

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

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**Dates to Remember**

Jan 29	Bill Sullivan Potluck
Feb 3	February Board Meeting
Feb 16	Wild Oregon SciEd Tues
Feb 21	Bus Rally

Complete current schedules at:  
[www.observians.org](http://www.observians.org) or  
 Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

**Something For Everyone**

*If you find errors in this Bulletin, please consider that they are here for a purpose. We like to publish something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes.*

**Board President Jim Pierce:**

**New Prez At the Helm**

*By Lou Maenz*

**A**DMINISTRATIONS COME AND GO. Some are notable for controversy, some for a lack of change, and others slide by like well manned ships in the night, leaving nary a roil or ripple but moving the club forward on a well charted course. So what kind of an administration will Jim Pierce captain? When I asked him, his reply was that “it would not be like the Federal Government.” He went on to explain that he is an informal person who expects a lot of communication and finds that once differing views and words are sorted out, agreement can be reached.



Jim is an Oregonian by birth and, except for a few years, has always lived in this magnificent state. He was born in 1948 in Corvallis and graduated from Oregon State (sorry, Ducks) in chemical engineering in 1969. His first job after college took him and his wife Charlene to the East Coast and Rock

Hill, South Carolina, affording a great opportunity to compare how the East stacked up to the West. Since he returned to his roots about four years later, it's pretty obvious this side of the country scored higher on his comparison chart. “Heck,” as he says, “the scenery in the West just reaches out and grabs you ... and says LOOK at me... in the East you have to search for the beauty.”

While on the East Coast and living in South Carolina, Jim worked as a process engineer for Celanese, a company that designed and created materials used in women's undergarments. After a couple of years he moved north to the General Electric's Silicon Rubber Division in Waterford, New York (near Albany). That plant made, among other things, the type of silicon implants favored by many an aspiring actress and flaunted by the likes of Pamela Anderson. Two years later, perhaps thinking that he had explored enough of the ins and outs of the feminine form, Jim transferred his interests to wood products and came back to Oregon to work for a company called Chembond as a project engineer. This was in 1973. He spent the next thirty-four years working for the company and its series of new owners. The main North American plant is located in Springfield. His position entailed designing and installing resin processing equipment and, happily for him, afforded the opportunity to travel world wide designing installations and doing consultations with the international divisions of the company.

While living in Rock Hill, South Carolina, Jim developed the passion for rock climbing which eventually brought him into contact with the Obsidians. It was a circuitous route and took about 25 years. During that time Jim did much of the usual, and then some: worked, canoed, rock climbed, ran in marathons, traveled to all the

*(Continued on page 5)*

# Nola Shurtleff



NOLA JEAN SHURTLEFF of Eugene died December 12, 2009, following a stroke. She was 65. She was born Jan. 25, 1944, in Washington, D.C., to Hugh and Evelyn Burrill Shurtleff. She graduated from Medford Senior High in 1962 and graduated with a bachelor's degree in education from Lewis & Clark College in Portland in 1966. She worked as an office manager in the University of Oregon Comparative Literature Department.

A memorial service is planned in the spring, in Eugene. Memorial contributions may be made to your favorite wildlands organization. The Guest Book at [legacy.com](http://legacy.com) will be available until January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Survivors include her mother, two sisters, Ellen Shurtleff of Medford and Kathryn Shurtleff of Folsom, CA, and a brother, Thomas Shurtleff of Medford.

Nola was active with the Obsidians and participated in 130 hikes and 14 bus trips. Her first trip with the club was in 1979 to French Pete although she didn't join the Obsidians until 1997. She went on to earn her 100 patch in 2003. Her last trips were Sweet Creek and Baker Beach, October 8, 2009 with leader Jim Pierce and the Evergreen Air Museum bus trip on October 20th. Kathy Shurtleff said, "My sister thoroughly enjoyed the trips, hikes, and friendships that she experienced through the Obsidians." Nola liked to lead trips on the Ridgeline Trail and was probably the first leader to incorporate using the bus for the shuttle. She would take the Crest Drive bus to Blanton Road and then walk up the trailhead to hike to Wilamette Street, with a downhill return to the bus stop.

## Welcome!

### New Members

**BULLINGTON, MIKE** (Active)

134 High St., Eugene 97401

505-0182 [mike@outdooreugene.com](mailto:mike@outdooreugene.com)

**HOME, HEATHER** (Active)

5220 Donald St., Eugene 97405

302-2949 [heatherannehome@gmail.com](mailto:heatherannehome@gmail.com)

**IRWIN, CATHY** (Active)

1825 Washington St, Eugene 97401

683-8136 [cjirwin@mindspring.com](mailto:cjirwin@mindspring.com)

## Thank You

I'VE RENTED an Oakland apartment a few blocks from Lake Merritt, and before I move back to my hometown in mid-January, I want to thank all my Obsidian friends for sharing yourselves on the trail. I also appreciate that several of my essays were printed in the *Bulletin*, enabling me to be a "Published Author."

Happy trails to all of you.

*Ann-Marie Askew*

## Catherine Jones

Long time Obsidian member, Catherine Jones, passed away December 28th. The service will be Wednesday, January 13th at 3pm at the First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive.

## Selma Vangsnes

Selma Vangsnes, Obsidian Summer Camp cook for 19 years between 1955 and 1985, died January 3rd. She was 99. A memorial service will be at 11am, Saturday, January 16, at Emmaus Lutheran Church in Eugene.

*Editors Note: Due to late arrival of notices, Catherine and Selma's complete obituaries will be in the February Bulletin.*

## OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322, Eugene, OR 97440

Website: [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

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*Board meetings are held 6 pm the first Wednesday of each month, except October when it is first Wednesday after Annual Meeting. No Board Meeting in August.*

### Committee Chairpersons

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Youth.....

## The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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

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

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

### The Obsidian Bulletin

P.O. Box 51424, Eugene, OR 97405

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### Deadline

for February 2010 Bulletin

**Saturday, January 30, 2010**

### Assembly/Mailing Team

#### For December Bulletin

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Assembly Team ... Tom Adamcyk, Don

Baldwin, LaRee Beckley, Pat Esch,

Joanne Ledet and John & Lenore

McManigal

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Bea Fontana, John Jacobsen, Joanne

Ledet, Barb Revere, Beth Roy

Copy Editors.... Jean Coberly & Beth Roy

Graphics, Design & Desktop Publishing

..... Stewart Hoeg & John Jacobsen

# Feast or Famine: Two Views of Camping

By Lee Kirk

**H**E'S A LIFETIME BACKPACKER. My experience is limited to what he refers to as "car-camping." He says it the way you'd say "nose-picking."

It is our first camping trip together, one of those occasions early in a relationship that will indicate whether or not that relationship can long endure. Two people, isolated from all other human interaction. The trials of the trail. All that.

We'll drive to the Columbia River Gorge. We'll spend the night at Eagle Creek Campground, then make the 13-mile hike the next day.

Eagle Creek is something of a compromise for us. We've already learned that if one of us says, "It's a nice day for a hike," he will respond "We could climb up (insert name) Peak," while I will most likely say, "Let's walk along (insert name of river)." Eagle Creek offers a long, not-too-rugged hike with a gradual, not-too-steep elevation into the hills, following a creek that offers spectacular bits of scenery, such as Punchbowl Falls.

Preparing food for the trip is my job. This only makes sense. My metabolism requires huge doses of protein, ingested at regular and appropriate times. Without it, my personality disintegrates.

"I TEND TO EAT LIGHT on the trail," he informs me as I dump ice into the chest and unload frozen meat and fresh vegetables from the refrigerator.

