

Inside This Issue

Storm Damage	1
Obituaries	2
Directory Updates	2
Eugene Heroes	3
April Board Notes	4
Trip Reports & Activities	5-8
Summer Trips Update	9
New Concession Items	9
Upcoming Events	10-11
At The Lodge	12
Calendar	13
Classifieds	13
REI Climb Presentation	13
Board Nominations?	13
Picture of the Month	14

Dates to Remember

April 17	Buford Park ExploraTalk
April 27	Camp Rally/Potluck
April 28	Bulletin Deadline
May 2	Board Meeting

Complete current schedules at:
www.observians.org or
Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

Obsidians and Friends Help Out With March Storm Damage

Janet Jacobsen



Working on Ridgeline Trail

THE OBSIDIAN LODGE: MARCH 23

PAT ADAMS, LARRY DUNLAP, CLARA EMLÉN, RICHARD HUGHES, BRENDA KAMEENUI, GARY KIRK, LANA LINDSTROM, NOLA NELSON, AND JIM PIERCE JOINED GROUNDS CHAIR, JOHN JACOBSEN on Friday, March 23 to clean up at the Lodge. John said, “We had three chainsaws going cutting up the fallen trees and three pickups hauling debris. We had several large branches broken and hung up in oak trees. In one case, the whole tree came down while trying to pull the branch down, and in another case, about half the tree fell when we

(Continued on page 3)

Obituaries

KEN LODEWICK: 1921-2012

KEN LODEWICK, a long-time Obsidian member, passed away on March 4, 2012. Ken's first trip with the Obsidians was to a wilderness area in 1956. Over the following years he participated in 204 trips and led 70 of those excursions. His last trip with the Obsidians was in 2004.

He is survived by his wife, Robin, also an Obsidian member.

Editor's Note: The online April 2007 Bulletin has an article: "Lodewicks and Penstemon"

GEORGE JEFFCOTT: 1943-2012

GEORGE JEFFCOTT, a current Obsidian member, passed away on March 11, 2012. George joined the club in 1992 and quickly became involved in Obsidian activities, especially with summer camp. He and his wife attended eight summer camps, and he chaired the camps in 1999 and 2000. George had a knack for making any event fun and making members want to participate, even in camp clean-up. He bestowed numerous camp awards on campers and received a few himself, including an award in 2003 for Best Bird Imitation.

George was a teacher in several 4J schools, having recently retired. He is survived by his wife, Diane, also an Obsidian member, and two sons.

Directory Updates

THE OBSIDIAN DIRECTORY IS PRINTED ONCE A YEAR. Updates can be made by accessing your own online account. Select 'account info' and enter any changes. Members should look at the online member contact list for the most updated phone and email contact info. The directory cannot be changed after it is issued but the web info is updated as needed. Updates can also be made by contacting me through membership@obsidians.org. Thanks!

Elle Weaver, Membership Chair.

Welcome

QUIGLEY, MICHAEL (Active)
845 Sunview Street
Eugene, OR 97404
484-9669
mquigley2010@gmail.com

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322, Eugene, OR 97440

Website: www.obsidians.org

Board of Directors

Elle Weaver, President
Matt Bell, Vice President
Kathy Hoeg, Secretary
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer
Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, John Jacobsen & Nancy Whitfield
Board meetings are held at 6 PM the first Wednesday of each month, except October when it is the Wednesday after the Annual Meeting, and no meeting in August.

Committee Chairpersons

Byways By Bus	Liz Reanier
Climbs	Sue Sullivan
Concessions	Lyn Gilman-Garrick
Conservation/SciEd	Joella Ewing
Entertainment	Susan Wanser
Extended Trips	Chris Stockdale
Finance	Stewart Hoeg
Librarian/Historian	Lenore McManigal
Lodge Building	Doug Nelson
Lodge Grounds	John Jacobsen
Membership	Elle Weaver
Online	Wayne Deeter
Publications	Nola Nelson
Publicity	Jan Jacobsen
Safety	Pat Esch
Summer Camp	Lana Lindstrom
Summer Trips	Tom Musselwhite
Trail Maintenance	Matt Bell
Winter Trips	Jim Pierce

The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

© 2012

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

bulletin@obsidians.org

For reprint rights, contact:

The Obsidian Bulletin

P.O. Box 51424, Eugene, OR 97405

**Deadline
for May 2012 Bulletin
Saturday, April 28, 2012**

Assembly/Mailing Team

For March Bulletin

Assembly & Mail Manager - Lou Maenz
Assembly Team - Tom Adamczyk,
Clara Emlen, Yuan Hopkins, Vi Johnson,
and John & Lenore McManigal

Editorial Team

Writing & Editorial Staff - Bea Fontana,
Joanne Ledet, Nola Nelson, Beth Roy,
and Ethel Weltman
Copy Editors - Beth Roy & Ethel Weltman
Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing -
Stewart Hoeg

Matthew Bell and the Obsidians Honored by the Eugene Parks Foundation

Lindsey Kruger

THE EUGENE PARKS FOUNDATION is pleased to announce that Matthew Bell and the Obsidians will be honored as community heroes for your club's long-term commitment to trail maintenance, field trips, monthly work parties, and dedicated stewardship of Eugene's parks and open space, particularly the Ridgeline Trail.

