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## Dates to Remember

April 29	Bulletin Deadline
May 4	Board Meeting

Current event schedules at:  
[www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

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## TEN YEARS LATER

*Darko Sojak*

**Y**EARS AGO WHEN I WAS INTRODUCED TO SOLVE BEACH CLEANUPS BY JOELLA EWING, I had no idea how important this long-time social involvement would be to me. The response from Obsidians was great and a core group of volunteers formed. Encouragement from the club was strong, so driven by a vision, I reached out and connected hardworking hands with ever-growing needs. A steady stream of new helpers and a positive public response proved that we are on the right path.

After many conservation projects over the years, and new collaborations with different groups, I am happy to see that stewardship is growing deep Obsidians roots.

Thanks to all of you for your support and involvement.



3/23/2019: Marguerite Scores Big!  
 Photo by Anne Campbell.



7/6/2020: Darko and Holger carrying debris.  
 Photo by Angie Ruzicka.

**Please join me April 23 for our next project.**  
 As part of SOLVE Oregon Spring Cleanup, Obsidians will participate in cleaning Wakonda Beach, near Beachside State Park.



Photo by Holger Krentz.



9/29/2018: Obsidians with their haul at Baker Beach trailhead—211 lbs. of mixed debris! Photo by Joel Greer.

## Welcome New Members!

**Jan Beckwith**  
Eugene, OR 97402

**Lynn Corbett**  
Eugene, OR 97405

**Lorraine Cuevas**  
Eugene, OR 97405

**Sandy Gill**  
Eugene, OR 97402

**Stephanie Midkiff**  
Eugene, OR 97405

**Toni Muller**  
Springfield, OR 97477

**Melanie Weir**  
Eugene, OR 97405

**Patricia Wilson**  
Eugene, OR 97405

## Will the Real Spring Beauty Stand Up?

**DEAR BULLETIN:** Do I need to count the petals to identify the spring beauty flower? On a recent March hike when I identified a spring beauty flower, member Ginny Reich said her father Robert D. Clark (former President of the University of Oregon) wrote an article about the flower for the March 11, 1988 *Register-Guard*. Clark describes the four-petal flowers he found in Hendricks Park and also refers to a five-petal flower discovered by Meriwether Lewis.

### WHAT FLOWER IS THIS?

**DEAR WHAT FLOWER IS THIS:** It's another case of confusion resulting from common names. The four-petal flower that we currently see and call *spring beauty* is *Cardamine nuttallii* var. *nuttallii*. It's in the *Brassicaceae*, the mustard family. Later on this spring we'll see a five-petal white and pink flower also called *spring beauty* by many. It is *Claytonia lanceolata*, or *western spring beauty*, in the *Portulacaceae* family, and this is the plant de-

scribed by Lewis and Clark. Lots of people around here call it *candy flower*, but that's also the name of yet another *Claytonia* species.



Photo by Carla Cooper.

*Editor's Note:*  
Contact the [bulletin@obsidians.org](mailto:bulletin@obsidians.org) if you would like a link to Robert Clark's article: *History of the Spring Beauty a fascinating tale.*

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

**T**HE OBSIDIAN NOMINATING COMMITTEE, formed at the April Board meeting, will soon begin the process of selecting three candidates to run for three-year terms on the Obsidian Board of Directors beginning January 2023. The election will take place at the October Annual Meeting at the Lodge. For more information about the election process, see Article IV of the Obsidian Bylaws, available in *Members Only* on the website.

If you have any suggestions for nominations, please contact Lana Lindstrom, Chair.

## OBSIDIANS

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405  
Website: [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

### Officers & Board of Directors

Maryanne Reiter, President  
Laura Osinga, Vice President  
Denise Rubenstein, Secretary  
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer  
Denise Bean, Marci Hansen,  
Dave Hawkins, Jorry Rolfe  
Angie Ruzicka, 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 (Interim).....Jim Northrop  
Climbs..... Maryanne Reiter  
Concessions.....Carla Cooper  
Conservation/SciEd.... K. Coots/A. Ruzicka  
Entertainment..... Evelyn Nagy  
Extended Trips.....Lana Lindstrom  
Finance..... Susan Zeni  
Lodge Building ..... Dave Cooper  
Lodge Grounds (Interim) ..... Jim Northrop  
Librarian/Historian..... Lenore McManigal  
Membership ..... Diane Schechter  
Online..... Vacant  
Publications..... Lou Maenz  
Publicity..... Marci Hansen  
Safety ..... Lyndell Wilken  
Stewardship..... Jorry Rolfe/Darko Sojak  
Summer Camp..... Lana Lindstrom  
Summer Trips..... Dave Cooper  
Winter Trips..... Dave Cooper

## The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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

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**The Obsidian Bulletin**

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

**Deadline**  
for May Bulletin  
Friday, April 29, 2022

### Editorial Team

*Writing & Editorial Staff:*  
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*Copy Editors:*  
Ethel Weltman, Karen Yoerger

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

### Assembly/Mailing Team

*Manager:* Lou Maenz  
*Assistant Manager:* Nancy Raymond  
*Pickup Assistant:* Clara Emlen  
*Team:* Don Baldwin,  
Pat Bean, Yuan Hopkins, Judy Newman,  
and Barbara Schomaker.



# Eugene Parks Foundation: What it Does

by Andy McIvor



**T**HERE MAY BE SOME OBSIDIANS WHO HAVE NOT HEARD OF THE EUGENE PARKS FOUNDATION, so let me introduce you. The Foundation is a local 501c3 nonprofit organization that complements the city's acquisition, development, and design of parks. Eugene is blessed with 130 parks and many miles of trails. The city is constantly acquiring land and has many long-term plans, but with the task of maintaining all that property, needs assistance at times to complete purchases, add important land parcels, and enhance existing parks.



*EPF Board members touring a newly purchased parkland. Scott Sanders, Lori Bumgardner, Andy McIvor, John Winquist, and Chris Pryor. Photo by Ariel Lissman.*

For instance, Wild Iris Park is a 255-acre park that opened in 2017 to serve the west Eugene Churchill neighborhood. It winds uphill to Bailey View Prairie and has preserved oak savannah and hiking trails. However, the parking lot is informal and tiny, holding only about ten cars. Across Bertelson Road is a four-acre parcel recently purchased by the city for a new parking lot. Adjacent to that is seven acres of forest that flows into The Nature Conservancy's Willow Creek Preserve. What if this could all be linked into an extension of the Ridgeline Trail system?

