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### Dates to Remember

January 25	Potluck
February 1	Bulletin Deadline
February 6	Board Meeting
February 12	ExploraTalk
March 3	Bus Rally

Current schedules at:

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

Register-Guard – Outdoor Calendar  
Tuesday

Visit our Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/theobsidians](http://www.facebook.com/theobsidians)

## Welcome President Lyndell Wilken!

*Lou Maenz*

**LYNDELL HAS AN ABSOLUTELY STELLAR BACKGROUND FOR THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT.** Born in Champaign, Illinois, she developed a love for the outdoors working on relatives’ farms during the summer. She went on to be an AAU State champion runner for the 880 and the mile while in high school, and then on to college for a degree in Phys Ed and a masters in Education.

She spent 1977 traveling around the world and finally settled in Davis, California where she taught PE at American River College in Sacramento. Then one day she discovered, after a suggestion from a friend, LCC. Most importantly, perhaps, she discovered Springfield and Eugene and the glorious outdoors surrounding them.



It was in 1979, when first living in Eugene, that she took her first hike in Oregon with the Obsidians. The hike was from Lava Camp to the Obsidian Camp trailhead. After taking in the views of the Three Sisters on this spectacular hike, she decided to live in Eugene permanently. She was hired as the Lane Community College Women’s Track & Field / Cross Country coach and Physical Education / Exercise Science and Health instructor in 1980. Thirty-eight years later she is retired except for teaching a Wilderness First Aid class.

Her outdoor pursuits are many and varied including bicycling, hiking, backpacking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and canoeing the Boundary Waters. She served on the High Cascade Forest Volunteers (HCFV) Board for the

last eight years and has adopted Rosary Lakes near Willamette Pass under the umbrella of the HCFV, helping keep the area clean and pristine.

In conjunction with the HCFV she coordinated 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 they have refurbished all the trails, added signage and new diamonds, repaired shelters, and produced a new Willamette Winter Recreation map.

Also—yes, another also—she is a member of the Oregon Shores Coast Watch program and has adopted mile 147 near Gardiner.

Before being elected to be Board President she was on the Obsidian Safety Committee and has been a member of the Board for two years. During her time with the Obsidians, she has led over 25 activities including hiking, biking, skiing, snowshoeing, and has participated in over 100 additional activities.

How excellent to have an accomplished athlete, teacher, outdoors person, and dedicated leader to welcome as the new President.

## IN MEMORIAM

### Jim Duncan 1937–2018

**S**URROUNDED BY FAMILY AND FRIENDS, JIM DUNCAN PASSED AWAY DECEMBER 13 after being diagnosed with lung cancer four months earlier. Jim and his wife Sharon moved to Eugene in 2000 after his retirement as a microbiology professor at Northwestern University School of Medicine in Chicago. They joined the Obsidians in 2001 and quickly became involved in a variety of club activities. Jim led 38 trips, nine of them to Lowder Mountain, participated in 213 trips and earned the Complete Obsidian award. He was Secretary and Vice President before he was elected President in 2009. He served on various committees and chaired the Extended Trips, Summer Camp, and Art Heritage Ad Hoc Committees. He and Sharon designed and installed the new Obsidians sign at the Lodge gate.

Obsidian members smile when they share stories about Jim at summer camp. When he co-chaired the 2006 Summer Camp at Sequim and had to miss his beloved Bach Festival, campers discovered their own hidden musical talents and held a surprise recital in his honor. When he was the responsible person for early morning lunch setup, he was known for his ability to convince hungry hikers to wash their hands singing the ABC song before they could make their lunch. At the Yellowstone Summer Camp, he was thrilled when John Pegg and Rick Ahrens were able to locate the hidden, but revered, Mushroom Pool that contained a thermophilic bacterium, named *Thermus aquaticus* later used to replicate DNA. He gave his enthusiastic campfire trip report in his own unique and understated manner. On the last night at camp he was presented with the Scientific American award and the Innovative Microbiologist Longwinded Lesson.

Jim wrote about our club when he was nominated to serve on the Obsidian Board: *We will always be grateful for the reception we received and we consider the Obsidians to be a superb organization of wonderful people who have brought new fun and friendships into our lives. Consequently, I'm more than happy to do my share to help the organization in any way I can.*

#### Editor's Note:

Two feature articles in past *Bulletins* have more stories about Jim. *Promises of a Year of "Dynamic Blandness!"* (interview for his year as president) [obsidians.org/bulletin/Issues/2008\\_Bulletins/2008\\_12\\_Bulletin.pdf](http://obsidians.org/bulletin/Issues/2008_Bulletins/2008_12_Bulletin.pdf)

*Lodge's Color Team Combines Work with a Little Chianti!*

[http://www.obsidians.org/bulletin/Issues/2007\\_Bulletins/2007\\_03\\_Bulletin.pdf](http://www.obsidians.org/bulletin/Issues/2007_Bulletins/2007_03_Bulletin.pdf)

The complete obituary can be found in the December 21 issue of *The Register-Guard*.

### Sharon Gardner Sahonchik 1931–2017

**S**HARON ELAINE GARDNER SAHONCHIK WAS SEVENTEEN YEARS OLD when she joined the Obsidians in 1947. Her nephew and Obsidian member, Brian Hamilton, wrote about her competing in the 1951 and 1952 John Craig Memorial Ski Classic in the April, 2009 *Bulletin*. Sharon remarked: *That weather was horrendous, and the snow was very heavy and, in those days, we all skied on very long (7-foot or more), wood cross-country skis that you had to judge for the snow conditions for the whole length of the race and wax (blow-torches and klisters) accordingly.* Her obituary can be found at

[bendbulletin.com/obituaries/5740415-151/sharon-elaine-sahonchik](http://bendbulletin.com/obituaries/5740415-151/sharon-elaine-sahonchik).

## Lost Obsidian First Aid Kit

**I**F ANYONE KNOWS WHERE FIRST AID KIT #5 IS we would like to have it returned to the YMCA or Lyndell Wilken. The first aid kits are customized to meet the activities that the Obsidians participate in and it takes time and dollars to replace misplaced kits. If anyone has a lead as to where it can be found let Lyndell Wilken know at [lyndellwilken@gmail.com](mailto:lyndellwilken@gmail.com).

## OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

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

### Officers & Board of Directors

Lyndell Wilken, President  
Dave Cooper, Vice President  
Denise Rubenstein, Secretary  
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer

John Cooper, Sharon Cutsforth, Marci Hansen, Dave Hawkins, Lana Lindstrom, Kathy Randall, 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

Bus..... Sharon Cutsforth  
Climbs ..... Maryanne Reiter  
Concessions ..... Carla Cooper  
Conservation/SciEd ..... K. Coots/J. Rolfe  
Entertainment ..... Lana Lindstrom  
Extended Trips..... Lana Lindstrom  
Finance ..... Stewart Hoeg  
Lodge Building ..... Dave Cooper  
Lodge Grounds ..... John Jacobsen  
Librarian/Historian ..... Lenore McManigal  
Membership ..... Diane Schechter  
Online ..... Wayne Deeter  
Publications ..... Lou Maenz  
Publicity..... Marci Hansen  
Safety..... Lyndell Wilken  
Summer Camp ..... Lana Lindstrom  
Summer Trips ..... Dave Cooper  
Trail Maintenance..... Matt Bell  
Winter Trips..... Steve Cordon

## The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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**Deadline**  
for February Bulletin  
Friday, February 1, 2019

### Editorial Team

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*Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing:*  
Carla Cooper, Bea Fontana, Stewart Hoeg

### Assembly/Mailing Team

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*Team:* Judy Adamecyk, Tom Adamecyk, Don Baldwin, Clara Emlen, Yuan Hopkins, Verna Kocken, Margaret Prentice, and Nancy Raymond

# NOVEMBER BOARD NOTES

**November 8, 2018 by Dave Cooper and Maryanne Reiter**

President John Cooper called the meeting to order. Board members present: Sharon Cutsforth, Dave Cooper, Marci Hansen, Todd Larsen, Lyndell Wilken, Lana Lindstrom and Kathy Randall. Others present: Stewart Hoeg, Denise Rubenstein, Louie Rubenstein, Kathy Hoeg, John Jacobsen, Carla Cooper, Jorry Rolfe, Dave Hawkins.

