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### Dates to Remember

October 12	Annual Meeting
October 16	ExploraTalk
October 17	Board Meeting
October 26	Grand Teton Potluck
November 3	<i>Bulletin</i> deadline
November 7	Board Meeting

Complete current schedules at:

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

*Register-Guard* – Outdoors – Tuesday

## Membership Renewals

**M**ANY THANKS to so many of you who have already sent in your renewals! If you haven't yet, please take a moment to complete and mail in your dues (\$30) and renewal form. Forms were included in the September *Bulletin*, which was mailed to all members. It can also be printed from *Documents* in the *Members Only* section of the website. Please send renewals to:

Obsidians, Inc.  
PO Box 51510  
Eugene, OR 97405

Thanks for your help. Please contact me if you have any questions.

**Membership Committee Chair, Elle Weaver**

[membership@observians.org](mailto:membership@observians.org)

## September Lodge Events

**Janet Jacobsen, Publicity Chair**

**I** WAS WORRIED THAT NO ONE WOULD SHOW UP for the Open House on September 9. What a surprise! It was a perfect fall day for the forty to fifty guests who showed up for the Open House at the Obsidian Lodge. John Jacobsen, along with seven other members, led the first hike on the Ribbon Trail, and an hour later, Janet led the second group on the same trail. The cars came rolling into the parking lot for the Sunday afternoon event.

What made it a success were the members who helped with greeting, answering questions, refreshments, and the hikes. Thanks to Rick Ahrens, Marianne Camp, Dan Christensen, Sharon Cutsforth, Brian Hamilton, John Jacobsen, Vi Johnson, Joanne Ledet, Lou Maenz, Jim Pierce, Barb Revere, and Jorry Rolfe.

The Open House, the ExploraTalk, and the Potluck were held at the lodge in September. An estimated 200 members and guests participated. The Publicity Committee, Entertainment Committee, and Sci/Ed Committee hosted the various events. We thank the members who helped with the myriad of tasks to make these events successful.

## 2012 Annual Meeting

**T**HE OBSIDIANS ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, OCT. 12, at the Lodge. Members are encouraged to attend and vote for new Board members—Tom Musselwhite, Susan Wanser, and Elle Weaver—and for this year's Honorary Member, Janet Jacobsen. Awards will be presented for Trips, Trip Leaders, Climbs, Trail Maintenance, and Special Contributions. Social and refreshments at 6:30, meeting at 7 PM. See you there!

# Obituaries

## Anne Dhu McLucas 1941-2012

**A**NNE GREW UP IN COLORADO and acquired her love of all things outdoors while living there. Her other passion was music and she was known internationally for her skills not only in performance, but also for teaching and administration. She eventually came to Eugene where she taught music at the U of Oregon and served as dean of the School of Music and Dance from 1992-2002. Anne had retirement in sight and was scheduled to teach one last class at the university before her untimely death. She joined the Obsidians in 1993 and her first trip with the club was a climb of South Sister. She climbed four other peaks and participated in 143 trips, leading 42. She attended five summer camps, most recently to Sequim, WA, in 2006. She served on the Obsidian board from 2006-2008. Anne is survived by her son and three grandchildren.

*Editor's Note: A complete obituary for Anne may be found in the Sept. 16th issue of the Register-Guard. Also see <http://music.uoregon.edu/people/faculty/mclucas.htm>*

## James Gillette 1939-2012

**J**IM WENT ON HIS FIRST TRIP WITH THE OBSIDIANS IN 2006 and he totaled 10 trips with the club. His most recent trip was May 13 of this year when Anne Dhu McLucas and he led a trip through his property southwest of town. The emphasis of the hike was a nature and bird walk. He is survived by two sons.

*Editors' Note: A complete obituary for Jim may be found in the Sept. 14th issue of the Register-Guard.*

## Frank Moore 1926-2012

**F**RANK MOORE PASSED AWAY ON SEPT. 20TH after a lengthy illness. Frank joined the Obsidians in 1953 and retained his membership for almost 60 years even though health restrictions prevented active participation for some time. In earlier years he received 3-peak and 10-peak awards and also a 10-peak leader award. He was credited with 61 mountain climbs and he climbed Mt. Jefferson, his favorite mountain, seven times. He was very active in summer camp, attending 12 different camps, sometimes as director of the camp, as a committee member or as a participant. He served as club president in 1967 and was director of the Obsidian Explorer Troop for many years. Survivors include a daughter and three grandchildren.

*Editor's Note: A complete obituary may be found in the Sept. 26th issue of the Register-Guard.*

**THE OBSIDIANS NOW HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE at**  
[www.facebook.com/#!/theobsidians](http://www.facebook.com/#!/theobsidians).

Just click on the link and start using/viewing today!

## OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

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

### Board of Directors

Elle Weaver, President  
Matt Bell, Vice President  
Kathy Hoeg, Secretary  
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer

Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, John Jacobsen & Nancy Whitfield

*Board meetings are held at 6 PM the first Wednesday of each month, except October when it is the Wednesday after the Annual Meeting, and no meeting in August.*

### Committee Chairpersons

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Climbs	Sue Sullivan
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Publicity	Jan Jacobsen
Safety	Pat Esch
Summer Camp	Lana Lindstrom
Summer Trips	Tom Musselwhite
Trail Maintenance	Matt Bell
Winter Trips	Anne Bonine

## The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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[bulletin@obsidians.org](mailto:bulletin@obsidians.org)

For reprint rights, contact:

