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Dates to Remember

November 18	Potluck
December 7	Board Meeting
December 30	Bulletin Deadline
January 4	Board Meeting

Reminders:

If you haven't renewed your membership yet, it's time.

This is the last *Bulletin* issue for 2022. Have a safe and joyous holiday season. See you in 2023!



Current event schedules at:
www.obsidians.org

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President's Address Obsidians' 2022 Annual Meeting

Maryanne Reiter

WELCOME EVERYONE TO THE FIRST IN-PERSON OBSIDIANS ANNUAL MEETING SINCE 2019. Since that time we have been through a lot together. While we had to pause many of our activities, we found ways to persevere and continue with many of the things that bring us together as a community. We developed COVID protocols so we could hike, bike, and climb safely, and we stayed connected on Zoom. Each one of you is a testament to our resilience during a very challenging time. Thank you for stepping up to make the Obsidians a success.

The last few years not only were a time of change due to COVID, but also a time of change to the organization. We started a strategic planning process to ensure a vibrant future for the Obsidians. The strategic planning teams took on our taxes, website, membership structure, need for leaders, stewardship, and more. Moreover, the team took on articulating a mission statement and values as a way to have a common language for not only what we do but what we believe. And it is our beliefs that motivate us to encourage and support those who seek companionship on the trails, waterways, and mountains of the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

What we accomplished in the last year has been notable. Thank you everyone for making the Obsidians not just possible but making us the impressive group that we are. To keep that positive impact in our community thriving I ask all of you to please consider volunteering. Consider helping on a committee, leading or co-leading a hike, or any other way you can see to pitch in. We need your energy and enthusiasm to help us continue to shine now and into the future. Thank you.



Maryanne getting the meeting started. Photo by Darko Sojak.

A Note from Maryanne about the Annual Meeting Zoom Issues:

While we had sent a Zoom link for the Annual Meeting, apparently it was not working correctly to log into the meeting. In addition, I was busy getting the meeting started and failed to notice I needed to let people into the Zoom meeting. Again, I am sorry for the technological issues with the Annual Meeting. Please read the minutes (page 4) for an update. Thank you.

IN MEMORIAM

KEN KODAMA JULY 24, 1942–SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

AFTER KEN RETIRED IN 2001, he and his wife Beth moved to Eugene and soon joined the Obsidians in their quest to explore the Northwest. He went on 55 trips, was Finance Chair, and also served on the Summer Trips, Grounds, and Construction Committees. He volunteered with the Friends of the Eugene Public Library, played Hawaiian music at Kanikapila, and was a Visitor Trustee for the University of Oregon Humanities Center.

It was at summer camps that Ken’s sense of humor and friendliness were so evident. A member shares: *It was at the Mt. Baker summer camp in 2004. This was our grandson’s first camping experience, and he was a bit out of his comfort zone. Ken was in charge of the campfire, and he took him under his wing. Together they built the fire, and when it was time, lit it. The kindness and compassion Ken showed this little boy touched our hearts, and our friendship began that night.*

Beth died in 2010. Ken leaves behind son Matthew (Rachel) and grandchildren Miles and Jude of Westwood, Massachusetts, and daughter Emi (Jock Conyngham) and granddaughter Wren of Missoula, Montana.

Editors Note: Ken’s obituary can be found at: www.chapmanfuneral.com/obituaries/Kenneth-M-Kodama?obId=25946236

Share Your Artwork!

CALLING ALL ARTISTS—OF ALL KINDS! The Scherer Room, to your right as you enter the Lodge, is open for you to display your creations on its walls in juried installations of approximately three months.

Framed paintings and photographs, needlework, weaving, woodworking, metal work, pottery, and more are possibilities waiting for your inspiration.

Please contact Joella Ewing at joella.ew@gmail.com if you have artwork to share with your Obsidian friends.

Welcome New Members!

Angela Bos
Eugene, OR 97401

Steve Davis
Eugene, OR 97405

L Zachary Dubois
Eugene, OR 97404

Jim Flom
Springfield, OR 97478

Paul Hamilton
Salem, OR 97304

Jane Happy
Eugene, OR 97401

Diana Hodges
Eugene, OR 97408

Rob Hudson
Eugene, OR 97403

Diane Longcore
Eugene, OR 97403

John Miller
Creswell, OR 97426

Janice Silvestri
Eugene, OR 97401

Ellen Syverson
Eugene, OR 97405

Bill Wacknov
Eugene, OR 97401

OBSIDIANS

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405
Website: 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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Published monthly, except August and December. Articles, story ideas, letters to the editor, and other editorial submissions may be emailed to:

bulletin@obsidians.org

For reprint rights, contact:

The Obsidian Bulletin

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

Deadline

for January Bulletin
Friday, December 30, 2022

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Janet Jacobsen, Lou Maenz

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: Tom Adamcyk, Don Baldwin,
Yuan Hopkins, Judy Newman,
and Barbara Schomaker.

Layers

Mike Smith

I NOTICED THE COLD FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS SEASON when I got out of the car at Patjens Lake Trailhead. I had already noted how dark the morning was when I left town, a predictable astronomical phenomenon for this time of year. Less predictable was when I would note the day each year, usually in August, when one felt the first tinge of autumn. I was doing a straightforward hike, a seven-mile loop into the Mount Washington Wilderness with a few hundred feet of elevation gain, scouting the trail in preparation for an upcoming one-day logout by the joint Scorpion-Salamander *Scorpomander* crews. I was expecting to find between 75 and 150 logs needing removal. Knowing the location and size of the logs would help the crews plan the day, as they worked the loop from opposite directions.

I had my rain jacket on when I drove in but had removed it before starting, knowing I would warm up as I moved. After all, it was I who told people at the onset of a hike, “If you’re warm now, you’ve got too much on.” People listened politely, nobody took anything off, and the hike proceeded, with my being the only one cold. It was only uncomfortable for ten minutes.

I learned this approach of starting a hike cold 38 years earlier on the Chilkoot Trail in Alaska. The second morning of that backpack, ten miles up the trail, it was cold, and the leader suggested I remove my shirt, because we were going to be carrying packs uphill all day, over Chilkoot Pass into Canada. When we stopped to rest, sweaty, we could put on a dry shirt and be warmer, until we started again. I was a ‘layer minimalist’ for years afterward, until my body changed.

