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Dates to Remember

June 17	Opal Creek SciEd Tues
June 27	Oregon Ultralight Potluck
July 2	Board Meeting
July 5	July Bulletin Deadline
July 15	S Camp Truck Loading
Aug 4	S Camp Truck Unloading

Camp Hamilton Summer Camp 2008 Sign up now!

Don't miss this opportunity.
See Page 17

Summer Schedule

There is no potluck in July and August and no Board meeting in August. The July/August Bulletin will go in the mail July 16. There is not a separate August Bulletin. Any Bulletin submittals that pertain to August and early September activities need to arrive by July 1, the July Bulletin deadline.

On Your Marks...Set...HIKE!

By Marshall Jay Kandell, Ad Hoc OTrials Committee Chair

*After a year and a half of planning and organization...
After more than a dozen enthusiastic committee meetings...
After promotions, publicity and even a rehearsal or two....
It's show time!*

LIKE A SHOW that's been written, choreographed and rehearsed, all we're waiting for is for the world to beat a path to our box office. Approaching the *Bulletin* deadline, we have only a few registrations for our schedule of 22 hikes being offered for those visiting the area for the U.S. Olympic Track & Field Trials and the Oregon Bach Festival.

With both events launching on June 27th and our hike schedule starting on June 23rd, we'll be sending out a final round or two of news releases, emailing information to all local hotels and motels, hand delivering flyers to key locations and stepping up our liaison activities with the Convention & Visitors Association of Lane County (CVALCO). Commit-

(Continued on page 4)

PRE PILGRIMAGE--Marshall Kandell is shown next to Pre's Rock, destination for two hikes he'll lead during the Olympic Trials along with track and field guru Dan Christensen and Janet Hall, who went to school with Steve Prefontaine. Also happening to be at the memorial at the same time John Jacobsen was taking this photo was Pre's sister, Nita Prefontaine, who offered to meet and talk to our hikers.



Summer Camp Blues

By John Jacobsen, Summer Camp Chair

AN UNUSUALLY LOW number of signups for Summer Camp this year plus the recent cancellations of 10 more people from the camp's roster has the Summer Camp Committee scratching their heads over what happened and what we should do about it. Is it a trend we can expect to continue? Is it something we did or didn't do? What could we change? Is this repeat of the Sawtooths for a fifth time, once too many? Is gas just too expensive to drive that far? Maybe folks don't like the new two-week configuration? Maybe some folks just wanted a change of pace to do something else this summer? Maybe it is all or some of the above... or maybe something else? Whatever the reason(s), Summer Camp 2008 is looking at a

(Continued on page 17)

Board Nominees

By Janet Jacobsen

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE met May 1, 2008 to nominate three candidates for the Board of Directors for a three-year term beginning in January 2009. Before the meeting the committee read ARTICLE IV—GOVERNMENT (which describes the responsibilities of the Board of Directors and of the Nominating Committee) and then communicated via email about the job description of the board members and what qualities a board member should have. Committee work, past experience, attendance at board meetings, enthusiasm, new ideas and commitment to the club were some of the traits discussed. The names of Verna Kocken, Larry Huff, and Stewart Hoeg were presented to the Board at the June 4th meeting. The election will take place at the October annual meeting.

Stewart Hoeg is currently on the Board and is treasurer. He is on the publications committee and the finance committee. He leads hikes and bicycle trips. This would be his second term.

Larry Huff is the climbs chair. He has participated in activities with the club since 1995. He leads climbs and has been active in the climb school.

Verna Kocken is an active member of the bus committee and the assembly/ mailing team. She just led the North

Umpqua River/Steamboat Inn Bus Trip on April 22nd.

The nominating committee believes that these three people offer experience, commitment, and perspectives of our various activities.

ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTION, up to three additional nominees may be submitted by petition (signatures of five voting members required with approval of those nominated) to the Secretary before the September board meeting. The complete slate of nominees shall be published in the September Bulletin. Voting shall be for three individual nominees. Majority vote elects. The election of directors shall take place at the Annual Meeting October 14th. Three of the nine directors shall be elected each year for a term of three years commencing with the following January Board of Directors meeting. Newly elected directors are expected to attend the monthly meetings of October, November and December in a non-voting observer status except they will vote in the election of Board Officers at the November Board meeting.

Nominating Committee: Julie Dorland, Kathleen Floyd, Janet Jacobsen, Jim Pierce, Barb Revere and Laurie Funkhouser. President Brian Hamilton attended the meeting.

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322, Eugene, OR 97440

Website: www.obsidians.org

Board of Directors

President - Brian Hamilton
 Vice President - Jim Duncan
 Secretary - Laurie Funkhouser
 Treasurer - Stewart Hoeg
 Wayne Deeter Marshall Kandell
 Anne Dhu McLucas Jim Pierce
 Barb Revere

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

Committee Chairpersons

Byways-By-Bus..... Liz Reanier
 Climbs..... Larry Huff
 Concessions..... Kathleen Floyd
 Conservation..... Juli McGlinsky
 Entertainment..... Laurie Funkhouser
 Extended Trips..... Jim Duncan
 Finance..... Stewart Hoeg
 Lodge Building..... Brian Hamilton
 Lodge Grounds..... John Jacobsen
 Librarian/Historian..... Lenore McManigal
 Membership..... Julie Dorland
 Online..... Wayne Deeter
 Publications.....
 Publicity..... Ann Dhu McLucas
 Safety..... Doug Nelson
 Science & Education..... Joella Ewing
 Summer Camp..... John Jacobsen
 Summer Trips..... Barb Revere
 Trail Maintenance..... Peter Green
 Winter Trips..... Jim Pierce
 Youth..... Scott Hovis

The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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The Obsidian Bulletin

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For reprint rights, contact above.

Deadline

for July/August 2008 Bulletin

Tuesday, July 1, 2008

Assembly/Mailing Team

For May Bulletin

Assembly & Mail Manager..... Lou Maenz
 Call Manager..... Vera Woolley
 Assembly Team ... Tom Adamcyk, Marc Hansen, Yuan Hopkins, John & Lenore McManigal

Editorial Team

Writing & Editorial Staff Jean Coberly, Janet & John Jacobsen, Barb Revere, Beth Roy
 Copy Editors.... Jean Coberly & Beth Roy
 Graphics, Design & Desktop Publishing Stewart Hoeg & John Jacobsen

Welcome!

New Members

SMITH, LAMONTE (Active),
 87919 Huston Road, Veneta, 97487
 935-8830

TYSON, MICHAEL (Active)
 2170 Birdie Way, Milliken, CO 80543
 (970)587-2128 drmtyson@msn.com

Reinstated Members

NOWELL, RHONDA (Associate)
 36483 Star Rd, Pleasant Hill, 97455
 729-5165 rhondanowell2@netscape.net

Obsidian Membership Report June 2007

Active Members 485
 Associate Members 35
 Honorary Members 3
 Junior Members 13
 Life Members 21
Total Members 557

2008 Climb School

Story and Photo by Larry Huff, Climbs Chair

THE WINTER OF 2007/08 produced a prodigious snowfall and cooler temperatures than our area has experienced in recent memory. I am excited about the upcoming climbs as we'll have a longer than usual alpine season. This is my second year at the helm of the Obsidians climb schedule and beginning mountaineering school. I had a great time firing up the volunteer force that I would need to run a successful climb school and season. We spread the good word of the coming events through flyers, newspapers, a *Bulletin* article and both the *Obsidian* and Eugene Mountain Rescue websites. I had fun dealing with the local Backcountry Gear store. We worked out discounts and rental deals for the students and other class participants. The climbs committee and Backcountry Gear also worked out a 10% discount for all Obsidian members on the current 2008 roster.

Thursday April 10th was the first classroom session. The school ran the following two weekends and finished up April 19th with the snow and glacier travel field session. The school was slow to fill, but by the first class I had people lined up filling out registration forms, waivers and handing me checks at the door of the lodge. We had a comfortable sized class at eighteen students, and a first rate volunteer corps to lead the way.

The initial classroom session focused on climbing on rock in an alpine setting. We had the students introduce themselves, and then oriented them one on one with a volunteer. The instructors began the class by going over the basic knots, gear and hardware associated with climbing. The class segued into the proper technique and safety procedures that go along with the different climbing techniques.

The rock field session took place on a Saturday and Sunday with half of the students attending each day. The students performed on the vertical rock of the Skinner columns. I enjoy the ex-



Climb School graduation climb of Diamond Peak.

citement and fear when the students experience the exposure of clinging to steep rock faces. There is satisfaction after a successful traverse and rappel off the cliff face. We were gifted with two of the best days on rock (weather wise) that we have experienced in quite a few years.

THE SECOND CLASSROOM SESSION covered snow and glacier travel. Sue Sullivan and Maryanne Reiter gave a presentation and some witty, light-hearted humor on safety and travel in the mountains. We then mobilized the class for a full one-day session on the slopes of Hayrick Butte at Santiam Pass. The weekend before we had enjoyed record high temperatures for rock climbing but the weekend of April 19th promised winter conditions on the Santiam pass. We met at the Albertson's at 58th and Main in Springfield and found it was snowing in the valley! What a contrast from the previous weekend. Fortunately, the trip up to Santiam Pass went smoothly despite the unusual weather. We started the day with a beanbag toss to familiarize ourselves with fellow students. Maryanne (an E.M.R. snow instructor) dem-

onstrated the proper use of crampons and the different methods of climbing a snow slope. We then split into groups for the remainder of the session. We headed uphill into the inclement weather, where the snow was firm but deeper than usual. When you broke through snow, you sank to your hips.

THE WEATHER COOPERATED well with the scenarios and exercises we presented. The sun would come out and warm us up for the lectures, and then when it was time to do the work, the wind would pick up and the snow would blow. It was a thrill for us all when we practiced glissading and ice axe self arrest. The slopes of Hayrick Butte are steep and presented a similarity to being on the side of a Cascade volcano. It was so much fun that I had a hard time rounding up everyone for the final exercise.

The finale consisted of all the teams flaking out a rope, tying in properly, passing through protection and successfully navigating the crevasses on the Hayrick Butte glacier. The weather really reached a crescendo for this final exercise, with the wind blowing and visibility down to just a few feet. With a touch of winter cold to boot, the volunteers were dancing around at their respective stations trying to stay warm. I have been a part of the climb school consistently for the last five years. I have been up here in the pouring rain, hot sunshine and mild spring conditions. I believe this is the first year where it felt and looked like a rough outing on Mt. Hood or a graduation climb on Diamond peak. I believe everyone had an enjoyable training experience, and many thanks go to all the hard working members of the Obsidians and Eugene Mountain Rescue who helped with the training.

