



The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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Dates to Remember

August 27 *Bulletin* Deadline
 September 1 Board Meeting

THE BULLETIN WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED IN AUGUST. The deadline for *Bulletin* submissions for the September issue will be Friday, August 27.

Current event schedules at:
www.obsidians.org

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Trail Conditions: Get And Give

Mike Smith

FINALLY, THERE IS A WORKING TRAIL CONDITION PAGE FOR THE WILLAMETTE AND DESCHUTES NATIONAL FOREST, along with Brice Creek in the Umpqua NF. This page is free: cascadevolvs.org/trail-conditions/. The more people who use and contribute to it, the better it will become. It is my hope

that before going on a hike in the NF, checking the page will give one an idea of what hazards may be present. After returning from a hike, if there are issues with the trail that might need addressing, the information may be passed on to me at mssq@comcast.net. The formatting could be better, but it is adequate. It is not necessary to give mileage and diameter of downed logs or other hazards, although the information is much better than *gazillion* if known. We can't guarantee a time when the trail will be cleared, as the Forest Service sets priorities, and sometimes certain trails for a variety of reasons receive priority. Please be careful in dealing with blowdowns. Some are unstable, there can be dangerous sharp branches; it is easy to fall, unsafe to try to climb over some, and trail erosion may have occurred. I've been turned around more than once by a log that I felt I could not safely go up, over, around, or under. Turning around sometimes is virtuous. These days I prefer to deal directly with such logs with the right tools, people, training, and protective equipment.

Stay safe out there, and always remember that hikes may take longer because of snow or blowdowns that weren't there the last time you came through. See you on the trail.

2022 Board Nominees

Lana Lindstrom

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE MET IN MAY TO RECOMMEND THREE CANDIDATES to the Board of Directors for three year terms beginning in January, 2022. The names of Maryanne Reiter, Dave Hawkins, and Angie Ruzicka were presented at the June Board meeting. Qualities that the committee considered important included: demonstrated leadership, professional expertise, enthusiasm, and commitment to the club. Maryanne is the current President and Climbs Chair and has led the long term planning process—she is committing to a third term. Dave has been on the Finance Committee and is also the Treasurer for the Bus and Summer Camp Committees; he is committing to a second term. Angie is the co-chair of the Sci-Ed committee and an active trip leader; this will be her first term.

The election occurs at the October Annual Meeting. According to the Constitution, up to three additional nominees may be submitted by petition to the Secretary before the September Board meeting; signatures of five voting members are required. Bios and photos of the nominees will be published in the September *Bulletin*.

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee: Denise Bean, Lana Lindstrom, Jim Northrop, Jorry Rolfe, Denise Rubenstein, or Lyndell Wilken.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Charles (Chuck) Reul April 22, 1938–April 2, 2021

CHUCK AND HIS WIFE SANDY MOVED TO EUGENE IN 1990 where he took an active role in the Eugene City Club and Obsidians. A hiker and a summer camper, he led twenty-one of his sixty-four trips. Chuck was known as a determined trailblazer who wanted to find a trail from Rooster Rock in the Menagerie Wilderness to get a better view of the Rabbit Ears spire, a volcanic plug. On one of his three attempts, he wrote: *The two hours steady uphill 2300 ft. to Rooster Rock was a good workout. After a short break and after viewing our goal of a bare rocky point overlooking Rabbit Ears, we hiked another 1000 ft. and an hour uphill to a trail that at times was faint indeed and covered with snow. Just when the consensus of the group was that the leader was lost or crazy we reached the spectacular lunch spot and a welcomed rest.*

Chuck and Sandy made fifty trips overseas and shared many of their hiking and biking adventures at the Obsidian potlucks. One could tell they were thinking of the potlucks when they took their photos. After eighteen years in Eugene, Chuck and Sandy moved to the Chapel Hill area in North Carolina. Before they moved, Sandy shared at a potluck how much they appreciated the Obsidians and that these years in Eugene were some of the best of their lives.

Editor's Note: A complete obituary can be found in the June 27, 2021 issue of The Register-Guard.

Love A Lake Stewardship Opportunity September 13, 2021

THE CASCADE VOLUNTEER NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION IS BEGINNING A **LOVE A LAKE PROGRAM** in the Willamette National Forest. A lake can be adopted by those interested in helping to keep our wilderness lakes clean and pristine. The Obsidian Stewardship committee is offering an opportunity to join one of the first groups to participate by helping to clean Rosary Lakes, located at Willamette Pass off of the Pacific Crest Trail. There are three Rosary Lakes that will be cleaned. The day will involve cleaning the fire rings, removing any shelters that may have been built, picking up trash, and checking the lakeshore and trail for any fishing line or other items that should not be left in a wilderness environment. There will be many other lakes that will be added to the list for adoption in the months ahead. Watch for this Stewardship opportunity and be ready to sign up if interested.



**Lyndell Wilken
Stewardship Committee**

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

Website: www.obsidians.org

Officers & Board of Directors

Maryanne Reiter, President
Dave Cooper, Vice President
Denise Rubenstein, Secretary
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer
Denise Bean, Marci Hansen,
Dave Hawkins, Laura Osinga
Jorry Rolfe, Lyndell Wilken

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 Jim Northrop
Climbs Maryanne Reiter
Concessions Carla Cooper
Conservation/SciEd K. Coots/A. Ruzicka
Entertainment Evelyn Nagy
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
Stewardship Jorry Rolfe / Darko Sojak
Summer Camp
Summer Trips Dave Cooper
Trail Maintenance Matt Bell
Winter Trips Dave Cooper

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The Obsidian Bulletin

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**Deadline
for September Bulletin
Friday, August 27, 2021**

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Clara Emlen, Yuan Hopkins, Judy Newman,
and Barbara Shomaker

UPDATE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Maryanne Reiter

THE OBSIDIAN BOARD IS ADDING A VITAL AND OVERARCHING PLAN TO REVISIT PREVIOUS PRIORITIES AND FOSTER NEW TONES for the organization through the Strategic Planning process. The planning effort was presented to the general membership on June 2 for their input. We were pleased to see the outpouring of support for the Strategic Planning effort with almost 50 people at the Lodge and another almost 30 on Zoom. The Strategic Planning Committee gathered under its purview four different sub-committees during the planning process to develop goals and strategies in four key focus areas: Community Outreach, Education, Exploration, Stewardship (see the April 2021 *Bulletin* for more detail). The work involved to accomplish the goals and strategies developed under these four focus areas will be done through the formation of task groups. These task groups will coordinate and work with existing committees and club members with interest and expertise to accomplish the goals and strategies.

The four goal areas gathered under the umbrella of the Strategic Planning Committee are as follows:

- **Education:** This goal area includes, in part, strategies and goals for learning and teaching more about outdoor skills, the ecology and geology of the area as well as preserving the history of the club. Examples of skills might be knot tying or navigation. Added into this is the vital section of teaching various needed outdoor skills as well as the developing a broader and more comprehensive knowledge of the flora, fauna, and geography of our area.
- **Community Outreach:** This goal area has not been previously systematically addressed by the club. We were quite comfortable being independent of most other organizations. However, times have changed, and with the current technology of communications we have all been more closely aligned. We can now learn from other groups, join with them to augment and develop what we have to offer as well as help them to raise their goals and abilities to meet the needs of our diverse community. Currently we are working with Willamalane and helping them to explore and develop hiking trips.
- **Exploration:** This goal area addresses working on developing our hiking, climbing, and all outdoor adventures, including city walks, town meanders, mountain climbing, water sports, biking, backpacking, camping, and winter sports such as skiing and snowshoeing. This goal area needs additional leaders for these activities.
- **Stewardship:** A new committee has been formed with the goal of expanding the Obsidians' role and active participation in the preservation and maintenance of the outdoor spaces we all love. The current Trails committee will be absorbed into the Stewardship committee. Matt Bell will continue in his role of many years as liaison to the city and leader of trail maintenance activities on the Ridgeline. Other stewardship opportunities will include activities with Cascade Volunteers, SOLVE, and McKenzie River Trust for a start. Jorry Rolfe and Darko Sojak will be serving as co-chairs of this new committee.



The Strategic Plan Presentation, which took place at the Obsidian Lodge on June 2, invited members to attend and share feedback. President Maryanne Reiter wraps up the meeting.

NEW STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE: How to Be Involved

ON MAY 5 THE OBSIDIAN BOARD APPROVED THE BYLAWS, CO-CHAIRS, AND INITIAL MEMBERS OF THIS NEW COMMITTEE that is to advocate for the preservation and maintenance of outdoor spaces, through participation in organized community service activities. This is one of the top four goals proposed in the recent strategic planning process. Read more about the Strategic Plan 2021 on p. 3 of the May issue of *The Obsidian Bulletin*. You may sign in to the Members Area of the Obsidian website to view slides from the June 2 all-member presentation.

You will begin to see new projects offered like the one on September 13 (a hike and work party on the Rosary Lakes Trail, organized with our partner Cascade Volunteers) in addition to those regularly scheduled projects like Ridgeline Trail maintenance (partnering with City of Eugene) and beach clean-ups (partnering with SOLVE). Future projects will be offered by Obsidians for unique projects with our partners or with other nonprofits/events we can recommend.