"But we're not going to *be* on the trail," I respond, fitting a quart of milk between fresh mushrooms and fruits.

"And now for breakfast...."

I usually just eat granola," he says.

"Got some right here," I say agreeably, tossing a bag of it into an already bulging grocery sack. "If you think you'll want it." Back at the cooler, I tuck in a dozen farm-fresh jumbo brown eggs.

"Then lunch for our hike...."

"How about an apple?" he says.

I continue my litany, "... and a can of sardines, kippered herring, cheese,

ramen noodles...."

"Holy cow!" he says. "We're only going to be gone a couple of days."

**NOT A SOUL AT** the campground when we got there. We select a spot, erect the tent. He finishes unloading our gear while I start supper.

"Ramen would be fine," he says.

I put a pot of water on the fire to cook the ramen. Next I stir-fry thinly sliced pork: then carrots, celery, onion, green pepper, mushrooms, fresh pea pods.

He peers over my shoulder. "You're cooking enough for an army."

We layer our plates with noodles and pile the stir-fry on top.

"Boy! This is good," the army munches.

We clean our plates. "I'm full." I tell him. "You can have the rest."

The army scrapes the pans. "Mmmm. Really good."

In the morning, he takes down the tent while I fix breakfast. He wanders over just as I finish cooking, the tent in his hand rolled into a bundle the size of a pair of socks.

"I usually just have granola." His anthem.

"Well, there's granola if you want it. Or, you can have crisp bacon, Spanish omelet, fresh grapefruit and coffee."

Silence.

"You wash up while I pack lunch," I suggest as he forks down the last bit of omelet. I build the feast: apples, pop, oranges, canned juice, sardines and kippers, cookies. Deferring to his prejudice, I add some sandwich bags filled with a mix of crackers, cheese, trail mix, chocolate chips.

We park the car, load the packs, shoulder our gear and head up the trail.

**IT'S A SWEET-SMELLING** day, filled with bird song and promise. Eagle Creek and its tributaries are fat and joyful with water from the snow melt. Waterfalls foam over the edges of cliffs and froth in lucid pools below. Wildflowers burgeon from the ground and from every nook and crack in the rocks. We take pictures of the waterfalls, the

creek, the wildflowers, each other. We look happy. We look well-fed.

It's more than six miles to our destination. I begin to think about food. About kippers laid flat, oil making them gleam like neatly polished pine. About juice and apples and crackers and cheese. It keeps me going.

**AS WE ROUND THE LAST** bend, my mind and stomach are singing together. Sardines! Little briny fish! Protein! Soon now. Soon, I tell my rattling innards.

We drop to the ground on a wide, pebbly shore near some shallows. He opens the pack. I slaver.



He removes the cracker box from the top of the sack. *Now why did he bring that?* I wonder. *I put crackers in a sandwich bag.* He produced a bag with something brown in it.

"Coffee?" he asks. Puzzled.

*(Continued on page 11)*



# Oregon Wild at 35 Protector of Oregon's Outdoors

*By Pat Bitner*

**M**ANY OF YOU KNEW OREGON WILD as Oregon Natural Resource Council (ONRC). ONRC began in 1974 in Eugene, with three staff sharing one salary and one suit coat, as Director Regna Merritt described it. It now includes a main office in Portland, and field offices in Eugene and Bend. In 2006, a name change was made to forego confusion with the Natural Resources Defense Council, or NRDC, the national environmental organization. Protecting wild Oregon was already the mission, so Oregon Wild, the new name, was a natural.

As the oldest and largest conservation organization in Oregon, Oregon Wild works to protect and restore wildlands, wildlife and waters. The Eugene office is home to Doug Heiken and Chandra LeGue. Obsidians may know Doug as a determined advocate for Oregon's remaining wilderness areas. Chandra coordinates the campaign to preserve our re-

maining old growth forests from logging. Wendell Wood's devotion to improving water allocation to the Klamath Refuges was well-known. Following in his footsteps, Ani

Kameenui of the Portland office made a compelling Sci-Ed presentation to Obsidians about the Klamath Basin and its ongoing conflicts over the water needs of agriculture, fish and the wildlife refuges last year.

On February 16, Chandra LeGue will be the speaker for the Conservation, Science and Education program at 7 pm at the lodge, focusing on the importance of old-growth forests and their protection. Oregon Wild offers a program of hikes, snowshoe trips and other opportunities to experience firsthand the areas in need of protection in our state. Chandra, who leads

many Oregon Wild excursions, will explain plans for spring and summer outings. These programs are open to the public and offer an opportunity to expand your knowledge of environmental issues and enjoy a great hike at the same time.



**OREGON WILD**

## *Thank You, Thank You, Thank You, Grazie, Danke, Merci, Gracias, Arigato, Tak ... to the following generous donors, for their support of the Obsidians with their premium memberships. \$2960 donated.*

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# *The* **COLLECTOR**

## **David Douglas and the Natural History of the Northwest**

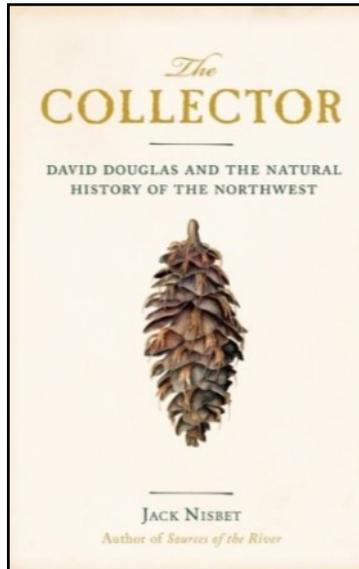
*By John Pegg*

**D**AVID DOUGLAS WAS A MAN Obsidians would have liked. He loved the outdoors, was not afraid of hardship, relished new adventures, and had not only a professional love for plants, but a profound and genuine curiosity about everything in the natural world. *The Collector: David Douglas and the Natural History of the Northwest* is a new biography of this outstanding man.

I became interested in David Douglas many years ago when I learned that this is where the Douglas fir, the common name for *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, received its name. As I made my own explorations of the flowers, trees, and shrubs of Oregon, I noticed his name again and again. You may have had the same experience.

Douglas was born in Scotland to a gardener. The great botanist William Hooker recognized his talents early. He eventually became Collector to the Royal Horticultural Society. When the society decided to send a collector to explore the flora of the United States, David Douglas was their man. After a successful expedition to the eastern part of the United States, he was sent on an expedition during the years 1824-1827 to the vast territory that is now British Columbia and the states of Oregon and Washington. His journals and records from this time

would not only make him famous as a botanist and “collector,” but these records are one of the most fascinating looks we have of that early time.



Remember that during this time there were no more than 400 Europeans in that whole area, almost all of them engaged in the fur trade. The flora and a great deal more was almost totally virgin ground for David Douglas. I must say, he made the most of his time. In explorations by himself, with Indian guides, or with explorers of the Hudson Bay Company, he endured great hardships and had extraordinary adventures. For me, as for many Oregonians, his exploration of the Columbia River area, the Willamette Valley, and the Umpqua River will have special interest.

David Douglas kept a wonderful journal, as revealing about himself as of the plants and landscapes he visited. This would have been enough material all by itself for a beautiful portrait of David Douglas. But Jack Nisbet's

book draws on much more: letters, journals from contemporaries, and his extensive collection of flora and fauna, still housed in England. This all adds up to a well documented and wonderful window into a time before the huge northwest wilderness was exploited, settled and changed forever.

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## **At the Helm**

*(Continued from page 1)*

50 States and 10 Provinces and most of the National Parks (the few left are on his list of ‘must dos’), became an amateur botanist, an avid nature photographer, and raised a family. He discovered the Obsidians at Climb School in April of 2000. Thus, a new course was charted. Jim’s involvement with the Obsidians was limited to a few climbs a year until about four years ago.