Enter John Winquist and the Eugene Parks Foundation. John, a board member, Scott Sanders, chairman, and others from the EPF contacted the landowner and raised money to buy the seven-acre parcel, did some work to clear underbrush, then donated it to the city so the city could develop the whole package. The vision is to be able to hike through parks around the periphery of Eugene, from Mount Pisgah to Fern Ridge Reservoir. This little parcel would help connect from one end of Wild Iris to (potentially) the opposite edge of Willow Creek. For more information, see: [www.eugene-or.gov/650/Rivers-to-Ridges-Partnership](http://www.eugene-or.gov/650/Rivers-to-Ridges-Partnership).

The Foundation has a new executive director, Ariel Lissman, who trained at the University of Oregon and later developed parks in his home country of Israel. He is enthusiastic about land acquisition and would like to hear from willing landowners. He said donation or sale can help a landowner reduce their holdings, and therefore property taxes, and ensure that the land is preserved from development. EPF can help with donations, sales, easement, or even structuring access for hikers on an informal basis.

The other half of Eugene Parks Foundation mission is enhancing urban parks. Ariel is a big believer in "nature-based playgrounds," which allow fuller expression of children's creativity. Using his own daughters as an example, he notes they will get bored quickly if there is only a swing, but if presented with stumps and logs and large rocks, their imagination will keep them active for hours. The concept is nicely outlined in a 14-minute Canadian video: [blog.cwf-fcf.org/index.php/en/setting-up-a-natural-playground/](http://blog.cwf-fcf.org/index.php/en/setting-up-a-natural-playground/).



*Ariel Lissman.*



*Andy McIvor. Photo by Russ Davies.*

The Foundation is looking for Legacy Circle members, who agree to contribute \$1,200/year for three years to the mission of extending and enhancing Eugene parks. For landowners who would like to explore donating or selling land to Eugene for parks and open space, please contact Ariel Lissman at 239-3451, or [ariel@eugeneparksfoundation.org](mailto:ariel@eugeneparksfoundation.org).

*Editor's note:*

*Andy McIvor joined the Obsidians in 1993 with a climb of Mt. Thielsen. Through the years he has gone on five more climbs plus thirty-some hikes and ski trips. He is a new Eugene Parks Foundation Board member. We value his participation on the EPF Board—especially since last year (2021) there were around 150 Obsidian hikes on the Ridgeline Trail System including Wild Iris Ridge and the Ribbon Trail.*



# My First Hike with the Obsidians

*Julia Hubbel*

**I'm training for another huge summit attempt. Here's why I plan to hike with new friends.**

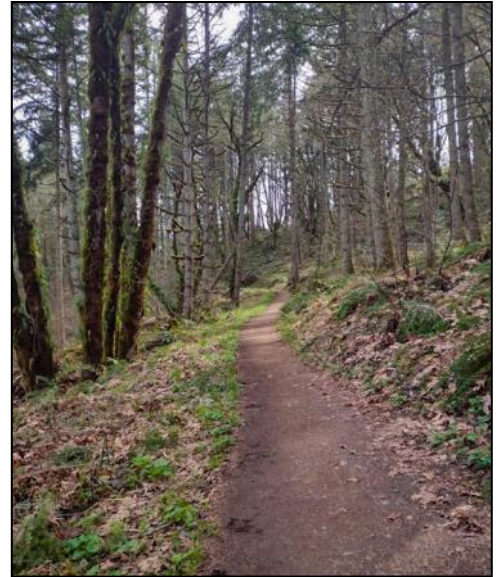
**L**ISA PAUSED, AND TOOK A MOMENT TO REMIND ME THAT THE HIKE ON MT. PISGAH WAS MODERATE. And, she said, she wanted to make sure that both the hike and the pace wouldn't be too much.

I love that kind of kind attention. She's 65, I'm 69, and since this was my very first hike with the Obsidians, she had no idea if I was up to the task. This past Sunday we were meeting at noon to do a six-mile-plus hike in the soft spring weather. It is unfortunately too common for folks to overestimate their physical abilities, and that can have an impact on the rest of the group.

I was WAY overdue for this.

After I get past that first very annoying half-hour of warmup, during which I spit and bark and complain to myself, I find my go-gear. That go-gear can go for miles on end.

I signed up.



*Heading up to the summit.*



*Pisgah hike photos by Julia Hubbel.*

Our smallish group gathered in the north parking lot, most of us circling sixtyish. One woman was dealing with long COVID, which would dog her a bit on the hike. However, I watched the group spread out a bit, as is natural. Two guys went ahead at a faster pace, some folks held middle ground, and as the woman with long COVID straggled a bit, people stayed back with her to make sure she was okay.

That's what good groups do.

The well-worn trail curved around and up, giving us some huff time.

The height gain allowed us to keep talking, although there were places where it was steep enough to demand that we concentrate on our feet rather than our words. At one point on the way down, Lisa checked in to see if we'd like a prettier view, which meant another half-mile added to the overall hike.

We took the longer hike. Several folks were taking photographs of the early spring flowers.

Hiking with a group reminds and reinforces awareness of others, not only in the group but also on the trail. For folks who love going solo this is a fine reminder that you aren't the only one, and that mindfulness of others is part of being safely in Nature.

If nothing else, a Sunday afternoon hike like this is a perfect way to get three things accomplished: make new friends, get your exercise and feed that part of you which is nourished by Nature.

It's hard not to love that combination.

Here's why this is particularly meaningful to me. Not all clubs are as open and welcoming as Obsidians, which is a breath of fresh air.

The folks who are long-time members of the Obsidians have been doing this steadily, which makes them pros at all aspects of these sports from kayaking to hiking to cycling. One hike makes it clear that they move at a fast clip, and to not sign up if you can't hack it. I train in order to do precisely those kinds of hikes, for those are the challenges which will help prepare me for my second Kili summit.

So now I have my eye on an eight-mile hike. The great beauty of doing regular hikes is that the body constantly reminds you that it can take on more, as long as we're consistent.

And I have to be, as I train myself once again to take on Kilimanjaro, to say nothing of training for my eighties and beyond.