Join us for the Eugene Parks Foundation Community Hero Awards Dinner on Friday, April 27, at the Eugene Country Club. The inspirational celebration will begin with a reception at 5:30 PM, followed by dinner at 6:15 and the awards program at 7:00. The evening will include a live wine auction, donated by local collectors and curated by Marché Restaurant and Provisions Wine Director, Ryan Stotz. The guest speaker for the evening is none other than local author and award-winning columnist Bob Welch.

In addition to the Obsidians, Brandi Ferguson and Friends of Awbrey Park, and the Maurie Jacobs Family will also be honored at the awards ceremony. Our 2012 Heroes join a prestigious list of previous Hero Award recipients, including Darryl Larson, Jim Torrey, Oregon Track Club, Ruth Bascom, Friends of Hendricks Park, Riverloop Connection organizers, State Representative Nancy Nathanson, Rotarian Ray Wiley, Friends of Buford Park, John Brown and the Alton Baker Family.

Don't miss a fun evening of live music, delicious food, and the opportunity to celebrate your own accomplishments

alongside many others making a difference in our community through their collective dedication to Eugene's parks, recreation, and open space. Seating is limited. Tickets are currently available for \$65 each. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit the Eugene Parks Foundation website www.eugeneparksfoundation.org by April 20, 2012.



(Storm from page 1)

tried to pull the hung branch out. But by noon virtually all was done and cleaned up. So all together we lost about five oak trees (a couple were on their last leg anyway), a madrone, plus a lot of branches were busted out of other trees. Almost all of the two French lilacs that flanked the front steps were flattened and removed. Those lilacs came from cuttings from my Grandmother's lilac in North Dakota and have been growing by the Lodge since I planted them about 25 years ago." Nola Nelson remarked that it was too bad they didn't have a camera to capture the chain sawing Obsidians.

RIDGELINE TRAIL: SATURDAY, MARCH 31

Ridgeline Trail volunteers received this email from Matt Bell, Trail Maintenance Chair: ****IMPORTANT: The task for Saturday outing has changed to clearing storm damage.****

The City has asked that we change the task for the outing to clearing the Ridgeline, Tie, and Main and West Summit trails of storm damage. We are still meeting at the Willamette and 52nd parking lot.

This will be a challenge! Obsidian volunteer, Rich Locus, said, "I tried to hike the Ridgeline trail on Saturday after the

storm, starting at the 52nd and Willamette trailhead, heading east to Fox Hollow. The trail was completely trashed with perhaps twenty to thirty trees that fell on the path...some nearly a foot in diameter. In my 35 years in Eugene, I have never seen such devastation." One wonders what it was like during the 1963 Columbus Day Storm.

Thirteen Obsidians and friends joined City Open Space Staff to clear trails from Fox Hollow almost to the end of Blanton plus up the Tie Trail. It was amazing how much they accomplished. Thanks to volunteers, my Ridgeline Trail hike from Blanton to Spring Blvd Trailhead on April 1st will confront few problems.

March 31 was also the day Joella Ewing was supposed to lead the SOLV Beach Clean Up at Washburne Park. Eighteen folks signed up but high water accompanying yet another big rain storm forced cancellation.

Sound like fun? The next Trail Maintenance is Saturday April 28. Obsidians will also be helping with the Second Annual Friends of the Ridgeline Trail Celebration on Saturday, May 5. Watch the Obsidian website and Register Guard for details.

BOARD NOTES

April 4, 2012

By Kathy Hoeg

President Elle Weaver called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Matt Bell, Pat Esch, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Kathy Hoeg, Stewart Hoeg, John Jacobsen and Nancy Whitfield. Also present were: Barb Bruns, John Cooper, Wayne Deeter, Joella Ewing, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Lenore McManigal, Tom Musselwhite, Doug Nelson, Nola Nelson, Jim Pierce, Sue Sullivan, Judy Terry, and Susan Wanser.

The Board approved the minutes of the March 2012 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Stewart Hoeg reviewed the Budget-vs-Actual Report and the Balance Sheet. The Board approved payment of the bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summer Trips (Tom Musselwhite): On April 1, Summer Trips had 91 trips scheduled. This is down 3 trips from 94 trips scheduled on April 1 last year, the beginning of the Summer Trips season.

Winter Trips (Jim Pierce): The 2011-2012 Winter Trips season is over for hikes, but continues for snow outings. There are 3 snow outings still scheduled for April.

Climbs (Sue Sullivan): The climbs schedule is coming together for this summer, and Wayne Deeter is working on getting the current schedule to appear on the climbs page of the website. We are contemplating creating an email list for members who are interested in getting updates to the climb schedule when they occur.

Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell): In March there were 2 outings on Spencer Butte. In early March Janet Jacobsen hiked the butte clearing branches from the trail. This past Saturday we continued that work by clearing more of the cumulative damage that this winter's storms have wrought.

Highways and Byways By Bus (Liz Reanier): All remaining trips are open for more registrations.

Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom): The registration process for Summer Camp worked out perfectly. Thanks to John Jacobsen, it went online as expected

on March 17. No lottery was required. Since then, several additional folks have signed up and are on the waiting list, and 1 has cancelled. Additional cancellations are anticipated.

Extended Trips (Chris Stockdale): We have two trips going in May and June, and Helen Martz and Pat Esch are planning a new ET to Opal Creek in September.

Conservation, Science, & Education (Joella Ewing): Spring beach cleanup had to be cancelled because of storm flooding on the roads.

Publication (Nola Nelson): Starting in January, 2013 we may need to change the way we prepare the hardcopy *Bulletins* for mailing.

Entertainment (Susan Wanser): 48 people attended the potluck on March 30.

