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Noah Strycker near Denpasar, Bali

Birding Without Borders: Noah Strycker’s Big Year
Jorry Rolfe

In 2015, local birder Noah Strycker, 31, became the first person known to see more than half of the planet’s bird species in a single, year-long, round-the-world birding trip. Anything could have happened, and a lot did. In his ExploraTalk, Noah will be sharing many of his tales of adventure, and pictures of some of the more than 6,000 species he saw while birding in 41 countries on seven continents. Carrying only a 40-liter backpack, Noah enlisted the enthusiastic support of local birders to tick or list birds, including Adélie penguins in Antarctica, a harpy eagle in Brazil, a spoon-billed sandpiper in Thailand, and a green-breasted pitta in Uganda. Here is what he wrote from India late that year, “we woke up at 3:30 this morning in a building without heat or electricity near 8,000 feet in the Mishmi Hills. The temperature plunged well below freezing overnight with snow on the ground quite a difference from the 100-degree days I had last week in Australia! We were up early to stake out a steep hillside for mountain birds. As dawn broke, we shivered and stamped our feet to keep warm, and glacier-capped peaks caught the first rays of the sun.” That day ended with Noah and his birder friends spotting a yellow-rumped honeyguide, his 6,000th bird of the year.

(Continued on page 4)

ANNUAL MEETING Friday, October 13 6:30 pm at the Lodge

Members are invited to the Annual Meeting on Friday, October 13 at the Lodge. A social hour with light refreshments begins at 6:30 pm followed by the meeting at 7 pm. Committees will give brief summaries of their activities and new board members for 2018 will be elected. Read about our Board nominees in the July/August issue of the Bulletin.

Members will vote on proposed changes to the Obsidian Constitution. For an explanatory article about these proposed changes, see page 3 of this issue.

Climb, trip, and leader awards will be presented, followed by special, often humorous awards. Guests who would like to find out about our club are also welcome to attend.

Dues Renewal Time!
Please complete the enclosed renewal form and return with your check today to:

Obsidians, Inc.
Attn: Membership
PO Box 51510
Eugene, OR 97405

Include any contact changes on the form. Thanks for renewing your membership!
**SHOUT OUT FOR JOANNE LEDET!!!**

Thanks, Joanne, for all your work on the Bulletin — editing, writing, doing the obituaries, folding, and whatever else was needed. Best of happiness in your new home in Salem. We will miss you, not just your stellar contributions!

*The Publications Committee*

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**Welcome New Members!**

- **Katherine Bragg**
  Eugene, OR 97405

- **Jan Danforth**
  Eugene, OR 97405

- **Dan Claric**
  Eugene, OR 97408

- **Blaine Hlebechuk**
  Eugene, OR 97401

- **Michelle Cordon**
  Springfield, OR 97478

- **Pam Symond**
  Vida, OR 97488

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**Membership**

- Active: 431
- Honorary: 6
- Junior: 8
- Life: 17
- Total: 462

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**OBITUARY**

**Obsidian Member Anne Bonine** passed away on August 15 after a long battle with cancer. A member since 2001, she participated in 132 activities which included nine summer camps, kayaking, hiking, skiing and biking. She was Winter Trips Chair for two years and served as food manager at several summer camps. Other activities she enjoyed included birding, traveling, sketching, her book club, her yard and her friends. Her love and enthusiasm for the environment led her to sign up for “volunteer working/vacations” with the Sierra Club and Wilderness Volunteers. She is survived by her partner Jack O’Donnell who shared many of these activities with her.

A Celebration of Life will be held Sunday, October 15, 2:00 PM at the Lodge. Carpooling from South Eugene High School is highly recommended.

To remember Anne’s enthusiasm, read her article, *Volunteer Vacations and Service Trips*, in the December 2005 Bulletin.


*Editor’s Note: Anne’s complete obituary can be found in the September 3 issue of The Register-Guard.*
Proposed Constitution Changes

Practical changes in our operations haven’t always been reflected in our Constitution. An Ad Hoc committee of Dave Cooper, Laurie Funkhouser, and Maryanne Reiter set about to reconcile practices with the wording. The aim was to match wording to current accepted practices and perhaps make it a bit more readable. The proposed amendments to the Constitution, supported by the Board, will be voted upon at the Annual Meeting in October. Here are some examples:

- Rather than use the term “Board of Directors” repeatedly, language was put in place to allow use the term “Board”.
- Currently the Constitution says we can pay bills only by check. We need to change that to include electronic transactions.
- The phrase “except for the month of Summer Camp” is being added to match the accepted practice of not holding Board meetings during the month of Summer Camp.
- Occasionally, time-sensitive matters come up that require Board input or approval. In the past, some items have been dealt with via email. The proposed changes allow the Board to discuss and take action electronically to match current practice.
- We’ve been voting on the election of Board members by a show of hands for some time now. Changes to the Constitution would now make it official.