The Board approved the minutes for October 2018.

**Treasurer's report: Stewart Hoeg:** Stewart reviewed the year-to-date income and expenses and also the balance sheet.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Bus Trips (Sharon Cutsforth):** We have successfully completed all seven scheduled bus trips for 2018 and are currently making plans for the December 8 Christmas Party at the Lodge. Entertainment will feature both the Beard Family with hand bells and electronic keyboard and the BigFoot Lane-Acoustic Bluegrass String Band. We are busy exploring options for 2019 bus trips and will hold a second planning meeting in late November.

**Concessions (Carla Cooper):** We had sales of \$20 at the Potluck, bringing our total October sales up to \$178. Our committee will be meeting before the end of the year to consider new merchandise for 2019.

**Entertainment (Lana Lindstrom):** Mike McCloskey, former national Sierra Club speaker was the presenter at the October potluck; \$40.50 was collected.

**Finance (Stewart Hoeg):** Sent out 2019 Budget worksheet to committee chairs and scheduled budget preparation meeting for the committee.

**Librarian/Historian (Lenore McManigal):** All of the activities from the October *Bulletin* have been recorded on the log sheets. The trip and leader awards/certificates (not the candy bars) have been mailed or given to those who did not attend the Annual Meeting. "2018" has been entered in the appropriate award box in the member's online trip summary account. The award has also been recorded on the individual log sheets.

**Lodge Building (Dave Cooper):** A change has been made to the parking lot lighting. One fixture has been moved from the start of the path to a spot across the driveway. Two lights have replaced this fixture near the path and bike rack. A small emergency light that can double as a flashlight is plugged in near the main entrance door.

**Online (Wayne Deeter):** As part of the implementation of online dues payment, John moved our membership/trips database to a newer version of Filemaker. As is common for such a major change the transition has not been completely smooth. Wayne Deeter.

Members are now able to renew and pay on line. We have found some glitches related to the upgrade. Some of the problems are related to integrating the information into the database and generating the needed reports. The committee (mostly John along with Wayne) are working to address these problems. Diane Schechter.

**Publications (Lou Maenz):** Publications mailed 200 copies of the *Bulletin* in November.

**Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom):** Some progress has been made on planning Summer Camp at Glacier National Park, but not enough to make a formal announcement.

**Summer Trips (Dave Cooper):** In October we had 23 trips. Participants levels were 218 for members and 29 for non-members. These outings generated \$324 from trip fees.

**Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell):** There was one outing during the last month. We cleaned both the summit steps and the concrete steps at the trailhead in Spencer Butte Park.

**Winter Trips (Steve Cordon):** The Winter Trips committee is ready for our November 15 season start. There are 29 winter trips scheduled so far. We could use more trips, but we're making progress. Previous trip leaders have been emailed/reminded about winter trips and a brief notice is going into the next *Bulletin*. I have a good committee returning, with winter expertise and backup admins. (Steve Cordon, Mike Smith, Daphne James, Darian Morray, David Lodeesen, David Cooper)

## OLD BUSINESS

No old business

## NEW BUSINESS

- The Board approved the payment of the listed bills in the Treasurer's report.
- Committee reports were approved.
- Election of 2019 Board Officers: Incoming Board members vote, out-going Board member does not. The 2019 Board elected Lyndell Wilken President, Dave Cooper Vice President, Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer and Denise Rubenstein Secretary.
- Dave Cooper was approved to be added to Winter Trips.
- Membership - Applicant approval: Julia Harvey, Guru Parkash Khalsa, Hargobind Khalsa and Janet Soto. All applicants were approved.
- Nominations of Obsidians to participate in the NOLS classes scheduled for January and March were provided by Dave Cooper.
- The Board approved extending the agreement we have with REI for use of the Lodge in 2018 to cover the NOLS classes in 2019. REI will host several classes at the Lodge, and in lieu of rent the Obsidians will be given two spots in each class at no charge. The Board will select the persons to attend the classes. Dave Cooper will have a representative of REI sign an agreement to that effect.

## OPEN DISCUSSION ITEMS

- There was discussion of the holiday get-together scheduled immediately after the December Board meeting. The majority of the Board felt this gathering for the Board/Committee Chairs and their partners was important for getting to know each other on a casual, personal level. Pizza at the Lodge was selected as the entree.

## ADJOURNMENT



# DECEMBER BOARD NOTES

## December 5, 2018 by Maryanne Reiter

President John Cooper called the meeting to order. Board members present: Sharon Cutsforth, Dave Cooper, Marci Hansen, Todd Larsen, Lyndell Wilken, Lana Lindstrom, Maryanne Reiter and Kathy Randall. Others present: Stewart Hoeg, Denise Rubenstein, Kathy Hoeg, John Jacobsen, Carla Cooper, Dave Hawkins, Kay Coots.

The Board approved the minutes for November 2018.

**Treasurer's report: Stewart Hoeg:** Stewart reviewed the year-to-date income and expenses and also the balance sheet. The Board approved paying the bills.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Concessions (Carla Cooper):** Sales for November totaled \$45.73. We will be meeting in January to discuss ordering new merchandise.

**Entertainment (Lana Lindstrom):** Susan Conrad, who did a solo kayak trip in the Inside Passage and wrote a memoir, brought in the largest potluck crowd ever! Additional people arrived just for the program. Susan gave an awesome presentation. \$129.61 was collected.

**Finance (Stewart Hoeg):** The Finance Committee met and prepared the preliminary 2019 Obsidian Budget.

**Librarian/Historian (Lenore McManigal):** All trips and activities from the November *Bulletin* have been recorded.

**Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen):** Routine grounds maintenance is ongoing, which this time of year is primarily getting the leaves/needles out of the drives and parking areas.

**Membership (Diane Schechter):** New members for Board approval: Joanna Alexander, Elizabeth Koch, Angie Ruzicka, Travis Waleri. Member status as of December 5: total membership – 480, renewals to date – 333. Members who have not renewed – 147. In December, members who have not renewed will be sent an email reminder. Those who don't respond will become inactive.

**Online (Wayne Deeter):** The switch to the new database version is complete, though we are still working with the vendor to solve some reliability issues in connecting between our main website and the database.

**Publicity (Marci Hansen):** Darko and Janet completed their regular amazing publicity activities. We also started a quick campaign on Facebook to see if we can get some new members by offering members early registration for climb school.

**Publications (Lou Maenz):** Publications sent out 200 issues of the November *Bulletin*. A huge shout out to Margaret Prentice for all the calling and gathering of crews she has done over the years, and thank you, Nancy Raymond, for offering to take over for Margaret. Thank you, Clara Emlen, for going out of your way to do the pick-up of the *Bulletin* from the printer. All these special thanks seem to ignore the regulars—the glue that holds us together and gets everything done. Thank you, too.

**Safety (Lyndell Wilken):** The monthly AED battery check was made.

**Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom):** We continue to progress at a snail's pace. In the near future, we will have information on the web page. Steve Cordon has agreed to compile the booklet and we have found a caterer for dinners.

**Summer Trips (Dave Cooper):** Summer trips has concluded its season and all trips have been approved. We had 192 outings this year. The participation levels were 1,548 members and 210 nonmembers. The revenue from trip fees was \$2,352. Thanks to all the leaders. Your hikes, bikes, backpacks, car camps, and paddles bring so much enjoyment to the membership.

**Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell):** There was one outing during the last month. Nine members worked along the Ribbon Trail to salvage potentially rare plants.

**Winter Trips (Steve Cordon):** Trips, November 15–30: 11 trips completed. 96 members and 16 nonmembers participated. \$150 generated in trip fees. Thank you go to all the leaders that helped start our season with a great mix of outings.