**The Obsidian Bulletin**

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

### Deadline

**for November 2012 Bulletin**  
**Saturday, November 3, 2012**

### Assembly/Mailing Team

**For September Bulletin**

Assembly & Mail Manager - Lou Maenz  
Assembly Team - Tom Adamcyk, Clara Emlen, Violet Johnson, Joanne Ledet, John & Lenore McManigal, Barb Revere and Kris Stewart

### Editorial Team

Writing & Editorial Staff - Bea Fontana, Joanne Ledet, Nola Nelson, Beth Roy, and Ethel Weltman

Copy Editors - Beth Roy & Ethel Weltman  
Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing - Stewart Hoeg

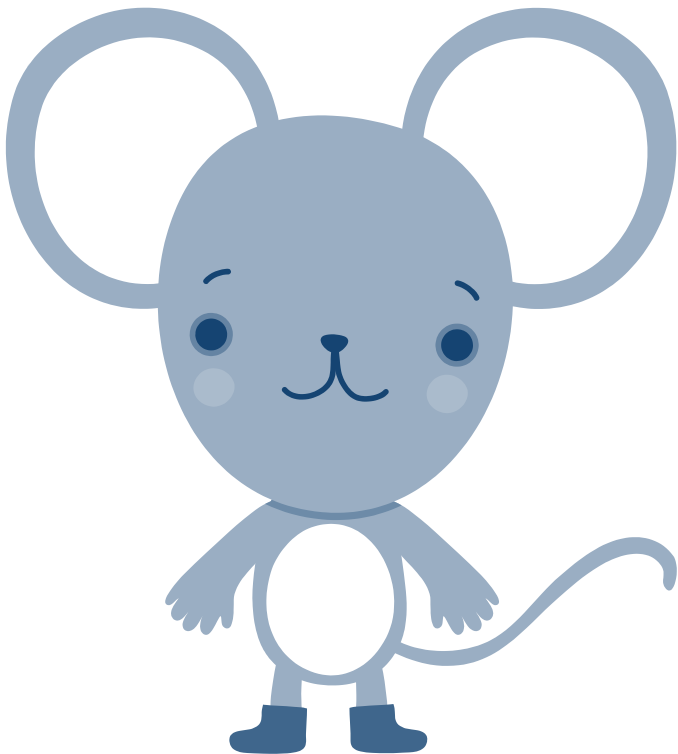
# Camp Mice

*Jim Whitfield*

**T**HIS IS A TALE ABOUT DEATH, PILLAGE AND GENERAL MAYHEM. It begins and ends at a small campground on the banks of the Nooksack River in northern Washington state.

For many years, a group of mice lived here and looked forward to summer when an influx of campers provided a bounty of goodies, almost unbelievable.

This all changed when a big yellow truck, followed by a small flock of cars, came rumbling into the campground. Out climbed people dressed in nylon clothing, wearing sandals and strange hats. Even stranger was the absence of even a single dog, child, frisbee or boom-box.



What were these people?

Soon the people were wandering about talking of kitchens, wash sheds, lunch prep, and bulletin boards. Such commotion and noise. People measuring, pacing distance, moving vehicles and generally creating dust and confusion. Words were spoken and from the big yellow truck came food and drink—pizza, chips, veggies and beer. This the mice understood and the saliva began to flow. But wait! What was this? The people picked up any dropped scraps and put all trash in the garbage. Some containers were rinsed and placed in bags the people called *recycling*.

What were these people?

By nightfall, tents were assembled and the camp was dark and silent. The only stirrings were frequent trips to the outhouses, but the mice had learned to expect this from people with this much gray hair.

Soon after daybreak, the people were up and scurrying about. A little food, a lot of coffee and soon a noisy spectacle began. Out of the big yellow truck appeared boxes, tools, strange metal contraptions, piles of pipe and apparently, most of a lumber yard. Stacks were everywhere. What chaos! Toes were stubbed, fingers were pinched and bad words were muttered. People with strange hats began to build huge structures. Lumber became tables. Metal and green wood became a kitchen.

Down by the river, a strange structure arose—tall wooden poles draped with ropes and flappy green walls. Fat black bags appeared as if a strange, new strain of mushroom had suddenly sprouted among the rocks. Every afternoon, people in groups of four would enter the structure carrying the black bags and perform cleansing rituals in preparation for the feeding frenzy. People who did not, were avoided by those who had.

Through the seeming chaos strode a large man and a much smaller woman, creating order and bestowing blessings as tasks were completed. Eventually, with all tasks completed, the people were fed and they returned to their tents.

At daylight, people gathered to stuff food and water into bags they strapped to their backs. Soon, they were gone. A quick check revealed they had left not a scrap of food for a hungry mouse.

What were these people?

By late afternoon, the people returned dusty and tired. They talked of mileage, elevation gain, flowers and great views. Soon chaos returned. The people moved things back and forth. Unstacked and restacked. In general, they tried to receive blessings from the large man and smaller woman. But wait! What's this? A long green hose bringing water from the hill? This had never happened before.

What were these people?

Eventually, the activity stopped and the people waited in anticipation for the arrival of THE COOKS! With the arrival of THE COOKS, meals became a feeding frenzy.

When darkness fell, some of the brazen mice explored the tents. Not a morsel of food was found! From some

*(Continued on page 4)*

*(Camp Mice—Continued from page 3)*

tents came strange noises. From some, bad smells. From others came both.

At daylight, tension filled the air and there was much talk of the impending arrival of the hordes and commoners. Soon a torrent of vehicles poured through the gate. People were everywhere. Tents appeared in places they had never appeared before and would probably never appear again.

It wasn't safe for a mouse anywhere!

Into this chaos, stalked the once small woman. On her head was a bright red headdress. Somehow, she had grown in stature. Power emanated from her in a nearly visible aura. People parted before her, some beseeched her blessings and others cringed when she glanced her way. Even the mice felt the power.

