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Dates to Remember

Feb 16	Wild Oregon SciEd	Tues
Feb 21	Bus Rally	
Feb 26	Eastern Europe	Potluck
Feb 27	Trail Maintenance	
Feb 28	Games Day	
Mar 3	Board Meeting	

Complete current schedules at:

www.observians.org or

Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

2010 Membership Directory

See Insert

See Page 15 for changed February mailing procedures.

2010 Obsidian Bus Trips:

A Rally + Great Trips

By Verna Kocken, Bus Trips Committee

THE BUS COMMITTEE KICKS OFF THEIR 2010 TRIPS with the Bus Trips Rally at the Obsidian Lodge from 1-3 pm on Sunday, February 21st. Leaders will be presenting ten trips for riders' consideration. The rally gives interested Obsidians an opportunity to learn trip details. It also gives the committee a way to measure the interest so they can determine if the trip will have adequate numbers to justify further development.

Eight one-day trips offer everything from smoked salmon, butterflies, and guide dogs, to a barbecue at Waldo Lake, among many other adventures. An overnight trip is proposed to the Columbia Gorge where we'll visit Hood River, an antique transportation museum and other points of interest.

SELECTING AN EXTENDED BUS TRIP was easy this year as members of the bus committee clamored for a return to Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia, with its 125-year history. The destination resort is on Harrison Lake, adjacent to Harrison Village, a 90-minute drive east of Vancouver, BC, or three hours north of Seattle. Passports are required. Bus riders on the 2005 trip remember well the boat ride up the lake, the sand castle sculptures, and best of all, the hot springs pools. The hotel has five indoor and outdoor pools that range in temperature from 85 to 104 degrees.

Stops along the way will include Minter Gardens with its 12 themed gardens. In August we will see the roses in full glory as well as spectacular annuals and perennials in peak color. We will visit the Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve where the coastal herons live year round. With over 200 nests, the reserve has one of Canada's largest heron nesting colonies. The trip also includes a stop at Hell's Gate on the Fra-

(Continued on page 7)



Harrison Lake, one of the many Obsidian Bus Trip destinations this year. Photo by Stewart Hoeg

Where Does Your Money Go?

LAST YEAR, the Obsidians had operating costs of \$15,527. Based on 481 members at year-end, this works out to an average of \$32.28 per member.

Annual operating costs can be broken down into three major categories

<i>The Bulletin</i>	\$ 10.62
The Lodge	\$ 12.58
Administration	\$ 9.08
Total	\$ 32.28

Bulletin costs are for printing and mailing. Lodge costs include property taxes, utilities, insurance and maintenance. Administration includes income tax, tax preparation, member-

Welcome!

New Members

JOLYNN FABIANO (Active)
3585 Arbor Ave., Eugene 97402
338-8720fabiano@comcast.net

DANNEILLE HARRIS (Active)
PO Box 1429 Springfield 97477
521-5807 rckanddanni@comcast.net

ship, web page, publicity and other.

With annual dues of only \$30, membership is a bargain! Trip fees, donations and investment income allow us to keep membership costs low.

Stewart Hoeg, Obsidian Treasurer

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322, Eugene, OR 97440

Website: www.obsidians.org

Board of Directors

President - Jim Pierce
Vice President - Lana Lindstrom
Secretary - Kathy Hoeg
Treasurer - Stewart Hoeg
Wayne Deeter Lyn Gilman-Garrick
Larry Huff Verna Kocken
Elle Weaver

Board meetings are held 6 pm the first Wednesday of each month, except October when it is first Wednesday after Annual Meeting. No Board Meeting in August.

Committee Chairpersons

Byways-By-Bus..... Liz Reanier
Climbs Larry Huff
Concessions Lyn Gilman-Garrick
Conservation/SciEd... Pat Bitner/Joella Ewing
Entertainment Laurie Funkhouser
Extended Trips Jim Duncan
Finance Stewart Hoeg
Librarian/Historian Lenore McManigal
Lodge Building Doug Nelson
Lodge Grounds John Jacobsen
Membership Barb Revere
Online Wayne Deeter
Publications Joanne Ledet
Publicity Elle Weaver
Safety Jim Pierce
Summer Camp Lana Lindstrom
Summer Trips. Brian Hamilton/Scott Hovis
Trail Maintenance Matt Bell
Winter Trips Paul Flashenberg
Youth.....



Conservation Corner:

A Merger... & The Law Conference

By Pat Bitner, Conservation, SciEd Co-Chair

WE'VE MERGED! SciEd and Conservation are now one. Embracing the theory that a union of two is stronger than a single entity, the Obsidian Board has approved the merger of Conservation and Science Education committees, recognizing the similar focus of both committees. Now known as Conservation, Science & Education, it is jointly chaired this year by Joella Ewing and Pat Bitner. Committee members are Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Margot Fetz, Tom Musselwhite and Shirley Cameron. We will offer six evening programs, monthly newsletter articles, hikes and other outdoor programs aligned with our focus on conservation and other educational issues.

Environmental Law Conference

February 25-27

COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE PIELC, this Eugene tradition gathers a diverse population from across the US (and the world) to participate in panels, workshops and multi-media presentations across a broad spectrum of environmental issues. It's free (\$25 donation welcome). Just walk

in to the Knight Law Center at Agate and 15th and browse the long line of booths offering information on various environmental causes. The variety in humanity rivals the variety of information on display. Large bulletin boards list the dozens of small workshops going on at the Knight Center and at the EMU - take your pick.

Among the several featured speakers at the EMU Ballroom this year are: Patricia Cochran, an Inupiaq Eskimo from Nome, Alaska, where global climate change is a present reality, Terri Irwin, Eugene native, Steve Irwin's widow, and founder of Wildlife Warriors Worldwide, and Trip Van Noppen, President of Earthjustice, the environmental law organization which uses the courts as the last resort to protect threatened species and natural areas worldwide.

Check PIELC online at www.pielc.org to find the 2010 conference agenda. I believe you will be amazed at the scope and variety. Drop in for a session or more; it's a way to mingle with young, idealistic activists of today as well as to have a learning opportunity.

The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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bulletin@obsidians.org

Although email is preferred, submissions may also be sent to:

The Obsidian Bulletin

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For reprint rights, contact above.