Membership (Elle Weaver): Current membership—Active 408, Associate 23, Honorary 4, Junior 5, Life 16, total 456.

Publicity (Janet Jacobsen):

Saturday, May 5: 2nd Annual Friends of Ridgeline Trail Celebration. We hope to have a table at the celebration with the focus on Trail Maintenance and Obsidians activities. We would like their flyer to have a link on our website.

Saturday, June 2: National Trails Day sponsored by American Hiking Society.

Concessions (Lyn Gilman-Garrick): We have added several new items to our line of merchandise—lapel pins, sweat-shirts, wicking beanies and sun hats.

Online (Wayne Deeter): We have determined that it is feasible to do flagging for leaders of people on the restricted list using the online signup system. We now need to work with the Safety Committee to determine exactly how this should operate, and what should be the procedure when someone is flagged.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): All of the trips which members participated on, which were in the March *Bulletin*, have been recorded on their activity sheets.

Lodge Building (Doug Nelson): There have been a couple of work parties to address the remains of last year's bee incursion into the lodge.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): Storm Damage Update: we lost about 5 oak trees (a couple were on their last leg anyway) and a madrone, plus a lot of branches were busted out of other trees. Almost all of the two French lilacs that flanked the front steps were flattened and removed – those lilacs came from cuttings from my grandmother's lilac in North Dakota and have been growing by the Lodge since I planted them about 25 years ago. In addition to the storm damage work party, we had one regular work party before the potluck to do a final cleanup.

Safety (Pat Esch): We discussed more revisions to the Safety Manual and worked on the idea of offering First Aid Kits with a small booklet at the leadership meeting.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Elle Weaver thanked the people who worked on the storm cleanup at the Lodge and on the Ridgeline Trail: Pat Adams, Matt Bell, Larry Dunlap, Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore (nonmember), Larry Huff, Richard Hughes, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Brenda Kameenui, Gary Kirk, Todd Larsen, Lana Lindstrom, Ed Lizewski, Patty MacAfee, Mark Moran (nonmember), Jyoti Naik, Nola Nelson, Jim Pierce, and Michael Quigley (nonmember).

Pat Esch said that the Safety committee is going to ask REI for discounts on hiking first aid kits and pocket first aid guides. She will report at a future Board meeting.

Elle Weaver said that the Obsidians are one of the community organizations listed on the web site Get Involved in Eugene www.getinvolvedineugene.com. We are in the Recreational Groups category.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next ExploraTalk will be April 17 at 7:00 PM.. Bruce Newhouse will describe the hidden treasures of Buford Park.

The next Board meeting will be on May 2 at 6:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned for food at The Humble Beagle.

TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Ski Trips

Maiden Peak

February 12, 2012

Leader: Harold Thompson

Xski: 12 miles, 2,800 ft. (Difficult)

WITH BLUE SKIES SHINING, five skiers started out at 9:00 AM on the Pacific Crest Trail from Willamette Pass towards Rosary Lakes. Our first goal was Middle Rosary Lake where we met Frank, who had spent the previous night at Maiden Peak Shelter. All of us added skins to our skis and headed up towards Maiden Peak following a compass bearing through the forest. The 7,818-foot summit was reached by all skiers at 1:30 PM with a mild breeze blowing. Lunch was eaten just below the top in a more sheltered spot. The downhill fun began with countless telemark turns through the open glades and trees back to Rosary Lakes. Snow conditions were great above 6,000 feet, deteriorating to hard pack at the lakes. Josh and Frank returned via the downhill run at the ski resort, while the rest took the very fast Pacific Crest trail back. We all arrived at the cars and were on our way back to Eugene by 5:00 PM. Members: Frank Chemotti, Sam Miller, and Harold Thompson. Nonmembers: Joshua Ladau, Fritz Grevstad, and John Kline.

Hoodoo Butte - Potato Hill Loop

February 18, 2012

Leader: Sam Miller

Xski: 8 miles, 1,000 ft. (Difficult)

WITH A BRISK WIND, A FREEZING LEVEL AT 3,500 FEET, and intermittent snow showers, our enthusiastic group successfully circumnavigated Hoodoo Butte with a side trip to Potato Hill. The snow conditions were excellent except for the icy, wind-scoured sections along the ridge of Potato Hill. This outing had something for everyone including downhill runs, forest touring through stunted trees, and runaway skis. It was a day the legendary Marja-Liisa Kirvesniemi would have regarded as *'hyvä'*. A special thanks to my co-leader Lubos Hubata-Vacek. Members: Betty Grant, Lubos Hubata-Vacek, Brenda Kameenui, Sam Miller, Randall Sinnott, Charlie Van Deusen, and Sue Wolling.

Sand Mountain

February 26, 2012

Leader: Sam Miller

Xski: 10.5 miles, 1,000 ft. (Difficult)

THE DAYS LEADING UP TO THIS SKI TRIP WERE FINE EXAMPLES of Oregon in winter with alternating periods of rain, wind, and snow. However, on the day of our outing Freyr

took a welcome break. With light wind, occasional sunshine, and 30.48 cm of fresh powder, our group made excellent progress breaking trail to the plateau below Sand Mountain. Because the conditions were *kiváló* with very *szárítsa* snow we decided to ascend Peak 5043. Henceforth, that peak shall be referred to as 'Thompson's Telemark Hill'. Harold, John, Lubos, and Sam enjoyed the ski down this hummock that's usually so windswept even lichen find it inhospitable. After an enjoyable descent, we intersected the road back to our car. Traveling over several miles of a nicely powdered snowmobile tracks, our group returned to the trailhead with daylight to spare. Members: John Hartman, Lubos Hubata-Vacek, Sam Miller, and Harold Thompson.



