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**Dates to Remember**

June 17	ExploraTalk
June 27	Potluck
June 28	Bulletin deadline
July 2	Board Meeting

Complete current schedules at:  
[www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org) or  
 Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

**Summer Camp  
 History of the Camp Bell Area**

*The following article was excerpted and edited from two articles written by in 1997 by the late Bob Dark (the last time Summer Camp was held at a nearby campground).*

**G**RANT COUNTY WAS CREATED IN 1864 from parts of Wasco and Umatilla Counties and was named for General Ulysses S. Grant. It consists of 4,528 square miles and is drained primarily by the four forks of the John Day River. Approximately 60% of the county is US Forest Service and BLM land. The population is 7,500; the capital is Canyon City.

The discovery of gold in Canyon Creek in 1862 was the beginning of an era which saw \$26 million in gold mined in the area. Hundreds of Chinese immigrated to this area to work in the mines. The 1879 census lists 960 whites and 2,468 Chinese miners in Eastern Oregon. While most were shunned by the white community, a few were accepted, among them ‘Doc’ Ing Hay and Lung On, owners of the Kam Wah Chung in John Day. The two men provided the community with staples and supplies, and a meeting place in which the local Chinese could worship, smoke opium, talk, and gamble.

The Kam Wah Chung building is now a museum on the National Register of Historic places and a State Heritage Site. It is a *must see* place on your way to or from camp! Among the many treasures are pieces of furniture, including many

rare hand-made antiques. There are also a wide range of Chinese and Western tools, canned goods, notions, herbs, and tobacco products.

Doc Hay was the most famous herbal doctor between Seattle and San Francisco. He treated both white and Chinese, and was a master of Pulse Diagnosis, a traditional Chinese method of detecting illness through light pressure at the wrist. He treated his patients with herbal medicine made from both imported and local plants, some of which can be seen in the museum. Doc Hay and Lung On, as well as their friends and relatives, lived in the building. Some of the original furnishings can still be seen.



**Strawberry Lake photo  
 by Bill Sullivan**

# Obituaries

## Barbara Flanders 1937-2014

**B**ARBARA FLANDERS PASSED AWAY UNEXPECTEDLY on May 29 and services were held June 5. Barbara lived in the Springfield area almost all her life and started participating with the Obsidians in 2006. She and her husband, Obsidian member Dennis, were avid bus riders. Barbara went on 68 bus trips, the most recent to Death Valley in April of this year. Barbara had the responsible position of handling the finances for the bus tours, a task she performed with great diligence and accuracy. She will be missed by all the people who enjoy the bus trips. Barbara is survived by her husband, three sons and their families.

*Editor's Note: A complete obituary can be found in the June 2 issue of The Register-Guard.*

## Ray Dodson

**WHILE NOT AN OBSIDIAN MEMBER**, Ray Dodson was a long-time friend to the club. Ray and his wife, Kyra Carroll, lived across the street from the Lodge and were good stewards of our property. They would report such matters as a fallen tree or unusual activity around the Lodge so we could take appropriate action. Ray was also one of the principle architects when the Lodge was remodeled eight years ago. He was a good neighbor to have.

Ray passed away on Tuesday, May 13 and his memorial service was held at the Lodge on June 7.

## Nominating Committee 2014

**T**HE NOMINATING COMMITTEE MET IN APRIL to nominate three candidates for the Board of Directors for three-year terms beginning in January 2015. The names of John Cooper, Sharon Cutsforth, and Pat Esch were presented at the June board meeting. The Nominating Committee believes that these three people offer experience, commitment, and different perspectives.

Two of the nominees, Sharon Cutsforth and Pat Esch, are currently on the Board. Sharon Cutsforth has an active role on the Bus Committee and Pat Esch is the current Safety Chair. John Cooper has been responsible for posting trips these past few years for the Winter Trips Committee.

The election will take place at the October Annual Meeting per the Constitution. According to the Constitution, up to three additional nominees may be submitted by petition (signatures of five voting members required with approval of those nominated) to the Secretary before the September Board Meeting. A complete slate of nominees shall be published in the September *Bulletin*. Voting shall be for three individual nominees. Majority vote elects. The election of Directors shall take place at the time of the Annual Meeting October 14. Three of the nine directors shall be elected each year for a term of three years commencing with the following January Board of Directors meeting.

## THE OBSIDIANS FACEBOOK PAGE

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## OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

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

### Board of Directors

Matt Bell, President  
Don Colgan, Vice President  
Susan Wanser, Secretary  
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer  
Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Tom  
Musselwhite, Shellie Robertson & Elle  
Weaver

*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

Byways By Bus ..... Liz Reanier  
Climbs ..... Brian Hamilton  
Concessions ..... Patty MacAfee  
Conservation/SciEd..... Joella Ewing  
Entertainment ..... Susan Wanser  
Extended Trips..... Chris Stockdale  
Finance ..... Stewart Hoeg  
Librarian/Historian ..... Lenore McManigal  
Lodge Building..... Doug Nelson  
Lodge Grounds ..... John Jacobsen  
Membership..... Elle Weaver  
Online ..... Wayne Deeter  
Publications ..... Lou Maenz  
Publicity ..... Mary Hamilton  
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)

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**The Obsidian Bulletin**

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

### Deadline

**for July/August 2014 Bulletin  
Saturday, June 28, 2014**

### Assembly/Mailing Team For May Bulletin

*Assembly & Mail Manager - Lou Maenz  
Assembly Team - Tom Adamczyk, Don  
Baldwin, Clara Emlen, Joanne Ledet,  
John & Lenore McManigal and  
Margaret Prentice*

### Editorial Team

*Writing & Editorial Staff - Bea Fontana,  
Joanne Ledet, Lou Maenz and Ethel  
Weltman  
Copy Editors - Ethel Weltman & Nancy  
White  
Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing -  
Stewart Hoeg*



# Protecting the Wilderness: The History of Rock Mesa

**WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO HIKE 75 MILES IN 24 HOURS TO PROTECT A WILDERNESS AREA?** Eighteen members of the Obsidians, Sierra Club, and Three Sisters Wilderness Association did just that, from midnight to midnight on September 4, 1982, to promote protection of Rock Mesa under the Wilderness Act.

