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Dates to Remember

Apr 17	Raptor Ctr Open House
Apr 19	Sense of Place
Apr 21	Flat Tire Clinic
Apr 22	Potluck – Biking Cuba
Apr 23	Goodman Cr Trail Maint
May 4	Board Meeting
May 15	Ewart's Open House
May 25	CPR Class

Detailed trip schedules at:
www.obsidians.org or
 Register-Guard - Sports - Thursday

Please Help

To donate to the lodge renovation campaign or to volunteer time, see the flyer insert.

The Online Bulletin

A color version of The Obsidian Bulletin is available online at:
www.obsidians.org/bulletin

Members Respond Generously To Lodge Renovation Campaign

THE CAMPAIGN to raise funds for renovation of the Obsidian Lodge got off to a flying start in March with the appointment of a Lodge Funding Committee, face-to-face meetings with many prospective donors and their families and the mailing out of “Share Our Vision” brochures and appeal letters to the membership at large.

Early response has been almost universally positive and initial contributions have been “generous and very encouraging,” says Obsidian President John Jacobsen. “Our members are very aware of and appreciate the key role the lodge plays in our history, our organizational identity and, of course, our present and future activities.”

As reported in last month’s Bulletin, replacing the lodge entry – razed to remove the risks caused by dry rot – also offered the opportunity to make restrooms and walkways accessible to the disabled; improve the lodge’s heating, insulation and lighting; repair the climbing wall; and do a variety of other needed maintenance repairs.



Share the Vision. Architect's rendering of the lodge after Phase III completion, sometime in the future.

Need to Raise \$50,000

PROCEEDING WITH PHASE I of a master plan for lodge development, the club needs to raise about \$50,000 to augment funds available from current Obsidian resources.

Sharon Ritchie and Ed Lichtenstein were named to co-chair a Lodge Funding Committee. Members of the committee include Rick Ahrens, Jane Hackett, Jan Jacobsen, Vi Johnson, Marshall Kandell, Gary Kirk, John and Lisa Manotti, and Chris Shuraleff. The committee met on March 15th to discuss the overall project, campaign strategies and materials and assign individual campaign tasks and responsibilities.

John Jacobsen chairs the Construction Committee, which includes Rob Castleberry, Jim Duncan, Brian Hamilton, Kathy Hoeg, Bill Johnson, Ken Kodama, Doug Nelson and Susan Sullivan.

Membership Changes

Reinstated Members

RONALD FUNKE (Active)

2595 Charnelton Street
Eugene, OR 97405
302-4993

rfunke@efn.org

Ron is rejoining after a 29-year gap in membership! He was a member from 1963 to 1966, has climbed all 10 peaks ("many times") and led a few climbs during his first time around as an Obsidian. "Rejoining an organization after this many years has got to be unusual. But then I went back to college after 25 years," he says.

LUCILE PETERSON (Active)

1129 Risdan Place
Eugene, OR 97404
461-4691

SUZANNE STEUSSY (Active)

2405 Mission Street
Eugene, OR 97403
302-4994

suzanne.steussy@yahoo.com

Directory Changes

MARY D'AVERSA

P.O. Box 2751
Cody, WY 82414-2751

YUAN HOPKINS

1313 Lincoln #1101
Eugene, OR 97401

LARRY HUFF

4280 Daisy Street
Springfield, OR 97478-7520

LANA LINDSTROM

lane.lindstrom@hotmail.com

DOROTHY SCHERER

Sheldon Park
2440 Willakenzie #138
Eugene, OR 97401
344-1227

MARTHA WELCHES

P.O. Box 1928
Eugene, OR 97440-1928

April 2005 - Membership Statistics

Active	454
Associate	37
Honorary	3
Junior	18
Life	<u>25</u>
TOTAL	537

Paula Vehrs

A MEMORIAL MASS was celebrated last month for Paula Vehrs, who died March 18 of age-related causes at the age of 95.

A life member of the Obsidians, Paula took her first trip with the club in 1962; and her last bus trip (to Kahneeta) in June 1999. Altogether, she did 380 activities with the club, most of which were hikes.

Paula was born Aug. 13, 1909, to George and Karoline Jordan Wisent in Munich, Germany, where she attended school. She married George R. Vehrs in Anaheim, CA, in 1944. He died in 1958.

She was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church and a volunteer at Sacred Heart Medical Center for more than 25 years. She enjoyed hiking, the outdoors, traveling and gardening.

Leo Garrity

CONDOLENCES to Gisele Garrity, whose husband Leo died March 12 of cancer. A celebration of life was held March 16 in Gerlinger Lounge at the U of O. He was 72.

American Music Society Honors Obsidian

CONGRATULATIONS TO Anne Dhu McLucas, who has been awarded the Society for American Music's distinguished service citation for 2005. A music historian and ethnomusicologist, Anne is the former dean and currently teaches at the University of Oregon School of Music.

Anne's musical and scholarly interests include 18th century musical theater, contemporary popular music, British-American folksong, music for 19th century melodrama and the music of Mescalero Apache rituals.

Back now as a leader and participant in Obsidian hikes, Anne recently spent a year on a Fulbright scholarship in Scotland.

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322
Eugene, OR 97440
Website: www.obsidians.org

Board of Directors

President - John Jacobsen
Vice President - Wayne Deeter
Secretary - Jim Duncan
Treasurer - Sheila Ward
Mary Croson Sandra Larsen
John Pegg Steve Schriver
Susan Sullivan

Board meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month, except August, at the Obsidian Lodge.

Committee Chairpersons

By-Ways By Bus Liz Reanier
Climbs Sue Sullivan
Concessions Laurie Funkhouser
Conservation Doug Nelson
Entertainment Kathy Hoeg
Extended Trips Lana Lindstrom
Finance Ken Kodama
Lodge Building Rob Castleberry
Lodge Grounds Max Brown
Librarian/Historian Lenore McManigal
Membership Sharon Ritchie
Online Wayne Deeter
Publications Marshall Kandell
Publicity Mary Croson
Safety John Pegg
Science & Education Rick Ahrens
Summer Camp Jim Duncan
Summer Trips Sandra Larsen
Trail Maintenance Peter Asai
Winter Trips Bill Johnson
Youth Andy Jobanek

The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

Published monthly, except August. Articles, story ideas, letters to the editor and other editorial submissions may be emailed to:

bulletin@obsidians.org

Although email is preferred, submissions can also be sent to:

The Obsidian Bulletin
P.O. Box 51424, Eugene, OR 97405

**Deadline
for May Bulletin
Sunday, May 1st**

Editorial Team

Marshall Kandell, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Beth Kodama,

Assembly/Mailing Team

For March Bulletin
Dody Leppmann, Yuan Hopkins, Ray Jensen, Lenore and John McManigal, Vera Woolley, Rose Marie Moffitt (Crew Chief) and Marshall Kandell

COMING THIS MONTH: "The Handsomest Man in Cuba"

WITH CUBA STILL OFF LIMITS to Americans and fines for popping across the Florida Straits approaching the price of a small mortgage, many travelers have given up on visiting this controversial Caribbean isle. Luckily, you can see it through the eyes of adventurous Chinese-Aussie cyclist Lynette Chiang at this month's potluck on Friday, April 22, at the Obsidian Lodge.

In 1997, Lynette left her "nice house, bloke, job and fastish car" to travel the world on a bicycle. After living and traveling in England, Ireland, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama and Cuba, Lynette landed (temporarily, we suspect) in Eugene. She's now "Customer Evangelist" (i.e., part of the marketing team) for Bike Friday, makers of fold-up-and-stick-in-a-suitcase bicycles like the one she did all her traveling on.

LYNETTE'S SLIDE SHOW is based on her book, "The Handsomest Man in Cuba" -- an "apolitical, no-bucket-



baths-spared tale of what it's like to eat, drink and be cautiously merry among ordinary and not-so-ordinary Cubans." Traveling to Cuba is not a problem for Americans, she says -- and she'll tell us how to do it. She'll also bring the folding bike that takes her wherever she wants to go.

Join us on April 22 for a lively, unusual program. In the meantime, for more information on Lynette's adventures: <http://www.galfromdownunder.com>.

Dinner, 6:30 p.m.; **program**, 7:30. Bring your own plate, cup, utensils and a dish to share. Limited Parking. **Fee to cover utilities, etc.: \$1 per person.**

POTLUCKS

MARCH REVIEW

Lana and Richard Tour Cyprus, Middle East

By Ann Hollander

IN MARCH 2004, when the U.S. was fighting in Iraq and Americans were not the most beloved people in the world (especially in Europe and the Middle East), a couple of courageous Obsidians -- Lana Lindstrom and Richard Hughes -- answered the call of adventure, warm weather and the chance to explore two different cultures on one small island in the eastern Mediterranean Ocean.

Their destination? Cyprus. An island about the size of New Jersey with a population of about 800,000. An island divided between Greek and Turkish occupied territories. And the focal point of Lana and Richard's presentation at the March potluck.

Its strategic location has always brought occupiers to Cyprus...Romans, Turks, Greeks. The most recent split between north and south was precipitated by an attempt in 1974 to assassinate Archbishop Makarios, Cyprus ruler. Consequently, the Turks staged a coup and occupied the north part of the island. The Greek portion is independent and a member of the European Community, while the rest is considered occupied by Turkey.

LANA AND RICHARD flew into Larnica, on the Greek side, and made excursions along the coast to architectural ruins, small villages and mountains, as well as day trips to

the Turkish area. Their slides reflected marvelous images showing architectural influences from Europe and the Middle East. An interesting example of cultural mixes was the beautiful Selimiye Mosque on the Turkish side that had formerly been a cathedral. The high white arched ceilings were breathtaking.

Potluckers were delighted to see Richard lying in a catacomb in the Tomb of the Kings, a series of underground tombs built for wealthy people in the 1500s. He looked quite comfortable!

There were photos of classic bazaars where vendors sold everything from live poultry to beautiful cloth.

THE BEST PART OF THE TRIP was the people, who were very welcoming. Even after finding out they were Americans, people were still friendly, curious and even sympathetic. While watching a Greek Independence Day parade, a non-English-speaking man next to them persisted in trying to communicate by repeating Greek words until he was finally understood to be saying, "sorry" and "twins, twins," referring to the Twin Towers.

Renting a car to explore the coastal areas and surrounding hills, they found the sea clear and blue, but totally fished out. Men still stand together on the docks dressed in their best suits and fish together...but it is a social event.