His activities and accomplishments can be divided into two sections: what he has done for himself, and what he has done for the club. On the personal level, Jim has climbed the ten peaks to become a Chief and been bestowed with the honorary name “Chief Way Behind.” The name is not for being a laggard, he is quick to point out, but because of a penchant for stopping to take so many pictures - a number of which have graced the pages of the *Bulletin*. He has also been on over 100 trips, and next year will get his 50 trips led patch.

After the Ten Peak award his proudest personal accomplishment in the Obsidians was receiving the “Compleat Obsidian,” the club’s ‘been there, done that’ award.

The other half of Jim’s club activities include what he has done for the club in general. His first endeavor was to take over as chairman of winter trips and to computerize it. Next, he became summer trips chairman, and two years ago he was voted onto the Board. Of course he has also cleared trails, led trips, worked at the lodge, attended meetings and in general been a very focused, organized, and extremely active Obsidian. Jim has also, with easy banter and thoughtfulness and his knowledge of flora, fauna, and geology, added a level of enjoyment and education to the trips and activities he has participated in.

Jim has demonstrated that in just a few years he can go from being unknown mountain climber to the holder of the highest office. How do you think the administration will fare with Jim at the helm? My guess is it will be well navigated no matter how the seas run.

# McMurphey Shelter

By Janet Jacobsen

**R**ICHARD MARIS, Past Willamette Pass Ski Patrol Director, is working on a history of the Willamette Pass Ski Area and Ski Patrol during the 1940-1960 era. He contacted our club about Gene McMurphy, who was active in the Obsidian ski program, the Willamette Pass Ski Patrol and started the ski school at Santiam Pass. Maris has determined that Gene died November 14, 1947 in a hospital in Eugene following an accident that day. Maris said, "I don't know what happened. His name is spelled both McMurphey and McMurphy in various articles and publications. Any information about him is appreciated." Maris is also looking for information about other Obsidian members who were members of the Ski Patrol such as George Korn and James Harrang. If you have any information, contact him at 345-4566.

Maris found an article in a 1951 *Obsidian Bulletin* (at right) about the dedication of the Gene McMurphy Memorial Ski Patrol Shelter at Willamette Pass. Several of the speakers were Obsidians.

*Editor's Note: Several years after 1951 this shelter was moved, possibly to Crescent Junction.*

## *The Obsidian, February 1951 #2*

**GENE MCMURPHEY SKI PATROL SHELTER** dedication scheduled to begin at 2:00 P.M. February 18, at the Willamette ski area. Dedication services for the Gene McMurphey ski patrol shelter will be opened by the Willamette ski patrol. Dolph Jones, radio announcer and honorary member of the patrol, will preside as master of ceremonies.

Filling the speakers' chairs will be: Van Purdy, local ski instructor; Bryan Ryan, designer of the building; Tony Vogel, on the purpose; and pinch-hitting for building chairman, Bob Pfeiffer, now in the army, will be his father, Carl Pfeiffer. A toboggan demonstration will be presented by two teams including Miss Virginia Bloom and Mrs. Allen Lindley for the women and Jack Meissner and Chuck Honey for the men.

Gene McMurphey, a well known Obsidian, ski patrolman, certified ski instructor, and member of the mountain troops, lost his life in the fall of 1948. Chairmen of the dedication are Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Proudfoot, close friends of the McMurphey family.

Ground for the shelter was broken on Labor Day, 1949, and volunteers donated numberless weekends constructing it, under the supervision of Pfeiffer and Springfield contractor, Gale Roberts. All materials were donated by nearby firms.

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## From The Archives - 1946

### February 1946 - *The Obsidian Bulletin*

**T**HE GRANDEUR AND BEAUTY OF THICK FIR LIMBS drooping under the weight of heavy snow and the silent trail that the nine Obsidian skiers traveled over on that "much publicized trip" that Harold led, was worth all of the sore muscles that appeared the next day.

Upon leaving the Willamette playground at straight up noon, the skiers slid down the highway to the Gold Lake road, but then turned south, connecting with the old detour road, now called the Abernathy trail, and soon were high on the ridge, looking down on the railroad, and in the deepest snow in the entire region.

A number of creeks were passed which were recognized but not open because of the deep snow and the going was tough on the leader, so he would only lead for ten minutes, then drop behind and the second in line would be the leader and so on, as all but the leader had good sliding.

Abernathy was reached by 2:00 and lunch was eaten on those wind-swept tracks of the ski patrol. It was here that our leader brought out his "store boughten" four-inch stove. Well, enough has been said.

Skiing down the tracks again until the detour was crossed, and Salt Creek Falls and the Skyline trails were crossed, and soon as slightly down hill was noticed, creek after creek began to open but yet the trees still were heavily laden. It was

crossing some of the creeks that proved to be the time killers, as more than once some one would "douse" his skis; this of course necessitated a new waxing, or the skis would pick up "everything in sight."

Nearing Cruzette the railroad was again above and a number of trains rolled down the canyon. Also the real down hill riding was beginning. A number of fine grades and soon we seemed to reach the bottom, but not for long, as a bridge over a very large creek was passed, then down some more.

Now it was getting dark, and as mile after mile was passed, (one just trusted there would be no holes), it took very good judgment just to stay on the road. It was real dark when another large creek was crossed, and Butterhorn Korn said Salt Creek was next. Salt Creek was next, and it had a bridge over it, that was nearly as good as seeing the light of two cars, waiting for us.

The skiers making the trip: Harold Trotter, George Korn, Paul Lafferty, J.W. McCracken, Walt Banks, Lloyd Gust, Bill McCracken, Bud Nasholm, and Ray Sims.

Next year ...start at "sun up."

*Editor's Note: The Willamette Ski area was in its infancy in 1946 and was referred to as the Willamette playground. See if you can map the route from this cross country ski trip report. The trip leader was Harold Trotter. And some 2010 advice: Stay away from train tracks!*

# Paddle Oregon 2009

By Joan Abel

**I**N AUGUST 2009 I SET OFF ON A FIVE-DAY TRIP with my two daughters, Kris and Dana, and more than 100 other paddlers on the Willamette River. The 96-mile trip spanned from Marshall Island, north of Eugene, to Willamette Mission State Park, north of Salem. The Paddle Oregon trip is in its 10<sup>th</sup> year and is organized by Willamette Riverkeeper. The non-profit organization's purpose is "working to make the Willamette River Watershed healthy for fish and wildlife and safe for fishing and swimming."

Part of the trip's focus is to introduce the natural beauty of the river to the public.

**Day 1** starts with donuts and fruit, and we pack lunches, snacks and water bottles for the 18 miles ahead. We load our baggage onto a large truck that will meet us at our campsite. The paddlers break into "pods" of 12, which separates the faster paddlers from the

more leisurely. Kris brings her own kayak, and Dana and I use a large rental canoe (since my 30-year-old canoe at home leaks). We hit the water and our rental is soon deemed "The Barge" because when the winds whip up, we don't make much headway. We realize in the first ½-hour of the day that the trip is not going to be as relaxed as we thought. A canoe in our pod tips over around one of the first bends, which is the first of several capsizes over the course of the trip!

**The first night's** campsite is at Irish Bend. We camp in the middle of the roadway because The Barge delays our arrival and the better campsites are taken. We have a wonderful white-tablecloth dinner that night from Dalton's Northwest Catering of Tigard, Oregon, which caters the whole trip.

