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### Dates to Remember

Apr 21	SciEd Tuesday
Apr 24	Trekking Potluck
May 2	May Bulletin Deadline
May 6	Board Meeting

Complete current schedules at:

[www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org) or

Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

#### 2009 Activities Schedule Available

See Bulletin insert. Online viewers: access on Obsidian website.

#### Camp Ishi Summer Camp 2009 Sign up now!

Don't miss this opportunity to visit a great place. See story right.

## A Great Year Ahead

**A**LTHOUGH OUR ECONOMY IS STRUGGLING and folks seem to be a bit 'down', the Obsidian committees have been hard at work putting together a quality schedule of activities for this coming year, hoping to provide trips of all kinds to lift you up and provide economical outdoor experiences for all. In the story below, are four reasons to consider **Summer Camp**, our annual outdoor vacation package, a bargain at \$175 for members and \$195 for guests (Note: cost may increase slightly if there is only 1 session). So sign up soon to get in on this unique opportunity for fun and camaraderie.

The **Summer Trips** Committee has put together its first wave of summer trips. Check out Barb's Sampler on Page 14 for some of the upcoming highlights and see the annual schedule insert (also available online) for a complete list. Jim Pierce, Summer Trips Chair, tells us they could still use some more trips though and are looking for more leaders to step up. See Page 19 for information on getting involved as a leader as well as the upcoming leaders training available to help you learn the ropes.

There are many **Bus Trips** to choose from as well. A special treat this year is provided by Mary Ellen West who is leading a set of four historical bus outings (one has already happened) to celebrate Oregon's 150th - see Page 15.

Throw in some **Potlucks**, some **SciEd Tuesdays**, a few **Extended Trips** and there is a tremendous opportunity to choose a variety of economical, interesting and fun activities to keep you busy during these tough times.

As a closing note: The participation in club activities as well as leaders stepping forward to lead the activities has fallen off steadily over the last two years. We hope this is just a sign of the troubled times and that we will bounce back as economic conditions improve, but in the meantime you can help out by stepping up to lead a trip and/or supporting the many activities that the club has worked so hard to plan for its members and guests.

*By John Jacobsen*

### Summer Camp:

## A Peak Experience Lassen Volcanic National Park

**C**AMP REGISTRATIONS ARE LOW, especially for Session 1. As the Bulletin goes to print, it's unlikely that we will have enough registrants to run both sessions. Therefore, we're considering consolidating the two sessions into one and extending the camp one more day. The session would run Monday, July 20 to Sunday, July 26. To cover some of the additional expenses, we would need to increase the fee approximately \$10 to \$185 for members and \$205 for non-members. However, if registrations remain low, camp will have to be cancelled completely.



We will make a decision by **April 30**. Those folks who have already registered and

*(Continued on page 7)*



# Happy Birthday!

**M**ARGARET WIESE celebrated her 90th birthday on St. Patrick's Day in the Solarium at Cascade Manor. A large birthday bash was held a few days earlier at the Central Presbyterian Church where she is a long time member. She wore a bright green outfit and was all smiles for both events. Margaret shared some of her memories about the Obsidians. She laughed about her first Obsidian summer camp (1961) when she used her father's old canvas tent.



Photo by John Jacobsen

Margaret joined the Obsidians in 1952. She led 35 trips and received her 200 trip patch in 2005. She attended 14 Summer Camps, climbed 7 mountains, becoming a Princess with the name Prairie Flower in 1962. Her last name means meadow in German. Margaret shared her enthusiasm for hiking and flowers with so many. These are her words from a September 21, 1988 trip

report of Mount Fuji: "What a glorious day after the first good rain of the summer which left new snow on the mountain tops. The air was fresh, the sky blue, and the trail damp and soft as our group of seventeen walked to the top of Mt. Fuji." The last hike on her trip log is Sweet Creek Falls, June 15, 2005.

By Janet Jacobsen

## OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322, Eugene, OR 97440

Website: [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

### Board of Directors

President - Jim Duncan  
 Vice President - Jim Pierce  
 Secretary - Laurie Funkhouser  
 Treasurer - Stewart Hoeg  
 Wayne Deeter      Larry Huff  
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 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  
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 Summer Camp ..... Lana Lindstrom  
 Summer Trips .....Jim Pierce  
 Trail Maintenance.....Peter Green  
 Winter Trips.....Paul Flashenberg  
 Youth.....

## The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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### The Obsidian Bulletin

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### Deadline

for May 2009 Bulletin

**Saturday, May 2, 2009**

### Assembly/Mailing Team

#### For February Bulletin

Assembly & Mail Manager .... Lou Maenz  
 Call Manager ..... Vera Woolley  
 Assembly Team ... Vi Johnson, John & Lenore McManigal, Janet & Richard Spielman

### 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

## Welcome!

### New Members

**SPRAGUE, NANCY** (Active)  
 1850 Fairmont Blvd, Eugene 97403  
 344-6624

### Reinstated Members

**BERGER, MARTHA** (Active)  
 2940 Harris Street, Eugene 97405  
 344-5657 [mlberger54@msn.com](mailto:mlberger54@msn.com)

**FREED, ROBERT** (Active)  
 P.O. Box 71594, Eugene 97401  
 434-2313 [bobfr@earthlink.net](mailto:bobfr@earthlink.net)

## Obsidian Membership Report

### April 2009

Active Members ..... 463  
 Associate Members ..... 35  
 Honorary Members ..... 3  
 Junior Members ..... 12  
 Life Members ..... 20  
**Total Members ..... 533**

**April Membership History**  
 April 2008 ..... 549  
 April 2007..... 560  
 April 2006..... 550  
 April 2005..... 537

# John Craig Memorial Ski Classic

1951

By Brian Hamilton

**T**HE TUMALO LANGLAUF CLUB'S WEB SITE recently featured information on the John Craig Memorial, including a note by "Sharon" who had participated in the race in 1951 and 1952. Knowing that my Aunt Sharon (Gardner) Sahonchik belonged to the Obsidians at the time and now lives in Bend, my curiosity led me to follow a link to a roster of the 1951 race participants. The roster included names of several Obsidians, including Ray Sims, former president of the club. One name that jumped out at me was Sharon Gardner who was 18 years old at the time and finished in 10<sup>th</sup> place with a time of 4 hours and 32 minutes.

When I emailed Sharon, asking about the 1951 race, she replied: "What fun memories you evoke! (I found the list) among my mementos from the John Craig Memorial Race, which I ran...no, not "ran", but raced...twice! Those two races were really the first for the JCM race since its inception way back in the 30's, although I think some folks made a half-hearted attempt at reviving it during World War II. The '51 and '52 races were held after a long hiatus during WWII and for some time, afterwards. Believe me, it was a tough race, especially the first one I raced. It was UPHILL (You have to think of "Dead Horse Grade" (steep hairpin curves!) when you drive up to the Dee Wright Memorial at the top of the pass. The weather was horrendous and the snow was very heavy and in those days, we all skied on very long (7-foot or more), wood cross-country skis that you had to judge for the snow conditions for the whole length of the race and wax (blow-torches and klistor) accordingly. If you misjudged, woe to you! You could end up slogging along with a stack of snow piled up on the bottoms of your skis or even as bad, not be able to climb....two strides forward and one slide back....in the worst, steepest parts (12 miles uphill) of the race and no one to assist you after the "point of no return". Not many volunteers wanted to stand in a sub-freezing snow storm up on the Pass."

The race was resurrected in 1972 and has been held yearly since then. However, Sharon lamented that the event is no longer a "real" race: "They've made it a "citizen/family" fun tour now. No more "racing" although people continue to see if they can beat one another's times...as humans are always wont to do."

Sharon also told me about other early cross country racing and ski mountaineering in late '40s and early '50s, but that's another story!

10 Sharon Gardner	Tri-Pass	10:36	3:08.14	4:32.14	1	C-W
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Sharon Gardner's 1951 race results.

2009

By Chrissy Anderson and Sue Wolling

*Editors note: Dave Jensen, Brenda Kameenui, Sue Wolling, Susan Wanser and Chrissy Andersen participated in 35 km John Craig Memorial Wilderness Ski Classic over the Old McKenzie Pass on March 14th. Chrissy was the recruiter and organizer for the group. We asked Chrissy and Sue to share their thoughts about the race.*



Photo by Dave Jensen

Chrissy and Sue at the ski classic.

**C**HRISSY: THE FIVE OF US OBSIDIANS stayed in Sisters overnight and boarded the shuttle at 6:15 am to take us to the west snow gate. The event is no longer a race, although they do hand out bibs and let you know your time and place in the end. And you can feel the competitive element. But there is no official start time. Last year the snow was deep and untracked, so skiers had to work together to break trail. I like that they are emphasizing that it's not a race, because otherwise it sounds like you have to be a super elite skier to do it. You do have to be pretty fit, and an experienced skier, but it's do-able. I'd like to see more Obsidians participate, because it is a local event and benefits our ski patrol.

**SUE:** The John Craig is the ideal ski event for me. You don't need skill. You don't need technique. You don't need good equipment. All you need is the ability to slog on. I can do that!

As we awoke in our Sisters motel the morning of the John Craig Ski Tour, we were delighted to see cloudy weather and

(Continued on page 4)



# John Craig Memorial Ski Classic

(Continued from page 3)

dry pavement--much better than the rain that had been predicted. We packed up and drove to the Sisters snow gate, where we joined the 53 skiers boarding a big bus at 6:30 a.m. (another 20 or so people skied the day trip from Sisters up to Dee Wright Observatory and back). Ski patrol members signed us in with endearing ineptitude (we wondered whether we should tell them about a wonderful invention that might make it easier to locate the name of each skier. It's called "the alphabet".) They welcomed us and reassured us that the 53 skiers would be supported by 70 Ski Patrollers. Soon the bus left to drive over Santiam Pass to the snow gate a few miles up Rt. 242 from McKenzie Bridge. At that point, people got off the bus, grabbed their skis and without any fanfare simply started skiing up the road.