In small towns, just about every building has solar tanks for heating water. A slide showed a town's roofs and solar tanks -- all white except for an enormous red tower with the ubiquitous Coca Cola logo. Their coastal excursion

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BOARD NOTES

Special Board Meeting March 10, 2005

President John Jacobsen called the meeting to order. Other board members present were Wayne Deeter (vice-president), Sandra Larsen, Steve Schriver, John Pegg, Sheila Ward (treasurer) and Jim Duncan (secretary). Also present were Sharon Ritchie and Doug Nelson.

New Business

John explained the special meeting was necessary to consider proposals from the ad hoc Lodge Construction Committee for renovation and expansion of the lodge. He noted the construction proposal represents the biggest monetary issue the board has faced; and described the master plan costs. Phase 1 includes replacement and expansion of the entryway; construction of ADA-prescribed parking, walkway and rest rooms; and various improvements such as insulation, new heating, floor covering, lighting, etc. Cost of Phase 1 (including 20% contingency) is \$121,500. The funds available for renovation are estimated to be \$75,000 [\$160,000 total funds less \$65,000 (Endowment Fund) and less \$20,000 (working reserves)]. Consequently, it would be necessary to raise \$46,500 to fully fund Phase 1. The board reviewed the construction drawings and plans. Sheila pointed out that total Obsidians funds as of January 1, 2005, were \$156,000, rather than \$160,000. Consequently, a more accurate estimate of funds available would be \$71,000. Options for making up the \$4,000 difference were discussed. Previous efforts at fundraising (on a smaller scale) were described.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the described renovations and improvements to the lodge for a cost of \$121,000, using \$71,000 from club reserves with the remaining amount (\$50,000) to be obtained by a fundraising campaign. The motion passed 6 – 0.

A motion to form a fundraising committee, co-chaired by Sharon Ritchie and Ed Lichtenstein, was made and seconded. The motion passed 6 – 0.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the following members of the ad hoc committee: Rick Ahrens, Jane Hackett, Janet and John Jacobsen, Vi Johnson, Marshall Kandell, Gary Kirk, Lisa and John Manotti, and Chris Shuraleff.

The meeting adjourned on a note of enthusiasm for the renovation/construction plans and optimism for the club's fundraising efforts.

April 6, 2005

President called meeting to order. Board members present: Wayne Deeter (vice-president), Mary Croson, Sandra Larsen, Susan Sullivan, Sheila Ward (treasurer), Jim Duncan (secretary.) Also present: Kathy and Stewart Hoeg, Liz Reanier, Ken Kodama, Bill Johnson, Max Brown, Laurie Funkhouser, Andy Jobanek, Marshall Kandell, Doug Nelson, Lana Lindstrom, Brian Hamilton, Lenore and John McManigal, Ed Lichtenstein, Bob Huntley.

Minutes of Mar. 2 board meeting and Mar. 10 special board meeting approved.

Treasurer's Report (Sheila Ward): Report for March distributed. CD at Umpqua Bank (\$16,414.64) matured on 03/28/05 and was renewed for three months at 2% interest. Following bills were approved for payment: EWEB, \$202.83; Publications, \$100 bulk mail and \$364 Insta-Print; Sharon Ritchie (construction fundraising postage), \$333; Lana Lindstrom (extended trips), \$702.80; Sec. of State (Corp. Division fee), \$50; Hallis LLC (tax preparation), \$525; US Bank for US Treasury (2004 taxes), \$152; OR Dept. Revenue (2004 taxes), \$67; Sheila Ward (administrative expenses), \$8.32; John Jacobsen (lodge construction), \$202.16; Fed. Western Outdoor Clubs (dues), \$50; Sandra Larsen (summer trips), \$158.95; Sharon Duncan (entertainment supplies), \$27.45.

Old Business

Lodge Construction Committee: Brian reported the committee met 8 times (!) since last board meeting and decided to proceed with a modified design-build process. After interviewing three contracting firms, the committee selected McKenzie Commercial General Contractors to carry out the construction and renovation. A subcommittee chaired by Sharon Ritchie and Ed Lichtenstein to raise funds for the construction was approved by the board on March 10. A second subcommittee chaired by Lana Lindstrom and Joella Ewing will work with the contractor to coordinate volunteer efforts during the construction phase. Estimates are for completion of the drawings by May 1, completion of the permit review by June 1, with construction to begin shortly thereafter.

Trip Leader Awards: Tabled to the next board meeting.

Annual Meeting: Doug Nelson distributed proposed changes in the language of the by-laws which would require that most club committees report on their activities at the annual meeting and submit an annual summary report at the January board meeting. After discussion it was agreed to table the vote on these changes to the next Board meeting.

Board Meeting Improvements: John indicated that committee reports at board meetings will continue as usual unless a more detailed report is planned for the upcoming Bulletin.

New Business

FWOC Survey: Doug described a survey received from the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs requesting suggestions and priorities for discussion at the next FWOC annual meeting which will be held in August. A few items of potential interest were mentioned including insurance/waiver forms, family programs, and recruiting new leaders for summer trips. Doug will complete and return the survey.

Nominating Committee: John pointed out that it was time to appoint a nominating committee to select three nominees for the board beginning in 2006. The board approved the following committee members: Lana Lindstrom, Bill Johnson, George Hermach, Shirley Cameron, Lenore McManigal, Sharon Ritchie and Jan Jacobsen. Wayne agreed to contact these individuals to

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On the Road With Effie Neth

TALK ABOUT ADVENTURE!

How would you like to put your life on hold, leave your job, home and friends; and set out to explore the country? That's exactly what Effie Neth did last June. She rented out her house to finance the trip, budgeted \$700 a month and left, pulling her tiny camp trailer, on a two-year adventure. (Now you know why she hasn't been leading any trips lately.) We just caught up with her (by email) and here's the first installment of "Travels with Effie," in her own words.

IT'S LATE FEBRUARY and I'm just outside the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in southeast Georgia -- 396,000 acres of swampland and one of the best preserved freshwater areas in the U.S. Lana Lindstrom will be here in March. We're going to explore Savannah for a few days and then go camping and canoeing. I'll turn 59 while camped on a platform in the swamp -- a great way to celebrate!

Since leaving home, I've traveled 12,000 miles, on a circuitous route: North Dakota, the Black Hills, western Colorado (where I visited a college roommate for a month), Nebraska (to visit family), Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky, then south to Georgia. My pattern is several days or weeks of fairly steady travel (with stops at points of interest) followed by a one or two month stay someplace so I can explore that area in depth. During the long stays I do volunteer work in exchange for a free campsite. So far, I've done four volunteer gigs.

AT THE BLACK HILLS Wild Horse Sanctuary, I drove a feed truck to open pasture and dropped oats each morning for two wild horse herds totaling about 100 horses. I was "priming" the field for the busloads of tourists who come to see the horses. My favorite part was visiting the upper part of this 11,000-acre sanctuary to see the 300 or more truly wild horses who take care of themselves and are left undisturbed.

Next was the New Opportunity School for Women in Berea, KY, where I helped out with newsletter mailings for a couple of days. This nonprofit gives a three-week training session free of charge for low-income, older Appalachian women who need to return to the workforce. It's a wonderful program, and I enjoyed going to a couple of community outreach programs and meeting women who had been through the training. Berea College, which has provided tuition-free education to low-income Appalachians since its founding in the mid 1800s, provides the context for the school.

At Habitat for Humanity International Headquarters in Americus, GA, I worked in the global village, which has models of the houses Habitat builds overseas, so visitors



Effie at the Wild Horse Sanctuary

can see how a Habitat-built house in, say, Kenya, looks. I did maintenance on the model houses -- sanding and repainting window frames, etc. -- and helped put siding on a local house. I even got my picture taken with Jimmy and Roselyn Carter at their church in Plains, GA.

MY LAST GIG, just finished, was at Okefenokee Pastimes, GA, a canoe outfitter with cabin and camping rentals, at the east entrance to the wildlife refuge. The highlight here has been canoeing in the swamp and getting a close-up view of numerous sandhill cranes, which migrate here for the winter.

A few places stand out along the way: the Black Hills, rich in natural beauty, history, things to see and do; the northwest panhandle of Nebraska with many archeology sites and the excellent Fur Trader Museum in



The Carters and Effie

Chadron; and Hannibal, MO, where fiction comes to life and Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer seem like real people.

I've come to appreciate some special people: Theodore Roosevelt for his vision of preserving our wild spaces and animals at a time when both were still abundant. May we hang onto what is left! And Franklin D. Roosevelt for the CCC and all the great work they did that we still benefit from today. And Jimmy Carter for his compassion, energy and sincerity.

I sometimes miss the western states -- their varied beauty, spaciousness and less dense population; natural food stores in Eugene and PC Market; the Oprah Winfrey show; friends and hiking buddies....

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“Proper” Hiking Attire – Form, Fashion or Folly?

By Marshall Jay Kandell

IGNORANCE MUST SURELY BE BLISS. How else can I explain surviving the first 60+ years of my life without a clue about “proper hiking attire?” I thought all you needed to hike was a couple of feet.

As an inner city teen, I ran track and cross country and loved to take long walks (although I didn’t know then I was engaging in “urban hikes”). On my feet were sweat socks and sneakers (in California they became “tennis shoes”). In basic training they took us on a hike called a “forced night march.” In fatigues and brogans, the hike wasn’t that much more strenuous than some Obsidian outings (although none of the summer hikes scheduled so far include gas mask drills).

Then there were all those camping years with the family and the wonderful ranger-led hikes. All you needed was to show up on time.

JOINING THE OBSIDIANS was a revelation. The hikes were more rigorous and, despite a wardrobe full of clothing, I found myself echoing my wife’s common complaint, “*I have nothing to wear!*”

I knew I needed decent hiking boots and a backpack, but I learned all my cotton clothing (bought because it “breathes”) was an absolute no-no. Reconnaissance trips to REI and McKenzie Outfitters befuddled me with toe-to-scalp clothing options. The price tags convinced me I’d have to take out a new line of credit and mortgage our home to clothe and equip myself properly. And I didn’t even know if I would like hiking that much. How many other athletic clubs, gyms, etc., had I joined and dropped after only a few months? I once took up jogging, but as a resident of Orange County, had to first be sure I was properly attired. After two weeks, I got bored and haven’t jogged since (the jogging suit was really nice, though.)

FURTHER COMPLICATING MATTERS, I was getting older -- a trait I share with other Obsidians. Somewhere along the way, I lost that shock-absorbent spring in my legs. My feet are changing and fussing with arthritis.

Once comfortable shoes are now torture chambers. One scramble across the icy snowfield and up the scree at Canyon Creek Meadows convinced me my days as a mountain goat were over and I needed walking sticks.