Soon groups were formed, ropes were strung between trees and strange things were hung from the ropes. With a loud clanging, a line was formed. Soon there was a feeding frenzy such as the mice had never seen. How could so much food go in and so much noise come out, apparently at the same time? The frenzy died down and again lines were formed. Strange rituals began. Flames appeared under a steaming cauldron and the people began to scrape their dishes over large containers. Next, they plunged them into huge tubs, moving from one to another. The keepers of the tubs wore strange white robes and all had bright orange hands. Water and suds flew everywhere.

Soon the people assembled around a huge fire contained in a structure of stones. Silence prevailed as the woman in the red headdress imparted her wisdom to the people. They gave detailed reports of the countryside around the camp.

Meanwhile, back at the camp, the mice were in the truck sampling the bounty of food. Suddenly, an alarm was sounded. The people were returning and now had bright white lights shining from their foreheads. Flashlights mice had seen before but lights from heads?

What were these people?

In the morning, the people discovered the feast of the mice. A great wailing, pounding of boxes and stomping began, none of which produced a single mouse. The woman with the red headdress ordered damages assessed, traps set and efforts made to stop the raids.

After most of the people were gone, the mice cautiously explored, looking for goodies. One determined mouse eventually found a metal mesh container half-buried in the ground. On the bottom was a pile of moist juicy food. Throwing caution to the wind, the mouse climbed inside and started eating. What a mistake! The others arrived just in time to see it jump and spin around before falling dead. The mice looked on in horror and

realized this food should not be eaten, no matter how inviting. They *were* mice but they weren't stupid.

That evening, the mice returned to the truck. The door was closed tight but they found a small gap where even a chubby mouse could squeeze through. Inside, they found traps loaded with the food of their dreams. Peanut butter! Experience had shown that with a careful touch and quick reflexes, a treat awaited. Those mice who were particularly agile could spring the trap and get it all.

The sound of people coming caused a panicked rush. As the door flew open, all mice escaped except one lone mouse standing just inside the doorway. Outside stood the woman with the red headdress. Lights streaming from the human heads blinded the mouse. Suddenly, the woman was poking and banging with a huge shovel. What if the mouse was wounded and used in the woman's rituals? Such a thing was unthinkable!

There was only one way to escape! In desperation, the mouse jumped into a mousetrap. With a loud snap and violent twitches, all was still. The onlooking mice were stunned. Never before had a mouse committed suicide. What power did this woman have to cause such a thing?

What were these people?

In blind panic, they rushed away from this terrible display of power. The following evening, a single mouse ventured into the truck. In the morning, it was found dead in a trap. Suicide?

During the day, some of the people remained in the camp. Strange and mysterious things were constructed. They talked of roasting a president in tea. According to legend, at one time a virgin was sacrificed. As the people were getting old, virgins were difficult to find. The current practice was to elect someone for a year and present them with strange gifts and stories at camp. The elected was dressed in a weird costume and paraded around the fire on a makeshift throne on a cart decorated with signs and local flora. Still, this was much better than being sacrificed!

That evening, two mice slipped into the truck. The next morning, both were dead in traps. Apparently, the woman had such power she didn't need to be present to cause mouse suicides. Scouts were dispatched and soon returned to report a campground farther upstream. Better to compete with the local mice than spend another day with the big yellow truck people. Slowly, word spread and mice near and far feared someday the big yellow truck with the woman in the red headdress would appear in their campground.

What were these people?

The end? Or is it?

## TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



### Boat Trips

**Womens' Little Cultus Lake**  
**September 6, 2012**  
**Leader: Patricia Esch**  
**Photographer: Lana Lindstrom**

**S**TARRY NIGHTS AND WARM, WINDLESS DAYS. Perfect for thirteen boaters, who distributed themselves throughout two large contiguous campsites with boat access to the lake and the only water tap right next door. There was plenty of flat area to spread out our tents, all shaded with firs and pines. Robin, our camping gearhead, provided the two-burner stove and a large propane tank; no chance of running out of fuel here. Boating being our objective, there was a measured rush to set up tents and tables and get out on the lake. Little Cultus, as implied by its name, was the perfect size for a lazy afternoon circumnavigation, and warm and shallow enough for a few swimmers. Team One prepared salmon burgers with all the trimmings, salads, home grown pears and awesome cookies. After sunset, some boaters went

out on the calm lake, while others sat on the shore with a light so the sojourners could find their way back. The next day, Lana organized a shuttle (thanks Lana) and seven of us did an all-day trip on the Deschutes, a moving water experience without rapids. Ah, the joy of letting the current move the boat with a few strokes of the paddle to navigate the bends and avoid the fallen trees. Pat spotted and Anne identified a snipe (yes, there is such a bird) which froze while we stared at it. Three others boaters went to Sparks Lake, a couple stayed in camp and later, Clara entertained us with her tale of climbing Cultus Mountain pushing her bicycle. Way to go Clara! A fine pasta and salad presentation by Team Two, more late evening paddling with fabulous lighting on the water and day two ended. On day three, we were drummed out of camp by squirrels bombarding Joella's truck with pine cones from the top of a tree. We stopped at Crane Prairie Reservoir on the way home and paddled amongst the drowned trees that looked like sailboat masts and old wharf pilings. Two tall tree snags in the water had tiers of cormorant nests and were dubbed Cormorant Condos. We departed the Cascade area (Saturday) before it became smoky from Sunday's fires. Members: Anne Bonine, Clara Emlen, Patricia Esch, Joella Ewing, Lana Lindstrom, Patricia Mac Afee, Lou Maenz, Nola Nelson, Judy Ness, Diane Schechter, and Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Robin Forster and Sharon Friedland.