Thank you all from the climbs committee.

A History of Car Pooling Costs

IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT INCREASE in the car-pooling rate to 9 cents per mile by the Obsidian Board of Directors it is interesting to look back at past increases. A quick leafing through old *Bulletins* turned up interesting data about Obsidian carpooling rates.

The May 1948 Bulletin stated that “Due to higher costs of auto operation, repair, etc. plus the difficulty for affected committees in getting sufficient transportation for trips, the Executive Board has recommended that car drivers be given 1 1/2 cents per mile for



reimbursement.” (The cost of gas was \$.25 a gallon in May 1948).

We were unable to locate when the club raised the fee to three cents. In February 2000 it was raised to five cents when gas was around \$1.60 a gallon. In June of 2005, it was raised to 7 cents when gas was around \$2.40 a gallon.

As of June 1st this year, when the fee was raised to 9 cents a gallon, gas was around \$4.00 a gallon. One wonders what future Obsidians will say when they look back at this article.

Olympic Trials Hikes

(Continued from page 1)

tee members have remained positive that we'll get a last minute rush from those planning sightseeing trips to Oregon in conjunction with their attendance at the two big events.

Up to now, we've limited registrations to out-of-town visitors. We have just begun opening up the hikes to all comers, including fellow Obsidians. All hikes have leaders and assistant leaders willing to serve as drivers. Should we suddenly get a rush of registrations, we'll give preference to visitors and Obsidians willing to drive if necessary.

IT REMAINS OUR OBJECTIVE to handle *all* hike registrations through the online system we've developed for this project. You can find lots of information and registration procedures at www.obsidians.org/otrials. Visitors to the Olympic Trials festival might also be able to register online at the CVALCO booth. Committee members will also promote the hikes at shuttle sites and serve as Obsidian ambassadors of good will and information.

We'll also make every effort to post information about hike vacancies and schedule changes on the YMCA bulletin board and on our Obsidian website. Keeping a command post type operation going during the trials will be a difficult task, especially since many of us will be attending those events while also trying to stay abreast of the hike situation (and keeping leaders up to date on registrations for their hikes). Calling the leaders directly should be your last minute option if you want to know if you can sign up.

Due to late snow melt and summer road construction, some Cascades hikes might have to be changed or cancelled. All registrants will be notified by email or telephone of any changes.

The following hikes/leaders are all *in addition* to the pub-

lished summer hikes schedule (hike descriptions online):

Monday, June 23 – **Washburne/China Creek Loops**, Marshall Kandell.

Tuesday, June 24 – **Kentucky Falls**, Barb Revere.

Wednesday, June 25 – **Clear Lake**, Marshall Kandell.

Thursday, June 26 – **Brice Creek**, Wayne Deeter

Spencer Butte, Janet Jacobsen.

Friday, June 27 – **Delta Ponds**, Ruth Romoser w/Rick Ahrens; and **Pre's Rock**, Marshall Kandell.

Saturday, June 28 – **Mt. Pisgah**, John Jacobsen; and **Library to Skinner Butte**, Janet Jacobsen.

Sunday, June 29 – **River Walk/Pre's Trail**, Marshall Kandell.

Monday, June 30 – **Amazon Headwaters to Raptor Center**, Janet Jacobsen w/Rick Ahrens.

Tuesday, July 1 – **Washburne Loop, Hobbit Trail, Light-house**, Sandra Larsen; and **Little Belknap**, (or alternative if not accessible), Jim Pierce, Dan Christensen.

Wednesday, July 2 – **Iron Mountain**, Cork & Carolyn Higgins.

Thursday, July 3 – **Pre's Rock**, Marshall Kandell.

Friday, July 4 – **Butte to Butte Race**, no hikes.

Saturday, July 5 – **Island Park to Autzen Bridge**, Barb Revere.

Sunday, July 6 – **“Animal House,”** Dick Hildreth.

Monday, July 7 – **Washburne/China Creek Loops**, Marshall Kandell.

Tuesday, July 8 – **Rigdon Meadows/Indigo Springs**, Jim & Sharon Duncan.

Wednesday, July 9 – **Cape Perpetua/Gwynn Creek**, Cork & Carolyn Higgins.

Thursday, July 10 – **Salt Creek Falls**, Charles Durham.

Friday, July 11 – **Lowder Mountain**, Diane Jeffcott.

Gotta go now...I can hear the maestro tuning up the orchestra for the opening overture. The show is just about to begin!

Women Climbing, In the RG, Etc.

Margaret Prentice referred me an article, "Climbing Their Way Out of a Man's World: Women Celebrate 100 Years of Their Pioneering Club", by Shan Ross in the May 17, 2008 *The Scotsman* newspaper in Edinburgh. In 1908 the all male Scottish Mountaineering club deemed "the fairer sex suitable only for preparing a sumptuous packed lunch." The female climbers opted to start their own club, The Ladies Scottish Climbing Club (LSCC). On their climbs if no men were around, they would discard their tweed skirts and climb in their starched knickerbockers. They were part of the first all-women expedition to the Himalayas in 1955. To celebrate their 100th anniversary, 120 members made a mass ascent of the 3,352 ft Buachaille Etive Mor in Glencoe. The oldest member on the climb was 92.

To put that in perspective, consider the first meeting of the Eugene Outdoor Club (renamed Obsidians a year later) on the evening of September 21, 1927. Ray Sims wrote in his history of the club, "Alton Gabriel and two other fraternity brothers appeared and became disgusted at the idea of having women in the club as they wanted a real he-man organization and so they refused to have anything to do with the club." Nine of the 43 charter members were women.

Genevieve Bienvenue sent me her graduation announcement from Anacortes High School. She spent her 5th and 10th grade years in Paris. Genevieve attended eight summer camps with her parents, **Carol Scherer** and **Don Bienvenue**. Carol said, "Genevieve's first camp was in 1989 I think but we just stopped by when I was pregnant." Carol remembers giving "Genevieve a bath in a green bucket (we used to set those out for hot water, remember?) and going for a hike in her dad's backpack." My husband John and I remember Genevieve at the 1992 Tetons Summer Camp. She looks forward to the summer camps each year and I hope will continue to attend for many years to come. She will be attending the University of Washing-

ton this fall, probably majoring in linguistics. She is now 18 and no longer a junior member. Congratulations, Genevieve.

Obsidians were featured in the May 15, *Register Guard Discovery Magazine* supplement. **Jim Pierce**, board member, described our club's activities in the article, "Clubs, Classes Brim with Outdoor Pursuits" by Don Robinson. **Tyler Burgess** and her book, *Eugene Walks*, is the subject of the article, "Find History, Gardens and Dessert on a Walk." "Inc-city Treasure Offers Great Eugene Views" begins with Virginia Prouty's discovery of Gillespie Butte and the pioneer cemetery twenty years ago. Two of the four experienced snowshoers quoted in "Hit the Trail for Simple Joys of Snowshoeing" are Obsidians. **Bill Sullivan** and his wife Janell Sorensen described their trek at Odell Lake Resort. **Laurie Funkhauser**, board member and winter outings leader, talked about her favorite trek to Fuji Shelter. The author of the last three articles is **Chris Cunningham**, who is also an Obsidian member. I wonder if next year we should place an ad?

In the May "Jottings", I wrote that **Cy Fulton**, who has two paintings at the lodge, was not a member. Lenore McManigal and I could not find his membership application or trip log. Wayne Deeter did some research in old bulletins and membership directories and found that Cy was a member. He is listed in the new members box in the September 1944 bulletin, along with Mrs. Fulton. Wayne said, "Apparently she was a member in the '30s, but dropped out for a while. Guess the records are incomplete. (But we already knew that.) They also both show up in the 1946, 1948 and 1949 Membership directories. Back then directories were done rather

haphazardly, and some years were apparently missed."

In May, **Zane Miller** competed in the Pacific Northwest regional climbing competition in Seattle. His performance qualified him for an invitation to the USA Division 1 Climbing Championship competition in Salt Lake City this month. The Salt Lake City competition is the prelude to the national championship round. He will compete in Salt Lake in both the Sport and Speed categories.

Zane, son of Sam and Zola Miller, is a junior member of Obsidians and has attended Obsidian climb school and Summer Camp.

Don't miss the video of his first qualifying climb at this YouTube link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=E4gX7q1tluA

Zane climbed subsequent routes that were progressively more difficult, having overhangs and many tenuous hand/foot holds. For folks familiar with climbing ratings the route shown on the YouTube video was rated a 5.10+. That's a difficult climb.



Zane Miller climbs on.

BOARD NOTES

June 4, 2008

By Laurie Funkhouser, Secretary

President Brian Hamilton called the meeting to order. Board members present: Laurie Funkhouser, Wayne Deeter, Marshall Kandell, Jim Duncan and Anne McLucas. Other present: Kathleen Floyd, Julie Dorland, John Jacobsen, Joella Ewing, Lenore McManigal, Liz Reanier, Mary Hamilton, Verna Kocken, Larry Huff, and Doug Nelson.

Minutes for April and May APPROVED.

Treasurer's Report: John Jacobsen, stepping in for Stewart Hoeg, received Board approval for payment of bills.

OLD BUSINESS

Membership Survey: The group will be meeting next week – 6/09/08; therefore, will have a report at the July meeting.

Nominating Committee: Laurie Funkhouser, on behalf of the Committee, presented the following proposed Board member nominees: Stewart Hoeg - treasurer, current Board member, Finance Chair. Larry Huff - Climbs Chair. Verna Kocken – Bus Committee member.

Ad Hoc Restriction Committee: Provided its recommendation for restrictions regarding a member. Doug Nelson reminded members of the benefit of preparing Incident Reports in a timely fashion. After review and discussion of the Committee's findings the Board APPROVED the recommendation of the Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summer Trips (Barb Revere): For the month of May, 17 trips have taken place with 100 members and 15 nonmembers for total fees of \$166.00. Three trip reports are outstanding at this time. Concern regarding the low attendance by nonmembers, when compared to previous years, was expressed.

Winter Trips (Jim Pierce): 28 different trip leaders led trips. Jim Pierce and Laurie Funkhouser led ten outings between them. Total of 44 trips completed.

Climbs (Larry Huff): Three climbs scheduled for May: 2 alpine and 1 sport. Mt Hood on May 5th was cancelled due to unsafe conditions. Smith Rock State Park went as scheduled May 24/25 with 10 participants: 9 members, one non. \$42 in fees collected. Diamond Peak was

climbed May 31. 7 participants: Five members, two non. \$45 in fees collected.