Is this for you? I have no idea. The way I see it, meeting people close to my age (or not), all of whom have interesting stories, and who are committed to health and the outdoors, and who gather in the area's lovely spaces is a fine way to spend time. Obsidians is open to everyone who loves to hike, bike, ski, be in the high country, play in all the ways that Oregon makes so beautifully fun.

Camaraderie, lovely scenery, good conversation, fresh air and exercise—a hard combination to beat in one of America's loveliest states.



*Oregon grape in bloom.*



# Karen Seidel's Award

Janet Jacobsen

**T**HE LANE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM AWARDED A LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD TO KAREN SEIDEL, an Obsidian member for 44 years, recognizing her historical research for the Masonic Cemetery, the Eugene City Club, Eugene's Historic Review Board, the Lane County Historical Museum, and the Fairmount Neighbors history project.

Karen has also researched and contributed historical articles about our Club for the *Bulletin*. Her article *Obsidian Lodge History: The First 30 Years* appeared in the July, 1987 *Bulletin* and was reprinted in the October, 2017 issue. For the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Club she wrote *A Decade's Worth of Obsidian Trips 1927-1986*—the summary of each decade appearing in the January, February, April, June, July, and October, 1986 *Bulletins*.

The best way to see Karen's research is at the Masonic Cemetery where her many biographical sketches are displayed at the graves to create an historical walking tour. Obsidian leaders have often asked her to meet their group at the cemetery for a tour as described in Sharon and Jim Duncan's 2005 trip report:

*On an overcast, but agreeable day, thirteen people gathered at the Hope Abbey Mausoleum in the Masonic Cemetery in Eugene. Karen Seidel, a member of the Obsidians and a docent for the Cemetery, gave us a tour of the inside of the Mausoleum, which was built in 1913. Ellis Lawrence, the architect, featured bronze doors, a marble interior, and large urns in the Egyptian Revival style popular at that time. Established in 1859, the Masonic Cemetery is the oldest official burial place in Eugene. Karen then took us on a walking tour around the cemetery pointing out some of the monuments for Eugene F. Skinner (the city's founder), John Whiteaker (first governor of Oregon), John Wesley Johnson (first president of the U of O), and Thomas Condon (geologist and discoverer of the John Day Fossil Beds). Others included Maude Kerns (artist), Felix and Ellen Scott (Scott Mt., Scott Lake, Scott Pass), T. G. Hendricks (banker, mayor, Hendricks Park), Friendly, Chambers, Seavey and many other well-known pioneer names that are familiar to us. We also saw a Woodsmen of the World monument. WOW was a fraternal organization that provided monuments for the widows of its members. The organization held its meetings in WOW Hall but surprisingly it had nothing to do with the forest or lumber industry. In 1914, when the Oregon Electric Station was completed, many people traveled the three miles to the cemetery on the trolley at a cost of 5 cents. Karen was a wonderful guide bringing much of Eugene's past history alive with many stories about Eugene's pioneers.*



Karen Seidel.

Photo by John Bredesen.



For some entertaining reading, see Karen's article in the [Spring 2021 Monumental News](#) highlighting the variety of interesting inscriptions on the grave markers themselves.

Thank you, Karen, for your contributions.

*Detail of the historical biography below.*



One of the grave markers with its accompanying historical biography. Karen researched and wrote most of the 44 biographies for the Masonic historical walking tour.

Photos by Bea Fontana.

## JOHN M. THOMPSON

(1838-1882) PUBLIC SERVANT AND PROSECUTOR

In poor health throughout his life, John Thompson's achievements were nevertheless considerable. He studied law and became senior partner of Eugene's most prominent law firm. He ran successfully for public office, first for Lane County judge and then for the state legislature.

In 1878, Thompson was elected Speaker of the House of the Oregon legislature. In that position, he investigated and exposed alleged wrongdoings by members of the state administration. For these activities, Thompson received popular support but angered implicated office holders and their friends. Nevertheless, in

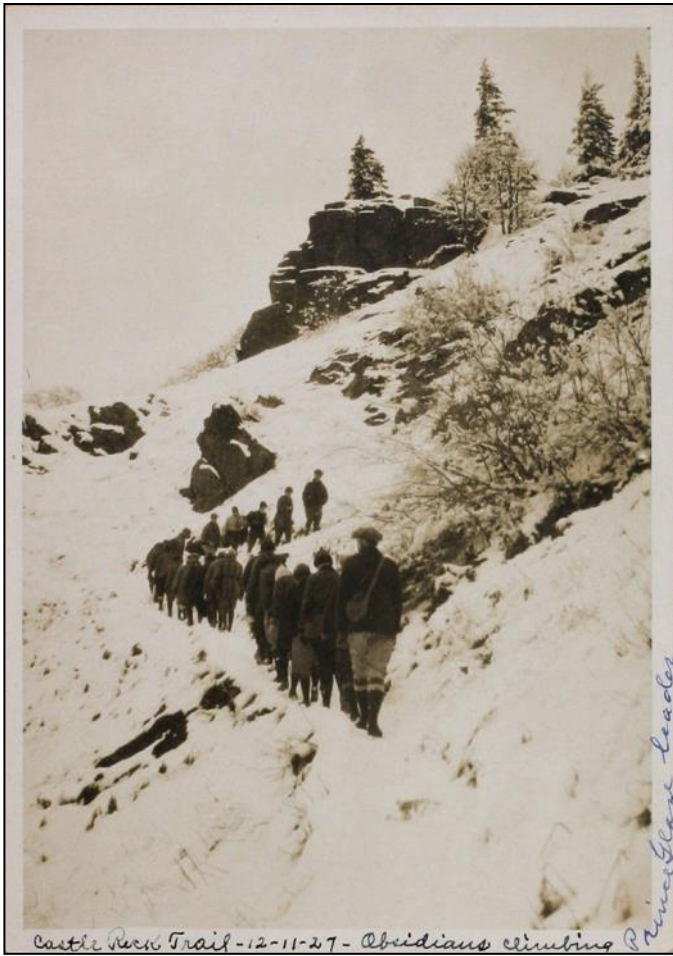
1879, he accepted the position of Special Counsel to prosecute former office holders for their alleged illegal acts.

Thompson was one of the five founders of the Union University Association and its first president. This group was established to advocate for a state university in Oregon with a location in Eugene. In 1872, the association presented a bill to the state legislature allowing the purchase of a Eugene site and erection of a building. The bill passed. Thompson became a member of the university's first Board of Regents.