## OLD BUSINESS

No old business

## NEW BUSINESS

- Committee reports were approved.
- 2019 Committee Chair nominations/approvals for the following chairs: Sharon Cutsforth—Bus, Maryanne Reiter—Climbs, Carla Cooper—Concessions, Jorry Rolfe and Kay Coots—SciEd/Conservation, Lana Lindstrom—Entertainment (until replacement is found) Lana Lindstrom—Extended Trips, Stewart Hoeg—Finance, David Cooper—Lodge Building, John Jacobsen—Lodge Grounds, Lenore McManigal—Librarian/Historian, Diane Schechter—Membership, Wayne Deeter—Online, Lou Maenz—Publications, Marci Hansen—Publicity, Lyndell Wilken—Safety, Lana Lindstrom (prior Board approval)—Summer Camp, David Cooper—Summer Trips, Matt Bell—Trail Maintenance, Steve Cordon—Winter Trips. All committee chairs were approved.

## OPEN DISCUSSION ITEMS

- USDA Forest Service Central Cascades Wilderness Strategies update: John Cooper provided a brief outline of the proposed trailhead permit system for wilderness areas in the Willamette and Deschutes National Forests. There may be an opportunity for the club to respond in the future with our concerns over the system, though most likely it will be on an individual basis and not a formal club response.
- Proposed partitioning of two lots along Spring Blvd: John Jacobsen presented an update on the proposed Furtick development near the Lodge. There are two parcels with proposed development. The one that is 1.65 acres is closest to the Lodge. At this time there was no need for an Obsidian response.

## ADJOURNMENT

## Welcome New Members!

**JoAnna Alexander**  
Eugene, OR 97405

**Elizabeth Koch**  
Eugene, OR 97405

**Pat Kubota**  
Eugene, OR 97401

**Vickie Loeser**  
Eugene, OR 97401

**Stephanie LeMenager**  
Eugene, OR 97405

**Angie Ruzicka**  
Eugene, OR 97404

**Dale Schaper**  
Eugene, OR 97405

**Travis Waleri**  
Eugene, OR 97402

**Carol Woodman**  
Eugene, OR 97405

## Secretary—Denise Rubenstein

**A**FTER RETIREMENT DENISE AND HER HUSBAND LOUIE moved from Michigan to South Carolina, and then a year ago to Eugene. The reason for choosing Eugene was her interest in the Emerald City Dragon Boat Club. She now crews with the Flying Monkeys Dragon Boat. Denise was an elementary school teacher but now directs her energy to volunteering at Hendricks Park two days a week, and twice a month at Owen Rose Garden. She joined the Obsidians last June, and Louie followed in November. Wasting no time, she led her first trip in November. The Board is grateful that with enthusiasm she agreed to be the secretary. Denise is looking forward to participating in snow activities with the club.



## Online Renewal Update

*Diane Schechter*

**A**S YOU KNOW, WE INITIATED ONLINE MEMBER RENEWALS this year. We are aware that many members had problems renewing online because of the need to disable the pop-up blockers. When we realized this was an issue, we tried our best to help people through the process. We had many members who did manage to successfully renew online, despite these difficulties. We are on the right track!

In the coming months we will explore whether there are ways to make the online process go more smoothly. We have also heard feedback about the online service charge. We will revisit this topic and consider both your concerns and the financial impact on the club. If you have any other suggestions or comments please send them to me at [dsp053@gmail.com](mailto:dsp053@gmail.com).

Finally—many, many thanks to the following people who worked on getting this project up and running. We couldn't have done it without them! Marci Hansen, John Jacobsen, Laura Osinga, Stewart Hoeg, and Wayne Deeter.

## SciEd Co-chair—Kay Coots

**K**AY COOTS JOINED THE OBSIDIANS IN MARCH, 2018. Before retirement she was the Environmental Health and Safety Director and served on the Safety Advisory Committee at the University of Oregon. She has gone on a variety of hikes, is always willing to drive and to help where needed. She volunteers in several organizations and enjoys gardening. Kay also makes the best pinwheel date cookies—some of which she shared on a recent hike. Kay's willingness to become a co-chair for the SciEd Committee is appreciated.



## Entertainment Chair Needed

*John Cooper*

**L**ANA LINDSTORM HAS SERVED AS ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS and would like to be replaced to focus on her many other duties with the club. Thanks Lana for serving for so long. The Entertainment Committee is mainly focused on the monthly Potlucks. Presenters are scheduled, the potluck itself is organized by the chair and other committee members, who are delegated different tasks. Past chairs have had no trouble in lining up speakers and have enjoyed being the MC at the potlucks. Please contact Lana Lindstrom at 683-1409 or [лана\\_lindstrom@hotmail.com](mailto:лана_lindstrom@hotmail.com) if you are interested or have questions.



# Summer Camp 2019 at Glacier National Park, Montana

## Sunday, September 1–Saturday, September 7, 2019

*Lana Lindstrom, Summer Camp Chair*

**G**LACIER NATIONAL PARK IS KNOWN AS THE *CROWN OF THE CONTINENT* for good reason: dazzling peaks, historic lodges, wildlife, and the glaciers. It has 151 trails covering 745 miles. *Going-to-the-Sun Road* over Logan Pass is one of the most scenic drives in the U.S.

The park was established in 1910 and is sacred land for the Blackfeet Nation whose reservation borders the park. There are three visitor centers, including one near our camp. Contiguous to Glacier is Waterton National Park in Canada.

We will be based at Johnson's of St. Mary Campground (<http://johnsonsofstmary.squarespace.com>) on the east side of the park, just a half-mile from *Going-to-the-Sun Road*—an ideal location. This is a commercial campground, not the rustic place in the boonies we usually use for camp! However, our campsites are segregated from others by aspen trees and feel pretty private; the RV area is barely visible. The campground has flush toilets, hot showers, and a laundromat! We are also renting the pavilion which will serve both as shelter in the event of rain and a serving/storage area for food.

The Rally will be **Friday, February 22** at the Lodge. The Potluck is at 6:30 followed by the program at 7:30 PM.

Online registration will open Thursday, **February 28, 7:00 AM** for members and Tuesday, **March 5** for nonmembers.

**New this year is two-tier pricing: camping and non-camping.**

We are planning for 90 participants at camp—approximately 60 campers and 30 persons staying elsewhere, but eating and hiking together.

**Non-campers:** Since the campground is near motels, cabins, and private homes, we suspect that some folks will want to sleep indoors rather than camp. Lodging options are listed on the Obsidian webpage. You may want to reserve a place now, but be sure you understand their cancellation policies and the distance from the lodging to our camp. Non-campers also includes participants in large RVs who want hook-ups.

**Campers:** This includes tent sites and small RVs (no hook-ups). If your RV is longer than about 22' and/or you would like a site with electricity and sewer, you will need to make your own reservations.

**Fees:** We have not received all the information we need to set the fees. The price difference per person between the campers and those staying elsewhere will be approximately \$60 (the cost of the campground). In other words, if campers pay a total of \$250 for the six days, non-campers pay approximately \$190. The fee includes six continental breakfasts, five lunches, and six dinners catered by a local restaurant.

**Hikes:** Glacier National Park is a very special place, especially since the Park Service projects that the glaciers will disappear by 2020 (this is not a typo)!! The hiking is simply spectacular. The following website describes the top 10 hikes in the Park: <http://www.hikinginlacier.com/glacier-top-ten-hikes.htm>. Click on the individual hikes for detailed descriptions.

As additional information becomes available, we will post updates on the Obsidian webpage.





## Bus Trips 2019

Sharon Cutsforth, Bus Committee Chair

**T**HE BUS COMMITTEE IS HARD AT WORK preparing an interesting variety of Bus Trips for the coming year. Following is what we can confirm at this time.

The annual **Bus Rally** will be held on Sunday, March 3 at the Obsidian Lodge from 2–4 PM. This is when bus trip leaders will tell about their planned trips, and it will be the first opportunity to sign up for most trips. Refreshments will be served and there will be door prizes.

Our first trip will follow on March 5–6; registration for this trip will begin January 11.