Deadline

for March 2010 Bulletin

Saturday, February 27, 2010

Assembly/Mailing Team

For December Bulletin

Assembly & Mail Manager Lou Maenz
Assembly Team ... Tom Adamcyk, Don Baldwin, Yuan Hopkins, Vi Johnson, John & Lenore McManigal and Pat Soussan

Editorial Team

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

**By-Ways-By-Bus
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Barbara & Paul Beard,
Dennis Flanders, Ben Jeffries,
Ray Jensen, Janet Speelman,
Barbara & Don Payne
Mary Ellen West
Vera Woolley, Rosella Jones
Bette Hack, Barbara Flanders
Sharon Cutsforth, Verna Kocken
Lenore McManigal

Climbs

Larry Huff, Chair

George Baitinger
Wayne Deeter, Steve Kuhn
Julie McGlinsky, Doug Nelson
John Pegg, Sue Sullivan

Concessions

Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Chair

Sharon Duncan, Kathleen Floyd

**Conservation, Science,
& Education**

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Pat Bitner, Co-Chair

Shirley Cameron, Margot Fetz
Lyn Gilman-Garrick
Tom Musselwhite

Entertainment

Laurie Funkhouser, Chair

Stephen Brander, Kathy Hoeg
Yuan Hopkins, Susan Wanser
Patrice McCafferty, Chuck Wagar

Extended Trips

Jim Duncan, Chair

Marianne Camp, Chris Stockdale,
Valerie Metcalfe, Lana Lindstrom

Finance

Stewart Hoeg, Chair

Stephen Brander, Jean Coberly,
Dan Christiansen, Liz Reanier,
Lana Lindstrom

Library/Historian

Lenore McManigal, Chair

Lodge Grounds

John Jacobsen, Chair

Pat Adams, Max Brown,
Wayne Deeter, Larry Dunlap,
Stewart Hoeg, Gary Kirk,
Darlene Mancuso, Effie Neth,
Doug Nelson, John Pegg,
Dave Predeek, Darko Sojak,
Sam Tracer



President's Message:

Volunteers Are The Obsidians

THE OBSIDIANS IS A GREAT ORGANIZATION.

And, like any great organization we are evolving as the world changes around us. In this corner of the *Bulletin* we can share some of the things that are changing and some ideas for things that could or should evolve in the future. This is YOUR club. YOU make things happen. YOU are the source of thoughts and ideas. Please share yours with me at president@obsidians.org

Volunteers are the Obsidians. Without volunteers, our club would not exist. We volunteer because we love the outdoors and the camaraderie it inspires. Over the last few years, there has been a decline in participation for most club activities. Internally, we have attributed the decline to general concern and shifting priorities caused by the economic malaise.

In the past there have generally been enough new volunteers to continue the flow of Obsidian operations. Do we need a structured program to involve members, particularly new members, in the nuts and bolts of Club operations? OR, is it simply enough to remind members that volunteers are always needed and always welcome? Will enough people be able to shift their priorities to step up to the next level of Obsidian operations?

CAN EACH OF US PARTICIPATE in another outing, maybe step up and lead another outing, maybe serve on a club committee (we have about 20 committees), or step up to chair one of the committees?

This is our Club. How can we make the Obsidians a better organization? Ideas... volunteers... contact me at 344-1775 or president@obsidians.org, or contact one of the committee chairs listed in the banners to the left and right.

Thanks!

- Jim Pierce, Obsidian Board President

Lodge Building

Doug Nelson, Chair

Stephen Brander, Max Brown,
Dan Christensen, John Pegg
Brian Hamilton, John Jacobsen

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Barb Revere, Chair

Bea Fontana, Helen Martz,
Margaret Prentice,
Janet & John Jacobsen,
Moshe Rapaport
Julia Richardson

Online

Wayne Deeter, Chair

John Jacobsen

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Jean Coberly, Bea Fontana,
Stewart Hoeg, John Jacobsen,
Lou Maenz, Barb Revere,
Beth Roy

Publicity

Elle Weaver, Chair

Mary & Brian Hamilton
John & Janet Jacobsen
Margaret Prentice
Chris Stockdale

Safety

Jim Pierce, Chair

Pat Esch, Chris Stockdale,
Verna Kocken, Sue Sullivan
Lyndell Wilken

Summer Camp

Lana Lindstrom, Chair

Dan Christensen, Don Doerr,
Jim Duncan, Jim Pierce,
Nancy Whitfield

Summer Trips

Scott Hovis, Co-Chair

Brian Hamilton, Co-Chair

Walt Dolliver, Joanne Ledet,
Kathleen Floyd, Helen Martz,
Mary Hamilton, Elle Weaver,
Daphne James, Valerie Metcalf,
Lyndell Wilken, Chris Stockdale,
Martha Welches

Trail Maintenance

Matthew Bell, Chair

Rob Castleberry, Peter Green,
Ed Lizewski

Winter Trips

Paul Flashenberg, Chair

Chris Stockdale, Elle Weaver,
Daphne James

OBITUARIES

Catherine Jones

CATHERINE died on December 28, 2009 at Cascade Manor at the age of 95. She was born on March 26, 1914 in Sioux City, Iowa. She received a BA from Iowa State Teachers College (now Northern Iowa University) in 1937. She joined the University of Oregon faculty in 1946. She received a Masters Degree in Business Education and a Doctoral Degree in Education from the University of Colorado in 1964. She taught in the University of Oregon College of Business Administration from then until her retirement as Associate Dean in 1979.



She was active in the First United Methodist Church, Fort-nightly, and the Mt. Pisgah Arboretum. She delivered Meals on Wheels for many years and helped at the FISH food cupboard. Her many interests included hiking, musical events (especially the Bach Festival), and reading. A world traveler, she had visited six continents. She is survived by and was adored by many nieces and nephews and their families. Her ashes will be interred in Graceland Park Cemetery in Sioux City, Iowa. Memorial contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Church, the University of Oregon Knight Library, or the Obsidians.

Catherine joined the Obsidians in 1960. She was awarded the 100 trip award and her 25 leader patch. Catherine attended twelve summer camps. Her last one was in 2003 at the Wallowas. She served on the Obsidian board and was secre-

tary in 1971. She climbed the Three Sisters and in 1969 became a Princess with the name, Blue Columbine.

CATHERINE LIKED TO LEAD Cone Peak around June 14th each year, hoping for good weather and spectacular flowers. More often than not, her trip reports indicated that the weather did not cooperate. But in June 1978 she wrote “Nineteen hikers hit a beautiful day. More than fifty species of wild flowers were identified along the way.” In June 1980 she reported that “Flowers were just beginning to bloom along the way and the view was obscured

by rain, snow, sleet!” But typical of Catherine, she didn’t give up. Then in 1985 she said, “The day was gorgeous and we hit a prime time for many flowers—larkspur, avalanche lilies, paintbrush.”

Bob Dark and Catherine always laughed so hard when they told this 1966 summer camp story: Bob was leading a climb to Eagle Cap when they had to cross a small snowfield. Luckily Bob planted himself about 20 feet below the climbers. As Catherine went across, she slipped, fell backwards, and whistled down on her back. She knocked Bob’s feet out from under him and he fell on top of her. With Bob’s boots dug in, they slid down the snowfield clutched in an embrace until the snow petered out. No one was hurt.

We will remember Catherine as a good friend and a supporter of all things out doors.

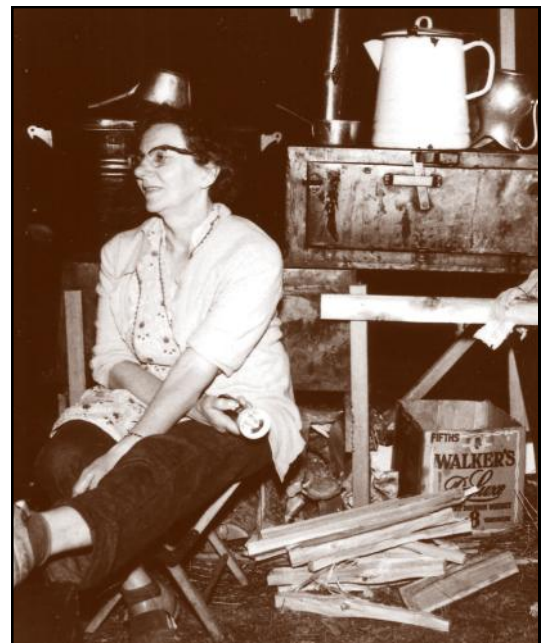
Selma Vangsnes

SELMA died January 3 of age-related causes at the age of 99. She graduated from Junction City High School. She was a school cook in Springfield and Eugene schools from 1947 to 1970. She was part owner of restaurants in the Eugene Food Growers facility and in the downtown Eugene Sears store, and was camp cook for the Obsidian Summer Camp, Camp Lane, Lutherwood and YMCA camps.