Do you want to be involved? Here are some ways you can hear about and work on our projects:

- Subscribe to the stewardship news e-list. Do this by going online to the Obsidian website, click on *Members Area*, click on *Email List Management*, then click on *Subscribe* across from the list third from the bottom, stewardship@obsidians.org
- Sign up online for projects. There are no trip fees! Log in and search the upcoming trips list. Look for these types of activities: *TrlMnt* means it is a trail maintenance project, and *WrkPrty* means it is either an outdoor restoration/maintenance stewardship project, or a work party at the Lodge. (The Lodge and Grounds Committees periodically offer work sessions).
- Become a Committee member. Darko Sojak and Jorry Rolfe are co-chairs along with members Angie Ruzicka, Dave Cooper, Lyndell Wilken, Jim Northrop, and Matt Bell. We welcome your participation, ideas, and interest.
- Tell us about your contacts with stewardship organizations. The Committee will be compiling a list of partnerships, events, and projects based on current interests, member expertise, feasibility, and potential success of projects.

The Stewardship Committee



Meet Trip Leader Mark Hougardy

By Janet Jacobsen

WHO WOULD LEAD TRIPS TITLED *WICKED SAN FRANCISCO*, *FINDING WALDO'S TREE*, *EXPLODING WHALE HIKE*, *EUGENE HIDDEN ART*, OR AN *ANIMAL HOUSE WALK*? The answer is Obsidian Mark Hougardy, who believes that every place has a story. His trips fill up fast with curious Obsidians. Lana Lindstrom summarized his trips: *Mark provides a lot of 'value-added' to any trip he leads. He discovers interesting places to explore, researches the area, and provides historical context as well as visuals to the participants.*

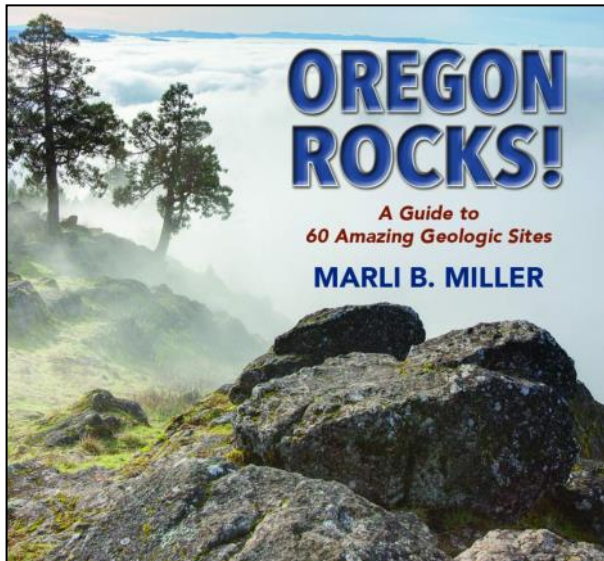


Mark at the Hippodrome. Photo by Meg Stewart Smith. See: Wicked San Francisco trip report in the January, 2019 Bulletin p. 12.

To help Obsidians discover new places, Mark has led backpacking and car camping trips to Central Oregon, Waldo Lake, Lava Beds, and Cape Perpetua. He organized two Backpackers' Rendezvous for hikers, backpackers, and anyone curious about the trails to network, learn, and do more outside with less equipment. One person who attended said: *I want to go backpacking and don't know where to start. I came here to find out more.* Mark's humble reply: *I'm happy to have organized the event and contributed to Eugene's backpacking community.*

Mark, his wife Christiane, and daughter Anna quickly completed their three trips to join the Obsidians in February, 2013. What a joy it was to have their family on our hikes, especially when Anna managed to procure a groundhog on the Groundhog Day hike. Anna is now a senior at the University of Oregon. Mark received his 100 Trip Patch in 2020 and has led 41 unique trips.

Currently, Mark is busy working for a wildlife conservation nonprofit. He also leads programs for Road Scholar, an educational travel organization. He still has time to lead upcoming Oregon Coast hikes with a backpacking or car camping component. Keep your eye on the schedule. We are so lucky that Mark has a trunk full of stories and trails to share with Obsidians.



BOOK REVIEW

OREGON ROCKS!

A Guide to 60 Amazing Geologic Sites

By Marli B. Miller

Mountain Press Publishing Company, Missoula, Montana,
April 2021, 154 pages.

ON A CAR TRIP OR HIKE HAVE YOU EVER LOOKED AT A LANDSCAPE AND THOUGHT, “THAT’S COOL, I WONDER WHAT IT IS?” If the answer is “yes,” then Marli Miller’s new book, *Oregon Rocks! A Guide to 60 Amazing Geologic Sites* is for you. After an accessible and informative introduction to the geologic history of Oregon including text, timelines, diagrams, and maps, Marli presents information about 60 sites organized into six regions: Coast Range (13), Klamath Mountains (5), Cascade Range (11), Lava Plateaus (17), Blue Mountains (10), Basin and Range (4). As the crow flies, twenty of the sixty sites are within 100 miles of Eugene, and include our local favorite Spencer Butte! The regional sections begin with a short geology overview, and a map with major roadways and the geologic sites clearly labeled.

Each of the sites is then described more fully in a few pages, starting with its name and a brief subtitle that either alludes to its origin or features. For example, Site 9 Yachats Basalt of Cape Perpetua, *Lava from Ancient Shield Volcanoes* or Site 28 Crater Lake National Park, *Mt. Mazama’s Caldera Holds Crystal Clear Water*. The text includes driving or hiking directions, the history of discovery and a description of the geologic origin of the feature. I found the graphics incredibly helpful. High quality photos have descriptive captions with the important geologic features labeled directly on the photo. There are three kinds of maps: road maps to help locate the site, trail maps to navigate to specific features, and geologic maps to learn about rock types and features.

As someone who is challenged to comprehend geologic time I very much enjoyed Marli’s ability to tell the geologic story of over 400 million years in a clear, easy to read way. I found myself using the *Main Geologic Events in Oregon* timeline near the beginning of the book to place a site in time. In addition, the glossary at the back of the book provides a quick reference for specific geology words that helped me understand both features and processes.

At 8.5 inches by 9 inches this book is small enough to tuck in your pack when out hiking and will increase both your knowledge and appreciation of Oregon geology!

Reviewed by Angela Ruzicka

Editor’s note: Join Marli Miller at the *Museum of Natural and Cultural History* for a meet-and-greet, book signing, geology games and more—all while enjoying her hand-picked playlist of ROCKin’ tunes, Thursday, August 12 at 5:00 PM.

See: mnch.uoregon.edu/events.

FIRE WATCH

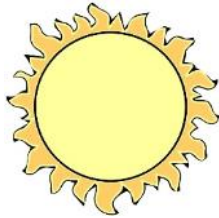


Sand Mountain Fire Lookout



Dave Predeek

DAVE PREDEEK, ALONG WITH A FEW OTHER VOLUNTEERS, HELPED STAFF THE SAND MOUNTAIN FIRE LOOKOUT near Santiam Pass for a few days this June. He wrote: *It was windy at times. There were some thunderstorms to the east, but we saw no fires. We were in contact with Willamette Fire Dispatch. The Sand Mountain Society, a volunteer organization, operates the Sand Mountain Lookout. Headed by Don Allen, it also does a lot of fire lookout restoration throughout Oregon and Washington.*



TIPS FROM AN OBSIDIAN LEADER

Summer Is Here!

by Darko Sojak

SUMMER IS ALWAYS TONS OF FUN, AND FOR MOST OF THE PEOPLE, BUSIEST HIKING TIME. This year summer abruptly and widely opened the door, and we experienced some 'real' weather conditions.

Some advice and reminders for my mighty hiking friends:

- If you can, start hiking early in the morning or later in the afternoon. Avoid strenuous activities in the middle of the day's heat.
- Stay hydrated. Start drinking hours before hiking to have excess fluid in your body. Add electrolytes or simply a tablespoon of honey, salt, and lemon juice to the water. Sip often, especially in hot weather and high altitude. Always carry more water than you plan to use or a filter device if you know for sure that the water source is along the trail. Have extra water in your vehicle cooler and continue to drink several hours after the strenuous hike.
- Plan your hike, check forecast, and let someone know where you are going.
- Dress in layers, suitable for activities and weather conditions, use sunglasses, sunscreen, bandanas, and a head cover. New, modern fabrics are usually more appropriate and safer than old, friendly comfortable cotton. Choose footwear appropriate for the trail.
- Each of us is different, but my humble advice to everyone is to eat well the day before a strenuous trip and have a good breakfast in the morning. Muscle-supporting potassium-rich bananas are a great choice for a pre-trip snack. Later, during hiking or strenuous climbing, small snacks of complex carbohydrates such as nuts, dried fruits, salty snacks, and quality energy bars are often snacked on. Always carry extra food for emergencies and have more food in the car for a hungry drive home.
- Sometimes we need to change tempo or everything does not go as planned. Communicate with your leader if you start to feel fatigued, need rest, shed a layer of clothing, or have special need.
- Always carry Obsidians-recommended 10 essentials.

Have fun!

Editor's note: Review other best practices on the [Obsidian website](#): A new feature, includes an [REI](#) link with additional hot weather hiking tips.



