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### Dates to Remember

September 23	Potluck
September 27	ExploraTalk
October 1	Dues due!
October 1	Bulletin Deadline
October 14	Annual Meeting
October 19	Board Meeting

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

## ANNUAL MEETING Friday October 14 6:30 pm at the Lodge

**M**EMBERS ARE INVITED TO THE ANNUAL MEETING on Friday, October 14 at the Lodge. A social hour with light refreshments begins at 6:30 PM followed by the meeting at 7 PM. Guests who would like to find out about our club are also welcome.

Committees will give brief summaries of their activities and new board members for 2016 will be elected. Read about our new Board nominees on page 3.

Members will vote on proposed changes to the Membership Section of the Obsidian Constitution. To read the Draft Revision see the July/August *Bulletin* [page 4]. An explanatory article begins on the front page.

Climb, trip, and leader awards\* will be presented followed by special, often humorous awards.

\* *Lenore McManigal, club historian, and Janet Jacobsen have contacted those who will receive an award. If you would like to check your activity totals, go to the Obsidian webpage and log in. Click on the tab Trip Reports. Then choose Trip Summary to view your totals. If you have questions, contact:*

*Trip and Leader Awards: Janet Jacobsen, [jbjacobsen@comcast.net](mailto:jbjacobsen@comcast.net)*

*Climbs: Maryanne Reiter, [mreiter1959@gmail.com](mailto:mreiter1959@gmail.com)*

*Trail Maintenance: Matt Bell, [matthew.v.bell@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.v.bell@gmail.com)*



### Reminder:

### Membership Renewal Due 10/1/16

Please submit your completed 2016-2017 Membership Renewal Form with renewal dues today to:

Obsidian, Inc.  
 Attn: Membership  
 PO Box 51510  
 Eugene, OR 97405

*Renewal form enclosed, or download from [Obsidians.org](http://Obsidians.org)*

## SOLVE Beach Cleanup at Charlton Lake

**D**ARKO SOJAK WILL LEAD THE SOLVE BEACH CLEANUP ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11. Charlton Lake is an easy 5.1-mile loop hike around a beautiful, pristine lake surrounded by a dense coniferous forest. The trail is not maintained so we will need to cross over many fallen trees. At the end of the hike, we will clean a small beach with a few primitive camping spots. Leader will provide gloves and trash bags. Sign up online for more details.

**Welcome!**

**New Members:**

**ATHENS, MARISSA** (Active)  
Eugene, OR 97405

**BABB-HACKETT, DREW** (Junior)  
Eugene, OR 97405

**NORTON, CLAUDIA** (Active)  
Springfield, OR 97478

**OZWOELD, MONICA** (Active)  
Eugene, OR 97401

**PAPASADERO, TODD** (Active)  
Eugene, OR 97405

**RHODES, MIKEL** (Active)  
Eugene, OR 97401

**RICE, CINDY** (Active)  
Eugene, OR 97405

**SINNOTT, DEBORAH** (Active)  
Eugene, OR 97405

**STEGGELL, DORENE** (Active)  
Eugene, OR 97405

**OBSIDIANS, INC**

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

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

**Board of Directors**

Shellie Robertson, President  
Laurie Funkhouser, Vice President  
David Cooper, Secretary  
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer  
John Cooper, Sharon Cuttsforth, Pat Esch,  
Todd Larsen & Maryanne Reiter.

*Board meetings are held at 6:00 PM the first Wednesday of each month, except October when it is the Wednesday after the Annual Meeting. There is no August meeting.*

**Committee Chairpersons**

By-Ways By Bus ..... Sharon Cuttsforth  
Climbs ..... Maryanne Reiter  
Concessions ..... TBA  
Conservation/SciEd ..... John Pegg  
Entertainment ..... Judy Ness  
Extended Trips ..... Lana Lindstrom  
Finance ..... Stewart Hoeg  
Lodge Building ..... Doug Nelson  
Lodge Grounds ..... John Jacobsen  
Librarian/Historian ..... Lenore McManigal  
Membership ..... Laurie Funkhouser  
Online ..... Wayne Deeter  
Publications ..... Lou Maenz  
Publicity ..... Jan Jacobsen  
Safety ..... Pat Esch  
Summer Camp ..... John Jacobsen  
Summer Trips ..... John Cooper  
Trail Maintenance ..... Matt Bell  
Winter Trips ..... Dave Lodeesen

**UPCOMING**

**Outdoor Emergency Preparedness Training**

**Saturday, November 5**

**I**F YOU ARE INTERESTED IN IMPROVING YOUR ABILITY TO DEAL WITH EMERGENCIES IN A WILDERNESS SETTING, Laurie Monico, who worked as a paramedic for Springfield Fire and Life Safety, and is a member of the Willamette Pass Ski Patrol and Eugene Mountain Rescue, will offer an 8-hour training from 8:30 AM thru 4:30 PM on Saturday November 5, at the Obsidian Lodge. The goal of this class is to help prepare outdoor adventurers to handle emergencies that happen when they are enjoying their particular type of outdoor activity.

The cost will be \$5.00 per person. The maximum class size will be 18 participants. Signups can begin September 15 online at the Obsidian web site. The first 48 hours will be registration for Obsidian members. After 48 hours it will be open to nonmembers.

The class will cover some basic first aid skills and how to handle the *everything else* emergency. This includes taking care of the rest of your group, contacting help, interacting with rescue teams and how to prepare for emergencies ahead of your adventure. There will be some lectures, but the focus will be practical and scenario-based learning.

There is no certification being offered for this class. It is an overview of many different aspects of handling an emergency and is designed to give you confidence when dealing with an emergency in the outdoors.

**Lyndell Wilken**  
**Safety Committee**



*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 October Bulletin**

**Saturday, October 1, 2016**

**July/August  
Assembly/Mailing Team**

*Manager:* Lou Maenz

*Team:* Don Baldwin, Sharon Cutsworth,  
Clara Emlen, Yuan Hopkins,  
Joanne Ledet, Lenore McManigal,  
and Margaret Prentice

**Editorial Team**

*Writing & Editorial Staff:*

Bea Fontana, Janet Jacobsen,  
Joanne Ledet, Lou Maenz,  
Ethel Weltman

*Copy Editors:*

Ethel Weltman & Nancy White  
*Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing:*  
Carla Cooper, Bea Fontana, Stewart Hoeg

# 2017 Board Nominees

## Laurie Funkhouser

**M**Y FIRST BACKPACKING TRIP WAS AT THE AGE OF ELEVEN. A family trip heading up the French Pete trail, it was not pleasant for anyone. However, it was a seed which germinated later in life with the discovery of the Obsidians. It grew from spotty participation in hikes and winter trips over a period of eight years before becoming a dedicated member in 2003. Who can resist a group of friendly individuals that truly enjoy experiencing wilderness?

With mentoring from club members, my outdoor experience has been nurtured from fashion to Scarpa boots, canvas to nylon tent, sweatshirt to fleece jacket, etc.

As a nominee to the Board, I look forward to rooting my involvement and giving back to the club. Thank you for the opportunity.



## Marci Hansen

**M**ARCI HAS BEEN A LOVER OF EXTREME OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES SINCE 1998 when she started adventure racing. She has competed in dozens of races ranging from 24 hours to eight days in length.

In 2010, she completed the Mazama beginner climbing program in Portland, and moved to Eugene two months later. She has led several climbs for the Obsidians as well as volunteered for climb school every year since 2011. She traditionally gives the mountaineering nutrition speech at climb school, shocking students with the large amount of junk food recommended when climbing a mountain.

When she isn't climbing, Marci is an Internet marketing professional and a co-founder of SheerID, a technology company based in Eugene.

Marci lives with her partner David, her stepsons Cody and Mike, and her ancient pit bull, Chaos.



## Lyndell Wilken

**I**N 1979, MY FIRST HIKE IN OREGON WAS WITH THE OBSIDIANS, going from Lava Camp to the Obsidian Camp trailhead. After taking in the views of the Three Sisters I decided to live in Eugene permanently. I was hired as the LCC women's Track & Field / Cross Country coach and Physical Education / Health instructor at Lane Community College in 1980. After 37 years at the college I am now retired but continue to teach a Wilderness First Aid class.

My outdoor pursuits include bicycling, hiking, backpacking, snowshoeing and cross country skiing. I have been involved with the High Cascade Forest Volunteers serving on their board for the last eight years and providing eight hours of Wilderness First Aid training to the volunteers at their spring training. I have adopted Rosary Lakes, helping keep the area clean and pristine.

In conjunction with the HCFV I coordinate 25 volunteers for the 70 miles of winter recreation trails and seven shelters in the Willamette Pass Winter Recreation area. During the last seven years we have refurbished all the trails with new diamonds and signage and produced a new Willamette Winter Recreation map.

I am a member of the Oregon Shores Coast Watch program and have adopted mile 147 near Gardiner. I have worked with Coast Watch and the Siuslaw National Forest to improve Sparrow Beach Road which provides access to a long stretch of beach including my adopted mile.



# BOARD NOTES

September 7, 2016

By Dave Cooper

Vice President Laurie Funkhouser called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Matt Bell, David Cooper, John Cooper, Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Todd Larsen, and Maryanne Reiter. Also present were Stewart Hoeg, John Jacobsen, Carla Cooper, Marci Hansen, Dave Lodeesen, Doug Nelson, and Kathy Hoeg.

The Board approved the minutes of the July 2016 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 (John Cooper):** From April 1 to Aug 28 there have been 147 trips scheduled. Of these, 129 trips were completed and approved, 983 participants were members and 124 were nonmembers. There are 56 trips to be completed. \$1,486 of revenue has been collected to date.

**Climbs (Maryanne Reiter):** Since the last board meeting in early July there have been eight scheduled climbs with two cancellations. Two nonmembers and 35 members went on the climbs for a total revenue of \$135. The climbs committee is also pleased to have two new climb leaders this summer, Kimberly Van Winkle and Marge Huseman. We appreciate their willingness to lead. Janet Jacobsen added a personal note about one of the new climb leaders. "Kimberley Van Winkle agreed to take me on her South Sister climb, her first lead for the club. I told her that I was 75 years old, wanted to climb South one last time, and that it would probably take me six hours to get to the top. I was so impressed with her pre-trip questions, her five-minute break strategies, her questions to keep track of my energy level, and her climbing tips. She even reminded me to enjoy the spectacular views and passed out a special snack at just the right time. Kim joins my list of amazing Obsidian climb leaders who share their skills and their joy of the mountains."

**Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell):** There were at least three trails projects over the past two months. These included a dog poop patrol, brushing, and drainage cleaning and armoring.

**Summer Camp (John Jacobsen):** We had a good time at Camp Robertson in the Ruby Mountains of Nevada July 30 through August 5. There were 83 people, 76 members and 7 nonmembers who attended. Revenue for camp was \$19,645 and expenses of \$13,373.55 (\$185.22/person) including \$960 transfer of trip fees to the General Fund and \$830 transfer to the Summer Camp Capital Fund. We held a Summer Camp debrief on August 17. Tentative planning has begun for Summer Camp 2017.

**Membership (Laurie Funkhouser):** Reminder to everyone: Membership renewal is upon us, please check your mailbox for the *Bulletin*, complete the Renewal Form, and mail the form with dues to Membership.

**Publications (Lou Maenz):** Publications would like to announce that Stewart Hoeg now has two assistants to help him with publications production. Welcome Carla Cooper

and Bea Fontana. Stewart, thank you for the bang up job you have done year, after year, after year.

**Concessions:** Summer Camp was a huge success especially due to the work of Pat Bean and Darlene Mancuso with total sales of \$269. I think it is a record!