For not paddling more than a few hours at a time for 45 years, we should take advantage of the Yoga guru and a massage therapist at each night's campsite, but instead, we choose to play Scrabble, cards and sing along with Dana's ukulele during our free time. We have to get those things in when we can!

**On Day 2**, we wake to a wonderful buffet breakfast before we start our next 18 miles. We opt to trade in The Barge for a sleeker canoe, which makes all the difference. Since we have beautiful weather, we choose to "play otter" and walk up stream in our lifejackets and float down. It is refreshing! That night, we end up at Camp Willamette Park in Corvallis. Our entertainment is a Maharimba band so paddlers can stretch their legs on the dance floor. The field we choose to camp in has a sprinkler system that comes on early morning.

Luckily, even though it is headed our direction, we hear it early so are able to pick up our tents and gear and move them out of the way. Who knew?

**Day 3** is only 13 miles, so the three of us trade between the kayak and tandem and solo canoes, and actually try a paddleboard in calmer waters. My balance is not what it used to be! That night, we

camp at Camp Bryan Park in Albany, and listen to a geologist from our pod give an interesting talk on the Northwest.

**Day 4** is extremely windy during most of our 21 miles. We are exhausted when we arrive to camp at Wigrich, a hazelnut farm near Independence, but the hazelnuts are well worth the trip!

**The last day** was the longest – 26 miles – but we are greeted by a "YOU'VE MADE IT" sign at the take-out. What a satisfying end to a wonderful but exhausting trip down the Willamette!



If interested in the **2010 Paddle Oregon** trip, contact:  
Willamette Riverkeeper  
1515 SE Water Ave, Suite 102, Portland OR 97214:  
Email: [info@willametteriverkeeper.org](mailto:info@willametteriverkeeper.org)  
Web: [www.willametteriverkeeper.org](http://www.willametteriverkeeper.org)  
(503)223-6418

# BOARD NOTES

January 6, 2010

By Kathy Hoeg, Obsidian Secretary

President Jim Pierce called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Lana Lindstrom, Wayne Deeter, Stewart Hoeg, Verna Kocken, Elle Weaver, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, and Kathy Hoeg.

Also present were: Lenore McManigal, Pat Bitner, Jim Duncan, Laurie Funkhouser, Brian Hamilton, Matt Bell, Liz Reanier, Joanne Ledet, Dan Christensen, John Jacobsen, Paul Flashenberg, Joella Ewing, Scott Hovis, and Doug Nelson.

**Treasurer's Report (Stewart Hoeg):**

Board approved payment of bills.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Summer Trips (Scott Hovis and Brian**

**Hamilton):** Jim Pierce submitted the 2009 Annual Report. 60 different Trip Leaders. Janet Jacobsen, Barb Revere and Marshall Kandell were the stars. Summer trips had 99 hikes, 16 biking trips, 1 kayak/canoe, 1 baseball outing. 878 participants: 692 members and 186 non-members. Summer Trips had \$1487 in income: \$704 members and \$783 non.

**Winter Trips (Paul Flashenberg):** Last month: 8 trips: 6 hikes, 2 Snowshoe. 69 participants: 56 members, 13 non. Revenue \$90: \$56 members, \$34 non.

**Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell):**

There wasn't an outing in December. The 2010 schedule of monthly Trail Maintenance outings on Spencer Butte has been set with City of Eugene Parks and Open Spaces staff. Submitted an application to the American Hiking Society for a grant to help fund a project on National Trails Day. In the coming months I will work with the EPOS staff to schedule and organize a project for the day regardless of grant funding.

**By-Ways-By-Bus (Liz Reanier):** The bus committee met on December 15, 2009. Trip proposals for 2010 were discussed. Ten trips were approved. Two are overnight or are multiple days.

**Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom):**

The focus of the 2010 Summer Camp Committee will be to find a leader and a site for 2011.

**Extended Trips (Jim Duncan):** Three trips on the schedule for 2010.

**Publication (Joanne Ledet):** Thanks to Barb Revere and her committee for all their work in 2009.

**Entertainment (Laurie Funkhouser):**

The December potluck was enjoyed by 39 people with 46 attending the show. Collected \$42.

**Membership (Barb Revere):** We currently have a total of 481 members: 427 Active, 25 Associate, 3 Honorary, 8 Junior, and 18 Life. We plan to re-do the Membership Application form in 2010, and we're taking suggestions Three new members approved.

**Publicity (Elle Weaver):** Many thanks to all the help by the 2009 committee members.

**Concessions (Lyn Gilman-Garrick):**

We made \$88 in December. \$33 from the sale of items at the potluck and \$55 from the sale of 3 t-shirts in July.

**Online (Wayne Deeter):** A list of current Obsidian email addresses was provided. Guidelines for using club email presented. Committees should check web pages for any updates needed. Change so email to our lists will contain list name in subject automatically.

**Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal):** All trip reports have been recorded.

**Lodge Building (Doug Nelson):**

The lodge was rented once in December by non member Jayne Miller for a private event. Rent \$75. Unusually cold weather in early December froze a cold water pipe. Fortunately it did not break. The pipe was exposed by cutting into the bathroom ceiling, thawed, and insulated. It is likely that this should prevent any recurrence of this problem. Sheetrock repairs to follow. Doug has confirmed that Obsidians members who need keys to the Lodge have them. Doug also reminded everyone to let him know when you want to use the Lodge, so he can be sure there are no conflicts.

**Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen):**

There was one small work party in December. Work continues (very slowly) on the Dallas Cole mural on the retaining wall in front of the Lodge.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Conservation, Science, and Education:**

The committee wrote new wording for its description in the Bylaws. The Board approved the wording.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Mileage Rate:** Stewart Hoeg reported that the Bylaws allow the Board to consider adjustment of the club's mileage rate when the IRS changes its rate. The IRS rate has just gone from \$0.55/mile to \$0.50/mile. The Board retained the club's current rate of \$0.09/mile.

**Approval of Committee Members:**

The Board approved the lists of committee members that had been submitted via email by the chairpersons. Doug Nelson was approved as the Chair of the Building committee and will submit a list of committee members at the next Board meeting.

**Membership in Travel Lane County:**

Elle Weaver described the ads the club has had in the relocation and tourism publications. She plans to retain one ad there and also put an ad in Tyler Burgess' "Walk With Me" quarterly newsletter.

**2010 Budget:** Stewart Hoeg presented the budget which he created after input from the committee chairs. The Board approved the budget.

**New Members:** The Board approved the three new members proposed by the Membership Committee.

**Plans and Priorities for 2010:** Jim Pierce believes it would be useful for the Board to become more familiar with the workings of each committee and would also like each committee to review its Bylaws description. He proposed that at each Board meeting two committees present their information. He will contact the Membership and Historian committees about presenting in February. The *Bulletin* would like to receive copies of the committees' presentations for use in future issues.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Bulletin:** Joanne Ledet reported that the *Bulletin* committee has decided to publish 10 issues a year instead of the current 11. The December issue will be combined with the November issue. The reason for the change is that there are few trips or other club activities to report at that time of year.

# TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



## Hikes

### **Vivian Lake**

**September 19, 2009**

**Leader: Charles Durham**

**8 miles, 1,600 ft. (Moderate)**



**THIS WAS THE PERFECT HIKE:** with all the things that could go wrong on a hike, this one unfolded like clock work. The weather was just great when we left Eugene at 8 am. We had a coffee/restroom stop in Oakridge and were on the trail by 10 am. The timing was just right, because at around 10:45 am just as we crossed to railroad tracks we were able to see and feel first hand the Amtrak Coast Starlite Train coming from Los Angeles heading to Seattle. I love trains and this was a real treat. We had lunch at Vivian Lake and the clouds opened up and we were able to get a good view of Mt Yoran. The water at the lake was too cool for a swim, so we picked a few huckleberries and headed back. We arrived back in Eugene all safe and sound at 4:30 pm. It was a perfect hike and another wonderful date with nature. Members: Charles Durham, Margaret Bayless, Nola Nelson, Brenda Kameenui, Dick Hildreth, Lamonte Smith; nonmembers included Tonya Cronkright, Dralyn Vanness, Leslie Graymer.