Selma married Martin O. Vangsnes Dec. 16, 1935, in San Pedro, Calif. He died July 15, 1999. Survivors include two daughters, Ann Whipple of Eugene and Karla Scott of Springfield; a son, Gordon Vangsnes of Eugene; and nine grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and eight great-great-grandchildren.

For 19 years between 1955 and 1985, Selma was the Obsidian Summer Camp cook at Yosemite, Green Lakes, Sawtooths, Glacier, Mt. Rainier, Wallowas, Todd Lake, Table Lake (Mt. Jefferson) and other camp sites. For two years, 1960/61, her daughter, Karla was the assistant cook.

In a 2002 interview, Janet Jacobsen talked with Selma about her experiences. Selma said, “At some camps we kept the meat in



Selma at Summer Camp in Glacier Park, 1963

(Continued on page 5)

The Third Man Factor: Surviving the Impossible

By John Geiger, Weinstein Books, 2009

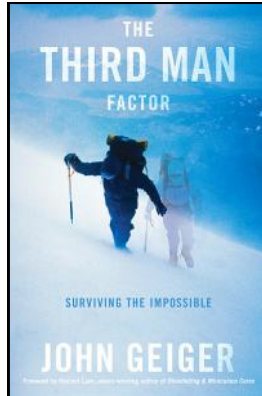
Review by Janet Jacobsen

PEOPLE IN EXTREME SURVIVAL SITUATIONS sometimes feel or sense a presence that offers a feeling of hope or protection. This phenomenon of not being alone is referred to as the Third Man Factor. Ernest Shackleton's account that there were more members than could actually be counted during his survival in the Antarctica inspired T. S. Eliot to write these lines in *The Waste Land*:

*Who is the third who walks always beside you?
When I count, there are only you and I together
But when I look ahead up the white road
There is always another one walking beside you.*

Through interviews and journals, the author, John Geiger, has compiled a variety of first hand accounts by mountaineers, polar explorers, sailors, divers, hikers, astronauts, and 9/11 survivors of an unseen presence in a time of danger. Geiger combines the accounts with neurological research so the reader can try to evaluate what might actually be happening. Is the Third Man a guardian angel, a hallucination, a coping mechanism, a spiritual encounter, an imaginary friend or a second self? Is it comparable to an uneasy feeling when walking down a dark road at night? Is the brain doing something different? Are human beings just tougher than we think when it comes to survival?

ONE OF THE SURVIVAL STORIES is of Frank Smythe who was on a 1933 climb of Mt. Everest. When his partner dropped out Smythe struggled on and began to feel the presence of an unseen companion. When he reached his limit and turned back around 984 feet below the summit, he stopped for a rest. Smythe then divided his Kendal mint cake into two halves and turned around to offer it to his "companion" He was shocked to find no one there. He had to be pressured to write of the "presence of another" in his official record.



Four well known climbers had interesting quotes about this unseen presence in their experiences. Reinhold Messner said, "No, no, no. (Not a guardian angel). I think it is quite natural, and I think all human beings would have the same feelings or similar feelings, if they would expose themselves to such precarious situations. The body is inventing ways to let the person survive." Peter Hillary said, "I believe it's a projection of what was happening inside my mind." Greg Child felt the origins were from within the self, not without.

JOHN MUIR BECAME STUCK with his arms spread out while climbing in a difficult spot on Mount Ritter in the Sierra Nevada in 1872. He suddenly felt a power that "...came forward and assumed control...Had I been borne aloft upon wings, my deliverance could not have been more complete." He thought it might have been a guardian angel.

The author suggests, "The key to overcoming seemingly insurmountable obstacles in order to survive begins, then with a simple belief—call it a faith—that an individual will somehow triumph over his or her immediate appalling situation; that he is she is going to live." Somehow the "brain or mind finds a way to reassure us that we are not alone."

The survival anecdotes will keep armchair adventure travelers hopping from one intense scene to another. It will also appeal to those curious about scientific theories, brain research, or spiritual insights. The books listed in the bibliography and detailed footnotes are worth checking out for further reading.

Editor's note: The book is available at the Eugene Public Library. The transcript of an interview with the author on NPR can be found at www.npr.org/templates/transcript/transcript.php?storyId=112746464

Selma Vangsnes

(Continued from page 4)

a snow bank. If we couldn't find snow, we just hung the carcass from the tree. Each day the camp committee would look at the beef carcass and decide what to have for dinner: roasts, Swiss steak, and steak. One year I made a birthday cake for someone. Once, a Boy Scout leader brought his whole troop over to camp when he heard we had lemon meringue pie.

I did all the cooking on the wood cook stove. Sometimes we had fried fish that folks would catch before breakfast. It was a hard to plan for because people kept coming and going.

One night I'd have 50 and the next night I'd have 20. At first there was not even a roof for the cooking area. I remember in the Olympics, that it rained and I cooked while standing in a large 'lake.' The wood was wet, but it was fun!"

Lenore McManigal said, "I remember that at the 1966 camp in the Wallows, Selma cooked for 100 one night, when the 2nd week people had come in, but before the first week people had left. I don't see how she did it with just a wood stove."

Those who attended camps where Selma was the cook fondly remember her lemon meringue pies and what a gracious person she was to have around camp.

BOARD NOTES

February 3, 2010

By Kathy Hoeg, *Obsidian Secretary*

President Jim Pierce called the meeting to order. Board present: Lana Lindstrom, Wayne Deeter, Stewart Hoeg, Elle Weaver, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, and Kathy Hoeg. Also present: Barb Revere, Lenore McManigal, Laurie Funkhouser, Matt Bell, Liz Reanier, John Jacobsen, Paul Flashenberg, Joella Ewing, Scott Hovis, and Doug Nelson.

Treasurer's Report: Stewart Hoeg requested and received Board approval for payment of the bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summer Trips (Scott Hovis and Brian Hamilton): The committee met to begin planning and distributing tasks for the season. Planning for a leader training session is underway.

Winter Trips (Paul Flashenberg): January - 5 hikes, 3 X-Country, 4 Snowshoes with : members 71, non 21.

Climbs (Larry Huff): Probable dates for climb school: Thursday April 15th Rock classroom; Saturday and Sunday April 17th/18th Rock field; Thursday April 22nd Snow/Glacier travel classroom; Saturday April 24th Snow/Glacier travel field.

Trail Maintenance (Matt Bell): The January trail maintenance was held on Saturday January 30th from 9:00 to 1:00. 13 participants (7 members; 6 non-members) plus 2 EPOS staff. Volunteers contributed about 52 hours of work. An updated informational trail maintenance poster/flyer was created and placed in the trailhead kiosks. Updated posters are also posted on the YMCA and REI bulletin boards. The trail maintenance web page was updated.