SnowShoe Trips

Diamond Creek Falls

February 25, 2012

Leader & Photographer: Jim Pierce

SShoe: 5.4 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

THERE WAS SNOW MIXED IN THE RAIN as we left SEHS. It got whiter as we drove higher, where we encountered packed snow above 2,500 feet. Richard got us safely to (and from) the snow park; thank you! The new snow was powdery, which was perfect for snowshoeing. The leader sank in 4-6 inches most of the time. The trees were heavy with snow, and at Salt Creek Falls the cliffs were draped with white. The snowy scenes were spectacular! There was evidence of critters hopping through the new snow, but no live sightings. The bridges were fine. A couple places we had to step across small creeks. It took us two hours to hike to Diamond Creek



Falls, stopping for many pictures and at all the gorge overlooks. The falls were magnificent with high water flow and icy ledges. For a time Diamond Creek Falls was in a whiteout from the heavy snowfall. It was windy and cold, so we ate fast and scurried back. It had snowed over two inches in the four hours that we were on the trail. We were back to SEHS before 4 PM. What a breathtaking day! Members: Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, and Jim Pierce. Nonmembers: David Madeira and Patricia Neighbor.



Hikes

Spencer Butte

February 18, 2012

Leader: Darko Sojak

Hike: 2.2 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)

EIGHT OF US ENJOYED A SHORT HIKE through light rain and snow. The descent was slippery. Members: Joella Ewing, Janet Jacobsen, Tom Musselwhite, Sarah Praskievicz, Darko Sojak, and Sam Tracer. Nonmembers: Cindy Miller and Jyoti Naik.

Mt. Baldy, Moon Mtn. & Willamette Heights Park

February 26, 2012

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Photographer: Norma Bengiat

Hike: 5 miles, 950 ft. (Easy)

OUR THREE HIKES BEGINNING VIA CAR provided us with interesting landscape perspectives of Eugene and Springfield. Everyone chimed in with questions about natural features and structures. "What is that?" was the most frequently asked question. Fortunately there were people on the hike who knew the answers. Our first hike, Moon Mountain, gave us a great view of the confluence of the Middle Fork and the Coast Fork of Willamette River. From Willamette Heights Park and on the Mt. Baldy Trail, we again viewed the confluence. We saw a few trillium just beginning to bud on the



Baldy Trail. The trip took 3½ hours and we even had some sun! Moshe was hoping we would stop for coffee. Next time, I will factor in time for a coffee stop at Washburne Café. Members: Norma Bengiat, Dick Hildreth, Janet Jacobsen, John Moser, Moshe Rapaport, and Noy Rathakette. Nonmembers: Dan Robinson and Denise Cox.

Silver Falls Waterfall

March 2, 2012

Leader & Photographer: Joe Sanders

Hike: 8.5 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

WITH LAST MINUTE CANCELLATIONS by 'fair weather only' hikers, our numbers to depart to Silver Falls were reduced to five, but those who braved weather's uncertainties were rewarded by a most interesting novelty upon arrival: a



carpeting of 4-8 inches of fresh snow. Since hike leader Joe had phoned Silver Falls office just two days before to check trail conditions and had NOT been advised of already existing snow, he decided to allow the emotion of 'novelty' to replace 'irritability'. Good sport Jane Dods had come ready for a work-out, but turned back because of wariness of falling after last year's broken hip. Joined by two of Joe's longstanding friends who'd driven down from Portland, six of us embarked on the Rim Trail (the only trail open) between the North parking lot and the main South Lodge. This round trip was six miles, largely level. Trail conditions were soft fresh snow or slush; not unduly slippery when on level terrain. Actual weather was cloudy, not particularly cold, and no 'precip'. At the South Lodge, we were able to navigate down a short loop hike to see the spectacular South Falls, bursting with pounding water. This drama made up for the other falls we could not see close at hand due to the closed canyon trail. Lunch at the South Lodge was in an environment as good as promised: comfortable bench and chairs in front of a toasty fire in the fireplace. A most pleasant surprise was the presence of two park volunteers, who regaled us with stories about the park's history. Delays and stories made for a long day out. It was 6:20 PM upon arrival back at Albertson's carpool base in Eugene. Everybody who went seemed to have a great time and enjoy each other. Enough that we're discussing a 'reunion hike' so that, after this novelty experience, we

can revisit Silver Falls trails in 'normal' conditions. Watch for posting of *Silver Falls II* - sometime in the later part of May. Members: Jane Dods, Patricia Esch, Ed Lizewski, Richard McGuinness and Joe Sanders.

Amanda Trail Yachats to Cape Perpetua

March 10, 2012

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 4.1 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

JYOTI NAIK, A NEW MEMBER who recently moved from Florida, was the only one who didn't cancel. She said that she didn't know any better. The rain and wind influenced our decision to shorten the Amanda Trail hike to see the Amanda statue. After an early lunch at Luna Cafe, we stopped at some of my favorite places: Cape Perpetua Visitor's Center and Lookout, Devil's Churn, sea lions swimming at several pullouts, and Heceta Head Lighthouse. Welcome Jyoti to the Obsidians. The hike was more like two miles with the title Amanda Trail and Cape Perpetua. Members: Janet Jacobsen. Nonmembers: Jyoti Naik.