**Lodge Building (Doug Nelson):** The work on installing the new water line to the building, new outdoor faucet, and irrigation system is complete. Thanks to Janet Jacobsen, Jane Hackett and Yuan Hopkins for spending an afternoon cleaning floors, windows, etc. after the summer; thanks to Janet and Laurie Funkhouser for cleaning and dusting in the board room; and thanks to Cat Nelson for all her assistance at the Lodge.

**Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen):** Graham Landscape and Design finished the waterline/irrigation project in July. There were two changes which added to the original estimate, one for adding grounding rods for building grounding since the building was previously grounded to the old galvanized water line (that was out of code by the way) which was abandoned, and the other for electrical repairs due to damage caused by the boring/digging operations. The new irrigation systems are working well and should provide an increased level of fire protection as well as keep the landscape around the Lodge looking much nicer over the summer months. MR Tree Service completed the removal of 52 Doug fir trees in July – approximately 75% were dead or dying with the remainder presenting falling danger near the storage building. It took four days to complete plus a partial 5<sup>th</sup> day for final cleanup. We were only able to get \$600 for the trees from a firewood company, but I guess that is better than nothing at all and it was good that we were able to get all those logs removed from our property. The bid amount was the final cost so we had no additional costs for the project.

**Safety (Pat Esch):** Lyndell Wilken is organizing the all-day Outdoor Emergency Preparedness Class for Saturday, Nov. 5.

## NEW BUSINESS

The Board approved the membership of the candidates as listed in the Membership Committee's report. At the upcoming Annual Meeting, committee chairs will present brief committee reports. The chairs are encouraged to present Special Recognition Awards to people on their committees who stand out in some way. It is recommended that they inform the recipient ahead of time so the person will be present at the meeting. There will also be a vote on changes to the Constitution regarding classes of membership.

## OPEN DISCUSSION ITEMS

A Vertec Alpine Altimeter watch has been donated to the Club. It will be included in the climbing supplies.

The City is holding hearings on a zoning change regarding the proposed Laurel Ridge Development east of the Lodge. John Jacobsen is monitoring these proceedings.

## Adjournment

# TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



## Bike Trips

### **Siuslaw Falls**

**July 15, 2016**

**Leader: Patricia Esch**

**Bike: 24 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)**

**A** BIT CHILLY TO START but the temperature warmed up as we rode. Stopping at the tree farm driveway, I told my story about the wild horses that used to live there, then we checked out a side road where Hay Bales Farm used to be. Siuslaw Falls was its usual splashy self and the pond above it was the perfect place to sit at a picnic table and have lunch. No one tried the rope hanging from the tree over the pond. Three riders on the return asked to turn off and explore the Travis Tyrell Seed Orchard. The very steep driveway was not very inviting to the rest of us so we continued on. Mike's report: "Paved, very steep road up to the visitor center, road from there is gravel and dirt. Just stands of trees in stages of forest age. At the the visitor center you can park and hike up a steep and rough trail with creek bridges, very beautiful, but not suitable for bikes. Small picnic area at the visitor area with trees and bushes named." Members: Barbara Aten, Anne Bonine, Barbara Bruns, Patricia Esch, Kitson Graham, Peter Graham, Steve Hennes, Don Kindt, Jack O'Donnell. Nonmembers: Mike Lee, Greg Maynard, Ronald Berry.



## Backpacks

### **Opal Creek**

**June 25, 2016**

**Leader & Photographer: Becky Lipton**

**Backpack: 6.5 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)**

**T**HIS TRIP WAS INITIALLY PROMOTED AS A SUPER-EASY BEGINNER TRIP, but since no beginners signed up, it became a moderate trip. Dave Lodeesen writes: *I headed out on a three-day Obsidian backpacking trip led by Becky. After a few cancellations, Becky and I were the only participants. The weather was warm and sunny with temperatures expected to rise over the next few days. I'm trying desperately to get my pack weight down for longer trips this summer. I left the house with 41 lbs. of total pack weight which included all my gear, a camp chair, food, and four liters of water. So off we headed about 30 miles east of Salem into the Willamette National Forest, and along the banks of the North Santiam River to the trailhead. There is a locked gate here on an old forest/mining road that leads to a private research and educational community in Jawbone Flats. Our hike started out along this road for about two miles with on-*

*ly about 300' of elevation gain. Jawbone Flats was an old mining operation started in 1929 that mined gold, silver, copper, zinc, and lead. The mining ceased operation in 1992 and the family who owned it turned the land over to a non-profit that is currently called Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center. This has become a very popular place, so many people take the short hike in with their kids to spend the day at the educational center and view Opal Creek Falls. The site still has many relics of the old mining days scattered throughout the grounds. So, Becky and I had to hike through this area in order to connect with trails that led into the wilderness area. We did spend a little time in Jawbone Flats looking around and taking pictures before the serious part of our hike started. Leaving Jawbone Flats, we took the south fork trail off the North Santiam River which is called Opal Creek Trail. Along this trail are many pools and waterfalls that meander through the thick forest. After about 2.5 miles, we took the Kopetski Trail that quickly becomes a very rough, crude, and seldom used trail. This is where the hiking becomes very tough while carrying a load. The footing is tricky while climbing and trying not to stumble. This trail is not maintained much at all so there were many fallen trees to climb over, under, or around. However, the creek becomes wild and beautiful with many waterfalls and nearly*

### **Remnant from silver mining days**



*devoid of people. We hiked to the very end of this trail where we set up camp beside the creek. Total hike in was about 6.5 miles. We did a little evening exploring, made dinner and called it a day. Next morning, Becky wanted to try and bushwhack a couple of miles beyond the end of the trail to try and find Opal Lake. We followed a couple of game trails that led nowhere, back-hiked, followed a couple more but couldn't find our way through the very rough terrain. Without a GPS or detailed map we wisely abandoned this idea. With still half the day left, we hiked back down the Kopetski Trail towards Jawbone Flats and cut off on another trail that took us up Battle Axe Creek. We hiked this abandoned mining trail to a deserted mining operation up a valley between two mountains. At the top we found two abandoned mine shafts and old equipment left in place from many decades ago.*

Again, there was nobody on the trail going up or coming down. After taking pictures, we hiked back to our camp for a daily total of nine miles on a very warm day that probably got up into the mid-80s. Back at camp, I got in the ice-cold Opal Creek to bathe and cool off. This creek is fed by melting snow in the higher mountains. Brrrrr! We made camp dinner and retired early. Monday morning we slept in a bit, had breakfast, broke camp and started our 6.5-mile hike back to the car. Very hot on our hike out and you really feel it when you're loaded down. When I got home that evening, I found that I had lost 10 lbs. over the three days. This is a beautiful secluded place to backpack and camp. It can be a bit busy with people who only hike into Jawbone Flats, but after that it's nearly empty. Members: Becky Lipton, David Lodeesen.

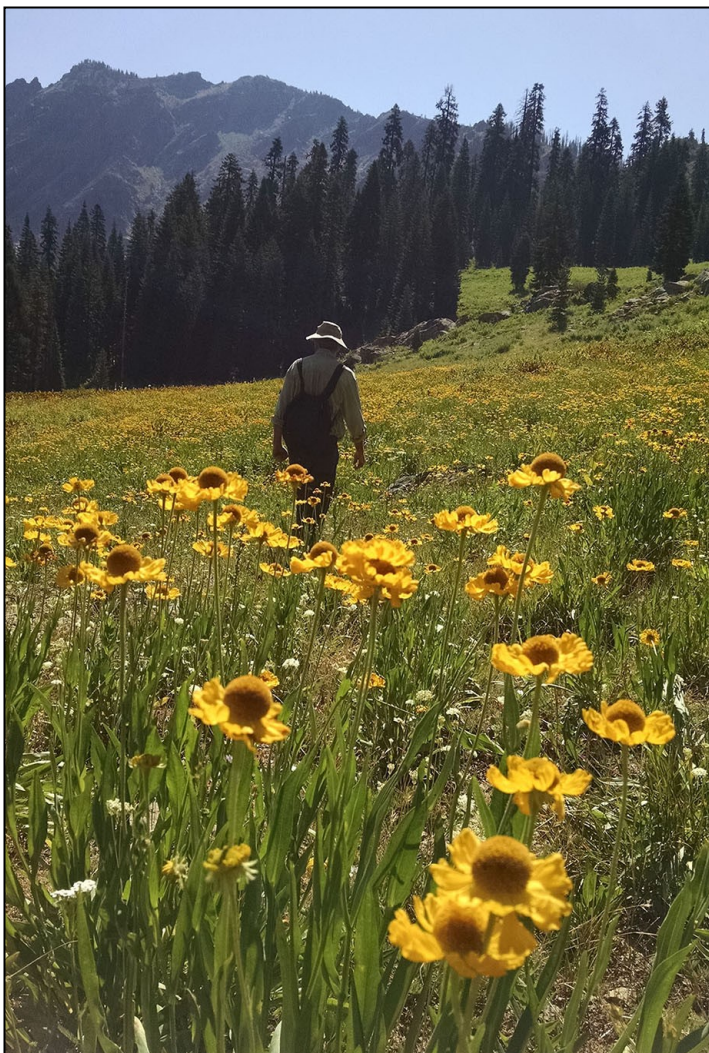
## **Sky High Lakes**

**July 29, 2016**

**Leader: Bill Sullivan**

**Photographer: Laura Osinga**

**Backpack: 13 miles, 2,350 ft. (Difficult)**



*Bill Sullivan*

GUIDEBOOK AUTHOR BILL SULLIVAN AND HIS WIFE Janell, updating a book on the trails of southern Oregon and far

northern California, led their 15<sup>th</sup> annual joint Chemeketan/Obsidian backpack into the Marble Mountain Wilderness of Northern California. From the Lovers Camp trailhead, we hiked six miles uphill to the lakes, where we pitched camp on a forested knoll beside Frying Pan Lake, which was renamed Tadpole Lake by our group because it is so shaped, has tadpoles, and was only two feet deep. Better swimming was in Upper Sky High Lake nearby. On Saturday Bill led a group on a rough bushwhack through the Red Rock Valley to Shadow Lake, one of the best swimming lakes ever. Then Steve Johnson, veteran caver of the area, revealed the location of Skunk Hollow Cave, a marble cavern just 100 yards from the abandoned Marble Valley Guard Station, and many of us squeezed in. Members: Lisa Grissell, Steven Johnson, Becky Lipton, Laura Osinga, Bill Sullivan. Nonmembers: Mary Holbert, Janell Sorensen, Marissa Catlin, Linda Parker, Roy Ward, Kim Davidson-Ruby.

## **Duffy Lake**

**August 19, 2016**

**Leader: Kathy Randall**

**Backpack: 14.5 miles, 1,850 ft. (Moderate)**

WE WERE TREATED TO NEAR-PERFECT WEATHER (warm, sunny days but cold nights) for this three-day backpack trip. After our arrival Friday at Duffy Lake, we pitched our tents and most of the group enjoyed a swim in the lake. On Saturday we took a day hike through the area enjoying scenic Mowich and Alice Lakes en route to lunch on the summit of Red Butte with views of Mt. Hood, Mt. Jefferson, the Eight Lakes Basin and Three Fingered Jack. We looked for our fellow Obsidians who were summiting Three Fingered Jack at the same time, but did not see them. After lunch our hike took us past North and South Dixie Lakes to scenic Santiam Lake. Upon our return to Duffy Lake, most of us took a refreshing swim. On Sunday we split into two groups. Lana and Emily headed back to the car and stopped on their return home for a short hike between Koosah and Sahalie Falls. Kathy and Darko successfully climbed the rock table between Duffy Lake and Duffy Butte with Dave monitoring their progress from the lakeshore. On the return home, Dave, Darko and Kathy stopped at Finn Rock for pizza on the deck overlooking the McKenzie River. Congratulations to Emily for her first Obsidian outing! She was a capable and enjoyable companion on our trip! Members: Lana Lindstrom, David Lodeesen, Kathy Randall, Darko Sojak. Nonmembers: Emily Rice.