*During this, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that precedent setting Wilderness Act, the Bulletin will be featuring various successful actions the Obsidians have taken over the years to promote Wilderness protection of areas special to us. We will be challenging current Obsidians, not necessarily to hike 75 miles in 24 hours (unless you really want to), but to lead hikes to these areas this year so we can see first hand why they elicited such strong support.*

Momentum to promote the 75-mile hike started on the weekend of July 17-18, 1982, when an enthusiastic group of ten Obsidians enjoyed what they thought might be their last chance to visit Rock Mesa within the Three Sisters Wilderness before U.S. Pumice Co. of Lee Vining, California began obliterating the mesa to mine pumice for kitty litter.

From Devil's Lake, across Wickiup Plain to the base of LeConte Crater and on to Rock Mesa, hikers led by Bert Ewing explored the damage already done by the northern mining trail on the 1,400 acre mining claim. Numerous claim markers and exploratory pits emphasized the seriousness of the mining threat.

Bert's trip report reads in part, "Traversing around Rock Mesa to the East, we hit deep snow ... and bright sunshine reflecting off the snow provided nice burns. Near Mesa Creek we set up camp atop a low wooded ridge. As dusk fell and bats began to fly and coyotes to howl and creepy-crawlers began to do what they do best, we were suddenly confronted by a dreadful apparition that appeared out of the dark and mysterious North."



**Photo by Don Hunter**

"But no! Wait a minute! A closer look showed it wasn't that dreadful—merely ugly, and not an apparition at all, but only the blessedly-unique Ben Ross, in training for his 75-mile one-day Rock Mesa Benefit Hike, to be held September 4..." Other current Obsidians on Bert's hike included Emmy Dale, Bob Foster and Ed Lovegren.

Then on September 4, 1984, seventeen more hikers from various outdoor groups joined Ben Ross, a three-time Obsidian president and instigator of the 24-hour Rock Mesa Benefit Hike, to begin the hike at midnight on McKenzie Pass. They hiked 75 miles to Willamette Pass along the Pacific Crest Trail after gathering per-mile pledges to help finance the preservation campaign. The main goal was to prevent U.S. Pumice from destroying "this unique geological formation in the Three Sisters Wilderness "to mine pumice for manufacturing kitty litter."

As they passed close to Rock Mesa at about the 19-mile point, a full moon lit the millions of obsidian shards on the ground, shining and shimmering—a fantastic sight.

Of the eighteen starters, eight completed the non-competitive distance in under 24 hours, including Ben. Current Obsidian members who clocked miles were Mary Ellen West and Violet Johnson who each clocked 25 miles.

Invaluable support was given along the entire route by many people, some of whom had to hike considerable distances to arrive on-station before the fastest hikers passed through. Current Obsidians and their tasks included volunteers who set up and manned aid stations: Wes Prouty at Sunshine Meadows and Jane Hackett at Irish Lake. Also, Mary Ellen West and Vi Johnson swept portions of the trail. At-large and miscellaneous trail functions were carried out by Bert Ewing. Essential contributions were also made by Emmy Dale and Joe Lowry.

Credit was also given to personnel of the McKenzie Ranger District who helped enormously with communications, and to the Summit House Restaurant who provided succor to all during the closing hours of the hike.

Letters of encouragement were received from U.S. Congressman Jim Weaver, U.S. Senator Bob Packwood, and then U.S. Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus, who was a former active Obsidian. Media support was given by KEZI-TV and the Eugene *Register Guard*.

Current Obsidian Vi Johnson has led several anniversary climbs to Rock Mesa to celebrate its addition to the Three Sisters Wilderness Area.

*Would someone please volunteer to lead a hike to Rock Mesa this summer in celebration of this, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the Wilderness Act?*

# June Board Notes

June 4, 2014

By Susan Wanser

President Matt Bell called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Don Colgan, Sharon Cutsforth, Stewart Hoeg, Tom Musselwhite, Shellie Robertson, Susan Wanser and Elle Weaver. Also present were: Wayne Deeter, Joella Ewing, Brian Hamilton, Mary Hamilton, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Lenore McManigal and Doug Nelson.

The Board approved the minutes of the May 2014 meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Stewart Hoeg reviewed the Budget-vs-Actual Report and the Balance Sheet.

The Board approved payment of the bills.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Summer Trips (Tom Musselwhite):** Through May 31st, 109 summer trips have been scheduled. Thus far, 29 trips have been completed including 27 hikes, one bike, and one water trip.

**Climbs (Brian Hamilton):** Three climbs and three conditioning hikes were completed with twenty-five members and nine nonmembers participating. Fifteen climbs led by ten different leaders remain on the schedule.

**Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell):** There was one outing in May. We met at the main Willamette Street trailhead and worked independently to improve three drainage features and improved two steps in the steep section of the west trail by adding additional rocks to the trail bed to create steps and reinforce drains. May trail maintenance participation: 10 members and one nonmember.

### Important Announcements for Trail Maintenance!

Rob Castleberry is recruiting volunteers to join the illustrious Scorpion Crew of the High Cascades Forest Volunteers to log out the Maxwell Butte Trail in early July, waiting for the snow to melt. Interested? Contact Rob at: [robc@efn.org](mailto:robc@efn.org). Todd Larsen is recruiting volunteers to join the Forest Service to do trail work in the Obsidian Limited Entry Area again this year. Interested? Contact Todd at:

[toddwlarsen@gmail.com](mailto:toddwlarsen@gmail.com).