How does one find out what is necessary, how to pick it out and how much to pay for it? A lot can be learned from fellow hikers, if you look past their fashions to the functions of what they wear. And you can find lots of information on the Internet.

BEGINNING WITH THIS EDITION, the Bulletin will offer monthly tips and advice on clothing and gear. We will mix expert opinion with our members’ own experiences and counsel. Kristin Hostetter, who writes outdoor columns for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, starts us off this month with an article (see next page) on how to select and care for hiking socks in order to avoid blisters.

But what if you do get a blister on a hike? What do you do? And how do you help it heal quickly so you’re not knocked out of action for weeks or months? This is where we would like the Bulletin to become interactive with our members. Many of you have years and years of experience to share with others. Let the Bulletin be your forum. Tell us, and your fellow Obsidians, what you’ve learned, how you deal with problems (starting with blisters) and share with us the experiences, both good and bad, that brought you such wisdom.

On every trip we pick up a tip or two from a fellow hiker, climber or bicyclist. Wouldn’t it be great if we shared that tip or two with all Obsidians?



Forest Fire Lookouts:

FRISSELL POINT Forest Fire Lookout was built by the Forest Service in 1928, and was gone by 1968. The hike to this lookout site is only about a half-mile long if accessed from Forest Service Road #1506, which runs through the middle of the H. J. Andrews Experimental Forest near Blue River Reservoir.

The trailhead starts just short of the intersection of spur Rd. #625, with #1506, on the right. The trail, which is not marked, appears to have been abandoned and is hard to see in places. Other hiking possibilities in the area include Lookout Mountain to the west about one and one half miles (which probably never did have a lookout building, but may at one time have had a fire finder mounted on a platform in the open). The trailhead isn’t marked, but the trail can be seen from the road. Another good hike, which I’ve never done, would be Lookout Creek Old Growth Trail.



--Curtis R. Irish

Proper Hiking Socks Help Keep Feet Warm, Dry, Blister-free



By Kristin Hostetter
Special to the Seattle Post-Intelligencer

OPEN UP YOUR SOCK DRAWER and take a look. Is it full of scratchy, stretched out ragg-wool tubes with holes in the toes and worn spots in the heels? If the answer is yes, it's time to upgrade. Those old ragg-wool jobs may have walked a million miles with you and seen you through thick and thin, but let's face it: they're dinosaurs.



Kristin Hostetter

Like everything else these days, even socks have become high-tech. And for us hikers, who depend so desperately on our feet, that's a darn -- pun intended -- good thing. Socks provide a number of key functions to make your feet happier and healthier: They provide cushioning, wick sweat away from your foot, keep your little piggies warm, fine-tune your boot fit and reduce friction inside your boot.

There are a number of factors to consider when buying socks. First, there's the material. Should you go with wool or a synthetic material, such as acrylic, Coolmax, Thermax or some other type of polyester?

WELL, THE SHORT ANSWER is this: Go with wool if your feet get cold easily. Wool has the best insulating ability, yet it still wicks sweat away from your feet effectively. Look for socks labeled "merino" wool, which has softer, finer fibers than regular wool. If your feet are on the sweaty side, a synthetic sock is the way to go. Synthetics do a better, faster job of wicking away that sweat.

Next check out the density of the fabric, whether it be wool or synthetic. The rule of toe is the denser the better. Turn the sock inside out and inspect all those little fabric loops. The smaller and tighter and more dense they are, the more cushioning that sock will have over the long haul. Big airy loops might seem like they have the most "cush" at first, but over time and miles, those loops will lie down on the job.

Also, check out the thickness of the socks and try them on with your hiking boots. Thicker socks are best for people with lower-volume feet, because they take up some of that extra room in the boot and prevent your foot from sliding around. You may even want different thicknesses for different boots, depending on how they fit.

OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER: Construction and fit. Look for flat, unobtrusive seams that won't gouge into tender, trail-worn feet. A healthy dose of elastic is a good

thing, too, because it will prevent your sock from bagging or slipping. As for fit, a sock should be a bit snug, but not so tight that it feels constricting. As you pull the sock on, make sure your heel fits neatly in the heel pocket. Then check to see if it's smooth and snug around the toe. Even the slightest bit of bagginess means you should go down a size.

Once you've made your pick and forked over all that cash, take care of your new socks. Here are a few tips:

- Always wash them inside out to remove dead skin and sweat buildup where it counts.
- Use a liquid fabric softener during the wash cycle, but use it sparingly! Too much can result in a slick, oily feeling; but just the right amount will keep your socks soft and cozy.
- Remove them from your household dryer before they're totally dry. Hang them up and let Mother Nature finish the job.
- Never dry your socks in commercial dryers -- they're way too hot and can shrink or damage the fibers.

An outdoors writer for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Kristin was Backpacker Magazine's gear editor for seven years and continues to serve as "Answer Chick," responding to reader inquiries. See:

<http://backpacker.com/experts/expert/0,6794,13,00.html>

Her new book, "Don't Forget the Duct Tape: Tips and Tricks for Repairing Outdoor Gear," is available at <http://www.mountaineersbooks.org>. A resident of Portland, Kristin spends most of her time in the outdoors testing gear. She has generously allowed Obsidian Bulletin to reprint her Seattle P-I articles.

Web Sightings

www.backpacker.com

BACKPACKER MAGAZINE offers a free online membership with monthly newsletter and lots of good information. Some of the best and most detailed material we've seen deals with outdoor clothing and gear. The sections on selecting boots and socks are particularly good. A fascinating feature is an interactive questionnaire you can fill out about your feet to learn what you should look for when buying boots.

Lana and Richard Tour

Continued from Page 3

also included visits to ruins from the 13th century, BC; attending Easter services at a Greek Orthodox church; and a visit to a monastery gilded with gold. They kayaked in the Mediterranean, hiked the rocky hills and walked in the snow on Mount Olympus.

FOLLOWING CYPRUS, Lana and Richard visited Egypt, Syria and Lebanon. They were awestruck by their journey into a pyramid, after which they were pursued by a man on horseback who didn't think he'd been paid enough for his photograph. Slides took us to the Sphinx and Suez Canal.

In Lebanon, they visited Byblos, reportedly the oldest inhabited town in the world, and Beirut, where they were welcomed by the locals. And in Homs, Syria, they were

struck by the warmth of the people, who made sure they didn't leave town without tea and pastry.

Apart from the beautiful slides and the tales of adventure, this was a trip talk that imparted knowledge and an understanding of some of the cultural and political history of these complex and ancient parts of the world.

"People are the same all over the world," noted Lana afterwards. "The more we see other cultures, the more we realize this. That is the great value of traveling."

"Having the interactions with people gave me the true feeling of the country...I could see the real spirit of the country and the people, not just what our governments (ours and theirs) tell us," added Richard.

A valuable trip. Thank you, Lana and Richard.

Board Notes

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ask them to serve and report to the board at the July meeting.

Committee Reports

Summer Trips (Sandra Larsen): Approximately 35 people attended the Trip Leaders' Meeting on April 5. Reports for seven trips were received in March (57 members, 9 nonmembers, \$90 in fees).

Winter Trips (Bill Johnson): Six trip reports received in March (32 members, 6 nonmembers, \$56 in fees).

Climbs (Sue Sullivan): The annual Climb School is in progress. Packets for climb leaders will be mailed out shortly. A CPR class is scheduled May 25. A first aid class will be presented this summer.

Trails (Peter Asai): Spencer Butte trail maintenance March 20 attended by 8 members. Next Spencer Butte outing April 9. Regular monthly Spencer Butte outings on hold for the summer, to resume in fall. Multi-organization trail maintenance project at Goodman Creek April 23. Committee hopes to generate interest in the National Trails Day trips on June 4. Spencer Butte, Fall Creek two options for that day.

By-Ways by Bus (Liz Reanier): 28 participated in the Snoopin' Around Springfield & Eugene bus trip in March.

Summer Camp (Jim Duncan): Mary Croson added to committee. Board approved.

Extended Trips (Lana Lindstrom): Sunriver trip April 15-19 will have eight (possibly nine) participants. A one-day outing in partnership with the City of Eugene to run the Challenge Course at Spencer Butte being planned for June 26.

Youth (Andy Jobanek): South Sister climb rescheduled from Sept. 3-4 to July 23-24.

Conservation (Doug Nelson): Nothing new to report.

Publications (Marshall Kandell): 500 copies of the March Bulletin were printed (\$364) and 460 mailed (\$104.83) for a total cost of \$468.83. Marshall reminded everyone to keep the Bulletin deadline in mind.

Entertainment (Kathy Hoeg): Lana Lindstrom and Richard Hughes presented at the Feb. potluck (46 for dinner, 58 for the presentation, \$51 in fees collected).

Science/Education (Rick Ahrens): No report.

Membership (Sharon Ritchie): Three applications for reinstatement received. Total membership is 537.

Publicity (Mary Croson): Story in Springfield News featured the Obsidians prominently.

Concessions (Laurie Funkhouser): Nothing new to report.

Online (Wayne Deeter): Trip reports through 1974 now on line. Images of Bulletins are available from 1974 to 1980. John, with help from Gary Kirk, has obtained permission from the Register Guard for us to publish stories about Obsidians on our web site.

Finance (Ken Kodama): Ken noted Sheila had done an outstanding job in creating a short-term ladder of maturing CDs which became necessary due to the lodge construction process. We will have CDs maturing every month (except July) between April and September. A decision on possible reinvestment of the CD maturing in April will be made after assessing payment deadlines for construction.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): All trips records have been added to the activity sheets. Trip leader awards will be forthcoming. Lodge scheduled for use on 5 dates in April.

Lodge Buildings (Rob Castleberry): No report

Lodge Grounds (Max Brown): Nothing new at this time.

Safety (John Pegg): John working with Sue on first aid classes to be offered to Obsidians and Eugene Mountain Rescue.

Meeting adjourned, 7:10 p.m.

Next board meeting Wed., May 4, 2005, at 6 p.m.

\$\$ GOT GAS? \$\$

With rising gas prices, several members asked about increasing the 5 cents per mile car pool rate. Please contact Janet Jacobsen at 343-8030 or jbjacobsen@aol.com with your ideas before we take this to the board for discussion.

Oregon's Best Wildflower Hikes

By Janet Jacobsen

WITH SUCH AN EARLY SPRING and so little snow in the mountains, it is hard to determine when the peak dates of the wildflower season will be for hikes this year. On a hike to Deception Butte on March 10th, there already were trilliums and other wildflowers in bloom. Many of the wildflower hikes recommended by George Wuerthner in his book *Oregon's Best Wildflower Hikes, Northwest Region* are on our schedule, although not all during their peak bloom seasons.