### BACK BY POPULAR REQUEST! BIRDING IN THE KLAMATH BASIN

This interesting and fun trip to view birds in the Klamath Basin is a great winter outing. Local naturalist and fellow Obsidian Rick Ahrens always makes the trip more enjoyable by sharing his vast knowledge of the natural world. Plus, he is an expert at sighting and identifying birds. While we can't guarantee just what birds you will see, here are a few highlights from previous trips: snow geese flying in at dusk, turning the ground white and filling the air with sound; eagles on the ice at Klamath Lake and hunting in the snow covered fields; night herons roosting in the trees along the Link River, and a large number of goldeneye ducks on the river; hundreds of tundra swans floating on the water, looking like a huge white island; large numbers of ducks, geese, birds of

prey, and perching birds. Who knows what special sights this year will bring!

**Cost of trip includes:** transportation in a luxury motor coach with experienced driver, Wednesday lunch at The Black Bear, overnight accommodations, plus full continental breakfast, evening soup and cookies at Best Western Olympic Inn Klamath Falls. Bring a sack lunch for Tuesday. Dress warmly. Bring your camera, binoculars and spirit of adventure.

**March 5 & 6, (Tues & Wed)**

**Registration opens January 11, 2019**

**Leaders: Rick Ahrens, Sharon Cutsforth**

**Cost: \$195 (\$199 nonmembers)**

**\$50 deposit due at registration**

**Reservations & checks: Judy Adamcyk, 302-8160**

**Load bus at 7:30 AM, depart at 8:00**

### SAVE THE DATE EXPLORING THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA

**September 23–28 (Mon–Sat)**

**Leaders: Sharon Cutsforth, Judy Phelps**

Watch for details on this trip and more Bus Trips in the February *Bulletin*.

Please Note: when paying for bus trips, make checks payable to *Obsidian Bus Trips Account*. Thank you!

Bus Trip information will also be posted on the Obsidians home page: [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

Contact information: [bustrips@obsidians.org](mailto:bustrips@obsidians.org)  
Sharon Cutsforth, Bus Committee Chair, 746-4929

## Wilderness Strategies Project Update

Jorry Rolfe

**A**NOTHER MILESTONE WAS REACHED ON NOVEMBER 7 in this Forest Service project to reduce impacts and preserve the character of the Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Washington and Three Sisters wildernesses—a proposed decision of *Alternative 4 Modified*.

The draft notice is at [https://data.ecosystem-management.org/nepaweb/nepa\\_project\\_exp.php?project=50578](https://data.ecosystem-management.org/nepaweb/nepa_project_exp.php?project=50578).

There you will find details and the reasons for the decision. Watch for more details in the *Register-Guard*.

There are opportunities to file objections; however, they must meet certain requirements. Anonymous comments also may be submitted.

**ExploraTalk Tuesday, February 12:** Matt Peterson of the Forest Service will be speaking on this topic at 7 PM at the Lodge in February. Come learn more about what this means to us as we plan for future activities, and please bring your questions! This will be one of the Forest Service's first opportunities for outreach about the big changes to our favorite trails.



## In the Scherer Room

Dorene Steggell

**D**ARKO SOJAK WILL BE SHARING some of his many colorful, close-up photographs of mushrooms for the next few months in the Scherer Room. Darko has captured beautiful portraits of fungi native to our region. Many of these photos were taken on Obsidian hikes and will be labeled with names and the locations where they were taken. Be sure to take a look.



# Spencer Butte: Your Mountain

Janet Jacobsen and Carla Cooper

**S**PENCER BUTTE HAS LONG BEEN A BECKONING LANDMARK FOR THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY. Obsidians, past and present, have often felt this call. The May 12, 1987 *Eugene City Guard* reported that Professor Condon took his University class to the top of the Butte for a geology lecture. They were followed by a large group of citizens in buggies and wagons, on horseback and on foot. Years later on January 8, 1928 the Eugene Outdoor Club (Obsidians) scheduled their first local walk, an all-day hike to Spencer Butte.

How Spencer Butte became a part of the Eugene Parks is a story of citizens who gave time and money to ensure that the landmark would be owned by the City of Eugene. January 22, 1937 the Eugene Park Commission formed a committee to investigate purchasing 240 acres from the Geise family to add Spencer Butte to the Park System. Also interested in the land was a private party who wanted to clear the trees and pasture goats. Wayne Morse headed the committee to raise the first payment. *The idea was to have no contributions larger than \$5, in order to let everyone buy a piece of the Butte... By February (1938), with more than \$1,100 in funds, the Park Commission made the down payment and the contract was signed for the Geise's 240 acres...More than a thousand people had contributed from one cent to five dollars during the campaign.*

When a levy measure was put on the ballot for the rest of the money, the cry was made: "Remember Eugene boys and girls will be climbing the Butte 150 years from today..." The measure passed with a vote of 3,082 to 1,940.

Motorcycles, a radio tower, and overuse were just a few of the challenges in the ensuing years. By 1976, the Butte was suffering ecological damage from the great number of hikers. Fine weekends would see over 500 people on the summit. Even in the poorest weather, there would be many making the climb. In an effort to save this fragile area, the *Better the Butte Drive* began in May 1976 to recruit volunteers to build a stone path four to ten feet wide, up an approximately 3,100-foot route to the summit. The slogan, *Your Mountain Needs You*, inspired 10,000 volunteer hours to carry 84 tons of rock to complete about 1,000 feet of trail.

Many trail improvements have been made through the years. Thanks go to the hardworking Obsidian volunteers who have helped, and continue to help maintain, the trails on Spencer Butte. We should also celebrate, support, and thank Eugene Parks and Open Space for their continuing guardianship of this treasure in our backyard. Above all, we should be grateful to the forward-thinking citizens of the past that worked to bring Spencer Butte under the protection of our parks system. It is thanks to their efforts that when Spencer Butte beckons, hikers today are able to answer that call.

The quotes and other details for this article are from *Spencer Butte Park History* at [www.spencerbutte.com/history](http://www.spencerbutte.com/history)

Eugene Outdoor Club. Winter Brochure, 1928



*Happy New Year (2019) from Spencer Butte!*



# TRIP REPORTS



## Bike Trips

### Friday Bike Around

November 2, 2018

Leader: Richard Hughes

Bike: 25 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)

**M**ORNING SHOWERS GAVE WAY TO MARSHMALLOW CLOUDS and a mid-sixties temperature. The ride was focused on the building construction taking place around town as well as new restaurants. Total miles covered were sixteen. Members: Steve Cordon, Richard Hughes.

### Friday Bike Around

November 9, 2018

Leader: Richard Hughes

Bike: 25 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)

**T**HE DAY WAS BRISK and therefore the peloton rode swiftly about 27 miles to Thistledown Farm and back to Amazon Community Center. Members: Julie Barnas, Steve Cordon, Betty Grant, Richard Hughes, Lana Lindstrom. Nonmember: Ken Davis.

### Camas Bakery Loop

December 1, 2018

Leader: Richard Hughes

Photographer: Darian Morray

Bike: 21 miles, 236 ft. (Easy)

**I**NTO THE EYE OF THE STORM RODE TEN TRUSTING RIDERS as they wiped the drizzle from their lips. All was forgiven when we reached Camas Bakery and their Holiday Bazaar. I have more faith in amateur weather forecasting than most. Members: Julie Barnas, John Hegg, Richard Hughes, Darian Morray, Karen Morray, Darko Sojak, David Strutin, Lyndell Wilken. Nonmembers: Larry Myers, Stephanie Cannon.



*Ready to depart from Camas Bakery*

### Creswell Loop

December 22, 2018

Leader: Richard Hughes

Bike: 23 miles, 382 ft. (Easy)

**T**HE WEATHER WINDOW OPENED-UP FOR A DRY RIDE, although the temp stayed just above freezing the entire trip. There was plenty of livestock along the route including several emus that greeted us in the bucolic countryside. Members: Peter Graham, Betty Grant, Richard Hughes, Ruthy Kanagy, Lana Lindstrom, Darko Sojak, Lyndell Wilken. Nonmember: Dale Schaper.