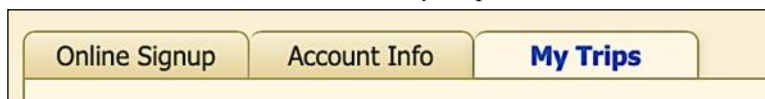
Beat the Heat, Please

TALLYING YOUR TRIPS

ON A RECENT TUESDAY BLANTON HIKE, LYNN MEACHAM EXCITEDLY TOLD OUR HIKING GROUP THAT THIS WOULD BE HER 200TH TRIP. Congratulations, Lynn!

Are you curious about how many trips you have completed? If you would like to check your activity totals, go to *Online Trip Signup*, and sign in.

Click on the *My Trips* tab.



In the right hand corner, click *Trips Summary* to view trips taken and trips led.



Currently there are 38 members who are due or are close to achieving a trip award at the October annual meeting. If you have questions, contact Janet Jacobsen jbjacobsen@comcast.net.

Janet Jacobsen
Historian Committee

TRIP REPORTS



Bike Trips

E2C Island Park to Jasper

May 31, 2021

Leader: Lana Lindstrom

Assistant Leader: Richard Hughes

Bike: 22 miles, 722 ft. (Moderate)

SEE E2C TRIP REPORTS
ON PAGE 16.

E2C Pleasant Hill to Dexter

June 27, 2021

Leader: Lana Lindstrom

Photographer: Darko Sojak

Bike: 19 miles, 450 ft. (Moderate)

SEE E2C TRIP REPORTS ON PAGE 16.



On the Ridgeway Road.



Climbs

South Sister

June 16, 2021

Leader: Maryanne Reiter

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

WE LEFT THE TRAILHEAD AT 5:15 AM UNDER CLEAR SKIES AND WITH LOW WIND. As we emerged from the trees onto the plateau, we smelled smoke. Thinking it was a campfire from below at Moraine Lake, we ignored it and started hiking again. However, Eamon Happy, the minor on the trip, decided to investigate and found smoke coming from the ground nearby. We all leapt into action and dug out the duff fire with our ice axes and then covered the area with snow. After that we had a pleasant climb to the summit where



South Sister: onto the snow. Photo by Mike Fleck.



Crew on Summit. Photo by Maryanne Reiter.

we enjoyed snacks and the extensive views. On the way down there were sections of snow that were perfect for glissading, so we got to slide down several steep snow slopes, much to the delight of those who had never glissaded. We were back to the car a little after 4 PM, happy with our climb. Members: Mike Fleck, Eamon Happy, Tom Happy, Maryanne Reiter. Nonmembers: Meg McNabb, Larry Winiarski, Lindsay Urquhart, Kim Gilmer.



Hikes

Patterson Mountain

May 9, 2021

Leader: Jane Hackett

Hike: 4.6 miles, 600 ft. (Easy)

FIRST TRIP FOR ME WITH NO MASKS FOR CARPOOLING AND EVERYONE WITH VACCINES. I can only say everyone was relieved and enjoyed the trip very much. Overcast and 42

degrees at trailhead. The forest was misty—not much in the way of views. Everyone seemed to enjoy this quiet forest. I thought that we would see more wildflowers but today it was mainly snow queens, yellow violets and trilliums. The biggest change was the number of large old growth Douglas firs down at the top. Huge root balls standing on their sides. The only conclusion I could draw was that the Labor Day winds that pushed the fires had toppled these old trees. Members: Donna Bloomfield, Lynda Christiansen, Marguerite Cooney, Sheridan Gates, Jane Hackett, Sandra Larsen, Ginny Reich. Nonmembers: Karen Dunne, Karen Robey.

Sweet Creek Falls

May 16, 2021

Leader: Jane Hackett

Hike: 3 miles, 350 ft. (Easy)

PERFECT DAY FOR A HIKE ALONG SWEET CREEK. Wild flowers out in profusion. The only sad note was the amount of water in the creek for this time of year. It looked more like July or August. After getting back to the car, we enjoyed a snack break at a new picnic table. We then drove the 1.3 miles up the road and picked up the trail to the confluence of Sweet Creek and Beaver Creek. In a joint decision, we decided to go on to Florence for an early dinner. What a difference a few miles can make. Windy and cold, we were happy to eat indoors. Sunny all day, so that makes for a great day. Members: Patricia Cleall, Clara Emlen, Patricia Esch, Jane Hackett. Nonmembers: Sandy Gill.

Brice Creek

May 23, 2021

Leader: Jane Hackett

Hike: 5.5 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

THE TRIP WAS RUN AS A SHUTTLE. This hike started from the top of the trail. The group as a whole made the .3-mile detour to the lower falls. Not a lot of water, but pretty. The trail still shows the damage from the snow and ice storm of three years ago. The trail now has stable footing and no more climbing over trunks. Brice Creek water level is low—looked more like the end of July. The deep green pools are still present and the water is clear to the bottom. Three members of the group wanted to see the upper falls while the rest of us continued down the trail to a great lunch spot on the water. At the end of the trail, the group of three arrived shortly after the larger group, all having enjoyed a great day. Members: Jody Boyles, Lynda Christiansen, Marguerite Cooney, Jane Hackett, Sandra Larsen, Wally Miller, Ginny Reich, Kate Shapiro. Nonmembers: Michele Peniakoff.

E2C Tire Mountain

May 28, 2021

Leader: Denise Bean

Hike: 7.6 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

[SEE E2C TRIP REPORTS ON PAGE 17.](#)

Obsidian Lodge Fence Tour #2

May 29, 2021

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Assistant Leader: John Jacobsen

Hike: 1 mile, 100 ft. (Easy)

JOHN AND I COMBINED THE GRAND FENCE TOUR WITH EIGHT MEMBERS AND THE GET ACQUAINTED HIKE (GA) with five guests for spirited conversation about the Club and a hike on the Ribbon Trail. Members were the gracious hosts wel-

coming the new Eugene residents and offering tips on how to get signed up for trips. The fence received enthusiastic comments. It was a companionable gathering and fun for all. The guests found out how to contact me about a Get Acquainted hike when they registered for online access and received the welcome email with their password. In previous years, guests found out about the GA hike from friends, *Register-Guard*, the Y Bulletin Board and a flyer on the Obsidian home page.



*Tiger lily on Ribbon Trail.
Photo by Rick Ahrens.*

We need to schedule more this summer. Members: Rick Ahrens, Patricia Cleall, Sharon Duncan, Patricia Esch, Kathy Hoeg, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen. Nonmembers: Frank Webster, Judy Webster, Jennifer Crim, Angela Bos, Aaron Bos.

Finley Wildlife Refuge

May 30, 2021

Leader: Jane Hackett

Hike: 5 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)

LATE SEASON BIRD TRIP. ONCE AGAIN, IT WAS NOTED HOW LOW WATER LEVELS WERE IN THE REFUGE. In spite of that, our first stop at Bruce Road turned up a blind full of swallow nests. Although you could see little water in Cabell Pond, the number of great blue herons was impressive, along with several great white egrets. The swallows eventually decided to ignore us and some came into the blind to feed their chicks and give us a close look. From there it was on to the long boardwalk. Not a lot of water and not a lot to see except people walking the levee road. The road to headquarters is closed so the hike started at Woodpecker Trailhead. We took the right leg of the trail to the shelter for a good view of the valley, a great breeze, and a dim view of Middle and North Sister. The day was warming up and the humidity in the woods was also rising. We stopped at headquarters to eat lunch—no bathrooms and no food in the feeders. While one of us elected to hang out there, the rest of us did the Mill Pond trail. The woods were lush and humid. We all were a little short on water. I sent the group on to the trailhead to complete the hike. I picked up our one member at headquarters and we beat them back to the cars via the road. Members: Donna Bloomfield, Lynda Christiansen, Patricia Cleall, Sharon Duncan, Clara Emlen, Patricia Esch, Jane Hackett, Nancy Hoecker, Yuan Hopkins.

Sutton Creek / Darko's Hidden Cove

May 30, 2021

Leader: Darko Sojak

Hike: 9.8 miles, 30 ft. (Moderate)

SUTTON CREEK AND BERRY CREEK WERE EXCEPTIONALLY LOW, so crossings were uneventful. After the lunch and cove exploration, the group returned south propelled by a steady 14-mph, NE wind. Everyone agreed that a visit to Darko's Hidden Cove at low (minus) tide was a great experience.



View from the low tide cave to the open ocean.

Photo by Darko Sojak.



Obsidians in Darko's Hidden Cove.

Photo by Diana Dinn.

Members: Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Diana Dinn, James Dinn, Vicky Hanson, Gwyneth Iredale, Barbara Orsi, Linda Parks, Jorry Rolfe, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Dorothy van Winkle, Nancy Whitfield, Paul Winther.