### **Silver Falls State Park**

**October 31, 2009**

**Leader: Becky Lipton**

**6.7 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)**

**SEVEN LUCKY HIKERS** enjoyed the beauty of waterfalls and fall colors glowing through the mist after a night of rainfall. It was truly a treat for the eye and the camera, with the low light levels just perfect to create the glow without shadows. Members: Daniele Delaby, Sachiko Iwasaki, Brenda Kameenui, Becky Lipton, Ernst Schwintzner, Barbara Schomaker and Lamonte Smith.

### **Deception Butte**

**November 29, 2009**

**Leader: Chuck Wagar**

**7.8 miles, 2,400 ft. (Difficult)**

**THIS TRIP WAS SCHEDULED** to replace the Larison Rock trip. Leader determined pre-trip that significant downed trees on the Larison Rock Trail made that trip a no go and reported the downed trees to the Forest Service. Participants appreciated the opportunity for a replacement hike. The Deception Butte Trail was fairly dry despite earlier days' rains. Sunshine was the norm for the day, although we really didn't bask in it (thick forest) until we paid our dues to get to the summit. We plowed through waist-deep powdered snow even though there were only sprinkles on the ground and no mosquitoes! A flyover of at least four jet planes in various formations occurred way, way, way up in the sky while we had lunch. Could the leader have planned such a thing? I'll never tell why the planes dipped their wings. But the participants wouldn't believe me unless the planes spelled out "Hi Chuck" with their vapor trails. Various conversations took place regarding trees and flora. The participants made the leader's role easy. They were members Mari Baldwin, Mary Holbert and Moshe Rapaport, and Chuck Wagar.

### **Ribbon Trail/Mt. Baldy**

**December 5, 2009**

**Leaders: Janet Jacobsen and Barb Revere**

**5 miles, 600 ft. (Easy)**

**FOG AND FROST DID NOT PREVENT** eighteen warmly dressed hikers from showing up at Hendricks Park to hike on the Ribbon Trail to Mt. Baldy. We even stopped at the lodge for a peek at the mural. We had a brain-challenging car shuttle that allowed six people led by Barb Revere to walk back to Hendricks Park, six people to be shuttled to 30th Street overpass and then walk back on the Ribbon Trail, and five people to be shuttled back to Hendricks Park; with drivers Joan Abel and Janet Jacobsen, that should add up to 18. You do the math. At least we didn't lose anyone. For those who were shuttled, the trip took around 3 hours. Everyone was pleased with "one trip fits all." Members: Joan Abel, Jane Allen, LaRee Beckley, Myron Cook, Anne Hollander, Janet Jacobsen, Effie Neth, Sarah Praskievicz, Moshe Rapaport, Barb Revere, Bonnie Richman, Darko Sojak and Charlie Van Duesen; nonmembers: Amber Bullington, Briana Bullington, Mike Bullington, Heather Home and Charlotte Peterson.

### **Belknap Resort/McKenzie River Trail**

**December 8, 2009**

**Leader & Photographer: Barb Revere**

**8 miles, 300 ft. (Moderate)**

**MOISTURE CRYSTALLIZED INSTANTLY IN THE AIR** and we all snuggled collars up around our faces as we started out from the McKenzie Bridge Ranger Station toward Belknap. Tem-



peratures were in the low teens. My fingers spent much of the time curled up in my palms out of the fingers of my gloves, staying warm. But we were a well-outfitted crowd of ten seasoned Obsidians and we had such fun looking at the bejeweled branches and rocks in the shallows of the creeks and river. 'McKenzie bling' (name coined for a tree along Lost Creek that had a bead of ice on every terminal twig!), ice-crowned rocks, frozen baubles, frosted brush and ice curtains at falls were some of the frozen delights we witnessed. In places we saw that water froze in a peculiar inverted jellyfish shape around branches that trailed in the flowing streams.

The small tree just above the natural hot springs at Belknap was completely 'flocked' for the holidays as the vapor rising from the 145-degree water encrusted its branches. The 102-degree pool was a welcoming balm for the cold, though we swimmers seemed to have internal pop-up timers as we all stood up regularly to cool in the cold air - these were very brief moments! The Belknap hike is always fun and this group was a joy. All good sports and great fun to hike with! Thanks. Members: Bill Aspegren, Daniele Delaby, Walt Dolliver, Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen, Barb Revere, Susan Sanazaro and Pat Soussan.

### Spencer Butte from Dillard West

**December 15, 2009**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**6.2 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)**

**THANKS TO PAT ESCH** who doesn't mind hiking in the rain, Janet Jacobsen, Martha Welches, and Cathy Irwin decided not to cancel out on what might be a miserable hike. During the satisfying three-hour hike, we gave Pat a plethora of commendations for her foresight. This is the first of four hikes planned for Spencer Butte, each from a different trailhead. The Dillard West section of the trail to Fox Hollow is in good shape and does not add much elevation to the hike. This being her third trip, Cathy had her membership form ready to mail. Members: Pat Esch, Janet Jacobsen and Martha Welches; nonmember: Cathy Irwin.

### Kentucky Falls

**December 16, 2009**

**Leader & Photographer: Jim Pierce**

**4.4 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)**



**SURE IT RAINED, AND RAINED, AND RAINED.** We had rain gear so we were ready. There were lots of rocks on the roads and trail from the recent freezing. The wet trail was spongy, like the tree bark. The rivers were gushing torrents, not the dainty ribbons of summer. The waterfalls shouted with JOY - what a treat for the four of us! Members Myron Cook, Gisele Garrity, and leader Jim Pierce; nonmember Jeff Kornfeld.

### Three Mile Lake - Tahkenitch State Park

**December 20, 2009**

**Leader: Becky Lipton**

**6.7 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)**

**SIX BRAVE SOULS** defied the forecast for rain and enjoyed this lovely tromp through forested dunes, low beach dunes and along the beach where we saw bear tracks along the ocean's edge, likely left that morning. Only on the return loop did the rain finally arrive. Fortunately the temperatures were quite warm, so none minded the soaking until we got out of the vehicles back in chilly Eugene. Brr!! Members: Mari Baldwin, Paul Flashenberg, Becky Lipton and Pat Soussan; nonmembers: Don Cross and John Higby.

### Mt. Pisgah Winter Solstice Hike

**December 21, 2009**

**Leader: Rick Ahrens & Janet Jacobsen**

**Photo: Margaret Essenberg**

**3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Easy)**

**A HINT OF BLUE SKY AND SUN** greeted eighteen of us at the Mt. Pisgah parking lot for our 3:30 pm winter solstice hike. We were thrilled with warm temperatures and no wind or rain. We had high hopes for a sighting of sunset through the slot in the Mt. Pisgah pedestal. Up on top, our hopes were crushed when we saw the clouds stacked to the west. Perhaps that was just as well since a crowd of runners blocked our view of the slots as they huddled around the pedestal festooned with wine bottles and cheese. At 4:47, we joined the

# Hikes

(Continued from page 10)

runners in their annual winter solstice countdown. Next year, we need to bring snacks and hot apple cider to share. Thanks to Rick Ahrens who entertained us with the finer points of winter solstice trivia. Members: John Agnew, Rick Ahrens, Dave Becker, LaRee Beckley, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Pat Esch, Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, Richard Hughes, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Effie Neth and Pat Soussan; nonmembers: Jeff Kornfield, Cathy Irwin, Jim Mitchell and Janet Wulling.