## Hikes

### **Substitute Point**

**June 30, 2012**

**Leader: Kevin McManigal**

**Hike: 10 miles, 2,000 ft. (Difficult)**

**W**E ALL MET AT SOUTH EUGENE HIGH SCHOOL bright and early and headed up the McKenzie, stopped at the ranger station and found out that the trail was packed with snow to Substitute Point. Since it was starting to rain we decided to hike up, but French Pete was as far as we could get. After about three miles we turned back due to the rushing river that blocked the trail. Since the day was young we then decided to hike up Rebel Rock for a bit. We actually got about 2-3 miles up that trail and a lot of altitude gained when the rain really opened up. We then decided to call it a day. Members: Betty Grant, Kevin McManigal, Sarah Praskievicz, and Michael Quigley. Nonmembers: Iley McCready.

### **Olallie Mountain**

**August 11, 2012**

**Leader: Judy Terry**

**Photographer: Jyoti Naik**

**Hike: 7.2 miles, 1,200 ft. (Moderate)**



**ELEVEN HIKERS STRETCHED THEIR LEGS** on the 7.2 mile roundtrip hike to the top of Olallie Mountain. It was beautiful day: NO mosquitoes with comfortable hiking in the shaded forest. I had scouted the trip two weeks prior and there had been an abundant amount of wildflowers (15 varieties counted). This day paled in comparison, however the Indian paintbrush was prevalent in the upper region. We saw glimpses of The Sisters and Mt. Bachelor on the way up. There was a very nice view of many more mountains at the

top. Members: Patricia MacAfee, Jyoti Naik, Barbara Norregaard, Brian Popowsky, Guy Strahon, Richard Sundt, Judy Terry, and Jim Whitfield. Nonmembers: Nancy Matthews, Howard Loewinger, and Arjun Menon.

### **Mt. Pisgah—Mars Spectacular**

**August 27, 2012**

**Leader: Darko Sojak**

**Hike: 3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)**

**AT THE FIRST REST AREA WITH A BENCH**, we caught the last moments of today's beautiful sunset. When we arrived on top, the sky was semi-cloudy but nice even without Mars in sight. We enjoyed the fresh air and a great view of the Eugene lights. Besides signed hikers we had three last minute show-ups: Trina Loe, Victor Garcia, and Brandon Izaguirre. Thanks to Tom for sweeping. Members: Evelyn Nagy, Jyoti Naik, Darko Sojak, and Tom Woxell. Nonmembers: Vicki Levine, Marie Williamson, Judy Parker, and John Williamson.

### **Larison Creek**

**August 30, 2012**

**Leader: Don Colgan**

**Hike: 10.4 miles, 700 ft. (Moderate)**

**THERE TURNED OUT TO BE ONLY TWO OF US**, but we were both up for a hike, so we headed out past Oakridge to the trailhead. Larison Creek is an excellent hike along the water and through some fine stands of timber. We made great time since we were both in the mood for a brisk pace. On this perfect August day we hiked in, had lunch at a lovely spot by the creek, and hiked back out by 2:30. We made a beverage stop in Oakridge and were back in town well before the dinner hour. Members: Don Colgan and Brian Popowsky.

### **Mt. Pisgah—Sunset/Moonrise**

**August 31, 2012**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Photographer: Darko Sojak**

**Hike: 3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)**

**WE WERE SO LUCKY** to experience the simultaneous golden



moonrise and sunset on a glorious evening. Members: Rick Ahrens, Jennifer Baer, Keiko Bryan, Marianne Camp, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, and Darko Sojak. Nonmembers: Ruthy Kanagy, Hope Crandall, Patty Morrow, and Greg Morrow.

## **Gander Lake/Winchester Ridge Loop**

**September 1, 2012**

**Leader: Jan Anselmo**

**Hike: 11 miles, 2,251 ft. (Difficult)**

**IT WAS BEAUTIFUL SUNNY WEATHER** for our loop trip from Swan Lake. Lunch at the lookout gave us views as far as Mt Hood, and a few sail boats could be seen on Waldo Lake. Some huckleberries are just starting to be ripe enough to eat. It was a congenial group and everyone seemed to have a good time. Members: Jan Anselmo, Richard Anselmo, Chris Stockdale, Lyndell Wilken, and Sue Wolling. Nonmembers: Trent Sullivan and Allison Sullivan.

## **Silver Falls**

**September 1, 2012**

**Leader: Tom Musselwhite**

**Hike: 7 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)**

**SEVEN OF US MET UP AT THE RENDEZVOUS** for our departure. A couple of old trail hands and several soon-to-be new members loaded up for the drive up to Silver Falls State Park. We met up at the South Falls Lodge and agreed to shuttle up to North Falls and hike back. The water was low, but only one falls, Winter Falls, was reported dry. The day was great for the hike down the canyon. When we first arrived, foot traffic was light. As the day progressed the trail filled up with young families, teens, and various groups preparing for back to school by getting in one last outdoor activity. It was still easy to find a quiet spot along the creek for lunch. We all enjoyed a great day; I hope everyone enjoyed the day as much as I did. For a Labor Day, the interstate traffic was light in the morning, but heavy on the ride home with lots of people apparently heading for the Ducks' season opener. Special thanks to long-time Obsidian Marc Hansen for getting me to the departure point that morning. Members: Steve Gunn, Sue Meyers, and Tom Musselwhite. Nonmembers: Shan Ambika, Marilyn Goodsell, Nancy Matthews, and Veronica Karpiak.