Take the opportunity to review the recommended amendments. The changes are available for review in the Members Only, Documents section of the Obsidian website. The “redline” document shows the edits made and the “final” shows the completed version.

www.obsidians.org/Members/index.html

New in the Scherer Room: Dorene Steggell’s Art

Dorene Steggell’s paintings will be featured in the Scherer Room for the next few months.

An early interest in and study of art, and a love of space and place, led Dorene to a career as an architect. Retirement led her back to art as an essential expression of experience of place. Able to devote full-time to her artwork, she began presenting her work publicly in 2010. She has had several solo exhibitions and been included in many juried shows. She is currently represented by River Gallery in Independence, Oregon and at Art Elements Gallery, Newberg, Oregon. You can also see some of her work at her website (www.dorenesteggell.com).

Dorene is an Obsidian member and a regular Wednesday Spencer Butte hiker. She has led hikes at Mt. Pisgah, one of her favorite landscapes. She and her husband, Richard Shields, attended the 2017 summer camp.

Help Wanted!

The Bus Committee would like to enlist a few more enthusiastic Obsidians to assist with research and planning for both one-day and multi-day bus trips. Our bus riders are a great group of people who are appreciative of the opportunity to explore new places, learn about the local history, make return visits to favorite spots and more. We will begin planning for 2018 in October. For more information, please contact one of the following:

Sharon Cutsforth, 746-4929, skcutsforth@comcast.net
Jim Northrop, 343-3426, jim.b.northrop@gmail.com
Mary Ellen West, 343-5492, mewest100@comcast.net

Mountain by Dorene Steggell
Noah, a 2003 South Eugene HS grad, attended OSU, majoring in Fisheries and Wildlife Science. He is Associate Editor of *Birding* magazine, the author of two well-regarded books about birds, and a regular contributor of photography and articles to all major bird magazines as well as other media; he blogs regularly for the American Birding Association. Noah has studied birds on six continents and works as a naturalist guide on expedition cruises to Antarctica and Norway’s Svalbard archipelago, inspiring birders from pole to pole. His first book chronicles a field season working with Adélie penguins and the second celebrates the fascinating parallels of bird and human behaviors. In his spare time he plays tennis, runs marathons, and hikes. He completed the Pacific Crest Trail from Mexico to Canada from May through September 2011.

This humorous and inspiring presentation about Noah’s epic World Big Year will leave you with a new appreciation for the birds and birders of the world. His book about the experience, *Birding Without Borders*, will be released October 10, 2017. For Tuesday’s ExploraTalk, Noah will bring copies of his second book, *The Thing with Feathers*.

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**Trip Totals**

**Are you interested in how many trips** you have completed? Go to the Obsidian webpage and log in. Click on the tab *Trip Reports*. Then choose *Trip Summary* to view your totals. If you have questions, contact:

- Climbs: Maryanne Reiter, mreiter1959@gmail.com
- Trail Maintenance: Matt Bell, matthew.v.bell@gmail.com
- Trip and Leader Awards: Janet Jacobsen, jbjacobsen@comcast.net

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**Publicity Notes**

**Marci Hansen and Darko Sojak** were interviewed for the article *Beauty and the Boots* in the Oregon Life Weekend section of the Register-Guard on July 15. Both gave tips on purchasing hiking boots.


KVAL’s Ellen Meny interviewed Lyndell Wilken and Jorry Rolfe for her report on an incident on the Ridgeline Trail. Lyndell, Safety Committee Chair, stressed safety in numbers—always a good preventative measure to take against predators both animal and human.


**Nearby Nature:**

**Fall New Volunteer Orientation**

**Want to help connect kids and nature nearby?** Do you believe in the value of public parks? Learn all about leading school nature walks in Alton Baker Park, as well as other Nearby Nature volunteer opportunities, on Wednesday, September 13, from 6:30–7:45 pm in the Singer Room at the Eugene Public Library. No experience needed—training provided in September.