## Car Camps

### Badlands Dry River Canyon

October 28, 2018

Leader: Jane Hackett

Car Camp: 15 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)

**W**E MADE GOOD TIME TO OUR CAMPSITE in the Crooked River Canyon. We were able to set up camp and hike the only nearby trail before heading to town for dinner at the local brewery. The Chimney Rock hike is 2.5 miles round trip with an elevation gain of 500 feet and gives a grand view of canyon. We managed to scare a barn owl off a telephone pole on the drive back to camp. The night was cool but we enjoyed a campfire when we returned to camp. The next day after a short diversion via GPS through the back country, we hiked the six-mile round trip Dry River Canyon Trail. The rocky trail passes between walls of lichen and moss covered basalt. We found two large golden eagle nests plus three smaller stick nests. This explains why the trail is closed from February 1 to August 31—raptors are nesting. We started this hike in the morning walking into the sun—it would have been better to start later. We hiked another two miles on the Mountain Ash Trail, a totally different landscape—open, sandy with large old junipers. We headed into Prineville for Mexican food and then back to camp for a final campfire. Great trip. Members: Brad Bennett, Jane Hackett, David Lodeesen, Cindy Rust, Chris Shuraleff, Meg Stewart Smith, Janet Whitesides.

## Extended Trips

### Shore Acres Lights, Yurts

December 7, 2018

Leader: Jennifer Baer

Photographer: Brad Bennett

Extended Trip: 9 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)

**W**E ESCAPED THE FREEZING TEMPERATURES IN EUGENE for warmer temperatures on the coast. At South Slough we explored a narrow dike at high tide and enjoyed the extensive boardwalk with its multiple zigzags.

After hot drinks in our cozy yurts, we had a leisurely scenic hike along the headlands between Sunset Bay and Shore Acres. Entering the Shore Acres Holiday light display at dusk from the forest was a magical experience. The warm breeze brought in light rain for our adventurous return hike through the dark forest. Our headlamps and safety vests worked well for this night hike. The next morning we explored another four miles of trails between Shore Acres and Cape Arago. Our trip ended with lunch at Sunset Bay. Members: Jennifer Baer, Brad Bennett, Michelle Cordon, Steve Cordon, Michael King, Evelyn Nagy, Tom Rundle, Richard Shields, Dorene Steggell.



*Picturesque spot between Shore Acres and Cape Arago*



## Hikes

### **North Fork Willamette**

**October 19, 2018**

**Leader: Jane Hackett**

**Hike: 5.6 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)**

**W**E STARTED FROM THE TOP AT FOREST ROAD 1912. This gets you warmed up right away. In the many times I have led this hike, I have never seen the river at such a low level with so many exposed rocks. There were lots of yellow and gold leaves but not much red since the vine maple was just too dry. We found a bank of rocks that extended into the river which made for a great lunch spot. Upon returning to the lower trailhead we noted a few new things—a cute little playground and a tiny motocross course for little kids. Great day for a fall hike. Members: Brad Bennett, Jane Hackett, David Lodeesen.

### **Silver Falls**

**November 2, 2018**

**Leader: Denise Bean**

**Assistant Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

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

**WE HAD TEN WONDERFUL PARTICIPANTS** for a great day hiking. It rained on the drive to Silver Falls. When we arrived at the parking lot, the rain went away and we had perfect mid 60s weather for the hike. We saw all ten waterfalls starting

with South Falls. We stopped for lunch at North Falls. About half of the participants had never hiked the Silver Falls Trail and were amazed that we could walk behind the waterfalls. Just a note for hiking when the trail is wet—we went slowly on the many slippery sections (rocks, stairs and behind the falls). Members: Denise Bean, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Kay Coots, Janet Jacobsen, Denise Rubenstein, Meg Stewart Smith, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Janet Soto, Louis Rubenstein.

### **McKenzie River Trail/Belknap Springs**

**November 7, 2018**

**Leader: Clara Emlen**

**Hike: 8 miles, (Moderate)**

**WE TOOK THE LTD ROUTE 91 BUS** to the McKenzie Ranger Station and then hiked/walked 4.2 miles on the McKenzie River Trail to the Belknap Hot Springs Resort. After lunch we enjoyed the hot springs pool, checked out the gardens and walked back to the McKenzie Ranger Station to catch the bus back to Springfield/Eugene. Very enjoyable walk on a great trail—lots of natural observations (colors, river, trees, mosses, etc.) and photos. Relaxing to and from via bus; lovely colorful sunset on the return. Members: Cindy Cowell, Clara Emlen, Ruthy Kanagy, Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Sara Henley.

### **Alsea & Green Peak Falls**

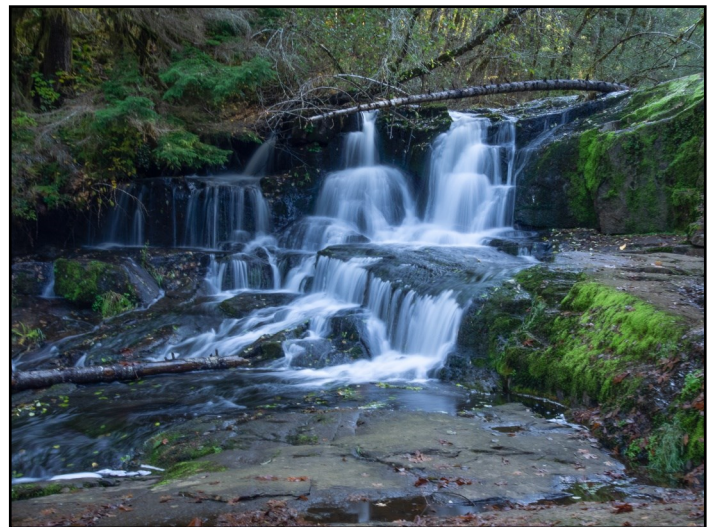
**November 10, 2018**

**Leader: Joel Greer**

**Photographer: James Dinn**

**Hike: 5.2 miles, 590 ft. (Moderate)**

**SUNNY SKIES, NO WIND, AND TEMPERATURES IN THE LOW 40s** made for perfect fall hiking conditions. Twelve hikers enjoyed views of Alsea Falls and Green Peak Falls, along with the beauty of hemlocks, Douglas firs, and the golden leaves of a couple of varieties of maples. After the hike, we had lunch at two picnic tables near the trailhead. It was a very enjoyable outing! Members: Esme Greer, Joel Greer, Steve Gunn, Brenda Kameenui, Lana Lindstrom, Vern Marsonette, Evelyn Nagy, Tom Rundle, Mike Smith, Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Elizabeth Koch, James Dinn.



*Alsea Falls*



## Eel Creek

November 11, 2018

Leader: Jane Hackett

Hike: 6 miles, 100 ft. (Moderate)

**THE SUN WAS OUT BY THE TIME WE GOT TO ELKTON** to pick up coffee at Tomaselli's Pastry Mill and Cafe. The stop at Dean Creek Elk Reserve was very good. We saw a gang of female elk mixed in with several young bulls with the older bulls grazing in the background. I was glad I remembered to bring my binoculars so that we had a better view. It was an exceptional day with T-shirt weather and only a slight breeze as we hiked across the dunes to the ocean. Members: Jane Hackett, Janet Soto, Dorothy Van Winkle.

## Veterans Day

November 11, 2018

Leader: David Lodeesen

Hike: 6 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)

**A VERY GOOD TURN OUT ON A CHILLY, FOGGY MORNING** for a Veterans Day hike. We had to change our course a little since the city had closed the Owasso Bridge. No problem as we chatted and walked the river path. We stopped at the Lane County Veterans Memorial to observe the names of those county and state residents who had fallen in past and present wars. We continued over the Greenway Bridge and on through Autzen Park and crossed the river again over the Frohnmayer Bridge. We all made it back to the Campbell Community Center with no problem. We recognized the veterans in our group: Holger Krentz—Air Force, Mike Smith—Navy, Tom Rundle and Tommy Young—Marines, Richard Hughes and yours truly—Army. We also had a new guest hiker, Michael Bean—Army. Thanks to all those who came out to honor our veterans. Members: Mari Baldwin, Denise Bean, Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Rebecca Eastwood, Christiane Hougardy, Mark Hougardy, Richard Hughes, Holger Krentz, David Lodeesen, Lynn Meacham, Evelyn Nagy, Kathy Randall, Tom Rundle, Millie Schwandt, Mike Smith, Darko Sojak, Meg Stewart Smith, David Strutin, Tommy Young. Nonmember: Michael Bean.