By-Ways-By-Bus (Liz Reanier): Met in January. The trip listing was shared with members. On January 27th a group met, addressed and mailed more than 100 copies. The group discussed a problem with the buses that we have been using. They are so long that they sometimes limit the places we can go and the routes that we can take. We would like to have access to buses or vans with a smaller capacity. Plans were made for the Bus Rally.

Conservation, Science, & Education (Pat Bitner & Joella Ewing): We are proceeding with planning for 2010 Second Tuesday presentations.

Publication (Joanne Ledet): The January *Bulletin* was mailed to 307 members, and the remaining membership received *The Bulletin* on line. For the month of February only, *The Bulletin*, which includes the membership directory, will be mailed to all households.

Entertainment (Laurie Funkhouser): Bill Sullivan's January 29th presentation - was well-attended with the headcount being approximately 88 people and total of \$82.48 in fees was collected. Bill Sullivan also generously donated for the Obsidian library a signed copy of his new publication, the feature of the program, "Exploring Oregon's New Wilderness Areas." Lana Lindstrom and Richard Hughes will be presenting - "Eastern Europe" - on Friday, February 26, 2010. Thanks to committee volunteers - Stephen Brander (great emcee!) and Patrice McCaffrey - with setup.

Membership (Barb Revere): We currently have a total of 482 members: 428 Active, 25 Associate, 3 Honorary, 8 Junior, and 18 Life.

Publicity (Elle Weaver): Many thanks to Janet Jacobsen for continuing to post updated trail maintenance and trip schedules at the Ridgeline trailheads.

Concessions (Lyn Gilman-Garrick): The Concessions Committee met in January. We plan to purchase fleece jackets and caps and cloth visors to add to our merchandise. Second, we want to sell note cards which feature photographs that capture the Obsidian spirit. We are going to sponsor a contest with prizes to entice Obsidians members to send us their best photographs.

Online (Wayne Deeter): All phone numbers on web pages are now ten digits. Traffic on the Obsidian web site continues the trend of being lower than a year ago.

Lodge Building (Doug Nelson): The lodge was rented once in January to Nearby Nature for a "board retreat". Rental fees received: \$140.00. A leaking faucet in the bathroom was repaired (Parts cost: \$19.99) and sheetrock repair

in the bathroom and storage closet are under way (sheetrock supplies cost: \$24.41).

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): A work party was held January 23 to clean up the mess from the January winds as well as to spruce up the grounds for the January potluck. Thanks to Max Brown, Stewart Hoeg, Effie Neth, John Pegg, Jim Pierce, Charlene Pierce, Dave Predeek and Sue Sullivan . On January 24 Joanne Ledet and I cleaned up the area in front of the Cole mural and other odds and ends prior to the potluck.

Safety (Jim Pierce): We plan to reorganize the Safety Manual. We will be inspecting the first aid kits later this month. We expect to organize a basic first aid class.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Members: The Board approved the rosters of committee members for the Safety Committee, Lodge Building Committee, and Trail Maintenance Committee. The Board also approved the additions of Charlene Pierce to the Membership Committee and Darlene Mancuso to the Entertainment Committee.

Safety Deposit Box: The group discussed whether the club still has a safety deposit box. Stewart Hoeg will look to see if we have been paying for one.

Membership Committee: Barb Revere reported new member applications from Jolynn Fabiano and Danielle Harris. The Board approved their applications.

Barb described the activities of the Membership Committee. John Jacobsen presented membership information he had compiled.

Historian Committee: Lenore McManigal described the activities of the Historian Committee.

Online Signup for Trips: John Jacobsen said he is continuing to work on the many technical problems and security issues associated with the process.

The Bus Committee is donating \$1,000 to the Contingency Fund in memory of the bus riders who died this year: Ewart Baldwin, Ingrid Carmichael, Kathleen Schlenker, Nola Shurtleff, Dot Leland, and Catherine Jones.

A Rally + Great Trips

(continued from Page 1)

ser River and the air tram ride across the deep and narrow gorge. The fishways here were completed in 1966, built by a joint Canadian-United States Commission.



THE LAST VISIT TO HARRISON HOT SPRINGS was memorable and fun. All Obsidians and guests are welcome to participate in this six day adventure. The trip includes historical and educational sites and opportunities for the active as well as those who are less inclined. The hospitality committee always feeds us well, the bus is comfortable and well equipped (bathroom on board), the prices are kept minimal. What more could one want?

The dates for this trip are August 16th through 21st; the leaders are Sharon Cutsforth, Liz Reanier, Don & Barbara Payne. The cost is about \$735 (non-members: \$747).

Sign up for this and/or nine other trips at the Bus Rally at the Obsidian Lodge on February 21st from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Indicate your interest (we have an easy pay plan) for this and other bus trips so we can complete planning, keep the trips open and the costs down. See the list to the right for all of the bus trips offered in 2010. See you at the rally!

Obsidian Bus Trips 2010

March 23: Explore West Eugene, leader: Liz Reanier, \$33 (\$35 for non-members), due March 16 to Liz Reanier.

April 10: Guide dogs for the blind, leader: Ben Jeffries, \$39 (\$41), due March 29 to Mary Lee Cheadle.

April 20: Discover Newberg; past, present, and future, leaders: Verna Kocken and Ray Jensen, \$46 (48), due April 9 to Janet Speelman

May 11-12: Exploring the Columbia River Gorge, Hood River and the back roads around Mt. Hood, leaders: Barbara & Paul Beard, \$181 (\$185), due April 24 to Mary Lee Cheadle. Deposit \$50, due now.

June 22: Carousels of Salem and Albany and more leaders: Sharon Cutsforth, Liz Reanier, \$42 (\$44), due June 8 to Janet Speelman

July 13: Butterfly Pavilion, lunch at King Estates, & the Travis Tyrrell seed orchard, leaders: Sharon Cutsforth, Ray Jensen, \$59 (\$61), due June 29 to Barbara Payne.

August 16-21: British Columbia's Harrison Hot Springs Resort, with Minter Gardens, and the Hells Canyon air tram, leaders: Sharon Cutsforth, Liz Reanier, \$735 (\$747), due July 9 to Janet Speelman. Deposit \$100, due now.

September 21: Waldo Lake and a traditional mountain barbecue leaders: Barbara and Paul Beard, \$55 (\$57), due September 8 to Barbara Payne.

October 20: Foothills of the Coast Range and the town of Independence, leader: Ray Jensen, \$49 (\$51), due October 6 to Mary Lee Cheadle.

December 7: A Christmas holiday celebration in Salem, leaders: Barbara and Paul Beard, \$42 (\$44), due November 26 to Barbara Payne.



Center for Forest Disease Research

By Jim Pierce

RIGHT IN OUR OWN BACK YARD we have a facility that does forest disease research for national forests all over the country. They work with a large variety of conifers and a variety of diseases. The Dorena Genetic Research Center is east of Cottage Grove, on the way to Brice Creek.

I spent a day volunteering at this very interesting facility. My job for the day was to assist the experts with the semi-annual observations of the test seedlings. The expert made

the observations and I recorded the numbers on a spreadsheet using a cute mini-laptop. This activity lasts about three months and is done twice a year.

