never come close to the real thing." The trip, which is for both snowshoers and cross country skiers, takes place in the Gold Lake Sno-park. All you have is what you're wearing and what's in your pack. You then pretend that you are alone "with no possibility of being rescued before morning". The group disperses and you have "30 minutes to prepare a shelter and a methodology" for surviving the 13-hour night. Afterwards, shelters, methods, equipment use, and clothing are evaluated. The discussion will cover the cascading events and decisions that lead to emergencies. Given the year-round overnight temperature drop in the mountains, this class sounds useful for summer trips too. All who

went on this trip last year thought it was very useful and they had a really great time.

Upcoming Events at the Arboretum

Call Clare at 747-1504 or email mtpisgip@efn.org for more information or to sign up.

Lichen Dyeing Workshop, Saturday, January 17, noon-4pm. Create color with lichen, with botanist Cheshire Mayrsohn \$40/\$35 MPA members.

Silk Painting Workshop, Saturday, January 24, 10am-1pm. Let the rich colors of the Arboretum in winter inspire you while learning the ancient Asian art of silk painting. All materials provided. \$30/\$25 MPA members.

Lichen Walk, Sunday, January 25, 10am-noon. Open your eyes to the once-hidden beauty of lichens. All levels of expertise are welcome on this walk, led by lichen expert Daphne Stone. Meet at the Mount Pisgah Arboretum Visitor Center, rain or shine. \$5 (MPA members free!)

Nature Photography in a Digital World, Sunday, February 1, 1-4pm, follow-up 1-3pm Sunday, February 8. Making the move into digital photography? You don't have to leave the natural world behind. \$25/\$20 members.

Slowpoke Sketch Walk, Saturday, February 7, 10 am -12 noon. Are you always wanting your hiking friends to slow down so you can really look around? Meet at Mount Pisgah Arboretum Visitor Center, rain or shine. Fee: \$5 (MPA members free!)

Winter Wonders Family Walk, Sunday, February 8, noon-2pm. What are plants, animals, and fungi up to this winter? \$5/

members free. Meet at Arboretum Visitor Center, rain or shine.

Wild Child Survival Skills! This three-class series will teach basic safety and prevention, lost proofing, fire, shelter, water, weather, going potty, hazards, direction finding, awareness, and attitude, with tons of outdoor time and great games and activities. \$8 per kid or \$5 per kid with a family membership. Sunday, February 8, 3-5; February 15, noon-2; February 22, 10:30-12:30.

Bird Lovers' Valentine Walk, Saturday, February 14, 8-10am. Bring your binoculars for this fun walk for birders of all levels, led by entertaining, long-time bird guide Davey Wendt. \$5/members free. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center, rain or shine. Limit 20; RSVP #747-1504

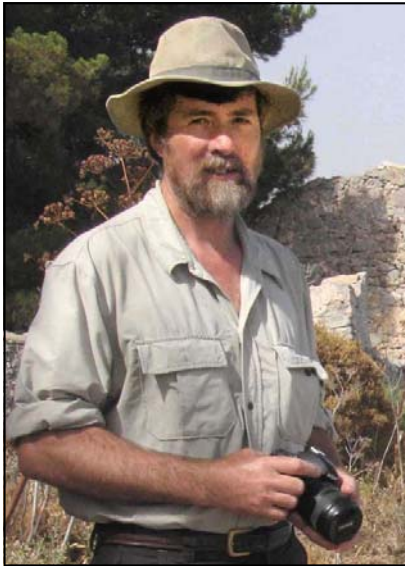
Wild Edibles and Herbs Walk, Saturday, February 21, 10am-noon. Hungry? Take a walk with entertaining herbalist Sue Sieralupé, and find out which local plants are good to eat and good for you. \$5/members free. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center, rain or shine.

One Small Square, Sunday, February 22, 1-3pm. Stretch your sketchbook and open your eyes to the details of our ecosystems! No drawing experience required; beginning and experienced artists will enhance their skills. \$20/\$15 members.