Twenty years ago, I stopped wearing shorts when I canoe tripped in Minnesota in September; five years later, I stopped bringing shorts altogether. On winter trips, my fingers now are cold for the first mile in the morning and for the first mile right after lunch, too. Along with losing hair, vision, memory, and hearing, I’m losing degrees. The world changes; my body is no exception.

Now standing near the kiosk at the trailhead, pack on, ready to go, I stopped. Admit it, I said to myself. You’re cold.

I shook my head, dropped the pack, retrieved my jacket and put it back on. I don’t have to be cold right now. If I get too warm, I’ll deal with it. I then shouldered the pack and began hiking. My, it felt comfortable. Sure enough, a half mile into the burned area, when I needed to stop to measure the diameter and location of a downed log, I removed my jacket and stuffed it back in the pack. I was warm the rest of the hike, noting 79 logs for removal, in addition to the 13 smaller ones I removed as I went.

Those who are naturally comfortable in certain situations or subjects often have difficulty understanding others who don’t share or have such comfort or skill, whether it be interacting with strangers or dealing with the ambient temperature. But that day at Patjens, I finally understood and could admit that layers are for putting on and taking off, and it really doesn’t matter when one does what, so long as one is comfortable.

See you on the trail.

*Adjusting layers while on
the Castle Rock summit,
November, 2017.
Photo by Dave Lodeesen.*



2022 ANNUAL MEETING, OBSIDIANS

October 14, 2022

By Denise Rubenstein, Secretary

Social Time 6:00–6:30 Prince Puckler's ice cream sundaes compliments of Rick Sanford.



*Dorothy van Winkle and Nancy Whitfield served sundaes.
Photo by Carla Cooper.*

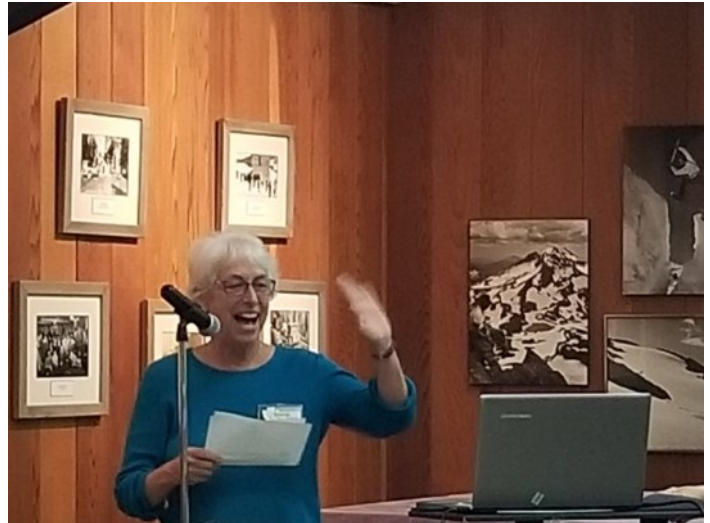
President Maryanne Reiter called the hybrid in person/Zoom meeting to order. Board members present: Denise Bean, Marci Hansen, Dave Hawkins, Laura Osinga, Jorry Rolfe, Denise Rubenstein, Angie Ruzicka, and Lyndell Wilken. Approximately 50 members were in attendance.

Strategic Plan (SP) Overview and Update for Select Strategic Plan Task Groups

New website Updates (Marci Hansen) A few screens of the website design were shared and it is currently being coded by Revolution Design. The member database will roll over intact and members will be able to log in with current passwords but those will need to be changed by each member. The site will look different, but functionality will be the same. It will be live at the beginning of December with a *soft rollout* for testing in November.

Membership Changes (Diane Schechter) This task group was formed to address declining membership. A bylaw change was voted upon which eliminated the three-event and two

signatures requirement. Benefits added were free trips, potlucks, and ExploraTalks. Dues were raised by \$5. The result so far, has been a significant increase in membership each month.



Diane details Membership changes. Photo by Darko Sojak.

Leader Recruitment (Lana Lindstrom) It's been clear that more leaders are needed so this task group set a goal of increasing leadership by 10% each year. The first year surpassed that, but this current year just made the goal. Please consider leading, mentors are ready to help.

Tax Status Change (Denise Bean) The Club has received the Letter of Acceptance for our 501c3 status from the IRS. As a result, some of the changes include tax deductions for dues and donations and we can hold fundraisers should the need arise.

Values Task Group (Deb Carver) This group put together a list of Obsidian Values as it would set a clear framework that drives the efforts of the Club. The Obsidians value: Community, Adventure, Natural Environment, Inclusion, and Continuity (honoring the past and staying connected to the future).

Treasurer's Report (Laura Osinga)

Laura thanked Stewart for his 16 years as Treasurer. He has done an outstanding job and continues to give generously of his time in guiding Laura and Sue through the transition of the treasurer's responsibility.

Stewart's Report:

The Obsidians financial position remains strong. As of September 30th, the Club's balance sheet had financial assets of \$228,000, including a Capital/Contingency fund of \$50,000 and an Endowment Fund of \$88,000. However, these numbers represent an overall decline from last year of \$66,000.

A continuation of some reductions in activities reduced the past year's income, but a far more substantial impact on recent cash flow were the cost associated with becoming a 501c3 and paying for a complete redesign of the Club's web-

site. As a result, during the past year expenses from operations exceeded revenue by \$30,000. Recent substantial declines in the stock market are the cause of the additional \$36,000 decline.

Despite the recent decline in the market, these investments have been extremely lucrative for the Club. This summer the Club sold \$25,000 worth of shares to pay for the cost of the new website. These sales included a net gain of \$17,000 on an original cost of \$8,000.

I would like to thank Dave Hawkins who is responsible for keeping the books for both the Summer Camp and Bus committees. As their treasurer, Dave is responsible for providing me with these two committees' monthly financials for inclusion in my monthly financial updates.

New Board Member Voting (Lana Lindstrom)

Russ Davies, Jean Harris, and Denise Rubenstein were approved by the Membership for three year terms.