Masonic Cemetery to Obsidian Lodge

May 31, 2021

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 4.5 miles, 800 ft. (Easy)

IT BEGAN AS A MEMORIAL CEMETERY WALK when Ginny and Kathleen shared stories by their father's monuments. With Jorry's directions, our next stop was the bog near the golf course where Hugh Pritchard gave us the latest plant update. At the Lodge, John Jacobsen and Jim Northrop stopped their grounds work to tell us about the new fence. We appreciated that we could use the bathrooms. We then took the Ribbon Trail loop to see the new housing development and the new Obsidian boundary fence up near 30th Avenue. It was a surprise to meet up with Barbara Bruns, who was also checking out what was new. Running behind, we opted to skip Hendricks Park and take Spring Boulevard to Fairmount—a Rhododendron Walk. Ginny guided us down to the new Edison School construction where she went to elementary school and where Sandra taught. Three minutes to spare, we made it to the Public Square to hear *Taps*. There was even time for the President of the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association, Carolyn Forrell, to give us an enthusiastic welcome. Her hus-

band, Dick Hildreth, is a longtime Obsidian member. After *Taps*, most of us took a peek inside the Hope Abbey. The leaders appreciated that everyone contributed for the hike to take a life of its own. Members: Jody Boyles, Patricia Cleall, Kathleen Ehli, Vicky Hanson, Gwyneth Iredale, Janet Jacobsen, Sandra Larsen, Evelyn Nagy, Barbara Orsi, Ginny Reich, Jorry Rolfe, Karla Rusow, Marie Stringer. Nonmembers: Jane Allen.

E2C Tire Mountain

June 6, 2021

Leader: Lana Lindstrom

Hike: 4.5 miles, 700 ft. (Moderate)

SEE E2C TRIP REPORTS ON PAGE 17.

Kentucky Falls / Whitaker Creek

June 6, 2021

Leader: Vern Marsonette

Hike: 7.5 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

THE DAY BEGAN WITH 12 HIKERS MEETING AT TARGET parking lot. The temperature was 63 degrees under cloudy skies. We carpooled to the Kentucky Falls trailhead which took several input stops and road intersections. Hiked the trail out and back. Many wildflowers were in bloom. After returning to our cars, everyone decided to have lunch before heading to



Our group at Upper Kentucky Falls.

Photo by Carla Cooper.

the second half of our hike. We carpooled to Austa boat landing and Vern set up a buffet burrito bar and banana splits for lunch. After lunch, some hikers returned to town; others continued to our next hike at Whitaker Campground, where we

hiked Siuslaw Ridge trail. Everyone enjoyed the day. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Gwyneth Iredale, Holger Krentz, Vern Marsonette, Lynn Meacham, Dave Predeek, Angie Ruzicka, Kate Shapiro, Darko Sojak. Nonmembers: Larry Winiarski.

Eugene Book Loop Walk

June 11, 2021

Leader: Mark Hougardy

Hike: 5 miles, (Easy)

AFTER 15 MONTHS OF BUSINESSES HAVING REDUCED IN-PERSON VISITS due to COVID-19 safety measures, it was good to go for a walk to re-discover three locally-owned, independent bookstores in Eugene. Our group walked from Amazon Park to J. Michaels Books, Smith Family Books, and looped back to Tsunami Books. A fourth bookstore was still closed to in-person visits; we will get this on the next trip. We visited a local tea house before wrapping up the day. At least ten books were purchased between the three locations. Members: Mari Baldwin, Anne Hollander, Mark Hougardy, Janet Jacobsen, Jorry Rolfe. Nonmembers: Marti Gerdes, Judy Webster, Fred Crafts.

E2C Lookout Reservoir / Winberry Ridge

June 12, 2021

Leader: David Cooper

Assistant Leader: Carla Cooper

Hike: 9 miles, 1,845 ft. (Moderate)

SEE E2C TRIP REPORTS ON PAGE 17.

E2C Alpine Trail Mid-section

June 13, 2021

Leader: Darko Sojak

Hike: 10.3 miles, 1,470 ft. (Difficult)

SEE E2C TRIP REPORTS ON PAGE 17.

Newport Bayfront / Beach Hike

June 14, 2021

Leader: Evelyn Nagy

Hike: 7 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)

IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL DAY ON THE BEACH AND BAYFRONT. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Lisa Marks, June Miller, Evelyn Nagy, Peg Straub.



Kathie, Peg, Evelyn, June on the beach, Newport. Photo by Lisa Marks.

University of Oregon Campus Walk

June 17, 2021

Leader & Photographer: Joanna Alexander

Hike: 2.5 miles, (Easy)

EVERYONE HAD A MOST ENJOYABLE CAMPUS WANDERABOUT. We visited the Old Campus, New Science Complex and Mill-race with new native plantings along the bank, Stafford Homestead Square, and Women's Memorial Quad. Weather was just right—cool and sunny. Near the Science and Cultural Museum we encountered excitement, barriers, and drug-sniffing canines, as they set up for the next day's start of the



Jerry, Pat, Yuan, Carol, Jorry, Sheridan and giant sequoia.

U. S. Olympic Track & Field Trials. We ended by entering Tykeson Hall and exploring its interesting interior spaces and decor. Our look at some unusual plants and trees was assisted by input from Jane Brubaker, University of Oregon Landscape Designer, who had met with Joanna the week before: Stewartia japonica, black bamboo, yellow buckeye, Chief Joseph pine. Members: Joanna Alexander, Sharon Duncan, Patricia Esch, Sheridan Gates, Yuan Hopkins, Lisa Marks, Evelyn Nagy, Jorry Rolfe, Marie Stringer. Nonmembers: Jerry Pergamit.

Iron Mountain

June 18, 2021

Leader: Elizabeth Grant

Assistant Leader: Whitney Gould

Hike: 7.8 miles, 1,980 ft. (Difficult)

BEN BROWN'S IRON MOUNTAIN HIKE WAS SO POPULAR that it was decided to start a second same-day / same-hike option. To prevent 20 Obsidians from overloading the lookout



Crew on Summit. Photo by Daphne James.

platform for lunch, this hike started a half hour later and began at Deer Creek Trailhead, which created at least an hour of separation between the two groups. It was a perfect-weather day with profuse swaths of larkspur, paintbrush, cat's ears and more (although the consensus was that the peak wild-flower bloom was still to come). There were only a couple of small snow patches to step on, and one fallen tree lengthwise on the trail which took caution to scramble over and around.



Views of Cone Peak. Photo by Daphne James.

Nearly everyone enjoyed a late lunch at the lookout with views of snow-covered Cascade peaks. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Whitney Gould, Elizabeth Grant, Holger Krentz, Becky Lipton, Kathy Randall, Emily Rice. Nonmembers: Marti Gerdes, Arjen Hoekstra, Kim Davidson-Ruby, Mel Bankoff, Karen Lee.

Juneteenth Sunrise

June 19, 2021

Leader: Darko Sojak

Hike: 3.5 miles, 280 ft. (Easy)

ONLY A COUPLE OF CYCLISTS AND ONE NAKED STROLLER shared dawn with us along the Willamette River. We greeted Juneteenth sunrise lights from the top of Skinner Butte. Members: David Hawkins, Linda Parks, Denise Rubenstein, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak. Nonmembers: Tinker Flom, Susan Calhoun.

E2C Aubrey Mountain Loop

June 20, 2021

Leader: Darko Sojak

Hike: 7.5 miles, 1,765 ft. (Moderate)

SEE E2C TRIP REPORTS ON PAGE 17.

Eugene Hidden Art Walk

June 20, 2021

Leader: Mark Hougardy

Hike: 3 miles, (Easy)

AFTER A YEAR AND A HALF SINCE LAST SEEING THE MURALS and micro-art pieces in downtown Eugene, it was good to check everything out. A few of the pieces, particularly several "Jumpers" by WK Interact (forms that appear to be moving as though in parkour jumps) seem to have disappeared, while others have suffered some weathering. One newer piece by Bayne, at the edge of Willamette Alley and Broadway, was very colorful. The group did see several production staff members that were working on a TV show; later we met a man who said the show was called, "Burger Truck Brawl" and they were filming in Eugene. As we finished, we walked

through the Graduate Hotel and saw multiple athletes who were attending the U.S. 2021 Olympic Track and Field Trials. One member of our group inadvertently stepped into a line thinking it was for the restroom and was then told it was for the Olympic drug-testing area. We finished our 2.5-mile art walk outside a nearby ice cream shop. Members: Donna Bloomfield, Clara Emlen, Mark Hougardy, Evelyn Nagy, Peg Straub. Nonmembers: Frank Webster, Judy Webster.

Belknop Crater

June 21, 2021

Leader: Denise Bean

Hike: 8 miles, 1,567 ft. (Difficult)

WHILE THE WEATHER WAS 95 DEGREES IN THE VALLEY, we had a cool 80 degrees with a lovely cool wind sweeping over the snow fields. Most of the trail was clear of snow but we did have to navigate a few snow fields. The group ate lunch at the base of Belknop Crater while several scouted the trail past the snow fields to hike to the top of the large crater. Steep uphill on scree and snow fields made it rough going, but six made it to the top. What a view. We could see Mt. Washington, Three Fingered Jack and Mt. Jefferson. We always had the beautiful Three Sisters in our view. We did the Little Belknop Crater side trail on the way back down. Tough going with the pumice trail, but what an awesome hike on a perfect day with a perfect group. Members: Denise Bean, Kathie Carpenter, June Miller, Michael Myers, Barbara Orsi, Kate Shapiro, Dorothy van Winkle, Karen Yoerger.

E2C Pisgah

June 21, 2021

Leader: David Cooper

Hike: 6 miles, 350 ft. (Moderate)

SEE E2C TRIP REPORTS ON PAGE 16.