Here are the dates of some of these hikes, followed in italics by their wildflower blooming seasons:

- Sweet Creek Falls:** April 17 & 30, May 28 (*March to June, peak in May*)
Dog Mountain: June 11 (*May to July, peak in June*)
Tire Mountain: June 11 & 26, Aug. 28, Sept. 10 (*May to July, peak in June*)
Cone Peak: June 17 (*June to August, peak in July*)
Crescent Mountain: June 19 (*June to August, peak in July*)
Patterson Mt. / Lone Wolf Shelter: June 22 (*May to August, peak in late June*)
Iron Mountain: June 25 (*June to August, peak in July*)
Tidbits Mountain: June 29, Sept. 17 (*May to August, peak in July*)
Canyon Creek Meadows: July 10, Aug. 14 (*July to August, peak in July*)
Lowder Mountain: July 20 & 23 (*May to August, peak in July*)
Mary's Peak Loop: Aug. 13 (*May to August, peak in July*)
North Bank Deer Preserve: Oct. 9 (*March to July, peak in April/May*)

Browder Ridge, Proxy Falls Loop, Cape Lookout, Erma Bell Lakes and Castle Rock are popular wildflower hikes not yet on our schedule, although it isn't too late for someone to volunteer to add them to the schedule.

In the Eugene area, Wuerthner recommends Meadow Road/Water Garden Trail at Mt. Pisgah Arboretum, the West Summit Trail up to Mt. Pisgah and the Willow Creek Preserve. Dave Predeek will be leading a hike on native plants in the Buford Park area on April 21st. And then there is also the April 23rd Obsidian bus trip to the popular Glide Wildflower Show.

Wuerthner – an ecologist, writer and photographer – is the author of 24 books. The accompanying wildflower art is by Beki Ries-Montgomery, an Obsidian who hikes with her watercolors and sketch book. Her husband, Bill Montgomery, is a former club president.

The Emerald Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon website is another source of wildflower hike information. See www.emeraldnpso.org.



Calypso Orchid
Watercolor by
Beki Ries-Montgomery

On the Road with Effie Neth

Continued from Page 5



Effie in the Black Hills

LIFE ON THE ROAD in my little A-liner pop-up trailer is working very well for me. I'm not sick of the tiny space yet and I've slept in it every night except three since I left home. I stay in Wal-Mart parking lots and rest stops when I'm on the move; I use earplugs to block out the noise and sleep just fine. I listen to my intuition and gut and have so far felt safe. Traveling alone isn't lonely -- I manage to meet lots of people and folks from all walks of life are doing the volunteer thing in one variation or another, especially retirees. I'm not retired -- I just decided to quit my job and make this journey while I am still healthy and able to. I have no regrets. I left home to see the U.S. Now, I realize I will only see little pieces of it. I'm not sure you could visit all of it in a lifetime....

Well, that's my story, and I'm sticking to it! I'd love to hear from you. Email at en248@isp.com but please don't send photos! -- Effie Neth

Backyard Birding

By Beth Kodama

ONE BALMY SUNDAY afternoon in early March we had an unexpected treat. A pair of chukar partridges dropped in and spent a leisurely couple of hours exploring our backyard in southwest Eugene, churring quietly to each other while we admired them. At first, we scrambled to get a good look, a clear photo and a detailed description engraved on our memory before they flew off, not realizing the pair had settled down to stay until dusk (or later).



They proved to be unfazed by the neighbor's cat, the sound of our backdoor opening and closing, or even the sight of us tiptoeing up to them, camera in hand. When it came to identifying them, our slender bird book let us down, but Anne Bonine came to the rescue and identified the chukars by phone from our description – especially the

distinctive black “blindfold” that wraps around their “ears” and then slants forward to form a necklace enclosing a white face -- and the patches of black and white bars on the sides of an otherwise soft gray body.

CHUKARS DON'T USUALLY live west of the Cascades, we learned, though Rick Ahrens says a very tame one has frequented the top of Spencer's Butte in recent years, and another has been seen near the airport. They were introduced to the western U.S. from Mediterranean Eurasia sometime in the late 1800s, and – I was sorry to read -- have become popular game birds, challenging to hunt and tasty to eat. Maybe the recent dry, sunny weather confused them as much as us, or maybe they've escaped from a breeder -- which would explain why they were so tame. Whatever the reason, we feel blessed by their visit and awed by their quiet beauty.

Note: The Internet is full of info about chukars. <http://kypros.org/Cyprus/chukar.html> describes the bird in one of its native habitats, the Mediterranean island of Cyprus (coincidentally, the subject of this month's potluck review), as well as its role in Greek Cypriot folklore.

Viewing Northwest Scenery through Naturalist Lenses

PERHAPS, LIKE ME, you are one of those people who has lived in Oregon for decades, but hasn't taken the time to really learn about Coos Bay's diverse coastal landscape, the Willamette National Forest's innovative logging practices or Charlton Butte's post-forest fire ecosystem. If so, you might want to peruse Dennis “Whitey” Lueck's (pronounced L00-ek) 2005 Out-of-Doors Field Classes schedule. Lueck, who has been teaching classes to nature enthusiasts in Lane County since 1985, is again offering an array of opportunities for residents to learn about Oregon's richly diverse geography.

In the past, Lueck offered most of his classes though Lane Community College; however, this year, he is operating as a private enterprise and is charging \$40 per class day, including transportation. Personal tents usually serve as accommodations for overnight trips. Participants can bring their own food or pay an additional \$10 per day to have meals provided.

Although his professional titles range from ecologist to horticulturist to native plants landscape consultant, Lueck describes his vocation in this way: “I like to teach, and I like to understand the world around us.”

THROUGH THE LENSES of ecology, natural science and history, Lueck and his students explore the larger northwest terrain. But he offers plenty of options closer to home, too. “There's so much to see in Lane County. Part of my role is to discuss that (fact). I'm a strong believer in ‘What you see today is just a snapshot in time,’” says the native of Pennsylvania's Amish Lancaster County. Lueck says he's always “looking at things fresh” during his classes. “I know and, yet, I don't.”

Describing July's one-day “Forest and Forest Practices of the West Cascades” class, Lueck says he's impressed with the way forest management practices have changed since the '70s, when he was work-

ing on his master's degree in ecology at Oregon State University.

HE DESCRIBES a wilderness space that had become a personal sanctuary for him and how the Forest Service later managed the area. “It was kind of intrusive.” But personal and academic interest in reforestation practices nudged Lueck to follow the whole Forest Service project to its completion. In July, “We'll see stands where recent logging was so sensitively done, and so many trees (are) left. If you explain (in classes) what is going on and why, it gives people hope.”

Lueck's other one-day classes include the “Upper Willamette Valley” in May and “Big Trees of the West Cascades” in June. Others, such as “Mount St. Helens” in July and “Metolius Autumn” in October, span several days. For a brochure or more information, call Whitey at 684-8716.

-- Chris Cunningham

Lodge Renovation Campaign

Continued from Page 1

On March 18th, the two committees jointly mailed appeal letters to the membership. “For nearly 80 years, the Obsidians have maintained a constant love for Oregon’s natural beauty...hiking and maintaining our forest and coastline trails, climbing our magnificent mountains and reaching out to nearby wonders of other states, as well,” began the letter. “Our common interests have resulted in untold memories and lifelong friendships.”

Significant Contributions

THE LETTER RECALLED how a group of Obsidians, motivated by their dedication to the club and exhibiting tremendous generosity of time, labor and resources, gave us the wonderful gift of a lodge. The lodge has served us well for a long time, but age has taken its toll and the organization is once again turning to its members, asking them to join in *“honoring our past by building for our future.”*

“Part of what makes Obsidians what they are,” says Vi Johnson, “is *who* they are – people who work together, whether on a hike, mountain climb, potluck...or lodge repair!”

Judging from the influx of early donations, say John Jacobsen and Sharon Ritchie, there is a lot of member enthusiasm for the project. Several sizable contributions have been made, but they emphasize that it will take every member giving whatever he or she can for the club to reach its funding goals. All gifts, large and small, are vital.

Sweat Equity Appreciated

AND, JUST AS THOSE OBSIDIANS long ago invested

sweat equity into the building of the lodge, so can today’s members contribute their labor. “There are many jobs we members can do that will reduce the cost of the finished product,” says Joella Ewing, who has been appointed, along with Lana Lindstrom, as volunteer coordinators for jobs ranging from painting and finish work to end-of-every-workday clean up.

“Cleaning up may not seem glamorous,” noted Joella, “but it’s a very important job that will save a couple of hours labor costs per day and that can easily add up to thousands of dollars.”

Next month’s Bulletin will include a form members wishing to volunteer their services can fill out and send in. In the meantime, anyone interested can call Lana at 683-1409 or Joella at 344-9197.

A contractor has been hired, says Jacobsen, and all the pieces necessary to start the project are in place. “We’re hoping to start construction in June, with project completion in September still our projection. The schedule will be firmed up during the preconstruction phase over the next two months.”

Among the quotes from past Obsidian presidents in the “Share Our Vision” fundraising brochure was this particularly eloquent one by Doug Nelson:

“Our lives are short, and I see that we have an innate need to leave a mark of our passing on this Earth. Most of us will not build great monuments or cities. Most of us will live quietly and pass on small gifts to those who come after. The Obsidians has meant a great deal to many of us, and this is a chance for us to add to the legacy we have been given, to leave a mark in a small way and to give a gift to those who will follow. Very much in the spirit of the original entry addition.”

Obsidian Lodge That Might Have Been

THE DECEMBER 21, 1936, New Year’s Edition of *The Obsidian* reported board approval of a site “at the base of Deer Butte for the new Obsidian Lodge.”

“The rocky ledge, about three hundred yards above the ski trail, is an ideal location, having full benefit of the sun and a perfect view of the Sisters and surrounding country,” noted the report. “The natural rock garden makes a beautiful front yard, with lovely evergreens in the background....Forest service officials assure the lease of property when plans of construction are submitted.”

SIX MONTHS LATER, however, the top headline in *The Obsidian* (June 1937) read: “All Plans for Obsidian Lodge Rejected by Membership.” The major fly in the ointment was the site’s almost impossible access. “It seems apparent,” said the report, “that it will be at least three or four years before the Willamette and Santiam Passes will be all-year-round roads and perhaps then something could be done about the (Old) McKenzie.”

Even in summer, the members complained about the McKenzie. “Anyone who drove over the pass last summer could not help but be appalled that our state’s most advertised scenic highway was in such deplorable condition.”

Alternative suggestions included locating the lodge closer to Eugene, “where members could go with their families and have picnics and weekend parties, making general social affairs more popular.”