**Highways and Byways By Bus (Liz Reanier):** Twenty members and six nonmembers enjoyed the May 13th Chinese Garden & The Grotto bus trip.

**Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom):** One hundred and one participants are now signed up for Summer Camp.

**Extended Trips (Chris Stockdale):** Marianne Camp led a successful trip to French Glen for birding in the Malheur Refuge. No other ETs are scheduled so far for this year.

**Conservation, Science, & Education (Joella Ewing):** The June 3 ExploraTalk had 41 attendees.

**Publication (Lou Maenz):** On May 14, 2014 the Publication Committee folded and mailed 214 *Bulletins*.

**Entertainment (Susan Wanser):** Fifty-two people attended Judy Sinnott and friends' presentation about their hiking trip in Scotland.

**Membership (Elle Weaver):** Currently there are 466 total Club members: Active-423, Associate-16, Honorary-6, Junior-9, and Life-12.

**Publicity (Mary Hamilton):** Ridgeline Celebration: 11 AM – 2 PM June 7 at Spencer Butte parking lot. Matt Bell and Janet Jacobsen will lead hikes. Publicity committee will set up a booth displaying historical Spencer Butte photos and current trail maintenance photos.

**Concessions (Patty MacAfee):** Back orders for visors, headbands, and coffee cups have arrived, completing our 2014 ordering of merchandise. Sales continue to be steady.

**Online (Wayne Deeter):** Recently Yahoo and AOL changed their policy settings for message source verification disposition causing most email lists on the Internet to break, including ours. Our temporary fix can make it harder to tell who sent the message. To get around this problem, please be sure your signature (at the end of your messages) includes your full name.

**Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal):** All of the activities from the *May Bulletin* have been recorded.

**Lodge Building (Doug Nelson):** The Lodge has been reserved for a memorial service for our neighbor, Ray Dodson, on Saturday, June 7.

**Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen):** Five work parties to report for the last month. May 3—Built a path for access between the new storage garage and the back of the Lodge. Thanks to Brenda Kame'enui and Jim Whitfield for helping with this grueling work. May 1—Mowed and weed whacked along with Mike Piehl and Jim Whitfield. Weeder-N-Chief, Joanne Ledet worked the planting beds in front of the Lodge. May 16—Along with Rob Castleberry, sprayed all the drives and parking areas to get rid of all vegetation. May 21—Whacked and mowed the taller grass/weeds between the parking areas with the help of Jim Whitfield. May 26 – Weed whacked/mowed parking spots that have gotten overgrown with weeds and grass was cut so the parking spots are clearly visible. Thanks to Larry Dunlap and Jim Whitfield for helping out.

## NEW BUSINESS

Six new members were approved.

The Board approved an amended budget of \$56,000 for the storage garage.

The Board approved changes to the Bylaws for the Entertainment Committee, the Membership Committee and the Safety Committee.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board meeting will be on July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM.



## Trip Reports & Other Activities



### Byways By Bus

#### Chinese Garden and The Grotto

May 13, 2014

Leader & Photographer: Sharon Cutsforth

**W**E ENJOYED A LOVELY SUNNY DAY FOR OUR TRIP TO PORTLAND. First stop was the Santiam rest area where we had our coffee break and picked up the Beards. Traffic was moving right along so we arrived at the Chinese Garden on schedule. We were met by two knowledgeable and helpful tour guides who led our two groups in opposite directions, all the while sharing information about the history and development of the Lan Su Chinese Garden. This lovely oasis is filled with 500 species of plants native to China, winding walkways, bridges, pagodas, a small lake and much more.

Following the garden tour we walked over to the Golden



Horse Chinese Restaurant for a delicious and filling family style lunch. The service was amazing, we had no sooner gotten everyone seated then the food began arriving. By the time we walked back to the bus, Rick (our driver) had the bus cooled down and ready for our next excursion.

We crossed the Willamette River and made our way to The Grotto. Everyone was given a map of the grounds and a token for the elevator to the upper level. Some chose to explore the gift shop or the visitor center before heading up, others went up the elevator right away to make the most of walking the trails and to spend some time in the Meditation Chapel. With its floor to ceiling wall of windows, that is truly a lovely space with beautiful views of the Columbia River and into Washington where we saw snow covered Mount St. Helens and Mount Adams. Some of us were thrilled by the sight of a mother duck and her really tiny ducklings as they made their way out of the

brush and into the pond. As we enjoyed strolling among the beautiful rhodies, azaleas and various works of art, we also heard many elusive birds singing.

On the way home we encountered one major traffic slow-down, but were able to get off I-5 and make a detour through the Donald area. This turned out to be a lovely scenic drive past fields of green, red crimson clover, hop yards and even iris flowers. Back onto the freeway for another stop at the west side Santiam rest area where we said good bye to Barbara and Paul, enjoyed an impromptu snack and then made our way back to Shopko before 6:00.

Members: Ethel Allen, Bill Arthur, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Paula Beard, Mary Lee Cheadle, Sharon Cutsforth, Clara Emlen, Barbara Flanders, Dennis Flanders, Donna Halker, Pat Jeffries, John McManigal, Lenore McManigal, Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Dick Speelman, Janet Speelman, Elle Weaver, Mary Ellen West. Nonmembers: Betty Dickerman, Jo Floyd, Connie McIndoo, Judy Phelps, Carol Sirois, Sharon Taylor.