**CHRISSEY:** We started off on a snowmobile track, which unfortunately was uneven and somewhat frozen, so it was impossible to get into an efficient glide going up. I slipped constantly, which was frustrating. But the snow steadily improved as we neared the top. It was very windy and snowing hard in the lava fields near the observatory. Thankfully the wind was at our backs! The ski patrol put in wands to guide us through the area, because the wind blew away all tracks and you couldn't tell where the road was.

**SUE:** The first few miles were a bit of a jumble as people jockeyed for position, and faster skiers passed slower ones. After a few miles and everybody's first wardrobe adjustment, things settled down, and I ended up skiing mostly by myself, with another skier or two in sight most of the time. At the top of a series of long switchbacks, we finally reached a flat area where there was some wonderful gliding for a couple of miles to the first rest stop. I had to laugh when I reached it, because after looking forward to this rest stop for 9 miles, I found that it consisted of two guys and a snowmobile, with a big sack of oranges and a jug of water. After a quick greeting, I moved on. At this point it had started snowing lightly, and gradually the wind started blowing a bit, too. Not a problem--at least it wasn't rain! The next rest stop, at the memorial to

John Craig, was a highlight, because several nearly-frozen Ski Patrol people had cut up the fruit (apples, oranges and bananas) and laid it out on a slab of rock or wood or something. I discovered a new taste sensation: apple with 1/4 inch of snow on top, which tasted sort of like an apple sorbet!

**CHRISSEY:** The skiing itself was not technically difficult (though apparently it can be more difficult in high snow years) as it's a road ski. You do climb 2500 feet, but it's relatively gentle, spread out over 15 miles.

**SUE:** The wind became stronger as we approached the observatory, until we finally faced a near white-out. The Ski Patrol had set out "wands" to mark the route, which was extremely helpful--and even so I was glad that I could just barely see the skier ahead of me. (Who would have thought you could lose an entire road?!) Up near the observatory the wind had sculpted the snow into unbelievable cornices and gulches, which fortunately looked a lot more treacherous to ski into than they actually were. After



Passing Dee Wright Observatory - Photo by Dave Jensen

the final rest stop at Windy Point, I was looking forward to the effortless glide to the finish that I remembered from the previous time I had done the John Craig (about 15 years ago). Unfortunately, it was not to be.

**CHRISSEY:** While the road is a consistent gentle downhill, the snow got wet enough that there wasn't much glide. I actually had to work a bit on the way down, which at that point seemed entirely uncalled for--but it wasn't hard work, and before I knew it I was at the finish line.

**SUE:** It was a bit of a drag to discover that the finish line was actually nearly a mile from where we had left our cars, so I had to walk down the road to reach the car--but actually that walk probably served as a pretty good stretch/warm-down after the long ski. Nonetheless, I decided that the others would be more interested in collapsing than stretching, so I drove the car up to the finish line--and before long, they skied in.

**CHRISSEY:** Even though we didn't ski together as a group, it was fun to go up as a group and share a hotel room. We went to dinner the night before and met up at the post-event burrito dinner (tall tales party) afterwards.

Obsidians have a long history of participating in this event. Join us next year.

## We're Older... But Connected

By Ed Lichtenstein

**I**N 2000, THE BOARD committed to conducting periodic surveys of the membership in order to better understand the demographics and participation patterns of our members and plan accordingly. Last fall, we completed the third survey (2000, 2003 & 2008) and here we report highlights and trends.

The survey was mailed along with membership renewal forms and 320 were returned. The 2008 survey was modified to include issues of concern to the Board such as barriers to leading trips and signing up for trips at the YMCA. Thanks to the help of folk at Oregon Research Institute, the cost of the 2008 survey was only \$50.

**WEB-USE AND TRIP SIGN-UP:** In 2008, 78% of respondents reported that they use the Club's website (up from 66% in 2003). The great majority of members who had climbed, or gone on a summer or winter trip in 2008 had used the website. Notably, nearly half (46%) the respondents reported that it was 'somewhat' or 'very' inconvenient to sign up for trips at the YMCA, and many added comments requesting the opportunity to sign up for trips on the website. These findings have led the Board to undertake a study of web sign-up and more on this topic will be forthcoming.

**DEMOGRAPHICS:** We are getting a bit older as a club. The average (median) age is now 64 compared to 62 in 2000 and 2003. And only 11% of respondents were 50 or younger compared to nearly 20% in 2000 and 16% in 2003. Relat-

edly, the number working full-time went down a bit – 30% now compared to 33% on the prior surveys. We have more women than men: 57.5% now, 56% and 52% previously and the proportion of members who are single remains at 49%.

**NEW MEMBERS:** While we may be getting older, we continue to attract new members at about the same rate as before; half of the respondents had joined within the past 7 years, 23% within two years. Newer members tend to be younger.

**PARTICIPATION:** Active members are more likely to complete the survey. In 2008, 23% had served on a committee, 31% had led a trip of some kind; 38% had gone on a summer trip; 22% on a winter trip; 21% on a bus trip and 13% on a climb. These levels are pretty consistent with the two prior surveys. Pot luck participation dropped a bit—to 44% (51, and 56 previously) and nearly 24% reported volunteering in some other way (e.g. helping with the newsletter).

**IMPLICATIONS:** Overall, the three surveys indicate a stable, well-functioning club with a high level of participation. While we may be aging a bit, we continue to attract new members. The high level of website use—especially by the more active members—suggests that our website can become an even more useful tool—perhaps for trip sign-up and perhaps for obtaining feedback from the members on issues of concern to the Board. The demographic survey should be repeated, perhaps every five years to continue to track stability and change.

## 40 Years at "Y"

**A**PRIL 7TH MARKED THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY of the Obsidian bulletin board at the YMCA on Patterson St. But where was it before then? The original location may be lost in obscurity. The first issue of the *Obsidian Bulletin*, December 1936, was nine years after the founding of the Club. On page one of that issue is mention of signing up at Hendershott's Gun Store. This location at 770 Willamette St., sometimes called Hendershott's Sports Shop but more often simply Hendershott's, was used until its closing in March of 1959. This location was used as Arthur Hendershott, owner of Hendershott's, was a long-time member. Harold Trotter, also a member, was a salesman at Hendershott's for much of the time the board was there and apparently maintained the bulletin board. For a few months after that the bulletin board was at the Alpine Shop, 1361 Willamette St. In June of 1959 the bulletin board was moved to Gilbert's Shoe Store, 49 E. Broadway, as member Sterling Behnke was proprietor of Gilbert's. After Gilbert's closed in June of 1968 a temporary location was found at the Sport Haus, 724 Willamette St. and in the following spring it was moved to the YMCA.

By Wayne Deeter

## Walk In the Mud

**“T**HE PROLIFERATION OF FREEWAYS is too often a fact of daily life, but the wilderness can be spared this by staying on the trails and walking right through the muddy spots and snow patches. Avoid going around such obstacles and breaking down vegetation or shortcutting switchbacks. New trails are quickly worn through to become permanent and lead to erosion.” (From “Traildust”, newsletter of the Hobnailers Hiking Club of Spokane, WA. Original source unknown)

On his website, Chris Conway writes about **the art of mud walking**. He wants you to walk right through the mud so as not to turn the trail into a 10-20 foot highway. He comments, “I see people unnecessarily walking around mud that your feet don't even sink into. My boots are only medium height and I hike through muddy areas all the time. And with 2 trek poles it is faster than trying to find a route around the mud.” His advice is to “stay on the trail and Leave No Trace!”

[www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Falls/9200/mud\\_walking.html](http://www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Falls/9200/mud_walking.html)

By Janet Jacobsen

# BOARD NOTES

**April 1, 2009**

**By Laurie Funkhouser, Secretary**

President Jim Duncan called the meeting to order. Board Members: Laurie Funkhouser, Jim Pierce, Marshall Kandell, Barb Revere. Verna Kocken, Wayne Deeter, Larry Huff, and Stewart Hoeg. Others: Paul Flashenberg, John Jacobsen, Lenore McManigal, Barb Bruns, Elle Weaver, Doug Nelson, Pat Bitner, and Lana Lindstrom.

Treasurer's Report: Bills approved.

## Committee Reports

Summer Trips (Jim Pierce): Leader recruiting has been abysmal. We have only 16 trips on the calendar for April; 17 for May and only 12 for June... so far. Obviously we will need to do a second wave within a wave to get Leaders to step up to the plate. There are many former Leaders who are retiring. Leader Training class is coming along fine.

Winter Trips (Paul Flashenberg): There are now 56 trips on the schedule.

Climbs (Larry Huff): The Basic Mountaineering School is set to go April 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at the lodge. We have 18 students currently enrolled. Current receipts for registration fees total \$1,250.00. The climb schedule has 16 climbs currently

Trail Maintenance (Peter Green): Worked on Ridgeline Trail on Mt. Baldy.

By-Ways-By-Bus (Liz Reanier via Verna Kocken): The Bus trip to The Governor's House, Capitol and other sites, led by Mary Ellen West was attended by 25 riders. about a quarter of the total ridership were non-member guests. The trip was successful. Two trips are pending in the near future

Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom): About 65 people attended the Rally and we received positive feedback that the presentation was helpful. Forty-five folks signed up at the Rally - a good start!

Extended Trips (Jim Duncan): Lana Lindstrom led a very successful Big Lake Ski and Snowshoe Trip on March 11-13. There were 19 participants and \$190 in trip fees.

Conservation (Pat Bitner): Sponsoring speakers at the April 21 SciEd program. Margot Fetz is arranging two hikes for June 27 near Yachats through the Portland Audubon Ten Mile Creek preserve and the McKenzie Trust's adjacent lands.

Publication (Barb Revere): The Committee has begun to discuss an 'ad policy' as ads seem to be on the rise and coming from 'other' sources. We are sending 336 Bulletins by U.S. Mail and 138 are reading the Bulletin online.