The first building on the University of Oregon campus.

23





# Prince Glaze

*Lenore McManigal  
Librarian Historian*

**O**BSIDIAN CHARTER MEMBER PRINCE GLAZE was featured in the article *Prince Glaze and the Lost Mountaineers* in the February 23, 2022 issue of *The Nugget Newspaper*, Sisters, Oregon. It provides additional details about the two lost climbers—the impetus for Eugene climbers to form their own outdoor club. The Obsidians are mentioned at the end of the article.

Prince Glaze led the first hike for the Club on December 11, 1927—an all-day trip to Castle Rock with 37 in the party.

[nuggetnews.com/Content/Current-News/Current-News/Article/Prince-Glaze-and-the-lost-mountaineers/5/5/31835](https://nuggetnews.com/Content/Current-News/Current-News/Article/Prince-Glaze-and-the-lost-mountaineers/5/5/31835)

*Photo from the Obsidian Archives.*

## TRIP REPORTS



### Bike Trips

#### **Willamette River Path**

**March 19, 2022**

**Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak**

**Assistant Leader: Angie Ruzicka**

**Bike: 17 miles, 150 ft. (Easy)**

**W**E ENJOYED WAKING-UP-SPRING NATURE FOR 17 MILES. The cloudy day bike ride featured a constant northwest wind that turned to ice pellets, then to rain and, finally, to a sunny, 52° day. Members: Mike Graham, Holger Krentz, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak.

*Finally enjoying the sunshine.*





## Hikes

### Walk de Pre

February 17, 2022

Leader: Mark Hougardy

Hike: 6.5 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)

**S**TEVE PREFONTAINE ('PRE') IS ONE OF OREGON'S GREATEST SPORTS LEGENDS. He was a former Duck athlete who helped to fuel the American running craze in the mid-1970s. He earned a fourth-place Olympic finish in 1972 (5K) and set numerous American records, including seven NCAA titles. He has been the inspiration for many runners in the decades since. Tragically, he was killed in a car crash at the age of 24 near the UO. On this walk, we learned more about Pre and his legacy at Hayward Field. Members: Mari Baldwin, Donna Bloomfield, Kathie Carpenter, Paul Flashenberg, Whitney Gould, David Hawkins, Mark Hougardy, Holger Krentz, Sandra Larsen, Evelyn Nagy, Marie Stringer. Nonmembers: Trish Kingsbauer.

### Kalapuya Talking Stones Walk

February 25, 2022

Leader: Mark Hougardy

Hike: 5 miles, 30 ft. (Easy)

A PLEASANT WALK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE KALAPUYA TALKING STONES and how they reflect items in the traditional landscape. Members: Lynda Burdick, Whitney Gould, David Hawkins, Nancy Hoecker, Mark Hougardy, Gwyneth Iredale, Andrew McIvor, Robin Risque. Nonmembers: Victoria Koch, Trish Kingsbauer.

### Thomas Condon's 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday

March 3, 2022

Leader: Mark Hougardy

Hike: 3 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)

OUR WALK THROUGH THE MASONIC CEMETERY AND ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON CAMPUS recognized the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Thomas Condon, a fossil-hunting minister who was Oregon's first state geologist, the UO's first science professor, and the first to recognize the paleontological importance of the John Day region. Members: Joanna Alexander, Patricia Esch, Nikki Frank, David Hawkins, Mark Hougardy, Gwyneth Iredale, Sandra Larsen, Lana Lindstrom, Evelyn Nagy, Jerry Pergamit, Ginny Reich.

### Mural Walk in the Downtown Area

March 6, 2022

Leader: Mark Hougardy

Hike: 3 miles, 60 ft. (Easy)

DOWNTOWN EUGENE HAS SOME COLORFUL BUILDING-SIZED MURALS along with multiple micro-art pieces. It was good to see several old favorites and a few new pieces, too. Members: Lynda Burdick, Sharon Duncan, Patricia Esch, Nikki Frank, Vicky Hanson, Mark Hougardy, Gwyneth Iredale, Barbara Orsi, Robin Risque, Nancy Whitfield.

### Get Acquainted / Ribbon Trail

March 12, 2022

Leader: Dorothy van Winkle

Assistant Leader: Karen Yoerger

Hike: 2.5 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)

EIGHT GUESTS AND FOUR MEMBERS BEAT THE RAIN FOR THIS MONTH'S GET ACQUAINTED HIKE. Lots of good information about the club was shared by the members. Karen stood at the confusing place where Spring Blvd. ends and directed guests into the Obsidians driveway. Her efforts were greatly appreciated! Denise shared some tidbits about Hendricks Park and the Ribbon Trail. A bonus: the wildflowers were starting to bloom along the trail. For people interested in leading this hike, I recommend being an assistant leader first so that you know what is entailed (which isn't a lot). We need leaders beginning with the May hike. It's a very pleasant outing! Members: Robin Risque, Denise Rubenstein, Dorothy van Winkle, Karen Yoerger. Nonmembers: Sandy Gill, Jan Beckwith, Lynn Corbett, Wendy Rawlinson, Emily Evans, Sara Wasserman, Blair Irwin, Suzanne Fullar.

### UO Gargoyles & Colophons Walk

March 13, 2022

Leader: Mark Hougardy

Hike: 2 miles, (Easy)

THE WEATHER WAS A BIT COOL AND WINDY, BUT IT DID NOT LESSEN OUR ENJOYMENT of the University of Oregon's iconography at the Knight Library, the Lokey Science Complex, and Allen Hall. Members: Keiko Bryan, Sharon Duncan, Clara Emlen, Patricia Esch, Kathy Hoeg, Mark Hougardy, Robin Risque, Maureen Whalen. Nonmembers: Jan Beckwith.