U of O Campus Walk

June 22, 2021

Leader: Joanna Alexander

Hike: 2.5 miles, (Easy)

A MOST CONGENIAL GROUP, WITH SEVERAL WHO ARE NEW TO EUGENE AND CAMPUS, enjoyed a deliciously cool morning after the searing heat of previous days as we wandered about together. Favorite trees and flowers were shared, and then we found many of them on our way. After marveling at the yellow buckeye planted after the Ohio State-UO Rose Bowl in 1958, a fledgling downy woodpecker, looking perhaps stunned on the ground, blocked our way across the Lillis Plaza. As we wondered whether it was going to be OK, it took off in flight into a tall tree. A mystery tree was later found in the UO tree database to be a Caucasian wingnut. I am just a Caucasian dingbat, but many people seemed to enjoy learning all that I shared about campus plantings. Was it Judy who dramatically recited what a ranger had emphasized to contrast the redwood and sequoia? (Note to self: ask her to repeat it.) Donna shared the story of Ruff Magnolia Park in Springfield, when someone (Frank, I think) shared that they love magnolias. But we were all totally awed at the richness of campus landscaping. Credit was given to Whitey Lueck and to Jane Brubaker (UO Campus Landscape Designer) for sharing so much of their knowledge of campus trees. One treat was seeing a UO Facilities-uniformed guy's torso poking out of a manhole. He told us it accessed the tunnels running all around campus, going back across Franklin Blvd., that form the conduit for all of the utilities. (Aha, do you see any over-

head wires on campus!?!?) Members: Joanna Alexander, Donna Bloomfield, Patricia Cleall, Kay Coots, Kathy Hoeg, Barbara Orsi. Nonmembers: Carol Babcock, Frank Webster, Judy Webster, Fred Crafts.

Browder Ridge

June 25, 2021

Leader: Karen Yoerger

Hike: 8.4 miles, 2,100 ft. (Difficult)

THIS WAS A WONDERFUL BUT CHALLENGING HIKE on a very warm day. Our delightful company of 12 strong hikers was grateful for the nice mix of shade and sun along the trail. The switchbacks to the first viewpoint featured a variety of forest



Dorothy and Holger. Photo by Esme Greer.

wildflowers, including candystick, coralroot, false Solomon's seal, bluebells, queen-cup, anemone and bunchberry. Flycatchers and varied thrushes called from the woods. A few of us caught a glimpse of grouse chicks running for cover,



Karen and Esme near the summit of Browder Ridge. Photo by Joel Greer.

followed by the rush of wings as the adult also flew. There were good views of the mountains from two rocky viewpoints and the lower ridge. And hurray for trail crews! At the junction to the summit, we discovered that the fallen trees and limbs had been removed from the trail during the previous week. Most of the snow was also gone. Eleven of us chose to continue to the summit, while one remained at the junction for some forest bathing. We traversed steep wildflower and bracken fern meadows along the base of rock cliffs and then scrambled up the rocky ridge to the broad meadow summit. The views from Diamond Peak to Mt. Hood were excellent. We enjoyed lunch in the shade before returning to the trail-

head. We had the trail to ourselves for the entire six-hour hike. Thanks to all for a great day! Members: Kathie Carpenter, Whitney Gould, Esme Greer, Joel Greer, Holger Krentz, Jorry Rolfe, Denise Rubenstein, Angie Ruzicka, Kate Shapiro, Randy Sinnott, Dorothy van Winkle, Karen Yoerger.

Amazon Headwaters / Fox Hollow Hikes

Hikes: 3.5–8.5 miles, 630–1,900 ft. (Easy–Moderate)

Various Leaders

Mike Smith: 5/19 14 Members

Karen Yoerger: 6/2 18 Members

Lisa Van Liefde: 6/3 7 Members, 4 Nonmembers

Whitney Gould, Denise Rubenstein:

6/9 19 Members, 1 Nonmember

Janet Jacobsen: 6/10 2 Members, 1 Nonmember

Darian Marray: 6/16 7 Members, 1 Nonmember

Peg Straub: 6/23 11 Members

Blanton Ridge Hikes

Hikes: 8.5–9.4 miles, 1,450–1,740 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

Jonathan Jost, Lynn Stearney: 5/25 4 Members

Tommy Young: 6/1 7 Members, **6/8** 5 Members,

6/22 4 Members, 1 Nonmember

Whitney Gould, Kate Shapiro: 6/15 6 Members

Mt. Pisgah Hikes

Hike: 3.5–6.4 miles, 1,000–1,400 ft. (Moderate)

Leader: **Janet Jacobsen: 5/25** 11 Members,

6/20 5 Members, 2 Nonmembers, **6/23** 9 Members



**Car
Camp**

Steens Mountain

June 7, 2021

Leader: Jane Hackett

Car Camp

THE TRIP TO THE STEENS WAS ENJOYED BY ALL. First, I would like to thank the individuals who made this trip so much fun and very comfortable. Nancy Whitfield went



First crossing of Big Indian Creek. Knee deep and swift. Bea, Brad, Judy, Jane, Mike. Photo by Nancy Whitfield.

early with me to make sure that we could grab the needed camp sites for the group. We did grab the group site—usually it is full. Brad and Mike came the next day. They included in their gear many items the group used that kept us dry and warm, including an oversized pop-up with a 14-foot rug plus a propane fire pit. Bea led the caravan over on Monday, getting them to camp at 4 PM. The first day, Nancy and I checked out the water crossing at Blitzen Creek—high and fast. So we moved upstream and found a safer place. On Sunday, Brad and Mike showed up, set up their camp, and then we all took off to check out horses and do a short hike past Roaring Springs Ranch. We found a large herd of horses, an old line shack with an old-wood stove, and a BLM-setup, year-round water trough. We were gently herded away by two young stallions who wanted a drink. The hike that day was short and steep. We were treated to watching three teenage girls herding a large group of range bulls to new pastures. We made it back to camp in time to meet the caravan. Everyone got to set up and get ready for the hike into Big Indian Canyon. There are three water crossings in the first three miles of the hike. With the help of Brad and Mike, everyone made all



*Wild peony along the Little Indian Gorge Trail.
Photo by Bea Fontana.*

leading this trip. Members: Brad Bennett, Russ Davies, Bea Fontana, Jane Hackett, Mike Nease, Judy Ness, Kathy Randall, Tom Rundle, Nancy Whitfield.

Extended Trips

Yachats Beach House Weekend

June 4, 2021

Leader: Scott Hovis

Extended Trip: 8 miles, 100 ft. (Moderate)

HIKES AND GAMES WERE THE THEMES FOR THIS BEACH WEEKEND in Yachats. We carpoled to Scott's, meeting Friday at 2 PM. After a short hike to town through the neighborhood, stopping at tiny Ocean View Park, we enjoyed a potluck dinner back at Scott's. Afterwards, we hiked to the enchanting Gerdemann Botanical Garden on the Ya'Xaik Trail. On this public footpath, we saw rare species in this unique preserve. A stunning sunset, parlor games (Scott's penny trick, for one) and a jigsaw puzzle entertained us superbly until bedtime. On Saturday, and with perfect weather, the group took the Lincoln County Transit bus to Waldport to begin our beach hike (approximately seven miles) back to Scott's. Surf was high for great ocean viewing that afternoon and evening! Two more hikes—to Saturday's dinner at the Drift Inn and on the Hobbit Trail Sunday morning—rounded out our relaxing and refreshing oceanfront extended trip. Members: Joanna Alexander, Marguerite Cooney, Scott Hovis, Michael Myers, Jorry Rolfe, Joan Skarda.



*A cold wet start to the day. Thank goodness for Mike's canopy and propane firepit. Judy, Tom, Jane, Kathy, Brad.
Photo by Bea Fontana.*

three without incident. After that, I cut loose the five fast hikers to try for the head wall. Two turned around after five miles. All the others were back together prior to the creek crossings. The wildflowers and the geology were great. Wednesday, three hikers headed for the upper locked gate and the rim. The rest of us headed for Riddle Ranch by car or foot. While everyone checked out the historic ranch, I took off to check out the Willow Creek trail. Nancy and I hiked this trail to the confluence of Blitzen Creek and Big Indian Creek. That evening we were all surprised by a blueberry cobbler, thanks to Russ Davies and his Dutch oven. Very good. We received our usual nightly weather report thanks to Mike—rain from 9 PM to 6 AM. We had great weather all week until 6 AM Thursday when we woke up to two inches of wet sloppy snow. No Blitzen hike. Out came the propane fire pit. We gathered around this for the next three hours or so before it finally stopped. At this point I called the trip. Some people packed up and took off for home. A few stayed one more night to keep from driving at night. Over half of the group had never been to this area, so I had a great time



Backpacks

Blacklock Point

June 15, 2021

Leader: Scott Hovis

Backpack: 13 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)

OLD TOWN BANDON WAS BUSY—nice to see them coming out of the pandemic. Taking advantage of a minus tide,

we hiked / boulder-dashed around a rock wall north of Blacklock Point. The highlight was seeing a mom otter and her three pups. Great sunsets—one evening we saw the ‘green flash’. Our hike south to Floras Lake allowed us to see the kite / wind surfers. The trails are nicely maintained. I admired this group; they all overcame serious health concerns to keep going with their love of the outdoors. Members: Mari Baldwin, Brad Bennett, Russ Davies, Scott Hovis, Vern Marsonette, Tommy Young.