Entertainment (Laurie Funkhouser): There were 50 attendees to the March 27, 2009 Summer Camp Ishi Rally with approximately 67 attendees for the program. \$65.00 collected in fees.

Science and Education (Joella Ewing): Sixty people attended the March SciEd program and \$57 was collected

Membership (Barb Revere): One application for membership. Members: 533.

Publicity (Elle Weaver): Starting in April, our Potluck dates along with a brief description of the featured topic will be posted on the web community calendar of Travel Lane County. "Guests Welcome" was included.

Concessions (Kathleen Floyd): \$16.00 in Revenue and no Expenses

Online (Wayne Deeter): The Online Committee has started work on an online signup system for trips. Back issues of the Bulletin from the first (December 1936) through 1950 are now available online, in addition to many from the late 60s through the early 80s

Finance (Stewart Hoeg): The Finance Committee met and recommended purchasing an incremental \$15,000 CD. A 12 month CD at 2.68% was invested.. In addition, it was decided to credit last year's interest and dividends to the Endowment Fund. The audit of the Summer Camp Fund was on March 19th Based on the results, the records for Summer Camp for 2008 are accurate and well-maintained. The audit of the General Fund is scheduled to take place on April 2nd.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): Trip reports have been recorded.

Lodge Building (Doug Nelson): A joint work party of volunteers from the Building and Grounds committees was held on March 7. Among other projects, we worked on the water leak in the wall located at the water inlet pipe. Old caulking was removed and replaced. This seems to have corrected the problem. Thanks to our member volunteers for their help with this project. Thanks also to non members Dennis Gordineer and Nathan Nelson for helping out

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): The Grounds Committee began building stairs from the handicap parking area.

## Old Business

Urban Hikes Ad Hoc Committee: The committee consisting of Jim Duncan, Barb Revere, Joanne Ledet, Janet Jacobsen, Marshall Kandell and Stewart Hoeg recommended implementing for 2009 a fee of \$2.00 for non-members to participate in Urban Hikes which is defined as hikes within the City of Eugene and Springfield, including Mt. Pisgah, Spencer Butte, Ridgeline trail and West Eugene wetlands

Online Sign-up: John Jacobsen and Wayne Deeter are making progress on the development of on-line sign-up. Probably looking at an article for the May Bulletin to inform members of the new process.

## New Business

Restricted List: Jim Pierce sought advice regarding the proper distribution of the restricted list to leaders. After discussion, it was determined that providing leaders with the restricted list by e-mail and/or mail was appropriate. Despite the limited number of individuals on the restricted list, maintaining sensitivity regarding those individuals is desirable. In addition, Jim informed the Board that the committee has had difficulties obtaining leaders for summer hikes and is open to any suggestions for recruitment.

Nominating Committee: The Board submitted the following names for the committee: Lana Lindstrom (chair), Wayne Deter, Lenore McManigal, Janet Jacobsen and Dan Christiansen



# THE ROLE OF THE LAND TRUST

*By Pat Bitner, Conservation Chair*

**H**OW WOULD YOU DEFINE A LAND TRUST? While there are over 1,200 land trusts in the U.S., many people do not know their vital role in conserving lands and mediating land-use conflicts. These nonprofit organizations are usually community-based, not a part of government. Their independent grassroots structure allows trusts to act as non-partisan negotiators between land-owners and communities to develop special places.

During the 1970's the need for environmental protection stirred a national debate, and many ordinary citizens wanted to become involved in solutions. Gov. Tom McCall, in 1973, made a famous speech to the Oregon legislature which inspired a statewide land-use policy, setting restrictions on development and standards for zoning and planning.

The first Oregon land trust was established in 1978 - the Southern Oregon Land Conservancy in Ashland. By 2002, there were more than 20 active land trusts in Oregon. Support for the land trust movement came from the public's recognition of the continuing loss of the state's open spaces. From 1982 to 1997 huge changes in land use have occurred; the amount of urbanized land in Oregon nearly

doubled. Eighty-five thousand acres of natural resource lands were converted to urban use. Land trusts work to aid the saving of remaining open space.

The McKenzie River Trust, a locally operating land trust, is currently celebrating the 20th year of its operations.



Deeply rooted in the McKenzie Basin, the trust also works throughout the watersheds of Lane County and in the Umpqua Basin of Douglas County. Perhaps some of you have visited the Trust's Green

Island project as guests of the Trust. The Trust has restored historical wetlands by removing dikes from former farmland on Green Island, and is now working downstream on the mainstem of the Willamette. Joe Moll, Executive Director, says, "Our conservation projects...are never meant to be museum pieces. These lands and waters are reborn in winter floods and summer heat .... The more we can do to give these natural processes space to play out, the more resilient these ecosystems can become again."

Joe Moll will be a featured speaker at the April 21 SciEd program - see Page 18.

Ref: [opb.org/programs/oregonstory/land\\_trusts/about\\_trusts;Currents, Winter 2009, McKenzie River Trust](http://opb.org/programs/oregonstory/land_trusts/about_trusts;Currents,Winter2009,McKenzieRiverTrust); [audubonportland.org/sanctuaries/tenmile](http://audubonportland.org/sanctuaries/tenmile).

## A Peak Experience

*(Continued from page 1)*

paid their deposits will receive an e-mail to solicit their input and availability for one session only. We would like to go to Lassen this year! So contact your fellow Obsidians, friends, and colleagues and promote this camp!

### FOUR GOOD REASONS TO ATTEND CAMP THIS YEAR:

1) **ARE YOU NEW TO OBSIDIANS** or perhaps a bit shy? Not sure what you want to do this summer since your kids made other plans? Summer Camp is an excellent way to meet new friends; camaraderie is one of the top reasons folks go to camp. First timers are assigned a "buddy", someone who will introduce you to others and show you the ropes. Besides, it's just plain fun!

2) **WHERE** else can you get all the delicious food you can

eat without cooking it, fabulous hiking with friends, and only have to do the dishes once (maybe) during five days? It's a bargain at \$175 for Obsidian adults.

3) **LASSEN VOLCANIC PARK** is a very diverse, interesting place to explore: fumaroles, mud pots, waterfalls, wildflowers, sweeping vistas and exhilarating hikes - it has it all. You'll won't be bored. And it's just a day's drive from Eugene.

4.) **AND WHILE YOU'RE IN THE VICINITY**, think about staying a few extra days to explore nearby treasures: Lava Beds National Monument, Trinity Alps, Shasta Lake, Yosemite National Park, Ahjumawi Lava Springs State Park, and Turtle Bay Exploration Park in Redding are just a few. Or maybe just move your tent to the little visited Warner Valley section of the Park (in the south) for more hiking opportunities. For additional information and the registration form, see last month's *Bulletin* or [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org).

*Lana Lindstrom, Summer Camp Chair*

# Big Lake... a Big Hit!

By Lana Lindstrom

**NINETEEN OBSIDIANS TOOK A CHANCE**, exploring a new overnight destination, and did we ever luck out! The weather was absolutely perfect, the food outstanding and the accommodations very convenient. The company ...superb, of course . . . and as trip leader, I was relieved. Ordinarily I love planning trips, whether it's just for my husband and me, or for a larger group. But this time, the logistics were a bit complicated and weather-dependent. Getting five or six carloads of people over a possibly snowy pass in time for a tightly scheduled rendezvous with a snow cat was a bit daunting. As it turned out, I needn't have worried.

During the summer, the Big Lake Youth Camp near Santiam Pass is a facility for kids, but during the winter it's available for groups at very reasonable rates. A snow cat transports your personal gear three miles to the facility while you ski or snowshoe in. Our accommodations were semi-private rooms with bathrooms down the hall. The meals were prepared for us – yummy in the tummy! In the evenings, we played games, read, or visited with friends in the huge living room.

**DAY ONE:** Amazingly, we all arrived at Ray Benson Snow Park at the same time, and within about 10 minutes we heard the whine of the snow cat. We loaded our gear and then proceeded to Big Lake for lunch, enjoying outstanding views of Mt. Washington and Three Fingered Jack. After the break, some folks made a beeline for the lodge, although most of us circled the lake so we could enjoy the beautiful weather and views a bit longer.



Photo by Bea Fontana

**DAY TWO:** We divided into several groups. Five Obsidians skied to Little Cache Mountain where we had a close-up view of “George,” with the Sisters and Broken Top in the distance. On the way “home,” we took a detour to see the location of the new Brandenburg Shelter – about 11 miles total. Another group of ten snowshoers and skiers went over hill and dale to Sand Mountain – about a 9-mile excursion. They too had good views of the surrounding mountains. And a few people did shorter trips in the vicinity. We were all beat at the end of the day; thank goodness we didn't have to prepare dinner or wash dishes!

**THE LAST DAY** was also clear and cold. After packing up our belongings and cleaning the lodge, we meandered back to the snow park; the views of “Jack” were just spectacular. We arrived within minutes of the snow cat. A few participants skied a bit longer in the vicinity, but most went home directly, a sure sign of a fulfilling trip.

Sharing this adventure with me were Anne Bonine, Pat Esch, Bea Fontana, Kitson and Peter Graham, Richard Hughes, Bob and Zella Huntley, Daphne James, Diane Jeffcott, Anne Montgomery, Carol Petty, Barb Revere, Chris Stockdale, Clare Tucker, Elle Weaver, Nancy Whitfield, and Sue Wolling. Thanks to all for making this fabulous trip possible; I'm sure many of us will return next year, hopefully with the same perfect weather!



Photo by Zella Huntley





## Hikes

### **West Eugene Wetlands**

**February 27, 2009**

**Leader: Chris Cunningham**

**5 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)**

**S**EVEN OF US walked through Meadowlark Prairie in the West Eugene Wetlands on this dry, gray winter morning. Curiosity, rather than pace, prompted us to stop often to watch a variety of birds gathering at numerous shallow wetland pools, and perching on treetops and telephone poles. Sometimes we just stood and listened to the cheery birdsong. The birders in our group identified a: Green-Winged Teal, Western Meadowlark, Red-Winged Blackbird, Great Egret, Great Blue Heron, Hooded Merganser (female), American Kestrel, Bufflehead and Bald Eagle, as well as American Widgeons, Mallards, Northern Shovelers, Northern Harriers and "waders." Members: Dan Christensen, Chris Cunningham, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Ed Lizewski and Ginny Reich; nonmember: Darko Sojak.