## Eugene Book Walk

November 17, 2018

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 2 miles, 50 ft. (Easy)

**I PASSED OUT OBSIDIAN SHOPPING BAGS** before we began our leisurely walk from the Campbell Community Center to the Holiday Book Sale at the Eugene Public Library. Along the way we stopped to explore connections to authors including Shannon Applegate, Kate Wilhelm, Lauren Kessler, and Ken Kesey. It was fun to share Eugene's history, art, and eccentricities with our two guests who recently moved from Minnesota. Our sunny day with a high of 59 degrees contrasted with the high of 24 degrees in Minnesota. Several of us purchased Kate Wilhelm's books that were donated after she died March 8, 2018. Members: Steve Adey, Mari Baldwin, Jane Hackett, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen, Sandra Larsen. Nonmembers: Sheila Hoover, Nan Nelson.

## Elijah Bristow State Park

November 17, 2018

Leader: Kathy Randall

Photographer: Darko Sojak

Hike: 6.3 miles, 50 ft. (Easy)

**WE LUCKED OUT WITH SUNNY WEATHER** for a late fall hike along the Middle Fork of the Willamette River. We were able to stay on the fisherman's trail all the way to Dexter Dam as the river level was somewhat low. From there we climbed up onto the dam berm and enjoyed beautiful views across the lake to Lowell and lunch at a picnic table on the edge of the lake. On our return we met several horseback riders. Pretty much had a perfect day and a very pleasant hike. Members: Keiko Bryan, Esme Greer, Joel Greer, Holger Krentz, Kathy Randall, Tom Rundle, Darko Sojak, Lisa Van Liefde.



*Fall colors along the Middle Fork of the Willamette*

## Koosah Falls around Clear Lake

November 17, 2018

Leader: Denise Bean

Hike: 8.4 miles, 320 ft. (Moderate)

**THE GROUP CARPOOLED IN THREE CARS** to the Koosah Falls Trailhead. The weather was beautiful for the middle of November—clear, sunny and cold with a high of 49 degrees. We hiked east past Koosah Falls and Sahalie Falls to Clear Lake. We hiked counterclockwise around the lake. The water was calm and crystal clear. We stopped briefly where the water flowed from underground into the pool and into Clear Lake. We stopped at Clear Lake Lodge to eat our lunch and purchase hot chocolate, coffee or hot tea. It was delightful. After the lodge we hiked back to our cars staying on the north side of the river. Everyone shared that they had a great day. Members: Julie Barnas, Denise Bean, Vicky Hanson, Brenda Kameenui, Denise Rubenstein, Richard Shields, Dorene Steggell, Nancy Whitfield, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Dorothy Van Winkle, Louis Rubenstein, Michael Bean.

## Larison Rock

November 18, 2018

Leader: Mike Smith

Hike: 8.6 miles, 2,450 ft. (Moderate)

**THE DENSE FOG IN EUGENE LIFTED A LITTLE EAST OF PLEASANT HILL.** We started up the trail about 9:30 with the temperature just above freezing. It did not take long for people to get warm! The flat ridge is two miles and about 1,500' elevation above the trailhead, and it is a good place to take a break. It is another mile and a half to the road and a little more than a half mile after that to the top. A later start time works fine, as

we were on top in about an hour and a half. We encountered only two mountain bikers all day, on the descent. I had forgotten what a good workout the trail is, and relatively close to town. There were still some autumn colors as well. Members: Marguerite Cooney, David Cooper, Kathy Randall, Jorry Rolfe, Randy Sinnott, Mike Smith, Dorene Steggell. Nonmembers: Diana Wheat, Jamie Zimmerman.

## Turkey Trimming

November 23, 2018

Leader: Ruthy Kanagy

Hike: 6 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)

**FOURTEEN HIKERS SPENT A RELAXING MORNING IN THE RAIN**, following meandering trails through a cemetery, golf course, and urban forest. Our goal was to use all our senses to discover something new in nature. We tasted feral apples—they were bitter, smelled pink camellia blossoms—sweet, and found licorice ferns unfurling fresh fronds. We learned that disappointing violet is a native plant, that a leafless bush with purple bead clusters is called American beautyberry, and that a dying madrone tree can be turned into a handsome sculpture supporting a house number. We gathered around a swing in the rhododendron garden for a group photo and made our way back to the Masonic Cemetery through the Fairmount neighborhood. We did not see any turkeys today. Members: Steve Adey, Joanna Alexander, Mari Baldwin, Lynda Christiansen, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Kay Coots, Clara Emlen, Ruthy Kanagy, Dave Predeek, Mike Smith, Pat Soussan, Lyndell Wilken. Nonmember: Gwyneth Iredale.

## Wicked San Francisco

November 22, 2018

Leader: Mark Hougardy

Photographer: Meg Stewart Smith

Hike: 16 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

**SAN FRANCISCO IS A CITY BORN WITHIN A MOMENT**—the discovery of gold in 1848. The city's parents were not elites or idealist, but gritty prospectors, sailors, railroad workers, gamblers, ladies of the night, grifters, poets, and carney hustlers. Today, San Francisco is often viewed as a place where a person can discover one's fortune, where an individual can craft their future, and where it's OK to be weird. But, beneath the sidewalks, in unimpressive alleys, and among lonely buildings is a hidden San Francisco, a city that was forged in fear, sex, and gold. Our interpretive walking trip explored how fear, sex, and gold changed the city in three important ways. We saw how fear directed at those considered unfit by society (poor, minorities, and women) reveals they are the true backbone of the city, then how censorship of sex led to modern freedoms, and finally how gold fever changed forms but never really disappeared. Our group traveled by air from Oregon on Thanksgiving Day to San Francisco. Many of us overnights at the Fort Mason Hostel and dined at a waterfront restaurant. The next day we traveled by trolley to Union Square and enjoyed the Christmas decorations before starting our five-mile walk. We explored the sordid history of Maiden Lane, the colorful streets of Chinatown, and the historically depraved area known as the Barbary Coast. Our route followed much of the original shoreline, which is now half a mile inland. We visited City Lights Books and places where the counter-culture Beats hung out. We climbed the steep steps of Telegraph Hill to see the murals of the historic Coit Tower. Our walk took us along garden-lined staircases and alleys. The next day we traveled to the lonely island of Alca-

traz to learn more about its prison and then enjoyed an afternoon exploring the city. That evening the group enjoyed a salty performance of Beach Blanket Babylon. On the final full day, several members walked ten miles from the Marina District over the Golden Gate Bridge to Sausalito and returned by ferry. The group walked ~20 miles in total. We returned by plane to Oregon. Members: Keiko Bryan, Christiane Hougardy, Mark Hougardy, Richard Hughes, Lana Lindstrom, Meg Stewart Smith. Nonmembers: Consuelo Gomez, Janet Soto.



*On the way to Lombard Street*

## U of O Public Art Walk

December 7, 2018

Leader: Steve Adey

Hike: 2 miles, 50 ft. (Easy)

**WE VISITED ABOUT THIRTY SITES ON CAMPUS.** It took 3½ hours and we could have done more but we were all hungry. Members: Steve Adey, Janet Jacobsen. Nonmembers: Sara Henley, Marian Taylor.

## Covered Bridges and Row River Trail

December 16, 2018

Leader: Joel Greer

Photographer: Darko Sojak

Hike: 8.3 miles, 210 ft. (Moderate)

**DESPITE FORECASTS OF RAIN APPROACHING 100% PROBABILITY**, we had very pleasant overcast weather, with no rain and the sun even peeking out occasionally during the second half of the hike. Ten hikers explored the Mosby Creek and Currin covered bridges and the mostly flat pastureland nearby. After going under Row River Road, the trail turned eastward toward Dorena Lake, passing through forests of mostly Douglas fir, red cedar, and incense cedar. We reached the lake and noticed the very low water level, then turned around at about the 4.1 mile mark (although GPS and pedometer measurements of several hikers seemed to show a lot of variation in measured distance). Afterwards we met at Creswell Bakery for dishes including meat pies, French toast, fancy sandwiches, carrot cake, blackberry pie, and coffee. Considering how badly we need the rain, we were happy to see the rain begin falling just as we finished lunch! Perfect timing! Members: Marguerite Cooney, James Dinn, Esme Greer, Joel



Greer, Holger Krentz, Evelyn Nagy, Kathy Randall, Darko Sojak, Janet Whitesides. Nonmember: Carol Woodman.