## **Obsidian Trail - Arrowhead Lake**

**September 2, 2012**

**Leader: Bob Harrison**

**Hike: 12 miles, 2,100 ft. (Difficult)**

**WE LEFT EUGENE ON A BEAUTIFUL SEPTEMBER MORNING** at 7:00 AM and headed for the trailhead. The group consisted of six members and two nonmembers. We hiked up the Obsidian Trail until we turned onto the Glacier Way Trail, which took us to the PCT at Sunshine Meadows. We continued straight up the meadows following the creek almost to the spring below Arrowhead Lake. We crossed the

creek then and headed up the side of the Middle Sister until we had passed steep snow fields that were blocking our usual route up to Arrowhead Lake. Since it was the middle of Labor Day Weekend we expected to find people at the lake, but to our surprise and delight we had the lake to ourselves. We spent about an hour at the lake resting, eating, talking, taking pictures of the North and Middle Sisters, and walking to the cliff edge to take in the view below. On the way back we took the PCT over to Obsidian Falls and picked up the Obsidian Trail there to head back to our cars. Everyone agreed it was a great trip with perfect weather, no mosquitoes and a group of strong competent hikers. Members: Jennifer Baer, Denise Butler, Bob Harrison, Rich Romm, and Randall Sinnott. Nonmembers: Stephanie Harris, Charles Couture, and Joe Alsup.

## **Lillian Falls - Klovdahl Bay**

**September 2, 2012**

**Leader: Jim Duncan**

**Hike: 8.6 miles, 2,200 ft. (Moderate)**

**IT WAS A PERFECT DAY FOR HIKING** the Black Creek Trail to Lillian Falls and Waldo Lake - the sun was warm, the vine maples were beginning to change color, and the huckleberries were sufficient to keep us happy. From the falls, we climbed steadily uphill, crossing two small streams before arriving at Waldo Lake after about two hours of hiking. We then turned south and hiked an additional half-mile along the lakeshore to the entrance of the sealed-off Klovdahl tunnel where we stopped for a leisurely lunch. This site was an engineering project begun early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century that would have diverted water from Waldo Lake for irrigation and hydroelectric power. Fortunately, the backers ran out of money, and in the face of increasing opposition, the project was abandoned in the 1920s, leaving Waldo Lake one of the most pristine lakes in the state. On the return trip, we lingered at Lillian Falls which was spectacular as usual, with multiple falls cascading down the mountainside amidst myriad shades of green, sparkling in the late afternoon sun. In addition to hiking, Rob did a bit of trail maintenance with his pruning shears, Ernst won first prize for eating the most huckleberries, and the three of us enjoyed each other's company on a most rewarding hike. Members: Rob Castleberry, Jim Duncan, and Ernst Schwintzer.

## **Downtown Sculpture / Historic Building Walk**

**September 11, 2012**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen; Ass't: Richard Essenberg**

**Hike: 4 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)**

**RICHARD ESSENBERG ENRICHED OUR WALK** with his interesting historical facts and anecdotes about the buildings, streets, the SP and Oregon Electric Train companies, trains, tracks, routes and people. We began our walk at 9:00 AM in front of the library by the Eugene Skinner statue. The new building under construction across the street shuts out the view of Skinner's Butte for poor Mr. Skinner. We took note of Peter Helzer's sculptures since he would be speaking at

the September Explora Talk. A few hours later we walked up the new steps to the Shelton McMurphy House and then walked up a steep trail to the top of Skinner Butte. In time for lunch, our last stop was the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Market to see the plaque in the sidewalk noting that in April of 1852, Eugene Skinner and Judge Risdon established a meridian line from which to survey and plat a town site, which was located east of Skinner Butte. Thanks to the enthusiastic ‘amblers’ who were curious and interested. Members: Sharon Duncan, Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, Leah Firth, Janet Jacobsen, Helen Martz, Judy Parker, and Marian West. Nonmembers: Ray Wissig.

## Indigo and Chuckle Springs

September 16, 2012

Leader: Jim Duncan

Photographer: Darko Sojak

Hike: 6.3 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)

**THE MIDDLE FORK TRAIL OF THE WILLAMETTE RIVER** almost always makes for beautiful hiking in September, and that proved true again this year. The golden sunlight shining down through huge Douglas firs, red cedars and hemlocks, accompanied by the sounds of the Middle Fork rushing over boulders and logs, is always compelling. Our group of twelve started the trail at Road 2143 after shuttling a car to Indigo Springs. The three-mile hike to Indigo Springs was a little more challenging this year because more water than usual was flowing from Cliff Springs, and the bridge crossing the substantial Indigo Creek was wrecked as a result of a fallen tree. Fortunately, another fallen log allowed us to cross without incident. We had lunch at Indigo Springs, one of the prettiest places on the Middle Fork. We then continued the hike by returning to the Middle Fork Trail and heading to Chuckle Springs. This segment requires a number of

stream crossings, adding to the fun of the hike. At the turnoff to Chuckle Springs we were surprised to see that a recent fire had burned through the area, making the trail more open to the sun. The area around Chuckle Springs had been burned as well and several large burned trees had fallen into the pool at the springs. It was a disappointing sight to those of us who remember the large, green, flowing pool from previous trips. We returned to Indigo Springs to conclude the hike. It was a beautiful day to be in the woods with a great group of people. Members: Roberta Chord, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Jyoti Naik, Barbara Norregaard, Lamonte Smith, Darko Sojak, Jim Whitfield, and Tom Woxell. Nonmembers: Tonya Cronkright, Elisa Pandolfi, and Shari McCracken.