### **Row River Trail**

**February 27, 2009**

**Leader: Sandra Larsen**

**10.6 miles, 0 ft. (Moderate)**

**THE FIVE-DAY WEATHER FORECAST** predicted rain every day except Friday, the day of our hike. How's that for planning? The seven of us left Eugene, in two cars, and headed for Cottage Grove. Our hike along this "rails to trails" route passes farms, woods and Dorena Lake for a nice midwinter hike. We made it to our lunch spot in about two hours, seeing some herons along the way as well as horses, and hearing the crow of a rooster in the distance. After lunch we met the black Labrador from last year's trip. He followed us all the way back to the parking lot and then took up with some bicyclists. Our return to the cars was a little faster, which gave us time to stop in downtown Cottage Grove for coffee and pastries at Fleur de Lis, the new French patisserie. (A must stop, in my opinion.) We returned in time so those going to the potluck had time to cook their dish. Members: Walt Dolliver, Sachiko Iwasaki, Sandra Larsen, Sue Meyers, Jim Pierce, Ken Rivernider and Pat Soussan.

### **Pre's & River Trails**

**March 2, 2009**

**Leader: Marshall Kandell**

**4 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)**

**THE FORECAST WAS FOR RAIN;** so, of course, we had warm sunshine! We started out on a different branch of Pre's Trail; who says you can't teach an old dog new tricks!?! With Mary Morrison serving on the Citizen Planning Committee (CPC) for the Whilamut Natural Area and Ken Rivernider, a previous committee member, this leader also learned a lot about the area's development, plans for changes to take place during the construction of the new I-5 bridge, and the plantings and botanical restorations taking place throughout the area. Won't I sound smart the next time I lead this hike! Thanks, Mary and Ken, for joining me. Members: Marshall Kandell, Mary Morrison and Ken Rivernider.

### **Mt. Baldy**

**March 4, 2009**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**2 miles, 500 ft. (Easy)**

**A LIGHT DRIZZLE ACCOMPANIED US** on our hike up to Mt. Baldy and down the south side to the Dillard parking lot. We especially enjoyed the new gravel trail that begins at the end of Spring Boulevard. Janet posted up-to-date Obsidian schedules at the trailhead kiosks while Lana encouraged donations to the trash bag. Rusty wheels and an axle left by the trail motivated us to ask what, when, and why. Who would have left this piece of farm equipment? Or was it a buggy that never made it to the top? Members: Mari Baldwin, Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom and Ruth Romoser.

### **Rexius Trail**

**March 5, 2009**

**Leader: Marshall Kandell**

**4 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)**

**THE RAIN GODS PREVAILED THIS TIME** and we did most of our four-mile loop in wet and wind. Fortunately, visions of sugar plums (or, more likely, muffins and scones) awaiting our arrival at the Hideaway Bakery kept our spirits up and our pace brisk. Braving the elements were members Jim and Sharon Duncan, Marshall Kandell, Margaret Prentice, Ken Rivernider and, on her third qualifying hike, nonmember Nancy Sprague.

### **Southwest Eugene Hills**

**March 12, 2009**

**Leader: Joanne Ledet**

**4 miles, 400 ft. (Easy)**

**ON A BEAUTIFULLY CLEAR AND CRISP DAY,** four walkers, all members, met at the Churchill Plaza parking lot for a four-mile hike through the southwest Eugene hills. We walked along city streets for about a half mile before cutting into a forested area for an uphill climb. That short portion gave us a good workout before we leveled off, ending up on residential streets. We walked those streets for about another half mile, catching sight of wild turkey and deer along the way. We started downhill through another treed area, enjoying the sound of a fast moving creek as we walked. When we got to Wilshire Avenue, we chose to extend our trip by taking another path through the trees. While that paved path is fairly short, it is steep, and we were sometimes on our tiptoes to get to the top. We finished the hike by walking along Brittany Street, cutting through the playground at McCornack School, and getting back to our cars at the parking lot. The original plan was to end the walk with lunch at Koho Bistro, but sadly, they are now open for lunch only with a guaranteed minimum number of diners - a sign of the times I am afraid. The members enjoying the day were Mari Baldwin, Marti Berger, Ken Rivernider and leader Joanne Ledet.

### **Alton Baker Park**

**March 13, 2009**

**Leader: Ruth Romoser**

**8 miles, 250 ft. (Moderate)**

**OBSIDIAN MEMBERS** Joan Abel, Sharon Alden, Jan Jacobsen, Joanne Ledet, new member Ken Rivernider, hike leader Ruth Romoser and nonmember Eleanor Wilkerson walked from Alton Baker Park up Skinner's Butte (we searched for the eagles' nest),

down to the Owosso Bridge and back through the park to our cars. It was a nice sunny day to see sights of Eugene atop the Butte and we saw the nest! This was a perfect day to walk eight plus miles, and after the hike, five of us had lunch at Fifth Street Market.

## **Mt. Pisgah Oak Restoration Tour**

**March 17, 2009**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**2.5 miles, 800 ft. (Easy)**

**FIVE OBSIDIANS**, seven Native Plant Society members, and one guest toured the oak restoration project area with Jason Blazar, Friends of Buford Park Stewardship Coordinator. A NPS member worried that the Obsidian hikers would go too fast while I worried that we would be standing in one spot too long. Fortunately Jason's presentation kept all of us focused on the habitat, tree removal, and restoration. What are the goals for the Friends of Buford Park? Who decided what trees would be removed? How many trees were cut? Why are three trees along the Summit Trail marked with blue paint? Why didn't they remove the Douglas Fir next to the trail? What happened to the trees and slash? Why did they leave snags?? How many native plants were planted in the staging area? Where were the seeds gathered for the plants? Will the tree removal impact rare plants? Did they find any new plants? What happens next? What is Jason's favorite unmarked flower trail? All of these questions and more were answered on the hike. (We didn't make it to the top.) Our thanks to Dave Predeek for organizing the trip for both groups. Obsidians were Pat Esch, Maggie Gontrum, Janet Jacobsen, Dave Predeek, and nonmember Love Opincar. Visit the Friends of Buford Park website at [www.bufordpark.org/prairies](http://www.bufordpark.org/prairies) to read about their Habitat Management Plan and oak restoration tour on May 17.

## **Ridgeline Trail**

**March 21, 2009**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen Photo: John Jacobsen**

**6.2 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)**



*Ridgeline Trail hikers - Norma, Jeff, Janet and Paul*

**JOHN JACOBSEN DROPPED OFF FOUR HIKERS** at the Blanton Road Trailhead and left the car for us at the Spring Boulevard Trailhead. He hiked several segments of the trail and then headed home. Meanwhile the four of us started up the trail at

9:10 and reached Spring Boulevard Trailhead and the car three hours later. We saw spring beauties and a few trillium in bloom. The fawn lilies looked like they would be in bloom by April 1st. We encountered some muddy spots just before we reached Fox Hollow. A crew of young people were spreading gravel, so hopefully they will soon take care of that problem. The muddy trail from Fox Hollow to Dillard West Trailhead is in sore need of help. The trail just gets wider and wider as hikers try to avoid the mud potholes. At the Dillard North Trailhead we took the lower trail with the trail markers to the top of Mt. Baldy. From there it was easy to hike down the new gravel trail to Spring. We estimated that the elevation was 900 to 1,000 ft. and the distance was 6.2 miles. We did have some rain but nothing that impaired our enjoyment of Eugene's natural treasure. Nonmember Jeff Wright, appreciated the opportunity to hike the entire trail. Members were Paul Flashenberg, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, and Norma Lockyear.



## **Snowshoe Trips**

### **Fawn Lake Snowshoe**

**February 21, 2009**

**Leader: Matthew Bell**

**7 miles, 1,150 ft. (Difficult)**

**MATT, ED, AND LOGAN** hit the trail at Crescent Sno-Park at about 7:45 in the morning. It had snowed earlier in the week and much of the trail still had some decent powder on it. There were a few sections of the trail under the trees where the snow was packed and crusty. We made it to Fawn Lake and found a nice spot to sit and have a snack. As we circled around the west side of the lake we could see from fairly fresh tracks that a fox had walked across the lake heading towards Lakeview Mountain; maybe he climbed it. As we were going along the southern edges of the lake we decided to head up over the ridge to Pretty Lake. Even though the lake is pretty, the views are much better from Fawn Lake. We then headed back to Fawn Lake and followed the trail we had broken back to Crescent Sno-Park, arriving back at about 1:00. Participants: members Matthew Bell (Leader) and Ed Lizewski and nonmember Logan Bell.

### **Gold Lake Shelter**

**February 21, 2009**

**Leader: Charles Durham**

**5.2 miles, 450 ft. (Moderate)**

**AFTER SEVERAL SNOWSHOE TRIPS OVER THE YEARS**, I felt the time was right for me to lead a trip. In my mind I envisioned all kinds of things that could go wrong. Things like no one would sign up for the trip except myself. Or maybe I lead the group over a frozen stream and all of us sink up to our chests in cold water. The ultimate would be getting lost and have the mountain rescue team searching for us all night and finding us the next morning huddled together just a few blocks from Highway 58. Just think, TV reports, newspaper articles, what a mess that would be. Well, none of those things happened. Instead, the six of us left Eugene promptly at 8 in the morning, were shoed up

and on the trail by 10 am. By 11:30 we were at Gold Lake Shelter. Pat made a fire, I lit a candle and we all sat down for a candlelight lunch. We decided to take the Marilyn Lakes trail on our return, and what a treat it was. The lakes were frozen over and surrounded by fresh snow, the clouds cleared and we were even blessed with a little sunshine. We reached our cars by 2 pm and really about the only excitement we had was the competition between Pat's GPS and Jane's trail map. I felt the GPS was doing a great job until at the end of our 5.2 mile hike it read 50 plus miles! Jane's little trail map was right on, leading us around some rather tricky turns in the Marilyn Lakes area. All in all it was a beautiful trip and a wonderful date with nature. I thank my elegant co-lead and map person Jane Allen, GPS man Pat Hutchins, historian Don Colgan and Suzanne Steussy who was just a gracious trooper (all members).