There are lots of other jobs that first time volunteers can help with. All you need to do is have a day to spend helping and learning about what they do.

For more information, contact me at 541-344-1775 or email president@obsidians.org or Dr. Richard Sniezko (voice 541-767-5716) or email rsniezko@fs.fed.us

TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Hikes

Spencer Butte

January 1, 2010

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

2.2 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)

PARKING LOT AT 8:45: rain poured and the wind blew. On the trail at 9:00: the rain began to peter out. At the top at 9:40: blue sky and sun greeted us. On the way down at 9:50: Happy New Year greetings from sun-thrilled hikers. It was the third trip for Mike Bullington and Heather Stone who thought it a great way to start the New Year. They hope to have their applications in the mail tomorrow. Members: Janet Jacobsen; nonmembers: Mike Bullington and Heather Stone.

Spencer Butte from 52nd & Willamette

January 9, 2010

Leader: Janet Jacobsen Photo: Darko Sojak

5.2 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

BEFORE THE TRIP STARTED, Darko Sojak told us it would be sunny and that he even brought his sunglasses. We were thrilled that his positive weather forecasting was accurate and

that on the summit we did see the sun struggling to come out. It was warm enough for us to linger and enjoy the dramatic views hovering above the scattered clouds. We reluctantly began our hike down into the fog. The hike took 2 hours and 45 minutes. This was the third hike of Spencer Butte, each from a different trailhead. Three nonmembers did not show up for the hike. Members: Walt Dolliver, Pat Esch, Janet Jacobsen, Sandra Larsen, Sarah Praskievicz, Barb Revere, Susan Sanazaro, Darko Sojak and Martha Welches.

Mount Pisgah

January 12, 2010

Leader: Jim Pierce

3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Easy)

WE HAD PLANNED A SNOWSHOE TRIP to Gold Lake, but 100% chance of rain in the mountains AND already slushy snow diminished our interest. Of the 16 on the signup sheet, all but three canceled. So we decided on a short, wet hike on the gravel trails of Pisgah. Braving the elements were members Pat Soussan, Charlene Pierce and Leader Jim Pierce.

Dorris Ranch

January 16, 2010

Leader: Barb Revere

3 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)

OVER MUDDY TRAILS AND UNDER GRAY SKIES, but remarkably rain-free, we enjoyed the greatest little walk in Springfield. Gray squirrels raced and scrub jays squawked, as



On Spencer Butte—January 9, 2010

Obsidians got reacquainted and met new friends. Thanks to Ken Rivernider who filled us in on Dorris Ranch history. Several of us had a discussion about where the Coast Fork joins the Middle Fork of the Willamette River. My Google map shows two entry points; a Springfield Parks employee stated there are usually two, but there can be multiple entry points along the southern boundary of Dorris Ranch, because the two forks flow side-by-side for about a half mile along the park's southern boundary. For sure, we saw a lot of water flowing by and some old channels filling up. We also discussed 'filbert' vs. 'hazelnut'. Wikipedia says they're the same nut, and the origin of 'filbert' is probably St. Filbert's Day, which occurs about the time the nuts ripen in late August. Thanks to all who traveled to Springfield to join the walk, especially the three nonmembers: Pat Brechtbil, Joey Curtin and Bob Schmeltz. I can think of nothing better to do on a dark January day than to take a walk with the Obsidians. Thanks also to my Obsidian friends: Sam Tracer, Jim Pierce, Sarah Praskievicz, Myron Cook, Walt Dolliver, Lou Maenz, Joan Abel, Bonnie Richman, Ken Rivernider, Margaret Prentice and Clara Emlen.

Lake, then we reached Gold Lake. Our group lunched by the creek with half opting for the shelter and half opting for an outdoor picnic table. The sun tried to break through but no success. Fortunately, no precipitation either! After lunch, we took the 50-foot excursion to see Gold Lake, then headed up the road to return to the vehicles. The fun crew consisted of members Chris Molly, Paul Flashenberg, Mike Bullington, Heather Home, Jane Allen, Daphne Mantis, Brad Bennett, Sally Bennett, Laurie Funkhouser (leader) and new adventurers: Alex and Clare Vondertaar, Love Opincar and Micah Allen.

Midnight Lake
January 16, 2010
Leader and photo: Matthew Bell
6 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)



Snowshoe
Trips

Gold Lake
January 16, 2010
Leader: Laurie Funkhouser Photo: Brad Bennett
5.3 miles, 125 ft. (Easy)



WITH A 9:00 A.M. DEPARTURE, the crew of lucky thirteen headed up to Highway 58 under cloudy skies. By 10:40 a.m., we were geared, reintroduced and trekking on the trail. The snow was old, slightly slushy but enough to provide traction for the snowshoes. Thanks to Paul Flashenberg for providing lead for the trip - the fast crew was, well, fast! The trail took us to Upper Marilyn Lake, on to Lower Marilyn

THIS SNOWSHOE TRIP WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED for Jan. 9 but was rescheduled to Jan. 16 to avoid the rain. For the most part the trip did avoid winter rain but we definitely felt some mist/drizzle. The four snowshoers arrived at the Gold Lake Sno-Park and got ready to head out. We started on the trail at about 8 am, following the forest road to the trail junction for Westview Shelter. (The snow level at the measuring station was only about 20 inches.) We passed by the Westview Shelter without stopping as some overnight shelter patrons were just beginning to rise. We followed the trail to Odell Overlook on the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) and were blessed with some misty views of Odell Lake. The overlook had very little snow. We then followed the PCT south to Midnight Lake. Sections of the PCT to the wilderness boundary were icy and nearly barren. As we began to climb higher and around the ridge we were blessed with about an inch of fresh snow that even showed that a fox had used the trail overnight. By Midnight Lake the breeze had picked up and snow started to fall. We stopped beneath a clump of trees for a snack and took a few pictures. After our break we headed back down the PCT and took the Bechtel Shelter connecting

trail. By the time we reached the forest road it had started to drizzle. We stopped to assess the amount of snow on the shelter and it was minimal; most of the roof shingles were visible. We followed the forest road back to the Gold Lake Sno-Park. By the time we arrived, around 11:00 am, the drizzle had stopped. Participants: members Elle Weaver, Daphne James, and leader Matthew Bell; nonmember Kenny Marcus.

Bechtel Shelter

January 23, 2010

Leader: Marianne Camp

4.6 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

THE DAY WAS PERFECT, NEED I SAY MORE. The roads were clear and the sky was sunny and blue. We arrived early so we were some of the first to use the trail. We had 4-6 inches of fresh fluffy powder making it a winter wonderland and easy to hike. This is always a treat but especially so this winter as the snow pack has not been cooperating for snowshoe enthusiasts. We had lunch together at the shelter where there was a nice warm fire. The trip was enjoyed by all. Members: Marianne Camp, Walt Dolliver, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan and Judy Ness; nonmembers: Donald Burton, Heather Croson, John Fletcher and Michele Scheib.

Maiden Peak Ski Shelter

January 23, 2010

Leader: Matthew Bell Photo: Brad Bennett

12.6 miles, 900 ft.(Difficult)

ORIGINALLY THE PLAN WAS TO SNOWSHOE to the Maiden Peak Ski Shelter from Willamette Pass up the PCT. But, in

preparation for the Maiden Peak snowshoe trip I'd used the route from Gold Lake along the Maiden Peak trail and found this to be an easier and shorter route. By using this route we could also start and end at Willamette Pass snowshoeing a large loop that was essentially the same distance.