In Memoriam (Fred Crafts)

Compiled by the Historian Committee for October 2022 Annual Meeting

Dave Lodeesen Age 69

Dave led his last Veterans Day hike in 2019 and wrote... *I think we've started a new tradition for the Club as this was the fourth consecutive Veterans Day Hike we've completed. Hope to see you all again next year.*

John 'Jack' O'Donnell Age 79

With quiet enthusiasm, he and Anne Bonine contributed so much to the congenial spirit of the Club's outdoor pursuits.

Ken Kodama Age 80

Finance chair, served on Summer Trips, Grounds and Construction Committees. He and his wife Beth, who died in 2010, are remembered by some for their handwashing skit *Out Out Damn Spot* at summer camp. A member remembers: *It was at the Mt. Baker summer camp in 2004. This was our grandson's first camping experience, and he was a bit out of his comfort zone. Ken was in charge of the campfire and he took him under his wing. Together they built the fire, and when it was time, lit it. The kindness and compassion Ken showed this little boy touched our hearts, and our friendship began that night.*

Dave Roderick Age 86

Presented breathtaking slide programs at five potlucks: A colorful raconteur, he inspired others to step up for an adventure.

Eliot Aronin Age 90

Last month Obsidian hikers met his son on the Ridgeline Trail who told us that his father died in 2018 and how much he loved the Obsidians.

Norma Lockyear Age 91

An avid traveler, cyclist, and hiker.

Richard "Dick" Snyder age 91

Awarded his ten peak award in 2000. When he led Mt. Shasta he wrote: *...Off we all went...This was the best 2,500 feet, 10 to 15 minute glissade I have ever had, and it was like running a luge course.*

Curtis Irish age 91

Our Club's unofficial Fire Lookout Historian/photographer.

Awards (Dave Cooper)

Leader Awards:

Karen Yoerger 25
Lisa Van Liefde 25
Mark Hougardy 50
Jorry Rolfe 50
Tommy Young 50
Steve Johnson 75
Mike Smith 200

Trip Awards: 100

Denise Bean
Whitney Gould
Vicky Hanson
Dave Hawkins
Kathy Hoeg
Jonathan Jost
June Miller
Barbara Orsi
Dorothy van Winkle
Karen Yoerger

Trip Awards: 200

Angie Ruzicka
Gwyneth Iredale

Trip Awards: 300

Mari Baldwin
Kathie Carpenter
Clara Emlen
Nancy Hoecker

Trip Awards: 400

Marguerite Cooney
Carla Cooper
Holger Krentz
Dave Predeek

Trip Awards: 500

Darko Sojak

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bus (Interim Jim Northrop) After no bus trips in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid pandemic, bus trips resumed in 2022 with two single-day bus trips. A multi-day bus trip to the Columbia Gorge is probable in spring 2023. However, due to a doubling in the cost of renting a motor coach, and the lack of trip leaders, the future of Obsidian bus trips is questionable.

Concessions (Carla Cooper) Concessions has not been very active since the COVID pandemic hit, but this year we were able to set up at two events at the Lodge, and we also had a few individual sales. Nancy Whitfield is the star of our committee this year, though, through her efforts at Summer Camp. I understand that she not only manned a sales table, but also contributed to the entertainment in the evenings with a fashion show and other activities. Her \$305 from Summer Camp sales is almost half of our total \$640 for the year. So thank you, Nancy!

Conservation/SciEd (Kay Coots and Angie Ruzicka) The Conservation, Science and Education Committee arranged ExploraTalks in May and June of 2022. In addition, there were two outdoor tours focused on local environmental conservation activities. Going forward the committee welcomes input from Obsidians on activities they would like to see the committee work on as COVID restrictions lift and allow indoor events.



*Mike Smith has gone on over 600 trips and has led 200 trips.
Photo by Carla Cooper*

"These badges represent not only a whole lot of burned calories going to fantastic, beautiful places but a whole lot of good times with great friends!" —Marguerite Cooney

Entertainment (Evelyn Nagy, Ron and Pam Swisher) The Entertainment Committee had its first potluck in May. Starting in September, the committee will be back on schedule with its usual potluck and speaker presentation most months throughout the year.

Extended Trips (Lana Lindstrom) There was one Extended trip this year: rafting on the North Umpqua and hiking in the area. Two trips are already scheduled for 2023: Shelter Cove skiing and snowshoeing (Feb 28–March 1) and hiking in the Columbia River Gorge, staying at Menucha Conference Center (May 2–4).

Finance (Susan Zeni) The Obsidian Finance Committee during the past year was responsible for putting together the 2022 budget and recommending investments for the Endowment Fund and Contingency Fund. Two committee members, Sue Zeni and Laura Ozinga, audited the treasurer function which includes all activity for the general, endowment, extended trips and capital/contingency funds. Due to no activity, there were no audits of either the Bus or Summer Camp committees. In response to a request from the strategic planning committee, the finance committee, with particular assistance from Denise Bean, discussed the pros and cons of changing the tax status of the Club. Based on this discussion, the committee recommended to the Board that the Club pursue changing the Club's tax status from a 501c7 to 501c3.



Sue Zeni gives the Finance Committee report. Photo by Darko Sojak.

Lodge Building (Dave Cooper) This year has been a transition from the COVID doldrums. We've only had a few rentals this year and our own activities at the Lodge have been limited. The tide is turning as we see our CSE and Entertainment committees scheduling events. We also have a rental to REI happening soon. A number of maintenance projects are being considered.

Lodge Grounds (Jim Northrop - interim) Several work parties mowed the grounds. Parking bumpers were placed to aid visitors in locating parking spaces and the correct angle at which to park. No major projects are planned for 2023.

Librarian/Historian (Lenore McManigal) Trip and Leader patches were inventoried, ordered, and awarded. Lenore recorded members' trips in the logbooks from 370-plus trip reports printed in the *Bulletin*. Bea and Janet did the research to answer email inquiries as well as for twelve articles and the In Memoriam in the *Bulletin*. Lenore will be 97 on October 27.

She has been the historian since 1992. She said she works almost every day to record the trips in the logbooks and that the Summer Camp list took a long time to record.

Membership (Diane Schechter) The committee continued to keep the database current. We sent new members welcome packets, contacted those who indicated an interest in volunteering, and created name tags for them. Our greeters had the year off without any scheduled potlucks. In the coming year, we hope to make membership and renewal easier by offering the option to use a fillable form and to pay online. Membership as of 10/13/22 = 452 members.