### Pi Hike

March 14, 2022

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Photographer: Holger Krentz

Hike: 4 miles, 387 ft. (Easy)

IF PI IS TRUNCATED TO SEVEN DECIMAL PLACES, IT BECOMES 3.1415926, making Pi occur on March 14 at 1:59:26 AM or PM—hopefully the time that we would be eating pie at Sweet



*At Hendricks park. Standing: Sandy, Sandra, Ginny. Seated on the bench: Janet, Char, Paul, Sam, Holger.*





*Rhododendron in bloom at Hendricks Park.*



*Field of fawn lilies at the Masonic Cemetery.*

Life Petite Bakery. We met at 1:00 at the Masonic Cemetery and then, during introductions, shared the date of our last math class. Our first stop was the *mathematician's bench* to hunt for a spelling mistake in the marker for Dr. Paul Civin (1919–2005), a UO math professor and also an Obsidian. We walked a few of the trails to marvel at the fawn lilies, flowering currant, and spring beauty flowers until it was time to casually sprint to the bakery to enjoy the coffee and treats at their outdoor seating. Ginny then led us on the less-traveled Fairmount Blvd., Elk Avenue, and Hubbard Lane route to the

Hendricks Park Rhododendron Garden. Surprise! A few rhodies were in bloom. After hiking the side trail along Fairmount Blvd. to city streets, we were soon gathered at the Masonic Cemetery to do the math for our Pi celebration. Sadly, we could not agree on the mileage, elevation, or number of steps, but we were sure that the trip took three hours. Time flies when you are having fun. Two hikers wanted to see Hope Abbey and we were so fortunate that a friend of the Masonic Cemetery invited us to take a look inside. Members: Charla Eubanks, Paul Flashenberg, Janet Jacobsen, Holger Krentz, Sandra Larsen, Ginny Reich, Sam Tracer. Nonmembers: Jane Allen, Sandy Gill.

**Marys Peak**  
**March 18, 2022**  
**Leader & Photographer: Russ Davies**  
**Hike: 6.2 miles, 1,550 ft. (Moderate)**

**AFTER A WEEK OF WEATHER FORECASTS FOR FALLING TEMPERATURES, INCREASING PRECIPITATION, AND DETERIORATING ROAD CONDITIONS,** the committed Pine Bench Backpack crew reluctantly decided to cancel the scheduled trip. Then,



*Andy and Russ after summiting Marys Peak.*

in a last-ditch, weather-defiant effort to salvage some adventure, Andy and Russ redirected to Marys Peak to race the coming storm to the summit. They started up the East Ridge route into rain and wind, ascending at first through spectacular hallways of towering old growth Douglas fir and cedar, then into spruce and noble fir as they neared the open summit ridge. The initial attempt was repelled by hard rain and bitter wind, which forced a retreat back into the forest. After suiting up in rain pants, gloves, and wool hats, the two pushed forward over snowfields and onto the summit. There was a brief lunch stop in a soggy stand of trees. Then they descended the North Ridge route and returned to the trailhead via the Tie Trail. Members: Russ Davies, Andrew McIvor.



## Gwynn Creek Loop

March 25, 2022

Leader: Joan Skarda

Assistant Leader: Kathie Carpenter

Hike: 6.4 miles, 1,250 ft. (Moderate)

WE STARTED ABOUT 10:30 AM FROM THE CAPE PERPETUA VISITOR CENTER on the 6.4-mile Gwynn Creek loop trail. We hiked through old growth forest with ferns, lots of flowering trillium, and various types of fungus along the way. The weather was overcast and a bit drizzly before we started, but improved through the day. We were constantly awed by the magnificent size of the trees. Members: Joanna Alexander, Kathie Carpenter, Kay Coats, Sandy Gill, Rachelle Masin, Joan Skarda, John Skarda. Nonmembers: Abby Rhoden, Sara Wasserman.

## North Bank Habitat Area

March 25, 2022

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Photographer: Lorraine Cuevas

Hike: 8 miles, 1,800 ft. (Moderate)

HIKING THESE OLD RANCH ROADS THAT CLIMBED QUICKLY TO THE RIDGETOPS around the valley provided constant panoramas of the Umpqua River and the surrounding mixed forests and



*Fawn lily.*



*Beautiful madrone trees.*

open oak savannas. It was the first time for Lorraine to hike the trail and she was most impressed by the ancient madrone trees, especially on the Thistle Ridge side trail. On the downhill section of the loop, we were amazed to see so many showers of shooting stars, fawn lilies, baby blue eyes, and houndstongue spreading out over the hillside. We met only two other hikers on our quiet four-hour hike. It was perfect hiking weather—not too hot. Members : Lorraine Cuevas, Janet Jacobsen.

## Amazon Headwaters / Spencer Butte Hikes

Hikes: 5.2–6.2 miles, 1,150–1,530 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

Lana Lindstrom: 3/2 10 Members, 1 Nonmember

Elizabeth Grant: 3/9 11 Members, 1 Nonmember

Darko Sojak: 3/12 4 Members

Karen Yoerger, Ane McKee: 3/16 13 Members, 1 Nonmember

Mike Smith: 3/23 11 Members, 1 Nonmember



*Ridgeline hikers can now take comfort that the porta potty at the Fox Hollow trailhead will have a pulchritudinous 'cozy'.*

*Enclosures are also under construction at the Spencer Butte, Blanton Ridge, and 52<sup>nd</sup> & Willamette trailheads.*

## Blanton Ridge Hikes

Hike: 8.5 miles, 1,740 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

Jorry Rolfe: 3/1 5 Members, 1 Nonmember, 3/8 7 Members, 1 Nonmember, 3/15 5 Members, 3/22 9 Members, 1 Nonmember

Janet Jacobsen: 3/29 2 Members

## Mt. Pisgah Hikes

Hike: 3.5–7.4 miles, 1,000–1,663 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

Janet Jacobsen, Lynn Meacham: 3/5 13 Members, 3 Nonmembers, 3/12 7 Members, 3 Nonmembers

Janet Jacobsen, Jorry Rolfe: 3/17 8 Members, 4 Nonmembers

Lisa Van Liefde: 3/20 6 Members, 2 Nonmembers

Karen Yoerger: 3/24 6 Members, 2 Nonmembers





## Snowshoe Trips

### Rosary Lakes

March 6, 2022

Leader: Kathie Carpenter

Photographer: Darko Sojak

SShoe: 6 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)

**A**S WE CRUNCHED OUR WAY UPHILL THROUGH THE FOREST UNDER BLUE SKIES AND SUNSHINE, we were treated to sneak peeks of Crescent Lake and Diamond Peak through