### Trail Maintenance

#### Spencer Butte Trail

April 26, 2014

Leader: Matthew Bell

Photographer: Jan Jacobsen

Trail Maintenance: 4 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

**WE MET UP AT THE WILLAMETTE & 52<sup>ND</sup> TRAILHEAD** for this month's outing. We worked independently on a couple of projects. Pat, Autumn, and Roberta did an exceptional job painting the kiosk. The city staff was very impressed by the quality of the job they did. The rest of our group hiked



along the Ridgeline Trail to Fox Hollow cutting back overhanging sword ferns and the occasional vine maple. Along the

way we were able to enjoy the work done by a crew of youth to gravel the trail. Members: Matthew Bell, Roberta Chord, Larry Dunlap, Clara Emlen, Autumn Edwards, Dan Gilmore, Janet Jacobsen, and Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Taha Balakci, Emily Mehary and Errin Creed.



## Boat Trips

**Whale Watch**  
**March 23, 2014**  
**Leader: Joella Ewing**  
**Water: 0 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)**

**N**OT A WHALE IN SIGHT, but we had a whale of a good time. Gorgeous sunshine, just enough ocean swells to make the ride fun and eight great folks—we had the boat all to ourselves. We took the scenic route to Newport via 99W to see what the real world looks like. We saw interesting small towns, the lovely courthouse in Corvallis, and bright daffodils all along the highway. A huge eagle nest at the Harrisburg bridge tickled the senses more than most things along I-5. We still had an hour to kill in Newport's Old Town before meeting the boat. Captain Mike and crewman Shawn (Mike's son) of Newport Marina Store and Charters always give us our money's worth. Now if only there were whales. Members: Roberta Chord, Rebecca Eastwood, Joella Ewing, Valerie Metcalfe. Nonmembers: Cheryl Belleau, Claire Belleau, Lindsey Belleau, Sandy Hoskinson.



## Bike Trips

**Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge**  
**May 11, 2014**  
**Leader: Richard Hughes**  
**Bike: 33 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)**

**I**T WAS A BEAUTIFUL MOTHER'S DAY. All riders arrived on time, ready to explore the bucolic splendor of the area. After just a few short miles, we crossed the Willamette River via the Buena Vista ferry for a \$1.00 fee. We traveled north on Buena Vista Road, which was mostly silent without many cars. Soon we arrived in the town of Independence where we lunched. Afterwards, we meandered back over the Willamette River towards the Refuge. No flats, no dropped chains and no complaints. The ride was modified at the last minute to a length of 25.9 miles, plus or minus 528 feet. Members: Barbara Bruns, Patricia Esch, Peter Graham, Richard Hughes, Jonathan Jost, Lana Lindstrom, Guy Strahon, Judy Terry.



## Climbs

**Diamond Peak Graduation**  
**May 18, 2014**  
**Leader: Brian Hamilton**  
**Photographer: George Williamson**  
**Climb: 12 miles, 4,097 ft.**

**I**T WAS 1:00 PM AND WE WERE AN HOUR BEHIND SCHEDULE. We stopped for everyone to get together and add layers of warm clothes and dry gloves. Without shelter from the wind, we were risking hypothermia the longer we waited. Although we were near the false summit, we could not see it because visibility had dropped to about thirty yards. The constant wind buffeted us and the temperature was below freezing. Continuing our climb would mean being exposed to even stronger winds on



the final ridge to the summit. Five hours earlier, four climb school graduates and three more-experienced Obsidians were met at the trail head by a light rain. The forecast for the upper slopes of Diamond Peak had called for snow showers with a possible accumulation of one to two inches of snow. Knowing



how unpredictable the weather can be in the spring, the leader hoped for the best and proceeded with the climb anyway. We started with a quick ascent of the Pioneer Gulch Trail and we stopped to put on snowshoes where the trail intersects with the north-south Diamond Peak Trail. By that time, the falling rain had turned into light snow and we continued to make good progress through three to four inches of fresh snow over an older, soft base. We reached the southwest ridge at an elevation of about 6,800 feet, having endured almost constant falling snow and sleet. Loose snow had caused lots of slipping and floundering on steeper sections of the ridge. This was a good break-in session for new gear and a first climb of the season for most of us. Now that we were within one-half mile of the summit and had only 350 feet of elevation gain left, we decided to turn around and descend. We slipped and slid our way down the mountain and reached the trailhead at 4:00 PM, hoping for better weather on our next attempt. Members: Ted Glick, Brian Hamilton, Shawn Prime, Bruce Tufts, Brian Vollmer-Buhl, Elizabeth Vollmer-Buhl, George Williamson.



## Extended Trips

**Frenchglen**  
**May 16, 2014**  
**Leader: Marianne Camp**  
**Photographer: Rick Ahrens**  
**Extended Trip: (Easy)**

**T**HIS WAS MY FOURTH TIME AS EXTENDED TRIP LEADER to Malheur National Refuge. I look forward to this and enjoy sharing it with others. With Rick Ahrens as our resident naturalist, we saw approximately seventy species of birds and other wildlife. The weather was pleasant allowing us to enjoy



our time outdoors. The weekend started out on Friday with each carload traveling on their separate journeys. My group was exceptional company and made this trip a delight. Just south of Burns is the Narrows. When we had our first sightings with a sandhill crane and some white pelicans, we knew we were in