Online/Webmaster (vacant)

Publications/Bulletin (Lou Maenz) The two sections of the Publications committee, *Bulletin* production and Folding and Mailing, produced ten issues of *Bulletins*. As is standard procedure, no December or August issues were produced. A total of approximately 2,200 were mailed out to members and non-members on the mailing list. The cost of printing totaled \$2,249 for the year, and mailing expense was approximately \$870. Currently we are working on getting the mailing cost category switched from profit to non-profit.

Publicity (Marc Hansen) Much work was done on the website and after the new site is up and running, there will be a renewed focus on social media.

Safety (Lyndell Wilken) The Safety committee organized a first aid supply give-away at the Lodge which had 54 participants. Twenty-five different items were ordered and offered to members to encourage everyone participating in Obsidian events to carry a personal first aid kit. In addition, several committee first aid kits were checked to make sure they were well-stocked. The AED batteries and pads were replaced. The Safety committee policies and procedures were checked and changes made. Safety-related incidents that occurred during events were addressed.

Stewardship (Jorry Rolfe & Darko Sojak) The Clubs' environmental stewardship work parties partnered with several groups. Among them are the City of Eugene, Mackenzie River Trust, SOLVE, Cascade Volunteers, Willamette River Keepers, and Willamalane.

Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom) Summer Camp near Rainier National Park and the Goat Rocks Wilderness was a lot of fun with fabulous hiking; 89 participants. Steve Johnson is willing to lead camp again in 2023; mark your calendars for the Sawtooths near Stanley, Idaho, August 6-12, 2023.

Summer Trips (Dave Cooper) As of the Annual Meeting, Summer Trips had 175 outings, including three backpacks, and four car camps. We should hit 200 outings for the season despite several fire-related cancellations. A complete spreadsheet of the season activities will be presented to the Board after the season concludes.

Winter Trips (Dave Cooper) For the 2022 Winter Trips season (which began in Nov. 2021) 31 leaders combined to offer 124 outings. There were three backpacks, one bike trip, ten snowshoes, and six cross-country ski trips. Income was \$1,202. We have 17 hikes on the schedule for this season.

Closing Remarks (Maryanne Reiter) Thank you, all. This is an impressive group that understands that volunteerism drives the Club. Please consider new ways to pitch in.

ADJOURNMENT

OCTOBER BOARD NOTES

From Minutes by Denise Rubenstein October 19, 2022

President Maryanne Reiter called the meeting to order. Board members present: Denise Bean, Dave Hawkins, Laura Osinga, Denise Rubenstein, Angie Ruzicka, and Lyndell Wilken. Others present: Dave Cooper, Jean Harris, Lana Lindstrom, Evelyn Nagy, and Jim Northrop.

The Board approved the minutes for September 2022. Also approved were the minutes for the Annual Meeting.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bus Trips (Jim Northrop - interim): A bus trip took place on October 4 to the Oregon coast and Cape Perpetua, with 20 participants. Revenue was \$1,208, expenses \$2,526, for a loss of \$1,318.

Climbs (Maryanne Reiter): We have one climb left this season on October 29: the second annual Mt. Yoran Halloween Costume Climb.

Entertainment (Evelyn Nagy, Ron and Pam Swisher): About fifty people attended the summer camp reunion at the Lodge on Friday, September 30. About one quarter were non-members. It turned out to be a good opportunity to advertise for next year's summer camp and Steve Johnson did a good job of doing that while answering questions about this year's Camp Reiter.

Lodge Building (Dave Cooper): REI will be renting the Lodge on Oct. 22.

Lodge Grounds (Jim Northrop - interim): Eleven Obsidians mowed, trimmed, and cleaned up the grounds on October 10 in anticipation of the Annual Meeting and other upcoming Lodge events. Special thanks to Rob Castleberry for bringing his chainsaw and felling and bucking a dead Pacific madrone tree.

Librarian/Historian (Lenore McManigal): Lane County Parks social media person asked to put a link to the October *Bulletin* with the article that Bea and Janet compiled on the Howard Buford Recreation Area. From Janet: Tom Hallberg, Managing Editor of *Backcountry Magazine*, asked me for information about Obsidians' early history as part of a piece he is writing on the history of skiing in the Cascades. I sent him links to relevant *Bulletin* articles that Bea and I compiled. After a phone interview with Tom, I will need to do more research on how skiing fits into our Club's history. Bert Ewing has provided archival sources about the Obsidian Ski Club (name later changed to SkiLaufers). Tom has interviewed the Mazama historian, the Skyliners in Bend and Obsidian Gordon Sayre.

<https://bendmagazine.com/the-legacy-of-bends-skyliners-ski-club-lives-on/>

Lenore has recorded all the trips from the October *Bulletin* and also made a log sheet for each new member.

Membership (Diane Schechter): New members this month, Beth Bauchet, Allen Bollschweiler, Angela Bos, Kathy Brenner, L Zachary Dubois, Jane Happy, Blair Irwin, Diane Longcore, Larry Morrison, Charmaine Rehg, and Sandra Sigris. Total membership is 453.

Publications/Bulletin (Lou Maenz): Publications mailed 200 copies this past month.

Publicity (Marci Hansen): I met with our website developer twice in the last two weeks—once with Diane Schechter and once with Dave Cooper. They went over the design and functionality so far of the website. The site will be ready for testing in about 2 weeks. We'll then test it and decide how we want to launch it to the members.

Stewardship (Jorry Rolfe & Darko Sojak): There was one trail maintenance activity in Spencer Butte Park. Eight members cleaned the summit steps, cleared drainage, and cleaned the trailhead steps. In October, at least three stewardship activities are scheduled doing lake and river cleanups, and blackberry removal.

Summer Trips (Dave Cooper): We are seeing an increase in nonmembers on hikes. Some have joined immediately after going on a single hike.