## Ski Trips

### **Berley Lakes**

**February 28, 2009**

**Leader: Brian Hamilton**

**8.5 miles, 630 ft. (Moderate)**

**W**E BEGAN THIS TRIP AT SANTIAM SNO-PARK with a foot of two-day-old snow, so it was easier to follow existing tracks than to break a new trail. However, our group was unfamiliar with the route and we found it easy to be led astray when existing tracks were not headed the same direction that we wanted to go. Within the first half-mile, the tracks took us too far west to a high point overlooking the bowl through which Lost Lake Creek flows. We traversed back to the east to hit the actual trail, which is occasionally flagged with pink ribbons. At 1.7 miles, the track forked and we mistakenly took the eastern trail, soon realizing that we were headed northeast toward Martin Lake. Getting back on the Berley Lakes trail meant descending about 400 feet to Lost Lake Creek, adding some thrills to the trip. From that point, our trip was pretty straight forward, except that we overshot Lower Berley Lake by continuing a short distance toward Santiam Lake. We called it "close enough" and took a lunch break before turning around. The return trip out was much easier and faster than the trip in (two hours compared to four) and we enjoyed lots of short downhill sections. Temperatures were above freezing and it threatened to rain most of the day, finally breaking loose when we got back to the sno-park. Our group of skiers consisted of Obsidians Chrissy Anderson, Charlie Van Deusen, Dick Hildreth, Brenda Kameenui, Ed Lizewski, Clare Tucker, leader Brian Hamilton.

### **Pretty Lake/Redtop Mountain**

**March 1, 2009**

**Leader & Photo: Chrissy Anderson**

**8 miles, 2,150 ft. (Difficult)**

**WE WERE SUPPOSED TO GO TO BIRTHDAY LAKE**, but it was pouring rain at Willamette Pass, so we continued driving to the east side in search of less miserable weather. We set out from

Crescent Lake Sno-Park in light, soon-to-stop-rain to ski the Fawn Lake/Pretty Lake loop. Trail-finding was confusing at times, but Harold seemed to know what he was doing, and thanks to his expert guidance, we found Pretty Lake in time for lunch. We sat at the lakeside enjoying the beautiful view of Redtop Mountain, which Harold has skied many times. The temptation was too much, and we abandoned our Fawn Lake plans and headed up the mountain. Newsflash: Skins! They are an absolute miracle. Some skiers carry extra gloves, food, whatever. Harold carries extra skins, so I got to try them. Wow! Suddenly it felt like I could walk straight up the hill! Susan was carrying eight inches of snow under each ski so she didn't need artificial climbing aid. I have a great picture of her removing her "skins" at the summit. We enjoyed the gorgeous views on top, then had even more fun descending the 2,150 feet in great snow to our car. This concludes my first ski trip as an official leader (even though the only leaderly thing I did was post a sign-up sheet and write this report). Skiers were members Harold Thompson, Susan Wanser and Chrissy Anderson.



*Susan with her "natural skins" on Red Top*

### **Maiden Peak Cabin**

**March 5, 2009**

**Leader: Lyndell Wilken**

**10 miles, 1,000 ft. (Difficult)**

**THE TRIP BEGAN AT THE WILLAMETTE PASS SKI AREA** parking lot. Conditions were excellent with powdery snow. We proceeded to climb toward the cabin via the PCT on the Rosary Lakes Trail, then ascended the switchbacks leading to the Maiden Peak Saddle. However, before reaching the saddle we headed north just after the junction with the Maiden Lake Trail. The terrain was rolling and took us through some pumice flats. Everyone was excited about a new route to the cabin that cut off the climb to the saddle. About half a mile from the cabin we intersected the PCT and we followed the blue diamonds to the

cabin. The return trip was especially enjoyable given the snow conditions. A good time was had by all and we arrived back in Eugene by 5:30 pm. Jan Anselmo co-led the trip along with Lyndell Wilken, and were accompanied by members John Cooper, Dick Hildreth, Bill McWhorter, Sam Miller, and Charlie VanDeusen.



## Byways By Bus

### Governor's House & Mission Hill Museum

March 20, 2009

Leader: Mary Ellen West

Photos: John Jacobsen



*Legendary Bus Trip coffee and goodies stop*

**A**FTER OUR USUAL COFFEE AND GOODIES BREAK at the Santiam Rest Area, we went on to the State Capitol building in mild spring weather, with only a few raindrops. Our guide welcomed us in the rotunda lobby with an informative and interesting brief talk. He escorted us to both the Senate and House Chambers with the House in session. From the visitors gallery, we had a foggy perspective of those proceedings, but hopefully it made sense to our representatives. We had lots of time to inspect the grounds and to view the geologic displays and the rest of the interior.

We learned from Janet Jacobsen that our state flag is unique in that the reverse also has an emblem - it is a BEAVER, (sorry Duck fans). This modern-appearing building was dedicated in 1938; the previous building and many priceless records were destroyed in the tragic fire in 1935. Lenore McManigal recalled her visit to the old Capitol as a very young child. We lunched in the basement cafeteria and then went to the nearby Mission Mill Village, where we divided into two groups. Our guide, Robert, led Group A through three historic houses - the Boon House 1847, the Jason Lee 1841, and the Mission Parsonage. Meanwhile, our Group B traveled to the Salem South Hills to Mahonia Hall (the scientific name of the state flower - the Oregon Grape), which is the residence of our sitting governor.

About an hour later, we shuttled the bus and the two groups

reversed. At Mahonia, security was tight. An advance roster of Obsidians and their dates of birth was checked off by a state police officer at the admission area. A copy of these birth dates would be interesting reading for the Obsidian newsletter - but it is top secret! We were greeted by volunteers from AAUW who had us put booties over our shoes. We were seated in the drawing room on several sofas. Everything was nicely decorated in good taste. The Oregon Grape motif was featured in scroll work and on the fireplace screen and in paintings, and the view and grounds were awesome. This mansion was constructed in the mid-twenties by the Livesley family at a cost of about \$90,000. About 1985, Otto Frohnmeyer, father of the U of O president, headed a campaign to obtain private funds for the purchase. The wheelchair ramps were installed during the tenure of Barbara Roberts. Meanwhile, Group B was back at Mission Mill touring the old milling facility. Holly Miles, in period costume in the roll of Fanny, the daughter of founder Thomas Kay, was a memorable docent.



*At Mahonia Hall*

Finally, our last stop was the historic Elsinore Theater, dating from 1924 in the ornate style of that era. As the name implies, Elsinore Castle brings to mind Hamlet, then Shakespeare, which is the connection for two large wall paintings. One wall has the Three Witches, and the opposite has Romeo and Juliet. The Gothic Arch is seen throughout the interior. Manager Rick Parks greeted us in the lobby and described the restoration project. The cost was quite reasonable and is a great success story in the revitalization of downtown Salem. The theater is very popular and heavily used. Mr. Parks is also a master musician and he entertained us by playing the Wurlitzer organ for over 30 minutes. On this versatile instrument, he played numbers from *Star Wars*, *Phantom of the Opera*, *The Sound of Music*, swing music such as *String of Pearls* and much more. It was a delightful experience. Limitations on the size of groups and compliance with security precautions at governmental facilities required extra preparation and tight planning. Mary Ellen handled all these complex challenges perfectly and received our appreciation and applause for leading another excellent trip. What a nice way to celebrate our first day of spring! Driver Martin Neff returned 25 Obsidians and 8 guests to Shopko at about 5:30 pm. Members: Ethel Allen, Alice Anderson, Louise Behnke, MaryLee Cheadle, Barbara Chinn, Sharon Cutsworth, Rose Marie Etter, Barbara Flanders, Dennis Flanders, Marc Hansen, Dora Harris, Janet

Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Ray Jensen, John McManigal, Lenore McManigal, Natalie Newlove, Barbara Payne, Don Payne, Julie Snell, Bobbye Sorrels, Dick Speelman, Janet Speelman, Viola Stults and Mary Ellen West. Nonmembers: Tina Behnke, Toshi Choden, Arleen Field, Sharon Gadowski, Clara Jones, Susan Reinoehl, Carole Sherbina and Barbara Wilson.

## Eagles 'N More February 17-18, 2009 Leader: Rick Ahrens

**W**E LEFT SHOPKO AT 8 AM, traveling the Willamette Pass Highway toward Klamath Falls. The highway was cleared, but it had snowed the night before. We had a rest stop at the Middlefork of Willamette Ranger Station, and then proceeded to our coffee break just above Oakridge at Greenwaters Park. Goodies were provided by our Hospitality Committee. Rick had prepared a video, which supplemented his always very interesting and informative talk. We traveled on and just before Klamath Falls in a field to our left were at least 20 eagles feeding. That was a first for our eagles trips. We had lunch at Applebees, where we picked up Ray Harris and a friend who had arrived by train from California. After lunch, we headed out for the state line area where we cruised around looking at all we could see. The White Swans and the Snow Geese seemed to appear in the biggest numbers this year. The eagles and ducks of all kinds were beautiful as well. Late afternoon, we arrived at the visitor center, where people were able to make purchases, browse the exhibits and see a very short video. Then we went back out to see a little more before darkness set in. On to the motel, where the aroma of soup and oven-fresh cookies tempted some, while others went out to have dinner. The second day started with a large continental breakfast, then we left to see what we could see. Rick Ahrens and Rob King set up their scopes at several sites to see birds further away. About 10:30,

we were back at the motel to check out. Then we went down on the Link River to see the beautiful birds and some went to the Favel Museum. We returned at noon to Applebees for lunch, and said our farewells to Ray Harris and friend, who had to wait until the train came through about 10 pm. We headed back over the pass to Eugene, arriving by 6 pm. Everyone had a great time and learned a lot and saw a lot - oh yes, on our way out of town, the eagles were still feasting! Members: Rick Ahrens, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Anne Bonine, Barbara Chinn, Sharon Cutsforth, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Pat Esch, Jack Ewing, Joella Ewing, Ray Harris, Lana Lindstrom, Richard Moffitt, Rose Marie Moffitt, Liz Reanier, Marian West and Mary Ellen West. Nonmembers: Donna Albino, Flo Alvergue, Lynne Baran, Beth Ann Bell, Marcia Berman, Joyce Churchill, Vivienne Friendly, Mia Funster, Lori Humphreys, Erla King, Rob King, Johanna Wieland and Doris Wimber.