By-Ways-By-Bus (Liz Reanier): A total of five 1-day trips have taken place in 2008 with 80 participants – 52 regular participants, 10 new/infrequent Obsidians and 18 guests. Two member applications are being processed and three new Obsidian members have been accepted.

Summer Camp (John Jacobsen): Currently approximately 50 registrants are signed-up for each week. The committee met on May 23rd to discuss low registration and decided to conduct an on-line survey to obtain ideas as to why.

Extended Trips (Jim Duncan): Currently Lana Lindstrom is leading an extended trip and, therefore, will have a full report next meeting.

Entertainment (Laurie Funkhouser): Dave Predeek's presentation regarding backpacking North of the Arctic Circle was viewed by 48 attendees and collecting \$44.15 in fees. Next potluck – member Bill McWhorter presents a “bird's eye” view of Oregon from an ultra-light plane on Friday, June 27th.

Science and Education (Joella Ewing): 28 people attended the May program presented by The Nature Conservancy with \$28.12 fees. The June 17th program will be presented by Adam Mims of the Opal Creek Wilderness Center on the Center's features, programs, and research focusing on northwest amphibians.

Membership (Julie Dorland): Current membership is 557. Two new member applicants were APPROVED.

Concessions (Kathleen Floyd): A total of \$77.85 received as revenue for the month with \$72.59 in expenditures.

Online (Wayne Deeter): The website continues to run!

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): All on-line reports have been recorded.

Lodge Building (Brian Hamilton): A work party on May 24th with 12 members attending. The stove pilot light was turned off for the summer. Brian shared items received from the granddaughter of charter member Ray Sims.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): The monthly grounds work party met on the morning of May 15th to spruce up the grounds for the Potluck.

Safety (Doug Nelson): Received two additional incident reports which have been presented to the Board along with recommendations for action. Spring outings have been safe so far!

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Olympic Trials (Marshall Kandell): At this point, we have little to report to the board. Our July report promises to be more informative. We are in our final stages of planning, primarily now for such contingencies as low visitor registration, late snowmelt and road construction problems... and various logistical issues. We are also looking at a variety of ways to further publicize our efforts Our next committee meeting is June 5 The hikes may be opened to members and to the general public. In addition, Prefontaine's sister offered to meet with hikers visiting the Pre's rock.

New Member Orientation (Anne Dhu McLucas): The committee, Kathleen Floyd, Laurie Funkhouser, Janet Jacobsen, Anne Dhu McLucas, Barb Revere and Chris Stockdale, met on May 27th and generated the following ideas which the Board endorsed:

Special September Potluck – highlighting committee activities including brief committee presentations from six committees, tour of the lodge, and historical information. Idea would be to welcome new members, continue awareness of club opportunities for current members.

Mentorship of New Members – A new member's name would be passed onto the person in charge (Jim Floyd has volunteered) to contact by phone, welcome to the club and invite to a potluck.

Member Communications – a monthly e-mail of the special activities for the month be sent out.

Prospective Member Call Initiative – Each activity – summer, winter, bus and climbs – would keep track of non-members who have participated in more than one trip and would designate a committee member to contact the non-member to invite to potluck, activity, etc. Possible provide a “free” Bulletin, etc.

Hikes to Obsidian Lodge – Each month a volunteer would lead new members or prospective members on a “Lodge Loop” hike to the Lodge.

TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Hikes

Alton Baker Bike Trail

April 30, 2008

Leader: Ruth Romoser

6 miles, 250 ft. (Moderate)

WALT DOLLIVER, Joe Neal, Jim Pierce and Obsidian leader Ruth Romoser walked from Alton Baker Park, via Skinner's Butte, to the Owosso Bridge, crossed the bridge and walked along the Willamette River back to our cars. It was a beautiful evening! We saw lots of ducks, geese and goslings, and spotted a few nutria. Jim took great pictures, Walt and Ruth shared stories and past hikes, and Joe quit after awhile--because he had already hiked in the morning. The three of us, Walt, Jim and Ruth, completed the whole hike. This is a very fun hike to do in the evening! We looked for the osprey and eagle nests in the trees atop Skinner Butte. Time for this hike is about 2 and 1/2 hours or maybe 3 hours if walkers take time to observe roses and animal and bird life. This is a feel-good hike! Members: Walt Dolliver, Jim Pierce and Ruth Romoser; nonmember: Joe Neal.

Amazon Headwaters/ Spencer Butte

May 1, 2008

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

6 miles, 2,000 ft. (Moderate)

THE FORECAST FOR MAY 1ST was "the best day of the week!" We were pleased not only with the sunny day but with the abundant wildflowers that lined the trail and carpeted the open areas near the summit. The trillium, fawn lilies, Calypso orchids, fairy bells, bleeding hearts and so many smaller flowers caused us to stop many times. The sumptuous patches of shooting stars were vivid with their contrasting colors. On the way down, we met Stu Rich, a well-known climber and long time member of EMR. He is now 87 years old and has hiked up Spencer Butte over 1000 times. That certainly was our inspiration for the day. The hike took around 3 1/2 hours. Members: Janet

Jacobsen, John Jacobsen and Barb Revere.

Mt. Pisgah

May 3, 2008

Leader: Jane Allen

5 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

SIX OF US MET at the main parking lot at Mt. Pisgah at 9:30 a.m. Missing one hiker, we began our trip. At the base of Mt. Pisgah is the main road that goes straight up to the top and an alternate route to the left, which is trail #3. We proceeded on the #3, which is a more gradual ascent. We saw lots of flowers, white ones, blue ones, and the only one I can name, purple Dutch Irises. After a mile or so, we ran into our missing hiker making her way back down! (She thought our meeting time was 8 a.m.) We continued along the #3, intersecting the main road. The #3 then turns into a smaller path with parts very muddy due to some water outcroppings. The rest of the path was dry and rutted and afforded some nice views of the valley. We then came upon trail #6 and made our way to the top. At the top, we took in the expansive views, always rewarding, examined the map sculpture, and had some snacks. On the way down, we stopped to watch some skydivers as their colorful parachutes floated down in a not too distant field. All in all, it was a most pleasant hike: inspiring weather, good conditions, and a lovely group of ladies. Members: Jane Allen, Linda Hovey, Pat Soussan and Carol Stout; nonmembers: Misty Forsman and Darlene Thomasac.

Dead Mountain

May 3, 2008

Leader: Rob Castleberry

8 miles, 2,150 ft. (Moderate)

DEAD MOUNTAIN, rising just to the north of Oakridge, was once known as Green Mountain, but forest fires led to a name change. We followed the Flat Creek Trail for about 2.5 miles, climbing steadily past a multitude of Calypso orchids. We then followed a ridge-top logging road for about a mile, mushing through snow at the top, past communication towers, and along a very narrow ridge that makes a dramatic extension into space from the south side of the mountain. Lingering

clouds kept us from seeing mountain-tops in the far distance, but we thoroughly enjoyed the panorama as we munched our sandwiches. All agreed that it's a spectacular view point, and a relatively short drive from the city. Members: Mari Baldwin, Rob Castleberry and Lana Lindstrom; nonmember: Shelle Borton.

North Bank Deer Preserve

May 4, 2008

Leader: John Jacobsen

8 miles, 1,800 ft. (Moderate)

Photo: Barb Revere



THE NORTH BANK DEER PRESERVE is one of my favorite hikes but it managed to go up a notch or two on my list after a most pleasant hike this year. I believe May 4th is the latest date that I have led this trip and with the cold spring we have been having it seemed to work out just about right time-wise since we enjoyed a stunning wildflower show, yet again. It was an inauspicious start when the meeting location had to be switched to the LCC parking lot from SEHS in order to avoid the traffic delays in south Eugene due to the Eugene Marathon. Even though all who signed up were warned to avoid the marathon area, one person tried to drive through the gauntlet of runners and wound up stuck in stopped traffic and was unable to get to the meeting area at LCC in time. In addition, we had another no-show and two late cancellations. But despite the drop-off in numbers, 10 determined souls headed out of Eugene promptly at 8:00 a.m., only to have one car return to Eugene from the Creswell area so the leader could retrieve his forgotten boots. Luckily, that was the end of the troubles for the day. The weather was cold, breezy and partly cloudy as we left

the trailhead about 9:30, but the marine clouds soon cleared and before long we were hiking under a cloudless sky. This 8.4 mile hike loops around and through the North Bank Habitat Management Area, a ten-square-mile preserve for the rare Columbian white-tailed deer. We followed the trail up over open rolling hills, through open oak savannas and meadows, following the ridgelines that provided 360-degree panoramic views of the North Fork of the Umpqua River and its surrounds. After adding up all the ups in the ups-and-downs, we managed a gross elevation gain of about 1,800 feet. While this trail can often be quite muddy, there were few muddy places this time around. There were lots and lots of wildflowers, with expert identification of flowers and other native flora provided by Sabine Dutoit. For the second time in the years I have led this trip, some of the group were lucky enough to spot the rare Columbian white-tailed deer – a really special treat. By 2:30 p.m. or so the temperature had risen to around 70 degrees as we returned to the trailhead and started for home. A stop by all at Rice Hill for ice cream capped another great day of hiking with the Obsidians. Members: Rick Ahrens, Mari Baldwin, Marianne Camp, Dick Hildreth, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen and Barb Revere; nonmembers: Carol Andersen, Sabine Dutoit and Don Robbins.

Gillespie Butte/Skinner Butte

May 6, 2008

Leader: Janet Jacobsen
7 miles, 300 ft. (Moderate)

WE MET AT 9:00 at the River Play Discovery Village parking lot where we “discovered” the replicas of Spencer Butte, the columns, a Rain Circle, the ferry, and the Willamette River. From there, we hiked along the bike trail, over Delta Highway to Clinton Road, and up Crenshaw to Gillespie Butte and the Gillespie Cemetery. It was hard not to notice the 15-house development planned on both sides of Crenshaw. The highlight of the Gillespie Cemetery was Margaret Essenberg’s discovery of the chocolate lilies nestled in a plot of shooting stars. Janet pointed out the Woodsmen of the World monument and Dick Hildreth discovered the Women of Woodcraft monument. Janet Hall described how she used to play in the cemetery and how some Native American graves were marked lower down on the north side. She

pointed out where they dug for fossils in back of Willagillespie School. She said, “I also remember the zoo at Skinner Butte Park and how sad it was to see the bears in such small cages.” We walked back the way we came to Lamb Cottage where we started up the Skinner Butte Trail. Richard and Margaret Essenberg knew the viewpoints where we could see the magnificent eagle sitting in the nest up in the trees. They also pointed out two bushtit nests and the heron’s nest. It was now lunch time and everyone was hungry. Unfortunately, I didn’t ask people to bring a lunch to enjoy at the top. The trip took 3 and 1/2 hours. Members: Myron Cook, Walt Dolliver, Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, Janet Hall, Dick Hildreth, Janet Jacobsen, Jim Pierce, Julia Richardson, Ruth Romoser and Charlie Van Deusen.