NEW BUSINESS

- Annual Meeting review – General feedback was quite good, although there was a glitch in the Zoom component where there were just a few participating. Those members were not able to see most of the meeting so a note will appear in the *Bulletin* that the full minutes for the Annual meeting will be available on the website for those who are interested.
- New Board member orientation – postponed until next month
- Committee Chair vacancies – There are vacancies/changes in Climbs, Bus, Entertainment, Grounds, and Lodge. There was a discussion of different needs for these Chairs and whose job it is to fill them. In the ideal, the current chair looks among the committee members for a replacement. Maryanne has likely found a new Climbs Chair. Suggestions were made, but the need remains.

OPEN AGENDA ITEMS

- The Obsidians are hosting author and climber Dierdre Wolownick Honnold on November 16 at 7:00 at the Lodge. There is a suggested \$10 donation for the event.

ADJOURNMENT

TRIP REPORTS



Bus Trips

Fall Color Bus Trip to Oregon Coast

October 4, 2022

Leader: Jim Northrop

Bus Trip

WITH HEAVY SMOKE FROM THE CEDAR CREEK FIRE near Oakridge creating a breathing hazard, twenty Obsidians and guests headed to the Oregon coast rather than to the original destination of Odell Lake Lodge. We drove the back roads of Highway 36 through Triangle Lake and Swisshome in search of fall colors, but only saw green. After a stop at the Florence McDonald's for our coffee break, we drove north to the Darlingtonia State Natural Site to see the insect-digesting pitcher plants. With the elevator at Sea Lion Caves closed for maintenance, we posed for a photo with the sea lion statue, perused the gift shop, then headed to Heceta Head to hike to the lighthouse. After that, our intrepid driver Paul drove the full-size motor coach up the steep and winding road to the top of Cape Perpetua for a short hike to the stone shelter. Although overcast, we had fogless views to the south and north. Getting hungry, we drove back to Florence, where most ate a late lunch at Mo's seafood restaurant. After touring Old Town, we headed home to Eugene, arriving back around 5:00 PM. Although not our original destination, and with few fall colors to be seen, it turned out to be a good bus trip. Members: Judy Adamecyk, Thomas Adamecyk, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Paula Beard, Patricia Cleall, Lorraine Cuevas, Sharon Duncan, Clara Emlen, Judy Garwood, David Hawkins, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen, Jim Northrop, Don Payne, Barbara Schomaker. Nonmembers: Lee Altschuler, Cheryl Leair, Carol Margart, Rochelle Carlton.



The group shot with the statue of the sea lions.



Hikes

South Willamette Trail

September 27, 2022

Leader & Photographer: Jean Harris

Hike: 11 miles, 1,200 ft. (Moderate)

WHAT A LOVELY FALL DAY FOR A STROLL THROUGH THE FOREST. All eyes were open and watching for wildlife, which turned out to be the small variety—caterpillars, slugs, spiders, and birds. Then, WE SAVED A MOUSE! A movement in the blackberries along the trail turned out to be a frantic mouse with its tail caught on the briars. We maneuvered with our poles and managed to set it free. Yes, we were heroes! What an unusual and fascinating incident! If only we had been quick with a camera. We enjoyed the stream crossings, falling leaves, and gentle breeze, and the beauty of a varied forest. I highly recommend this hike that is so close to town. Members: Annie Chan, Jean Harris, Barbara Orsi.



Barbara and Annie near Eulah Ridge Trailhead.

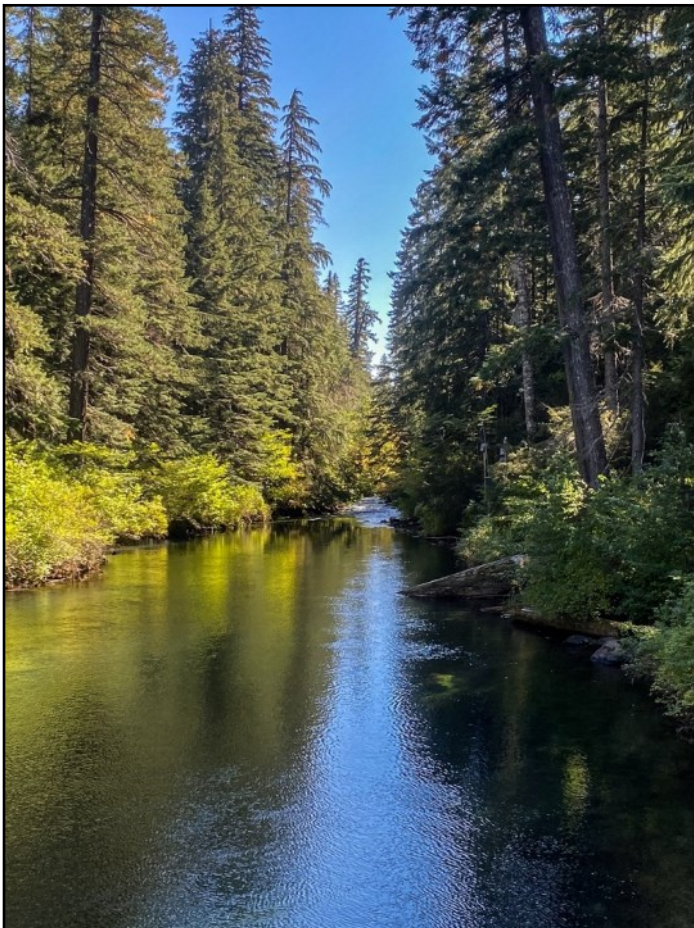
Koosah Falls to Clear Lake

October 1, 2022

Leader & Photographer: Lisa Van Liefde

Hike: 8 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)

BEAUTIFUL WEATHER GREETED US TODAY! All enjoyed taking the opposite trail from Koosah Falls up to Clear Lake where we stopped for lunch and then enjoyed viewing Sahalie Falls on the return. Members: Marguerite Cooney, Whitney Gould, Gwyneth Iredale, Holger Krentz, Noah Lee, Diana Masarie, Lynn Meacham, Denise Rubenstein, Lisa Van Liefde, Sue Wolling. Nonmembers: Cedar Jernigan, Rita Jernigan.



Clear Lake outlet to Sahalie and Koosah.