We set off from Willamette Pass at about 8 am on the Gold Lake tie trail. We could not have imagined a nicer morning to start the trip as the sky was clear and it was cold enough that the snow maintained a fluffy powdery consistency for nearly all of the day. We followed the tie trail to the Gold Lake Road. Along the way we were treated to some impressive views of Diamond Peak covered in fresh, pure snow through occasional breaks in the trees.

After heading up Gold Lake Road and then snowshoeing along the Maiden Peak trail we were able to see some peaks to the north, possibly the Twins and Fuji Mountain. We passed the Wait Here Camp and the trail junction with Skyline Trail on our way to the PCT. At the PCT we turned and headed south towards the shelter. We arrived at the shelter a little after 11 am and stopped to take some pictures. We were not the first to the ski shelter. Three people had spread their gear about but were nowhere to be seen. Based on the snowshoe tracks it looked like they were using the shelter as their base camp and had headed off to climb Maiden Peak. Before we started back along the trail we were surprised to see a woodpecker pecking away on one of the trees just outside the shelter.

After our lunch break we followed the PCT south to Maiden Saddle and then followed Tait's Trail along Pulpit Rock Ridge. All the while we enjoyed magnificent views of



Approaching Maiden Peak Shelter

Maiden Peak and the Rosary Lakes. We descended the south end of the ridge and were able to stand along the shore of snow-covered Lower Rosary Lake and view the ridge we'd just followed. We then followed the PCT back to Willamette Pass, arriving at about 4:15.

Participants: members Elle Weaver, Brad Bennett, Suzanne Steussy and Matthew Bell and Logan Bell non-member.



Ski Trips

Rosary Lakes

January 3, 2010

Leader: Brian Hamilton

6 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)

BEING THE FIRST SKI TRIP OF THE SEASON for many of us, this was like a shake-down cruise. At the beginning of the trail, one of skiers decided to stay at the downhill ski area to become better acquainted with new gear. Shortly after starting out, we ran into what looked like a 3-foot-wide bobsled track that would be our trail for the next two miles. It wasn't icy, but it was hard-packed and challenging enough that some of our skiers decided it would be easier to walk to Lower Rosary Lake and back. They barely left any footprints on the trail! The track improved as we gained elevation and neared the lake.

We stopped for lunch at the lake and two skiers took the opportunity to venture on to North Rosary Lake, returning to meet the rest of us before starting our return trip. The hard-packed snow softened a little during the day so that our glide down was pleasant, but still very fast. With varying levels of experience and ability, our group became strung out on the trail, but hand-held radios helped us keep tabs on everyone. A bonus for us was that the mostly-cloudy sky held off dumping rain on us until we were back in our cars and heading home. Our total time was four hours on the trail and four hours on the highway. Thanks to Chris, Peggy, and Randy for helping out with driving. Skiers were nonmembers Wil Peron and Pam McClure, and Obsidians Charlie Van Deusen, Chris Stockdale, Ed Lizewsky, Mary Hamilton, Randy Sinnott, Mari Baldwin, Peggy Windle, Carol Petty, and Brian Hamilton (leader).

Berley Lakes

January 23, 2010

Leader and Photo: Brian Hamilton

7 miles, 750 ft. (Moderate)

THE MOST DIRECT ROUTE TO BERLEY LAKES from the Santiam Sno-Park heads due north, staying on the lower slopes of a north-south ridge on the right. After about 1.6 miles, the route turns west and drops down to Lost Lake



Creek due east of a 650-ft high volcanic formation with a steep east face. This formation is similar in shape to the volcanoes of Hogg Rock and Hayrick Butte and holds Craig Lake on its flat summit. After crossing Lost Lake Creek, the route generally follows the west edge of the creek canyon for ½ mile where there become two choices for reaching Lower Berley Lake. The shortest is a quarter-mile climb up and through a notch between two 250-ft high rock piles, followed by a steep drop down to Lower Berley Lake. The longer route follows the creek to the northwest end of the higher rock formation, then makes a sharp left through a tangle of small firs to reach the outlet of the lake. Up to the point where our group had to choose which route to take to Lower Berley Lake, we were extremely lucky in several respects: first, there were eight inches of fresh powder, contributing to delightful skiing conditions. Second, another group of skiers had broken trail for us on their way around the north end of the Craig Lake plateau. Instead of going to Berley Lakes, however, they continued west toward the Maxwell Butte Sno-Park.

Finally, we had clear, blue skies with only occasional thin clouds. The temperature ranged from 30 to 35 degrees during our trip. The clear conditions gave us great views of navigational landmarks, making route-finding easy, and also giving us views of Hoodoo Butte, Mt. Washington, and a beautiful close-up of Three Fingered Jack. It took just over two hours to reach Lower Berley Lake. The last leg of the trip in required breaking trail up the slope to the notch above the lake with a fast slide down, tempered by the deep, fresh snow. We ate lunch on the lake, then skied to the outlet and down along Lost Lake Creek until we hit our in-bound tracks. Plenty of downhill sections made the trip out that much more fun. Overall, we spent about 4.5 hours on the trail. Participants, all Obsidians, were Dick Hildreth, Ed Lizewski, Randy Sinnott, Chris Stockdale, Charlie Van Deusen, and Brian Hamilton.

Sand Mountain Loop

January 24, 2010

Leader and Photo: Sam Miller

10 miles, 1,000 ft.

FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR skiers participating in this trip were fortunate to experience new snow after weeks of near-drought. With 2 to 4 inches of fresh powder on a firm base



Chrissy heading down.

we were rewarded with excellent glide and pleasant surroundings for our 10+ mile trip. At higher elevations the snow depth exceeded 8 inches of new Rabenhorst snow which ensured that none of our skiers experienced lebensmüde. Our group for this outing consisted of Sue Wolling, Chrissy Anderson, Dave Jensen, Lubos Hubata-Vacek, John Hegg, Kathy Juhlin, Kathy Welkowsky, and Sam Miller.



Trail Maintenance

Spencer Butte

November 28, 2009

Leader: Matthew Bell

3 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

SEVEN VOLUNTEERS met Jason, Christer, and Lorna of Eugene Parks and Open Spaces at the main Spencer Butte parking lot at about 9 am on a crisp, brisk morning. The plan for the day was to go up above the recent trail re-route to improve a climbing switchback, and install a retaining wall in a loose steep section that was threatening to undo some of our fencing work. With the help and expert advice of Jason and Christer, our party was able to install two sections of retaining walls: one of rocks and peeler-cores and the other out of expertly-sawed square beams. The section of fencing was greatly stabilized after the retaining wall was installed. This section of trail is now much safer and will allow power-wheelbarrows to get even closer to the top of Spencer Butte (much closer in fact than we've ever been able to before!). During this time our group was also able to plant more than 20 oceansprays and cedars, all of which were packed up by hand, in backpacks, or pushed in regular wheelbarrows. Unfortunately, this was Jason Morrow's last trail maintenance outing with us as a City staff member. His sense of humor, work ethic, and chainsaw skills will be greatly missed by all volunteers. He's moving to Portland to seek a graduate degree at PSU. We finished our work for the day and headed back to the parking lot at about 1 pm. Nonmembers Tom Bettman, Connie Morehouse, and Marti Gerdes, and Obsidians Janet Jacobsen, Pat Soussan, Ed Lizewski, and Matt Bell.