## Trail Maintenance

### Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance February 28, 2009 Leader: Peter Green

**N**INE VOLUNTEERS met the two Parks and Open Spaces employees at Spencer Butte Saturday, Feb. 28. We carried 150 plants (sword ferns and false solomon seal) up the southside trail to revegetate the area currently fenced in. Members: Matt Bell, Peter Green, Lana Lindstrom and Pat Soussan; nonmembers: Jack Carpenter, Monica Green, Mark Mantuani, Mary Mantuani and Melissa Montes.

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## Spencer's Butte Trail Maintenance Remembered

*By Peter Asai, Trail Maintenance Chair 2005-06*

**I**NTEREST BY THE CLUB in trail work in the National Forest was notably lacking in early 2005. The idea of working with the Eugene Parks & Recreation Department came about as a brainstorm of Trails Committee member John Cooper, who first made contact with the City to ask for input on local projects. The City was enthusiastic at the prospect of a group who would commit to improving trails in the urban "wild areas", in particular Spencer Butte and the Ridgeline Trail.

During the year of 2005 Obsidians volunteers provided a laudable effort to improve the trails in Spencer Butte Park. With guidance and equipment from Eugene City Parks, Obsidian volunteers and others achieved the following: upgraded trails, recovered and replanted unwanted side trails, cleared back overgrowth, removed an old dysfunctional bridge and replaced it with a native stone culvert, replaced signage, re-

moved exotic species, and replaced a decaying boardwalk. They also created a lower maintenance, longer lasting raised gravel walkway. According to City Parks Trails Supervisor Matt McRae, "90% of the trail work done in the park during 2005 was provided by the Obsidians."

Several Obsidian trail "engineers" had an enthusiastic discussion with Matt about the prospect of sorting out the trail mess that existed above the tree line toward the summit. An effort was mounted in 2006 to build cairns to mark a main route to the summit, but unfortunately these were destroyed by vandals within a week's time.

Trail work on Spencer Butte continued regularly once a month through 2006, only stopping during the summer months in recognition of the competing outings at that time. Much work was done to improve trail conditions on the Butte and the Ridgeline Trail. Obsidians can be proud of contributing to hiking opportunities within the city limits.

Barb's Sampler:

## Great Hike'n & Bike'n - No Fool'n!

**Fri., Apr. 17 – Kings Valley – Hike, difficult.** This trip is actually two or more hikes and leader Dan Christensen found them by following up on an article Bill Sullivan wrote recently for the *Register-Guard Outdoors*. Beazell Memorial Park is 586 acres and opened in 2003. The park acres comprise the forest surrounding the old farm house formerly owned by the Beazell family. The hike includes Plunkett Creek and up to a hilly overlook. The Ft. Hoskins Historic Park opened in 2002 and is 130 acres. Both parks are operated by Benton County in a beautiful little valley north of Philomath. Hike distance and elevation change is not determined at this writing, but Dan likes to go long and get a good workout.

**Sat., Apr. 18 – Bellfountain Loop – Bike, difficult.** This Sampler includes bike trips -- a sure sign that spring is here! Bellfountain Rd. is a scenic back road running north and south, roughly parallel to U.S. 99 West, between Junction City and Corvallis. The dynamic duo of Lynn Gilman-Garrick and Sharon Ritchie lead this trip in the west Willamette Valley. The leaders sure hope you have kept in shape for this trip, rated difficult for lots of rolling hills.

**Sun., Apr. 19 – Wassen Creek – Hike, difficult.** Led by Sue Wollong, this hike is in a little-known and fragile area between the Umpqua and Smith rivers in the Coast Range. Your way climbs steeply along Wassen Creek and the Devil's Staircase. The area is quintessential PNW rainforest at its best. (Note: The area is targeted for future logging by the WOPR legislation.) Rated difficult for steepness. 5mi, 1000'.

**Wed., Apr. 22 – Peavy Arboretum/Finley NWR – Hikes, easy.** The Peavy Arboretum houses the OSU College of Forestry's outdoor lab. It's also an historic site, serving both as a Native American camp in ancient times and a CCC Camp during the Great Depression. The College of Forestry manages the forest here and their website lists 5 pages of tree species and a couple more of vascular plants and fungi. Marshall Kandell leads this two-part trip, hiking first in the arboretum, with a possible stop at Finley NWR – depending on weather. 5mi, 900'.

**Wed., Apr. 29 – Hendricks Park – Hike, easy.** Wish to stay close to home? Take this popular trip near the U of O. Rhodies will be in peak bloom, and you'll discover the lovely hiking trails in this favorite city park. Leader Marshall Kandell knows a thing or two about the unknown side of Hendricks; bring a little pocket money -- a visit to nearby Eugene City Bakery is usually an option. 3mi, 300'.

**Sat., May 2 – Old Baldy – Hike, moderate.** There are two important things about this hike; 1.) You don't want to miss it -- very near to town, with rock formations, caves and a whale! 2.) If you sign up, be sure to be there. The hike is led

by Gary Kirk and only led once per year. Only a few are allowed to sign up. So, if you are a 'no show', you are barred forever from signing up again. The hike is a one-way loop with steep sections and sharp drop-offs -- so be prepared to go the whole way, or not at all. 6 mi, 1500'.

**Same Day (May 2) – Ridgeline Trail – Hike, moderate.** Join Janet Jacobsen on this hike right in town. Hike 6.5 miles from Blanton Rd. to Spring Blvd. on the well-hidden, almost-continuous trail along the ridgeline of the south hills. The area should be in bloom with myriad wildflowers and you'll be inspired by the variety and number this close to home. 6.5mi, 1450'. Note: You can cover some of the same territory on April 17, or May 5, when Janet leads to the top of Spencer Butte.

**Sat., May 9 – Brice Creek – Hike, moderate.** Join Judy Terry for a short segment on the beautiful Brice Creek Trail and climb 1000 feet to Trestle Creek Falls. Spring is the time to think waterfalls and Trestle Creek has two of the finest -- and only a short drive from town. 3mi, 1000'. Or join Joanne Ledet on Sun., May 17, for a longer hike on the same trails. Either way you come out a winner.

**Same Day (May 9) – Diamond Peak – XC-Ski, difficult.** Usually this trip is a 'Climb'--and you will be climbing, trust me, on your skis. The trip is up the traditional ski route and leader Gordon Sayre is hoping to drive in close to the mountain on a clear (of snow) road, so the route is blessedly short. The route is 6 miles and 4000'. Those who can make it, you know who you are!

**Sun., May 10 – McKenzie View – Bike, moderate.** Guy Strahan will lead this *moderate* bike trip from town, out Coburg Rd., and McKenzie View Dr., looping back along the river bike path. There isn't much climbing and you are mostly away from traffic. It's a great way to get back into the spin! 27 mi, 100'.

**Tue., May 12 – McKenzie River Trail – Hike, moderate.** Take the LTD bus (#91) from downtown Eugene to the McKenzie Bridge Ranger Station, then hike 4 miles to the Belknap Resort, where we'll enjoy their 102-degree pool, heated by their natural hot springs. The trip is a popular one and the 'carpool' costs only \$3 roundtrip! 8 mi, 300'. NOTE: I'll also lead another, longer section of the trail, Thurs., May 14, from Clear Lake Lodge, downriver to Trail Bridge Reservoir.

**Sat., May 16 – Marcola-Brownsville Loop – Bike, difficult.** Rolling countryside, picturesque farm land, country towns and historic Crawfordsville and Brownsville, all at a comfortable pace so you can drink it all in. There are many places to picnic and covered bridges for photo ops. Sharon Ritchie and Lynn Gilman-Garrick lead this trip, rated difficult for the 66-mile distance.



## Upcoming Bus Trips:

# Celebrate Oregon's 150<sup>th</sup> With Mary Ellen West

**T**O CELEBRATE OREGON'S 150<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY, Mary Ellen West is leading four historical trips: to the governor's mansion and capitol (see March 20<sup>th</sup> bus trip report), the Thompson grist mill, Brownsville, and the remnants of the Aurora Colony. Mary Ellen said, "I am interested in history and wanted to share my love of Oregon with everyone. I want to take people to places that I like to visit."

She is known for leading interesting bus trips with titles such as: Snooping around Eugene, Oregon City Homes, Historic Homes of Eugene, Thompson Grist Mill, Day in the Country, Champoeg, Diverse Community of Woodburn, Newly Discovered Cottage Grove, Remembering Camp Adair, and French Prairie.

Mary Ellen's first hike with the club was the Rock Mesa Benefit Hike from McKenzie Pass to Willamette Pass on September 4, 1982. Starting at midnight, she was able to complete 25 miles. That was enough to qualify for membership. Since then she has gone on 145 trips and led 102 trips, eleven of them bus trips. She was Summer Trips chair in 1986.

If you haven't gone on a bus trip, consider celebrating Oregon's birthday with Mary Ellen. You will want to give her a standing ovation at the end of the day.