for some special treats. Stopping at Malheur headquarters, we gathered information about recent sightings and headed on our way to the Frenchglen Hotel. We met that evening for dinner at the hotel and enjoyed good food and pleasant company. An evening walk afterwards let us stretch our legs after a long ride. The view of Steens Mountain and a beautiful sky provided us with a serenity that is hard to describe. The fresh air and smell of sage cleared our minds of the stresses of living in the city and soon we found ourselves crawling off to bed. Saturday was spent along the Central Patrol Road stopping at various ponds along the way. Lunch at Benson Ponds provided shade trees but with many of them damaged by the beavers, the grove may soon be diminished. In one tree was an owl with two babies. The best view was achieved by a walk to the other side of the stream. One little guy looked squished but soon popped its head up to see what all the action was about. Saturday night showers made the early morning walk pleasant with its mixtures of smells. We drove to the Page Springs Campground and took our walk by the creek. Rick Ahrens helped us identify the different sounds and special markings of the various birds and answered our many questions. We so appreciate Rick's knowledge and wonderful personality. We returned to the hotel, ate our breakfast, and said our goodbyes. On our return trip, we took Hotchkiss Road which provided us with an up-close view of two sandhill cranes and fields of camas—this is a must do. It is hard to explain how relaxing eastern Oregon is and what draws us back to this place. If you have never been, I do hope you put this trip on your short list to do one day. I'll miss this place and the group of thirteen that made this trip so enjoyable. Many thanks to all of you for making this adventure so wonderful. Members: Rick Ahrens, Marianne Camp, Jacque Davis, Judy Garwood, Kathy Giesen, Hazel Jones, Ann Lichtenstein, Ed Lichtenstein, Patricia Mac Afee, Nola Nelson, Ginny Reich. Nonmembers: Jerry Jones, Nancy Raymond.



## Hikes

**SOLVE Beach Cleanup**  
**March 22, 2014**  
**Leader: Joella Ewing**  
**Hike: 5 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)**

**W**E'VE HAD THREE YEARS IN A ROW of glorious t-shirt days on the beach. This year, we had bright sun with little wind. Nine good folks were eager to rid the beach of trash, but there was little trash to pick up — and we were the first group to arrive. The public seems to be doing a better job of policing themselves, so we concentrated on the small stuff that kills so many birds and fish — small pieces of Styrofoam, rubber foam mattress and ballast material that swells in digestive tracts and blocks food from entering and/or leaving stomachs. There were also tiny pieces of colored plastic that can cut up the insides of birds and fish. We found a few plastic bottles and bags, a hypodermic needle, some rope, and a broken metal me-

chanical part. Two cars stopped in Florence for lunch at the Bridgewater restaurant on Bay Street and one headed straight home. Members: Joella Ewing, Sam Miller, Tom Musselwhite, Dave Predeek, Michelle Tambellini. Nonmembers: Cheryl Belleau, Claire Belleau, Art Skach, Jo Anne Arnold.

### **Spencer Butte — Conditioning**

**April 9, 2014**

**Leader: Dalen Willhite**

**Hike: 6 miles, 1,100 ft. (Difficult)**

**BEAUTIFUL DAYS AND A LOT OF TRILLIUMS.** Members: Dalen Willhite.

### **Spencer Butte — Conditioning**

**April 16, 2014**

**Leader: Dalen Willhite**

**Hike: 6 miles, 1,100 ft. (Difficult)**

**GREAT TRIP WITH A LOT OF TRILLIUMS.** Everyone got a good work out and carried between twenty and forty-five pounds. We completed the course in about two hours. Members: Dave Beardsley, Marge Huseman, Dalen Willhite. Nonmembers: Justin Howell, George Williamson, Sara Bowen.

### **Mt. Pisgah — Conditioning**

**April 20, 2014**

**Leader: Dave Beardsley**

**Hike: 5.4 miles, 1,000 ft. (Difficult)**

**THIS HIKE WAS ONE OF A SERIES OF CONDITIONING HIKEs** offered by the climbing committee. Five climbers with thirty-pound summit packs and climbing boots headed up trail 34 to the small cairn and turned right on trail three. We then turned left up the west face direct to the summit. We returned by heading down trail 6 (Sound of Music Trail) then turned right on trail three at the big cairn. We then turned left on the lower west face direct, then meandered through the arboretum and out. This was a fun conditioner at a fast pace, with four of our recent basic climbing school graduates. Members: Dave Beardsley. Nonmembers: Justin Howell, Bruce Kreitzberg, Cody Gregory, Caroline McCants.

### **Spencer Butte — Conditioning**

**April 23, 2014**

**Leader: Dalen Willhite**

**Hike: 6 miles, 1,100 ft. (Difficult)**

**IT WAS A VERY WET, CLOUD-COVERED DAY.** We started later than usual, but before sunset. Folks had a pretty good workout and the wind and rain didn't let us hang out at the top for long. One person opted out of the steep trail, but met us on the way back to the cars. Folks carried between fifteen and forty-five pounds. We were done in a little over two hours. Members: Ted Glick, Marge Huseman, Jennifer Rogers, Tom Rundle,

Dalen Willhite. Nonmembers: Bill Lowder, Benjamin Pellegrum, Shawn Prime.

### **Horse Rock**

**April 26, 2014**

**Leader: Lana Lindstrom**

**Photographer: Holger Krentz**

**Hike: 3.5 miles, 600 ft. (Easy)**

**ELEVEN OTHER HIKERS AGREED WITH ME** that Horse Rock is a very special area! The flowers were not yet at their peak, but the moss sure was! There still were plenty of blooms to admire, particularly the delicate calypso orchids. We were also



fortunate that volcanologist Tom shared some of his knowledge about the rock formations. Holger took lots of pictures, which you can view on the Obsidian gallery (left side of home page). Thanks much to Ginny and Sandy for driving. Members: Jane Allen, Patricia Esch, Joella Ewing, Richard Hughes, Holger Krentz, Lana Lindstrom, Sue Meyers, Brian Popowsky, Ginny Reich, Tom Rundle, Dan Udovic. Nonmembers: Sandy Hoskinson.