## **Extended Trips**

### **Crater Lake Hiking/Camping**

**July 9, 2016**

**Leader: Mark Hougardy**

**Photographers: Mark Hougardy & Darko Sojak**

**Car Camp: 15.4 miles**

ON THIS TRIP, MOTHER NATURE REMINDED US that she is always in control, and the fates reminded some of us to always remember the tent! Our original itinerary had to be

re-worked because of a late July storm, but the unusually cold weather added an extra element of adventure and excitement. Everyone arrived in great spirits on Saturday, though we knew that rain was on the horizon. Unfortunately two members of the group had, in their enthusiasm, unexpectedly left their tent at home. Undeterred by the unfortunate error, they purchased a tent at the campground store—for a good deal of course! The skies that afternoon were clear and we made good use of the sun by hiking to Garfield Peak. On the way we encountered several snowfields, one of which was very steep, but the stunning views from the top were well worth the extra effort in getting there. In the distance Mount Scott was enticingly clear of snow, though we later learned it was impossible to reach because several miles of the eastern rim highway were closed for repairs.

minute. Several early risers made a trip to the rim where three to four inches of snow had fallen the night before. All of us were off to a slow start that morning. The *good deal* tent had not fared well in the rain and when the drops were shaken off the outer cover, a support bar snapped making the tent almost useless. For the entire day, temperatures never



**Happy to be outdoors**

Returning down the mountainside we visited the small loop trail of Godfrey Glen where we collected trash that uncaring visitors had left. We collected enough garbage to fill a large bag! That evening we sat around the campfire and commented on the number of stars that were visible. Where was the rain? All was calm until 2:00 AM when the rain arrived and temperatures lowered to just above freezing. Our two members in their *good deal* tent had a cold and wet night. Sunday morning, I looked out my tent and was excited to see full-bodied snowflakes quietly falling but they only lasted for a



**Munson Creek below Godfrey Glen Trail**

ventured past the mid-thirties and at times the drippy rain became unrelenting torrents of rain. To escape the fog, wind, rain, and occasional snow flurries, we explored the Visitor's Center and the Sinnott Memorial Overlook. The fog was so thick we could not see the lake or a few hundred feet in front of us. In the afternoon we moved below the cloud line to hike the picturesque Annie Creek trail. Although a short hike, it was very picturesque. Laurie and Brad had reservations at the Crater Lake Lodge for dinner. They generously increased their table size to include all of us so we could get out of the rain and have some warm food. About 8:00 PM that evening the sky cleared and at first the temperatures seemed warm. The group campfire that evening had just half of the group, the remainder had gone to bed early. The two members in the *good deal* tent had another cold and memorable night. In the middle of the night I awoke and was stunned by the visibility of the night sky. There were thousands of stars! My tent thermometer showed that temperatures had dropped into the upper twenties. On Monday the sun returned and the group broke camp, but before we did we waited anxiously for two members to return their *good deal* tent. The two walked stoically into the store and presented their tale of woe to a staff person. When the person said "no refunds", the disheveled and muddy remains of the tent was plopped like a large wet sponge onto the counter for all to see. The act proved its point about the product's poor quality. Their money was returned. Victorious that two of our members had saved their money (and dignity), we traveled to the rim where we hiked for several hours sightseeing and enjoying the views of Wizard Island. We tried to visit Watchman Peak but the trail was still heavy with snow and the area was closed. Although the sun was shining, the temperatures remained in the mid 50s and the wind had a nippy bite. The group tabled Cleetwood Cove for another time. Jumping in Crater Lake would be for another trip. Members: Brad Bennett, Laurie Funkhouser, Anna Hougardy, Christiane Hougardy, Mark Hougardy, David Lodeesen, Evelyn Nagy, Kathy Randall, Darko Sojak.



## Climbs

### **Mt. Whitney**

**June 22, 2016**

**Leader: Brian Hamilton,**

**Assistant Leader: Randy Sinnott**

**Photographer: Julie Polhemus**

**Climb: 12 miles, 6,140 ft. (Difficult)**

**W**E STARTED THE CLIMB BY CHECKING OUT OF LONE PINE CAMPGROUND, just a few miles west of the Whitney Portal trailhead. After a short drive, we hit the trail shared by both the standard route and the Mountaineer's Route. A half-mile later, we left the main trail on the unmarked Mountaineer's Route following the North Fork of Lone Pine Creek. We crossed the creek a couple of times, negotiated the Ebenbacher Ledges, and took an extended break at Lower Boy Scout Lake. By early afternoon, we set up camp



at Upper Boy Scout Lake at an elevation of about 11,300 feet. We had beautiful weather and our journey through multiple climate zones rewarded us with a variety of plant life. We had started out under the shade of curl-leaf mountain mahogany trees with jack rabbits running around our campsite and moved through higher climatic zones with lizards, Jeffrey pines, Douglas firs, flowering cactus, and snow plants. Near Lower Boy Scout Lake we encountered rare foxtail pines, endemic to the southern Sierra Nevada and ended up at our camp above tree line. All along the hike, we were treated to a great show of wildflowers, including shooting star, sky pilot, paintbrush, and several types of monkey flower. On day two, we awoke early enough to start hiking at 4:00 AM. We worked our way to Iceberg Lake and then put on crampons to ascend the hard snow in the couloir on the north side of east face. Turning south at the notch at the top of the couloir, we encountered icy rock and more hard snow in the 'Final 400'. We used a rope for one pitch for peace of mind, followed by a traverse with ice axes and crampons, and a couple hundred feet of scrambling up big chunks of granite. The climbing was not difficult, but it had enough exposure to get our adrenaline pumping! We topped out at the summit after seven hours of climbing, joining the

crowds who ascended the standard route. After an hour on top, one of our team who had to leave early descended back to the trailhead on the standard route. The remainder of us descended back to our camp and rested overnight. We had originally planned on climbing Mt. Russell on our third day, but opted instead to hike out to the trailhead in the morning. We reached the trailhead in time to have lunch and enjoy the famous burgers at the Whitney Portal Store. Members: Brian Hamilton, Roy McCormick, Laura Osinga. Nonmembers: Julie Polhemus.

### **Broken Top—Summit pinnacle direct**

**June 25, 2016**

**Leader: Dalen Willhite,**

**Assistant Leader: Marge Huseman**

**Climb: 17 miles, 3,900 ft. (Difficult)**

**THIS TRIP WAS THE FIRST PEAK OF A TWO PEAK WEEKEND.** Starting from Green Lakes Trailhead, we hiked to Green Lakes to lay down our overnight gear and we found a campsite snow-free on a small hill. The ridge appeared to be snow-free so we left the crampons and made it to the base of the pinnacle with plenty of daylight. In the spirit of trying something new, we reached the top of the pinnacle via the short ridge that led directly to the summit. The climbing was low to mid fifth-class, with ok protection. We used a 70m rope and set a fixed line so everyone could experience some fun exposure. After a snack, we descended via the catwalk since a rappel seemed hazardous. We found some great glistening off of the ridge after hiking/rappelling down to the trail. Great view and great crew. Members: Kerry Edinger, Marci Hansen, Marge Huseman, Sam Westerfield, Dalen Willhite. Nonmembers: Mikel Rhodes.

### **South Sister—Old Crater Route**

**June 26, 2016**

**Leader: Dalen Willhite,**

**Assistant Leader: Marge Huseman**

**Climb: 12 miles, 4,800 ft. (Difficult)**

**WE LEFT OUR CAMP AT GREEN LAKES** on Sunday morning after the sun came up, and we picked our way across the creek to start the Old Crater route. We didn't stay on the scree for too long before Marge suggested we make use of our crampons. While warm, the snow was firm enough that the going was quite pleasant; we only had to cross scree a couple of times as we followed the ridge and snow-filled gullies to gain Hodge's Crest. After intentionally 'treeing' ourselves, we were able to use the 26m rope to rappel off the crest onto the snow and continue to the South Sister summit. We descended via the Green Lakes trail and welcomed the foot bath at the stream crossing. No fees were charged since South Sister was done in conjunction with Broken Top. Members: Kerry Edinger, Marge Huseman, Sam Westerfield, Dalen Willhite. Nonmembers: Mikel Rhodes.

### **Mt. Jefferson**

**July 2, 2016**

**Leader: Alexander Ellis**

**Climb: 16 miles, 7,000 ft. (Difficult)**

**WE LEFT EUGENE SATURDAY MORNING** intending to climb the Whitewater Glacier route on Mt. Jefferson over two



days. On the hike in, while enjoying the view of the north side of the mountain, I joked that the Jefferson Park Glacier looked like it might be in good enough condition for us to climb. The closer we got, the more seriously we took the joke. We set up camp in the moraines at the base of the Jefferson Park Glacier—this was lower than originally planned but gave us the option of climbing either route in the morning. Marge and I spent a few hours exploring the big question mark on the Jeff Park route, namely the bergschrund. Around 7:00 PM, after scoping out a few no-go lines, Marge finally spotted a rock bypass on the far right side. It might go! Four of us started climbing a little after 3:00 AM Sunday morning. The bergschrund went (too?) smoothly; we were all on the saddle above the glacier within three hours from camp. The rest of the route went slowly but surely over plenty of exposed ground featuring moderate snow, low fifth-class rock, and some fun mixed moves. Our progress was relatively slow, so we turned back halfway up the summit pinnacle (which was in excellent and easy condition) to ensure decent snow on the traverse on our way down. We returned to camp via the Whitewater Glacier route, spent another night, and then hiked out the next morning. It's never easy to turn back so close to a summit, especially when the ground ahead is in great condition. Still, I think we made the correct choice. I will take fun, exposed rock climbing in crampons without a summit over a climb of the Whitewater Glacier route any day! Thanks to everyone for making my last trip as an Oregon resident a memorable one. Members: Alexander Ellis, Marge Huseman, Juli McGlinsky, Maryanne Reiter. Nonmembers: Sam Westerfield.

## **Mt. Adams**

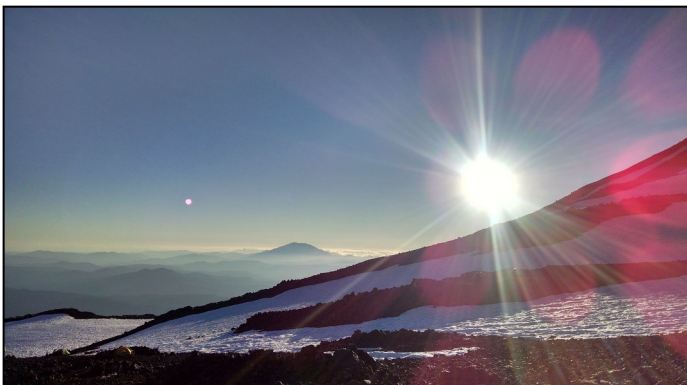
**July 23, 2016**

**Leader: Marge Huseman**

**Photographer: Laura Osinga**

**Climb: 14 miles, 6,700 ft. (Difficult)**

NEXT YEAR THIS TRIP WILL BE TITLED *Glissading 202*. Or perhaps *Epic Glissades*. Never mind the nearly 7,000 feet climbed to earn this downhill bliss. We started our climb on



**Mt. St. Helens and sun setting behind Mt. Adams**

a beautiful Saturday morning. Our first challenge was to find a place to park at the crowded Cold Springs Trailhead. With a creative solution and the wheels chocked, we headed up towards the *lunch counter*. Reports of late season snow had us concerned about what conditions we would find. We were pleasantly surprised to pitch our tents on dry rock and find something another climber referred to as running water.