Living as If Nature Mattered

By Pat Bitner

OVER THE PAST 30 DAYS, I attended the 2005 Environmental Lobby Day, Feb. 28, in Salem, and the Public Interest Environmental Law Conference in Eugene early in March. What a stimulus it is to be in the company of so many others, young and old, dedicated to working to preserve as much as we can of this wonderful, beautiful planet -- no matter how great the odds against us appear at this time. The energy and enthusiasm of the young, coupled with the experience and resources of the mature are a great combination.

I drove to Salem, not sure I wouldn't be way, way more "mature" than the rest; great to see there was such a mix of generations. The same was true at the law conference, more varied with its offerings and with the usual eclectic mix of display tables. Here are a few of the issues and impressions I came away with.

BIODIESEL FOR OREGON - Biodiesel is a safer, cleaner burning alternative to petroleum diesel. A home grown renewable fuel from vegetable oil or animal fats, it can be burned undiluted in a diesel engine or blended in any proportion with petroleum diesel. Perhaps you have heard of those adventurous drivers who, owning a diesel-engine car, buy vegetable cooking oil from a local Chinese restaurant and drive away! There are, of course, more conventional methods of obtaining non-petroleum diesel fuel. It can be produced from any type of plant oil or animal fat. Biodiesel can be produced in Oregon, opening a new market for our farm products, as well as new jobs for Oregon workers. Our pollution spewing diesel buses and trucks could be converted easily. Can biodiesel be the wave of the future? Look for more news about this sustainable, non-polluting alternative to Middle East petroleum.

A LINE IN THE SAND: "zero cut" -- This seminar, a part of the law conference, was an impassioned plea by rep-

resentatives of the Native Forest Council, Blue Mountain Biodiversity Project and the Sierra Club for a complete end of cutting in our national forests. No compromise, just stop all logging and let the land attempt to heal itself. Karen Coulter of Blue Mountain, veteran of many years of activism in the forest areas of Eastern Oregon, spoke of victories and losses and of commitment to continue the attempt to stop logging the last remnants of once majestic forests. Giant sequoias "managed" by the U.S. Forest Service! "The fox guarding the hen house," says Martin Litton, Sierra Club and Sequoia Forestkeeper. Litton, founder of Grand Canyon Dories, was instrumental in the fight to prevent the government's plan to dam the Grand Canyon in two more places in the 60's. The government lost, and the canyon seems safe, for the foreseeable future. Martin's mission now is the salvation of what remains of our forests -- and, particularly, the giant sequoias of the Sierras. Those of us who have walked in awe among these giants are, or should be, horrified at the prospect of cutting any sequoia at all.

Most of us probably felt all groves were protected in our national park system. In fact, half are in the care of the Forest Service. Since 1982, the Forest Service has been selling off the Sequoia National Forest, always at a loss. Sequoia Forestkeepers was instrumental in getting Pres. Clinton to establish the Giant Sequoia National Monument of 328,000 acres. Saved? No. The Forest Service is "managing experimentally" with logging increased to include giant sequoias which were supposed to be off-limits. Mr. Litton, 89, and his fellow panelists are passionate advocates for what they see as an increasingly imperiled earth and, certainly, few can disagree. Their position is **No Compromise - Zero Cut**.

(Reprinted from the April issue of "The Quail," Lane County Audubon Society's monthly newsletter)

Pat Bitner is an Obsidian member and conservation committee chairperson for the Lane County Audubon Society.

"Thanks" to Summer Trips Committee

WITH MORE THAN 170 trips (yes, more have been added) and 85 leaders, Summer Trips Committee Chair Sandra Larsen extended a big "Thank You" to the members of the committee. "This is a monumental job of team work and cooperation, requiring a lot of time on the phone and computer," said Sandra, who also reminded club members that they can still add trips to the schedule by sending an email to summertrips@obsidians.org.

Committee members are: Sue Archbald, Rob Castleberry, Mary Croson, Wayne Deeter (website), Joella Ewing, Carolyn & Cork Higgins, Janet Jacobsen, Joanne Ledet, Becky Lipton, Helen Martz, Margaret Prentice, Kathy Riddle, Ruth Romoser, Chris Stockdale, Michelle Tambellini, Marilyn Waff and Jane Hackett (first aid kits).

Sandra also offered special thanks to Wayne Deeter for keeping the website current, John Jacobsen for printing labels and membership lists, Janet Jacobsen for being "Captain" (monitoring trip dates and destinations) and Margaret Prentice for "truly co-chairing with me."

She especially thanked all the leaders who volunteered to make our trip schedule a great one. "This wouldn't happen without all of you."

The Obsidian Gourmet

(Meals on Heels)

GUY STRAHON shares his favorite hiking (or work) snack -- s'mores with peanut butter, made in a microwave oven.

To make them you'll need graham crackers, chocolate chips (semi-sweet or milk chocolate), marshmallows and peanut butter. Break a large graham cracker in half, place the two pieces on a small plate and sprinkle with chocolate chips. Microwave on power 10/high for 30 seconds. Let this rest while you prepare the top. Break another large graham cracker in half and apply a generous amount of peanut butter to each half. Now, microwave the graham cracker with the chocolate chips for another 22 seconds on 10/high to fully melt the chocolate. Next, cut a marshmallow in half and place one piece on each of the two chocolate-covered graham. Microwave the crackers one last time for 13 seconds. It'll look as if the marshmallows are going to explode, but they don't. Pull the plate out of the microwave oven and put the peanut buttered "lids" on top of the melted marshmallows, squishing the marshmallows to spread them out. Place in the freezer for 15 minutes and they'll be just hard enough -- ready to eat right away or to pack in a baggie for a hiking treat.

Do you have a new idea for trail food, a tip about packing food for an outing or a favorite potluck recipe to share? Send it to the Bulletin. You, too, can be a published Obsidian Gourmet author!

WARNING!

Reprinted from The Obsidian, May 1945

THE WAR DEPARTMENT has just released the following information:

"During the past several months, Japanese free balloons are known to have landed or dropped explosives in isolated localities. These balloons are grey, white or greenish blue paper, about 33 feet in diameter. They do not carry enemy personnel; but may be incendiary (*sic*) or explosive. They are dangerous and under no circumstances should one touch or approach one closer than a hundred yards."

We who travel the trails and frequent the forests and high, open uninhabited country should be especially vigilant. Should any be discovered the nearest Ranger or State Police should be notified at once. But no information of locality or time should be spread by printing or writing regarding any specific balloon incident, which might aid the enemy.

Club in the News!

THE OBSIDIANS were prominently featured in a recent Springfield News article on local outdoors activity opportunities by writer Dorothy Velasco. The article can be viewed on our website, along with other "From the Press" features. <http://www.obsidians.org>

Letters to the Editor

Unbearable Memories

Last month's articles about black bears reminded me of something that happened to my husband Ken and me years ago, when we went car camping at a state park in West Virginia. Both of us had camped a lot as kids -- Ken in Hawaii and I in the Adirondacks -- but this was our first camping trip together. In the middle of the night, we were awakened by a series of noisy thuds just outside our tent. Ken's first thought was, some son-of-a-gun is taking our stuff! He leapt out of his sleeping bag, unzipped the tent and stuck one leg out. Luckily, the pouring rain gave him pause, because when he pointed his flashlight toward the picnic table -- about three feet away from the tent -- he saw a black bear sitting next to our open picnic cooler. A second one was staring at us from the woods, only another yard or two away. Oops! He backed into the tent, zipped it up, and slid back into his sleeping bag. We both lay perfectly still, trying not to smell tasty, hoping the bears would be considerate enough to make a noisy departure, so we'd know when they were gone.

In the morning we examined the evidence. Everything was gone but the yogurt. The bears even took the individually wrapped cheese slices. (I've always wondered how they liked the taste of the plastic.) When we went to report the incident to the park office, we found a stack of bright yellow flyers on the counter warning campers to lock all food in their vehicles. But where were they the day before, when we checked in?!

-- Beth Kodama

Two years ago, while on a solo hike to Jump-Off-Joe Lookout Site, on a gated off forest service road, a large brown colored bear and I came nose to nose as we both crested a slight rise in the road, going in opposite directions. I wondered if by hitting him across the snout with my tripod (the only weapon at hand) if it might only make him mad. Mr. Bear solved the problem by flipping around and loping down the road in high gear.

-- Curtis Irish

(Editor's Note: Curtis also sent in a wonderful clipping from a 1909 Daily Eugene Guard, headlined "How Not to Handle a Bear Confrontation," about two axe-wielding "timber cruisers" who took on a huge bear in a hollow log. In today's jargon, it would be rated "R" for gore.)

TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Hikes

Rebel Rock Loop

June 26, 2004

Leader: Ed Lovegren

THIS YEAR'S difficult (some would say "brutal") Rebel Loop hike went flawlessly for a change. Dry, cool weather (if not dry, drowned by wet brush). From the five-mile junction up Rebel Creek, our trail has become a brushy mess for a couple hundred feet. Nice to know where the trail should be. This year, I hit the correct spot to start the uphill cross country part of the hike right on (absolution for last year's mistake). Then, ridge top to Rebel Rock, scramble thru brush to the base for lunch. Great views. Next, a short climb to the top of Rebel Mountain and down (brush) to a rocky outcropping for a great view of Rebel Rock and an incredible volcanic dike. Serious brush thrash from there to the trail. As usual, we stopped at the lookout (heavy brush from the main trail). Every year it shows increased disintegration; sad. I guess by now the cross country section has been well defined by how many times the word "brush" was used! Downhill trail to the welcome cars. A very pleasant day with three very strong and congenial companions. Hikers were: Larry Huff, Ed Lovegren, Craig Renkert and Barry Smith.

North Shasta Loop

February 9, 2005

Leader: Ruth Romoser

FIVE HIKERS parked at Amazon Community Center, walked to Dillard Road via 43rd Street and hiked up North Shasta to Firland and Spring. This is a great uphill hike! One hiker returned to his house

and other hikers crossed 30th via Spring and walked on through Hendricks Park and then down to Market of Choice for lunch. It was a wonderful day for a hike! We walked back to our cars. The whole hike, with lunch, takes about 3½ hours and there's no driving! Participants included Obsidian members Dick Hildreth, Marshall Kandell, Grace Swanson, Ruth Romoser and nonmember Joe Neal.