### **Amazon Headwaters/Spencer Butte**

**April 30, May 7, 14, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Hike: 6.3 miles, 1,530 ft. (Moderate)**

**THE HIKERS BY DATE WERE: APRIL 30** — Members: David Cooper, May Fogg, Janet Jacobsen, Tom Rundle, Karla Rusow, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Carla Cooper, Caroline Moore, Carla Lyon, Barbara Hurwich. **MAY 7** — Members: David Cooper, May Fogg, Lisa Grissell, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Karla Rusow. Nonmembers: Carla Lyon. **MAY 14** — Members: David Cooper, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Karla Rusow, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Carla Lyon.

### **River Campus Loop**

**May 2, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Hike: 5.2 miles, (Easy)**

**THE FLOWERING SHRUBS AND TREES ON CAMPUS,** and the four dozen or so playful goslings on the canal, were cheerful additions for the first Friday of the month walk. We had our lunch in the Marche Museum Cafe courtyard and then spent an hour



in the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art where we saw two video installations from Portland-based artist Vanessa Renwick. The “Medusa Smack” required us to recline on cushions immersed via video in the world of a jellyfish. For the second video installation, “Hunting Requires Optimism”, we opened nine refrigerator doors to view a video of wolves chasing their prey. The crowning touch was a Van Gogh painting, The Man is at Sea. Upcoming free admission days at the museum are Friday, June 6, and graduation week-end, June 14-16. Members: May Fogg, Janet Jacobsen, Sue Meyers, Karla Rusow. Nonmembers: Mindy Hollenbeck.

## **Erma Bell Lakes**

**May 3, 2014**

**Leader: Joella Ewing**

**Photographer: Darko Sojak**

**Hike: 5 miles, 350 ft. (Easy)**

**WE WILL CALL THIS THE EARLY BIRD ERMA BELL LAKES HIKE** because we were there before people crowded the trail and before the mosquitoes arrived for the season, but not



before all the snow melted. Several people contemplated going back to their cars rather than traversing several long patches of snow, but said they were glad the leader *made them* (I thought coaxed) to hang in there a little longer. All agreed it was a beautiful hike in 60-ish degree partly cloudy and partly sunny weather, with just a few sprinkles of rain and a mostly clear trail. We all stopped to listen to some creature (we finally decided a bird) that made a deep throbbing sound in multiples of six (Where is Rick Ahrens when we need him — certainly not at home this evening). We heard hundreds, if not thousands, of frogs across the trail from the middle lake. The Erma Bells are beautiful no matter what the weather. Six-month member Alan Curtis is a wonderful asset to any hike as he is very knowledgeable about trees and other plant identification. Thank you, Alan, for sharing. Members: Roberta Chord, Alan Curtis, Joella Ewing, David Hawkins, Patricia Mac Afee, Tom Musselwhite, Leila Snow, Darko Sojak, Dan Udovic. Nonmembers: Sandy Hoskinson.

## **North Fork Willamette**

**May 11, 2014**

**Leader: Jane Hackett**

**Photographer: Darko Sojak**

**Hike: 7 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)**

**IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL, SUNNY DAY FOR THIS TRIP.** Once again, the upper part of this hike was closed due to helicopter logging. On Mothers’ Day, the helicopters were in action, providing a lot of interest. Darko took lots of pictures. Besides the great day, we were surprised by several clumps of orange columbine, oyster mushrooms, and one large morel. The river was high and running fast. The noise factor was also high. The



logging should be completed by the end of May. A word of warning: poison oak was found along the first section of the Westfir trail. Members: Roberta Chord, Lisa Grissell, Jane Hackett, Brian Popowsky, Darko Sojak. Nonmembers: Kate Shapiro, Russ Francis.

## **Yachats to Waldport**

**May 11, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Photographer: Daphne James**

**Hike: 11 miles, 0 ft. (Moderate)**

**WE LEFT EUGENE AT 9:00 AM** and by 10:40 started our beach-walk from Smelt Sands State Park. Thanks to Jim Pierce’s detailed map of the beach-walk, we knew that it was 5.6 miles to Big Stump, where we turned around to retrace our steps, enjoying the expansive beach with the outgoing tide. We completed the 11.2-mile hike around 3:00. It was a gorgeous,



sunny day with little wind. High tide was at 11:30 AM and the low tide at 4:37 PM. Members: Janet Jacobsen, Daphne James, Tom Rundle.

## **Mt. Pisgah-Sunset/Moonrise**

**May 14, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

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

**WE STARTED UP THE TRAIL AT 7:40 PM** for the 8:31 sunset and the 8:41 moonrise. While we waited for the celestial events, we drank blood orange Italian soda and passed up offers of tequila from other cheerful hikers. Lana told us that what looked like a new lake to the west was a field of meadow-foam. Dan used his app to point out where we would view Mars, Jupiter, and Venus when the sky darkened. The red rim of the moon appeared around 8:46 PM to claps and shouts from the spectators. It soon became a full moon and mosquitoes quickly sent us down the trail. Members: Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Larry Dunlap, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Dan Udovic.

## Hills of SW Eugene

May 17, 2014

Leader: Joanne Ledet

Hike: 5 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)

**HAVING A SEVEN YEAR OLD ON OUR HIKE** through the hills of SW Eugene gave us all a new perspective on what we would normally take for granted. We all enjoyed feeling the fuzzy interior of a cat's ear wildflower and being able to walk within feet of six very unconcerned deer. The child in all of us enjoyed the sight and the sound of the rushing water as we followed the small creek back to our cars. Members: Roberta Chord, Autumn Edwards, Joanne Ledet, Lou Maenz, Karla Rusow.