Choosing an alpine start, we were rewarded with good crampon conditions, the sunrise induced shadow of Mt. Adams in the clouds below, and a sparsely populated summit with seemingly endless views. This was where the trip really began. Our reward for the climb was nearly 4,500 vertical feet of glissading extending well below the lunch counter! All five in our party made it to the summit with four first-timers on Mt. Adams. Members: Alayna DuPont, Danneille Harris, Marge Huseman, Laura Osinga, Charles Warren.

## **Three Fingered Jack Graduation**

**August 20, 2016**

**Leader: Brian Hamilton,**

**Assistant Leader: Marci Hansen**

**Climb: 11 miles, 3,000 ft. (Difficult)**

THREE FINGERED JACK IS A RELATIVELY EASY CLIMB, unlike the drudgery of climbing something like South Sister. We hiked in five miles on the fairly level Pacific Crest Trail until we reached the base of the mountain and then it's just 1,600 feet elevation gain to reach the summit. However, Jack throws a lot of stuff at climbers, like loose rock and exposure to long drop-offs. There are enough exciting sections (some would say 'scary'), that some climbers wondered why we protect certain areas with fixed ropes and not others. This was billed as a graduation climb for Obsidian Climb School graduates and we had two students from the 2016 class, one from 2015, and one from 2014. Marci was an invaluable assistant leader. She belayed the leader a few times, did traffic control at the crowded summit, and cleaned the rope and hardware from the upper pitch. One thing different about this climb was the swarms of flying ants at the summit. There were no bare spots to place our hands without squishing bugs. The ants got into our noses, ears, under our helmets, and into our clothes. Luckily they didn't bite, but still, it was not quite so pleasant to spend much time on the top. Back at the trailhead, we were happy, but dusty and tired, and after a few days' rest, our climbers will be thinking about when they can do this one again. Members: Brian Hamilton, Marci Hansen, Kana Moll, Laura Osinga. Nonmembers: Benjamin Pellegrom, Mikel Rhodes.

## **South Sister**

**August 27, 2016**

**Leader: Kimberly Van Winkle**

**Photographer: Laura Osinga**

**Climb: 12 miles, 4,800 ft. (Moderate)**

STARTING FROM THE VERY BUSY DEVIL'S LAKE TRAILHEAD, we joined in with a large number of other hikers to make the



**Janet Jacobsen & Kimberly Van Winkle testing the edges of the crater rim**

six-mile journey to the summit. We made steady progress all day and enjoyed breathtaking views at every switchback. All four in the group made it to the summit where we were rewarded with beautiful views of the summit glacier and as far north as Mt. Jefferson. The weather was pleasant, with mild temperatures, hardly a cloud in the sky, and the wind remained calm until we started descending. The trail was much quieter later in the day and the mountains turned red as we finished near sunset. We had a varied group, including a new trip leader and a long-time Obsidian member. The company made this climb extra special. Completing the drive and climb made for a very long day. We left Eugene at 4:00 AM and returned at 10:30 PM, twelve hours car-to-car. Members: Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Laura Osinga, Kimberly Van Winkle.



**More Food V**  
**July 14, 2016**  
**Leader: Mary Ellen West**

**T**HE OBSIDIAN BUS FOOD TRIP made for a delicious day. Our first stop was at Camas Country Bakery located on the Hunton Farm southwest of Junction City. Tasty treats provided for our morning coffee break included: whole grain breads, muffins and a berry crumble—a definite favorite. The spread was served in the 1888 Lower Fern Ridge school house which was moved to the farm several years ago. Work continues on improving the grounds around the bakery/store and the school house. It is becoming a delightful place. Sue Hunton shared the story of the school house, now a community center, as well as an update on Camas Mill and the various crops grown on the farm. Milling for Dave’s Killer Bread has greatly expanded production at the mill. The bakery is open for lunch Tuesday through Saturday 11–3. Farm products are also for sale. A short drive then took us to Glory Bee Factory store where we learned about the life of bees and the gifts they give us. Each bee produces 1/12 of a teaspoon of honey in her lifetime. Glory Bee started in 1974 in the owner’s garage, selling honey and beekeeping supplies. It has become a regional distribution center and continues to expand. The center, on Highway 99 and Airport Road, has a retail store with a variety of products mostly related to the honeybee. From here we drove to the Deck Family Farm west of Junction City. This organic farm raises 100% grass-fed Heritage Galloway beef, Hermitage Red Wattle pork, lamb, chicken and eggs. The baby pigs dancing around seemed glad to see us. Then it was on down the road to the Creswell Bakery in downtown Creswell for lunch. So good! Meats are raised on the owner’s farm. Produce and flour are also sourced locally. Bus riders came away with many loaves of bread. Our final stop was Riverbend Farm west of Pleasant Hill on Highway 58. Owner Annette Miller Pershern was an Obsidian Princess and related many happy memories of taking part in Obsidian activities. Hazelnuts, fruits, and berries are their main crops. We are fortunate to have so much healthy food grown nearby. We not only enjoyed learning about food production and sampling their products, but also

shopped and took home good food as well. Members: Thomas Adamcyk, Ethel Allen, Bill Arthur, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Barbara Bruns, Mary Lee Cheadle, Sharon Cutsforth, Jane Hackett, Janet Jacobsen, Ellen Johnson, John McManigal, Lenore McManigal, Don Payne, Judy Phelps, Virginia Prouty, Barbara Wallace, Marian West, Mary Ellen West, Cristy White, Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Virginia Gilbreath, Pete Ferrero, Doris Whitfield.



**Hikes**

**Spencer Butte Loop**  
**June 15, 2016**  
**Leader: Tom Rundle**  
**Hike: 7.2 miles, 1,890 ft. (Moderate)**

**W**E GOT OFF TO A QUICK START on a cool, cloudy morning. Near the summit, the clouds lifted a bit and we had a hazy view of the Cascades and the Coast Range. We made good time to the summit—95 minutes. We socialized with other hikers on the standard route. Members: Tom Rundle, David Strutin.

**Spencer Butte Loop**  
**June 22, 2016**  
**Leader: Tom Rundle**  
**Hike: 7.2 miles, 1,890 ft. (Moderate)**

**IT WAS A BRIGHT SUNNY DAY.** Lots of bird calls. David Lodeesen took the more difficult direct route to the summit and Tom Rundle took the easier traverse route. After a short rock scramble, we met the other Wednesday group at the top. Members: David Lodeesen, Tom Rundle.

**Spencer Butte Loop**  
**June 29, 2016**  
**Leader: Tom Rundle**  
**Hike: 7.2 miles, 1,890 ft. (Moderate)**

**I HIKED THIS ONE SOLO,** encountering fog and a few sprinkles of rain going up the west side about 200 feet from the top. There were some slippery, wet rocks on the final scramble and I reached the summit a few minutes after the first members of the other Wednesday group. Had a nice time socializing with Mike Smith and David Lodeesen. Members: Tom Rundle.

**Blanton Hts. to Spencer Butte**  
**July 2 - July 23, 2016**  
**Various Leaders:**  
**Laurie Funkhouser, Mike Smith**  
**Hike: 9 miles, 2,000 ft. (Moderate)**

**THE HIKERS BY DATE WERE:** **July 2:** Members: Laurie Funkhouser (leader), Diana Masarie, Jim Mender, Tom Rundle, Randy Sinnott. **July 16:** Members: Mike Smith (leader), Janet Jacobsen, David Lodeesen, Toresa Martell, Diana Masarie. **July 23:** Members: Mike Smith (leader), Marguerite Cooney, David Lodeesen.

## Amazon Headwaters/Spencer Butte

July 6 - August 24, 2016

Various Leaders:

David Lodeesen, Barbara Gunther, Mike Smith

Hike: 6.2 miles, 1,530 ft. (Moderate)

THE HIKERS BY DATE WERE: **July 6:** Members: David Lodeesen (leader), Jennifer Baer, Mari Baldwin, David Cooper, Steve Cordon, Barbara Gunther, Lana Lindstrom, Carla Lyon, Marlene Malone, Caroline Moore, Jim Northrop, David Reinhard, Jorry Rolfe, Art Skach, Cari Soderlund, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Marissa Athens. **July 13:** Members: Barbara Gunther (leader), Jennifer Baer, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Betty Grant, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, David Lodeesen, Carla Lyon, Marlene Malone, Caroline Moore, Jim Northrop, Jorry Rolfe, Cari Soderlund, Blue Wesley. **July 20:** Members: David Lodeesen (leader), Jennifer Baer, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Hilary Fisher, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Carla Lyon, Marlene Malone, Caroline Moore, Jim Northrop, Jorry Rolfe, Art Skach, Mike Smith, Cari Soderlund, Blue Wesley. Nonmembers: Nancy Hoecker, Jayne Miller, Holly Fisher. **July 27:** Members: Mike Smith (leader), Jennifer Baer, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Richard Hughes, Lana Lindstrom, David Lodeesen, Marlene Malone, Caroline Moore, Jim Northrop, Jorry Rolfe, Karla Rusow, Cari Soderlund. Nonmembers: Jayne Miller. **August 10:** Members: Mike Smith (leader), Ben Brown, Steve Cordon, Janet Jacobsen, David Lodeesen, Carla Lyon, Marlene Malone, Caroline Moore, Jim Northrop, Tom Rundle, Cari Soderlund, David Strutin, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Dorene Steggell. **August 17:** Members: Mike Smith (leader) David Cooper, Hilary Fisher, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, David Lodeesen, Carla Lyon, Marlene Malone, Caroline Moore, Jorry Rolfe. **August 24:** Members: Mike Smith (leader), Jennifer Baer, Carla Cooper, Steve Cordon, Hilary Fisher, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, David Lodeesen, Carla Lyon, Caroline Moore, Jim Northrop, Tom Rundle, Art Skach, Blue Wesley, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Lamonte Smith, Dorene Steggell, Wanda Walker.

## Waldo Loop

July 9, 2016

Leader: Randy Sinnott

Photographer: Holger Krentz

Hike: 10.3 miles, 2,000 ft. (Difficult)

THIS WAS AN EARLY START FOR A DATE THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN WARM. Instead, cool, rainy weather was forecast. Driving up to Oakridge there were patches of blue sky but as we climbed higher into the Cascades up Salmon Creek road, it became apparent we had entered the clouds. The first three miles to the Waldo lookout were a steady climb. All the elevation of this nine mile loop was behind us. The trail up had been recently cleared of blowdowns and was in good shape. On top, we lunched while the sun made feeble efforts to break through. We continued down the ridge toward Waldo, unable to see the lake and encountering thick huckleberry stands growing over the trail. These bushes were wet and soon soaked the legs of the unprepared. The trail was all but erased in sections from little recent use. Also, it was not cleared and there were several blowdowns across the trail, most easily stepped over. We began encountering long sun breaks and pant legs dried between the recurring wades through more huckleberries—no berries, yet. Sorry, bears.

We visited Chetlo Lake and opted not to do the extra mile that would have put us at Elbow Lake. Mosquitoes found us



whenever we stopped for more than a minute. We hiked on to Waldo Meadows, by now in full sun. The meadows were lush with hellebore, cow parsnip and tiger lilies, but not the rainbow palette of flowers found on steeper, drier, rocky slopes. The side trip to Upper Salmon Lake and nearby waterfall was well worth the extra mile. Now we could see the summit of Waldo Mountain bathed in sunlight. Unfortunately, our hour on top was not so well-timed. We hiked out the last two and a half miles along a near level gradient through old growth forest. A grove of chinquapin grows here that is the most impressive I've ever encountered. Thanks to the great spirit of the group for making this a memorable hike! Members: Ben Brown, Marguerite Cooney, Tom Etges, Holger Krentz, Caroline Moore, Jorry Rolfe, Randy Sinnott.