*Mari Baldwin at PCT near Lower Rosary Lake.*



*Happy leader, Kathie Carpenter at Middle Rosary Lake.*

the branches. After lunch on the shores of Lower Rosary Lake beneath the splendid Pulpit Rock, a few of us started back early. The rest of us took a side jaunt up to Middle Rosary Lake and back, which gave us a total mileage of 8.0 and an elevation gain of 800 feet. Kudos to the four soon-to-be new members, as well as to the old-timers who entertained us with stories of the Rosary Lakes' killer mosquitos. The snow was packed so hard that a few of us removed our snowshoes and hiked back to the trailhead, and the bare patches under the trees reminded all of us to be grateful for what was probably the last snowshoeing weekend of the year. This is truly a trail for all seasons, as fun in the snow as it is when the lakes are swimmable in fall (after the mosquitoes have gone). A word to the wise: if you switch cars for the drive home, be sure to double check whose belongings are in which car. One driver arrived in Eugene only to find that they had someone else's shoes in the back, and this follows a recent near-disaster when someone almost headed home with another's keys on board. Members: Mari Baldwin, Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Michael Dunne, Holger Krentz, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Paul Winther. Nonmembers: Michael Heidelberg, Mitch Temple, Toni Muller, Sariantra Kali.



*Michael Dunne testing the ice at Middle Rosary Lake.*



## Snowshoe to Maxwell Sno-Park

March 26, 2022

Leader: Lisa Van Liefde

Assistant Leader: Steven Johnson

Photographer: Darko Sojak

SShoe: 6 miles, 1,000 ft. (Difficult)

A FABULOUS DAY WITH SPRING CONDITIONS ranging from icy to slushy and with only a few patches of dirt. Holger was adopted by a butterfly who loved hanging out on his hat, keeping us all amused. Several of us were challenged by trail conditions on the way back, falling through the deceptive



*Lynn, Holger, and Marguerite at Mt. View Loop trail.*



*Lunch near Mountain View Shelter.*



*We saw dozens of California Tortoiseshell (*Nymphalis californica*). These orange butterflies overwinter in Central Oregon.*

snowpack, laughing, and keeping score. Views were fantastic. It was such a sunny, warm day, and a wonderful farewell to winter! Members: Marguerite Cooney, Steven Johnson, Holger Krentz, Lynn Meacham, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Lisa Van Liefde.



## Stewardship

### Blanton Ridge Drainage & Tread Maintenance

February 26, 2022

Leader: Matt Bell

Photographer: Pat Soussan

Trail Maintenance: 1 mile, 500 ft. (Moderate)

OUR GROUP BRAVED A BRISK MORNING to meet at the Willamette and 52<sup>nd</sup> trailhead parking lot to start our outing for the day. We grabbed tools and broke into two



*Larry clears the drainage area while Matt works on the culvert opening.*



*Pat ready to rake up cut sword ferns. Photo by Joanna Alexander.*





*Helen does the detail work of clipping back ferns from the edge of the trail.*



*Joanna clips away ivy from the tree - there is a lot of ivy!*

groups. Clara went to clean the main trailhead kiosk and steps. The rest of our group hiked along Blanton Ridge. We started at the farthest set of drainage ditches, clearing them and working our way back. We cut back sword ferns that were overgrowing the trail from the uphill side, and cleared some slough from the upper side of the trail as well. We cleaned additional drainage culverts and ditches as we came across them. We also picked up garbage and even bagged up some English ivy. Our group enjoyed zucchini bread that Janet provided and the calm before the start of the afternoon rain. Members: Joanna Alexander, Matt Bell, David Cooper, Larry Dunlap, Clara Emlen, Janet Jacobsen, Helen Martz, Dave Predeek, Pat Soussan.

## Neighborhood Connector Tread Work

March 26, 2022

Leader: Matt Bell

Photographer: Janet Jacobsen

Trail Maintenance: 1 mile, 500 ft. (Moderate)

OUR GROUP MET WITH MARLON, FROM THE CITY OF EUGENE STAFF, to work on the neighborhood connector trail west of the Lodge. We had a variety of tasks to undertake during our expected half-day of work. We scraped soil and gravel from a short section of the trail and sent the spoils downhill to create a berm to stop the water flow from a rolling drain dip. Meanwhile, Jim used a pick to break up



*Almost ready to spread bark on the area where gravel was removed. Matt, Ane, Jim, and Helen.*



*The Ribbon Trail is now the right width to blend in with the lower part of the trail to Central Blvd. near the Obsidian Lodge.*

compacted gravel and thin a wide section of trail. Those spoils were sent uphill to create a solid gravel base for the section that we had just cleared. Pat and Clara spread mulch over the newly exposed soil to blend it in with the revegetated area that local neighbors had worked on. We then capped the trail with gravel that Marlon brought. We greatly enjoyed the extremely rich brownies that Janet provided. Members: Matt Bell, Patricia Cleall, Clara Emlen, Janet Jacobsen, Helen Martz, Ane McKee, Jim Northrop, Dave Predeek.



# MARCH BOARD NOTES

## From Minutes by Denise Rubenstein March 2, 2022

President Maryanne Reiter called the meeting to order. Board members present: Marci Hansen, Dave Hawkins, Laura Osinga, Jorry Rolfe, and Denise Rubenstein. Others present: Dave Cooper, Carla Cooper, Kay Coots, Lana Lindstrom, Evelyn Nagy, Jim Northrop, and Sue Zeni.

The Board approved the minutes for February 2022.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dave Hawkins reviewed the year-to-date income and expenses as well as the balance sheet. The Board approved the bills.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Climbs (Maryanne Reiter):** The Climbs Committee has been busy preparing for Climb School this year. We offered the Class of 2020 (we canceled that class just before it was about to start) the chance to take it this year and 17 of them opted to do so. We held a lottery on Feb. 16 for the remaining 7 spots. Now we are busy getting the volunteers lined up to teach and help with the classes. The Climbs Committee also started planning for a rock skills board that we can hang on the upstairs wall in the Lodge to practice setting up anchors, rig for a rappel, and belaying a second up on a multi-pitch climb. Finally, we are starting to populate our climbs calendar for the 2022 climbing season.

**Lodge Building (Dave Cooper):** Some use of the Lodge is starting to be scheduled. Summer Camp Rally, First Aid Kit Re-supply, Climb School, and a rental to an outside group will be taking place from late March through April.