McKenzie River Trail

May 8, 2008

Leader: Barb Revere
10 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)
Photo: Barb Revere

WE WENT AHEAD WITH PLAN “C” when we learned that 3-4 feet of snow still remain at Clear Lake and that, although the snow was scant from Trail-bridge on down river, the trail crews had only cleared the lower trail up to Deer Creek. Our trip began at Belknap Springs Resort and took the river-hugging trail up river where many of us



Lazing along the McKenzie River Trail

had never been before. (Carol Anderson had hiked it, but a long time ago.) We had no trouble on this well-defined trail. Paul Flashenberg was appointed assistant leader and took the lead appropriately. I used leader's prerogative and acted as sweep. Carol, Charlie Van Deusen and Ralph Core brought up the middle. The day was partly sunny, the wind mild and the temperature cool. The trillium and calypsos were on display, as were a few violets, bleeding heart and coltsfoot. At Deer Creek Charlie tested the “hot” springs and found it not even tepid, as the icy McKenzie was “washing out” the pool created by the rock cairn. In places, the McKenzie Highway was much too close, but the trail is so well-designed that we almost forgot we weren't in the wilderness. Thanks to all who joined me on this “plan A or plan B or plan C” trip, especially those who hiked farther than they expected. Members: Paul Flashenberg, Barb Revere and Charlie Van Deusen; nonmembers: Carol Anderson and Ralph Core.



Legacy white oak near top of Gillespie Butte . Photo by Jim Pierce

Brice Creek

May 10, 2008

Leader: Joanne Ledet

8 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)

ON AN OVERCAST BUT DRY DAY 9 hikers met for an 8-mile hike at Brice Creek. The plan was for a car shuttle (to allow a one-way hike) so we started hiking at the upper trailhead, climbing 900 feet in a mile until we got to Upper Trestle Creek Falls. We were rewarded for our effort with a lovely view of the falls. After walking behind the falls we headed downhill and then stopped for lunch on a rock outcropping by the creek. There was more water going over the falls and in the creek than I have ever seen before and we hated to leave that scenic lunch spot. After a short side trip to Lower Trestle Creek Falls we headed downstream enjoying the wildflowers along the way. We saw calypso orchids, bleeding hearts, wild geraniums, white wild iris, numerous types of ground cover and the last of the trilliums. After shuttling cars we set off for Eugene, arriving back in town at about 4:30 p.m. The hikers were members Joanne Ledet, Daniele Delaby, Walt Dolliver, Chuck Eyers, Sachiko Iwasaki, Susan Sanazaro, and Sue Wolling, and nonmembers Pam Swisher and Ron Swisher.

Mary's Peak

May 13, 2008

Leader: Dan Christensen

7 miles, 1,500 ft. (Moderate)

SNOW, SNOW AND MORE SNOW! As we drove down the highway toward Mary's Peak, a lot of white was visible on the mountain. I attempted to assure my passengers that what we were seeing were low clouds and unusual rock formations, but I didn't convince anyone. Weather was cloudy and cool with no rain in the forecast. Conditions were normal at the trailhead, west of Philomath, at the 2,000 foot level. The trail climbs the ridgeline in a steady, but not steep, ascent of 2,000 feet - assuming one reaches the summit. As expected, the well-engineered trail had received no maintenance yet this season. As a result, much scrambling over logs and debris was required. The trail climbs through a beautiful hemlock/cedar forest with little undergrowth except in the lower elevations. The usual spring flowers such as trillium, wood violets and flowering currant were abundant on the lower section of the trail. We

began to encounter snow much lower on the trail than I had experienced in past years, probably around the 2,500-foot level. By 3,000 feet, at the junction with the South Trail, snow was up to a foot deep. When we emerged from the woods at the 3,500-foot level, just below the parking lot, the snow was two feet deep. In the meadow leading to the parking lot, snow depth had increased to more than three feet. Fortunately, the snow was hardpacked so breakthrough was kept to a minimum. Because of the snow, debris and limited tree markers, we had to be careful to stay on the trail. In fact, at one point we strayed off and had to double back to find it. The southern end of the parking lot had been largely blown free of snow by the wind. That location proved to be the best lunch spot although it was cool and windy in the open. Looking towards the mountain, visibility was roughly zero. Even the road leading up to the peak was not visible from 200 yards away. The group consensus was that attempting a peak climb, which would require a lot of work and no view, wouldn't be worth the additional investment of energy required. Thus, we ended the hike and headed down the mountain to the trailhead. The hike had been scheduled two weeks later than in prior years, but apparently it will need to be scheduled for early June next year. Members: John Agnew, LaRee Beckley, Brad Bennett, Dan Christensen, Larry Dunlap, Dick Hildreth, Pat Hutchins, Lynne Moody, Jim Pierce, Charley Wright and Leslie Wright; nonmember: Lamonte Smith.

Trials Country

May 17, 2008

Leaders: Anne Dhu McLucas & Jim Gillette

6 miles, 500 ft. (Easy)



FOUR HIKERS SHOWED UP for a very warm half-day hike at the beautiful natural park just outside Eugene owned by Jim Gillette, who was co-leader of the hike/mountain bike trip (though for this

time there were no bikers). Because of the heat, it turned into a tale of "Five Little Hikers" (à la Agatha Christie's mystery story), where one by one the heat or time got to each of us. Luckily, Jim showed up in a timely fashion on his ATV to provide cold drinks and then to pick up each hiker as she or he gave out, and we all ended up hale and hearty. Sighted along the six-mile hike were four colts (at the beginning—one of them just one day old), several lizards, a snake, a grouse, two raptors having a territorial fight (turkey vultures or hawks? couldn't quite tell), and a stray dog, who luckily was easily scared away. We also encountered old-growth Douglas fir, lots of madrone, huge maples, cedar, and oak savannah in the highly varied terrain. Next time we start early in the morning to avoid heat! The hearty hikers were Obsidian members Jane Allen, Anne McLucas (leader), Margaret Prentice, Pat Soussan, and nonmember Robert Coleman.

Mt. Pisgah Oak Restoration

May 19, 2008

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Easy)

HAL HUSHBECK, Friends of Buford Park staff member, and co-leader Dave Predeek were the knowledgeable guides for our hike up Mt. Pisgah. The 61-acre Oak Enhancement Project Site is along the Summit Trail #1 above the power lines. Dave showed us historical and aerial photos of the site. Hal described how technical and stewardship teams, advisors, and partnerships have worked together to implement the project. Hal pointed out areas where Douglas fir have encroached on the white oak habitat creating a greater risk for wildfire. They plan to thin out the conifers, leaving snags for wildlife and wood debris for wildlife habitat. They also plan to thin some of the oak trees to protect those with larger canopies. Some of the goals are to enhance the understory native vegetation, continue to control invasive vegetation, and to increase the diversity of plants to benefit native pollinators. Our group had lots of questions about the oak ecosystem. What is a healthy oak? How did they decide which ones to cut? Why are there single oak trees? Why are oaks clustered on the ridge to the south? Dave also identified flowers as we hiked up the trail. He pointed out meadows where the Monday Regulars have cleared

blackberry bushes and then planted native plants. Dave has nurtured these plants for many years. We were fortunate to have Dave and Hal share their enthusiasm and knowledge. Our next hike up Mt. Pisgah will be with different eyes. The project will begin at the end of July and some trails will be closed. Members: Jean Coberly, Richard Essenberg, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Jim Pierce, Dave Predeek and Pat Soussan; nonmember: Hal Hushbeck.

Mt. Baldy and Amazon Headwaters

May 24, 2008

Leader: Richard Sundt

4 miles, 400 ft. (Easy)

ON THE MORNING OF MAY 24, as six Obsidian members started on their hike up to Mt. Baldy, off Dillard Road, the question on everybody's mind was: Is it going to rain or not? As we started our brisk walk up the Amazon Headwaters trail to Fox Hollow, it soon became evident that we would be spared rain showers. Gradually, more light and sun filtered through the trees, brightening our path. By the time we reached the eastern slope of Mt. Baldy, the sun was fully out, and the grassy meadow was a lush verdant green, a condition that will turn to light brown by mid-summer. As we wound down Baldy to the other meadow below, we stopped by a pond that sits at the base, on the northwestern side of Baldy. This spot of water will turn to mud eventually, by August at least, but in the meantime it is a refreshing sight for the eyes, and the only water feature in this 3.5-mile hike. Participating in this activity were members Jean Coberly, Myron Cook, Julia Richardson, Sally Quigley, Liz DeShetler, and Richard Sundt (leader).

Rooster Rock

May 24, 2008

Leader: Laurie Funkhouser

5 miles, 2,300 ft. (Moderate)

THE CREW - MINUS ONE NO-SHOW - left the South Eugene H.S. parking lot shortly after 8:00 and picked up the last two members - Mike Wolfson and Ryan Borden - in Brownsville for a short trip to the trailhead near, rather than at, Trout Creek Campground. We shuttled a vehicle up to

the Rooster Rock Trailhead to allow for a different return trail. Great day despite the weather predictions of possible thunderstorms! The trail was as expected, a steady uphill climb to reach the huge Rooster Rock. The trail was in great condition with nothing blocking the path thanks to member Gary Kirk who had recently been involved in clearing the trail. Noticed the fairy slippers, bear grass and some rhododendrons blooming, and madrone trees were seen in several spots along the trail. We reached the Rooster Rock just in time for lunch. The sun warmed the spot and gave us views of the Rabbit Ears (hidden behind the trees), snow-covered Belknap Crater, House Rock, etc. After a rest, food, photo and conversations, we began the return trip heading down Rooster Rock Trail. At the final approach to the cars, we did get a sprinkle of rain. Thanks to a great crew of hikers! Members Charlie Van Deusen, Mike Wolfson, Lynne Moody, Elle Weaver, Chrissy Anderson, Mel Zavodsky, Pat Hutchins, Brad Bennett, Tom Adamcyk and leader Laurie Funkhouser, and nonmember Ryan Borden.