*Obsidians engaging in a favorite activity*

### Ridgeline Trails

November 3–December 8, 2018

Various Leaders: David Cooper (11/3 and 12/2), Janet Jacobsen (11/10 and 12/8)

Photographer: Denise Rubenstein

THE HIKES BY DATES WERE: November 3: 9 Members. November 10: 8 Members, 1 Nonmember. December 2: 6 Members. December 8: 5 Members.



*Ridgeline hikers gathered on steps Obsidians helped build*

### Amazon Headwaters/Spencer Butte

November 7–December 26, 2018

Various leaders: Mike Smith (11/7), David Cooper (11/14, 12/12), , Denise Rubenstein (11/21), Denise Bean (11/28), Dorene Steggell (12/5), Steve Cordon (12/19), Janet Jacobsen (12/23), Mike Smith (12/26). Hike: 6.2 Miles, 1,530 ft. (Moderate)

THE HIKES BY DATES WERE: November 7: 17 Members, 3 Nonmembers. November 14: 22 Members, 1 Nonmember. November 21: 12 Members, 2 Nonmembers. November 28: 17 Members, 1 Nonmember. December 5: 18 Members. December 12: 16 Members, 1 Nonmember. December 19: 16 Members, 3 Nonmembers. December 23: 8 Members, 3 Nonmembers. December 26: 10 Members, 1 Nonmember.

### Mt. Pisgah Trails

November 20–December 21, 2018

Janet Jacobsen (11/20, 11/25, and 12/21), David Cooper (11/24) and 12/1)

Photographer: Carla Cooper

THE HIKES BY DATES WERE: November 20: 3 Members, 3 Nonmembers. November 24: 9 Members. November 25: 4 Members, 1 nonmember. December 1: 7 Members, 1 Nonmember. December 21: 15 Members, 4 Nonmembers.



*Winter Solstice on Mt. Pisgah*



**Ski  
Trips**

### Midnight Lake

December 22, 2018

Leader: Sue Wolling

Xski: 6 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)

WITH MISGIVINGS BECAUSE THE FORECAST RAIN/SNOW had mostly bypassed Lane County, but with hopes fed by reports that the snow was “not bad”, seven skiers headed up to Gold Lake Sno-Park. To our utter delight, we found wonderful snow for a quick climb up to Midnight



Lake. It was early for lunch, so we paused for a quick look at the lake and photo, and noticed that there were no gray jays at this popular lunch spot that has typically been mobbed with the lunch robbers in the past. We continued through perfect snow through the rolling hills over to Abernethy Road, and down to Bechtel Shelter for a quick lunch stop. From there it was a smooth glide down to Pengra Pass and back out to the Sno-Park then back to Eugene by 2:30—a great pre-Christmas ski trip. Members: Jacquie Fern, Brenda Kameenui, Sam Miller, David Strutin, Sue Wolling. Non-members: Linda Gilbert, Austin Pratt.



## Trail Maintenance

### **Hendricks Park**

**September 18, 2018**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Trail Maintenance: 1 mile, (Moderate)**

**T**HREE OBSIDIANS, THREE SCORPIONS, AND FORTY NORTHWEST CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY SOCCER TEAM PLAYERS joined the Eugene Parks and Open Space Staff to work on Part One of the Floral Hill Trail Restoration project. While the soccer team players loaded and moved gravel in wheelbarrows to resurface the trail, the Obsidians and Scorpions rebuilt a 44-foot retaining wall. Part Two will take place on National Public Lands Day on Saturday, September 29. My job to recruit Obsidian volunteers was an easy one. Todd, John, and Jim did all of the hard work. Members: Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Todd Larsen, Jim Northrop.

### **National Public Lands Day**

**September 29, 2018**

**Leader: Matthew Bell**

**Photographer: Janet Jacobsen**

**Trail Maintenance: 2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)**

**WE MOVED GRAVEL, A LOT OF GRAVEL,** manually, in wheelbarrows. My legs are sore just thinking about it. We met Eugene Parks and Open Space staff and Friends of Hendricks Park volunteers for this day of fun. They provided lunch as a bribe to get us to volunteer for an extra hour. After Dev

(Open Space staff) loaded our wheelbarrows with gravel, we followed them as controlled as we could down the trail and dumped them, only to push them back up the trail and repeat the process. The gravel was spread and compacted along about half of the trail. As with moving gravel in buckets back in June 2010, I'm not sure if we advertise another outing of moving gravel in wheelbarrows if we will get as many volunteers. Lunch and snacks were welcomed and devoured. Members: Matthew Bell, Nancy Hoecker, Richard Hughes, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Jim Northrop, Denise Rubenstein.



*Dev and Matt loading a wheelbarrow*

### **Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance**

**October 27, 2018**

**Leader: Matthew Bell**

**Trail Maintenance: 2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)**

**IN PREPARATION FOR THE COMING WET WEATHER** we did some fall cleaning. We hiked to the summit of Spencer Butte and cleaned the rock steps on the way back down. Many hikers passed by and thanked us for our work. When we were done the steps looked good, just not as good as the trailhead steps that Clara cleaned. Members: Jane Beckwith, Matthew Bell, Clara Emlen, Jean Harris, Janet Jacobsen, Todd Papasadero, Dave Predeek, Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Travis Waleri, Nathaniel Bell, Joanna Alexander.

## **Why can't we save something for future generations?**

**T**HE FOLLOWING LETTER TO THE EDITOR was written by Obsidian member David Predeek and published in the December 8, 2018 issue of the *Register-Guard*.

### **We should save arctic refuge for animals, future generations**

I am saddened by the speed with which plans are being drawn up to drill for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. I have been on backpacking trips to the refuge several times. I have visited the coastal plain and have flown over it by bush plane. It is not a wasteland, but a lush pasture for musk oxen and tens of thousands of caribou. It is habitat for grizzly bears, polar bears and wolves.

In other parts of our country we are removing vast quantities of petroleum from the ground, and much of it is being exported. Why is there such a rush to remove our oil now? There seems to be little desire to practice conservation of fuel resources. Why can't we save something for future generations?



# Over Ninety People Enjoy Holiday Activities at Lodge

## Christmas Party 2018

*Sharon Cutsforth*

**G**REAT PEOPLE, GREAT MUSIC, GREAT FOOD, AND GREAT DOOR PRIZES made for a fun Christmas Party at the Lodge. There were over forty people in attendance. We enjoyed seeing many familiar faces as well as several new people. Even though BigFoot Lane string band had to cancel due to illness, the Beard Family stepped up and played longer than originally planned. They included some sing-along type songs as well. Door prize drawings are always fun—we were happy to see the \$25 off gift certificates go to two members who have never been on a bus trip—we hope to see them on a trip next year. The warmth of the fire and friendly conversations added to the pleasant atmosphere.



*Paula Beard giving Anne Hollander, Verna Kocken, Jim Northrop, Jan Sears, and Marcia Claypool a lesson in bell ringing*

## Stocking Stuffer

*Janet Jacobsen*

**THE LODGE WAS WARM AND COLORFUL** with the decorated tables and the smell of hot apple cider when fifty people arrived asking, *Where do I put my socks?* The pile of socks grew until there were 150 pairs for the Egan Warming Centers. Dorene Steggell, Jane Hackett, and Chris Shuraleff helped lead the hiking groups. Joella Ewing and others decorated the tables and kept the soups warm until the hikers returned for lunch. Shirley Froyd was honored for her watercolor paintings displayed in the Scherer Room. It was a group effort to wash the dishes and clean the Lodge. Joella and Clara Emlen took the leftover food to the homeless camp at 34<sup>th</sup> and Hilyard. A few days later, on a cold and rainy evening, Joella and I delivered six Obsidian shopping bags filled with wool socks to the Egan Memorial Candlelight vigil held where Major Egan died ten years ago. We thank everyone for their generosity to make the fifth annual Stocking Stuffer so special.