Adventures in Arborism Walk, Sunday, March 1, 10am-noon. Join arborist and Arboretum board member Scott Altenhoff on The Most Amazing Tree Walk. \$5/members free. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center, rain or shine.

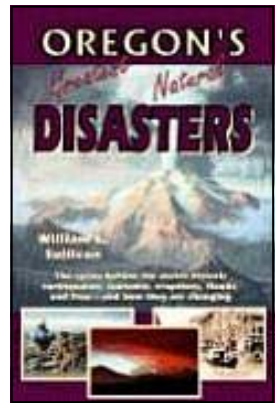


Oregon's Greatest Natural Disasters



ONE OF THE OBSIDIAN'S FAVORITE speakers, Bill Sullivan, will be talking about his recently published book, *Oregon's Greatest Natural Disasters*, an entertaining and provocative examination of the floods, fires, earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions that have affected people in Oregon during the past 13,000 years. Sullivan shows that these events are actually part of larger natural cycles -- some more regular than others. Understanding the cycles can help reduce damage in the future. The final chapter in the book is fictional, set 12 years in the future when a massive earthquake and tsunami devastate the Oregon Coast.

- Laurie Funkhouser, Entertainment Chair



January Potluck - Friday, January 23, 2009 - Obsidian Lodge
Potluck, 6:30 p.m. Program, 7:30 p.m.

Bring your favorite potluck dish to share...along with plates, utensils and cups...
plus \$1 to help cover club expenses.



Klamath Migratory Birds

PLEASE JOIN OREGON WILD'S Klamath Campaign Coordinator, Ani Kame'enui, on Tuesday, January 20, at 7 P.M., in exploring the beauty and diversity of an Oregon wonder. Tucked into the southern reaches of the state, the Klamath Basin plays host to a myriad of migratory bird species every year. This is a place where snow geese congregate in the tens of thousands, American white pelicans dip their slender beaks in search of fish, and bald eagles gather in their largest numbers in the continental United States. In this slide presentation we will rediscover the bold beauty and harsh challenges faced by these crown jewels of the west. Come share in the spectacular images of professional photographer Brett Cole as we tour the Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year as the oldest migratory waterfowl refuge in the nation.

Ani, daughter of Obsidian member Brenda Kame'enui, will travel from her Portland headquarters for our program. Ani says that Oregon Wild's role in the Klamath Basin is critical to see that management is done to the highest environmental standard possible.

- Joella Ewing, Science & Education Chair





Trail Maintenance

THERE WILL BE A WORK PARTY January 24th from 9:00am to noon. As soon as the meeting place and project is decided with the Eugene Parks and Open Space staff, Peter will notify Obsidian volunteers via email. If you would like to be contacted about the monthly work parties, please email Peter at peteg@nwframing.com.

The Open Space staff provide gloves, shovels and whatever else is needed.

In November, Obsidians planted around 100 plants near the new stone wall on the Spencer Butte trail.

Peter Green, Trail Maintenance Chair

Classifieds

For Sale - Snow Stuff

Skis, poles and carry bag: Older style skis by Elan, 180's, suitable for someone about 5'-8" tall. The poles are aluminum, 47" in length. \$50

Skis and Ski boots for woman: Skis are white and made by Elan xtc omni carbon, 170 mm. Boots are women's size 7 and also are white. Older style skis, but very usable. \$50

Wool Gaiters: Made in Vermont by Johnson Woolen Mill. Size Large. Approx. 18" in length. Heavy fitted wool gaiters. 4 snaps with 2-zipper close. Elastic stirrup, side zipper with storm flap. \$45

Two pair Snowshoes for children: These are almost new, used only once. Sized for ages 4-9 or weight up to 60 lbs. Boot length up to 9 inches. \$20 for each pair

Man's or Woman's Unisex Snowboarding snowsuit: Size L. Inseam is 32". One piece. Dark blue. By Skitique International. Large horizontal zippered pocket goes across entire chest. Inside elastic gaiter lining. Shell and lining are 100% nylon. \$20

Tire Cables: NEW, never used, still in original box Made in Portland, Oregon. Specifically designed for anti-lock brakes (ABS), traction control and all wheel drive vehicles."Z" design. For a variety of 14", 15" and 16" tires. \$50