Masonic Cemetery /Obsidian Lodge

May 26, 2008

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

4 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)

VI JOHNSON, Board Member of the Masonic Cemetery and an Obsidian, greeted nine of us at the Hope Abbey Mausoleum around 11:00. We enjoyed coffee and refreshments while we learned about the cemetery and how it has been rejuvenated. We saw the new bathroom and later saw the new entrance gate. With our walking maps we were able to locate the gravestones of the early Eugene shakers and movers: Hendricks, Chambers, Harlow, Kincaid, McMurry, Patterson, Bristow, Condon, Dunn, and Whiteaker were a few of the familiar names. We were most interested in George and Sybel Collier (Collier Glacier). At 12:30 we gathered in the Public Square at the top of the hill for the playing of Taps. Effie Neth, Lana Lindstrom, Caroline Forell, and Tom and Judy Adamcyk headed home while Dick Hildreth and Sue and John Orbeton joined me to walk to the Obsidian Lodge. Dick and I had a great time showing off the lodge to Sue and John

before we started walking back on Spring to Madrona, then Woodland and through Oak Knoll Park, an oak restoration site located at the west end of Hendricks Park. From there we walked on forested trails through Hendricks Park and headed down the trail running parallel to Fairmount. We were back at our cars around 2:30. Members: Tom Adamcyk, Dick Hildreth, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom and Effie Neth; nonmembers: Judy Adamcyk, Caroline Forell, John Orbeton and Sue Orbeton.

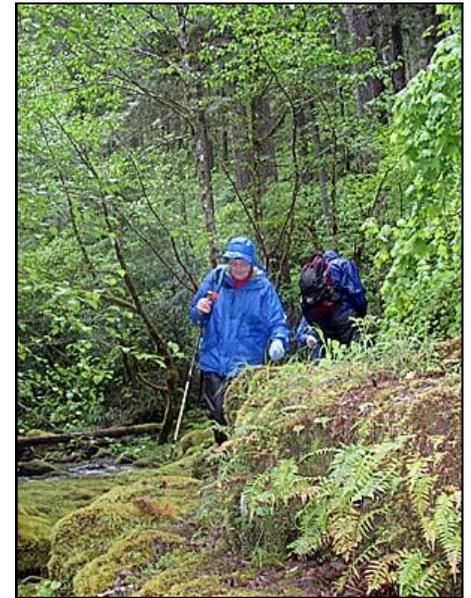
Larison Creek

May 28, 2008

Leader: Margaret Prentice

Photo: Brad Bennett

6 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)



THE RAIN FELL GENTLY ALL DAY but didn't dampen the spirits of this cheerful group. We were amazed at how high the water was, right up to the tree line in the reservoir. The forest was lush and mossy with a good variety of spring flowers, fresh poison oak, and some blooming rhododendrons and western dogwood. We enjoyed lunch at the usual scenic spot on the mossy rocks by the fast moving water, which was so high that there wasn't much evidence of a waterfall. The reservoir has a resident couple, a duck and a goose who followed our progress back and came on shore at the parking lot, obviously expecting goodies. Hikers were Joan Abel, Sally and Brad Bennett, Jean Coberly, Walt Dolliver, Sue Meyers, Margaret Prentice, Vincenza Scarpaci, and Peter Rodda, Obsidians all.



Bike Trips

Willamette Biking & Birding

April 22, 2008

Leader: Anne Montgomery

7 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)

WE MET AT THE NORTH END of the Greenway Bridge for this biking and birding trip on the Willamette River Bike Path system. Although the trip had been planned for 14 miles, we agreed to stop at 7 miles because of the cold rain. In spite of the weather, we saw the following birds: great blue heron, osprey, wood duck, mallard, green-winged teal, song sparrow, red-winged blackbird, scrub jay, yellow-rumped warbler, double-crested cormorant, pied-bill grebe, turkey vulture, violet-green swallow, herring gull, orange-crowned warbler, Canada geese, and goslings. We called it quits before hypothermia set in, and this delightful group adjourned to a restaurant for a warm meal. Thanks to Pat Esch, Sam Houston, Kurt Koivu, Marian West, and non-member Karen Williams, for joining me (Anne Montgomery) on this trip.

Brownsville - Peoria Loop

April 27, 2008

Leader: Lyn Gilman-Garrick

46 miles, 0 ft. (Moderate)

DESPITE THE THREAT OF RAIN, we had a great bike ride. In fact, it was just right - slightly cloudy to keep it cool and no wind which kept it easy. The ride took us through the mid-Willamette Valley, past farms and fields full of bright yellow mustard. The highlight of the trip was a guided tour of Thompson's Mill outside Shedd which is just about to celebrate its 150th birthday. The mill is now a state park and the ranger who led our tour was very knowledgeable and enthusiastic. The riders included members Barbara Bruns, Paul Garrick, Darlene Mancuso, and Stewart Hoeg, and nonmembers Bill Aspegren and Lewis Luchs.

McKenzie View

May 8, 2008

Leader: Larry Dunlap

34 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)

STEWART HOEG AND I WAITED, but the rest of you failed to show at Alton Baker Park on a chilly, mostly cloudy Thursday

morning. Ah, you should have been there! We had a marvelous time viewing the spring greenery along the McKenzie and Marcola Rivers. Good conversation made the miles go easily and I'm happy to report we solved many problems that lay heavy on the world. Stewart is certainly doing a great job as treasurer for the Obsidians. I tried to talk him into a one-way trip to a foreign beachfront location using our endowment fund but he couldn't be persuaded. At the Marcola store (where the coffee isn't bad!) we met a BLM guy giving a bunch of Swedish foresters their first look at old growth up McGowan Creek. There is apparently a 70-acre site that is all that remains of the shaggy giants that used to fill the hillsides around this valley. I plan to go back to explore them next time when I bring my walking shoes. Our trip back through Springfield was uneventful, though Stewart tells me I really ought to learn how to find the bike path. Nice way to spend a morning!

Briggs Hill Winery

May 15, 2008

Leader: Larry Dunlap

35 miles, 300 ft. (Moderate)

A BICYCLE WHEEL needs to be "true," by which we mean perfectly circular in shape. Signatories on a sign-up sheet need to be "true," that is reliable and honorable. It helps when riders have a "true" respect for the environment, where true means sincere or genuine. And it's nice when the weather holds "true" to prediction (warm and sunny) where true means accurate. "True" is a wonderful and flexible little word! Three true enthusiasts took the 3rd annual Briggs Hill Wineries ride on 5/15/08. We lunched on the patio at Hinman's while swallows did aerobatics and the sun dissolved the last remnants of coastal overcast. We exercised up the hills and gravitied down. It was a truly fine 35 miles! Members: Larry Dunlap, Peter Graham and Stewart Hoeg.

McBeth Road

May 18, 2008

Leader: Richard Hughes

15 miles, 1,500 ft. (Moderate)

THIS TRIP WAS POSTPONED TWICE due to the Eugene Marathon and the weather. The weather today was perfect and the traffic light. Riding toward the top of McBeth Road we encountered a "wild" llama "mowing" the grass next to the

road side. This trip took less than two hours, but the muscles in our legs will talk for days. Members: Stewart Hoeg and Richard Hughes.



Ski Trips

Three Sisters Traverse

May 4, 2008

Leader: Kevin McManigal

Photo: Chrissy Anderson

15 miles, 1,700 ft. (Difficult)



WE ALL MET at the McManigal's "shacklet" in Sisters Saturday night. Sunday morning we drove to the Mt. Bachelor parking lot to begin our trip. The winds drove the clouds away just as we arrived and we started out in bright blue sky with a few clouds here and there; temperature was 36 degrees. We skied across Dutchman Flat for four miles, then broke out into the open at Ditch Creek. The weather remained mostly sunny and became a little warmer. We took pictures of Broken Top and worked our way north towards Tam McArthur Rim. We skied along the east side of Broken Top in beautiful weather taking pictures of the mountain, and after seven miles we stopped for lunch. From there we skied to McArthur Rim and worked our way east for a half mile and broke out on the rim precisely above Three Creeks Lake. It was a test of our telemark skills going down the rim to the old campground at Three Creeks Lake, where we looked back with admiration at the rim and skied off. From there we had a nice five-mile down-hill run to the Three Creeks Lake snow park, then got into the car and drove back to Sisters. The trip took 7.25 hours, and we enjoyed excellent weather with calm winds and mostly sunny skies. The snow was in perfect spring-like condition, and this was a very good way to end the winter ski season with a long open ski. Special thanks to Lenore McManigal who handled the car

shuttle that makes this trip such a fun adventure. Those on the trip were members Lubos Hubata-Vacek, Dave Jensen, Chrissy Anderson, Susan Wanser and Leader Kevin McManigal.



Climbs

Smith Rock State Park
May 24, 2008 to May 25, 2008
Leader: Doug Nelson
5 miles, 0 ft. (5th Class)

IF YOU HAVE NEVER visited Smith Rock State Park near Redmond I have two words of advice: go there. Smith is one of those places every Oregonian who loves the outdoors should visit. The towering, multi-hued cliffs and abundant wildlife alone make this a fine place to hike, bike or just sit and enjoy the beauty of Oregon's high desert. And for rock climbers, it is a mecca that draws people from all over the country and around the world. So our group of ten considered ourselves lucky to have such a great outdoor playground so close at hand. Due to Smith's popularity, I was a bit concerned about scheduling a sport climbing trip on the Memorial Day weekend, but the unfavorable weather predictions may have kept some of the crowds at bay. Our "advance party," that went over on Friday evening, was able to get the premier

camp site at Steelhead Falls campground, and although there were plenty of people climbing, our group never had to wait too long to get a chance to work on routes even in the more popular areas at Smith. The weather was unsettled, with a bit of rain blowing through at times and some periods of thunder in the distance. But it was dry enough for us to get in plenty of climbing and enjoy our camping as well. We spent the better part of two days climbing, and I think everyone in our relatively experienced group managed to try a route they had not done before. The majority took a turn on the "sharp end" of the rope, going out on lead to put up a top rope for the rest to enjoy. We climbed various routes ranging in difficulty from 5.6 to 5.10. When the rains chased us off the rock on Saturday afternoon we changed our plan for a wiener roast in camp and ate a restaurant meal instead. Later the clouds cleared and gave us a beautiful star-filled sky to enjoy around the campfire. Our breakfast the next morning was leisurely and delicious. Thanks to Dennis for the coffee and to Sue for the good camp cooking. The morning clouds and light mist kept the temperatures moderate for our second day of climbing. By mid-afternoon the clouds were breaking and we had all had enough exercise on the rock (well, maybe Peter and Larry could have done a couple more routes!) so our party split up for some hiking. One group went over the top via "Misery Ridge" and the other went exploring up the gorge to look at some other climbing areas. Cell coverage

is good at Smith and it is very handy to be able communicate so easily even when the party splits up. This trip was everything a good Obsidian outing should be: friends, new and old, sharing beauty and challenge in the outdoors, and having a great time in the process. I can not thank this group enough for joining me on the trip and making it so much fun. Every leader should be so lucky to have a group that takes such good care of him/her! Special thanks to Wayne for all his help and support, and to everyone for making this a safe and most enjoyable outing. Members: Sue Carey, Wayne Deeter, Peter Green, Larry Huff, Chris Jensen, Kathy Jensen, Juli McGlinsky, Doug Nelson and Lori Tierny; nonmember: Dennis Gordineer



Canoe/ Kayak Trips

Fish Lake
May 18, 2008
Leader: Ellen Sather
0 miles (Easy)

TEN HAPPY BOATERS enjoyed a glorious day paddling our kayaks and canoes on Fish Lake. There's plenty of water right now but the lake does dry up later in the summer. Daphne James coordinated the Eugene group and we met at my place for coffee and rolls. We portaged past the gate and walked through a bit of snow to get to the lake. It was never more beautiful as we basked in the sun while paddling by snow-covered vistas. We also paddled up fingers of the lake where the promised bald eagle appeared. We also heard the osprey and saw geese and merganser ducks. Denise Butler took pictures good enough to be on the cover of *National Geographic* magazine. We ate our lunch in our crafts. We were out about four hours and went home relaxed and planning more days on the water. (Check the schedule for moonlight kayaking/canoeing in July and August.) We ten included members Denise Butler, Laurie Funkhouser, Peter and Kitson Graham, Dick Hildreth, Daphne James, Ellen Sather and Tom Woxell, and nonmembers Caroline Forell and Shelley Smith.