Marion Lake

October 1, 2022

Leader: Elizabeth Grant

Assistant Leader & Photographer: Buzz Blumm

Hike: 6 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)

OUR MARION LAKE OUTING WAS A BIT DISCOMBOBULATED before we ever took the first step: our original leader was unable to make the trip, so we scrambled for new leadership. Dave Cooper flipped a coin and Elizabeth Grant was appointed leader with Buzz Blumm as assistant leader. Then we moved the departure up an hour and, if that was not enough, the Amazon lot was overtaken by a city-sanctioned event that resulted in parking confusion and departure delays. We finally got underway 25 minutes late, causing us to miss Annette Leong who was to meet us at the trailhead. We found out later that she had started up the trail and we never encountered her—so sad! The remaining six of us started hiking on the well-maintained trail. It was a lovely trek up through the forest to the shores of Marion Lake—a beautiful scene with the sun shimmering on the water and Three Fingered Jack, towering and dominant, about eight miles to the east. Elizabeth the Brave was the only swimmer in the group. I think the water temperature was 60 degrees. There was a couple getting married at the lake and their photographer was kind enough to snap our group photo. We all had a great time on that beautiful day. Members: Buzz Blumm, Elizabeth Grant, Sandra Sigrist, Mitch Temple. Nonmembers: Annette Leong, Ellen Syversen, Chris Bayham.



Trail's end at Marion Lake.

Four In One Cone

October 2, 2022

Leader: Mike Smith

Hike: 11 miles, 1,400 ft. (Moderate)

FOUR NONMEMBERS AND THE LEADER HIKED TO FOUR IN ONE CONE as part of the 6th annual Clare Tucker Memorial Hike. The trail had gotten some rain, there was no dust, and we got on top and had lunch before other people showed up. Nice day to be in the wilderness! Members: Mike Smith. Nonmembers: Alice Moffitt, Paul Newman, Olya Tsyrukun, Thomas Newman.

University of Oregon Campus Walk

October 7, 2022

Leader & Photographer: Joanna Alexander

Hike: 2.5 miles (Easy)

AFTER WATCHING TO SEE IF THE AIR QUALITY WOULD TURN TO UNHEALTHY with smoke from the huge Cedar Creek fire, several of us gathered to visit and admire the marvelous campus trees. On a misty and cool morning, we strolled among students and trees, stopping occasionally to discuss and feel the presence of such trees as the young female ginkgo in the Old Quad and its male suitor around the corner, the bigleaf maple planted by the first janitor, the dawn redwoods, the purple-leaf European beech, the *Condon Oak*, the *Moon Tree* (grown from seeds carried to the moon in 1971), the coast redwood transplanted from a terrarium in the 1920s, and the Caucasian wingnut. We took a photo



in front of the giant sequoia which lost its crown in the 1962 Columbus Day storm but continues to thrive. Members: Joanna Alexander, Sharon Duncan, Sheridan Gates, Kathy Hoeg, Yuan Hopkins, Karla Rusow, Kate Shapiro. Nonmembers: Janice Silvestri.

Get Acquainted / Ribbon Trail

October 8, 2022

Leader: Denise Rubenstein

Hike: 2.5 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)

BEAUTIFUL FALL DAY WITH HIKERS OF ALL AGES, the youngest at 2 ½ years. When he got weary, the use of a hiking pole picked him right up and the leader didn't have to give any piggyback rides. Members: Beth Bauchet, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Kathy Hoeg, Noah Lee, Denise Rubenstein. Nonmembers: Stephanie Pflaster, Bart Bemus, Janice Silvestri, Steve Davis, Carol Margart, Rupert Dyer, Lynda Bell.

Metolius River

October 8, 2022

Leader: Kathie Carpenter

Hike: 11 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)

THE METOLIUS WAS ITS USUAL GORGEOUS SELF and it was a wonderful day to be at the river. Eugene was misty and smokey from the Cedar Creek Fire when we left at 7:30, but the air was sparkling clear in the mountains. We started at Lower Canyon Creek Campground and hiked the west bank 5.5 miles to Lower Bridge Campground. We crossed the Lower Bridge and looped back for 3.0 miles on the east bank to the Wizard Falls Fish Hatchery. There we crossed back over to the west side for the final 2.5 miles to our cars, where we were shocked to see an unattended campfire smoldering in a campsite on the edge of the forest. Good citizen Marguerite warned the site's occupants and helped them put it out. This trail is fairly level the whole way, making it the perfect hike for somebody recovering from a knee injury. There are enough entry points, bridges, and turnaround spots that you can easily adjust the length to your abilities. Remember to bring quarters to buy fish food at the hatchery, and to wear layers. Temperatures were in the high 40s when we hit the trail, but reached the low 80s along sunny stretches in the afternoon. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Michael Moffitt, Sandra Sigrist, Sue Wolling. Nonmembers: Karen Knowlton, Ellen Syversen, Chris Bayham.

Marys Peak

October 16, 2022

Leader: Lisa Van Liefde

Hike: 8.6 miles, 2,044 ft. (Moderate)

SIX OF US HEADED UP TO THE PEAK TODAY and are happy to report that smoke was not an issue. It was great having three nonmembers who all decided to join. At the peak, we ran into Obsidians Darko and Angie who happened to be hiking with a friend. A good time was had by all! Welcome to the new members! Members: Annie Chan, Jane Leng, Lisa Van Liefde. Nonmembers: Rob Hudson, Maria Ortiz, Paul Hamilton.

Castle Rock via King Castle Trailhead

October 20, 2022

Leader & Photographer: Karen Yoerger

Hike: 11.4 miles, 2,600 ft. (Difficult)

IT WAS THE LAST TRULY DRY DAY OF FALL, and the air quality at McKenzie Bridge was much better than in Eugene-Springfield. Our small group made quick work of the six-mile, 2,600 ft. hike up to our lunch spot on the ridge below the summit of Castle Rock. Despite hazy skies, we could see the Three Sisters, Mt. Washington, the McKenzie Valley, and

a heavy helicopter moving logs on the far ridge. After lunch, we completed the trip to the summit. The sign on the cell phone relay has lost another letter: *Do Not Di tur*. We appreciated the spiky seed pods of shrubby chinquapin and, descending the trail, the yellow-green leaves of vine maple glowing against the dark basalt of the looming Castle. We also noticed new growth in understory plants such as blue-green rattlesnake plantain, white-veined wintergreen, and pipsissewa. We met only two hikers and two cyclists on the trail. This was a great day with good company and conversation. Welcome to Doug on his first Obsidians hike! Members: Elizabeth Grant, Lynn Meacham, Karen Yoerger. Nonmembers: Douglas Daniell.