McDonald Forest

March 13, 2012

Leader: Kris Wolters

Photographer: Keiko Bryan

Hike: 7 miles, 1,200 ft. (Moderate)

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY! Janet and Keiko met us at Market



of Choice in Corvallis and we drove up Sulphur Springs Road to begin our hike in this 7,000 acre forest. All of the trees and trails were covered with fresh snow, which continued to fall as we hiked along Patterson Road and the steep Ridge and Alpha Trails. Along the way, we detoured above the huge landslide that was caused by recent flooding. We returned to the road and headed up the Old-Growth and New-Growth Trails. The group took a few minutes to stop at a picturesque pond and witness a mating ball of rough-skinned newts. Our expert guide, Chemeketan, Jerri O'Brien, hikes in the McDonald Forest five days a week and gave us a history of the area. Ken Ash, another Chemeketan, drove down from Salem to be the sweep. Thanks to both of them for sharing their knowledge of the forest and joining us for a fun forest

adventure. Members: Keiko Bryan, Janet Jacobsen, Kris Wolters. Nonmembers: Ken Ash, Jerri O'Brien.

Ridgeline Trail

March 17, 2012

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 6.2 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)

THE WACKY WEATHER OF THE PREVIOUS WEEK took a vacation for our Ridgeline hike. The trilliums and the mottled fawn lily leaves were patiently waiting for warmer days. We celebrated St. Patrick's Day on top of Baldy with a bag of green sprinkled cookies. All of us appreciated a perfect Saturday morning hike. Members: Norma Bengiat, Janet Jacobsen, Lisa Marcus, Jyoti Naik and Jorry Rolfe. Nonmembers: David Madeira and Michael Quigley.

Mt. Pisgah Spring Equinox

March 20, 2012

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

FIVE OF US CELEBRATED SPRING WHILE HIKING IN THE RAIN. With no hope of sunset, we were back at the parking lot before dark. Norma remarked that she would join me next year on the Equinox hike. We will try again! Members: Norma Bengiat, Janet Jacobsen, Jyoti Naik, Moshe Rapaport, and Susan Sanazaro



Trail Maintenance

Blanton Heights Ivy Removal

January 26, 2012

Leader: Jim Pierce

Trl Mnt: 1 miles, 100 ft. (Moderate)

THERE IS MORE IVY THAN I REMEMBERED. It is slithering under the mosses and ferns and, in a few places, up the trees. The three of us did damage in our three hours, but there is much more still to do. We will organize another ivy removal outing next month. Members: Jim Pierce and Jim Whitfield. Nonmembers: Donald Burton.

Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance

February 25, 2012

Leader & Photographer: Matthew Bell

Trl Mnt: 2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

EIGHT INDOMITABLE OBSIDIANS met two equally stout City staff at the Fox Hollow trailhead as snow continued to fall for a morning of trail maintenance. We hiked up the Ridgeline to Cline Road where the City had staged all the equipment and



supplies for the day's outing. Our task for the morning was to replace two old metal culverts under the Ridgeline Trail. To accomplish this task we broke into a couple of small groups with three people running power-wheelbarrows to supply us with tools, gravel, and large rocks. Jesse Carry-Hobbs helped Pat, Janet and Dan remove and replace a culvert whose falling water was eroding the bank and beginning to cut back under the trail. Meanwhile Matt helped Clara and Jyoti remove and replace a culvert that was rusting through and would have soon claimed someone's foot in a tetanus inducing injury. Clara swung the pick with precision to create perfect thin channels along the culvert, just enough room to pop it out. Jyoti and Matt cleaned out the debris and improved the drainage for the new culvert. Ed joined us to scrounge rocks to line the trail sides and the new channel from the uplifted roots of fallen fir trees. Pat joined us and began setting rocks like a true dry-stone mason, though every rock was wet and muddy. As we laid the new culvert the debate over whether or not it was level or sloped was settled by Jyoti's iPhone and its level app. It was Jim, Ed, and Josh Schrader of EPOS that drove the power-wheelbarrows supplying us with rocks for solid bases for the out-flowing water and gravel to replace the trail surface. For the final step in the process, Josh had brought a compactor that he used to smooth and compact the new trail surface. We made short work of replacing the culverts and as work wound down and the rain began we began our departure. On our way out we added gravel to a climbing turn that hadn't taken the tracks of the power-wheelbarrows well. Members: Matthew Bell, Clara Emlen, Janet Jacobsen, Ed Lizewski, Pat Soussan and Jim Whitfield. Nonmembers: Jyoti Naik, and Dan Gilmore.

Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance

March 31, 2012

Leader: Matthew Bell

Tri Mnt: 4 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

THE SUDDEN WINTER STORM WE EXPERIENCED LAST WEEK that dropped 6 to 8 inches of snow was more than a lot of trees along the trails in the Ridgeline system could handle. The downed trees nearly made the Ridgeline east of Willamette and 52nd impassible. We met Christer LaBrecque and Josh Schrader of Eugene Parks and Open Space to begin to clear and fix the trails. We took handsaws to cut back branches and small trees and metal leaf rakes, steel rakes, and Terra hoes to remove muck, moss, bark, twigs, and other debris from the trail as well as clear drains. We broke into two groups at the Willamette and 52nd trailhead. Janet, Ed, and Clara went with Josh to clear as much as they could of the Ridgeline towards Blanton Heights. They encountered a lot of work including two maple trees that fell intertwined. The rest of the group hiked up the Ridgeline to the Tie Trail at which we divided into two more groups. Lana, Jyoti, Michael, Todd, and Mark went with Christer to begin clearing the Tie and Summit Trails. A tree fell on the Tie Trail really close to the Ridgeline that was too big for Christer to cut with his saw. Larry, Pat, Nola, and Dan went with Matt to the Fox Hollow trailhead and worked their way back towards the Tie Trail. We all got a lot done but there is definitely still more to do. Members: Matthew Bell, Clara Emlen, Larry Huff, Janet Jacobsen, Todd Larsen, Lana Lindstrom, Ed Lizewski, Patricia Mac Afee, Jyoti Naik, and Nola Nelson. Nonmembers: Mark Moran, Michael Quigley, and Dan Gilmore.