Questions? Call Nearby Nature at 687-9699, email info@nearbynature.org, or see

[www.nearbynature.org/volunteer]

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**Register Now for the Oregon Outdoor Summit**

**Oregon State University**, in partnership with Travel Oregon and Oregon State Parks, will host the 2017 Oregon Outdoor Summit in Corvallis Oct. 16–17. The summit will engage community leaders, outdoor enthusiasts, recreation businesses, public agencies, students and educators from across the state to discuss ways to strengthen the outdoor recreation industry and connect more Oregonians with the outdoors. Keynotes will be presented by Stacy Bare, Director of Sierra Club Outdoors, and Luis Benitez, Director of Colorado Outdoor Recreation Industry Office. Registration is now open at:

[outreach.oregonstate.edu/initiatives/summit17]
By Dave Cooper

President Laurie Funkhouser called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Dave Cooper and Pat Esch, Stewart Hoeg, Tom Rundle, Lana Lindstrom, Carla Cooper, Wayne Deeter, Janet Jacobsen, and Jorry Rolfe were also in attendance. (Since there was not a quorum, Board members were contacted through email after the meeting for approval of pending business.)

Treasurer’s Report: The Board approved payment of the bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summer Trips (John Cooper): From April 1 to August 13 there have been 110 scheduled trips. All of these 95 have been completed and approved. 798 participants were members and 142 were nonmembers. There are 11 trips yet to be completed. To date $1,018 of revenue has been collected.

Climbs (Maryanne Reiter): Since the last report in July the Climbs committee hosted seven climbs ranging from Washington to Northern California. There were 34 participants. Due to fires and smoke, the climbs have all gone on.

Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell): Thirteen members participated in two outings, both in Spencer Butte Park, since the last board meeting. For the July outing we continued the work of cleaning the summit steps and reopened the drainage ditches along the West Trail. August’s outing saw us adding drainage features to the trailbed on the Tie Trail where this past winter it became a duff/muck-filled cesspool.

Highways and Byways by Bus (Sharon Cutsforth): All reservation and payment details for the September 10–22 trip to SW National Parks have been completed. Signups for this trip are closed. In October, we will begin planning for the 2018 bus trips schedule. We welcome trip suggestions and have openings on our committee for a few more people.

Summer Camp (John Jacobsen): Financially we did fine considering a few expenses we hadn’t anticipated. We had revenues of $25,225.00 and expenses of $21,816.79.

Extended Trips (Lana Lindstrom): The Women’s Canoe/Kayak trip to Ollaline Lake was cancelled due to smoke. Fortunately, they gave us a credit which we will use next year. Those who signed up will receive a full refund. Alan Curtis’ White Mountains trip was very successful—the accommodations and food were excellent and seeing the 3,000+ year old bristlecone pines was magical. $85 in trip fees was collected.

Conservation, Science, & Education (Jorry Rolfe): Jorry Rolfe attended the FWOC conference Aug. 25–27 and the theme was “Keeping Public Lands in Public Hands”. Eleven resolutions were passed; an article about the meeting will appear in the Oct. Bulletin. At the business meeting, Jorry was elected vice-president.

Entertainment (Lana Lindstrom): Historically potlucks have been the 3rd Friday of the month with no potlucks in July, August or December. After consultation with Jorry Rolfe, the Science and Education chair, I propose to change it to the last Friday of the month. Rationale: Sci-Ed programs are scheduled the 3rd Tuesday of the month in order to allow time for the paper copy of the Bulletin to be delivered. Depending on the calendar, several months of the year, the 3rd Tuesday and the 4th Friday fall in the same week. In 2018, this occurs three times, about a third of the potlucks. When there are two Obsidian programs in the same week, attendance at one of the events appears to be reduced.

The by-laws don’t specify the date of the potlucks. However, I would like input from the Board regarding the proposed change.

Membership (Diane Schechter): Six new member applications were submitted for Board approval.

Concessions (Carla Cooper): Our sales at Summer Camp totaled $2,220. Many thanks to Darlene Mancuso for picking us out a good spot, helping with setup and takedown, and pushing the merchandise.

Online (Wayne Deeter): We are currently evaluating using kobabow.com to provide for email.

Lodge Building (Dave Cooper): There will be a Lodge cleaning work party on October 9 between 10 am and 2 pm. Any amount of time people can contribute to this effort is appreciated. An agreement has been signed with REI regarding classes to be held at the Lodge in 2018. REI is sponsoring Wilderness First Aid classes given by the National Outdoor Leadership School. In lieu of rental payment the Obsidians will receive two class spots for each of the four classes to be held next year.

Safety (Lyndell Wilken): The first aid kit for summer camp will be evaluated and a decision made on what first aid supplies need to be upgraded and added.