UPCOMING

Kalapuya Talking Stones

RICK AHRENS AND JANET JACOBSEN are co-leading a Kalapuya Talking Stones walk Sunday, February 28 at 9:00 in the Whilamut Natural Area of Alton Baker Park. The meeting place will be the Host House at Day Island Rd. and Leisure Lane southeast of the Cuthbert Amphitheater. Sign up at the Y. Since Rick and Janet last led this walk in 2008, three new Talking Stones have been added to the original eleven stones. A fourth is ready and waiting for installation.

David Sonnichsen, chair of the Government Relations subcommittee of the Citizen Planning Committee for the Whilamut Natural Area, will accompany the group. David sent this information: "The Oregon Department of Transportation paid for the newest stones in partial mitigation for the I-5 bridge construction. When the fourth new stone goes in at the end of the bridge project there will be 15 Talking

Stones in the Whilamut Natural Area." For more information, visit <http://emc.rio.com/kalapuyamap.html>. For questions, call Janet at 343-8030 or Rick at 689-3996.

Upcoming Bus Trip

EXPLORE WEST EUGENE

Tuesday March 23, Leader: Liz Reanier

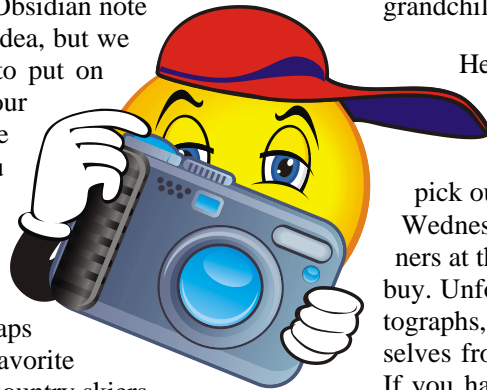
Cost: \$33 Members, \$35 Non. Checks to: Liz Reanier 541-687-1925, 853 Ascot Drive, Eugene 97401

WE WILL CONTINUE OUR TRADITION of exploring the immediate area for our first trip this year. Leave Shopko at 8:30 and visit places in west Eugene, including Creative Clocks, a smoked salmon distributorship and the West Eugene Wetlands. Weather will dictate some of our stops. Lunch is at Our Daily Bread restaurant (in an old church) in Veneta, and then we will proceed with our exploring. Lunch is your cost. Return to Shopko by 4 pm.

Photography Contest:

We Want Your Pictures!

THE CONCESSIONS COMMITTEE has received requests from many of you to sell Obsidian note cards. We think this is a great idea, but we need something eye catching to put on the front of the cards besides our logo. This is where you come in. We know that many of you bring your cameras along on trips and events and take lots of pictures. Do you have a photograph that captures the spirit of the Obsidians, perhaps one of the lodge in fall, a favorite mountain peak, a line of cross country skiers or a spring wildflower? Anything goes, well almost.



Please no pictures of individuals, no matter how cute your grandchildren or good looking your spouse.

Here are the details: Email your pictures to lyngg@efn.org or snail mail them to Concession Committee, 1610 Washington St., Eugene, OR 97401. We know this will be hard, but please pick out your four best pictures. You must submit them by Wednesday, March 31st. We will announce the lucky winners at the April potluck and will have the cards available to buy. Unfortunately, we can't afford to pay you for your photographs, but the winners will get to pick a prize for themselves from the concessions table, including our new cards! If you have any questions about the contest, please contact Lyn at 541-345-5236.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS' UPCOMING

Museum of Natural History



Dramatic Past Climate Crises

Friday, Feb 19, 7:30 pm,

Talk by Greg Retallack, paleo-botanist and expert in paleosols at the U of O. Greg will show through the fossil record definitive evidence for climatic crises in the last 300 million years. Sometimes the results included massive species eradication.

Native Oregon Turtles - Friday, Mar 19, 7:30 pm,

Sue Beilke, wildlife biologist and herpetologist, will talk about these tenacious yet vulnerable ancient species at the March meeting of the Eugene Natural History Society.

Tidal Swamps - Friday, Apr 16, 7:30 pm

Not all tidal swamps are filled with salt water. Some of the most fascinating ones, brimming with life, have only fresh water. Dean Walton, ecologist and science librarian, gives a talk on the fresh water tidal swamps of the Atlantic Coast.

All meet at Rm 100, Willamette Hall, U of O



Nearby Nature

LOVE NATURE? ENJOY KIDS? Learn all about leading school nature walks in Alton Baker Park this spring as well as other Nearby Nature volunteer opportunities. No experience needed--free training provided in April. Meet on Wednesday, March 10, from 6:30-8 pm in the Tykeson Room at the Eugene Public Library. Questions? Call Nearby Nature at 541-687-9699, email info@nearbynature.org, or see www.nearbynature.org.

First Saturday Park Walks

DID YOU KNOW that the City of Eugene sponsors a free, monthly urban educational walk on the first Saturday of the month? Join local experts to explore and learn about the ecology and management of Eugene's Parks. Staff from Eugene Parks and Open Spaces, along with naturalists from the Outdoor Program (including Dave Walp) lead the interpretive walks.

Amazon Headwaters: Mar 6 Sa 9-11 Meet: Go south on West Amazon Parkway to the end, turn left on Martin St., park on Martin near the bus stop across from Canyon Dr.

Delta Ponds: Apr 3 Sa 9-11 Meet: At the viewpoint parking area on Goodpasture Is. Rd.

Mariposa Woodland/Spencer Butte: May 1 Sa 9-11 Meet: Go south on Willamette Street; a few hundred feet past West 52nd Avenue, park in the Ridgeline Trailhead gravel parking lot, on the left under the power lines.

West Eugene Wetlands: Jun 5 Sa 9-11 Meet: At the Meadowlark Prairie overlook on Greenhill Road.

Weekly Adult Walking Groups: If you would like to walk regularly, the City also sponsors two free, self-led senior walking groups which meet weekly: (1) *Walk with Us* to better health walks from Petersen Barn Community Center, 870 Berntzen Rd., on Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 am and (2) *Walk'n'Talkers* is a self-led group that walks 3-5 miles at a quick pace every Friday from Campbell Community Center, 155 High St., 9-11:30 am. The route varies and may have hills or rough pavement.

For more information, call 541-682-5333.

AT THE LODGE



POTLUCK

Friday February 26:

Eastern Europe



Laurie Funkhouser, Entertainment Chair

PLEASE JOIN LANA LINDSTROM and Richard Hughes on Friday, February 26 as they recount their six weeks of adventures through Eastern Europe. In addition to exploring medieval cities, they meandered through small villages and off-shore islands. Hiking in the Tatra Mountains (Poland and Slovakia), biking in Estonia and Latvia, and boating on the Croatian coast were the highlights.



February Potluck

**Friday, February 26, 2010 - Obsidian Lodge
Potluck, 6:30 pm Program, 7:30 pm**

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



Conservation/Sci-Ed February 16

Old Growth Forests

CHANDRA LEGUE OF OREGON WILD will give an illustrated presentation on the state of old growth forests in Oregon today. Chandra will also describe the various hikes and other opportunities Oregon Wild sponsors in nearby areas of ecological concern.