Lynn, Elizabeth, and Doug at Castle Rock summit.

South Fork Alsea River Explora Hike

October 22, 2022

Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak

Assistant Leader: Angie Ruzicka

Hike: 5 miles, 640 ft. (Moderate)

AFTER AN OVERNIGHT REWARD OF RAIN, we enjoyed solid October weather. Due to the *Hell of the Northwest Trail Relay Run*, our route was modified to only five miles along Alsea Falls and Green Peak Falls. Great group, great trails and great time in the woods. Members: Marti Gerdes, Lynn Meacham, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Dorothy van Winkle.



Alsea Falls.

Pioneer Cemetery Walk

October 27, 2022

Leader & Photographer: Joanna Alexander

Hike: 2 miles, (Easy)

TWELVE BRAVE PILGRIMS LEFT WARM SUNSHINE to enter the dark shadows of Pioneer Cemetery and to meet several spirits from Eugene's 19th and 20th centuries. Randy Gudeika, historian-performer, brought these shadows to life as human beings who lived and loved (and sometimes hated), but who are now mostly forgotten. Some succumbed in World War I, and one to disease after returning from the war. Another saw the Spanish-American war theater in the Philippines and married his true love on his death bed. A twin dreamed of how his brother would die at the end of World War I as they fought together. A pair of friends from the lumber camp of Wendling (now a ghost town) were removing an illegal still when they were shot by a farmer who thought that they had insulted his wife. And there was the story of a young woman who was stranded on the wrong side of the Willamette River after the ferry stopped running for the night. Determined to get home, she crossed the deep river on her horse, long dress notwithstanding. Randy's presentations were extremely thoughtful and entertaining. Everyone expressed high satisfaction with their experience. Members: Joanna Alexander, Carol Babcock, Fred Crafts, Patricia Esch, Marti Gerdes, Holger Krentz, Sandra Larsen, Janice Silvestri. Nonmembers: Alice Krentz, Deirdre Lannon, Randy Gudeika.



Randy Gudeika telling tales to Pat Esch, Janice Silvestri, Carol Babcock, Marti Gerdes, and Fred Crafts.

Amazon Headwaters / Ridgeline Trail / Spencer Butte Hikes

Hikes: 1.1–6.2 miles, 438–1,530 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

Karen Yoerger: 9/21 8 Members, 2 Nonmembers

Janet Jacobsen: 10/5 18 Members

Denise Rubenstein: 10/12 9 Members

Mike Smith: 10/19 5 Members

June Miller: 10/26 14 Members

Blanton Ridge Hikes

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

Leader, Tommy Young: 10/4 4 Members, 10/11 4 Members, 10/18 6 Members, 10/25 4 Members

Mt. Pisgah Hikes

Hike: 3.5–5.3 miles, 1,000–1,100 ft. (Easy–Moderate)

Various Leaders

Janet Jacobsen: 10/8 5 Members

David Hawkins: 10/14 7 Members



Dyer's polypore. Identified and photographed by Tommy Young on the Blanton Ridge Hike, September 27. It was spotted on the tie trail close to where we see the phantom orchids. Dyer's polypore grow from conifer roots and cause cellulose degradation so it indicates there is a tree 'under attack' nearby.



Instead of going to Spencer Butte Summit on a smoky morning in early September, two Amazon Headwaters-to - Spencer Butte hikers explored other trails along the Ridge-line. Janet Jacobsen took these photos of the new trail built just for mountain bikers. No hikers and not for novice mountain bikers! The first stony part of the trail purposefully gives a sense of how difficult the trail will be.



Our Obsidians took a hiking trail down to Center Way to see the end of the downhill ride where it connects with an unofficial hiking trail.



At Center Way, the sign warns bikers to slow down and share the gravel trail.



Darko Sojak's Mt. Pisgah sunset.



*Blanton Ridge hikers in front of where the tree once stood.
Photographer: Tommy Young.*



A rock cairn is a poor substitute for the tree cut down by vandals. Photographer: Tommy Young.



Stewardship

2022 Great Willamette Clean Up October 12, 2022

Leader: Karla Rusow

Work Party: 2 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)

SEVEN OBSIDIANS JOINED TEN OTHER PARTICIPANTS on a beautiful fall day to help clean up the banks of the Willamette River. The cleanup was run through Willamalane Parks and Recreation in partnership with Willamette River Keepers. We roved up and down the riverbanks from the Community Center on C Street all the way to the I-5 bridge, picking up various items left behind by homeless campers as well as other users of the bike paths and parks. It was a great excuse to be outdoors and to get a little exercise, and also feel that we were contributing to the health and welfare of our river that we all enjoy so much. Members: Mari Baldwin, Annie Chan, Elizabeth Grant, Lana Lindstrom, Jorry Rolfe, Karla Rusow, Tommy Young.



Work Party

Lodge and Grounds Clean-up October 10, 2022

Leader: Jim Northrop

Assistant Leader: David Cooper

Lodge Work Party

ELEVEN OBSIDIANS SHOWED UP TO WORK ON THE LODGE GROUNDS in what turned out to be 'hazardous' smoke conditions. We mowed, raked, trimmed, weeded, and pruned. Special thanks to Rob Castleberry for cutting down and bucking a dead madrone tree. We now have fresh firewood. Members: Charles Ashmore, Rob Castleberry, David Cooper, Kay Coots, Brenda Kameenui, Jane Leng, Doug Nelson, Jim Northrop, Maryanne Reiter, Nancy Whitfield, Sue Zeni.

Food For Lane County Walk—

Friday, December 16, 9:00 AM

SIGN UP ONLINE TO JOIN THE OBSIDIANS AT GATE F on the south side of the Lane County Fairgrounds to walk to the new Food for Lane County Distribution Center at 2345 Broadway for a tour with their director Tom Mulhern and to deliver our lightweight checks or cash. Then we will head back to the Fern Ridge bike path for a spirited saunter. Another option to promote our theme—*Carrying Each Other by Feeding Others*—is to donate online, possibly with a tribute card for the holiday season at: foodforlanecounty.org/donate. And don't forget the Letter Carrier's Food Drive is November 19. If questions, email Janet Jacobsen at jbjacobsen@comcast.net.