Trail Maintenance

National Trails Day

June 5, 2021

Leader: **Matt Bell**

Photographer: **Pat Soussan**

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

WE MET ON AN OVERCAST NATIONAL TRAILS DAY to brush the sides of the Spencer Butte Tie Trail in preparation for the City's upcoming improvements of the trail. We hiked up the main trail carrying our loppers, hand clippers, weed cutters, and a rake. We hiked down the Tie Trail,



A tranquil place to rest when hiking the Tie Trail on Spencer Butte.

cutting back brush and blackberries. We preserved the vine maple arches over the trail. As we ended our work, we enjoyed a light rain shower and brownies. Members: Matt Bell, David Cooper, Janet Jacobsen, Pat Soussan.

Spencer Butte West Trail Steps

June 30, 2021

Leader: **Matt Bell**

Photographer: **Janet Jacobsen**

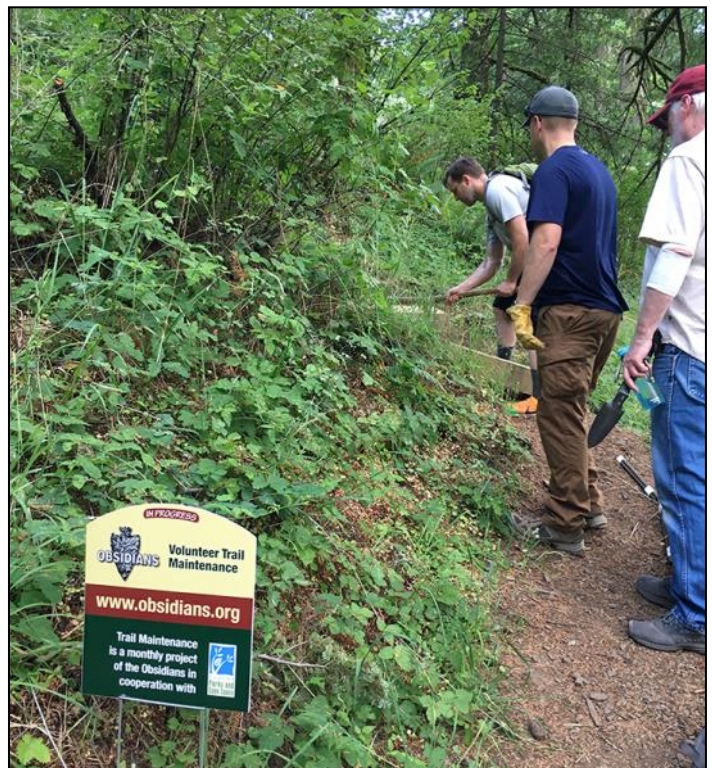
Trail Maintenance: **2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)**

OUR GROUP MET UP WITH DEVERTON COCHRANE, City of Eugene staffer, on a slightly overcast and cool June evening, very much in contrast to the heat earlier in the week. We chatted and gathered up the supplies to install three steps on the West Trail. We hiked up to our work area just below tree line, laid out the steps, and set them in. We used a plastic bag that Dan brought to ferry soil from a borrow pit to fill in the



Deverton arrives smiling even though he is carrying a step on his back.

steps. After finishing the steps, we hiked over the Butte to enjoy the view, and back down on the Main Trail to the trailhead. On our return we found that, as always, Clara had immaculately cleaned the trailhead steps. We all enjoyed a treat



Near the treeline, the Obsidian Trail Maintenance sign is visible while Matt, Todd and Dan start preparing the area to place the steps.

of tart cherries and yogurt that Janet brought. Members: Matt Bell, Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore, Janet Jacobsen, Todd Larsen.

FOX HOLLOW TO SPENCER BUTTE HIKES WERE SCHEDULED June 10, June 26, and July 4th to check out the repair work on the Tie Trail. Closed on the weekdays, these week-end hikes provided the opportunity to see progress and to also hike to the summit. The July 4th hikers estimated that the construction crew was ahead of schedule—two thirds of the trail resurfaced with the support peeler logs and gravel—and that it could open earlier expected. That is good news for hikers who want to start for the summit from the Fox Hollow or 52nd and Willamette Trailheads.

Janet Jacobsen, Leader



RIDGELINE TIE TRAIL UPDATE

*Trail closure for weekdays sign.
Photo by Carla Cooper.*



Surprise! We now continue our hike on a resurfaced trail. Janet and Jennifer standing by the compactor. Photo by Peg Straub.



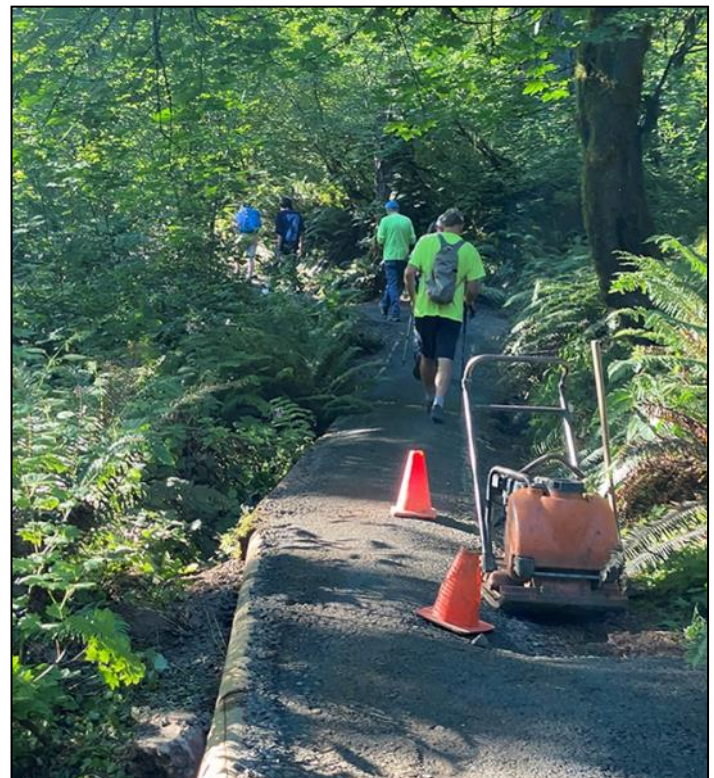
Tie Trail is open on weekdays at 4:00. Jennifer and Peg have reached the upper section that has been resurfaced. Photo by Janet Jacobsen.



Motorized wheelbarrows were used to haul 40 plus peeler logs to replace the old ones. Photo by Janet Jacobsen.

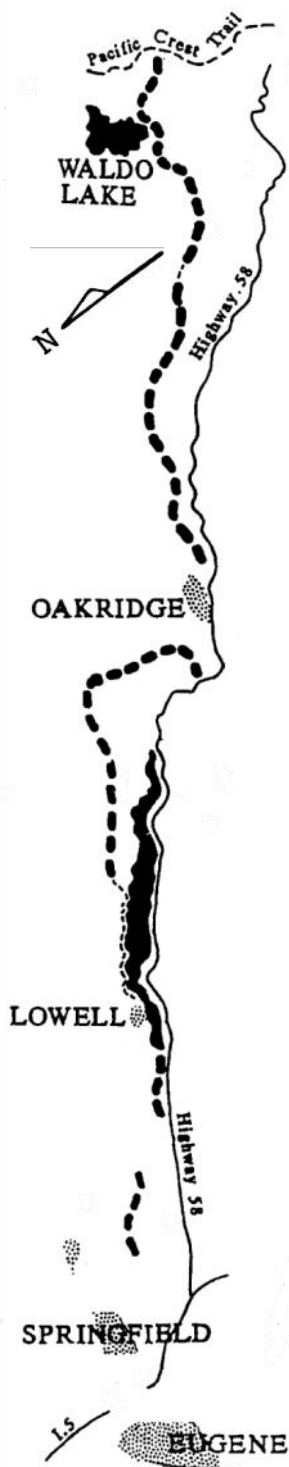


The hikers along a section of trail that is being improved. Photo by Carla Cooper.



The new compacted surface will be so much better than the winter mud! Photo by Carla Cooper.

E2C EUGENE TO CREST TRAIL TRIP REPORTS



Above map:
From a vintage brochure
compiled by Jerold Williams.
The brochure is
available from the Middle
Fork Ranger Station,
or viewable online at:
[www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/
FSE_DOCUMENTS/
fseprd588934.pdf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd588934.pdf).

THE EUGENE-TO-PACIFIC CREST TRAIL (E2C) WAS DEDICATED ON JUNE 3, 1995 near the Ferry Street Bridge, the beginning of the 74-mile hiking route to Waldo Lake.

On April 24, 2021 Dave Cooper led the first section with a hike to Island Park in Springfield. The Summer Trips Committee has offered trips for the past month along with a challenge to complete all of the available hiking routes. See May, 2021 *Bulletin*, p. 14.

Jerold Williams, Obsidian member and E2C Project Coordinator, worked for 21 years building trails to link existing trail segments. For many years, volunteers from the Obsidians and the Sierra Club worked on the trail. Jerold led 11 Obsidian Eugene to Crest Trail work projects. The trail was dedicated but never completed.