## Middle Pyramid

July 10, 2016

Leader: David Adkins

Hike: 4 miles, 1,800 ft. (Moderate)

THE WEATHER FORECAST CALLED FOR MAY-LIKE CONDITIONS with 100% showers and a snow level of 6,500 feet. The list of hikers willing to brave the rain dropped to five. We all drove up in one car. It was nice not having to caravan with multiple vehicles given the fact there are several intersections, marked and unmarked, on Lava Lake Road. If there is one word that describes this hike, varied comes to mind. Everyone enjoyed the walk through the forest with trees up to five feet diameter, a rare glacier cirque for this part of the Cascades, and a wide variety of wildflowers. The summit was soaked in, windy and cool. After a few pictures, the group headed back down to a sheltered spot in the forest for lunch. The walk back down the trail gave everyone another chance to take in the beauty of this great hike. Members: David Adkins, Steve Cordon, Barbara Gunther, Daphne James. Nonmembers: Debra Savelle.

## Grasshopper Mountain

July 12, 2016

Leader: Rob Castleberry

Photographer: Keiko Bryan

Hike: 6 miles, 1,200 ft. (Moderate)

THE OBSIDIANS HADN'T HAD A HIKE TO Grasshopper Meadows and Grasshopper Mountain in 21 years—surprising since this area northeast of Oakridge has a lot to offer. After

a short walk through the forest, we began breaking to openings with a variety of flowers, then climbed steeply to the immense sloping meadow at the top. This was promoted as “slow-paced hike stopping to look at blooms, bugs, and birds”. Blooms of owl’s clover and penstemons were stars of the flower show. Cool temperatures reduced butterfly activity, but some settled very nicely for our viewing. Clouds covered the snowy peaks to the north and south, but we could still see a lot. At the top we headed east along the rocky ridge top but turned back due to a lot of blowdown. After lunch we headed back to the west where most of us scrambled up to the top of Grasshopper Mt. and more expansive views from the old lookout site. Keiko was sweep as we neared the top, clipping back some brush from our path,



when she heard a hissing sound from under some of the huge boulders and saw the entrance which looked like an animal’s den. We walked by gingerly on our return, but Nancy heard hissing as well. No one chose to get close to the entrance, no close encounters ensued, and we went on down the mountain. UPDATE: It was a juvenile raptor hissing! Mountain bikers from Oakridge came up there a couple weeks later, and one of them met with a badger fiercely charging out of its den! Quite surprising on a rocky mountain top at 5,600 feet elevation. Members: Keiko Bryan, Rob Castleberry, David Cooper, David Lodeesen, Diane Schechter, Cari Soderlund, Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Deborah Sinnott, Diantha Hull.

**Spencer Butte Loop**  
**July 13, 2016**  
**Leader: Tom Rundle**  
**Hike: 7.2 miles, 1,890 ft. (Moderate)**

COOL, MISTY MORNING with a few drops of rain. Members: Tom Rundle.

**Oregon Dunes**  
**July 14, 2016**  
**Leader: Tom Rundle**  
**Hike: 7.4 miles, 763 ft. (Moderate)**

STARTING AT OREGON DUNES PARKING LOT, we hiked to the beach for a sunny walk south toward Tahkenitch Creek. We crossed the creek barefoot at low tide and ate lunch on the other side. We continued south on the beach to the Three Mile Lake exit. At the next trail junction we turned north and

continued through the dunes for 1.3 miles to the Tahkenitch Creek Trail. We followed this trail to a second crossing of the creek at N43\*48.954' W124\*09.578'. I have recorded the GPS coordinates for future leads in order to avoid bushwhacking to the second creek crossing. After the creek crossing we climbed a 40-foot dune and hiked 1.7 miles into a nasty headwind back to the parking lot. The leader made a minor error in this exploratory hike, underestimating the total loop distance by 0.8 miles. Total distance according to GPS was about 8.2 miles. Members: Tom Rundle. Nonmembers: Lamonte Smith.

**Browder Ridge**  
**July 17, 2016**  
**Leader & Photographer: Kathy Randall**  
**Hike: 9.2 miles, 2,200 ft. (Difficult)**

WE HAD A BEAUTIFUL DAY FOR THIS HIKE—sunshine, pleasant temperatures, thunderclouds rising in the distance—but no storms developed. Wildflowers were blooming in abundance both in forest and meadows. Hikers were able to enjoy a nice patch of wild strawberries about mid-way through the hike. The views from the high point of Browder Ridge were fantastic. We only encountered one hiker on the summit and



*Sue and Becky enjoying the view from Browder Ridge*

two on our hike out. This great trail is very underutilized! Note that the trip mileage differs from Sullivan’s guidebook and was adjusted based on Tom’s GPS stats. Members: Steve Adey, Marguerite Cooney, Steve Cordon, Lana Lindstrom, Becky Lipton, David Lodeesen, Kathy Randall, Tom Rundle, Diane Schechter, Cari Soderlund, Darko Sojak, Sue Wolling.

**Mt. Pisgah under the Full Moon**  
**July 19, 2016**  
**Leader: Mike Smith**  
**Hike: 3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)**

WE HAD A LOVELY EVENING TO HIKE UP MT. PISGAH, arriving just in time for moonrise and simultaneous sunset. The Moon rose north of where it did in June, as it should have, we could see Diamond Peak and South Sister. All was right with the world we saw, and the worlds we saw. Members: Rick Ahrens, Janet Jacobsen, David Lodeesen, Verlean McCoy, Caroline Moore, Ken Parramore, Mike Smith. Nonmembers: Diantha Hull, Dorene Steggell, Suzanne Schultz.

## Spencer Butte Loop

July 20, 2016

Leader: Tom Rundle

Hike: 7.2 miles, 1,890 ft. (Moderate)

AFTER COMPLETING THE FIRST SUMMIT IN A RECORD TIME of about 95 minutes, Steve Cordon and I decided to do a second summit for a total distance of 8.5 miles and elevation gain of 2,582 feet. Steve led most of the hike at a blazing pace. Members: Steve Cordon, Tom Rundle.

## Heceta Head Loop

July 21, 2016

Leader: Tom Rundle

Hike: 6.5 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

STARTING AT WASHBURNE PARK, WE WALKED SOUTH on the beach to the headlands for a brief look at the geology. An unusually low negative tide offered a chance to explore some fascinating tidal pools full of dozens of weird marine organisms. We followed the Hobbit Trail up to highway 101 and took the newly improved connecting trail to the lighthouse for lunch. Although tours of the lighthouse were available, we were not allowed to go up the stairs to see the beacon lens. After lunch we planned to follow the Valley trail back to Washburne. However, the Valley Trail was closed, so we took the Hobbit Trail back to the beach and retraced our path north to the parking lot. This added about half a mile to the hike for a total of 7 miles. Members: Joella Ewing, May Fogg, Jane Hackett, Tom Rundle. Nonmembers: Ginger Freeman and Alice Chailloleau.

## Matthieu Lakes

July 22, 2016

Leader: Betty Grant

Hike: 10 miles, 800 ft. (Difficult)

OUR CREW WAS COMPRISED OF MEMBERS, a past member, and nonmembers including a traveler from Ukraine who now lives in Germany. We shared stories, laughter and a perfect weather day. Mosquitoes were only a minimal factor in the first mile out of the parking lot. Matthieu Lakes are a delight, but we walked on by planning to lunch at the junction of PCT and Scott's Trail, our halfway point. However, before we reached that goal, the group scattered with four hikers given the green light to ascend Yapoah Crater which we were skirting around. Five continued on the trail to the junction and two took a seat on a log under trees to await the others return. Reconvening more quickly than expected, we headed back to South Matthieu where most rested and/or finished lunch, while Valerie and Betty took a quick swim. Much of this hike is facing the Three Sisters with the North Sister seemingly touchable. Along the way, the view opens all the way north to Mt. Jefferson with a peek at Mt. Hood in the far north. Janet Jacobsen was one of the Yapoah Crater summitters and says she will lead a hike soon with that destination as the goal. Mileage round trip to Scott's Trail Junction was 11 miles. Elevation gain estimate to Scott's Trail Junction: 1,400 feet with Yapoah Crater adding maybe 300 feet more. Members: Carla Cooper, David Cooper, May Fogg, Betty Grant, Janet Jacobsen, Valerie Metcalfe, Tom Rundle, Art Skach. Nonmembers: Mary Frazer, Teresa Bowen, Inna Schumacher.

## Scott Mountain/ Benson Lake

July 23, 2016

Leader: Sue Wolling

Photographer: Kathy Randall

Hike: 10 miles, 1,300 ft. (Difficult)

AFTER DRIVING ON 1.5 MILES OF POTHoles that helped us relate to the Santiam Wagon Road across the lava that we would see later in the day, we jockeyed for parking spaces at the crowded Scott Lake trailhead. A mile or so into our hike, we stopped to admire beautiful Benson Lake, and then another mile later we arrived at the even more striking Tenas Lakes. Views here were so stunning that a few thousand mosquitoes joined us, and followed us most of the way to the summit of Scott Mountain. We quickly forgot about the mosquitoes as we admired the dazzling view of all of the Cascade



Obsidians admiring Tenas Lake

peaks from Mount Hood to Diamond Peak. After lunch and photo ops, we headed down via Hand Lake, through large areas of dead trees. While hiking alongside a lava field, we stopped to look at what we agreed to call the remnants of the Santiam Wagon Road that Bill Sullivan claims are there. Continuing with views of North and Middle Sister directly in front of us, we came to Hand Lake. On a quick side trip to check out the Hand Lake Shelter, we stumbled across dozens of tiny toads (or frogs?) hidden in the grasses alongside the trail. We wished them good health and lots of mosquitoes to eat as we completed our hike on this picture-perfect July day in the Cascades. Members: Rob Boese, Ben Brown, Lisa Grissell, Lana Lindstrom, Kathy Randall, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Sue Wolling. Nonmembers: Marissa Athens, Catherine Poulsen.

## Three Fingered Jack/P.C.T.

July 24, 2016

Leader: David Cooper

Hike: 14.4 miles, 1,800 ft. (Difficult)

AN EARLY START PUT US ON THE TRAIL UNDER CLEAR SKIES while the temperatures were still cool. The first few miles took us through part of the 2003 B&B fire area. This section was surprisingly beautiful. The dead snags contrasted with the low greenery and bright spots of scarlet gilia and penstemon. Next we passed through trees untouched by the fire and came to a good view of Three Fingered Jack. A little farther

on was a more impressive view, but we spent a lot of time looking at our feet as we crossed the rocky gullies on Jack's open western slope. Another two miles and the PCT crosses the crest to the east. Here we were rewarded with views down into Canyon Creek Meadows, up at Jack's craggy spires, and across the Cascades to the west. Many of us had been to Canyon Creek Meadows before and really enjoyed this new, spectacular perspective. Some other hikers joined us as Tom Rundle gave the group a geology lesson about the formation of the area. After enjoying lunch at our ridge top viewpoint, we retraced our steps. Along the way views of places like Maxwell and Red Buttes and Santiam, Berley and Duffy Lakes prompted talk of the places we have been and/or want to visit. Members: Marguerite Cooney, David Cooper, Steve Cordon, Laurie Funkhouser, Daphne James, Becky Lipton, David Lodeesen, Kathy Randall, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Mike Smith, Cari Soderlund.