Is Summer Camp For Me?

Sue Wolling

PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN TO PAST SUMMER CAMPS are already eager to sign up for the 2023 Camp in the Sawtooths. But if you've never been to Camp, the idea of camping, hiking, eating, and living with 80-90 Obsidians might seem a little much. Common concerns that newbies have include:

I Don't Want to Camp With 90 Other People!

You are not alone in valuing time alone! There are a lot of people at Summer Camp, but we'll be camping in a very large area—so you can choose a site close to your friends, or off more by yourself, as you choose. The hikes will be similar to Obsidian hikes at home, with not more than 12 people in a group, and usually fewer. Beyond that, the Obsidians believe in Adultery—i.e., you are an adult, and you can make your own choices! If you want to skip the evening campfire and have some alone time, you can do that. If you want to take a day off from hiking, you can spend a quiet day in camp reading, or take a stroll along the river, or birdwatch, or find a secluded fishing hole. It's up to you.

What About Food?

I have yet to meet an Obsidian who doesn't care about food! One of the best parts of a beautiful hike is the tasty dinner you feel entitled to eat afterwards. The Summer Camp Committee hires a caterer who can provide the healthy and satisfying dinners Obsidians have come to expect. Vegetarian options are always available. For breakfast and lunch, we typically keep things quick and simple. Breakfast includes hot coffee, tea, or chocolate, followed by oatmeal and cold cereal, yogurt, fruit and hardboiled eggs. You'll pack your own lunch for the day, choosing from a variety of breads, meats, cheeses, tofu pate, tuna salad, and PB&J, topped off with lettuce, onion, peppers, pickles and condiments, and then adding in veggies, chips, cookies and gorp. Losing weight at Summer Camp is almost unheard of!

I Really Need a Shower After Hiking!

Cleanliness is next to Thank Godli-ness! After a long hike in the mountains, there's nothing like a hot shower to make you feel human again—and the Obsidians have your back (you'll have to take care of other parts of your body yourself). Chat with your friends while luxuriating in the hot water of your solar shower (supplemented as needed by a propane water heater), in the shower/changing rooms specially designed and built by longtime-Obsidian Bea Fontana. Bath time hasn't been so much fun since you shared it with Mom and your rubber ducky!

You'll receive a camp booklet that addresses most of the questions you may have, and you can always ask the Summer Camp Committee or other Obsidians for more information. If a week of hiking in some of the most beautiful country in the U.S. sounds good, please sign up for Summer Camp! Watch your *Bulletin* for registration information.



*Alice Lake in the Sawtooth Mountains.
Photo by Steve Johnson.*

OBSIDIAN CALENDAR

November

8 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M** Young 941-780-4156
9 Wed Amazon/Spencer Butte Hike **M** Clifford 915-5434
11 Fri Veterans Day Hike **E** Smith 520-488-9569
12 Sat Downtown Riverfront Park WrkPrty **E**..... Sojak 799-9199
12 Sat Get Acquainted/Ribbon Trail Hike **E**..... van Winkle 485-7416
12 Sat South Santiam Combo Hike **M**..... Carpenter 505-2370
13 Sun Honoring Veterans Ride Bike **E** Hughes 579-3098
15 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M** Young 941-780-4156
16 Wed Amazon/Spencer Butte Hike **M**..... Rubenstein 248-514-5092
16 Wed Dierdre Wolownick Honnold **Talk**..... Reiter 521-8472
18 Fri Pisgah East Side Loop Hike **M**..... Hawkins 505-0119
18 Fri November Potluck Marci Hansen
20 Sun Larison Rock (8th Annual) Hike **D**..... Smith 520-488-9569
22 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M** Young 941-780-4156
23 Wed Mt Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike **M**..... Jacobsen 206-1251
23 Wed Amazon/Spencer Butte Hike **M**..... Smith 520-488-9569
25 Fri Turkey Trimming Hike **M** Lindstrom 683-1409

26 Sat Trail Maintenance Stewardship **M**..... Bell 503-884-8829
29 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M**. Young 941-780-4156
30 Wed Amazon/Spencer Butte Hike **M**..... Miller 808-282-5201

December

1 Thu Holiday Night/Oregon Outdoors Art **E** Jacobsen 206-1251
7 Wed Amazon/Spencer Butte Hike **M**..... Rolfe 206-9501
14 Wed Amazon/Spencer Butte Hike **M**..... Rubenstein 248-514-5092
16 Fri Food for Lane County Hike **E**..... Jacobsen 206-1251
21 Wed Mt Pisgah Winter Solstice Hike **M**..... Jacobsen 206-1251
21 Wed Amazon/Spencer Butte Hike **M**..... Smith 520-488-9569
28 Wed Amazon/Spencer Butte Hike **M**..... McKee 554-1364

January

4 Wed Amazon/Spencer Butte Hike **M** Miller 808-282-5201
11 Wed Amazon/Spencer Butte Hike **M**..... Cooper 868-5427
18 Wed Amazon/Spencer Butte Hike **M**..... Jacobsen 206-1251

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



Friday, November 18, 2022, 6:30 PM



Canyon Hikes in Utah and Arizona

Presented by Marci Hansen

IN MAY, MARCI HANSEN AND BRIAN LARSON DROVE THEIR VAN TO THE BORDER OF UTAH AND ARIZONA to hike a couple of canyons. They had so much fun with the first ones, they ended up doing 10 canyons in 10 days.

You will see maps, videos, and photos, and will hear stories on how they did it. You'll also learn their recommendations for your trip to the area. The canyons include *The Wave* and Buckskin Gulch, plus canyons they accessed by speed boat on the shores of Lake Powell and canyons they backpacked into.

Potluck
Friday, November 18, 2022
Obsidian Lodge
Potluck 6:30 PM, Program 7:30 PM

Bring your favorite potluck dish to share along with your own plates, utensils and cups to be washed at home.



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LAST ISSUE!



Nov/Dec 2022



*Beautiful specimens of genus *Armillaria*, the world's largest fungi.
See the South Fork Alsea River trip report on page 11.
Photo by Darko Sojak.*

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