SEGMENTS LISTED IN 'TRAIL ORDER' FROM EUGENE:

E2C Eugene to Crest Section 1

April 24, 2021

Leader David Cooper

Hike: 8 miles, 50 ft. (Moderate)

FROM SKINNER BUTTE TO ISLAND PARK. See Trip report in the May, 2021 *Bulletin*, p.11.

E2C Island Park to Jasper

May 31, 2021

Leader: Lana Lindstrom

Assistant Leader: Richard Hughes

Bike: 22 miles, 722 ft. (Moderate)

AND THEN THERE WERE THREE! THIS IS THE SECOND SEGMENT OF THE EUGENE TO PACIFIC CREST TRAIL (E2C) SERIES. The bike ride was originally scheduled for the previous week. Fourteen Obsidians signed up, but the weather forecast was for 70 percent chance of rain and so half of the group bailed (it never rained). The leader re-scheduled for the following Monday. Eight persons signed up, but four cancelled and one didn't show. The three of us had a lovely 20-mile ride on bike/walking paths and low traffic streets to Jasper and back! Watch for another bike ride and more hikes this summer in the E2C challenge; the May *Bulletin* has the background information. Members: Elizabeth Grant, Richard Hughes, Lana Lindstrom.

E2C Pisgah (from main parking lot to east entrance)

June 21, 2021

Leader: David Cooper

Hike: 6 miles, 350 ft. (Moderate)

A WARM MORNING STROLL FROM THE MAIN PARKING LOT to the east entrance and back was a good way to start the day. We stopped at two miles and took a look at where some trail improvements and realignments will be done. This hike was perhaps the easiest part of the Eugene to Crest Trail we are doing this year. We should probably do it several times this summer. It's a pleasant walk to take between the more strenuous hikes being done. Members: Julie Barnas, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, Esme Greer, Joel Greer, Jane Hackett, Janet Jacobsen.



The old truck has been burned. Accidentally, deliberately?
We don't know.
Photo by Carla Cooper.

E2C Pleasant Hill to Dexter

June 27, 2021

Leader: Lana Lindstrom

Bike: 19 miles, 450 ft. (Moderate)

NOTHING LIKE RIDING THE TOUR DE P. HILL ON THE ALL-TIME-RECORD-SETTING-TEMPERATURE day (111 degrees)! But we had some shade and a bit of a breeze and were done by 10 AM when the temperature was only 90 degrees. Cycling past the east entrance to Mt. Pisgah, we passed the imaginary baton to the Eugene to Crest (E2C) Obsidians who will hike there. A beautiful, 4-foot-long long snake searched for shade in Elijah Bristow State Park, where we passed the baton to those who will hike

through the park to the dam. Thanks to Richard for mapping the route and to all the stalwart athletes who wanted to ride in spite of the heat. Members: Richard Hughes, Lana Lindstrom, Jessica Moll, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak. Nonmembers: Meredith Anderson.

E2C Lookout Point Reservoir / Winberry Ridge

June 12, 2021

Leader: David Cooper

Assistant Leader: Carla Cooper

Hike: 9 miles, 1,845 ft. (Moderate)

THE GOOD RAIN THE PREVIOUS DAY HAD LEFT MUDDY PUD- DLES ON THE FIRST PART OF THE TRAIL, and the wet vegetation on the narrow path soon had everyone wet. Wearing items like quick dry pants and wool blend socks, our group of experienced Obsidians was unfazed by the dampness. The route took us away from Lookout Point Reservoir up toward Winberry Ridge and crossed roads a few times. In between the roads, we were treated to beautiful forests often carpeted with ferns. After our final road crossing we found ourselves on, of all things, a road. But this one hadn't been used in a while. Our trail was now a wide green path making it easy to walk in groups. After this unrelenting grade, we switch- backed down to our destination trail junction where the Eugene to Crest trail continues on as the Winberry Divide section, heading toward Tire Mountain. We had our lunch and returned to our cars taking a little different mix of Forest Service roads and trails. A warm and pleasant day spent exploring another section of the Eugene to Crest. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Whitney Gould, Elizabeth Grant, Janet Jacobsen, Lynn Meacham, Jorry Rolfe, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Dorothy van Winkle, Karen Yoerger.

E2C Tire Mountain

June 6, 2021

Leader & Photographer: Lana Lindstrom

Hike: 4.5 miles, 700 ft. (Moderate)

I FELT VERY LUCKY! WE HAD A COUPLE OF RAINDROPS in the South Eugene parking lot and a few more on the road, but none once we hit the trail. Moreover, just three mountain bikers



Sorry to leave the lunch spot & re-join the trail.

passed us, although more were arriving as we were departing. The flowers were at peak! It was a joy to be with two wild- flower experts, Karen and Peter, who really enjoyed figuring out the few plants we were unsure of. The only mountain we saw due to low hanging clouds was Diamond Peak, but we lingered over a long lunch, enjoying conversations and the surrounding flowers and terrain. On the return, Joel spotted

an E2C marker along the trail! Thanks to all, particularly the drivers, for sharing a great day. Members: Linda Anson, LaRee Beckley, Whitney Gould, Peter Graham, Esme Greer, Joel Greer, Richard Hughes, Lana Lindstrom, Jessica Moll, Karen Yoerger. Nonmembers: Chris Kellow, Lisa Johnson.

E2C Tire Mountain

May 28, 2021

Leader: Denise Bean

Hike: 7.6 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

TIRE MOUNTAIN HAS BECOME ONE OF MY FAVORITE EARLY SUMMER HIKEs. I can see why people refer to it as the *other Iron Mountain* for wildflowers. The variety in the fields of blooming wildflowers was amazing to all. The skies were clear enough to see all Three Sisters, Mount Bachelor and Diamond Peak. The part of the trail through old growth forest was the prettiest green many had seen. We hiked to the trail spur that leads to Tire Mountain. Because of the huge and numerous trees on the trail we opted to not do the .6-mile trek to the top. Members: Denise Bean, Sharon Bruns, Kathie Carpenter, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Elizabeth Grant, Margot McDonnell, Wally Miller, Jorry Rolfe, Denise Rubenstein, Kate Shapiro, Dorothy van Winkle, Karen Yoerger. Nonmembers: Jerry Pergamit.

E2C Alpine Trail Mid-section

June 13, 2021

Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak

Hike: 10.3 miles, 1,470 ft. (Difficult)

OUR FAST AND AGILE GROUP CHEERFULLY CONQUERED A BEAUTIFUL SECTION OF THE ALPINE TRAIL. First rain drops landed minutes after we sat in our cars. The petrichor was so



On the trail #3554.

pleasant. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Whitney Gould, Holger Krentz, Jessica Moll, Jorry Rolfe, Angie Ruzicka, Kate Shapiro, Darko Sojak.

E2C Aubrey Mountain Loop

June 20, 2021

Leader: Darko Sojak

Hike: 7.5 miles, 1,765 ft. (Moderate)

AUBREY MOUNTAIN LOOP HIKE WAS A GREAT CARDIO WORKOUT CHOICE on this very warm June day. After three very steep miles on trail #3554 we turned to trail #3559. This section of the E2C trail meandered through nice old growth forest and wildflower-covered meadows high above the Middle Fork Willamette River, all downhill to the east edge of Oakridge. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Elizabeth Grant, Esme Greer, Joel Greer, Jonathan Jost, Lynn Meacham, David Morris, Jorry Rolfe, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak.

JUNE BOARD NOTES

June 2, 2021

By Denise Rubenstein

Before the Board Meeting, the Strategic Planning Committee, led by Marianne Reiter gave a presentation on the purpose and progress of the Strategic Plan. Refreshments were served and 41 members enthusiastically enjoyed socializing after a long COVID absence. Twenty-eight additional members joined via Zoom; all were invited to offer input and questions. The project was well received, and the complete presentation will be available on the website.

President Maryanne Reiter called the Board meeting to order. Board members present: Denise Bean, Dave Cooper, Dave Hawkins, Laura Osinga, Jorry Rolfe, and Denise Rubenstein. Others present: Jim Northrop, Lana Landstrom, Stewart Hoeg, Diane Schechter, and Carla Cooper.

The Board reviewed the minutes for May, 2021 and suggested changes. Approval will take place in the following days via email.

Treasurer's Report (Stewart Hoeg): Stewart reviewed the year-to-date income and expenses as well as the balance sheet. The Board approved the bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Conservation/SciEd (Kay Coots and Angie Ruzicka): CSE Committee met this month and is working on plans for a series of ExploraTalks for the fall.