## Rooster Rock

May 17, 2014

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Photographer: Mike Smith

Hike: 6.6 miles, 2,300 ft. (Difficult)

**WE STARTED UP THE TROUT CREEK TRAIL** into the Menagerie Wilderness at 9:45 AM. Two hours later, we were eating lunch on the flat rocky area near the Rooster Rock. Through the trees, we were able to glimpse Rabbit Ears, one of several rock

formations. To the east, we viewed Iron Mountain, Belknap Crater and North Sister. Steve Johnson and others offered instruction on how to use the compass with maps to identify the mountains. On the way down, we scrambled to the base of



Rooster Rock for a group photo, where the ladders were mounted to reach a small lookout hut on top. Of most interest on the way down was a flower which was later identified as sarcodes, a single flowering plant commonly called the snow plant. It was a fun trip with history, flowers, views, and laughter. Some of us would like to return to Rooster Rock and explore the lightly maintained trail for another 1,000 feet to a vantage point close to Rabbit Ears. Members: Keiko Bryan, Lisa Grissell, Janet Jacobsen, Steven Johnson, Holger Krentz, Tom Rundle, Fumiyo Tao, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Mike Smith.

# 2014 Oregon Trails Summit Conference

**MATT BELL, OBSIDIAN PRESIDENT**, represented the Obsidians at the 2014 Oregon Trails Summit Conference held in Eugene on May 28–29 at the Hilton Hotel. The focus was to gather information on how to do a better job statewide, regionally and in your community for motorized, non-motorized and water trails. An informative hike up Spencer Butte was one of the field/technical sessions available to participants. Matt led one of the four groups up the west side to point out trail maintenance projects and techniques. On top, everyone sat on the rocks in the sun and ate their sack lunches. Philip Richardson of Eugene Parks and

Open Space gave a brief description of the Eugene trail system, its funding, and a vision for how the trails could be connected. The forty or so hikers were from a variety of city, county, and state park systems such as Wilsonville, Sutherlin, Tualatin, Smith Rocks, and Pacific Crest Trail Volunteers.

Thanks to Matt for taking the time to attend the conference.

*Janet Jacobsen (his assistant on the hike up the Butte)*



## Summer Camp Q & A

### Origins of Summer Camp President's Tea

**Jan Jacobsen**

**How did the social event get started?** The President's Tea was held for the first time at the 1930 Summer Camp at Marion Lake. The gala affair for President Henry Korn was such a success that it was decided to repeat the concept each year and to also name the camp after the President. It was Korn at the previous year's camp, who after climbing the Three Sisters conceived the idea that we were just as hard as the rocks we walked upon, so why not call ourselves Obsidians? Thus our name was changed from the Eugene Outdoor Club. They also decided to have a reunion at the Osborn Hotel in October to watch the summer camp movies taken by the club's movie camera.

**But why a tea?** My theory is that on the last day of the two-week camp, most participants would have stayed to take down and pack the camp. By the afternoon, they were ready for tea perhaps cooled by the snow. A creative Obsidian(s) came up with honoring/roasting the President for entertainment. There is no mention of a cold beer!

**What happened next?** By 1940 the Tea was held on Thursday afternoon with guests in costume coming with gifts and jovial speeches. The President and spouse were seated as King and Queen and expected to pose tirelessly for photos. The highlight of the 1947 President's Tea for Bob Lyon was the shearing of his long, long beard that had been growing long before the Oregon Trail Centennial Pageant.

At my first camp in 1983, the President's Tea was held in the evening around a campfire. I suspect with one-week camps, no one wanted to give up day of hiking to attend an afternoon tea.

**What will happen to our President Matt Bell at Camp Bell at the Strawberry Mountains?** Everyone will be watching Matt hoping to be inspired to write a poem, search for a gift, write a play, or design a throne. Since it is his first summer camp, Matt will be in suspense trying hard not to inspire anyone. Any humorous mishap will be noted! He will also wonder why people stop talking when he approaches and are gathering in out of the way places to rehearse. He will find out about the traditional necklace passed down from one President to another. His wife Betsy and son Oliver, will have secretive smiles!

**Why have a tea?** It is fun and a tradition. It is a way to say thank-you to Matt who is serving his second term on the Board and has been Trail Maintenance Chair for four years. It is also a fun way to connect with the almost 100 camp participants to come up with a song, a play, a rap or some other silly thing so that we have an evening of laughter with no tea.

If you want more information about summer camp events, go to the Summer Camp link on the home page and click on [Link to past Summer Camps](#).

### More Summer Camp Information

*Q. I like to have a cold beverage at the end of the day. Any suggestions how to chill it?*

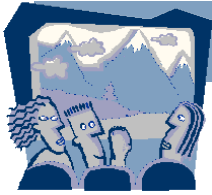
A. The lodge at Lake Creek Camp has a refrigerator available to guests. Please limit your use to one bottle/can per day. Alternatively, you may want to bring a small cooler; some ice from the kitchen will be available.

*Q. Please remind me about the cancellation policy. I may have a conflict with the Summer Camp dates.*

A. If you cancel prior to June 30, you will forfeit \$35. If you cancel after June 30, you will forfeit your entire payment (\$270 for members, \$300 for nonmembers).



## At The Lodge



# POTLUCK

Friday, June 27

## Oregon Coast Trail—2 Ways

**T**HE OREGON COAST TRAIL spans nearly 400 miles along the coast—about half is walked on Oregon's public beaches, while other portions are walked on trails, through towns, or along roadways (including U.S. Highway 101). Hikers walk along some of the same trails originally used by Native Americans, explorers (including Lewis and Clark) and early settlers.

Connie Soper and Don Colgan will share their experiences of walking the Oregon Coast Trail. Connie, from Portland, is an avid hiker and advocate for public trails. She has hiked the trail once and is in the process of completing it again, this time to document her experiences. Don is an Obsidian and hiked the coast in its entirety over a three year span (2009- 2011).

As they will explain, Connie and Don adopted different approaches in tackling the trail. They will describe their experiences and offer tips and suggestions, as well as challenges likely to be encountered, for those interested in hiking some or all of the trail.