Ad Hoc 90th Anniversary (Janet Jacobsen): The Ad Hoc Committee met August 31 to plan for the 90th Anniversary and the Open House, Sunday Nov 5. The Open House will include displays of photo albums, summit books, log books, paintings, photographs, and possibly a multimedia projected continuously on a TV screen. Our publicity will focus on inviting members, past presidents, and the community to attend. We will also submit historical articles for 2017/2018 Bulletins.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board approved a special rental agreement with REI. REI will hold four Wilderness First Aid classes given by the National Outdoor Leadership School. The Obsidians will get spots for two people for each class in lieu of the normal rent.

NEW BUSINESS

Membership: Approval of applicants as presented by the Membership Committee.

The Board agreed with the Entertainment Committee’s change to have potlucks on the last Friday of the month beginning in January.

REI-NOLS: There was a consensus that the chairs of the Winter, Summer, Climbs, and Safety committees be contacted for candidates to attend the Wilderness First Aid classes presented by REI & NOLS.

The Board approved the Ad Hoc 90th Anniversary Committee’s request for a budget not to exceed $600 expenses for the Open House in November.
Climbs

Mount Hood
June 6, 2017
Leader: Danneille Harris
Climb: 7.2 miles, 5,200 ft. (Difficult)
Warm temps and soft snow made this climb a bit more challenging. Two of our team opted to turn back at the top of the Palmer. We took the Pearly Gates route to avoid the crowds. A few more crevasses had opened in the vicinity of the bergshund and we placed pickets to protect the bridges. The remaining team of four took a quick break on the summit and then hurried down via Old Chute as the snow was getting softer by the minute. 11.5 hours car to car. All in all a good day on the mountain with a good team. Thanks to Bill for the solid assist. Members: Danneille Harris, Bill Lowder, Robert Oslon, Eric Thornton. Nonmembers: Megan Storlien, Blaine Hlebechuk.

Mt Washington- Graduation Climb
June 17, 2017
Leader: Kerry Edinger  Asst Leader: Dalen Willhite
Climb: 10.5 miles, 3,000 ft.
After camping at the trailhead, five climbers set off at dawn on the PCT. We enjoyed a few clear miles in the morning light before the trail became covered in snow. The cairn for the climbers’ trail was still visible above the snow, and there we stashed our snowshoes after determining they wouldn’t be necessary. Despite some blister issues, climbers continued up toward the ridge with the help of GPS navigation and ice axes. Above the tree line, we kicked steps into the firm snow. Right below the start of the route we roped up and placed two pickets for protection to cross a short, icy patch of snow with a long rocky runout. The leader required her ice axe to make the first few moves up a mixed, icy rock section. After a brief battle with wind and rock to loosen dragging rope, the first anchor was set. All five climbers summited the mountain with three pitches of fixed lines. The group descended via two rappels and one fixed line. Climbers plunge stepped and lowered down the snow. At the PCT juncture, we donned headlamps and lamedent having to strap the unused snowshoes back onto our packs. We arrived back at the trailhead shortly after 10:40 pm, greeted by cold cans of La Croix sparkling water courtesy of Joe. Thanks to an indispensable Assistant Lead from Dalen Willhite who helped navigate, lead the final rock pitch, and assist climbers with rappels and their descents through the snow field. An unforgettable adventure! Members: Kerry Edinger, Dalen Willhite. Nonmembers: Blaine Hlebechuk, Joe Moll, Kurtis Erving.

Three Fingered Jack
June 18, 2017
Leader: Dalen Willhite
Climb: 11 miles, 3,000 ft.
We started out knowing that we’d hit some snow on the way up, but didn’t realize it would be so early on the PCT. So instead of the typical PCT and gaining the ridge from the west, we hit the ridge further south and enjoyed the snowy approach while seeing the route from a little different angle. After the ridge, the rest of the climb was mostly snow free and we had a great summit enjoying the calm and clear weather. Great group! Members: Rebecca Eastwood, Mary Ellis, Eric Thornton, Dalen Willhite.

Mount Baker
June 25, 2017
Leader: Roy McCormick
Climb: 11 miles, 7,100 ft.
Our assistant trip leader, Bob Kaminski, had to cancel at the last moment due to a family emergency so the three of us met in Portland for the long drive north. Sunday night was spent at Douglas Fir CG (USFS) practicing glacier travel techniques and discussing the climbing route. We left from the Heliotrope Trailhead around 09:30 on Monday and set up camp on a flat area of the Coleman Glacier at 6,900’ that afternoon. This climb differed from others that I’ve been on; we spent some time acclimating and resting before the summit push. I think it made for a more enjoyable adventure. Tuesday was a long day. We started from our camp at 04:25 and reached the summit around 09:15 via the Coleman-Deming route. Several crevasses were open around 8,000’
that we easily circumnavigated, then a well worn boot track led to the 10,781' summit. We returned to the car around 16:00 and were enjoying dinner at Graham’s Restaurant in Glacier by 17:00 before our long drive back to Oregon. All three participants summited without incident. Having strong, knowledgeable, well prepared participants made leading this climb a breeze. Members: Bill Lowder, Roy McCormick. Nonmembers: Yukti Aggarwal