*Shirley Froyd in the Scherer Room with her paintings*

**From Judy Smith, Program Assistant  
St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County**

*...I met two of your members at the Egan Memorial Vigil this month. They had collected over 150 pairs of warm socks for St. Vincent de Paul to distribute at the Egan Memorial Warming Centers this winter. The kindness and generosity of your group is greatly appreciated. I would like to extend an invitation for your members to join us in another way to help local veterans to obtain stable housing. We are hosting the annual Truffle Shuffle, a road run that raises funds for this important endeavor. We have many volunteer opportunities available, and it's easy to sign up.*

Truffle Shuffle Volunteer Sign Up Link:  
[signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2581397/false](https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2581397/false)

## AT THE LODGE



# POTLUCK

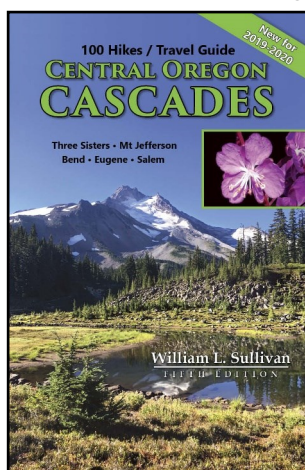
Friday, January 25 at 6:30 PM

## New Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades

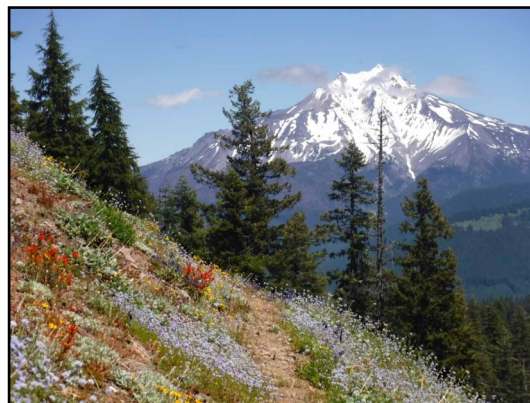
William L. Sullivan

**A**UTHOR AND HIKING GURU WILLIAM L. SULLIVAN takes us on a tour of a dozen new or dramatically changed trails in the area between Salem and Bend, featured in the upcoming fifth edition of his guidebook, *100 Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades*. Included are a new path along the Deschutes River north of Bend, a new bird refuge trail at Salem, and several reopened trails to wildflowers in the Cascades. He'll also discuss the effects of wildfires and the Forest Service's new permit system. Along the way, expect anecdotes about local history, plants, and outdoor lore.

Sullivan is the author of five novels and a dozen books about Oregon, including the popular *100 Hike* series, *Hiking Oregon's History*, and *Oregon Favorites*. His journal of a 1,000-mile hike he took across Oregon, *Listening for Coyote*, was chosen by the Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission as one of Oregon's *100 Books*, the 100 most significant books in the state's history.



Available April 1, 2019



*Mt. Jefferson from the Bugaboo Ridge Trail*

Potluck  
Friday, January 25, 2018  
Obsidian Lodge

Potluck 6:30 PM Program 7:30 PM

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



## ExploraTalk

Tuesday, February 12 at 7:00 PM

## Wilderness Permit System Update



**Matt Peterson**  
Recreation Program Manager,  
Forest Service

**M**ATT WILL RETURN TO THE LODGE to present the restrictions coming to our wilderness trailheads. Please join us on February 12 to hear an update on the new permit system and have your questions answered.

*[Note: There is no ExploraTalk in January]*



# OBSIDIAN CALENDAR

## January

9 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Smith.....	520-488-9569
12 Sat	Pisgah Ganderflanking Hike M Cooper.....	868-5427
12 Sat	Gold Lake SShoe M Hackett.....	953-7046
12 Sat	Veneta Loop Bike M Hughes.....	933-5542
13 Sun	Yaquina Bay to Yaquina Head Hike M Sojak.....	799-9199
13 Sun	Redtop Mountain Xski D Thompson .....	683-8942
16 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M King .....	554-1180
19 Sat	100 Mile Bakery Loop Bike E Hughes.....	933-5542
19 Sat	Mt. Pisgah Sunset Hike M Jacobsen.....	206-1251
20 Sun	Lower Rosary Lake SShoe M Hackett .....	953-7046
20 Sun	Wolf Moon Night Hike E Sojak.....	799-9199
23 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Cooper.....	868-5427
26 Sat	12 Bridges Loop Bike E Hughes.....	933-5542
27 Sun	Mt. Pisgah Hike M Jacobsen.....	206-1251
30 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Rolfe .....	206-9501

## February

2 Sat	Groundhog Day Hike M Jacobsen.....	206-1251
4 Mon	River Path North Hike E Cooper .....	868-5427
5 Tue	Shelter Cove Ext Trp Shuraleff .....	954-4474
14 Thu	Oregon's Birthday Hike M Jacobsen.....	206-1251
17 Sun	Lookout Point to Signal Point Hike M Sojak ..	799-9199
18 Mon	Mt. Pisgah Sunset Hike M Jacobsen.....	206-1251

## March

4 Sat	Grand Canyon Bk Pk D Adey .....	520-9285
9 Sat	Booth Lake Loop Xski D Miller .....	484-4586
13 Wed	Elk Lake Ext Trp M Lindstrom .....	683-1409

## April

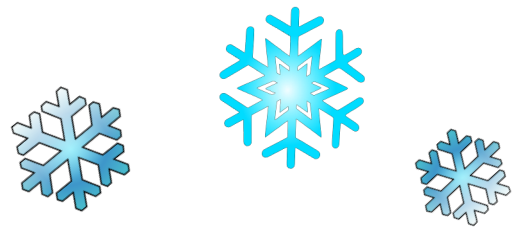
4 Sat Grand Canyon Bk Pk D Adey 520-9285



**Saturday, January 19**

Elk Lake Ski and Snowshoe trip goes online for signup

Details on the homepage under "Extended Trips"



## There is Snow in the Hills—It's Time To Add More Winter Trips

*Steve Cordon, Winter Trips Chair*

**M**ANY OF US LOOK FOR EXTRA OPPORTUNITIES to stay active over the winter, so some of our trips have filled fast. Now is an ideal time to consider leading a trip. We've had our first successful snow trip of the season, though many of the Obsidian winter trips are casual excursions near town. Whether you lead a Eugene art walk or a favorite snowshoe, it is a great way to share this outdoor season with friends.

Email [wintertrips@obsidians.org](mailto:wintertrips@obsidians.org) if you're interested in leading a trip, and we'll work with you to get it on the schedule.

### Bulletin Classifieds For Sale

**Get ready for winter ski season.**

Fischer Crown Touring skis for cross country 180 cm without bindings \$35  
Exel ski poles 150 cm \$20  
Mens Pacific Crest ski parka size XL, worn on only one ski trip: \$45  
Call Sandra 687-2589

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

## Corvallis to the Sea (C2C) Trail Update

*Janet Jacobsen*

**O**BSIDIANS HEARD ABOUT THE C2C TRAIL BACK IN MAY, 2015 when Barbara Theus led an Obsidian 9-mile hike on a section of the 55-mile trail. She was an enthusiastic volunteer for building a trail that would connect the Willamette Valley and the Pacific Ocean.

Louise Marquering, C2C Volunteer Coordinator, sent an email with the latest news: *Siuslaw National Forest and Corvallis to The Sea Trail signed a 20-year Special Use Permit. C2C will be responsible for building, managing and maintaining the trail. This project has been a long time coming, starting in the 1970s. This is the first cooperative project in the nation between a volunteer group and the Forest Service to build and maintain a trail.* They hope to have the trail completely constructed with signs and maps by 2020!

The president, Gary Chapman, suggests that you check out the website: [www.C2CTrail.org](http://www.C2CTrail.org) or view the photos of trail building on <https://www.facebook.com/c2ctrail>. You don't have to have a Facebook account.



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January 2019



*Green Peak Falls by Joel Greer. See trip report on page 10.*

ENJOY the photos in color! ONLINE *Bulletin* at [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)