Gwynn Creek Loop

February 12, 2005

Leader: Sharon Ritchie

TO HIKE OR SKI, ski or hike? That was the question. Made easier by the lack of snow. Gwynn Creek Loop near the visitor center at Devils Churn became the destination. In spite of a drizzly day, the hike was uneventful, but really beautiful. The old growth trees were incredible and the mosses on the forest floor were an intense, bright green. We stopped at Devils Churn. Suzanne talked about going there as a child when there were no guide rails, just a path to the churn. My thanks to Craig for taking point and Sheila for acting as sweep. It was a nice day. Participants were Walt Dolliver, Craig Renkert, Suzanne Steussy, Sheila Ward and Sharon Ritchie.

Cape Mountain

February 19, 2005

Leader: Stewart Hoeg

ELEVEN HIKERS gathered at Shopko on West 11th on a cloudy Saturday morning. The group divided into three cars and drove to Dry Lake Trailhead, just a couple of miles off of highway 101 near the C & M stables. The goal was to hike Cape Mountain. When we arrived at the trailhead the weather was cloudy and in the upper 40s. Two other cars, already parked at the trailhead, were to be the only sign of other people on the hike.

The trail was unusually dry for February. We began by hiking the Princess Tasha trail to a scenic overlook of the dunes and the coast that included both a bench and a picnic table. We then hiked the Scurvy Ridge trail to a replica of a hitsi -- a type of Indian hunting shelter. We then retraced our steps until we

reached a fork, which lead us to the top of Cape Mountain. We stopped at the top for lunch. As we were eating, the fog rolled in and our views of the coast range and the coast disappeared and we rapidly cooled off. We made quick work of lunch and headed down a continuation of the trail, which soon brought us back to our cars. Our timing couldn't have been better. Right after we got back on 101 it began to drizzle and we drove through the rain all the way back to Eugene. The hikers were Ann-Marie Askew, Anne Bonine, Max Brown, Daniele Delaby, Walt Dolliver, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Yuan Hopkins, John Nettleton (his first hike with the Obsidians), Sheila Ward and Stewart Hoeg.

Hallie Ford Museum of Art and Salem

March 5, 2005

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Co-Leader: Leona Devine

IT WAS FOGGY AND CHILLY when we met at the SEHS to carpool to Salem to the Charles Heaney exhibit at the Hallie Ford Museum of Art on the Willamette University campus.



Heaney (1897–1981) was an important Oregon painter and printmaker whose work spanned a 60-year period. There were early woodblock and linoleum prints, aquatint etchings, oil and casein paintings. Topics included landscapes of eastern Oregon and Nevada; the razing of buildings in Portland; rural Oregon; and even some fossil paintings. Those of us who have driven to summer camp felt a bit of empathy with the paintings of roads

that stretch forever in eastern Oregon. It was well worth the drive. Pat and Anne shared some anecdotes about other Oregon painters whose works are in the permanent collection.

We then strolled the campus, by the millrace to the cafeteria at the Goudy Commons (recently featured on Food Network's "\$40 a Day"), where we were thrilled to fill our plates with an all-you-can-eat brunch for \$5.50. The multiple counters included hearty breakfasts: build your own omelets, soup and salad, fruit, pastries, pancakes and beverages. Rick Ahrens would be pleased they served shade-grown coffee. The somewhat messy peanut butter, jelly and toast section needed the skills of Jim Duncan, our summer camp lunch chair. The large picture windows and high ceilings provided us with picturesque views of the millrace and spring flowers. We discussed our college days and took note of what the students were eating. Cheerios and Fruit Loops seemed to be very popular.

After lunch, we continued walking by the millrace to the east end of the campus near Amtrak and the Mission Museum. On our return walk, we had impressive views of the Oregon State Capitol. For some, it was the first time they had been close to the capitol and the Golden Pioneer. The sun came out! We continued on State Street through downtown Salem toward the Riverfront. Jim pointed out the gate to the second floor "den" of the Chemeketans, the Salem hiking club. Next stop was the Riverfront Park and the carousel. Many of us purchased tokens, put our feet in the stirrups and "gracefully" seated ourselves on horses for a melodic ride. We couldn't resist a short loop hike on the riverfront.

Our trip concluded at the front of the capitol, closed and deserted on a Saturday afternoon. It was a relaxing trip; however, it does seem very tiring to walk slowly. The spring weather, blooming flowers and congenial group made this an auspicious beginning for summer trips.

Participants were: Gayle Berge, Mary Croson, Pat Dark, Daniele Delaby, Leona Devine, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Joella Ewing, Yuan Hopkins, Jane Hackett, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Ann Lichtenstein, Ed Lichtenstein, Margaret Prentice, Barbara Schomaker, Michelle Tambellini, Sheila Ward.

Larison Rock March 12, 2005 Leader: Janet Jacobsen

IT WAS SHORTS and t-shirts for this 2½ hour hike up to Larison Rock. The high in Eugene was 69 degrees. The trail began at Green Waters Park just outside Oakridge. Walking through forests of Douglas fir and western hemlock, we enjoyed the sprinkling of wildflowers along the trail, which was in excellent shape with evidence of recent maintenance. We heard a grouse, but never saw the elusive bird. The upper portion of the trail (0.3 mile) had an abundance of rhododendron with buds. We wondered how long they would take to bloom. It is always a relief to see the rock appearing in the trees. We scrambled up to the top for a leisurely lunch in the sun. Oregon grape was in bloom.



We were the only ones taking advantage of the rock and views of the lower hills. We tried to identify Deception Butte, to which Craig Renkert will be leading a hike on June 5th. We didn't see any mountains as trees have obscured the views to the east and southeast. The trail is closed to mountain bikes from November through March. For those who want a shorter hike, there is a paved road to the upper trailhead. Enjoying the warm weather and a pleasant hike were: Ann-Marie Askew, Barbara Boylan (non-member), Wayne Deeter, Janet and John Jacobsen and Craig Renkert.

McDonald Forest March 19, 2005 Leader: Rebecca Hansen

ENCHANTMENT FOREST in the fog. A little rain, a little wind. The hike was an enjoyable one, with the early spring flowers saying "Hello" as we passed by, including the little pink lady slippers. As we reached the highest point of the hike, we could look west and see Soap Valley.

Clouds kept us from seeing the coast range. This is a sweet hike, with good company and, best of all, we did not get wet. Participants were: Max Brown, Walt Dolliver, Rebecca Hansen, Barbara Helberg, Janet Jacobsen, Anne McLucas, Linda Schacht and Susan Wolling.

Horse Rock Ridge March 25, 2005 Leader: David McClurg

THE GRASS BALD (treeless area) on Horse Rock Ridge was covered with patches of damp snow. Water trickled down the rocky path. With careful looking, we found early flowers including snow queen, lomatium, monkey flower, indian paintbrush and shooting star. A red tailed hawk flew overhead. Cold wind and fog swept over us as we took in the view. After several minor slips on the slushy snow, we declared victory at the 25 million-year-old volcanic dike and ate what we brought. Back at the cars, we almost had a car back off the edge, but our resourceful Alaskans saved the day. Participants: David McClurg, Marshall Kandell, Anne McLucas, David Call, Shelly Call, Nola Shurtleff, Margot Fetz and non-member Sherry Perry.

McKenzie River Trail March 26, 2005 Leader: Janet Jacobsen

WHEN I REALIZED there were no trips scheduled for Saturday, Mar. 26, I offered to lead a McKenzie River Trail hike. In spite of storm warnings, 12 of us headed up the McKenzie River. My original plans were to do a one-way eight-mile shuttle and to stop on the way home at Belknap Springs for a short dip. Under the porch at the closed Ranger Station, we used three trail maps I had purchased at the Forest Service in Eugene to come up with a different plan. Anne McLucas suggested we start at Paradise Campground and hike up the trail to Belknap Springs Road (2.6 miles), continuing to Buck Bridge (1.7 miles). This turned out to be a perfect plan, especially when the rainfall increased. On the way back, as we approached the Belknap Lodge grounds, we decided to walk through the crowded RV campground. I made the mistake of not waiting for Bonnie and the sweep, Wayne Deeter. *Fortunately*, they took the trail to the lodge and joined us there. *Fortunately*, we

were able to eat lunch in the warm and dry lodge. *Fortunately*, the wet hike back to the cars was a short one and we enjoyed the trilliums along the trail. Wayne discovered a lone calypso orchid. We opted not to return to the lodge for the swim. Next time, let's put our bathing suits in our packs.

Joining us on the trip was Joe Baker who just moved to Eugene from Atlanta. Ken Berman, from Washington, D.C., who was in town visiting his brother, Bob (also on the hike), is a member of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, a 3000-member club. He told us about the five rental cabins built in the CCC era they maintain. Back in Eugene, I drove past the Obsidian Lodge so Ken could report back to his club that we also had a cabin in the woods. In spite of the rain and the change in plans, everyone said they enjoyed the trip. I thank Bob Huntley and Anne McLucas, who used the maps to keep all of us going in the right direction, and Wayne who made sure all 12 of us completed the trip. Also on the hike were: LaRee Beckley, Anne Bonine, Jack O'Donnell, Bonnie Richman and Nancy Whitfield.

Ridgeline Trail Cascade Raptor Center March 29, 2005 Leader: Janet Jacobsen Co-Leader: Barbara Revere

A LIGHT RAIN greeted the 10 hikers who met at the Cascade Raptor Center to take a short walk along the Ridgeline Trail from Fox Hollow to Dillard Road and back. The trail was muddy but spirits were high as it was good to be out in this dense forest so close to home. Rick Ahrens graciously acted as the hike naturalist, pointing out calypso orchids by the dozens. A couple of the hikers commented that they had never seen so many orchids in one place before. Also on view were mariposa lily, fawn lily, spring beauty, hounds tongue, wild iris, Oregon grape, and English daisy. One stretch of trail was bordered by several blooming domestic cherry seedlings, conjuring visions of the hiker who, a few years ago, walked this same way, happily spitting pips, enjoying lunch-on-the-go. As we returned to the trailhead, the sun burst forth for our visit to the Raptor Center. This was a first visit for most of the hikers present -- and one we want to repeat.

The birds were all awake and many gave voice and aired their wings in the brief sunshine, quite a show for our delighted group. Rick was again a great fount of information on the resident birds of prey and the history of the center itself. The consensus of the group: a great hike and a morning well spent soaking up the nature that surrounds us. Hikers were Rick Ahrens, Jane Hackett, Janet and John Jacobsen, Marshall Kandell, Alice Nytray, Barbara and Tom Revere, Bonnie Richman and Velma Shirk.