## Snow Shoe Trips

### Three-Fingered Jack View

December 1, 2009

Leader: Dick Hildreth

7 miles, 900 ft. (Difficult)

**E**XPECTING MOUNTAIN SUN, we were met with blowing fog from the east, so no view of Jack, even though we reached the viewpoint 3 1/2 miles north on the PCT from Santiam Sno-Park. We retreated back down the ridge for a relatively comfortable lunch in the trees above Jack Meadows. Participants "enjoyed" the stark winter beauty of the burn area very much. Members: Danny Harris, Dick Hildreth, Daphne James, Moshe Rapaport, Bistra Hristova and Elle Weaver; nonmembers: Brent Clark, and Sylvia Pederson.

## Feast or Famine

(Continued from page 3)

He extracts a small piece of cheese.

My eyes go wide with horror. He brought the wrong bag.

"We have some cheese," he offers. "And crackers." He shakes the box to demonstrate. The rattling sounds ominously like crumbs. "And here's an orange and some chocolate chips."

We munch.

I walk to the water, sprinkle it with granola and croon. "Here, fishy, fishy." He laughs. Little does he know that if a



*Obsidians gather on Mt. Pisgah waiting for the winter solstice.*

### Odell Overview

December 20, 2009

Leader: Scott Hovis

3 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)

**I WAS SECOND GUESSING MYSELF** when we put on our snowshoes in the rain. But luckily it quickly let up. The snow was poor which isn't all that unusual for mid-December, but enough to enjoy the area. Gold Lake is higher in elevation than a lot of snowparks, so it's a good place to start looking for snow during the milder weeks in winter. The Westview shelter is nicely stocked with wood for the stove. Snowpark passes can be bought at Rascal's on the west end of Oakridge, and are also available at the warming hut at Gold Lake Snowpark Sat/Sun. We saw a couple of eagles at the Odell overview. Members: Bill Aspegren, Scott Hovis, and Judy Ness.

trout should suddenly appear between my hands, I would knock it on the head and eat it. Perhaps without even introducing it to a fire. But there's no trout.

An uncomfortable silence descends as we start back.

"At least it's mostly downhill this way," he chirps.

"Mmmmmm-hmmmm."

Another silence.

"You know," he says. "we could go into town for supper."

"Hmmmmmmmm?"

"I mean, decadence is OK sometimes. I mean, I think we deserve it."

"Hmmmmmm..."

"We'll do it! We can have fish, or chicken..."

"Hmmmmmm...?"

"...or charcoal broiled steak. OK?"

Ah, at last the man is speaking my language.

*Editor's Note: Lee wrote this article for the Northwest Magazine in the mid 1980s. She has given us permission to reprint it in the Bulletin. Lee's husband, Gary Kirk, is a longtime Obsidian member and a past Obsidian president. Could he be the "he" above?*

# A Winter's Trail

**Sun., Jan 17 – Arrowhead Lake – X-Ski, difficult.** Your trail leaves Gold Lake Sno-Park and travels south into Diamond Peak Wilderness on the Pacific Crest Trail. You'll pass Midnight Lake before arriving at your destination and lunch spot at smaller Arrowhead Lake. The scenery is beautiful and solitude is your companion as you stop at intervals to view Diamond Peak to the south. Doug McCarty leads this 8 mi., 900' ski trip. NOTE: This same trip (perhaps a somewhat different route) will be led by John Cooper on Sat., Feb. 6.

**Sat., Jan. 23 – Bechtel Shelter – S'Shoe, moderate.** Join Marianne Camp on this trip to Bechtel Shelter, from Gold Lake Sno-Park. Starting on the PCT and then branching north, this easy trail sticks to roads except for the last 50 yards of traversing trail. The shelter is in a pretty clearing with frosted trees all around and curious gray jays flitting in close, looking for handouts. 4mi, 400'.

**Sat., Jan. 23 – Berely Lakes – X-Ski, moderate.** If skiing is your winter sport, Brian Hamilton leads this 'off-the-beaten-path' trip, taking the PCT into two lakes at the foot of Three Fingered Jack. The area was partially burnt in 2003, so many open vistas provide views of the major Cascades in their winter splendor. 7mi, 600'.

**Sat., Jan. 23 -- Maiden Peak Shelter – S'Shoe, difficult.** For those looking for a heavy workout and beautiful far-reaching views, try this trip led by Matt Bell up onto the saddle of Maiden Peak. Views are to the south into Diamond Peak Wilderness. 12mi, 900'. NOTE: Another opportunity to visit Maiden Pk. -- perhaps via different route— occurs Thurs., Feb. 4, with leaders Jan Anselmo and Lyndell Wilken.

**Sun., Jan. 24 -- Sand Mountain Plateau – X-Ski, difficult.** Sand Mountain sports two calderas and a raven's view of the Santiam Pass area. Mts. Washington, Jefferson and Three Fingered Jack and the Sisters will be on view if the weather cooperates. In fact, great views abound on all areas of this gently sloping mountain because of past burns that left the slopes largely open. Led by Sam Miller. 9mi, 1000'.

**Sat., Jan. 30 – Lava Lake – S'Shoe, difficult.** Leader Scott Hovis leads this trip in the Santiam Junction area. You'll leave from the Lava Lake Sno-Park, taking trails discovered on trips Scott led last year. 7mi, 300'.

**Sun., Jan. 31 – JoAnn & Lorin Lakes – X-Ski, difficult.** If what you're hankering for is something new, join leader Dave Jensen on this trip to two small lakes northwest of Gold Lake, in the lower Waldo Lake Wilderness. A search of old trip reports yields nothing for these lakes, so perhaps it'll be a first for Obsidians, or perhaps we have visited the lakes on past trips to Island Lakes. 10mi, 1000'. NOTE: Scott Hovis leads this trip on Sat., Feb. 6 also.

**Tue., Feb. 2 – Spencer Butte – Hike, moderate.** Can you see your shadow on Spencer Butte on Groundhog Day? I don't

think there are any groundhogs on Spencer Butte – but be sure to join Janet Jacobsen on this trip in the south hills starting on Canyon at Martin St. Janet often picks up trash, so if you'd like to help, bring a plastic bag or two. 6.5mi, 1500'.

**Sat. Feb. 6 – Maiden Peak – S'Shoe, difficult.** Get some serious back country experiences on this trip led by Matt Bell. Starting in the Gold Lake area, you snowshoe down to the shelter and then it's on to the summit on the Maiden Peak trail. Bring extra snacks, you'll be working hard. 16mi, 3000'.

**Sun., Feb. 7 – Maxwell Shelter – S'Shoe, moderate.** The South Maxwell Shelter, newly built in 2007, is reached via a 5-mile loop trail through forests with lovely snowy vistas. A horse trail area when the snow is gone, there are many fine trails to explore. Daphne James leads this trip near the Santiam Pass, off highway 22. 5mi, 600'.

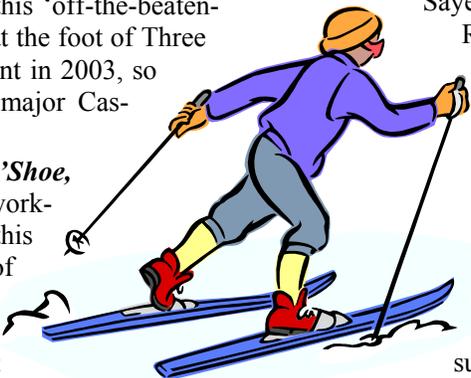
**Sun., Feb. 7 – Redtop Mountain – X-Ski, difficult.** Gordon Sayer leads this ski trip on the quiet slopes of Redtop Mt. Views of surrounding peaks will dominate. Crowds aren't usually a problem in this "tucked away place". 8mi, 2100'.