**Spencer Butte Sunrise**  
**July 24, 2016**  
**Leader: Darko Sojak**  
**Hike: 5.2 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)**

OUR EARLY MORNING CREW FOUND A CLOSED GATE on Spencer Butte main parking lot so we moved cars a couple of miles back to 52<sup>nd</sup> and Willamette. Under the moonlight, we briskly hiked Ridgeline Trail through Spencer Butte West Ridge Park and reached the top of Spencer Butte in time for sunrise, 5:52 AM. At that time fog covered top of the butte. Due to closed gate our planned 2.2 mile hike was stretched to 5.2 mile. Members: Christiane Hougardy, Mark Hougardy, Holger Krentz, Darko Sojak.

**Spencer Butte Loop**  
**July 27, 2016**  
**Leader: Tom Rundle**  
**Hike: 7 miles, 2,000 ft. (Moderate)**

I ENJOYED A QUIET CLIMB UP THE WEST shaded by the ridge . After some reflection, I decided to make it the last official trip for a while. Members: Tom Rundle.

**Thousand Creek Gorge**  
**July 29, 2016**  
**Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak**  
**Hike: 2 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)**

AFTER A LONG DRIVE FROM EUGENE WE ARRIVED at Virgin Valley, NV. First we visited the nearby gemstone expo at



Opal Negra Mining. A couple of miles further, in rustic non-reservable Virgin Valley Campground, we set our tents on the dusty field. Then we drove a couple of miles to spectacu-



*Kathy entering Thousand Creek Gorge*

lar Thousand Creek Gorge, where we took a short exploratory hike. After our return to the campground, we jumped in the warm pool full of small fish and tadpoles. Noisy Bullfrogs and buzzing mosquitoes from nearby Dufurrena Ponds rounded out our long day. Members: Holger Krentz, Carol Petty, Kathy Randall, Darko Sojak.

**Lowder Mountain**  
**July 30, 2016**  
**Leader: Judy Terry**  
**Photographer: Carla Cooper**  
**Hike: 5.6 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)**

OUR SMALL CONGENIAL GROUP LEISURELY CLIMBED to the Lowder Mountain plateau. We enjoyed a clear view of the Cascades, Mt. Hood to Mt. Bachelor. A leader always hopes



*Enjoying the view*

that views of the mountains will be there for everyone to enjoy. The temperature remained very comfortable the entire day. That was a treat because it had been in the 90s in the valley days prior to our hike. Our new member, Caralynn, age 6, did an outstanding job on the hike. We also enjoyed the com-

pany of another soon-to-be-member, Todd Papasadero. Members: Carla Cooper, David Cooper, May Fogg, Caralynn Judy, Judy Terry. Nonmembers: Todd Papasadero.

## **Skinner Butte/Art Walk**

**August 6, 2016**

**Leader: Joella Ewing**

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

**IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL COOL, SUNNY MORNING TO DO SKINNER BUTTE.** The most eventful occurrence was finding the strewn and filthy contents of a stolen backpack that included an envelop of cancelled checks from 1983 and a current credit card, so I turned them over to the police. Lunch at the Fifth Street Public market preceded the retracing of the previous evening's art walk, plus a few hidden gems people walk by all the time without noticing. The hidden gems include the post office murals, Dallas Cole's huge tile piece that starts outside and continues past the doorway into the entry of the Hilton, the memorial outside the Hult Center to the victims of the interment of U.S. Japanese citizens during WWII, and the rotating art show on the second floor of the library. Note: Yuan Hopkins knows just about every artist in this town. The gallery owners greeted her by name nearly everywhere we went. What a resource she is! Members: Clara Emlen, Joella Ewing, Robert Freed, Yuan Hopkins, Michelle Tambellini.

## **Highway to Highway**

**August 13, 2016**

**Leader: David Cooper**

**Hike: 17.1 miles, 1,720 ft. (Difficult)**

**LOOKED LIKE IT WAS GOING TO BE A HOT DAY.** Our hardy troop of six was on the trail by 8:30 AM and headed out through the lava toward Belknap. The pace was brisk, aiming to get through the lava sections before it got hot. We had some clear views of Mount Washington, unlike last year when clouds surrounded the mountain. Some of us traveled along the trail for a while with some PCT through-hikers. Based on last year's hike we arranged to meet our support vehicles near the northern edge of the Mt. Washington Wilderness near Big Lake at 2:00. Today's speedy group of hikers arrived at the boundary well-ahead of our support. Four of the group decided to push on the last four miles to the Santiam Highway and two caught a ride when the support car showed up. Before long we were all reunited at the Santiam PCT parking area and shared ice cold beverages with the support group hikers. A special thanks to the support group. They had dropped us off at the trailhead on Highway 242, gone to Sisters for coffee and then did their own hike along the Metolius before picking us up. Our highway to highway hikers greatly appreciated not having to worry about key exchanges or car shuttles. Members: Marguerite Cooney, David Cooper, Laurie Funkhouser, David Lodeesen, Mike Smith, David Strutin.

## **Highway to Highway Support/Metolius**

**August 13, 2016**

**Leader: Carla Cooper**

**Hike: 6.2 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)**

**HAVING LEFT SPRINGFIELD AT 6:30 AM,** we dropped our hik-

ers off at the Belknap Crater trailhead at 8:30. We drove on to Sisters and enjoyed a leisurely hour in the shade at Sisters Coffee Company. Back on the road, we made a short detour off Highway 20 to see where the turn for the Black Butte trailhead is. Once we made it to Wizard Falls Fish Hatchery, we took a two-hour hike along the beautiful Metolius River. It was very hot, but we all agreed we would rather be hiking there than on the highway to highway hike. We ate lunch and enjoyed the breeze beside the river at the hatchery and then our group split up. Two of us drove on to meet the hikers at the 13-mile trailhead while the other two lingered for a little while at the fish hatchery. Hikers and drivers all met up again about 3:00 at the Santiam Pass trailhead. Everyone in both groups seemed well-satisfied with their day's effort as well as eager to get back in the air-conditioned cars. Members: Carla Cooper, Janet Jacobsen, Eveyln Nagy, Nancy Whitfield.

## **Green Lakes**

**August 14, 2016**

**Leader: Daphne James**

**Photographer: Lamonte Smith**

**Hike: 8.4 miles, 1,100 ft. (Moderate)**

**I RANK GREEN LAKES AS ONE OF THE FIVE BEST HIKES** in the Central Cascades. It is also one of the most popular. When we arrived at the trailhead, the parking lot was full and we had to park on the shoulder of Cascade Lakes Hwy. The ranger said this is one of the areas being considered for special permit-only camping. As expected, the hike was wonderful. A light cloud covering kept the trail cooler but



**Green Lakes Trail**

still allowed for great mountain views. We hiked up Fall Creek, enjoying the sparkling water and small cascading waterfalls. After several miles, the trees give way some and the trail opens up. Here wildflowers abound along the creek and large black boulders reflect the sun. We continued along to our spectacular lunch spot on the largest of the Green Lakes. We spent a leisurely lunch taking in the dual close-up views of South Sisters and Broken Top mountains. As for swim-ability, let me just say Green Lake is a darn cold dunk. Our crew had a fabulous day and are already talking about next year's hike to this great wilderness area. Members: Daphne James, Lynn Meacham, David Reinhard. Nonmembers: Lamonte Smith, Victoria Ilovayskaya.

**Black Crater**  
**August 15, 2016**  
**Leader: Mike Smith**  
**Hike: 7.4 miles, 2,500 ft. (Difficult)**

THIS WAS PERHAPS THE STRONGEST GROUP OF OBSIDIANS I have led. Despite its being Monday, the parking lot had an unusual number of cars, and the trail was more crowded than I expected. Nevertheless, all of us got to the top of Black Crater in less than an hour and a half, and we had the summit to ourselves for an hour. It was a sunny day, with some smoke coming from the Redmond area, but the mountains were easily visible and for those of us who had done the pass-to-pass hike two days before, it was easy to see where our route took us. We came down in the dust, although there were wildflowers at the summit and 242 had a lot of wildflowers on the shoulders. Members: Steve Cordon, David Lodeesen, Tom Rundle, Randy Sinnott, Mike Smith, David Strutin, Elle Weaver.

**Obsidian Jingles Hike**  
**August 16, 2016**  
**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**  
**Hike: 2 miles, (Easy)**

WE STROLLED THROUGH CAMPUS and enjoyed pastries at Sweet Life Petite before we made our final stop at the Museum of Natural and Cultural History. We wanted to see the obsidian jingles or jingles in the exhibit, *Strung Together—Beads, People, and History*. The Native American women hung rows of jingles from their dress to create a jingling sound as the dancer moved. There was an historical photograph of a dress with obsidian jingles. In one display, we could touch the obsidian pieces and hear them jingle. The volunteer docent, Carol, captivated us with her stories of the beads. Members: Carla Cooper, Clara Emlen, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen, Caralynn Judy, Ruthy Kanagy, Joanne Ledet, Margaret Prentice, Jorry Rolfe, Karla Rusow. Nonmembers: Diana Wheat.

**Mt. Pisgah Sunset/Full Moon Rise**  
**August 18, 2016**  
**Leader: Mike Smith**  
**Hike: 3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)**

Seven of us, including new hiker Morgan Steuber, met at Mt. Pisgah and took the 7 and 4 trails up to the top, almost missing a very nice sunset over a hazy-smoggy Eugene, on a warm night with offshore flow. The moon rose further to the east than a month ago, consistent with August full moons, and when it had cleared the area near Deception, it was fairly dark and we walked back down. The temperature was a lot cooler near the bottom. Members: Rick Ahrens, Janet Jacobsen, David Lodeesen, Evelyn Nagy, Mike Smith. Nonmembers: Morgan Steuber.

**Pair O'Cones**  
**August 21, 2016**  
**Leader: Mike Smith**  
**Hike: 16 miles, 2,700 ft. (Difficult)**

THIS WAS A GREAT HIKE WITH EQUALLY GREAT HIKERS. We had a surprisingly cool day with nice wind, not at all the hot

weather that was expected. We started at Obsidian Trailhead and were met at the Glacier Creek junction by a ranger who checked our permit and took our picture. After a “you guys seem to know what you are doing,” we headed up to the PCT and then to Opie Dilldock and Glacier View. We summited Collier Cone with moderate wind, not spending much time



*At the Obsidian Loop-Glacier Creek junction  
Benjamin, Marguerite, Dave, Mike, Steve, Lynn, Ben*

on the summit. We came back down, had lunch at Glacier View, packed up and hiked over to Four-in-One Cone, climbing it as well. On the way, it was the first time I had seen water in the creek by Minnie Scott Springs. We finished the loop back at the Obsidian Trailhead about 4:00. I would have liked to have added on the falls, but it would have been too much for this day. It took us 7.5 hours and was 17.3 miles. Members: Ben Brown, Marguerite Cooney, Steve Cordon, Lynn Meacham, Mike Smith, David Strutin. Nonmembers: Benjamin Pellegrom.

**Spencer Butte**  
**August 21, 2016**  
**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**  
**Hike: 6.2 miles, 1,530 ft. (Moderate)**

TRIPLE DIGIT TEMPERATURES IN THE PRECEDING DAYS could have been the reason that I was the only one signed up to enjoy a surprising cooler hike on the dry trail to the top of Spencer Butte. Members: Janet Jacobsen.