**June Potluck**

**Friday, June 27, 2014**

**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, June 17 at 7 PM

## McKenzie Memories—Roots in the River

**D**AVE HELFRICH, 80-year-old son of legendary river guide Prince Helfrich, will tell stories and show short movies about decades of his family's experience as guides on the McKenzie River. Helfrich Boat Landing up the McKenzie is named after Dave's dad.

Dave is such a colorful and engaging speaker that he presented his program by popular demand in April for the second year in a row at Cozmic Pizza. For each presentation, the *Register-Guard* did two-page spreads on Dave, including color and black and white pictures.

As with any good yarn spinner, Dave's stories go way

way back, and include some tales about charter member Obsidians who shared some of the experiences with his father, and with him as a child and young man. Fast forward to the present to learn about his son and granddaughter, who are both river guides. To demonstrate the continued colorful nature of the Helfrich family, an *RG* photo shows his granddaughter on her wedding day and in her wedding dress, rowing her new husband down the McKenzie.

The articles are posted on the sign board in the Lodge for your perusal any time between now and June 17.

*Joella Ewing*

**Save the Date: September 7, 2014 Sunday afternoon**

**Wilderness Open House at Obsidian Lodge**

**Celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1964 Wilderness Act**





# Upcoming

## Bus Trips

### Mt. St. Helens, NW Trek Wildlife Park

Dates: July 15-16 (Tues—Wed)  
Leaders: Sharon Cutsforth & Bill Arthur  
Cost: \$180 (\$184 nonmembers) Barbara Payne 746-1964

### Back to the Coast

Date: August 13 (Wednesday)  
Leader: Mary Ellen West  
Cost: \$48 (\$50 nonmembers) to Janet Speelman 344-3019

### Oregon History: Men (Families) & Machines

Date: September 11 (Thursday)  
Leader: Mary Ellen West  
Cost: \$55 (\$57 nonmembers) Janet Speelman 344-3019

### Fall Color in the Cascades

Date: October 8 (Wednesday)  
Leaders: Bill Arthur, Barbara & Paul Beard  
Cost: \$45 (\$47 nonmembers) Mary Lee Cheadle 689-1085

### Christmas Lights at River Forks Park

Date: December 2 (Tuesday)  
Leader: Verna Kocken  
Cost: \$57 (\$59 nonmembers) Liz Reanier 687-1925



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## Obsidian Calendar

### June

11 Wed	Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen.....	343-8030
12 Thu	Pisgah-Sunset/Moonrise Hike M Jacobsen....	343-8030
13 Fri	Trout Creek Mountains Bk Pk D Sullivan.....	683-6837
13 Fri	Mt. Rainier Climb Beardsley .....	357-0630
15 Sun	Brownsville - Corvallis Loop Bike D Hegg ...	484-0619
17 Tue	Down the McKenzie .....	ExploraTalk
18 Wed	More Food III Bus West .....	343-5492
18 Wed	Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen.....	343-8030
20 Fri	Cascadia Cave Rock Shelter Hike E Ewing....	344-9197
21 Sat	Mt. Pisgah-Sunset Hike M Jacobsen .....	343-8030
21 Sat	Fish Lake Water E Sather .....	822-0311
21 Sat	North Bank Mgt Area Hike M Jost .....	485-1612
22 Sun	Three Mile Lake Hike M Hovis .....	731-3412
22 Sun	Browder Ridge Hike D Giesen .....	554-4162
25 Wed	Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen.....	343-8030
25 Wed	Spencer Butte Trail Trl Mnt M Bell.....	503-884-8829
26 Thu	Iron Mountain Hike M Camp .....	685-1964
27 Fri	Sweet Creek Falls Hike E Ewing .....	344-9197
27 Fri	Parvin Covered Bridge Bike M Esch.....	338-8280
27 Fri	Oregon Coast Trail .....	Potluck
28 Sat	Iron Mountain Hike M Lipton .....	736-7498
28 Sat	Mt. Washington Climb Hamilton .....	343-6550
28 Sat	Macduff Mountain Hike M Jacobsen.....	343-8030
29 Sun	Horse Pasture Hike M Hackett.....	953-7046

### July

2 Wed	Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen.....	343-8030
4 Fri	Obsidian Loop Hike M Grant .....	514-1176
5 Sat	Lowder Mountain Hike M Terry .....	345-0720
6 Sun	Matthieu Lakes Hike M Grant .....	514-1176
7 Mon	Smith Rocks Hike M Hackett.....	953-7046
9 Wed	Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen.....	343-8030
11 Fri	French Pete Creek Hike M Colgan .....	485-2787
12 Sat	Middle Pyramid Hike M Adkins.....	344-4163
12 Sat	Mt. Washington Climb D Ellis .....	917-880-6744
13 Sun	Black Crater Hike D Giesen.....	554-4162
13 Sun	Clear Lake-Carmin Hike M Hackett .....	953-7046

### Women's Hosmer Lake Canoe/Kayak Thursday - Saturday, September 4-6, 2014 Leader: Pat Esch

**T**HIS YEAR WE WILL GO BACK TO HOSMER LAKE, boating various lakes, camping and enjoying potluck dinners. Yum!

We will camp two nights at South Campground on Hosmer Lake, sharing costs at the non-reservable sites, hopefully close together. Each participant will provide her own transportation, boat and gear, camping gear, breakfasts, lunches, snacks and drinks. We will divide into two teams for the potluck dinners.

This trip is limited to fifteen boaters with preference given to Obsidian members. Signup begins the morning of June 15.

The pre-trip is Monday, August 11 at 7 PM at the Lodge where we will discuss car pooling, camping, dinner teams, etc. My number is 338-8280.



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**June 2014**



*Photo of sandhill cranes by Rich Ahrens in Malheur—See trip report on page 7.*