**Wed., Feb. 10 – Row River Trail – Hike, moderate.** A trail better known for biking, you'll hike along the north shore of Dorena Lake and then Row River. The area is in rolling hills but the walk will be flat. Wear shoes with good cushion as the surface is paved. Join Sandra Larsen on this 6mi, 200' trip.

**Wed., Feb. 10 – Willamette Bike Path – Hike, moderate.** It's always fun to take this trip led each winter by Ruth Romoser. Non-snowsport enthusiasts appreciate our in-town winter trips; they're great occasions to get together with old Obsidian friends, and we make new friends, too. 8mi, flat.

**Sat., Feb. 13 -- Rosary Lakes – S'Shoe or X-Ski, difficult.** We offer a choice: Snowshoe with Laurie Funkhouser or cross-country ski with Sue Wolling. Either mode of travel will give you a great day out. Beginning from Willamette Pass your route winds up the Pacific Crest Trail to a string of small lakes on the south shoulder of Maiden Peak. The views are of the Diamond Peak Wilderness and the Willamette Pass ski area. The trail is up, up, up, and then you get the fun of down, down, down all the way back to complete your trip. 8mi, 700'.

**Tue., Feb. 16 – Diamond Creek Falls, S'Shoe, easy. Water,** water everywhere: frozen, flowing and falling. This is a great first trip if you are feeling timid about your snow shoeing abilities. Jim Pierce leads this perennial favorite that includes views of two magnificent waterfalls Diamond Creek and Salt Creek Falls, Too Much Bear Lake and a big fluffy blanket of snow to cushion your stride. The trail is gentle throughout and everyone feels like a kid again on this just for fun trip to enjoy water at its most beautiful. 4.3mi 350'.



## Upcoming Extended Trips

# Crater Lake XC Ski & Snowshoe Weekend

March 26-28 • Cost: Members \$130; non \$135

### DID YOU KNOW THAT:

-- Formed by the explosion and collapse of 12,000-foot-high Mt. Mazama some 7,700 years ago, Crater Lake is the deepest lake in the United States and possibly the bluest! - A mountain hemlock log, dubbed the Old Man, has been floating upright in the lake for more than 100 years, carried here and there by wind currents.—The lake's depth of 1,958 feet conceals the wreckage of a helicopter that crashed into the lake in September 1995 . . . and what other secrets? --The rim is snowbound for eight months of the year, with average snowfall of 533 inches.

**T**HAT'S MORE THAN ENOUGH TO convince us that it's time for another Obsidian trip to Crater Lake. Please join co-leaders Beth Kodama and Sharon Duncan on March 26-28 (Friday – Sunday) for a weekend of outdoor exercise and scenic beauty. We'll follow the example of Theodore Roosevelt, Zane Grey, and Jack London, and stay in the hamlet of Prospect, at the Prospect Hotel. From there, we'll car-pool to the rim of Crater Lake (about 28 miles away) to ski, snowshoe, or just take pictures of this beautiful natural wonder. If you've never visited in the winter, this is your chance. You'll find it enchanting.

The price of the trip includes shared accommodations (2-4 per room) Friday and Saturday nights in the motel section of the Prospect Hotel, buffet breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday, and dinner on Saturday evening in the hotel's lovely dining room. Bring your own fixings for lunch.

NOTE: The Crater Lake Lodge at the rim of the lake is closed in winter, which is why we're staying in Prospect, a 45-minute drive from the South Rim of the lake.



To reserve your spot, send a \$10 nonrefundable check payable to the Obsidians to Beth Kodama, 2075 Morning View Drive, Eugene, OR 97405. Please include your phone number and your e-mail address, if you have one. The balance of the fee will be due by Friday, February 20. The pre-trip meeting will be at the lodge on Monday, March 8, at 7 pm. For more information, contact Beth 686-3297 or [mamakodama@comcast.net](mailto:mamakodama@comcast.net).

# Spring Basin and Badlands Wildernesses

April 30-May 3 • Cost: Members \$89; non \$94

By Chris Stockdale

**J**OIN FELLOW OBSIDIANS as we explore some of the newest wilderness areas of Oregon. We will head to Spring Basin Wilderness on Friday, April 30 for two nights and on Sunday we will have an optional trip to hike in the Badlands Wilderness just east of Bend. Since the hiking will be in a wilderness area, the trip is limited to 12 participants. (We might be able to accommodate non-hiking companions by special request.)

We will be staying at the OMSI Camp Hancock Field Station, a rustic but comfortable camp right on the edge of the Spring Basin Wilderness close to the John Day Clarno unit. The camp has A-frame huts with bunk beds, and we will be housed in those with two beds each. Communal showers and toilets are close by, and meals are served in the dining hall.

Included in the trip price are two dinners, two breakfasts and lunch fixings.

We will spend Saturday and Sunday morning hiking and exploring parts of the wilderness and hope to find blooming hedgehog cactus and other wild flowers. On Sunday, those who would like to visit the Badlands will head for Bend and a motel for the night (not included in the trip price) and will hike this unusual area on Monday.

More information about these areas can be found in the article I wrote for the June 2009 *Bulletin*.

To reserve your spot, send a non-refundable check for \$20 payable to the Obsidians to Chris Stockdale, PO Box 961, Creswell, OR 97426. Call Chris at 541-767-3668 for more information, or email her at [chrisveryan@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisveryan@yahoo.com).

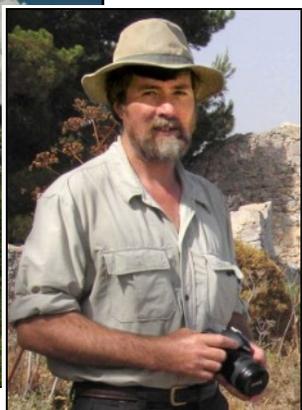
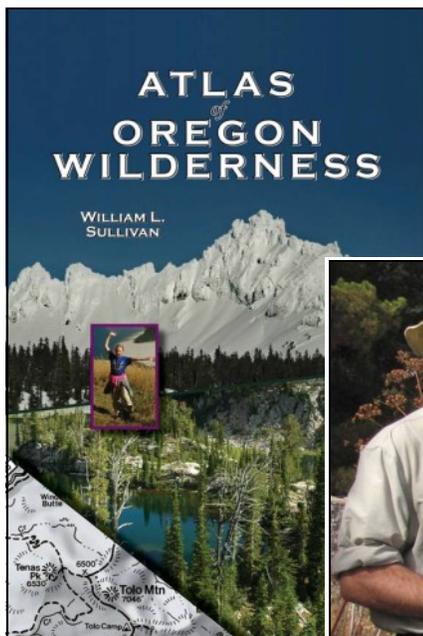
## AT THE LODGE



# POTLUCK

Friday January 29:

## Exploring Oregon's New Wilderness Areas



**T**HIS MONTH'S POTLUCK FEATURES **BILL SULLIVAN** presenting a slide show tour of Oregon's most beautiful Wilderness Areas, including areas newly designated by Congress. From Mt. Hood to the Willows, from the Oregon Dunes to Steens Mountain, expect tips for summer backpacking, winter tours, and day hikes amidst Oregon's most spectacular scenery, based on Sullivan's just published book, *Atlas of Oregon Wilderness*. As always, Bill Sullivan spices his talk with notes on the geology, wildlife, and history of the land.