**The Wife**  
**August 26, 2016**  
**Leader: Daphne James**  
**Assistant Leader: Steven Johnson**  
**Photographer: David Lodeesen**  
**Hike: 10 miles, 1,700 ft. (Difficult)**

THE OBSIDIANS HAVE NOT HIKE THE WIFE since Sept of 2004. As I recall, it snowed that day on the 7,054 foot summit. Now, twelve years later, we had clear, blue skies as we set out from the trailhead at Devil's Lake. We took the most direct route; Elk-Devils trail, which passes between Kaleetan and Kokostick Buttes, to the LeConte Crater trail across the Wickiup Plain. There is no official route up The Wife, but the north and east sides are treacherous, so it may be best to head west, south of the mountain. One suggestion





**Daphne, Tom, Jorma having lunch at the summit of The Wife with Middle and South Sisters in the background**

would be to take the route we returned by. To take this route, head west across the lower meadow from the La Conte trail before you get to the PCT (N44.03.331 W121.48.302). Continue west through trees about 1/4 mile to the upper meadow. Continue west through forested area. From coordinates N44.03.504 W121.49.295 you can start scrambling up. It is about an 800-foot gain to the ridge top. Once on the ridge, simply scramble east along the rocks to lunch with spectacular mountain views. Thanks to Tom Rundle for providing coordinates for this report. Members: Daphne James, David Lodeesen, Jorma Meriaho, Tom Rundle.

## **Pisgah Obscura**

**August 28, 2016**

**Leader: John Jacobsen**

**Hike: 6.5 miles, 1,400 ft. (Moderate)**

IT HAS BEEN QUITE A FEW WEEKS SINCE WE HAVE SEEN marine air around Eugene, but fall must be nearing since Mt. Pisgah was socked in on this morning. Actually it was a nice relief from the heat we have been having. Four early risers once again enjoyed some of the less traveled trails of Buford Park by heading out through the Arboretum and up the west side of Pisgah to the top. We wandered down an unnumbered trail to Trail 24, the connector between Trails 2 and 4, following it to the newly constructed section of Trail 4 and taking it back to Trail 3, around the north meadow and to the parking lot. There were a number of stops to munch on the late blackberries. Members: David Cooper, Steve Cordon, John Jacobsen, David Lodeesen.



## **Summer Camp**

### **Camp Robertson - Ruby Mountains**

**July 30, 2016**

**Leader: John Jacobsen**

**Photographer: Darko Sojak**

**C**AMP ROBERTSON IN THE RUBY MOUNTAINS, about 25 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada was enjoyed by 83 Obsidian summer campers and guests. The Elko Lion's Club

Camp Lamoille, dramatically located in Right Fork Canyon in the Rubies, was our home base for the week of hiking, mountain climbing and generally enjoying this unique area. Camp Lamoille has a main lodge (listed on the National Register of Historical Places) with kitchen and dining areas, a bath house with hot showers and flush toilets, a propane generator for electricity, nine A-frames to stay in, and a variety of areas for tenting and parking RVs. This year we had a caterer provide our dinners, while we provided a continental breakfast with hot cereal and lunch fixings for people to prepare their trail lunches. Many of the day hikes/activities were within close proximity to camp. The Right Fork Trail took off from camp taking hikers farther up the canyon for spectacular views or on to Goat Lake for a longer hike and even more spectacular scenery. A six-mile drive up the Lamoille Canyon Scenic Byway from camp brought us to the Road's End Trailheads, the gateway to several popular hikes: one heading north to Island Lake and another heading south to Dollar Lakes, Lamoille Lake, Liberty Pass and Liberty Lake. On the first day of camp, one group headed farther afield to Soldier Basin/Hidden Lakes. Twenty-two people headed up to Ruby Dome, with many deciding to call it a day at Griswold Lake and only eight proceeding on to summit the Dome. Thomas Canyon, the next canyon up from our Right Fork Canyon, was also a popular hike. Trips to the museums and other attractions in and around Elko provided a break during the week for some of our campers. Our evening campfires included trip reports, skits, singing and 'The President's Tea'. S'mores were enjoyed around the campfire a couple of the evenings. The President's Tea honored President Shellie Robertson, the camp's namesake with many tributes and gifts including the passing on from last year's President Matt Bell to Shellie of the infamous presidential necklace. Members: Rick Ahrens, Jan Anselmo, Richard Anselmo, Charles Ashmore, Barbara Aten, Marissa Athens,



**Lion's Club Camp Lamoille viewed from NF-660**

Jennifer Barnes, Patricia Bean, Matthew Bell, Oliver Bell, Brad Bennett, Keiko Bryan, Marianne Camp, Dan Christensen, Alan Curtis, Wendy Dame, Don Doerr, Larry Dunlap, Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, Hilary Fisher, Bea Fontana, Nikki Frank, Laurie Funkhouser, Kitson Graham, Peter Graham, Jane Hackett, John Hegg, Scott Hovis, Richard Hughes, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Daphne James, Brenda Kameenui, Holger Krentz, Kathy Lindstrom, Lana Lindstrom, Mary Livingston, David Lodeesen, Darlene

Mancuso, Helen Martz, Steve McManigal, Lynn Meacham, Valerie Metcalfe, Caroline Moore, Patty Morrow, Evelyn Nagy, Nola Nelson, Judy Newman, Jim Northrop, John Pegg, Carol Petty, Kathy Randall, Shellie Robertson, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Karla Rusow, Diane Schechter, Chris Shuraleff, Randy Sinnott, Art Skach, Mike Smith, Cari Soderlund,

Darko Sojak, Chris Stockdale, David Strutin, Pamela Swisher, Ron Swisher, Fumiyo Tao, Charles Thomas, Sam Tracer, Nancy White, Jim Whitfield, Nancy Whitfield, Lyndell Wilken, Kris Wolters. Nonmembers: Drew Babb-Hackett, Barbara Kay Cosby, Beth Machamer, Zeljko Marin, Silva Marin, Igor Marin, Taylor Morrow.

# SUMMER CAMP—GETTING IN AND SETTLED



*Waiting at the entrance to Camp Lamoille*



*Holger Krentz moving in*



*Dinner time!*



*Set up in comfort! Darko and Holger*



*Fumiyo on the Thomas Canyon trail*



*Silva Marin, Liberty Pass Trail*

## SOME of the HIKES

*Photographers: Darko Sojak,  
Zeljko Marin, Silva Marin, and Igor Marin*



*Liberty Pass Trail*



*Oliver Bell at Lamoille Lake*



*Mariposa Lily*



*Filtering water in the creek above Thomas Canyon*



*Matt & Oliver Bell on the top of Liberty Peak*



*Nancy and Silva near Lamoille Lake*



*Nancy and Jim near Liberty Lake*

# Camp Robertson Ramblings

**T**HE RIGHT FORK CANYON WAS A SPECTACULAR PLACE TO CAMP, plus it provided shade in morning and late afternoon. Without the long drives to trailheads, campers had time to relax, visit, and guzzle Lana's ice tea and lemonade. It was easy to get acquainted at meal times, on hikes, in the showers, and just hanging out. The Himalayan snowcock skit was hilarious. Who was the Obsidian member who played Ruby Snowcock wearing a red boa and red negligee? Oliver Bell was a happy bell ringer. The Himalayan snowcock was illusive until the last day. Liberty Peak climbers came back with the news that they saw a flock disappear down the mountain side.

We learned a few things: Tom Rundle led a geology hike, Alan Curtis organized a wood sample display to identify local trees, and Richard Essenberg gave a talk on the Transcontinental Railroad. Jim Whitfield, operations manager, received many thanks for unplugging the drains in the women's shower. It was a gross job!

The campers who got up early to turn on the generator, make the coffee, boil the water for the oatmeal, serve the breakfast and put out lunch fixins never looked like they were sleep deprived. Leaders who volunteered to lead the thirty-four trips were much appreciated. After sweating on a long, hard hike, a cooling swim in Liberty Lake, Goat Lake, Island Lake, or Lamoille Lake was a refreshing treat. Two teenagers will soon be junior members. Drew, Jane Hackett's sixteen old grandson, was thrilled that he summited Ruby Dome. Igor Marin, Darko Sojak's nephew, climbed Liberty Peak along with Oliver Bell, the youngest Obsidian member. Silva, Zelino and Igor Marin wrote: "It was a pleasure meeting so many great people and experiencing the beautiful nature. Thank you very much for making our camping experience unforgettable."

Our enthusiastic caterer, Joshua, wrote, "Thank you Obsidians! I thoroughly enjoyed meeting all of your group, sharing stories, and cooking your meals. I appreciate the feedback and the opportunity to provide services. It was a great learning experience and in 15 years' time would be thrilled to follow up with another experience... you all are a great group and it was everything I expected."

So do we hope to return!

Compiled by Janet Jacobsen



## Song for President's Tea for Shellie Robertson

On top of Old Ruby  
All covered with sun  
We met climbers and hikers  
Out having some fun  
On top of Old Ruby  
There's no cell or telly  
There's lots of great hiking  
We met President Shellie  
Our Shellie will lead you  
Or bring up the rear  
She'll search till she finds you.  
You've nothing to fear  
Our Shellie will teach you  
How to safely climb.  
If you get into trouble  
She'll find you in time.  
Shellie brings you home safely  
You're safe and you're sound.  
If you get lost on mountains,  
You're sure to be found  
On top of Old Ruby  
We're glad we've been sent  
A most capable leader  
A great President.

*Ruby Mountains, 2016*  
Lyrics by : Brenda Kameenui  
& Nancy White

Shellie is enthroned beneath a red umbrella decorated to look like Ruby Dome. Holding a Himalayan Snowcock made by Bea Fontana and Darlene Mancuso. The Camp Robertson sign made by Wes Prouty. The traditional necklace—(what's it made of?) A sagebrush crown made by Nancy Whitfield, and more, including high-heeled (!) ruby slippers. photo by Darko

# Adventures after Summer Camp

Richard Hughes and Lana Lindstrom

**O**N FRIDAY, AFTER ANOTHER FABULOUS CAMP (great setting, hiking, and no election news), we departed Lamoille Canyon. Much appreciation to all who pitched in to clean and pack up—we were on the road by 8:15 AM!

Our first stop was FISH, the local food bank to drop off a box of left-overs. They didn't open until 9 AM, but clients were already patiently waiting. The staff was very grateful to receive lunchmeat, a watermelon, cereal, plus other food items.

The next stop was O'Reilly's Automotive in Elko to buy a quart of oil. When Richard didn't emerge after 15 minutes, Lana went inside to investigate. He was still standing in line! Turns out that their computer systems were down. For each customer, the clerk had to walk back to the shelves to check the price, calculate the sales tax, write up a slip, and take cash or a credit card. The clerk who waited on us didn't know how to calculate the sales tax (nor as it turned out, the percentage). After giving her step by step instructions, Lana ran outside to the car to retrieve exact change.

Finally, we were out of town. Hurling down the highway at 75 mph, Lana opened the glove compartment to retrieve sunglasses. Two eyes peered back. Her primal scream startled Richard, which then caused the vehicle to swerve across the road. She slammed the compartment door shut; Richard regained control and eventually came to a stop. The mouse was unceremoniously captured in a map and flung into the sage brush. We emptied everything out of the glove box; there was some fluff. Hmm—a future home for a family?

Several hours later, we arrived at our overnight accommodations in Plush, Oregon. Shortly thereafter, Lana cautiously opened the glove compartment, and sure enough, there was another mouse in it. She was more gentle this time, picking the critter up by its tail and depositing it in the nearby field. Although Mr. was in Nevada and Mrs. in Plush, Lana was pretty confident that they would each find mates. Once again, she totally cleaned out the compartment.

The next day, we explored nearby Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge. One place not to be missed is Petroglyph Lake where a rocky wall is covered with hundreds of ancient etchings created over 10,000 years ago. We enjoyed the hot springs, saw several herds of pronghorns, three pairs of sand hill cranes, and lots of coots, ducks, geese and blackbirds.