Summer Trips Update

Tom Musselwhite

NO ONE KNOWS FOR SURE what the weather is going to do, or how many Summer Trips are going to end up credited to the Winter Schedule just because it takes snowshoes to get there. But, we are starting off with a well-balanced schedule of 91 Trips, lead by 46 fantastic Leaders. This year's summer schedule features seven diverse back packing trips, eight bike trips, 72 hikes, three canoe and kayaking trips, and one whale watching trip. By difficulty, we have 22 Easy, 49 Moderate, and 19 Difficult trips scheduled. Thanks to recent storms, the season's first Ridgeline Trail hike could be a marathon of obstacles created by fallen trees.

Leaders! Leader Training is coming up on Thursday, May 17. Valerie Metcalf is setting up this year's training along with help from Daphne James. Meantime, prospecting for new talent is something experienced leaders could

be doing. Please refer any likely candidates to our Obsidian Leader Training and Orientation. We are hoping for a good turnout with at least a few new faces. If anyone is having problems (or has questions) about printing your Trip Signup Sheet and Participant Contact Info Sheet, please call or email questions to summertrips@obsidians.org. For that matter, if you have any questions we can help with, that's what we're here for. One more reminder: Please file Trip Reports promptly, and remember to get your completed Trip Signup Sheets and Trip Fees submitted to insure timely publication of your Trip Report in the *Bulletin*. Email in those photographs too, they add a lot. Finally, a big "Thank You" is due to all of our Obsidian leaders and Trips Committee members for working together smoothly and crafting this year's Summer Schedule.

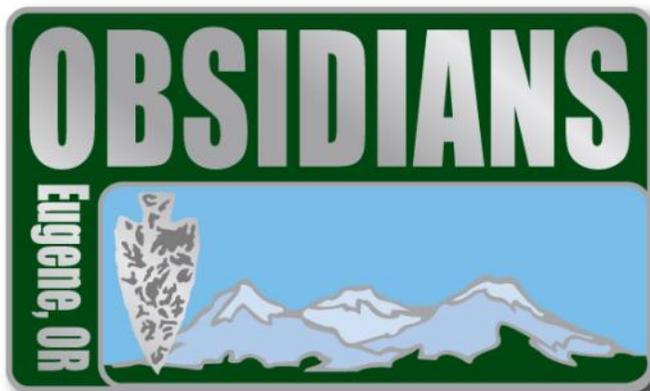
See you out there! Until then . . . Happy Trails!

New from Concessions:

Lapel Pins, Cotton Sweatshirts and Sun Caps

THE CONCESSIONS COMMITTEE is delighted to announce that we have added several new items to our line of merchandise and we invite you to stop by our table next time you attend an Obsidians function to check them out. We want to thank all of you for your great ideas, especially Mary Bridgman, who for a long time has been asking us to carry Obsidians lapel pins. Well, we finally listened. The pins are very handsome—blue, green and silver with our arrowhead logo backed by the Three Sisters. They are only \$5.00 and will look great on your Obsidians cap, vest or sweatshirt. Yes, you read that right. We are also now carrying cotton sweatshirts in an array of gorgeous earth tones. Another new item that we are excited about is our Sun Cap. It comes in khaki and has an extra-long bill, neck cape and UPF 45+ rating to protect you from the sun whether you're boating or hiking. So, stop by and see us next time you are at a potluck or ExploraTalk. Don't forget your checkbooks! We can't wait to show you all our new merchandise.

Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Concessions Chair



New Obsidian Lapel Pin

OTHER ORGANIZATION EVENTS

Cascades Raptor Center

THE CASCADES RAPTOR CENTER'S annual Members Only Earth Day Event this year will be on Saturday, April 21st. The Center will be closed to the public that day for festivities, including two flight demonstrations. Invitations will be mailed to members in March, so if you've been thinking of supporting this world class organization, now is the time! Join the CRC family online or through the mail or while on a visit to the center.

www.eRaptors.org
32275 Fox Hollow Rd
Eugene OR 97405



Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah

FRIENDS OF BUFORD PARK AND MT. PISGAH offers three different tours. To sign up for a tour, go to www.bufordpark.org and click on "Tours". The tours are limited to 15 and they fill up quickly, so don't wait to sign up.

Swing Hill/Trail 3 Saturday, April 21, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM : Two-mile, two hour hike up and around Swing Hill on Trail 3. The Friends of Buford Park have been working hard to restore the trail which climbs Swing Hill skirting wetland meadows. As you explore this new trail, you'll have breathtaking views across the valley, giving you a unique perspective of the Willamette Confluence

area and beyond. Spring should be in full swing. You'll discover lots of wildflowers and migrating birds.