*Laurie Funkhouser, Entertainment Chair*

### January Potluck

**Friday, January 29, 2010 - Obsidian Lodge  
Potluck, 6:30 pm Program, 7:30 pm**

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



## GAMES DAY

**O**BSIDIANS ARE CREATIVE, enthusiastic people who like to try lots of fun and interesting activities! Which is probably why there was a nice turnout for the recent Games Day at the Lodge on December 27. The group -- 20 members and friends -- played a wide variety of board games, card games, and word games and enjoyed snacks and a blazing fire in the fireplace.

Join us for the next Games Day on **Sunday, February 28, from 2:00 - 4:00 PM at the Lodge**. Lana, Lyn, and Kathy will provide lots of games, so you just need to show up ready to have fun. You're also invited to bring any of your own games that you'd like to play.

Bring a snack to share and \$1 for lodge expenses. Coffee and tea will be provided.



# Trail Maintenance - 2010

**T**HE 2010 DATES for the monthly trail maintenance outings on Spencer Butte and the Ridgeline Trail System have been set. Also, we're working with Parks and Open Spaces staff to schedule a bigger project to celebrate National Trails Day on Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup>. The dates are the last Saturdays of the month from 9 am to noon except in the summer when they switch to the last Wednesday of the month from 5:30-8:00 to keep our weekends free for hiking! If you would like to find out about the meeting place or have any questions, please e-mail: [trails@obsidians.org](mailto:trails@obsidians.org)

January 30th, 9 to noon	February 27th, 9 to noon
March 27th, 9 to noon	April 24th, 9 to noon
May 26th, 5:30 pm to 8	June 30th, 5:30 pm to 8
July 28th, 5:30 pm to 8	August 25th, 5:30 pm to 8
September 29th, 5:30 to 8	October 30th, 9 to noon
November 27th, 9 to noon	

*Matthew Bell, Trail Maintenance Chair*

## Trip and Leader Logs Updated



**F**OR EIGHTEEN YEARS Historian Lenore McManigal has recorded each trip on the individual page(s) for each member in the log books. On December 12<sup>th</sup> Janet Jacobsen and Tashi Choden counted the number of trips, and trips led, for each member during 2009 and entered it in the membership database.

To check out the new totals for trips and for trips led go to "Members Only" on the Obsidian website. If you have questions, please contact Lenore at [mcmanigal5091@comcast.net](mailto:mcmanigal5091@comcast.net).



## Bus Rally!

**M**ARK YOUR CALENDAR for the Obsidian Bus Rally on Sunday afternoon, February 21 at the lodge.

This is the best way to find out about bus trips and sign up for the trips you want to take. More details and the upcoming bus schedule will be in the February *Bulletin*.

The bus committee has proposed ten trips for 2010. The first bus trip of the year is scheduled for late March and the last of the year is a December holiday dinner and Christmas Lights tour in Salem. Most of the trips are between 8:00 am and 5-6:00 pm and travel is within the state. One in-state trip that explores the Columbia Gorge area will be an over-night (staying at the Hood River Inn). It is scheduled for May 11-12, a Tuesday and Wednesday.

August 16- 21<sup>st</sup> will be our long trip to Harrison Hot Springs. Stops along the way include Minter Gardens, Hells Gate Air Tram, the scenic Fraser River drive, Great Blue Heron Nature Preserve, and Bridal Veil Falls.

# Obsidian Calendar

## January 2010

16 Sat – **Dorris Ranch**, 3m E, B.Revere .....543-3514  
 17 Sun – **Arrowhead Lake**, X-Ski, **D**, D.McCarty 342-6962  
 23 Sat – **Bechtel Shelter**, S'Shoe, **M** Camp.....221-1866  
 23 Sat – **Berley Lakes**, X-Ski, **M**, B.Hamilton .....343-6550  
 23 Sat – **Maiden Ski Shelter**, S'Shoe, **D**, Bell 503-884-8829  
 24 Sun – **Sand Mtn Plateau**, X-Ski, **D**, S.Miller...484-4586  
 29 Fri – **New Wilderness Potluck**, Sullivan..... **Lodge**  
 30 Sat – **Lava Lake**, S'Shoe 7m 300' **D**, S.Hovis...345-7788  
 30 Sat – **Spencer Butte**, Trail Maint, M Bell. 503-884-8829  
 31 Sun – **JoAnn/Lorin Lakes**, X-Ski, **D**, Jensen...344-1363

## February

2 Tue – **Spencer Butte**, 6.5, **M**, Jacobsen .....343-8030  
 4 Thu – **Maiden Peak**, X-Ski, **D**, J.Anselmo .....782-2369  
 6 Sat – **Arrowhead Lake**, X-Ski, **D**, J.Cooper.....344-8517  
 6 Sat – **JoAnn Lake**, S'Shoe 9m 1200' **D**, S.Hovis 345-7788  
 6 Sat – **Maiden Peak**, S'Shoe, **D**, M.Bell ..... 503-884-8829  
 7 Sun – **Maxwell Shelter**, S'Shoe, **M**, D.James .....683-7488  
 7 Sun – **Redtop Mtn**, X-Ski, **D**, G. Sayre .....345-2370  
 10 Wed – **Row River Trail**, Hike, **D**, S.Larsen .....687-2589  
 10 Wed – **Willamette Bike Path**, **M**, Romoser .....726-8154  
 13 Sat – **Rosary Lakes**, S'Shoe, **D**, Funkhouser....206-2303  
 13 Sat – **Rosary Lakes**, X-Ski, **M**, S.Wolling .....345-2110  
 14 Sun – **Sweet & Beaver Creek**, **M**, Revere.....543-3514  
 16 Tue – **SciEd Tuesday**, LeGue..... **Lodge**  
 16 Tue – **Dmnd Creek Falls**, S'Shoe, **M**, Pierce...344-1775  
 19 Fri – **W Eugene Wetlands**, **E**, Cunningham.....344-0486  
 20 Sat – **Gold Lake**, S'Shoe, **M**, C.Durham .....687-0885  
 21 Sun – **Bus Rally**..... **Lodge**  
 21 Sun – **Maiden Peak**, X-Ski, **D**, D.McCarty .....342-6962  
 25 Thu – **Tahkenitch Dunes**, Hike, **M**, S.Larsen ..687-2589  
 25 Thu – **Tahkenitch Dunes**, Hike, **M**, S.Larsen ..687-2589  
 26 Fri – **East Europe Potluck**, Lindstrom..... **Lodge**  
 27 Sat – **Spencer Butte**, Trail Maint, M Bell. 503-884-8829  
 28 Sun – **Talking Stones**, Hike, **M**, R. Ahrens .....689-3996

## March

7 Sun – **Fuji Shelter Loop**, X-Ski, **D**, Anderson ...946-1732  
 13 Sat – **Gold Lake**, X-Ski, **M**, L.Funkhouser.....206-2303  
 13 Sat – **Walk, Wine & Dine**, Hike, **E**, J.Ledet.....683-2603  
 14 Sun – **Island Lakes Loop**, X-Ski, **D**, Jensen.....344-1363  
 15 Mon – **North Shasta Loop**, Hike **M**, Romoser..726-8154



**SciEd Tuesday:**

**Will Return in February**

**S**CIED TUESDAY PROGRAM by Oregon Wild speaker Chandra LeGue will return February 16 at 7 pm. Her topic of old growth forest is subject to change if a more pertinent environmental issue jumps to the forefront. Watch the February Bulletin for more detail

*Joella Ewing, SciEd Chair*



*An icy McKenzie River - Photo by Margaret Essenberg*

January 2010



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