OREGON WILD

Come and learn how you can participate in programs aimed at preserving the remaining pieces of old growth forests in Oregon.

Tuesday, February 16, 7 pm at the Obsidian Lodge.

Games Day



OBSIDIANS ARE CREATIVE, enthusiastic people who like to try lots of fun and interesting activities! Which is probably why there was a nice turnout for the recent Games Day at the Lodge on December 27. The group -- 20 members and friends -- played a wide variety of board games, card games, and word games and enjoyed snacks and a blazing fire in the fireplace.

Join us for the next Games Day on **Sunday, February 28, from 2:00-4:00 pm at the Lodge**. Lana, Lyn, and Kathy will provide lots of games, so you just need to show up ready to have fun. You're also invited to bring any of your own games that you'd like to play.

Bring a snack to share and \$1 for lodge expenses. Coffee and tea will be provided.



Trail Maintenance Opportunities

MANY OF THE TRAILS we all use and love receive less maintenance than they deserve. If you have a favorite trail that you'd like to lead a trail maintenance trip on to help keep it in passable condition please sign up. If you know of a trail that could use some TLC please let the Trails Committee know.

The next **SPENCER BUTTE TRAIL MAINTENANCE** will continue work just below treeline to improve the trailbed and make it passable for power-wheelbarrows. There will be a variety of tasks available for participants including operating power-wheelbarrows, spreading gravel, brushing out side trails, and building retaining walls, among others.

We'll start at 9 am on Saturday February 27th.

If you have questions or need more information or equipment, please email: trails@obsidians.org

Matt Bell, Trail Maintenance Chair

Classifieds

Wanted

A FEW GOOD MEMBERS - The Publication Committee is looking for a few good members. No age, height or weight requirements, just need an eye for detail and a willingness to spend a few hours a month proofing the *Bulletin*. Fringe benefits include: getting advance notice of upcoming events, optional lunch out with fellow members, and becoming a published author, if desired. To apply: bulletin@obsidians.org, or Joanne Ledet, 683-2603

For Rent

MCKENZIE RIVER FRONT, fully equipped 3-bdr cabin, Owner wants local couples or families for weekly rent this summer. Attractive rates. Call Ralph at 541/688-0306.

For Sale

MISC - Heavy fitted wool gaiters—Size large. Made in Vermont. Approx. 18" in length. Lined. New \$45.
Man's or Woman's Unisex snowsuit—For someone who is about 6ft. tall. Size L. One piece. Dark blue. Elastic waist. \$20.
6 pair Thinsulate mittens for kids—Several different sizes, colors. Excellent condition. \$5 each.
2 pair young womens's Thinsulate gloves—1 pr. Magenta, 1 pr. Purple \$5 each.
Tire Cables—New, Shur Grip. Designed for anti-lock brakes and all wheel drive. Fits 14" 15" and 16" wheels. \$40.
For details: odysseveng@aol.com 503-508-0312

WOOD - Green fir at the Obsidian Lodge. Split, you haul. \$110/cord, or we can haul for \$40. Half cords available too. Contact John Jacobsen, Grounds Chair, 343-8030 or 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.

Obsidian Calendar

February

10 Wed – **Willamette Bike Path**, M, Romoser..... 726-8154
13 Sat – **Eagle Rock**, S'Shoe, D, Funkhouser 206-2303
13 Sat – **Rosary Lakes**, X-Ski, M, S.Wolling..... 345-2110
14 Sun – **Sweet & Beaver Creek**, M, Revere..... 543-3514
16 Tue – **Diamond Cr Falls**, S'Shoe, M, Pierce... 344-1775
16 Tue – **SciEd Tuesday**, LeGue **Lodge**
19 Fri – **W Eug Wetlands**, Hike, E, Cunningham 344-0486
20 Sat – **Gold Lake**, S'Shoe, M, C.Durham..... 687-0885
20 Sat – **Larison Rock**, 11 M 2400', D, Wagar 543-1489
21 Sun – **Bus Rally** **Lodge**
21 Sun – **Maiden Peak**, X-Ski, D, D.McCarty..... 342-6962
21 Sun – **Washburne/China Creek**, E, Kandell.... 345-8095
21 Sun – **Maklaks**, X-Ski/S'Shoe, M, Lindstrom ... 683-1409
25 Thu – **Tahkenitch Dunes**, Hike, M, S.Larsen.. 687-2589
26 Fri – **East Europe Potluck**, Lindstrom **Lodge**
27 Sat – **Spencer Butte**, Trail Maint, M Bell .503-884-8829
28 Sun – **Talking Stones**, Hike, M, R. Ahrens..... 689-3996
28 Sun – **Games Day** 2pm..... **Lodge**

March

4 Thu – **Row River Trail**, Hike, D, S.Larsen..... 687-2589
6 Sat – **Alton Baker Park**, Hike, E, M. Prentice .. 687-5850
7 Sun – **Fuji Shelter Loop**, X-Ski, D, Anderson... 946-1732
13 Sat – **Gold Lake**, X-Ski, M, L.Funkhouser 206-2303
13 Sat – **Goodman Cr**, Hike, M, Flashenberg 461-1977
13 Sat – **SW Eugene Hills**, Hike, E, J.Ledet 683-2603
14 Sun – **Island Lakes Loop**, X-Ski, D, Jensen 344-1363
15 Mon – **North Shasta Loop**, Hike M, Romoser . 726-8154
16 Tue – **Butte Eagles Nest**, Hike E, Essenberg ... 343-1733
23 Tue – **Explore West Eugene**, Bus, Reanier 687-1925
26 Fri – **Backpacker Behaviors**, Lau..... **Potluck**
26-28 – **Crater Lake**, X-Ski/S'Shoe, Kodama..... 686-3297
27 Sat – **Spencer Butte**, Trail Maint, M Bell .503-884-8829
28 Sun – **Maiden Peak**, X-Ski, D, Anderson 946-1732
30 Tue – **Sweet Creek**, Hike, E, J.Pierce 344-1775



The Bulletin Mailing Update

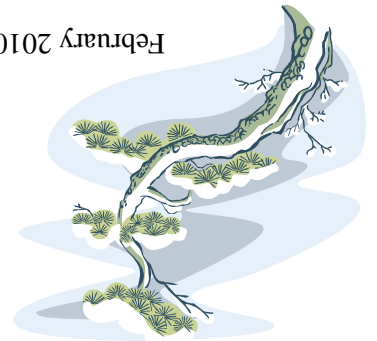
THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE, and the environment, appreciate the desire of well over 100 Obsidian members to reduce their carbon footprint by receiving their monthly *Bulletin* on line. There are times however, we have to be sensitive to practical necessities, and the comments of the members. For that reason, **we will be mailing the February Bulletin** to all households so that the Membership Directory will arrive in convenient booklet form and eliminate the need to download and print the directory. We plan to do the same in September so all households get a Membership Renewal Form. The *Bulletin* will continue to be available online as well. We trust this exception to the normal procedure will appeal to all.

Joanne Ledet, Publications Chair



Three Fingered Jack above Berley Lakes—See ski trip report Page 11. Photo by Brian Hamilton

February 2010



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