Lodge Building (Dave Cooper): After such a long period of inactivity at the Lodge, there was plenty to clean on May 27. Dust and cobwebs for a start. It was gratifying to have had 18 of us working in the Lodge and on the grounds. From ceilings to floors, behind bookcases, counters, and windows (inside and out), everything got a thorough cleaning in preparation for upcoming events. As we had hoped, there was a big group of volunteers, and the Lodge grounds got some extra care. Mowing, pruning, mulching, and even some demolition were the tasks taken on. That's right, demolition. The old woodshed behind the Lodge is gone. There is more work to be done. The crew pointed out some things that could use a little repair and refreshing beyond the day's cleaning. Knowing that these members and others care about our property encourages the committee to move forward with additional maintenance items.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): 5/7: Installed three 'PRIVATE PROPERTY- No Trespassing' signs along the new T-post/wire fence between our property and the development to the west. Work has already begun on four of the lots in the two developments back there with site prep done and two of the foundations going in as of a couple days ago. **5/22 Work Party:** In the trip report for the April 1 Grounds work party I wrote, "Wow, it is amazing what a dozen folks can do in three hours!" You know what? 15 folks can do even more! We mowed everything in sight including the parking areas and the defensible spaces above and to the south of the Lodge; cleared and leveled the disturbed area along the new chain link fence; cleaned all the disturbed areas from the brush hog work a couple weeks ago; weeded, cleaned and mulched planting beds; removed some grass from the checker mallow reserves to give them a little breathing room; and last

but most definitely not least, we removed the old entry drive gate thanks to Brad Bennett and Jim Dinn's incredible efforts and problem solving skills. Thanks to Janet for refreshments. **5/27 Combo Lodge/Grounds Work Party:** The grounds portion of this grand event did some mowing; got the old Summer Camp storage shed demolished and removed (thanks Vern and Doug); we finally got at some long overdue pruning of the greenery along the front of the Lodge; continued planting bed weeding, cleanout, and expansion; and we ate some snacks—sweet breads provided by Janet, sugar cookies by Vern and some other things I'm not sure who brought, but all good. **5/28 Mini Work Party:** At long last got at the parking area with the power blower and got all the debris left from the fence installation blown out. Started up the irrigation system for the season—seems really early for sprinklers in Oregon—thank you global warming!! **5/29 Fence Tour:** Combined the Grand Fence Tour announced in the May *Bulletin* with Janet's Get Acquainted Hike, so I was able to pontificate on the finer points of fence construction to the 8 members and 5 guests. **5/31 Work Party:** Three of us mowed out some overgrown parking spots. Then we got on to some other odds and ends. Jim Northrop discovered, while debugging the place, that a critter of some sort had burrowed in between the back of the climbing wall and the roof flashing, ran out and got some expansive foam to fill the entrance hole, and then sprayed it with some stinky deer repellent in hopes that the critter (I think probably California ground squirrels) would not want to dig the foam out. We shall see. I also sprayed the deer repellent into their burrows by the front steps hoping to discourage them from there also (have witnessed the California ground squirrels going in those holes) They seem to be undermining our concrete deck and coming up under the polymer sand we placed a couple years ago in the joints, creating divots in the joint fillings. Have always loved the wildlife that hangs around the Lodge, but damn they can be frustrating sometimes. Speaking of wildlife, while we were working a young buck came wandering through (how'd he get by the new fence? Maybe the open gate?), the California quail were feeding and futzing about, and an acorn woodpecker was pecking away. Last complaint, I swear,—the gray squirrels are back at it in one of our big leaf maple trees chewing on the bark and have unfortunately completely girdled one of the bigger limbs. I sprayed the tree and limbs with the stinky deer repellent in hopes of keeping them away but suspect we will lose that limb. The deer stink'em has worked for me before in deterring squirrels. Busy month—lots of catching up—luckily, there were lots of energetic Obsidian volunteers who stepped up. See the trip reports for participants. Thanks again to all who helped.

Safety (Lyndell Wilken): The AED was checked. An article was submitted to the *Bulletin* listing first aid kit contents for members. The new safety web page on the Obsidian website was looked at and a recommendation was made to include a list of first aid supplies for a personal first aid kit.

Stewardship (Jorry Rolfe & Darko Sojak): The Stewardship Committee bylaws were approved by the Board on May 5, 2021. There was one trail maintenance activity on May 26. Matt Bell led a group of four in brushing the Spencer Butte
(Continued on page 19)

OBSIDIAN CALENDAR

July

11 Sun OCT: Depoe Bay to Newport CarCmp **M** Hougardy 206-9532
 11 Sun PCT / 58 to Lils Lake Hike **D** Sojak 799-9199
 12 Mon Three Fingered Jack Loop Hike **D** Johnson 520-2470
 13 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M** Young 941-780-4156
 14 Wed Fox Hollow/Spencer Butte Hike **M** . Van Liefde 949-677-1379
 14 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Smith 520-488-9569
 15 Thu Oregon Dunes Hike **M** Hovis 731-3412
 17 Sat Buck Bridge to Trail Bridge Res Hike **D** Bean 953-6868
 19 Mon Chambers Lake Hike **D** Johnson 520-2470
 20 Tue Women's Coast Kayak Water **M** Lindstrom 683-1409
 20 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M** Young 941-780-4156
 21 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Rolfe 206-9501
 21 Wed Mt Pisgah Hike **M** Van Liefde 949-677-1379
 22 Thu Richardson Park moonwalk Hike **E** Sojak 799-9199
 23 Fri Mt Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike **M** Jacobsen 206-1251
 25 Sun Annual Beach Barefoot Hike Hike **E** Sojak 799-9199
 25 Sun OCT: Newport to Waldport CarCmp **M** ... Hougardy 206-9532
 28 Wed Ridgeline Trail Maintenance TrlMnt **M** Bell 503-884-8829
 28 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Gould 510-368-8941

August

1 Sun OCT: Waldport to Heceta Head ExtTrp **M** Hougardy 206-9532
 4 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Miller 808-282-5201

9 Mon Exploring Mt. Hood hike/camp CarCmp **D** ...James 683-7488
 10 Tue Fuji Mountain Hike **D** Wilken 343-3080
 11 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Rubenstein 248-514-5092
 12 Thu Matthieu Lakes/Yapoah Crater Hike **M** Yoerger 510-2832
 15 Sun PCT to 58 via Twin Peaks trail Hike **D** Sojak 799-9199
 17 Tue Hunts Cove Hike **D** Cooper 868-5427
 18 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Rolfe 206-9501
 21 Sat Mt Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise (long) Hike **M** Jacobsen 206-1251
 23 Mon Marion Lake and Mountain Hike **D** Bean 953-6868
 25 Wed Ridgeline Trail Maintenance TrlMnt **M** Bell 503-884-8829
 25 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Miller 808-282-5201

September

1 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Smith 520-488-9569
 8 Wed Tam McArthur Rim Hike **M** Cooper 868-5427
 12 Sun Tenas Lakes BkPk **M** Bean 953-6868
 13 Mon Rosary Lakes Cleanup WrkPrty **M** Wilken 343-3080
 18 Sat Mt. McLoughlin Climb **D** Kanewa 525-1709
 18 Sat Yoran / Lils Lakes Loop Hike **D** Anselmo 236-5020
 19 Sun Mt Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise (long) Hike **M** Jacobsen 206-1251
 20 Mon U of O Campus Walk Hike **E** Alexander 458-209-7798
 25 Sat National Public Lands Day TrlMnt **M** Bell 503-884-8829
 25 Sat Berry Creek & Beach Cleanup WrkPrty **E** Sojak 799-9199

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION about our activities, visit the Obsidian website: obsidians.org

Welcome New Members!

Fred Crafts
Eugene, OR 97405

Jennifer Crim
Eugene, OR 97405

Marti Gerdes
Eugene, OR 97405

COSTA RICA TRIP

March 22–April 5, 2022

IT'S TIME TO START DREAMING OF YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE! How about 15 days in Costa Rica? Explore nature every day. Kayak, snorkle, hike. Wild life galore. Professionally run. Not an Obsidian trip.

Contact Becky Lipton at:
Liptbeck@gmail.com

June Board Notes (Continued from page 18)

steps at the summit and sweeping the steps near the parking lot. There was one outing this past month in Spencer Butte Park to clean the summit steps and do some light trailside brushing. We also cleaned the trailhead steps.

Summer Trips (Dave Cooper): In May we had 36 outings. The participant breakdown for these trips was 290 members and 22 nonmembers. Fees collected totaled \$340. We have made adjustments to the standard weekday hikes up Spencer Butte because of the work being done on the Tie Trail. People who registered with us for the first time have been given Janet Jacobsen's contact information and as a result have come to Get Acquainted hikes at the Lodge.

OLD BUSINESS

Nominating Committee Report (Lana Lindstrom): The Nominating Committee was formed at the April Board meeting and tasked with recommending nominees to fill three positions for

terms beginning January, 2022. Dave Hawkins and Maryanne Reiter both have agreed to stay on for another three-year term. Angie Ruzicka has agreed to fill the third vacancy. All three nominees will be voted on at the annual meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- Strategic Plan Presentation: The presentation was so successful that it might make sense to consider YouTube and Zoom for ExploraTalks and the like.
- Jim Conaghan was approved as a new member.
- The Finance Committee will be meeting on June 14 to investigate the proposed tax status change to a 501(c)3 and offer a recommendation at the July Board meeting.
- Among the topics offered for future discussion: hiking fees, purpose of Endowment Funds, leaders sending everything in online, and updating protocol for carpooling.

ADJOURNMENT



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July/August 2021



*Lower Kentucky Falls.
See Kentucky Falls / Whitaker Creek
trip report on p. 9.
Photo by Carla Cooper.*

ENJOY the photos in color!
ONLINE Bulletin at www.observians.org