Doug Nelson takes the lead on Ginger Snap at Smith Rocks. Photo by Wayne Deeter.



Byways By Bus

Exploring Florence - Dune Buggy Ride

May 13, 2008

Leader: Barbara Beard

Photo: Verna Kocken



Bussers Busy Buggying

TWENTY-TWO RIDERS and one bus driver left Eugene via back roads around Fern Ridge Lake and spillway to the small community of Franklin, joining Hwy 36 just west of Cheshire. We stopped for a coffee break at the lovely creek and wooded area of Alderwood, where we observed plenty of wild dogwood trees and many wild flowers dotting the trail along the creek. A refreshing walk along the creek was enjoyed by several riders. Hwy 36 to Mapleton was a memory for some - it was the only way to Florence from Eugene for many years - but it is a new highway for some newcomers to our area. Florence Old Town and waterfront along the Siuslaw River offered many shops and a great walk past old restored buildings, and new ones being built, to the Siuslaw Historical Museum. Being in Florence just three days before the continuing celebration of the 100th year anniversary of the Rhododendron Festival let us in on the best of color, and the town was decked out for the festive weekend coming up. Rhododendron Drive along the Siuslaw River to Harbor Vista displayed new spring-fresh rhodies, both wild and cultured. At the end of this beautiful drive, we dined for lunch at Driftwood Shores which has a wonderful ocean view from the upstairs banquet room. A birthday party for those with birthdays in the month of May, Ewart Baldwin and Paula Beard (two days apart), was celebrated in the traditional style with cake, ice cream,

balloons and singing HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Ewart and Paula.

After lunch, we traveled south of Florence about five miles to the Dune City area for a tour atop some of the highest sand dunes in the world. The sand-rutted road was spotted with splashes of wild rhody color on our way to the dunes. The day had high clouds and was overcast, but we could still see the ocean three miles away just past the tree line separating the dunes from the ocean. Our dune buggy driver had been out early in the morning to check out sand conditions and gave us many insights into the animal life, and the five lakes and small forests in the dune area. All of these areas are completely protected from any type of harassment, dune buggies included. Wildlife in the areas includes bear, fox, deer, raccoon, weasel, rabbits and rodents. Our driver did get us close enough to view the underground spring with waterfall coming literally out of the sand and feeding one of the lakes. It was a beautiful sight. The trip back home found us enjoying hot gingerbread at the Gingerbread House along the Route F road. There were some surprises along the way, great conversation and a few tall fish stories. It was a great day with a great busload of Obsidians and friends. Come join us sometime for a bus trip - you will always be in for a new experience. Members: Ethel Allen, Ewart Baldwin, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Paula Beard, Louise Behnke, Rachele Fiszman, Barbara Flanders, Don Flanders, Bette Hack, Dora Harris, Ben Jeffries, Pat Jeffries, Rosella Jones, Verna Kocken, Barbara Payne, Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Dick Speelman, Janet Speelman and Vera Woolley; non-member: Diane Dann.



SciEd Tuesday

Nature Conservancy

May 20, 2008

Review By Joella Ewing

ACCORDING TO CHARLIE QUINN, Associate Development Director of the Willow Creek (Nature Conservancy) Preserve, Oregon has more Conservancy members per capita and more preserves

than any other state. "Of the 1,400 preserves nationwide, 48, covering 500,000 acres, are in Oregon," Quinn said at the May SciEd Tuesday program. So many projects are in our area because the Willamette Valley, of which 96% is under private ownership, is one of the most critical ecoregions in the country. For instance, only one half of one percent of original wetlands remain. The mission of the Nature Conservancy "is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive." Development goals established by the Conservancy require it to preserve 10% of every major habitat type on earth - but not all in one place or within one area. Ecoregions in crisis in each habitat type throughout the world are designated for preservation, focusing on large blocks of 1,000 acres or more.

The Conservancy buys endangered lands outright, buys different kinds of easement rights, holds lands under temporary purchase arrangements so local governments can complete transactions within a time frame suitable to the seller, and in other ways procures lands for preservation and restoration. The Conservancy works in partnership with governments, businesses, individual land owners, neighboring land owners, and foundations to bring about ecological and human harmony. An example of such collaboration is the signing last year of the conservation easement on more than 1,200 acres of the Coburg Ridge located on the John and Robin Jaqua family farm along McKenzie View Road. Funding was provided by the Bonneville Power Administration's Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Program and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Conservancy and the generosity of the Jaqua family.

The Coburg Ridge includes valley bottomlands that rise into grasslands, woodlands and streams and will create a sanctuary for oak and prairie habitat and the Fender's blue butterfly that was thought to be extinct until it was rediscovered in the area in 1989. This new preserve provides the opportunity to expand the habitats for the Fender's blue and at least 24 other endangered species, according to Jean Jancaitis, the Coburg Ridge project director. Staff and volunteers employ controlled burns, plowing and pulling invasive species such as

blackberries and Scotch broom to prepare areas for replanting in native species. In some instances, controlled and careful use of herbicides are necessary to eradicate stubborn invasives. Perhaps the best known local preserve where these methods have been successful is the Willow Creek Preserve where another find of Fender's Blue Butterfly is thriving. Kincaid's lupine, the butterfly's major food source, and other native plants are being planted to replace the invasives.

Oak savannas, such as those on and around Mt. Baldy in the Mt. Pisgah/Buford Park area, are being encroached on by fast spreading Douglas Fir which surround, shade, and crowd out the shorter oak trees. This is why the Conservancy and local governments are trying to purchase the Wildish property that adjoins this area. Negotiations will resume after a new appraisal this summer. Every state has a Heritage Program in which native plants are propagated with native seed to provide the seed and plant stock for restoration of preserves to their original habitat. Oregon's is operated out of Portland by Oregon State University.

Many Obsidians are members of the Nature Conservancy and/or volunteer in their restoration projects. People wishing more information about the Nature Conservancy, wanting to visit a preserve, or wishing to join can visit www.nature.org/oregon.



Potluck

North of the Arctic Circle May 16, 2008 Review by Laurie Funkhouser

AFTER READING Robert Marshall's *Within the Gates of the Arctic National Park* at the age of 14, Dave Preedek pined to visit the area north of the Arctic Circle known as the "Gates of the Arctic National Park." His first of three trips there took place more than forty years later and were well worth the wait.

June 2002 was Dave's first trip to the Gates of the Arctic National Park with ABECA Alaska Adventures (www.abecalaska.com). The small group of Dave Hamilton (the guide), Dave and one other client traveled in a floatplane, landing on an alpine lake high in the continental divide. Shouldering 50-pound backpacks, they hiked three miles to camp on a ridge with a vista of Boreal Mountain above a tundra valley. The slight breeze on the ridge managed to dissuade pestering mosquitoes. With 24 hours of sunlight, the air was warm enough that Dave was able to sleep com-

fortably outside of his tent. In the morning he was greeted with a cup of fresh, hot coffee and views of the peaceful, serene surrounding area.

Hiking down towards the next camp spot, which was located at the convergence of two rivers, the valley view was of craggy mountains with a canopy of dark thunderstorm clouds. The spruce trees lining the creek trail were the first signs of boreal forest. Dwarf fireweed and wild rose dotted the tundra with color while 7500-foot Mt. Doonerak rose beyond the camp. The next day was spent exploring the waterfall that plunged down the rocky side of Hanging Glacier Mountain. On later days, following the Koyukuk River towards the rendezvous spot for the plane, the Gates of the Arctic towered above and dominated the scene. Despite the remoteness of the area, while waiting for the plane for the ride home, six women ranging from about 19 to 23 years of age greeted the group. They also were meeting the plane to gather food and supplies to continue the additional 28 days of a 60-day endurance excursion. The packs on their backs were quite large, almost double their size. On the return plane ride, views of "rock glaciers," glaciers consisting of a mixture of ice and debris including shrubs, gave the appearance of a crater sticking out its green tongue. The pilot provided a full

(Continued on page 15)



Lodge & Grounds

Spring Cleanup May 24, 2008 Report by Brian Hamilton

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL Lodge cleanup party was held on Saturday, May 24. A dedicated group committed three hours of their Memorial Day weekend to help spruce up the Lodge and grounds. We tended to the weeds and grass, cleaned the gutters, power-washed the concrete walks, and cleaned the kitchen and toilet rooms, lodge floors, walls, and woodwork. It was great seeing how a large job was made so much easier with many hands! Helping out were Jim and Sharon Duncan, Larry Dunlap, Joella Ewing, Janet Hall, Stewart Hoeg, Mary Hamilton, Janet Jacobsen, Diane Jeffcott, Beverley Schriver, Brian Hamilton (Lodge Committee Chair), and John Jacobsen (Grounds Committee Chair). Thanks to Mary for bringing the brownies & fresh strawberries!



Stewart Hoeg



Larry Dunlap



Joella Ewing

UPCOMING

Roads End Beach Walk

Date: July 3, Thursday

Lowest Tide of the year -2.9

Leaders: Barb and Paul Beard

3 1/2 miles. Easy.