The Nature Conservancy's Willamette Confluence Project Saturday, April 28, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, and Sunday, May 6, 1:00 AM to 4:00 PM: Three mile, three hour tour to see one of The Nature Conservancy's newest and most important acquisitions right in our own back yard. You'll learn about TNC's plans to restore and manage the 1,270 acres encompassing the confluence of the Coast Fork and Middle Fork of the Willamette River.

**MOUNT PISGAH ARBORETUM'S
WILDFLOWER AND MUSIC FESTIVAL
SUNDAY MAY 20, 2012, 10 AM—5 PM**



**MOUNT PISGAH
ARBORETUM**

SET ASIDE SUNDAY, MAY 20 FOR A DAY OF WILDFLOWERS, MUSIC, FOOD, CRAFTS, AND FUN! You don't have to be a plant expert to love our upcoming Wildflower Festival. The festival is loaded with fun things to do, for everyone in the family. As many as four hundred wildflowers will be on display, from asters to violets. Flowers are collected and organized for attendees to get a close look. Top botanists of the region will be on hand to answer questions. There will also be live music to amplify this festive frolic in the meadow. A wide variety of plants, baked goods, and arts and crafts will be on sale, with proceeds supporting the Arboretum's work in habitat restoration and environmental education. Nature Tour Guides will weave folks through the trails providing more information about the Arboretum's ecology and history. Bring the entire family (except the dog) to enjoy the festival as well as explore nearby nature trails. For more information, call Mount Pisgah Arboretum at 747-3817 or go online to

www.MountPisgahArboretum.org.

Volunteer Wilderness Ranger Opportunity

ARE YOU AN AVID WILDERNESS PATRON? If so, you may be able to make a powerful contribution to wilderness preservation. The United States Forest Service is currently seeking volunteers to work in the Three Sisters and Mount Washington Wilderness Areas. Come help us preserve and protect two of the nation's great wilderness areas.

Classroom and practical trainings are available annually at three locations:

Cascade Lock: April 13-15
Westfir: May 18-20
Allingham: June 1-3 public

If you are interested in becoming a Volunteer Wilderness Ranger, please contact Tyson Cross via phone at 822-7231 or by email at etcross@fs.fed.us. Attending volunteer training in the spring is an important first step!



AT THE LODGE



POTLUCK

Friday, April 27, 6:30 PM

Summer Camp Rally

Lana Lindstrom - Summer Camp Chair

IF YOU'VE SIGNED UP FOR SUMMER CAMP in the Mt Baker, Washington area, plan on attending the Rally, Friday, April 28.

We'll show slides of the Excelsior Group campground, the beautiful surrounding area, and some of the best hikes. We'll also share tips of what to bring, whet your appetite with meal descriptions, and discuss chore responsibilities. If you haven't gone camping with us before, this will be a great opportunity to learn how we do it. If you're an old hand, please come to share your stories and get inspired to dust off your gear.



April Potluck

Friday, April 27, 2012

Potluck, 6:30 PM Program, 7:30 PM Obsidian Lodge

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



ExploraTalk: Tuesday, April 17, 7 PM

Beyond the Summit: The Hidden Treasures of Buford Park and Mt. Pisgah

Speaker: Bruce Newhouse, Board Member of Friends of Buford Park and Mt. Pisgah, Field Ecologist, Botanist, Environmental Planner, Educator, Owner/Operator of Salix Associates

SPRING IS A GLORIOUS SEASON AT MT. PISGAH. Temperatures are moderate and the air is fresh. The Friends of Buford Park and Mt. Pisgah have been enhancing habitat and recreation here for 23 years, largely through the efforts of thousands of volunteers. Thanks to their work, wildflowers carpet the slopes instead of weeds, birdsongs enliven the soundscape, and cougars and coyotes make a living here. It's a spectacular natural treasure just fifteen minutes from town. Bruce Newhouse, Board Member, will show you how much more there is to love about Mt. Pisgah beyond the view from the top. He's been studying, exploring and working in the park for over twenty years. He'll share his secrets about the hidden corners you didn't even know existed and where to look for the elusive creatures that call the park home.

In conjunction with the talk, Bruce will also be leading a hike on Thursday, May 10, 9:00 AM, starting at the south-

east trailhead off Ridgeway Road in Pleasant Hill. He'll lead a small group up, over and around the mountain, exploring seven miles of back trails. To see the park through the eyes of a naturalist and for a really good hike, go to the Obsidians web site and click on Sign Up.



Board Nominations?

ELLE WEAVER will be arranging the date for the first meeting of the Obsidian Nominating Committee. If you have suggestions for candidates for the Obsidian Board of Directors, please contact Elle by April 20. Your comments will be forwarded to the other committee members. The committee will meet to select three candidates for election for three-year terms to the Obsidian Board of Directors beginning January 2013. The nominees' names need to be submitted to the board at its July meeting. The election will take place at the October annual meeting at the Lodge. For more information about the election process, see Article IV of the Obsidian Constitution, available in Members Only on the Obsidian website. www.obsidians.org

Classifieds

Wanted

DONATION FOR SOLAR BATTERY:

We received this request from Chris and Kathy Jensen, the adoptees of the Maiden Peak Cabin. Obsidian members have made trips into the cabin on snow shoes and skis and some have stayed overnight.