## The Twins

September 22, 2012

Leader: Brenda Kameenui

Hike: 6.6 miles, 1,600 ft. (Moderate)

**AS PREDICTED**, the drive out of slightly overcast Eugene delivered sunshine in the mountains. We enjoyed a beautiful fall equinox up the Waldo Lake Road to the Twins trailhead. Fourteen hikers appreciated the gorgeous day and made their way to the first Twin with no complaints about the steepness and deep dust for the last quarter mile. With a clear view, we matched mountains and lakes to a map and felt grateful we weren't in the midst of forest fire smoke. We then went on to the second Twin for lunch. It was a lovely day with an amiable group on a rewarding hike. Members: Steve Gunn, Jennifer Haynes, Dick Hildreth, Brenda Kameenui, Matthew Lockfeld, Nancy Matthews, Michael Moffitt, Brian Popowsky, Susan Sanazaro, and Tom Woxell. Nonmembers: Elisa Pandolfi, Holger Krentz, Fumiyo Tao, and Joanne Carlson.



*Jim Duncan talking about Military Wagon Road (Chuckle Springs hike)*





## Trail Maintenance

### **Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance**

**August 29, 2012**

**Leader: Matthew Bell**

**Trl Mnt: 2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)**

**OUR GROUP OF EIGHT VOLUNTEERS** met Josh Schrader, of Eugene Parks and Open Space, for our last Wednesday evening trails trip to hike up the main trail and use brush to cover and block illicit side trails. We broke into two small groups, with each group blocking trails on the ridges on both sides of the rock bridges. We continued working all the way up to just below tree line. Dan Gilmore cut down small trees around Junction Meadow, and Clara Emlen worked diligently clearing drains and culverts along the main trail which will give us a good head start for this fall's work. Members: Matthew Bell, Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore, Todd Larsen, Jyoti Naik, Jim Pierce, Dave Predeek, and Pat Soussan



## Summer Camp

### **Camp Elle – Mt. Baker Summer Camp**

**August 18-25, 2012**

**Leader: Lana Lindstrom**

**E**IGHTY-EIGHT CAMPERS, about a quarter of whom were attending camp for the first time, had a wonderful experience at Camp Elle. The site was next to a small, glacier-fed river—many of us heard the babbling brook, particularly at night. The beautiful, permanent shelters enabled us to not have to set up the dining canopy and still enjoy eating in a pleasant environment. Most of the hikes were less than a 40-mile round trip drive on fairly decent, albeit dusty, roads. The hikes were “wow”. One camper commented that the English language did not contain enough superlatives to describe the snow covered peaks, especially Mt. Baker and Mt. Shuksan, glaciated valleys, and profusions of multi-



colored flowers. Several of the extra special hikes were repeated during the week: Heliotrope Ridge, Skyline Divide, Yellow Aster Butte, Chain Lakes, Winchester Mountain, Hannegan Peak, and Lake Ann. Unfortunately, several other trails were still snowed in. The food was varied and tasty – some standards like enchiladas and lasagna, and some new items like cioppino and chicken korma; our cooks, Ross and Kate, poured their hearts into planning and preparing the meals. And the weather generally cooperated—a bit on the cool and cloudy side for several days, but it didn't rain. Members: Rick Ahrens, Jan Anselmo, Richard Anselmo, Charles Ashmore, John Atkinson, Jennifer Barnes, Anne Bonine, Barbara Bruns, Rob Castleberry, Dan Christensen, Lynda Christiansen, Jim Clarkson, Melody Clarkson, Wayne Cleall, Joyce Davis, Walt Davis, Clara Emlen, Patricia Esch, Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, Joella Ewing, Bea Fontana, Kitson Graham, Peter Graham, Betsy Halpern, Richard Hughes, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Diane Jeffcott, Ellen Johnson, Steven Johnson, Brenda Kameenui, Joanne Ledet, Ed Lichtenstein, Kathy Lindstrom, Lana Lindstrom, Mary Livingston, Patricia Mac Afee, Lou Maenz, Laurie Marshall, Helen Martz, Daniel McManigal, Kelly McManigal, Kevin McManigal, Margaret McManigal, Steve McManigal, Lynn Meacham, Valerie Metcalfe, Sue Meyers, Colleen Milliman, John Moser, Nola Nelson, Effie Neth, Judy Newman, Carol Petty, Charlene Pierce, Jim Pierce, Noy Rathakette, Jorry Rolfe, Rich Romm, Diane Schechter, Chris Shuraleff, Pat Soussan, Chris Stockdale, Guy Strahon, Pamela Swisher, Ron Swisher, Judy Terry, Charles Thomas, Susan Wanser, Elle Weaver, Marian West, Jim Whitfield, Nancy Whitfield, Peggy Windle, Sue Wolling, and Kris Wolters. Nonmembers: Glenn Gordon, Frank Lulich, Patricia Bean, Stephanie Harris, Crystal Warsop, Tyler Warsop, LuLu McManigal, Christine McManigal, Don Voegelé, and Jim Woods.

*For additional information about the camp, see the articles in the September 2012 Bulletin.*



## Byways By Bus

### **Oregon City McLoughlin Historic District September 6, 2012**

**Leader: Mary Ellen West**

**Photographer: Sharon Cutsforth**

**E**ARLY OREGON HISTORY WAS THE FOCUS of the September bus trip to Oregon City. Our first stop was the original development site near Willamette Falls. Established in 1829 by Dr. John McLoughlin, chief factor of the Hudson Bay Fur Company, the settlement was originally called Willamette Falls. In 1842, McLoughlin surveyed and laid out the town and rechristened it Oregon City. Dr. McLoughlin assisted and encouraged early American settlers and is considered 'the father of Oregon'.