Snowshoe Trips

Gold Lake via Marilyn Lakes Loop February 13, 2005 Leader: Laurie Funkhauser

AFTER MEETING AT SEHS at 8 a.m. under cloudy skies, the eight snowshoers took two vehicles up Willamette Pass. Gold Lake Snow Park greeted us, as well as Wayne Deeter, with blue sky and six inches of fluffy, new snow! Put on our snowshoes and headed off. The route took us between the two Marilyn Lakes to reach the shelter at Gold Lake. Had lunch at the shelter where we were introduced to Barbara Boyland, who joined us for the remainder of the trip. Took a quick look at Gold Lake, which was covered in pristine snow. Then, a slightly different return route which edged the Lower Marilyn Lake. As always, a scenic, fun trip. Those on the trip were: Laurie Funkhouser, Martin Holland-Bak, George Jobanek, Andy Jobanek, Daphne James, Craig Renkert, Ann-Marie Askew and Peter Graham.



Ski Trips

Walker Mountain February 20, 2005 Leader: Kevin McManigal

WE MET AT SEHS at 7 a.m. and drove over Willamette Pass, parked on the side of Highway 97 and began the ski up to

Walker Mountain. The sky was overcast with no wind. There was about two inches of new snow. After two miles, the road began to gain elevation and it started to snow. It snowed all the way to the top, where we had lunch in the old historic stone hut built in 1917. The sun also came out. We waxed the skis for the long down hill run. We had about a six mile down hill run with a 2,300 foot total drop. We arrived at the cars safe and drove home. Total miles skied were 16 with a 2,400 foot elevation gain. Those on the trip were Sam Miller, Craig Renkert and Kevin McManigal.

Summer Trip Schedule Changes

BECAUSE THE Summer Trips Schedule is put together in March, it is inevitable changes will occur. When they do, here are the procedures for making such changes.

For Trip Leaders

To make changes, notify the Summer Trips Committee by sending an email to summertrips@obsidians.org. Your email will go to a core committee of Wayne Deeter (who will note the change on the website), Sandra Larsen, Margaret Prentice, Joanne Ledet and Clare Tucker. They will take turns on call to notify the newspapers.

If you need to use the telephone, please make personal contact; leaving a message on an answering machine does not guarantee your change will be implemented. If it is a last minute change, posting a note at the Y is a courtesy to those people who read about it in the newspaper and then make a trip to the Y.

For Hikers

The Summer Trips Committee tries hard to keep track of changes and inform the newspapers (Register-Guard, Eugene Weekly), Bulletin editor and web site chair. Our website is the best way to keep up-to-date: www.obsidians.org

Special Note

It is never too late to add a trip. Additions are always welcome, especially since cancellations are inevitable. To add a trip, just email summertrips@obsidians.org or call Sandra or Margaret.

UPCOMING

Discovering a Sense of Place, April 19

THE CONSERVATION Committee invites fellow Obsidians to join them at the lodge at 6.p.m. on Tuesday, Apr. 19, for an introduction to a "Discovering a Sense of Place" discussion group.

The group, consisting of 5-10 participants, will meet eight times, weekly or bi-weekly. An anthology (\$15) with a range of readings is used as a starting point for discussion. Conversations are based on personal experience and aimed at helping each participant explore his or her own values and relationship with our bioregion.

According to committee chair Doug Nelson, this is a great opportunity to learn more about our bioregion; explore your own relationship with our bioregion; draw from the collective wisdom, experiences, knowledge and insights of the participants in the group; and get to know fellow Obsidians at a deeper level.

DISCUSSION TOPICS include:

A Sense of Place -- Wendell Berry, America's best-known bioregionalist, says if you don't know where you are, you don't know who you are. With a sense of place, your identity is defined, to a significant extent, by the natural features of the place where you live. Without a sense of place, what will fill the void?

Responsibility to Place -- There is a difference between living on the land and dwelling in it -- understanding its rhythms, its potential and its limits. Those who develop intimacy with a place over time tend to accept responsibility for it.

Knowing Your Bioregion -- Your bioregion is a unique place with its own watershed, soils, climate, plants, animals, and history. How much do you know about it?

Living in Place -- Living in place means consciously trying to satisfy your needs and find your pleasures in your local bioregion and working to assure the long-term health of the bioregion.

Mapping Your Place -- Mapping can be learned by local groups and individuals, to give a new sense of place. Whereas a typical map shows political subdivisions and transportation routes, a bioregionalist's map delineates regions based on watersheds, climate and plant types, thereby helping people relate to their natural surroundings.

Building Local Community -- A bioregionalist assumes responsibility for the health and continuity of a place; not only its natural features, but also the social bonds of its people.

Empowerment -- Knowing a place can inspire and empower one to take action to preserve it or take part in its restoration. How important is individual and group action in modern society?

The course was developed by Portland's Northwest Earth Institute. So far, more than 60,000 people have participated in one or more discussion groups. For more information, see their website <http://www.nwei.org>. If you have questions or would like to join, contact Doug Nelson at 746-6774, Alan Coons at 687-9741 or Jennifer Olsen/Per Kielland-Lund at (541)349-0499 or putali@efn.org.

Janet's Sampler

JANET JACOBSEN has taken a glance at the upcoming month's trips and selected a few for special mention. If you are leading a hike and would like her to know why you think it will offer something special, call her or email her at bulletin@obsidians.org.

Sunday, April 17 -- Sweet Creek Falls ("A") Two mile hike led by Carol Petty. There are three trips on our schedule to Sweet Creek Falls this spring. Located near Mapleton, this is one of the most beautiful spring hikes in the coast range. The waterfalls and incredible wildflower displays seem to change weekly (yellow violet, candyflower, trillium, sorrel, lily-of-the-valley, Salmonberry and Pacific bleeding heart are just a few). The best is the pink fawn lily.

Thursday, April 21 -- Mt. Pisgah Native Plant Hike ("A") Led by Dave Pre-deek, long time volunteer at Buford Park. Dave will explain what is going on in the plant nursery, where they are planting, about protecting native plants and getting rid of blackberry bushes.

Saturday, April 23 -- Opal Whiteley sites ("A") Janet Jacobsen will lead this hike in an area that was home to Opal Whiteley (1897- 1992) about whom Stephen Williamson wrote, "Opal Whiteley" Does her name ring a bell? In the early days of this century, Opal was the most popular teenager in Oregon. It was thought she might become the greatest scientist, writer and teacher Oregon had ever produced. Instead, in 1921, she became Oregon literature's biggest embarrassment -- and mystery. See www.cottagegrove.net/history/whiteley.

Janet's hike will begin with a short walk at Mosby Creek and the Row River Trail. The last stop will be downtown Cottage Grove to view the mural and the Whiteley archives at the Cottage Grove Library. Lunch will be at a local restaurant.

Saturday, April 30 -- Row River Trail Bike Trip ("A") Led by Sharon Ritchie. In the old days, the Row River Trail was a railway used to haul ore, logs, supplies and passengers. Today, the paved trail begins at Mosby Creek, past Dorena Lake to Culp Creek. Sharon's bicycle trip is perfect for the bicyclist who wants a scenic trip without traffic and hills.

Sunday April 24 -- Mt. June-Hardesty

Mountain ("B") Hike led by Craig Renkert. From Highway 58, the hikes of Larison Rock, Deception Butte and Hardesty offer a good workout, but limited views at the top. Mt. June is an exception with its views of the snow covered mountains.

Thursday, April 28th -- Yachats-Waldport ("B") Birgitte Williams has led this popular hike many times. She arranges for the hike to be at a low tide and for a shuttle so hikers can walk one way on the beach from Yachats to Waldport. A special hike!

Saturday, April 30th -- Masonic and Pioneer Cemetery ("A") Led by Janet Jacobsen with Karen Seidel as guide for the stroll through the Masonic Cemetery. Last year, this took around an hour and included a tour of the mausoleum. Since Karen has written many of the biographic descriptions for the gravestones, she has interesting anecdotes about the lives and families.

Saturday May 7th -- Pamela Lake ("B") Led by Scott Hovis. A permit is required to hike this popular forested trail along Pamela Creek to the scenic lake. Expect trilliums and rhododendrons. It is not easy to get a permit on a weekend day so take advantage of Scott's leadership.

Mt. Pisgah Arboretum Schedule

For information and/or reservations on any of the following events, call: 747-1504. References to member and non-member fees refer to arboretum membership, not Obsidian membership.

EARTH-FRIENDLY GARDENING, Saturday, April 30, 9 a.m. - noon. Learn how to garden with Mother Earth in mind. Join landscape designer Jude Hobbs and explore the world of sustainable gardening. Discuss water conservation and collection, unusual edibles that grow well in the Willamette Valley, integrated pest management. Bring photos of your site. Fee: \$20 (\$15 MPA members.) Pre-registration required.

FIELD BOTANY WORKSHOP. Sunday, May 1, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Arboretum Visitor Center. Spring in the Willamette Valley hosts an unparalleled diversity of wildflowers. This one-day intensive workshop focuses on identification skills and improving knowledge of local flora. Led by Dr. Rhoda Love, retired LCC botany professor now working with The Oregon Flora Project. Co-sponsored by the Native Plant Society of Oregon. Fee: \$30 (\$25 MPA and NPSO members.) Pre-registration required.

QUEST FOR THE SEVEN WARBLERS BIRD WALK. Wednesday, May 4, 8 - 10 a.m. Join experienced birder Davey Wendt on this early morning walk seeking out the seven warblers most likely to be spotted this time of year. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center, rain or shine. Suggested donation: \$3.

BIRDING ESSENTIALS. Saturday, May 7, 8 a.m. - noon. Join local bird expert (and Obsidian!) Rick Ahrens and learn a systematic way to identify birds by sight and sound. Also learn to more effectively use your field guides and optics and how to create a bird-friendly backyard. Most class time will be spent in the field. Bring a field guide and binoculars; some equipment is available to borrow. Fee: \$20 non-members/ \$15 members. Pre-registration required.

TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY. Thursdays, May 12 & 19, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Before your summer vacation, join photographer David Stone and learn to bring back photos that tell a compelling story of your travels. Pick up tips on people, action and location photography. The first session will be instructional and will end with an assignment to practice the techniques taught. In the follow-up session, bring your images for evaluation and further instruction. Film and digital cameras welcome. Fee: \$20 non-members/\$15 members. Pre-registration required.

WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL AND PLANT SALE. Sunday, May 15, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Annual celebration of Oregon's wildflowers! This year we honor Lewis and Clark and the magnificent White Oak habitat of western Oregon. Hundreds of wildflowers and educational exhibits prepared by festival co-presenter The Native Plant Society of Oregon. Other activities include a huge plant sale, children's activities, music, guided walks and food and craft vendors. Suggested donation: \$5 per person or \$10 per family. Members free.