Mount Adams-Mazama Glacier
July 22, 2017
Leader: Marge Huseman
Asst Leader: Maryanne Reiter
Climb: 10 miles, 6,700 ft. (Difficult)

The urban dictionary defines type two fun as “an activity that is fun only after you have stopped doing it.” It’s not uncommon for mountaineering trips to fit into this category. In addition to the normal challenges—alpine starts at 2 AM, hours tethered to others on your rope team, and the weight of carrying both overnight and climbing gear—this trip had the bonus of eight extra, unplanned miles of hiking and several detours/scree slogs trying to find our way on the climbers’ trail. Luckily, a lot of mountaineers also have short memories. It is my hope that if you asked any of the members of this climb about the trip they would tell you about how we had the Mazama Glacier to ourselves, saw a beautiful sunrise, worked well together on our rope teams, walked next to some amazing crevasses, and enjoyed a great time on a beautiful mountain. The entire group was able to summit and was rewarded with amazing views. Everyone on the trip stepped up to the challenges. Cheers to short memories and more mountains. Members: Marge Huseman, Meg McNabb, Joe Moll, Kana Moll, Laura Osinga, Maryanne Reiter. Nonmembers: Eric Gran.

Camas Country Schoolhouse
July 25, 2017
Leader: Richard Hughes
Photographer: Ruthy Kanagy
Bike: 38 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)

Loaded with water, snacks, and eagerness, a group of eight riders meandered from Amazon Park along the Willamette River banks to the Camas Country Mill Store and Schoolhouse Project near the Eugene airport. While returning on the Fern Ridge Bike Path just before Bailey Hill Road, rider Julie Barnas noticed smoke, then flames burning a tree (also a house caught fire, as we found out later). She immediately called 911 to report the fire. In minutes fire folks arrived to control the situation. Kudos to Julie for quick thinking outside the bike ride. Members: Julie Barnas, John Hegg, Richard Hughes, Ruthy Kanagy, Lana Lindstrom, Judy Terry, Charlie Van Deusen, Lyndell Wilken.

Blacklock Point Coast
July 14, 2017
Leader: Scott Hovis
Reporter and Photographer: Dave Lodeesen
Backpack: 2.5 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)

Even campers met at the hike leader’s home at 10 on Friday for the three-hour drive to Bandon. We had lunch in Bandon before heading another 15 miles south to our turnoff on an obscure county road that took us to a tiny unused rural airfield. There we found the hidden trailhead where we would backpack in about 2-1/2 miles to a remote campsite in the Floras Lake State Park. The hike leader found this well hidden campsite 30 years ago and has been back at least once a year ever since. There was no evidence that anyone else had used this site. We pitched our tents and filtered water from a nearby stream. By late afternoon, we were ready for our first hike down to the ocean. Our camp was a couple hundred yards into the woods from the ocean, and 200’ above the ocean on a cliff. On our first beach hike, we came upon a dead whale that had washed up onto the beach some time ago. It was badly decomposed, still stinking rather badly. After exploring the beach for two hours, we headed back to camp for our evening meal and campfire. As sunset approached, we found a spot high on the cliff to observe a perfect setting of the sun through clear evening skies. The sky stayed well lit for more than an hour after sunset, so four of us hiked south on the beach to a distant cliff to view a waterfall. It was too dark to photograph the waterfall so we hiked back to camp in the dark. The next morning we hiked about
nine miles with day packs south on the upper cliff trail to
Blacklock Point and beyond to the Sixes River. The views
along the coast were fantastic under clear and sunny condi-
tions with a temperature in the mid-60s. Blacklock Point is an
interesting narrow ridge that juts out into the ocean. A lot of
erosion has eaten away much of what once stood here.