We rode the Municipal Elevator, the only designated vertical street in North America, to the upper level of town. This provided the opportunity to walk the Promenade, giving us a wonderful view of the river, Willamette Falls and surrounding areas.

Our picnic lunch stop was at Abernathy Green, the nationally recognized official end of the Oregon Trail. The

End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, marked by giant covered wagons, is located there. This museum focuses on the 19<sup>th</sup> century history of the Pacific Northwest, including fur trading, railroading, and other pioneer trades and crafts. The Interpretive Center building is currently closed for renovation, but will be an interesting place to visit on a future trip.

The focal point of our trip was the visit to the McLoughlin House, built in 1846 then moved up the hill in 1909. After receiving a history lesson from a well-informed volunteer in the Barclay House next door, we viewed the many original and period furnishings in the National Park Service managed house.

The last stop in Oregon City was the Stevens-Crawford House, built in 1908. The house and furnishings were donated to the Clackamas County Museum by Mertie Crawford, daughter of Medorum Crawford. Mr. Crawford was a participant at Champoege where the American provisional government was established in the Oregon Country.

On the way home we visited Bauman Farms near Woodburn, one of our favorite stops for ice cream, beautiful plants, fresh fruits and vegetables.

Members: Tom Adamcyk, Ethel Allen, Alice Anderson, Bill Arthur, Don Baldwin, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Mary Lee Cheadle, Sharon Cutsforth, Barbara Flanders, Dennis Flanders, Kess Hottle, Pat Jeffries, Bill Morse, Lois Morse, Natalie Newlove, Virginia Prouty, Liz Reanier, Julia Snell, Mary Ellen West, Christy White. Non-members: Barbara Hottle, Jeff Pattee.



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Byways By Bus Riders Needed!

**Roseburg, North Umpqua & Steamboat Inn**  
**Tuesday and Wednesday, November 6-7, 2012**  
**Leader: Verna Kocken**  
**Cost: Members \$225, nonmembers \$229**  
**Reservations & checks: Barbara Payne 746-1964**

**T**RAVELING DOWN I-5 we will visit historic sites in Roseburg, including the Douglas County Museum and the Joseph Lane House.

Other potential visitation sites include the Douglas County Library, Courthouse, Veteran's Hospital and Stewart Park. Bring a picnic lunch. We will travel along the scenic

North Umpqua River to enjoy fine dining and stay the night at the Steamboat Inn cabins. Enjoy a leisurely morning, breakfast on your own, ordering from the menu at the Inn. Departing at 11:00, we will stop in Oakland for lunch, on your own. Return to Shopko by 5:00.



## Owyhee Extended Trip

**I**AM GOING TO GIVE THE OWYHEE RIVER another chance to float our boats and give us a spectacular spring 2013 raft trip. So this is a heads up.

My preliminary conversation with Ouzel Outfitters is that even though their fees have gone up, they will charge us close to last year's price. Their fee, plus the guides' tip, Ob-

sidian trip fees, etc. last year were \$1,025 (\$1,030 non-members). Ouzel suggests a week or two earlier than the May 10th date we had in 2012 (global warming and all that). They have yet to work out their schedule.

There will be a more informative article in the November *Bulletin* which will include exact cost and time. So, start thinking about saving money and check your 2013 calendar for this exciting and wet trip. Sign-ups will start in November too, with a \$100 deposit due by December 15, 2012. Questions? Call Pat Esch at 338-8280.

**Native Plant Society of Oregon**  
**Monday, October 15, 2012 7:30 PM**  
**EWEB Training Room, 500 E. 4th Avenue, Eugene**

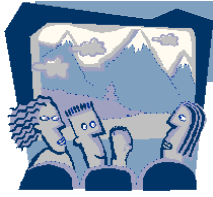
**C**HRIS HANSEN OF THE OREGON NATURAL DESERT ASSOCIATION speaks on the Owyhee Canyonlands—the largest stretch of unprotected desert wilderness left in the United States—right here in Oregon! Come learn about what the dry side of Oregon has to offer for those interested in the outdoors! The Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) has been working to permanently protect the Owyhee, and we'll gather to show off some of the amazing images of this Wild place. Learn about hiking opportunities you won't find in any SE Oregon guidebooks. We'll share stories about Wild and Scenic River trips, sage grouse counts, and inland redband trout; and we'll talk about how to fill the Oregon desert wilderness gap. For more information call 345-5531.

Also on Oct 15: At 9:30 PM after his talk at EWEB, Chris will continue his presentation in a more informal manner at COZMIC Pizza at 199 W. 8th in Eugene. Why not join us for more discussions and more photos in an atmosphere of conviviality with pizza and beverage. For more information about ONDA go to [www.onda.org](http://www.onda.org).

**Dave Predeek**



## AT THE LODGE



# POTLUCK

Friday, October 26, 6 PM

## Grand Teton National Park: An Insider's Look

**E**VER DREAM OF LEAVING THE BIG CITY and living in a log cabin somewhere in the woods? Breathing mountain air every day? Seeing wildlife daily? Being inspired by the beauty of nature?

That is what Eugene resident Doug Crispin has done the past two summers! Working as a park ranger for the National Park Service, Ranger Doug has been *livin' the dream* at one of America's iconic national parks: Grand Teton!

Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, has the best mountain views in the lower 48 states. It also has all the large mammals that neighboring Yellowstone National Park is known for, including bison, wolves and grizzly bears. There was a nasty three-decade long battle to get all of Grand Teton and the Jackson Hole valley fully protected as a National park.