**Lodge Grounds (Jim Northrop - interim):** Ben Macauley of Highland Tree Service ground down numerous stumps in the parking area. The cost was \$900 for three hours work. Use caution until I can get an Obsidians work crew to fill in the holes and remove the piles of bark and wood chips.

**Stewardship (Jorry Rolfe & Darko Sojak):** There were three February activities: a trail maintenance outing at Blanton Ridge to clear drainage, pick up litter, and clear slough from the trail; a North Bank restoration project (third time) planting native shrubs and trees; and an Explorahike through the new Eugene Park, Black Oak Basin (co-sponsored by Stewardship & CSE Committees).

**Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom):** We have been busy! The website has been updated thanks to Steve Johnson and John Jacobson. Joel Greer did a fantastic job editing the camp booklet (already online) and also created a color-coded spreadsheet summarizing the hikes. We prepared the budget, set the fees, and finalized the Registration Form. And we have a draft of the Rally presentation, which hopefully can be in person at the Lodge on Friday, March 25, 7 PM. Thanks also to Sue Wolling for the detailed review/edits of the hikes in the camp booklet and for interesting and informative monthly articles in the *Bulletin*.

## NEW BUSINESS

- The group discussed the value of continuing the Club's partnership with Willamalane. After a lengthy debate, a motion was passed to continue the partnership through 2022.
- There is a good amount of firewood at the Lodge that needs to be removed. It was determined that it will be offered free to interested Obsidians.

- Update on COVID policies and practices. The Club has adopted the following policy: *As Obsidians we value the safety of our members and of our communities and will continue to follow federal, state, and local health requirements for COVID-19. With the upcoming changes in the state indoor mask policy, this means starting March 12, 2022, masks will not be required for indoor activities at the Lodge. However, we reserve the option for additional requirements based on the specific activity. The sponsoring committee will be responsible for communicating any additional requirements to the participants.* Summer Camp will be requiring proof of full vaccination.

- New members approved were Patrick Bronson, Patty Keene, Emilia Rorden, and Signe Wright.

## OLD BUSINESS

- Website/database contract approval: It was determined that the Club will receive contracts from both Theo Glick and Revolution Design Group in the next few days for Board review and approval. The Board approved a motion to choose Revolutions Design Group for building the website and Theo Glick to create the database and host and maintain the website.
- Strategic Planning Updates: The membership group will soon be offering suggestions for membership changes.
- Reminder to committee chairs to advise on changes to wording on Policies and Practices.

## OPEN AGENDA ITEMS

- Megan Bolton from Dave Atkin's office offered the first training meeting on the tax status change on February 24. Board members present for the Zoom meeting were Maryanne Reiter, Lyndell Wilken, Marci Hansen, Denise Rubenstein, Denise Bean, Jorry Rolfe, Laura Osinga, Angie Ruzicka, Dave Hawkins. Others present were Megan Bolton, Dave Cooper, and Stewart Hoeg. The Board adopted four new policies at this meeting: 1) Conflict of Interest Policy, 2) Conflict of Interest Annual Disclosure Statement, 3) Records Retention Policy, 4) Whistleblower Protection Policy. These policies are important in helping ensure that the nonprofit organization is operating effectively, ethically, and in compliance with the law. They will be posted on our website.
- There was also a special meeting on Zoom, February 24, for website/database updates. Board members present were Maryanne Reiter, Marci Hansen, Lyndell Wilken, Denise Rubenstein, Laura Osinga, and Jorry Rolfe. Also present were Theo Glick, Dave Cooper, Jim Northrop, Lana Landstrom, and Diane Schechter. Revolution Design Group, Eugene OR, was recommended as the choice for our website design as they offer high-quality websites, and solid technology at \$30,000 Website and Database, not hosting or maintenance. Price includes everything in the RFP with a timeline of 4-5 months. Theo Glick will project manage during website build and handle hosting and ongoing maintenance. Next steps: 25% deposit and the database. Coding, database, and hosting will be open source and best practice. Board executives will have access and all passwords. The Obsidians will own everything. Of the 9 different companies the team researched, this is the best fit in tech, focus (database, functionality, and design), availability, and price.

## ADJOURNMENT



# RIDES TO CAMP REITER

*Sue Wolling*



**A**S YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED GAS HAS GOTTEN REALLY EXPENSIVE LATELY—and it’s predicted to stay that way through the summer. Even using an app like *Gas Buddy* to find the cheapest prices doesn’t really help that much. For a more reliable way to save on gas find some REAL gas buddies: carpool to Summer Camp with some other Obsidians.

Carpooling has always been a good way to travel to Obsidian trips. It’s much better for the environment, and it also gives you a chance to get to know some fellow campers better—and carrying on a conversation is much easier when you’re not huffing and puffing as you hike up a hill. The price of gas is just one more reason to share rides to camp.



The Obsidian signup sheet makes it easy to form carpool groups. If you’re looking for a ride, just call somebody who has indicated that they’re willing to drive and ask if you could have a ride. And if you’re driving, please consider offering a ride to someone who needs it. What better way to travel to Camp Reiter than with a few extra riders?

In a week of hiking we’ll be leaving lots of footprints all over Mount Rainier and the Goat Rocks—but let’s try not to leave a big carbon footprint. Please make arrangements now to share rides to Summer Camp.

Note: if you drive a car to camp, you are not obligated to also drive to trailheads for hikes—but if you do, it is suggested that each rider donate to you at the Obsidian rate of at least 10 cents/mile.



## ExploraTalk

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 7 PM

# SAVE THE DATE

### **I**N PERSON EXPLORATALKS AT THE LODGE ARE SET TO RESUME!

Our guest speakers will be from McKenzie River Trust, providing us an update on their work at Finn Rock Reach, and sharing with us some of their work related to the recovery efforts of the area damaged by the Holiday Farm Fire. Please plan to join us!

State and local COVID protocols will be followed at this event.

## Native Plant Nursery Tours

**D**AVE PREDEEK WILL AGAIN OPEN ALL THE DOORS TO THE NATIVE PLANT NURSERY at Howard Buford Park, for Obsidians and guests on Monday, May 9 and May 23. The trips open for online signup three weeks before the event. Dave has volunteered at the nursery since it began in 1997, and is well qualified to explain how seeds are collected, stored, and planted. See colorful outdoor beds, arranged in orderly squares, each for a single species such as Oregon sunshine, wild iris, orange columbine, checkermallow, mule’s ears, and more. For information about Dave’s 2021 tours see the [\*June 2021 Obsidian Bulletin\*](#), pp. 1, 12 & 13.