HIKIN' FOR HERPS. Saturday, May 21, 2 -4 p.m. Peek into the world of snakes, lizards, frogs, turtles and salamanders as you explore their habitats in the Arboretum. U of O instructor Tom Titus leads this walk for those who want to learn more about our native species. Suggested donation: \$3.

River Walks

MARGO FETZ'S series of Willamette River walks, which began with a guided tour of the Delta Ponds earlier this month, continues on Thursday, April 28, with a hike from Autzen Stadium to Knickerbocker Bridges Loop. Obsidian member and naturalist Rick Ahrens will join the group to point out birds, plants and land and aquatic wildlife. Meet at 9 a.m. in Parking Lot #9 on south side of Autzen. Bring binocs.

Upcoming hikes in the series will be on June 9 (Owaso Bridge north to Greenway Bridge Loop); Aug. 11 (DeFazio Bridge to Autzen Bridges Loop); and Aug. 25 (Greenway to DeFazio Bridges Loop). More information on those hikes in future Bulletins.

Flat Tire Clinic, April 21

SO, THERE YOU ARE, pedaling 20 miles from home and you hear that dreaded *hissssing* sound...air escaping from a rapidly deflating tire! Now what? Get out the cell phone and call for a ride? Or fix it and enjoy the rest of your ride?

Or you can come to Wayne Deeter's "*Flat Tire Clinic*" at the lodge at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 21, to learn "more than you thought you'd ever want to know" about:

- flats and their many causes
- what you need to fix a flat
- how to take your wheel off your bike
- and put it back on
- how to fix the flat
- when to just give up and use that cell phone.

Paying the Price at Mt. Pisgah

BETWEEN MAY 1 and September 30, visitors to Mt. Pisgah/Buford Park will have to pay \$2 per vehicle admission fee -- pretty stiff if you're a frequent user. Here's how to ease the pain:

- Earn a free season pass by giving 15 hours of volunteer work to Mt. Pisgah Arboretum, Friends of Buford Park/Mt. Pisgah, or the Lane County Park Service; or by joining the Arboretum. For details, contact Loralyn Osborne, 682-2002 or loralyn.osborne@co.lane.or.us.

- Buy a Mt. Pisgah season pass for \$20 (available at REI, GI Joe's and Lane County Park HQ in Armitage Park, 90064 Coburg Rd.). Or, for \$30, get a season pass for all Lane County parks. One pass covers everyone in the car.

- If you're 62 or over and already have a Golden Age Passport, you can get a half-price Mt. Pisgah season pass for only \$10 (available only at the Lane County Park HQ; take a photo ID and your Golden Age Passport along).

By the way, the Golden Age Passport itself is a steal: for a one-time fee of \$10, you can get a lifetime pass for free admission to most U.S. national parks, forests, refuges, monuments and recreation areas. Purchase it *in person*, with proof of age, at REI, GI Joe's and McKenzie Outfitters. For details on this and other passes, see:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/feedemo/byregion_eugeneOR.shtml

Goodman Creek Trail Site of April 23rd Cooperative Effort

ON SATURDAY, APRIL 23, members of the outdoor trail enthusiast community are invited to join the Obsidians, Disciples of Dirt (trail bike riders), Backcountry Horsemen of America, REI and the Northwest Youth Corps on a *Cooperative Volunteer Trail Day* to renovate the Goodman Creek Trail, off Highway 58 west of Oakridge.

Goodman Creek Trail was constructed in the 1930s as an access to a local fire lookout. Today, the lookout is gone, but the trail remains popular with hikers, bikers, horseback riders and others due to its easy access, close proximity to Eugene and beautiful scenery, ranging from late successional forest to alpine meadows.

Start time is 10 a.m., finishing at 3 p.m. Volunteers will work with friendly and experienced leaders on a variety of trail improvement projects. No prior knowledge of trail improvement is needed; however, most of the work will involve digging tools. Volunteers should bring a bag lunch, work gloves, hard-sole foot gear and clothing appropriate to the weather. REI and project sponsors are supplying snacks and drinking water. Obsidians will meet at South Eugene High east parking lot at 9:15 and drive to Goodman Creek Trail head to join the project.

For questions, contact Peter Asai at 933-3927; or email igneousrok@msn.com.

Raptor Center Open House, April 17

CASCADES RAPTOR Center will hold its 11th Annual Earth Day Open House on Sunday, April 17, with Obsidian Rick Ahrens among the center's participating presenters. Free admission includes behind the scenes tours, activities for children, live music and refreshments, and drawings for prizes.

CPR Class Slated for May 25

A FOUR-HOUR CPR class sponsored by Eugene Mountain Rescue and the Obsidian Safety Committee is being offered May 25th at the Obsidian Lodge. Participants will be eligible for CPR cards and will be charged only for the cost of materials used in the course. Call Susan Sullivan at 342-6546 to sign up.

Open House Celebrates Ewart Baldwin's 90th, May 15th

AN OPEN HOUSE in celebration of Ewart Baldwin's 90th birthday will be held 2-5 p.m. on Sunday, May 15, at First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St., Eugene. The Bus Committee and Ewart's family extend invitations to all Obsidians.

Emeritus professor of geology, Baldwin is in his 58th year at the University of Oregon and is considered the foremost authority on Oregon geology. He recently received the Oregon Academy of Science's Outstanding Scientist Award.

A tribute to Ewart from the Bus Committee will appear in the May Bulletin.

Calendar

April

- 16 Sat – **Brice Creek**, 5.5m **B**, J.Agnew (484-5725)
- 17 Sun – **Sweet Creek Falls**, 2.2m 350' **A**, C.Petty (935-2088)
- 17-19 Sun-Tue – **Three Sisters Traverse**, X-Ski **Adv**, K.McManigal
- 20 Wed – **Oregon City & Pioneer Cemetery**, Bus, M.Cheadle
- 21 Thu – **Flat Tire Clinic**, **Lodge 7PM**, Workshop/Bike, W.Deeter
- 21 Thu – **Mt. Pisgah - Nursery and habitats**, 3m **A**, D.Predeek
- 22 Fri – **Biking in Cuba--Chiang**, Potluck
- 23 Sat – **Diamond Pk (graduation climb)**, Climb, S.Still (344-7324)
- 23 Sat – **Drift Creek**, 10m 1200' **C**, R.Hansen (747-2529)
- 23 Sat – **Glide Wildflower and Susan Creek Falls**, Bus, M.Cheadle
- 23 Sat – **Opal Whitely sites & Row River Trail**, 5m **A**, J.Jacobsen
- 23 Sat – **Tahkenitch Dunes**, 6.5m **B**, S.Ward (686-5679)
- 24 Sun – **Mt. June-Hardesty**, 9.6m 2100' **B**, C.Renkert (485-5217)
- 26 Tue – **Eugene Wetlands**, Bike/Bird **A**, A.Montgomery (688-7025)
- 28 Thu – **Yachats-Waldport**, 7m **B**, B.Williams (683-5312)
- 30 Sat – **Masonic & Pioneer Cemetery**, 3m **A**, J.Jacobsen (343-8030)
- 30 Sat – **Row River Trail**, Bike 25m **A**, S.Ritchie (342-8435)
- 30 Sat – **Sweet Creek Falls**, 3m 350' **A**, A.Askew (687-1659)

May

- 1 Sun – **Clear Lake**, 8m 200' **B**, G.Baitinger (344-9345)
- 1 Sun – **Shotgun Creek**, **A**, K.Graham (933-1612)
- 3 Tue – **Little N Santiam River Tr**, **B**, D.Christensen (343-8941)
- 4 Wed – **Buffalo Farm**, Bike 20m **A**, L.Dunlap (686-6745)
- 5 Thu – **Larison Cr**, **B**, M.Prentice & H.Martz (687-5850,345-6229)
- 7 Sat – **Goodman Creek**, 3.5m 300' **A**, M.Hansen (343-5114)
- 7 Sat – **Mt. Hood**, Climb, M.Slipp (1-503-582-1100)
- 7 Sat – **Pamelia Lake**, **B**, S.Hovis (345-7788)
- 7 Sat – **Willamette Valley Lp**, Bike 38m **B**, N.Lockyear (485-1283)
- 8 Sun – **Brice Creek**, 10m 600' **B**, L.Christiansen (687-8379)
- 8 Sun – **Heceta Head-Hobbit Tr**, 6m **B**, A.McLucas (485-5608)
- 12 Thu – **Birds around the Eugene area**, Bus, P.Bitner (485-3971)
- 14 Sat – **Cooks Ridge Trail**, 5.8m 1100' **B**, P.Graham (933-1612)
- 14 Sat – **Larison Cr** **B**, J.Terry & K.Rusow (345-0720,744-7990)
- 14 Sat – **McKenzie View Drive**, Bike 30m **B**, L.Dunlap (686-6745)
- 14-15 Sat-Sun – **Smith Rock St Prk**, Climb, D.Nelson & G.Baitinger
- 15 Sun – **Clear Lk-Waterfall Lp**, 8.7m 600' **B**, S.Larsen (687-2589)
- 15 Sun – **Hardesty Mt-Mt. June**, 18m **C**, G.Jobanek (343-8547)
- 17 Tue – **Rhodies, Covered Bridges**, Bus, B.Payne (746-1964)
- 19 Thu – **Little N Santiam River Tr**, **B**, G.Roe (1-503-316-5064)
- 20 Fri – **Coast to Canyonlands--James Johnston**, Potluck
- 21 Sat – **Kentucky Falls**, 4.4m 800' **A**, L.Dunlap (686-6745)
- 21 Sat – **Mt. June**, 8m 1800' **B**, W.Dolliver (345-2975)
- 21 Sat – **Old Baldy/Coburg Hills**, 5.5m 1500' **B**, G.Kirk (683-7033)
- 21 Sat – **The Twins**, X-Ski 8m 1800' **Int**, W.Deeter (942-0824)
- 22 Sun – **Adams Mt Lp**, 11.2m 3000' **C**, C.Stockdale (767-3668)
- 22 Sun – **Weyerhaeuser Rd**, Bike 20m **A**, R.Hughes (683-1409)
- 23 Mon – **Mt. Pisgah**, **B**, R.Romoser (726-8154)
- 24 Tue – **Tamolitch**, D.Jeffcott
- 28 Sat – **Broken Top Crater**, X-Ski **Adv**, P.Suttmeier (485-4633)
- 28 Sat – **Sweet Creek Falls/Alpha Bits**, **A**, S.Thomas (747-1623)
- 30 Mon – **Eagles Rest**, 5m 1422' **B**, M.Hansen (343-5114)



Barbara Schomaker takes a ride on the wild side on a recent horse trip, or was that a summer trip to Salem? See the full trip report page 14.



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