What would it be like to spend a summer working in such



a beautiful area? What do National Park Rangers really do? What is the real story behind the compromises needed to expand the park?

Join Ranger Doug for an exclusive Insider's Look at Grand Teton National Park.

Doug Crispin is a career park ranger. He recently retired with 25 years of service in Oregon State Parks and has returned to his national park roots. Doug has also worked in 11 national park areas in six western states over 15 years. Ranger Doug likes to say he has lived and worked in "some of the best addresses in America."

### October Potluck

Friday, October 26, 2012

Social hour, 6 PM Potluck, 6:30 PM Program, 7:30 PM

Obsidian Lodge

*Bring your favorite potluck dish to share...along with plates, utensils and cups...*

*plus \$1 to help cover club expenses.*



ExploraTalk Tuesday October 16, 7 PM

## Mushroom Identification

**O**F THE MORE THAN 3,000 VARIETIES OF MUSHROOMS found in Oregon, mycologist and LCC mycology teacher Marcia Peeters said that, at most, 25 are edible. That is why she says mushroom-curious people must learn about identification before they pick any to eat. People have died from eating the wrong ones. Peeters will provide us an introduction to mushroom identification, followed by a cooking demonstration and tasting on Tuesday, Oct. 16, at the lodge at 7 PM.

Affectionately known as the Mushroom Queen of Oregon, Peeters found out how amazing mushrooms are while studying for more than 20 years under the Mushroom King, Freeman Rowe, and teaching classes about the fungus.

Peeters likes to correct mushroom myths, such as scares associated with handling mushrooms. "Handling mushrooms isn't going to get you high" or harm you in any way. Just don't eat any until you are certain they are safe.

Classes, whether through a college or individuals, are a good way to learn how to identify edible and to avoid poisonous mushrooms. Also, volunteering at the Mt. Pisgah Arboretum's Mushroom Festival Sunday, Oct. 28, can yield an incredible amount of information, Peeters said. "Go to where there are experts on hand," Join a mushroom club. There is a lot of history, and many stories associated with mushrooms around the world, and we are in the perfect place to explore them."

# Think Winter Outings

**A**RE YOU YEARNING FOR COLDER TEMPERATURES, when morning frost shimmers on the sidewalk; brisk winds blow against your face, snowshoes crunch across mountain meadows?

Do you waterproof your jacket and boots in the middle of July?

If you answered “yes” to even one of these questions, you are just the person the Winter Trips Committee hopes will sign up to lead a winter activity, whether an urban walk or a mountain hike, snowshoe or cross country ski tour. In Obsidian World, winter trips actually extend from November through April.



The committee hopes to schedule at least three-dozen winter trips. Those who haven’t led an Obsidian outing before, and wonder what it would be like, might consider asking an experienced leader to co-lead.

Before the snow begins to fall, do think about heading for such places as the coast, or the surrounding foothills of Lane County.

At a loss for ideas? The following are possible winter activities that members have led previously, which run the gamut in locale, length and difficulty.

Early in the season, you might try the Ribbon Trail, an easy 4.5-mile hike; or Deception View, a moderate 7.8-mile hike. Mid-season, consider Dorris Ranch, an easy 3 miles, or Ridgeline Trail, a 6.2-mile moderate hike. After a few snowfalls, there’s Jack Ridge Meadows, a moderate 6-mile X-country ski outing; Gold Lake, rated an easy snowshoe adventure; Maiden Ski Shelter, a difficult 12-mile snowshoe adventure, or Island Lakes Loop, rated a difficult 10-mile X-country ski trip. For further inspiration, click on *Reports* at the Obsidian website: [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org).

Naturally, the whims of nature impact winter trip planning. Both trip leaders and participants need to be a bit more flexible and willing to reschedule. And participants don’t forget: Trip leaders rely on you to pitch in and drive. After all, a trip can’t happen unless there are enough drivers!

Don’t wait! Send in your trip name now, with its elevation, and proposed date, to [wintertrips@obsidians.org](mailto:wintertrips@obsidians.org).

*Chris Cunningham*

## Obsidian Calendar

### October

12 Fri <b>Annual Meeting</b> .....	Lodge
13 Sat <b>Clear Lake Hike</b> Ewing.....	344-9197
14 Sun <b>Tire Mountain Hike</b> Colgan.....	485-2787
16 Tue <b>Fall Color Bus</b> Jensen.....	345-5366
16 Tue <b>Mushroom Identification</b> .....	<b>ExploraTalk</b>
17 Wed <b>Skinner Butte Hike</b> Jacobsen .....	343-8030
20 Sat <b>Masonic Cemetery/Hendricks Park Loop Hike</b> Jacobsen.....	343-8030
21 Sun <b>Tamolitch Pool Hike</b> Lipton.....	736-7498
26 Fri <b>Grand Teton NP</b> Crispin.....	<b>Potluck</b>
27 Sat <b>Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance</b> Bell .....	503-884-8829
28 Sun <b>Amazon Headwaters/Baldy Loop</b> Jacobsen .....	343-8030
29 Mon <b>Mt. Pisgah Hike</b> Jacobsen .....	343-8030

### November

06 Tue <b>Roseburg, Steamboat Inn Bus</b> Kocken.....	736-5180
16 Fri <b>Climbing in the Cascades</b> .....	<b>Potluck</b>
18 Sun <b>Sweet Creek Hike</b> Pierce.....	344-1775
24 Sat <b>Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance</b> M Bell .....	503-884-8829

### December

06 Thu <b>Lodge for the Holidays Bus</b> Reanier .....	687-1925
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Mt. Pisgah Sunset on August 27—Photo by Darko Sojak (See trip report on page six)

October 2012



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