The solar batteries at Maiden Peak Cabin died this winter after ten years. The Forest Service will not provide funds to replace them - they feel it is a low priority. They are heavy-duty golf cart batteries. Therefore we are attempting to raise \$200 towards replacing the batteries. If you know of people who use the cabin and don't return any

REI Climb Presentation

THE OBSIDIAN CLIMB PRESENTATION BY SUE SULLIVAN AND SEAN BRESLIN has been rescheduled for Tuesday, May 15 at 7:00 PM. Information on this and other programs put on locally by REI is available at <http://www.rei.com/stores/43>.

Obsidian Calendar

April

- 11 Wed **Yachats to Waldport Hike** Jacobsen..... 343-8030
- 14 Sat **Sweet Creek Falls Hike** E Camp..... 221-1866
- 14 Sat **Adidas Amazon Trial Hike** E Ewing..... 344-9197
- 15 Sun **N Fork/Middle Fork Wtte Hike** M Musselwhite461-3296
- 17 Tue **Buford Park**..... **ExploraTalk**
- 18 Wed **N. Fork Santiam Hike** Christensen..... 343-8941
- 20 Fri **Pre's Trail Hike** Prentice..... 687-5850
- 20 Fri **Long Tom Grange Bike** M Esch..... 338-8280
- 21 Sat **Whale Watch Cruise** E Ewing..... 344-9197
- 22 Sun **Cummins Creek Hike** D Holbert..... 265-4208
- 22 Sun **Mt. Pisgah Hike** M Sojak..... 525-1124
- 27 Fri **Mt. Bailey Backpack** SShoe D Hovis..... 521-3663
- 27 Fri **Summer Camp Rally** Lindstrom..... **Potluck**
- 28 Sat **Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance** Bell.....503-884-8829

May

- 01 Tue **W. Eugene Wetlands Bike** M Montgomery..... 688-7025
- 04 Fri **Sweet Creek Falls Hike** M Ewing..... 344-9197
- 05 Sat **Mt. Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike** M Jacobsen.. 343-8030
- 05 Sat **Diamond Peek Climb** Sullivan..... 342-6546
- 06 Sun **Scio Covered Bridges Bike** M Hughes..... 683-1409
- 06 Sun **Finley Wildlife Refuge Hike** E Sanders..... 255-2524
- 06 Sun **Bkery Crawl Hike** E Martz..... 345-6229
- 10 Thu **Owyhee River Raft Trip** Ext Trip Esch..... 338-8280
- 10 Thu **Buford Park/Pisgah Hike** M Gilman-Garrick.... 345-5236
- 12 Sat **Kentucky Falls Hike** M Ewing..... 344-9197
- 13 Sun **Trials Country Hike** E McLucas..... 914-7033
- 15 Tue **Iris Gardens, etc.** Bus Cutsforth..... 746-4929
- 17 Thu **Horse Rock Hike** E Lindstrom..... 683-1409
- 18 Fri **Africa** Chris Stockdale..... **Potluck**
- 19 Sat **North Sister Climb** Deeter..... 954-0924
- 19 Sat **McKenzie River Trail Hike** M Morris..... 726-7474
- 19 Sat **Delta Ponds Hike** E Ewing..... 344-9197
- 20 Sun **Castle Rock Hike** D Stockdale..... 767-3668
- 22 Tue **Damsel & Dragonflies**..... **ExplorTalk**
- 27 Sun **Heceta Head Hike** M Soussan..... 345-3046
- 30 Wed **Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance** Bell.....503-884-8829
- 31 Thu **Silver Falls Hike** M Sanders..... 255-2524

June

- 01 Fri **Parvin Covered Bridge Bike** M Esch..... 338-8280
- 02 Sat **Nat'l Trails Day Trail Maintenance** Bell....503-884-8829
- 02 Sat **Brice Creek Hike** M Ledet..... 683-2603
- 02 Sat **N Bank Deer Preserve Hike** D Stockdale..... 767-3668
- 02 Sat **Mt. Thielsen Climb** Deeter..... 954-0924
- 03 Sun **Mt. Hood Climb** Hamilton..... 343-6550
- 04 Mon **Fossils, Ghost Towns, etc.** Bus Cutsforth..... 746-4929
- 09 Sat **Lowder Mountain Hike** M Morris..... 726-7474
- 09 Sat **Fish Lake Canoe** Sather..... 822-0311
- 09 Sat **Dog Mountain Hike** D Lipton..... 736-7498
- 10 Sun **Ankeny Nat'l Wildlife Refuge Bike** M Hughes. 683-1409
- 13 Wed **Columbia Gorge Extended Trip** M Duncan..... 343-8079
- 16 Sat **Chi Gong Meditation Hike** M Lipton..... 736-7498
- 20 Wed **Mt. Pisgah Solstice Hike** M Jacobsen..... 343-8030
- 22 Fri **Sustainable Enlightenment** Doug McCarty..... **Potluck**
- 27 Wed **Mt. Pisgah Hike** M Soussan..... 345-3046
- 27 Wed **Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance** Bell.....503-884-8829
- 28 Thu **Walk, Wine and Dine Hike** E Ledet..... 683-2603
- 30 Sat **Mt. Adams Climb** Sullivan..... 342-6546
- 30 Sat **Substitute Point Hike** D McManigal.....503-635-9973
- 30 Sat **Iron Mountain Hike** M Lipton..... 736-7498



Buford Park after a storm. Photo by Lyn Gilman-Garrick. See articles on Buford Park events on pages 10 and 12.

April 2012



PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
EUGENE, OR
PERMIT 803

OBSIDIANS, INC. IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

EUGENE, OR 97405

OBSIDIANS, INC.
P.O. BOX 51424