JOIN PAUL AND BARB EXPLORING sea life and tide pools on a day when there will be a good 3 hours of low tide exposure for the hike. The lowest tide of the year provides a rare opportunity. If time permits, we will try to make it to the Salmon River. Meet at 5:30 a.m. at Roads End State Park on Logan Road (north of Lincoln City) for a 5:45 a.m. departure. They will provide coffee, fruit, and pastries after the hike. (She is the pastry chef at Inn at Spanish Head).

Barb recommends that you call her for details or to sign up for the trip. She's at 1-541-994-2337. She can tell you about getting a discount at the Inn at Spanish Head if you want to stay

there the night before. Janet Jacobsen is coordinating the sign up sheet at the Y.



Upcoming Bus Trip

French Prairie

Date: Tuesday, July 8

Leaders: Mary Ellen West and Ray Jensen

Cost: \$39 members, \$41.00 non (Bring a sack lunch)

Reservations and checks to Janet Speelman 344-3019

JULY WILL FEATURE a history trip to the French Prairie area in and around St. Paul. This is where the remaining French Canadian fur traders claimed the first farming settlements in Oregon. Ninety three farms have been identified by archaeologists. Volunteers from the St. Paul Mission Historical Society will be our guides to the

early history including cemeteries and historic homes that date from 1832. The St. Louis Church, home to Marie Dorian will be open to us as well as the St. Paul Catholic Church (1845). Finally, we'll stop at Baumon Farms, a family farm since 1896 for plants, gifts, vegetables, berries and ice cream.

Other Organizations:

Oregon Wild Hikes

MMARGARET DE BONA asked us to provide information about Oregon Wild's summer hiking trips, which run from June 21st to Sept. 21st. Trips start from Eugene and from Portland.

To check on upcoming hikes see their website (www.oregonwild.org) or contact Margaret De Bona at Oregon Wild: 503-283-6343 ext. 210.

Potluck Review

(Continued from page 14)

view of the majestic Mt. Denali standing at 20,000 plus feet.

The next trip was a year later, 2003, when Dave visited an area farther northeast into the Brooks Range. With two guides and five clients, the crew began its journey flying over the Sawtooth Mountains of the continental divide, which are appropriately named because of the jagged, shark toothed crests and white gums of glaciers. They landed safely in a meadow where camp was set up near a creek.

The next morning they forged the creek to begin exploring the area. The darkness of an approaching thunderstorm consumed the sky at the end of the valley. The day brought sightings of caribou and spots of color from one-foot high rhododendrons, heather, lupine, moss and lichen. Upon returning to camp they found the creek was swollen by the rains

of the thunderstorm, which made for a difficult crossing despite linking arms. It was decided not to cross the creek for the excursion the following day.

Instead, they climbed a 4,000-foot peak with an elevation gain of 1,000 feet and enjoyed a vista of the multi-weather, multi-colored valley. Dave was ready to yodel, especially after acquiring an instant, alpine beard from sheep shedding. A nap was in order after the climb but was shortened by the noise of the tumbling rocks in the fast-flowing, swollen, muddy creek created by the afternoon thunderstorms. On the final day a lone hiker met them at the landing strip for a ride home. She had convinced a pilot to drop her off to explore the area on a solo trip. The plane was delayed due to bad weather elsewhere but the time was used to practice their hacky sack skills.

The third trip in 2005 was in the Brooks Range along the Karreku River. This time a fellow Obsidian, Larry Dunlap, joined in the adventure along with two other clients and a guide. The

area consisted of rugged, rocky mountains and tundra valleys. Curious caribou wandered through the valley seemingly unconcerned by the visitors. On this trip they experienced some differences from the earlier two trips. The weather was muggy, humid and warmer, with more mosquitoes. Hints of the animal life were scattered. Huge discarded antlers of moose were found on the tundra but no moose were seen. Often when hiking in this area they went on or along waterways because the rivers would freeze and refreeze over the flowing water. The pilot once again flew them back to an urban area but provided final views of the many-fingered rivers. During a stopover Dave conversed with a reporter heading into the area who indicated he was doing an investigation of the issue of drilling for oil in the region.

All in all the three trips were lifetime experiences. Dave would like to organize another trip to Alaska but this time hike from a base camp. Contact Dave if interested. 345-5531.

"June, why don't we take a hike?" he asked...

Mon., Jun. 16 – Spencer Butte – Hike, difficult. Does a short drive, a lovely mountain hike, large diameter trees, some late wildflowers and a very nice view sound good to you? Then take this trip led by Janet Hall. Requires some rock scrambling. The nettles and poison oak are easily avoided, but watch out for the killer slugs.

Wed., Jun. 18 – Little Cowhorn – Hike, moderate. Melody Clarkson leads this relatively close-in trip in the Lowell Ranger District. Obsidians restored part of the original trail in the 1970s. A lookout, built in 1959, as a replacement for the original built in 1923, sits atop this mountain.

Fri. – Sun., Jun. 20-22 – Blacklock Point – Backpack & hike, moderate. There are several trail options in this little known state park near Coos Bay and Langlois. The park is largely undeveloped except for trails and is bordered by the Pacific Ocean and the Sixes River. Hikes will take in beach, sea stacks, cliffs, waterfalls and river. Led by Scott Hovis. Writer Bill Sullivan leads a similar backpack trip to Blacklock Point on Aug. 1-3.

Day (Jun. 22) – Crescent Mountain – Hike, moderate. This wonderful wildflower hike has not been led since 2005. It is so beautiful it should be on the schedule every summer. The 2200ft. climb is arduous over the 8.6 miles, but the views and the flowers are worth every huff, puff and drop of sweat. Laurie Funkhouser leads the way to this special mountain known for its beargrass-covered meadows. Barb Revere also leads this trip on Sun., Aug. 17.

Sat., Jun. 28 – Patterson Mountain – Hike, moderate. Relatively close to town, this hike led by Rob Castleberry has much to recommend it. The wooded hike has a lovely carpet of wood sorrel interspersed with ferns and other woodland wild flowers. The rock garden at the top is small, but bursting with a large variety of wildflowers and affords a pleasant view as you eat lunch.

Sun., Jun. 29 – Black Creek – Hike, moderate. Solitude awaits your group on this trip to the southern section of the Waldo Lake Wilderness, but you may have to share it with elk, deer or, if you're lucky, bear. Bring a swimsuit for a cold dip along the shores of Waldo Lake, one of the top ten clearest lakes in the world. Guy Stahon leads this 9.8-mile, 1,000 ft. hike.

Tue., Jul. 1 – Cape Mountain – Hike, moderate. Leader Paul Flashenberg says this horse-riding area has many good hiking routes. The views are worth the sweat at the summit of this coastal mountain located north of Baker Beach and Florence.

Fri., Jul. 4 – King Estates – Bike, moderate – I asked leader Lyn Gillman-Garrick to tell me about her bike ride: "This is a loop ride that starts in Creswell, goes to Cottage Grove, via Sears Rd, then up and over a big hill to Lorane and Territorial Hwy. We're having lunch at King Estate Winery. Last year they had a barbecue to celebrate the 4th of July. After lunch we're heading back to Creswell up and over another big hill -- gotta work off those burgers! The total ride is about 35 miles and hilly. I would say it's a hard but fun ride, all on back roads, with very little traffic, especially on the holiday." Don't miss it!

Sun., Jul. 6 – Canyon Creek Meadows – Hike, moderate. Hiking this beautiful canyon on the north side of Three Fingered Jack is an unforgettable experience. The mountaintop looms unswerving in your path as the trail gets steeper. You may stop at the Moraine Lake or continue on to the ridge-top at 6855 ft., to gain the 1400 ft. of elevation on this 7.5-mile modified loop trail. The return portion connects to two other trails where a regenerating forest struggles beneath blackened trees from a fire that raged for half the summer in 2003. Led by Robert Scherer

Sat., Jul. 12 – McKenzie Waterfalls – Hike, moderate. Led by Ed Lichtenstein, you'll take in stunning views of Sahalie and Koosah Falls and make your way around Clear Lake. Wild-

flowers are many and varied in this area and they're likely to be on a late schedule because of the winter weather that stayed into May. The views are outstanding and the falls are always a thrill. This is one of the easier 8-mile hikes you'll do with the Obsidians as the climbing is kept under 500 ft. There is some tricky walking on lava stones on the southeast shore of the lake.

Sun., Jul. 13 -- Bunchgrass Ridge – Hike, difficult. Chris Stockdale leads this 12-mile hike that climbs 1500 ft. up the side of Mt. Fuji and along Bunchgrass Ridge for wonderful views of Diamond Peak, Mt. Thielson and even the higher rim sections of Crater Lake. *The Eugene Weekly* a few years ago included this area (as part of Warner Burn) in its article "Seven Wonders of Lane County".

Same Day (Jul. 13) Hunt's Cove – Hike, difficult – This is an exploratory for leader Laurie Funkhouser who plans to follow the advice in Wm. L. Sullivan's *100 Hikes in the Central Cascades*. The trip is described as a "gorgeous 15.9-mi. alpine wilderness loop." You'll start at the Pamela Lake trailhead and then go on to the Cove, Cathedral Rocks and then return on the PCT via the lakeshore and then back to your cars. There are wildflower meadows and views of Mt. Jefferson and the trip is spectacular. At almost 16 miles and 3000 ft of elevation change, this loop hike requires that you have rigorously trained and are well equipped for the terrain.

**Olympic Trials hikes
available
to members at
www.obsidians.org/otrials**

See story on front page.

Space is Available!

MANY SLOTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE for either of the weeklong sessions (or attend both) of Camp Hamilton (July 19-26 or July 26-Aug 2). So you can still get in on what should be a great time at the Bonanza CCC Campground, up the Yankee Fork of the Salmon River, in a historically rich area of central Idaho, northeast of the town of Stanley. The adjacent Sawtooth Wilderness and White Cloud Mountains are resplendent with stunning hiking trails, many to serene mountain lakes. Campers can also enjoy mountain biking, soaking in hot springs, as well as kayaking, canoeing, sailing and fishing on nearby rivers and lakes. Mt. Borah (Idaho's tallest peak) and other peaks are accessible for both mountaineering and rock climbing.



The recently printed Camp Hamilton booklet provides detailed information on the campground and area, what to bring, what to expect in camp, activities and a selection of hikes in the area. A copy of this booklet is provided to all

campers, but a PDF version is also available online at the Obsidian website on the Summer Camp page and would be quite useful for people contemplating joining us. A registration form was provided as an insert to the March Obsidian Bulletin and is also available online along with a lot of additional information at:

www.obsidians.org/com_summertime

If driving or the cost of fuel is an issue for you, why not consider sharing a ride. If gear hauling is a problem, the set-up crew will transport some gear in the big truck for cars that are taking extra passengers. Let Sharon Ritchie know if you would like a passenger(s) or if you need a ride. For details about the gear hauling policy or if you have additional questions or want more information contact John Jacobsen johnwjacobsen@comcast.net 343-8030 or Sharon Ritchie rehugr@comcast.net 342-8435.