Mary's upcoming history trips are:

**APRIL 21 - TUESDAY - THOMPSON MILLS:** We will start our tour at the Thompson Mills, Oregon's oldest water powered mill. This is a state heritage site and beautifully developed by Oregon State Parks (your lottery dollars at work). We cross the valley to the Finley Refuge to visit the newly restored Fiechten House, originally built in 1855. There are other historic buildings, as well including one from the Cheadle family. Our own Mary Lee Cheadle will be our guide. Next we will go to the Gathering Together Farm in Philomath for lunch (your cost) and to purchase, if you like, organic vegetables grown there. The last history stop will be the Benton County Museum for a look at the Horner History Collection.

This is the first exhibit in many years. An assortment is on view in the main building and as a special treat we can see the new storage building where nearly 60,000 items are housed. On the way home we will stop at Hazelnut Hill for ice cream and shopping. Cost: \$41 member \$43 (non member) due April 7. Reservations and checks to Sharon Cutforth 746-4929

**MAY 2, - SATURDAY - BROWNSVILLE "CARRIAGE ME BACK" TO 1859:** "Carriage Me Back" is an annual event in Brownsville featuring a historic time. Brownsville is itself a historic town. This year it will be 1859, celebrating Oregon's Statehood. We depart from the Brownsville Museum in a horse drawn carriage to see life in 1859. It is promised to be historical including historical reenactments of life in Brownsville. We will spend time in the Moyer House enjoying scenes from 1859. Lunch is on your own either at a good local restaurant or picnic in the park. There will be time to look at local shops and museums. This trip leaves at 9:30 AM from the Shopko on Coburg Rd. and is back to Shopko by 2:30 p.m. Cost: \$24 member \$26 (non member) due April 24. Reservations and checks to Janet Speelman 344-3019

**JUNE 23 - TUESDAY - REMNANTS OF THE AURORA COLONY:** Aurora is the site of the Aurora Colony founded by Dr. Wilhelm Keil who moved from Bothel, Missouri to Oregon in the 1850s to establish a Christian community. It is the story of a communal society and how it developed and changed. There are many buildings: a cabin, a barn, a house, a garden and an ox barn. The main exhibit hall will have quilts the Aurora women made over the years. There will be a town guide. Author Jane Kilpatrick's historic trilogy: *Change & Cherish* tells the true facts of this journey. Bring a sack lunch. We'll stop at Bauman Farms circa 1896 in Woodburn on the way home for ice cream and assorted candies, fresh vegetables, plants and more. Cost: \$38 member \$40 (non member) due June 15. Reservations and checks to Verna Kocken 736-5180.

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## ...And More Exciting Upcoming Bus Trips

**MAY 19 - TUES - BONNEVILLE, HOOD RIVER, WAAAM**

Leaders: Barbara and Paul Beard.

**Bus loading 7:15am with 7:45 departure. We have 300 miles and lots of stops for this exciting day. Be prompt.**

The sites will be spectacular along the Columbia River Gorge, with the WAAAM antique automobile and aeroplane museum, a tour you will not want to miss. The museum is well designed, with a moving display. All antiques can be fired up to fly or drive. A lot of these vehicles and planes participate in parades and air shows. What you see on this trip may not be seen the next time you visit. This will be a fun packed day. Come join us. The homeward-bound trip

will take us around Mt. Hood, through the small town of Sandy for a great snack stop and then through the foothills of the Cascades to Silverton, entering I-5 at Salem. Bring your own sack lunch. Cost: \$53 members, \$55 nonmembers. Reservations & checks to Janet Speelman - 344-3019

**JUNE 1-6 - MON-SAT - NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COAST, SKUNK TRAIN, WINERIES, MT. LASSEN**

Leaders: Don Payne, Liz Reanier

For more information on this trip, contact the leaders, or look at your February *Bulletin's* bus trips insert. Cost: \$700 members, \$712 nonmembers. Reservations & checks to Janet Speelman - 344-3019

## OTHER ORGANIZATIONS' UPCOMING

### Nature and Community

#### An Evening with Barry Lopez

Friday May 8th at 7:30 - Hult Center Soreng Theater

**B**ARRY LOPEZ, the acclaimed writer and long-time McKenzie River valley resident, will read and reflect on his life-long study of the natural world and human culture on Friday, May 8, 2009, 7:30 pm, Soreng Theater, Hult Center, Eugene, OR. This is a rare opportunity to hear from one of North America's foremost writers on nature and culture and to lend your support for the McKenzie River Trust in celebration of its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Lopez received the National Book Award for his work *Arctic Dreams*, was honored with the Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and was the recipient of Guggenheim, Lannan, and National Science Foundation fellowships, and other honors.

In 2008, Lopez received the C.E.S. Wood Distinguished Writer Award at the 22nd Annual Oregon Book Awards presented to an "Oregon author in recognition of an enduring, substantial literary career." Previous winners have included Ken Kesey and Ursula Le Guin.

Tickets: [www.hultcenter.org](http://www.hultcenter.org). (All but \$0.25 goes to the trust) More information: Visit the McKenzie River Trust's website: [www.mckenzieriver.org](http://www.mckenzieriver.org)



### Mt. Pisgah Arboretum

#### Spring Bird Walks: Saturdays 8-10am: April 18, May 9

Bring your binoculars and join entertaining birder Davey Wendt for a series of Saturday morning bird walks for all levels of expertise. Grab a copy Davey's list of 50 or more species present in the Arboretum at the first walk, and try to find them all this season! Limit 20; RSVP by calling Clare at (541) 747-1504. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. \$5/MPA members by donation.

#### Birds & Blooms Walk, Sunday, April 26, 9-11am.

Discover the early spring birds and flowers of the Willamette Valley. Avid birder and Arboretum nature guide **Rick Ahrens** will teach about the adaptations that allow some birds and flowers to become active earlier than others. No RSVP required. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. \$5/MPA members by donation.

#### May Day Wildflower Walk, Friday, May 1, 5-6pm.

Celebrate native plants with Mount Pisgah Arboretum and the Native Plant Society of Oregon. Botanist Dr. Rhoda Love will lead a wildflower walk through the Arboretum to see the beautiful natives now in bloom. This hour walk is FREE, in honor of Native Plant Appreciation Week; donations are always appreciated. No RSVP required. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center.

#### Reptiles & Amphibians Walk, Saturday, May 2, 2-4pm.

Take a look at the world of newts, snakes, lizards, frogs, turtles and salamanders as you explore their habitats within the Arboretum! Herpetologist Tom Titus leads this fascinating walk for those who want to learn about our native species. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. \$5/MPA members by donation.

#### Birding Essentials Workshop, Sunday, May 3, 8am-noon.

Whether you are new to birding or just want to improve your skills, this workshop will expand your knowledge of the avian world. Join birder **Rick Ahrens** and learn a systematic way to identify birds by sight and sound, and how to use your field guides and optics more effectively. Dress for the weather. Bring binoculars and a field guide. Call (541) 747-1504 to sign up. \$25/\$20 MPA members.

#### Finding and Harvesting Edible Mushrooms Workshop, Sunday, May 10, 10am-4pm.

Join mushroom enthusiast Josiah Legler and learn where and when to look for edible mushrooms, sustainable harvesting methods, field guide use, permitting and more. We'll meet at MPA, then carpool to a mushrooming location 45 minutes away. This class will prepare you to find and harvest mushrooms on your own, but we won't harvest what we find on class day. \$30/\$25 MPA members. Call Clare at 747-1504 or email [mtpisgip@efn.org](mailto:mtpisgip@efn.org) to sign up.

#### Wildflower Festival and Plant Sale! Come to Mount Pisgah Arboretum on Sunday, May 17, from 10am-4pm

Enjoy a huge display of native wildflowers, live music, kids' activities, great food and wine, arts, crafts, and books, and free parking! Leave pets at home. Suggested donation \$5 per person, \$10 per family. Take exit 189 off I-5 just south of Eugene-Springfield.

For more info, [www.MountPisgahArboretum.org/festivals](http://www.MountPisgahArboretum.org/festivals) or call (541)747-3817.



### Cascades Raptor Center

#### Earth Day 4/26/2009 10:00am-5:00pm.

**\$3.00 adults \$2.00 Children**

If you want up-close experiences with dozens of magnificent birds, the Raptor Center Earth Day celebration is one of the best times to visit with refreshments, music, storytelling, and kids' activities. Get a behind the scenes glimpse of raptor rehabilitation at this nature center and wildlife hospital.

The Raptor Center is at 32275 Fox Hollow Rd across from the Ridgeline Fox Hollow Trailhead. Parking is limited so starting at 12:00 take the City of Eugene mini-bus from the Spencer Butte Middle School parking lot on 43rd between Fox Hollow and Donald. Better yet, go early or hike the Amazon Headwater Trail from the Martin Street Trailhead. See website for more details: [www.eRaptors.org](http://www.eRaptors.org)



# HELP KEEP OUR FORESTS USER-FRIENDLY!

**D**O YOU HAVE A SPECIAL PLACE where you like to hike or ski? Chances are your special place is in your nearby national forest. Why not help make a lasting, positive difference on the Willamette and Deschutes National Forests? The High Cascade Forest Volunteers and the Pacific Crest Trail Association are teaming up to offer spring training that will prepare you for rewarding projects. Come alone, or bring your friends and family, and have some fun being a part of your national forest.

Volunteers are needed for a wide range of activities and there are plenty of opportunities to match everyone's interest and skill. Tools and equipment will be provided. Horses or llamas will help carry equipment for some of the organized summer projects. Here's a sampling of projects:

- Adopt your favorite lake/trail
- Learn advanced trail building techniques
- Work with a trail crew for a weekend
- Clear rocks and brush from trails.
- Restore campsites around lakes
- Monitor wilderness campsites
- Greet and inform visitors.
- Survey trails for winter damage.
- Maintain trail signs for summer and winter trails

To be a forest volunteer we ask that you attend one of two training weekends. There is no charge for either weekend and free camping is available. The first weekend is scheduled for May 15th through 17th at the Westridge School near Oakridge. The second weekend is scheduled for Friday May 29th through 31st at the Allingham Guard Station located west of Sisters near Camp Sherman.