On Sunday, we started home, stopping in Summer Lake to do more birding. As the day heated up, we turned on the car fan and then the air conditioning. There was an unpleasant, intermittent odor not caused by one of us. Upon arriving home, Richard consulted YouTube to confirm that there was a cabin air filter under the glove compartment. Yes, you guessed it—the filter was totally clogged with the makings of a mouse condo. And there was a dead mouse behind the glove compartment. We'll never know if it was a ménage a trois or if the mouse deposited in the Plush field was very brazen and returned to the vehicle. What we do know is that one of the rodents climbed into a daypack (fortunately, not totally zipped up!) on Saturday evening, chewed through a plastic bag, and nibbled on the remains of two apple cores! What audacious critters!



## Scherer Room Exhibit

**W**ATERCOLOR PAINTINGS BY BARBARA ATEN will be on display for several months in the Scherer Room at the Lodge. While in the Scherer Room, take time to browse through the library collection. The bottom shelf has free books donated by Chuck Mitchell.



# At the Lodge



Friday, September 23, 6:30 PM

## Birds and Butterflies at the Border—South Texas Presented by Naturalist Rick Ahrens

**T**HE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY HAS RECORDED MORE THAN 500 BIRD SPECIES, 300 butterfly species, and over 1,200 plant species. With eleven different habitat types, it is one of the most biologically diverse areas you can visit without using a passport. Join local naturalist and longtime Obsidian member, Rick Ahrens, for a lively and informative presentation on the ecological and cultural life at the border.



**September Potluck**  
Friday, September 23, 2016  
Social hour 6 PM, Potluck 6:30 PM, Program 7:30 PM  
Obsidian Lodge

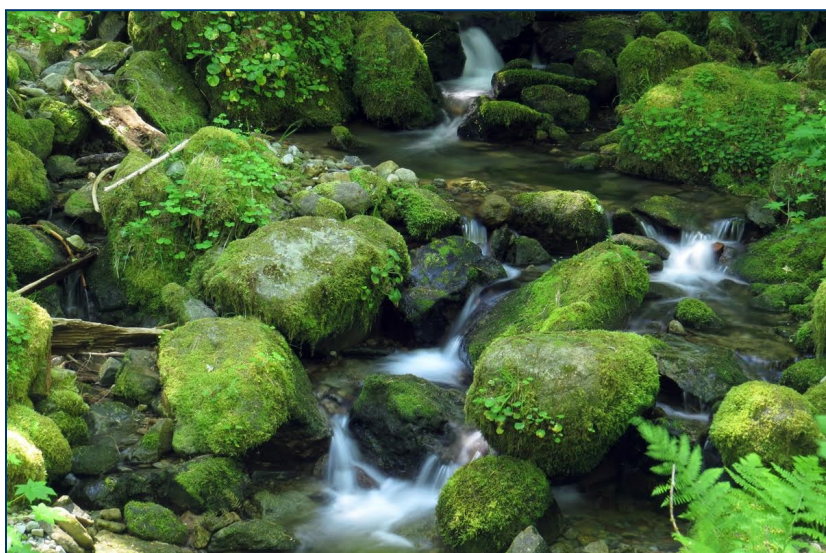
*Bring your favorite potluck dish to share... along with plates, utensils and cups... plus \$1 to help cover club expenses.*



## ExploraTalk

Tuesday, September 27, 7:00 PM

## Douglas Fir National Monument Proposal Slideshow and Talk by David Stone, Photographer



**T**HE JOSHUA TREE, SAGUARO CACTUS, BALD CYPRESS, GIANT SEQUOIA, AND COAST REDWOOD ALL HAVE NAMESAKE NATIONAL MONUMENTS. Join professional photographer David Stone for a slideshow and talk on the proposed Douglas Fir National Monument in Oregon, at the Obsidian Lodge, Tuesday, September 27 at 7:00 PM.

# Obsidian Calendar

## September

10 Sat	<b>Broken Top</b> Climb Hansen ..... 360-852-2041
10 Sat	<b>Secret Spot- Big Bear</b> Hike M Hougar dy ..... 505-7031
10 Sat	<b>Full Ridgeline Blanton Out&amp;Bk</b> Hike D Smith .520-488-9569
11 Sun	<b>Charlton Lake and beach clean up</b> Hike E Sojak.. 525-1124
11 Sun	<b>An Oregon Coast Excursion</b> Bus Beard ..... 994-2337
11 Sun	<b>Opie Dilldock Pass</b> Hike D Johnson ..... 520-2470
14 Wed	<b>Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer Butte</b> Hike M Rolfe ..... 206-9501
16 Fri	<b>Mt. Hubris/Cosmic Wall</b> Climb Reiter ..... 521-8472
16 Fri	<b>Pisgah Sunset/Harvest Moon</b> Hike M... Smith 520-488-9569
17 Sat	<b>Blanton Hts to Spencer Butte</b> Hike M Funkhouser 206-2303
17 Sat	<b>Midnight Lake Loop</b> Hike E Hackett ..... 953-7046
18 Sun	<b>AckerRock-Peregrine</b> Traverse Climb Reiter ..... 521-8472
18 Sun	<b>Redwoods</b> Extended Trip Whitfield..... 343-7163
19 Mon	<b>Lost Coast/North Humboldt Ca. Bk Pk D</b> Hovis... 731-3412
20 Tue	<b>Coffin Mtn/Bachelor Mtn</b> Hike M Jacobsen ..... 206-1251
21 Wed	<b>Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer B</b> Hike M Malone... 503-488-0825
23 Fri	<b>Birds &amp; Butterflies at the Border</b> ..... <b>Potluck</b>
24 Sat	<b>National Public Lands Day</b> Trl Mnt M Bell.... 503-884-8829
24 Sat	<b>Mt. Washington</b> Climb Hansen ..... 360-852-2041
24 Sat	<b>Broken Top</b> Climb Harris..... 521-5807
24 Sat	<b>Fuji Mountain</b> Hike D Wilken ..... 343-3080
24 Sat	<b>SOLVE Beach Cleanup</b> Hike E Sojak ..... 525-1124
24 Sat	<b>Blanton Hts. to Spencer B</b> Hike M Funkhouser .... 206-2303
24 Sat	<b>Three Mile Lake</b> Hike M Hackett..... 953-7046
27 Tue	<b>Douglas Fir National Monument</b> ..... <b>ExploraTalk</b>
28 Wed	<b>Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer Butte</b> Hike M Jacobsen .206-1251
29 Thu	<b>Elijah Bristow State Park</b> Hike E Rundle..... 653-0741
30 Fri	<b>Salmon Lakes/Waldo Wilderness</b> Bk Pk M Hovis . 731-3412

## October

1 Sat	<b>Four-In-One Cone</b> Hike M Smith..... 520-488-9569
1 Sat	<b>Deterring Orchard</b> Bike M Esch ..... 338-8280
2 Sun	<b>Maiden Lake</b> Hike D Hackett..... 953-7046

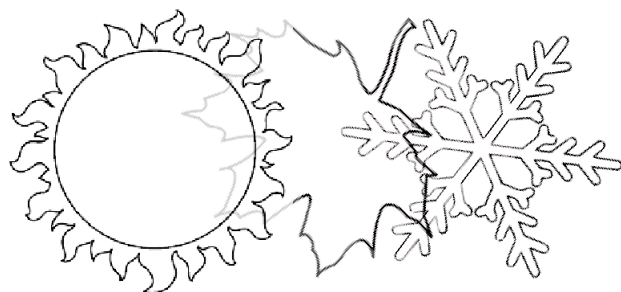
5 Wed	<b>Olallie Mt. Hike</b> M Miller ..... 484-4586
5 Wed	<b>Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer B</b> Hike M Gunther ..... 654-3576
6 Thu	<b>Fall Color &amp; Harvest Time</b> Bus Cutsforth ..... 746-4929
8 Sat	<b>Yoran Lake-Lils Lake Loop</b> Hike D..... Anselmo 285-7596
8 Sat	<b>Patterson Mtn/Lone Wolf Shelter</b> Hike M Hovis... 731-3412
8 Sat	<b>Skinner Butte/Art Walk</b> Hike E Rundle..... 653-0741
8 Sat	<b>Gwynn Creek/Cooks ridge Loop</b> Hike M Sojak .... 525-1124
9 Sun	<b>Clear Lake</b> Hike E Ewing..... 344-9197
12 Wed	<b>Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer Butte</b> Hike M Strutin .... 221-9015
14 Fri	<b>Heceta Head Loop</b> Hike M Rundle ..... 653-0741
15 Sat	<b>Broken Top</b> Climb Hamilton ..... 343-6550
15 Sat	<b>Smith Rock</b> Climb Reiter ..... 521-8472
15 Sat	<b>Pisgah Sunset/Hunter's Moon</b> Hike M Smith 520-488-9569
19 Wed	<b>Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer B</b> Hike M Smith ..... 520-488-9569
21 Fri	<b>The Twins</b> Hike M Lindstrom..... 683-1409
25 Tue	<b>Wilamut Natural Area</b> ..... <b>ExploraTalk</b>
26 Wed	<b>Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer Butte</b> Hike M Cooper ... 868-5427
28 Fri	<b>Aging and staying fit</b> ..... <b>Potluck</b>
29 Sat	<b>Spencer Butte Trl Mnt M Bell</b> ..... 503-884-8829

## November

1 Tue	<b>Delta Ponds</b> Hike M Rundle ..... 653-0741
2 Wed	<b>Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer B</b> Hike M Lindstrom.... 683-1409
5 Sat	<b>Emergency Preparedness Class</b> Wilken ..... 343-3080
8 Tue	<b>Kettle Valley BC Bike Tour</b> ..... <b>ExploraTalk</b>
9 Wed	<b>Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer Butte</b> Hike M Cooper ... 868-5427
12 Sat	<b>Tahkenitch Creek Exploratory</b> Hike M Rundle .... 653-0741
13 Sun	<b>Mt. Pisgah/ Full Moon</b> Hike Hike M Smith .... 520-488-9569
18 Fri	<b>Biking in New Zealand</b> ..... <b>Potluck</b>
26 Sat	<b>Spencer Butte Trl Mnt M Bell</b> ..... 503-884-8829

## December

1 Thu	<b>Willamette Queen Dinner Cruise</b> Bus Beard..... 994-2337
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## Trips for Fall?

**W**E'RE EMBARKING ON SOME OF THE NICEST WEATHER OF THE YEAR—*such* a nice season to spend time in the out-of-doors. The Summer Schedule runs through November 14, so it's not too late for you to add a trip to the offerings.

Contact the Summer Trips Committee: [summertrips@obsidians.org](mailto:summertrips@obsidians.org)

And it's not too *soon* to think about leading a Winter Trip. The season begins November 15. Contact the Winter Trips committee which is now chaired by Dave Lodeesen: [wintertrips@obsidian.org](mailto:wintertrips@obsidian.org)

## Colleen Milliman Birthday Party

**T**HE VENUE WAS PERFECT, THE SURPRISE WAS COMPLETE. Mom's 90<sup>th</sup> surprise birthday party was better than planned in every way. A big part of the thanks goes to the Obsidians who made the Lodge very accessible for set up, those who changed their schedules to make sure the building and grounds were in beautiful condition, and those who came in early to prepare food and drink. And thanks to all of you who came to celebrate her and make it a birthday she will never forget!

Greg Milliman

**FREE!**

Chuck Mitchell wants to give away seven DeLorme maps of Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, California, Arizona, and Utah. He and his wife used them to travel all over the western USA and did not get lost once. Call 344-8371 or email [ocmitch@comcast.net](mailto:ocmitch@comcast.net).



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September 2016



*One of the hikes from Summer Camp in the Ruby Mountains, Nevada . Photo by Daphne James.*