Please call or email Charlene for more info and photos: 503-508-0312. LAOdyssey@Juno.com

For Rent

Yachats Rental: One block from beach and walking trail. Rooms (\$60-80/night) downstairs or entire house with upstairs ocean views (\$190-250/night min. 2-night stay). No smoking or pets. Email for availability/ questions, jjobaer@gmail.com

Wood For Sale

WOOD - Green fir, cut and split at the Obsidian Lodge. You haul. \$120/cord. Contact John Jacobsen, Grounds Chair: 343-8030 or johnwjacobsen@comcast.net.

Obsidian Calendar

January 2009

15 Thu - Buford Park, E, B Revere	726-4989
17 Sat - Rosary Lakes, S-Shoe, D, M. Bell	503-884-8829
18 Sun - Salmon Cr Tr, 6m 200' M, C.Stockdale	767-3668
20 Tue - Klamath Basin	Sci Ed
21 Wed - Craig Lake, X-Ski 8m 800' D, S.Sullivan	342-6546
23 Fri - Natural Disasters, Bill Sullivan	Potluck
24 Sat - Trail Maintenance, P Green	510-1151
24 Sat - Berley Lakes, X-Ski, M, B Hamilton	343-6550
25 Sun - Midnight Lake, X-Ski, M, L Funkhouser	206-2303
25 Sun - Sand Mountain, X-Ski, D, S.Miller	484-4586
31 Sat - Maiden Peak, S-Shoe, M, M. Bell	503-884-8829

February

1 Sun - Maklaks, X-Ski/S'Shoe, M, L Lindstrom	683-1409
7 Sat - Potato Hill, S'Shoe D, S.Hovis	345-7788
8 Sun - Gold Lake Survival, X-Ski/S'Shoe D McCarty ..	342-6962
8 Sun - Fuji Shelter, S'Shoe, D, D.James	683-7488
10 Tue - Sweet Creek Falls, 2.8m, E, J.Pierce	344-1775
12 Thu - Maiden Peak Cabin, X-Ski, D, L Wilken	343-3080
15 -Sun- Fawn Lake, X-Ski, M, B Hamilton	343-6550
17-18 Tue-Wed - Eagles 'N More, Bus, L.Reanier	687-1925
21 Sat - Benson SP Loop, S'Shoe, D Metcalfe	
21 Sat - Diamond Creek, S'Shoe, E, Durham	687-0885
21 Sat - Fawn Lake, S'Shoe, D, M. Bell	503-884-8829
22 Sun - Arrowhead Lake, X-Ski, D, Funkhouser	206-2303
22 Sun - Bus Rally	Lodge
24 Tue - McKenzie River Trail, M, B. Revere	726-4989
27 Fri - Eugene Wetlands, 5m E, Cunningham	344-0486
27 Fri - Row River Trail, D, S.Larsen	687-2589
27 Fri - Stove Team	Potluck

March

1 Sun - Birthday/Verde Lk, X-Ski 9.5m D, Anderson ..	946-1732
7 Sat - Gold Lake, S'Shoe, M, C.Durham	687-0885
7 Sat - Ray Benson, X-Ski, M, Funkhouser	206-2303
8 Sun - Prairie View Loop, S'Shoe, E, S.Kuhn	515-0768
11-13 Wed-Fri - Big Lake, Lindstrom	683-1409

Upcoming By Ways By Bus



EAGLES 'N MORE - The Bus Committee offers an opportunity to "soar". Join us for a trip to Southern Oregon with intrepid leader, Rick Ahrens to visit the eagles on February 17th and 18th. The cost is \$160 for members and \$164 for non-members. Included in the cost are lunches for both days, lodging, a continental breakfast, and transportation. A \$50 deposit is due immediately with the remainder to follow. Checks should be made out to Obsidian Bus Trips and mailed to Liz Reanier, 853 Ascot Dr. Eugene OR 97401. Phone: 687-1925.



On the way to Dee Wright Observatory. Photo by Clare Tucker



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