Classes may include: trail maintenance, trail crew leader-



ship, first aid/CPR certification, cross-cut and chain saw recertification, wilderness stewardship, adopt a trail/lake programs, map/compass, identify/remove noxious weeds, monitoring historic sites, survival tips and more.

For more information about the National Forest Volunteer Program check out the complete 2009 training weekend schedule, and to register for the sessions (deadline for registering for the training weekends is April 22), check the volunteer web page at:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/willamette/admin/volunteer/index.html>

This is a great opportunity to meet other forest volunteers and Forest Service staff. Come learn new information or brush up on what you already know.

*Chris Stockdale*

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## CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN RUN AND WALK

May 16, 2009 – 8:30 am

**C**COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA) of Lane County is a non-profit organization that provides trained volunteers to serve as advocates for abused and neglected children. This is a fundraiser event. Please come and join me in the walk and contribute to a worthy cause. The distance of the walk is five miles and will start and finish on the track at Marist High School. The course continues on the Willamette River Bike Path.

If you wish to participate, you must register for the event and pay an entry fee. The entry fee includes a recyclable event tote bag as well as refreshments. Early registration through May 7<sup>th</sup> is \$20, late registration May 8<sup>th</sup> thru 15<sup>th</sup> is

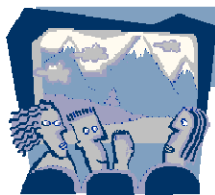
\$23, and on the day of the race is \$25. You can go online at [www.goodrace.com](http://www.goodrace.com) and print out a registration form. You can also register online.

If you have questions, you may contact me, Jane Allen, at 344-6362. I hope you will join me for a pleasant walk and being a champion for a child.

Proceeds benefit CASA. Be a Champion, help a child!

*Editors note: Jane is leading this walk as an Obsidian trip (see the Obsidian schedule), so sign up and in addition to doing something wonderful for CASA, rack up another Obsidian trip for yourself.*

## AT THE LODGE



# POTLUCK

Friday April 24:

## Hiking the Appalachian Trail

**I**N THE SPRING OF 2008, Robert Graham began a 132-day solo hike of the Appalachian Trail, a hike of over 2000 miles through fourteen states along the east coast of the US, from Georgia to Maine. He will share the story of his adventure with a multimedia slide show. The Appalachian Trail was not his first ambitious long-distance hike -- he previously completed the Pacific Crest Trail in 2005. Robert is a personal trainer at the Downtown Athletic Club and a member of Eugene Mountain Rescue.

*Entertainment Chair - Laurie Funkhouser*

**April Potluck - Friday, April 24, 2009**  
**Obsidian Lodge - Potluck, 6:30 p.m. Program, 7:30**

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



Sci Ed Tuesday Double Feature April 21:

## Adventure and Restoration



### Hooked On Adventure



**W**HY ADVENTURE? Instead of painting or reading, we spend our weekends experiencing such natural wonders as bug bites, hypothermia, and gastrointestinal issues. Regardless of past discomfort and cost, we still set out the next free weekend, needing nature like one needs air. As part of a psychology thesis project, City of Eugene River House Outdoor Program instructor Heather Brule asked out-

doors people what got them hooked on adventure. In this presentation of their responses, she will explore the idea of perceived control and how adventure promotes personal empowerment. Heather recently completed UO's Outdoor Pursuits Leadership Program.

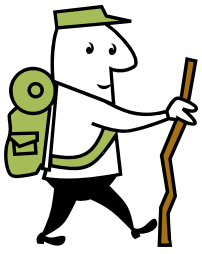
### McKenzie River Trust

**J**OE MOLLE, executive director of the McKenzie River Trust, will give us a close-up view of the McKenzie River Trust's activities. He will feature a new Trust project restoring an historic riverine environment to its natural state on a coastal site adjoining Portland Audubon's Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary near Yachats. Joe came to the McKenzie River Trust from Montana, where he worked with grizzly bears. This portion of the program is sponsored by our Conservation Committee. Obsidians will have a rare opportunity to walk or hike the restoration site and the Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary on June 27 when two Obsidian Conservation hikes will be led by Paul Engelmeyer, Audubon's Sanctuary manager and a McKenzie trust representative. Neither property is usually open to the public.

*SciEd Chair - Joella Ewing*

## Summer Trips:

### Leaders Wanted



**W**HAT **OBSIDIAN** **SUMMER TRIPS** are YOU planning? We are looking for more leaders and more trips for the summer season. Please get out your calendar and your Sullivan books. Share your favorite outing with other Obsidians.

Please email information for the outings you will lead to [summertrips@obsidians.org](mailto:summertrips@obsidians.org). Include the date that works best for you, the destination, the type of outing (hike, bike, etc.), the hiking miles, driving miles and the total elevation gain.

### New Leader Training Session

**I**NTERESTED IN LEADING AN OUTING FOR **OBSIDIAN**S? New leader training for summer trips is scheduled for Thursday, May 7, 7-9 p.m. at the Lodge. Emphasis will be on practical matters and personal experience involving sound judgments and decision-making when responsible for the well-being of a group. Presenters have been chosen from among the "old hands" who have led a lot of trips.

The training could be useful to anyone interested in a refresher on skills and procedures, even those who have led some outings. Everyone is welcome to bring their questions, observations, and experiences to the session. And don't miss out on the door prizes.



Among topics to be discussed are the following:

- How to create a useful, inviting, informative sign-up sheet.
- What is in the trip leader packet.
- Difficult decisions in the parking lot at the beginning of a trip: who's prepared to go, who's not prepared, and what about those ominous-looking storm clouds.
- Keeping control without keeping a tight rein.
- Dealing with emergencies.
- Useful gear, especially the first-aid kit.

### Leader Packets

**O**UR PLAN FOR THIS year is to email the leader packets to the leaders... not mail them by USPS. The leader documents are also available from the members only area of the Obsidian website under Documents. Also, complete packets and packet documents are available at the YMCA in the green box along with spare sign-up sheets and other documents.

*Summer Trips Chair - Jim Pierce*

# Obsidian Calendar

## April

18 Sat --Sweet/Beaver Cr Falls 5.2m, 650', E, Petty ....935-2088  
18 Sat - Bellfountain Loop, Bike, D, Ritchie .....342-8435  
19 Sun --Wasson Cr, 5m, 1000', M, Wolling .....345-2110  
21 Tue - Adventure-Brule .....SciEd Tues  
21 Tue - Thompson Grist Mill ..... Bus  
22 Wed - Peavy Arboretum+Finley, E, Kandell.....345-8095  
24 Fri - Appalachian Trial-Graham.....Potluck  
25 Sat - Cape Mountain, 4.6m 700' E, J. & S.Duncan...343-8079  
25 Sat - Spencer Butte, Trail Maintenance, P.Green ...510-1151  
26 Sun - Raptor Center, 2m 500' E, J.Jacobsen .....343-8030  
28 Tue - Little North Santiam, M, D.Christensen.....343-8941  
29 Wed - Hendricks Park, 3m E, M.Kandell .....345-8095

## May

2 Sat - Brownsville, Bus, J.Speelman .....344-3019  
2 Sat - Old Baldy/Coburg Hills, 6m 1500' M, G.Kirk...683-7033  
2 Sat - Ridgeline Trail, 5.5m 1450' M, J.Jacobsen.....343-8030  
3 Sun - Elijah Bristow, 8m M, B.Revere .....726-4989  
5 Tue - Spencer Butte, 6.4m 1800' M, J.Jacobsen .....343-8030  
7 Thu - Leaders Meeting, Workshop, J.Pierce.....344-1775  
8-10 Fri-Sun - Frenchglen & Malheur, Bird, M.Camp .221-1866  
9 Sat - Brice Creek, 3.4m 1000' E, J.Terry .....345-0720  
9 Sat - Diamond Peak, X-Ski 6m 4000' D, G.Sayre.....345-2370  
10 Sun - McKenzie View, Bike 27m 100' M, Strahon ...505-9084  
12 Tue - McKenzie River Trail, 8m 300' M, B.Revere..726-4989  
14 Thu - McKenzie River Trail, 10m M, B.Revere .....726-4989  
15 Fri - Bhutan—Stockdale.....Potluck  
16 Sat - CASA, Walk 5m E, J.Allen .....344-6362  
16 Sat - Diamond Peak, Climb/X-Ski, B.Hamilton .....343-6550  
16 Sat - Heceta Head, 7m 400' M, P.Soussan .....345-3046  
16 Sat - Marcola—Brownsville Loop, Bike, D, Ritchie.342-8435  
17 Sun - Brice Creek, 8m 1000' M, J.Ledet .....683-2603  
19 Tue - Auto/Aeroplane Museum, Bus, J.Speelman ...344-3019  
19 Tue - Stream Ecosystems—Moberly .....SciEd Tues  
21 Thu - Horse Rock, 4m 100' E, L.Lindstrom.....683-1409  
23-25 Sat-Mon - Hart Mtn, Car Camp/Hike E, Pierce ...344-1775

## Classifieds

### Wanted

**TITANIUM BEAR CAN** to rent or borrow for backpack on John Muir Trail. Can you help?

Jan Anselmo 782-2369 [jananselmo@earthlink.net](mailto:jananselmo@earthlink.net)

### For Rent

**VACATION HOME ON RIVER**, 3br, 2ba, near McKenzie Bridge. By week/weekend. Call Ralph Core at 822-3736.

### Wood For Sale

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

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



*McKenzie Pass summit taken by Chrissy Anderson on the 2009 John Craig Memorial Ski Classic - See article on Page 3.*

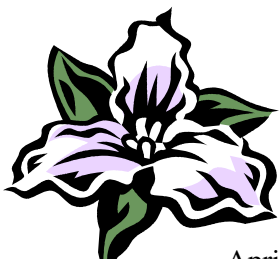


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April 2009