Five of us hiked onto the point on the knife edge trail as far
as you could safely go. We then continued our hike south
along the cliffs and eventually took a path down to the beach
where we continued hiking to the banks of the Sixes River.
We ate our lunch there, then hiked back to camp through a
stiff headwind. With a few hours of sunshine still left, several
of us hiked north to nearby Floras Lake. There we could
watch the distant crowds of people who come out here to par-
asail over the lake and catch the stiff ocean breezes. We could
see dozens of tents pitched on the other side of the lake where
most people gather when coming to this part of the coast.
Back at camp, we each prepared our evening meal around a
campfire. As sunset approached, we again walked through
the woods to the viewpoint high on the cliffs. It was another
blissful night listening to distant waves crashing on the beach
as we all slept soundly in temperatures that fell to about 50
degrees. Sunday morning we slept in a bit and then packed up
for our hike back to the cars. Our hike leader suggested drive-
ing south to Port Orford to hike and tour the defunct Coast
Guard station and historical museum. This preserved site was
extremely important during World War II for monitoring
coastal enemy activity, some of which happened close by
during those times. We drove home, stopping off in Bandon
for lunch. This was a very nice trip for those of us who like to
get away from the typical tourist season crowds that swarm
the Oregon coast during this time of year and escape the hot
Willamette Valley for the cooler coastal temperatures. Look
forward to next year when our trip leader will lead another
excursion to this hidden gem. You won’t be disappointed.
Members: Steve Adey, Steve Cordon, Scott Hovis, David
Lodeesen, Mike Smith, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Jan
Danforth.

PCT (Hwy 242 to Hwy 58)
August 12, 2017
Leader: Becky Lipton
Backpack: 76 miles, 1,500 ft. (Difficult)
EIGHT DAYS AND SEVEN NIGHTS ADVENTURE in the wilder-
ness—completed! Members: Rob Boese, Scott Hovis, Becky
Hike: 14 miles, 2,300 ft. (Difficult)
Leader: Steven Johnson
July 8, 2017
Opie Dilldock
Nonmembers: Jan Danforth, Baer, Keiko Bryan, Marguerite Cooney, Anne Montgomery.
on the schedule next year. Members: David Adkins, Jennifer
off by a creek in beautiful old growth forest. This is definite-
joy the varied forest of the Old Cascades with a break to cool
Saint Helens. The return hike gave everyone a chance to en-
a fantastic view of the Cascades from Diamond Peak to Mt.
ows, and on rock outcroppings. All but one hiker made it to
the top; the other members of the group were rewarded with
a fantastic view of the Cascades from Diamond Peak to Mt.
Saint Helens. The return hike gave everyone a chance to en-
joy the varied forest of the Old Cascades with a break to cool
off by a creek in beautiful old growth forest. This is definite-
ly a hike worth repeating. Stay tuned as I plan on putting it
on the schedule next year. Members: David Adkins, Jennifer
Baer, Keiko Bryan, Marguerite Cooney, Anne Montgomery. Nonmembers: Jan Danforth.

Crescent Mountain
July 3, 2017
Leader: Mike Smith
Hike: 10 miles, 2,200 ft. (Difficult)
EIGHT OF US HIKE UP CRESNENT MOUNTAIN and enjoyed
the views on top, lunch up high on a delightfully nice, but
not hot, clear day. All of the Cascades from Mt. Adams to
Diamond Peak were visible. There was one large drift of
snow near the top but no other snow visible—a far cry from
a month ago when, on my scouting hike, I was turned around
by snow. Wildflowers were in abundance: Cascade penstemon, lupine, mustard, Solomon’s seal, star flower,
false Solomon’s seal, paintbrush, columbine, phlox, and
many more! We had two nonmembers who took in the joys
of a hard hike followed by lunch and a quick descent!

Middle Pyramind
July 8, 2017
Leader: David Adkins
Hike: 4 miles, 1,800 ft. (Moderate)
ON THE DAY OF THE HIKE, IT WAS WARM in the Oregon Cas-
cades with the freezing level at 16,000 feet. The temperature
hovered from the upper 70s to low 80s. Ascending through
the openings in the warm July sun did add a challenge to the
hike. On the bright side, the wildflowers were at their peak,
including varieties that bloom on the forest floor, in mead-
ows, and on rock outcroppings. All but one hiker made it to
the top; the other members of the group were rewarded with
a fantastic view of the Cascades from Diamond Peak to Mt.
Saint Helens. The return hike gave everyone a chance to en-
joy the varied forest of the Old Cascades with a break to cool
off by a creek in beautiful old growth forest. This is definite-
ly a hike worth repeating. Stay tuned as I plan on putting it
on the schedule next year. Members: David Adkins, Jennifer
Baer, Keiko Bryan, Marguerite Cooney, Anne Montgomery. Nonmembers: Jan Danforth.