*A bed of brilliant Oregon sunshine.  
Photo by Pat Soussan.*



# OBSIDIAN CALENDAR

## April

12 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike M ..... Rolfe 206-9501  
 12 Tue Hendricks Park Spring Heyday Hike E ..... Jacobsen 206-1251  
 13 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M ..... Morray 953-5679  
 15 Fri Mt Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike M ..... Jacobsen 206-1251  
 15 Fri Spring Basin BLM Wilderness BkPk M ..... Davies 797-4004  
 16 Sat Waterfall hike Hike M ..... Carpenter 505-2370  
 19 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike M Young 941-780-4156  
 20 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M ..... Smith 520-488-9569  
 20 Wed Martin St. to Dillard Rd. Hike M .... Van Liefde 949-677-1379  
 21 Thu Mountaineering Conditioning Hike M ... McGlinsky 232-0421  
 23 Sat SOLVE Spring Beach Clean Up WrkPrty E ... Sojak 799-9199  
 23 Sat Diamond Peak- Graduation Climb Climb D .. Reiter 521-8472  
 24 Sun Entire McKenzie River Trail Hike D ..... Johnson 520-2470  
 26 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike M Young 941-780-4156  
 27 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M ..... McKee 554-1364  
 29 Fri Tumalo&Cottonwood Canyon CarCmp M Hougardy 206-9532  
 30 Sat Trail Maintenance TrlMnt M ..... Bell 503-884-8829  
 30 Sat Diamond Peak- Graduation Climb Climb D Mucker 517-2497

7 Sat McKenzie River Trust Stewardship WrkPrty E Sojak 799-9199  
 7 Sat Hendricks Park Hike E ..... Rubenstein 248-514-5092  
 8 Sun Salmon Creek Mother's Day Hike M ..... Sojak 799-9199  
 9 Mon Pisgah Native Plant Nursery Hike E ..... Predeek 345-5531  
 10 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike M Young 941-780-4156  
 11 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M ..... Rubenstein 248-514-5092  
 12 Thu Mountaineering Conditioning Hike ..... McGlinsky 232-0421  
 14 Sat Get Acquainted / Ribbon Trail Hike E ..... Leader TBA  
 15 Sun Mt Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike M ..... Jacobsen 206-1251  
 18 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M ..... McKee 554-1364  
 19 Thu Pacific Source hike Hike M ..... Cooper 868-5427  
 20 Fri Rogue River Trail BkPk D ..... Davies 797-4004  
 21 Sat Amanda Trail Hike M ..... Carpenter 505-2370  
 23 Mon Pisgah Native Plant Nursery Hike E ..... Predeek 345-5531  
 25 Wed Trail Maintenance TrlMnt M ..... Bell 503-884-8829  
 25 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M ..... Smith 520-488-9569  
 26 Thu Mountaineering Conditioning Hike ..... McGlinsky 232-0421

## May

3 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike M Young 941-780-4156  
 3 Tue Fitton Green Hike M ..... Wilken 343-3080  
 4 Wed Silver Falls / Abiqua Falls Hike M ..... Johnson 520-2470  
 4 Wed Sutton Mountain Hike M ..... Sinnott 915-0234  
 4 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M ..... Miller 808-282-5201  
 5 Thu Pat's Cabin Hike M ..... Sinnott 915-0234

## June

4 Sat National Trails Day TrlMnt M ..... Bell 503-884-8829  
 9 Thu Mountaineering Conditioning Hike ..... McGlinsky 232-0421  
 11 Sat Get Acquainted / Ribbon Trail Hike E ..... Leader TBA  
 16 Thu Low Tide Wanders CarCmp E ..... Hougardy 206-9532  
 28 Tue Macduff Mountain Hike D ..... Johnson 520-2470  
 28 Tue Mt. St. Helens Area South CarCmp M .... Hougardy 206-9532  
 29 Wed Trail Maintenance TrlMnt M ..... Bell 503-884-8829

**FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION about our activities, visit the Obsidians website: [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)**  
**If you plan to join Obsidians trips, be prepared to abide by our protocols: [COVID-19 Protocols](#)**



## Hiking Possibilities...

*Brenda Kame'enui*

**T**HE OBSIDIANS CLUB HAS ALWAYS MAINTAINED AN INTEREST IN REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY. One way to do this, and to build a more diverse club, is to foster new leaders—for these leaders attract friends, neighbors, and maybe new members.

An emerald of the Willamette Valley in spring, or any-time, and a gem for a new leader, is Fitton Green Natural Area, directly west of Corvallis. This narrow land preserve is sandwiched between two other land trusts (Crestmont and Bald Hill Farm), each with its own trailhead. The entire complex offers out-and-back walks and loops, about 5–6 miles, with some hill climbs. Fitton Green features gorgeous views of the Coast Range, forest, and oak savannah, perfect picnic spots, and spring wildflowers. Panorama Drive Trailhead serves Fitton Green, but hikers can quickly cross into the other two preserves. Map boards on the trails are very clear, and the website has a trail map to print, as well as directions to Panorama Drive Trailhead.

From the Panorama parking area walk straight out in front of you, which is southwest. Pass the first Throop Loop trail (left) and go on to the second Throop Loop trail (up to the left), which takes you to panoramic views from on high. While heading to the second Throop Loop entry, notice an Escape Route to the right. When you come down from on high, take the Escape Route down the hill. This is really the



*Obsidians hike Fitton Green in 2019.  
 Photo by Holger Krentz.*

Fitton Green North South Trail, but it is not so marked on the trail. From this trail, you can take loops, find a creekside for a picnic, or hike straight out-and-back. You will see more helpful map boards.

Getting there: Peoria Rd. out of Harrisburg passes bucolic Oregon at its best and is far less traveled than Hwy. 99. I enjoy following OR 34 W straight through Corvallis, following more pretty little drives to Panorama Drive Trailhead. See website for directions:

[www.co.benton.or.us/parks/page/fitton-green-natural-area](http://www.co.benton.or.us/parks/page/fitton-green-natural-area)





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April 2022



*Seventy people attended the Camp Reiter rally at the Lodge on March 25.  
Photo by Darko Sojak.*

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