Non-members are welcome.

Summer Camp Could Use Some Help

Loading and unloading the Summer Camp truck is a big job for which many hands make quick(er) work of. So if you could help us out, it would be greatly appreciated. We will load the truck on Tuesday, July 15 and then unload it (and clean up and put away the gear) three weeks later on Monday, August 4. Both events are at 9:00 a.m. at the Lodge.

Summer Camp Blues

(Continued from page 1)

significant financial loss this year and the Summer Camp Committee is looking to figure out what is going on.

The Summer Camp Committee had a lively discussion about the abnormally low Summer Camp participation (currently there are fewer than 50 people signed up for each week-long session) at a recent committee meeting. Many thoughts were presented and anecdotal concerns shared. One outcome of the discussion was that we needed to try to get some concrete feedback from our membership about their feelings, concerns and wishes relating to Summer Camp. In an effort to get this feedback, Lana Lindstrom is spearheading a Summer Camp survey of members. The current plans

are to have the electronic survey online, probably in the members only area of our website, sometime in June. We will contact members by email (for those for whom we have email addresses) when the survey is available and will have a notice in the July Bulletin as well – or you can keep an eye on our Obsidian website, www.obsidians.org.

We encourage all who wish to have input to take the survey, but we are particularly interested in receiving input from those who have been to Summer Camp in the last 5 years as well as those who have thought about going to Summer Camp, but just haven't gotten there yet, but might go if the Summer Camp planets were correctly aligned, and we would really, really like to hear from those who didn't go this year for some reason and why they didn't. Hopefully we can use this information to plan future camps that more closely fit the needs and wishes of more Obsidians and guests.

AT THE LODGE



POTLUCK

Friday, June 27:

Oregon by Ultralight

*By Laurie Funkhouser
Entertainment Chair*

EVER WANTED TO GET a bird's eye view of the mountains? This is your opportunity to see and be "almost-there!"

Bill McWhorter will be sharing his adventures flying an ultra-plane over a wide range of Oregon locales. Bill, an active Obsidian member since 1976, has explored Oregon by participating in climbs, hikes and skiing trips and, now, by ultralight plane. Join in the adventure on Friday, June 27th.



Friday, June 27 2008 - Obsidian Lodge - Potluck, 6:30 p.m., Program, 7:30 p.m.

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



SciEd Tuesday, June 17:

Opal Creek Wilderness and Amphibians of North Cascades

By Joella Ewing, SciEd Chair

WATCH OUT FOR LITTLE CRITTERS on the trails when you hike. They just might include some friendly species of amphibians.

Adam Mims, Facilities Director of the Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center near Salem, will present a slide show on the Opal Creek Wilderness Area on Tuesday, June 17 at 7 p.m. at the lodge. He'll share information about the educational and research programs provided by the Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center. In addition, he will focus on research he is doing on the species of amphibians found in the Northern Oregon Cascades, including a brief discussion of general amphibian ecology, global distribution and diversity, and threats to amphibian populations

"The wet west side of the Cascades offers many different



habitat types that support a multitude of amphibians," according to Adam. "We will examine the species found in the Northern Oregon Cascades through the lens of their different breeding strategies. By knowing what they do and where to find them, you will be able to further appreciate these ecologically important creatures during your outdoor activities."

Most pictures in his presentation were taken in the Opal Creek Wilderness, which is known for its magnificent old growth forest and crystal clear water. Adam works for the Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center, which is based in the old mining ghost town of Jawbone Flats within the Opal Creek Wilderness. He has co-authored a field guide to the amphibians of the area.

LONGTIME OBSIDIANS might remember the heated fight over Opal Creek old growth forests in the 1980s at the height of the spotted owl conflict. The Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center grew from these tumultuous beginnings.

1st Annual Youth Committee "Family Friendly" Camping Trip July 12-13

OUR FIRST EVER "family friendly" overnight camping trip offered by the Youth Committee will be to Pine Mountain where the U of O lets you star gaze weekends during the summer.

The observatory is about 30 miles east of Bend. We will pitch our tents at the Forest Service Public Campground that has individual car parking spaces and picnic tables about 300 or 400 yards from the large telescopes.

The long drive will be broken up with different activities. We'll leave Saturday at 10:00 headed first to the Oakridge fish hatchery. We'll lunch at Odell Lake Lodge and then we'll walk in the lava tube at Lava River Cave State Park. Next it's on to the High Desert Museum and then to Pine Mountain to set up camp. Our drive home is still undecided.

For more details and costs contact Scott at franzhovich.comcast.net.
- Scott Hovis, Youth Chair

EMERALDS BASEBALL

THE THIRD ANNUAL Obsidian outing to the Emeralds game is coming up. Join us to see the Emeralds play Vancouver at 7 PM on Wednesday, August 20th.

Your \$18 covers food, ticket, and trip fee. Sign up at the Y and send the fee to Ed Lichtenstein, 3385 Bardell, Eugene, OR 97401. We'll be along the third baseline this year. Call Ed (683-0688) if you have any questions.



Departure Meeting Places during Olympic Trials

TRIP LEADERS of regularly scheduled Obsidian trips need to consider where to have their trip participants meet during the Olympic Trials, June 27 to July 7.

Olympic Trial bus shuttles will pick people up at SEHS and LCC, so those parking lots may not be available. Suggested alternatives are any largely empty parking lot on the perimeter of and same side of town through which you will travel to reach your trailhead, such as Wal-Mart or Target for coast trips, Albertson's parking at east Main and hwy. 126 for McKenzie and Santiam trips, and Shopko on Chad Dr. for trips going north. The south end of the Amazon Community Center parking lot is also an option. The Y parking lot and the YMCA designated spaces just across the street in the south part of the SEHS lot are still available for those that need to stop by and sign up for trips. You don't need a Y sticker to use these spaces if you're just there briefly to sign up for a trip or post your sign up sheet.

Barb Revere, Summer Trips Chair

Obsidian Calendar

June

- 16 Mon – Spencer Butte, 10m 1700' D, J.Hall.....342-6779
- 17 Tue – Opal Creek Amphibians—Mims..... SciEd Tues
- 18 Wed – Little Cowhorn, 3m 1700' M, M.Clarkson.....334-6883
- 19 Thu – SW Hills of Eugene, 4m 400' E, J.Ledet.....683-2603
- 20-22 Fri-Sun – Blacklock Point, Backpack, Hovis.....345-7788
- 21 Sat – Brice Creek, 7m 600' M, B.Lipton.....736-7498
- 21 Sat – Tamolitch Pool, 4.2m 200' E, J.Terry.....345-0720
- 22 Sun – Cone Pk/Iron Mtn, 7.5m 2740' D, J.Jacobsen.343-8030
- 22 Sun – Crescent Mountain, M, Funkhouser.....206-2303
- 23-25 Mon-Wed – Rogue River Valley, Bus, Cheadle....689-1085
- 27 Fri – Oregon From An Ultralight—McWhorter.....Potluck
- 27 Fri – Tire Mountain, 7.6m 800' M, S.Larsen.....687-2589
- 28 Sat – Deception Butte, 8m 2600' D, E.Lovegren.....343-1432
- 28-29 Sat-Sun – North Sister, Climb, W.Deeter.....954-0924
- 28 Sat – Patterson Mountain, M, Castleberry.....726-2412
- 29 Sun – Black Creek, 7.6m 1400' M, G.Strahon.....345-0720
- 29 Sun – Iron Mountain, 7m 1900' M, B.Lipton.....736-7498

July

- 1 Tue – Cape Mountain, 7.6m 1400' M, P.Flashenberg..461-1977
- 3 Thu – Roads End Beach Walk, 3.5m E, Beard541-994-2337
- 4 Fri – Creswell—Cottage Grove, Bike, D, L.Garrick....345-5236
- 4-6 Fri-Sun – Mt. Adams, Climb, L.Huff.....868-5391
- 6 Sun – Canyon Creek Meadows, M, Scherer.....726-8238
- 8 Tue – French Prairie, Bus, J.Speelman.....344-3019
- 12 Sat – McKenzie Falls, 8m 500' M, E.Lichtenstein.....683-0688
- 12 Sat – Mt. Hubris/Cosmic Wall, Rock Climb, Nelson.736-6076
- 12-13 Sat-Sun – Pine Mtn Obsvtry, Family Trip, Hovis.345-7788
- 12 Sat – Wolf Creek/Clay Creek, Bike D, Sanders.....485-2944
- 13 Sun – Bunchgrass Ridge, 12m D, C.Stockdale.....767-3668
- 13 Sun – Hunts Cove, 15.9m 3000' D, L.Funkhouser.....206-2303
- 17 Thu – Mt. Pisgah moonrise, sunset, E, R.Murdock...345-8305
- 18 Fri – Smith Reservoir, Kayak/Canoe E, E.Sather.....822-0311
- 18 Fri – Tidbits Mountain, 4m 1100' M, S.Hoeg.....484-6196
- 19-Aug 2 Sat-Sat – Camp HamiltonSawtooth Mountains
- 19 Sat – Disston—Oakridge, Bike D, S.Miller.....484-4586
- 20 Sun – Coast Range Foothills, Bike M, Nelson.....736-6076
- 20 Sun – North Fork Smith River, M, J.Dorland.....484-0280
- 20 Sun – Row River Trail, Bike 32m M, G.Strahon.....345-0720
- 26 Sat – Sunrise Cafe, Bike 36m 500' M, S.Hoeg.....484-6196
- 27 Sun – Horsepasture Mtn, 3.3m 900' E, B.Revere.....726-4989
- 27 Sun – Wolf Creek, Bike 52m 1560' D, R.Hughes.....683-1409
- 28-29 Mon-Tue – Opie Dilldock, Backpack D, J.Fritz345-0347

Bulletin Classifieds

For Sale

LA SPORTIVA LEATHER MOUNTAINEERING BOOTS – women's size 6. Worn only 5 or 6 times, but feet changed and can't wear anymore. Crampon compatible. \$50 - Call Kathy at 541-782-2581 or email at jensenc@efn.org

For Sale

MEN'S PEARL IZUMI SHORTS, worn only once. Size large, \$25. Call Sandy Reul at 485-0301 or send an email to sandyreul@msn.com.

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



Three Sisters Cross Country Ski Trip - Photo by Chrissy Anderson See trip report on page 11



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