Opie Dilldock
July 8, 2017
Leader: Steven Johnson
Hike: 14 miles, 2,300 ft. (Difficult)

CONE PEAK TO ECHO MT. AND NORTH PEAK
July 9, 2017
Leader and Photographer: Kathy Randall
Hike: 9.6 miles, 2,076 ft. (Difficult)
THE INITIAL HIKE TO CONE PEAK WAS UNEVENTFUL. The
higher we got, especially once we left the established trail,
the more spectacular the flower displays became. This was
an exploratory hike in the truest sense of the word! Only a
couple of us had ever summited Cone Peak. After a leisurely
lunch taking in the 360-degree views, it was time to “go
where no Obsidian had gone before”–out the ridge toward
South Peak and Echo Peak. Here’s what we now know: 1) If
you want to explore the ridge, save your time and energy and
leave summiting Cone Peak for a separate day. 2) The flank
of Cone Peak is very difficult to traverse as it is hard, crum-
bly lava rock up high and down lower it is lush meadows
with deep holes and thick brush. 3) Once we successfully
descended to the SE ridge we picked up a decent elk/deer
trail that was reasonably easy to follow to South Peak. 4) You are rewarded with nice views from the summit of South
Peak (& Cascade lilies). The north and east sides of South
Peak are heavily forested and steep, making both further exploration out the ridge line and access to Echo Mt. from this approach questionable (and it would require at least two more hours). 5) One trekking pole and one free hand might be best option. 6) This outing is not for the faint of heart! That being said, upon reaching the safety of our vehicles back at the parking lot, each and every one of us were enthusiastically declaring how much we enjoyed the hike, the views, the flowers, and the true adventure of it all! Members: Marguerite Cooney, Daphne James, Lynn Meacham, Kathy Randall, Jorry Rolfe, Darko Sojak, June Sutterfield, Eric Thornton.

Olallie Mountain
July 15, 2017
Leader: Kathy Randall
Hike: 7.2 miles, 1,200 ft. (Moderate)
With blue skies and perfect temperatures our group of ten enjoyed a pleasant hike through forest and meadows to the summit of Olallie Mtn. The fire lookout is still standing (along with its rusting metal folding chair), but now has holes in the walls and is more dilapidated than a year ago. We identified 41 different flowers along the trail and enjoyed great views of the Three Sisters. On the way out we stopped to enjoy a rest break where we could commune with the huge mother.tree found along this trail. (GPS coordinates: N43°57.193 & W122°03.035') The lower half of this trail has lots of vegetation overgrowth; long pants are recommended! Members: Ben Brown, Keiko Bryan, Marguerite Cooney, Barbara Kay Cosby, Rebecca Eastwood, Jane Hackett, Kathy Randall, Randy Sinnott. Nonmembers: Jenny Love, Pam Symond.

Yapoah Crater Geology
July 16, 2017
Leader: Tom Rundle  Photographer: Darko Sojak
Hike: 12 miles, 1,200 ft. (Difficult)
At the trailhead each hiker received a trail map and two geologic maps of the recent lava flows from sources near North Sister, including Yapoah Crater, Collier Cone, and Four-in-One-Cone. We hiked up the PCT to South Mathieu Lake for a rest stop. The weather was cool and clear with a gentle breeze from the west. We continued south on the PCT toward Yapoah Crater encountering several large patches of packed snow which we were able to cross safely. We had lunch on the west side of Yapoah. Rebecca Eastwood, Darko Sojak and Tom Rundle climbed the steep trail to the Yapoah summit where we had a spectacular view of the Cascades all the way to Mt. Adams. After lunch we compared the geologic maps of the area with what we were seeing on the landscape. We continued the loop to a break at North Mathieu Lake where Rebecca and Barbara took a long, refreshing swim. Along the trail we noted colorful species of wildflowers and a number of tiny blue butterflies. Members: Rebecca Eastwood, Barbara Gunther, Lynn Meacham, Cindy Rice, Tom Rundle, Darko Sojak, Dorene Steggell. Nonmembers: Jenny Love, Pam Symond.

Belknap Hot Spring LTD Bus to Trailhead
July 20, 2017
Leader and Photographer: Meg Stewart Smith
Asst Leader: Mary Marshall
Hike: 7 miles, 350 ft. (Moderate)
Discover a multifaceted excursion with timely sections. First catch public transport, next hike a National Recreation Trail that weaves a thread of the riparian edge into a deeper fabric of the Douglas-fir forest, and midway relax at a private resort before returning on time. First, the 8:20 #91 LTD bus is packed with bicycles and strollers. Riders hop off and on at country stores and at blueberry, lavender, or filbert farms. Old time boaters, neon-clothed cyclists, demure families, and a grandmother with toddler all exchange local news. Last stop, McKenzie Ranger Station. Next, our hike starts directly across the highway in 70-degree weather cooled by a downriver breeze. A McKenzie River drift boat quietly slips through high gradient rapids, 950 c.f.s. At Paradise Boat Launch, our group notices a cluster of nodding flowers with white leaves, no chlorophyll. The Ghost Pipe is getting its energy from the photosynthesis of the Douglas-fir, a wondrous example of mycorrhizal symbiosis. Next break is Lost Creek. We appreciate a delightfully sturdy yet elegant bridge. Freshly hewn logs and large bolts grace the handrail.
This project includes voluntary labor by our hardworking members! Here, one hiker notices a familiar spring emerging in soft mineral rich pools at hand’s length. We picnic on a fallen log. A shy Townsend chipmunk scampers behind us. Layers of vine maple gracefully mingle with Oregon grape, sword fern over herbaceous lily and dogwood. A western toad is out for a warm midday amble, awkwardly traversing the rock crevices right at our knees. Midway, some hikers choose to dip into the Belknap Hot Springs pool and others freely explore the gardens searching for an elusive classical column. The 1.5 hours of relaxation is liberating. Returning, all eight women are hiking with curiosity, spontaneous smiles, or lively conversation. About a dozen novice bicyclists pass us on the trail. Near the LTD bus stop, we pause at the river’s edge. A group of six to eight paddle rafts float past us. Met by an 80-degree upriver breeze, we gratefully catch the return LTD Bus #91 at 4:00. Yes, we are seasoned hikers treading lightly, revisiting a cherished river, and using minimal fossil fuels. Members: Patricia Bean, Sandra Larsen, Mary Marshall, Karla Rusow, Cari Soderlund, Dorene Steggell, Meg Stewart Smith, June Sutterfield.

Three Fingered Jack Geology
July 22, 2017
Leader: Tom Rundle
Hike: 14.4 miles, 1,800 ft. (Difficult)
WE HIKE THROUGH ABOUT THREE MILES OF MEADOWS in the burn area enjoying the colors and fragrance of red fireweed and lavender lupine. On the north facing slopes we encountered some large patches of slippery, slight snow covering the trail. A few of these were on steep slopes too dangerous to cross. So we had to do some creative bushwhacking to get past them and find the trail again. After some hard slogging through snowdrifts, we had lunch at Porcupine Pass and were amazed to see a large herd of mountain goats descending the steep snow fields and rocky slopes on the northwest ridge of Three Fingered Jack. After that Tom Rundle gave a brief talk on the geologic history of the volcano. Members: Ben Brown, Rebecca Eastwood, Tom Rundle, David Strutin. Nonmembers: Alice Laffey, Paul Ahnert, Renee Villanueva.

Vivian Lake
July 22, 2017
Leader: Sue Wolling
Hike: 8 miles, 1,600 ft. (Moderate)
ON A SUNNY MORNING OUR TEN HIKERS did introductions and then headed up to the trailhead at Salt Creek Falls. After stopping to admire Oregon’s second-tallest waterfall, we crossed the creek to start the hike. We were quickly greeted by hordes of mosquitoes. Initially we thought they were all males because they weren’t biting, but at some point the bugs got over their sexism. We kept a good pace on the way up because as long as we kept moving, the bugs weren’t too bad. We enjoyed a surprising variety of wildflowers along the way from beargrass to columbine to shooting stars. While a couple of trees had not been cleared off the trail, they were easy to walk around. The steep pitch of the trail, on the other hand, was not so easy, but good things never come easy, right? After a view of Fall Creek Falls, we hiked along the cascading stream to reach the junction where we appreciated the flat walk to Vivian Lake and our lunch stop. A slight breeze gave us a break from the mosquitoes and we enjoyed a leisurely lunch (and a swim for Valerie). On the way down, we chose the part of the loop we had not taken on the ascent, and were rewarded with a view of Diamond Creek Falls and the Salt Creek Canyon. It was a great summer hike. Hearing George, a newcomer to Oregon, admire the wonderful scenery that the rest of us often take for granted helped us all appreciate just how lucky we are to live in a place like Oregon. Members: Marguerite Cooney, Lana Lindstrom, David Lodeesen, Valerie Metcalfe, Cari Soderlund, June Sutterfield, Sue Wolling. Nonmembers: Caroline Forell, Tina Fodrie, George Cardenas.

Lowder Mountain
July 23, 2017
Leader: Judy Terry
Hike: 5.6 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)
WHEN IT IS HOT IN THE VALLEY it is time to head for the mountains to hike. Lowder Mountain provides ample forest shade for the hike to the top. There were a few sightings of Diamond Peak on the way up along with plenty of various flowers to identify. The cherry on top is the stellar view of the Cascades from Mt. Hood to Mt. Bachelor. It was a clear bluebird day and the mountains were at their best. The leader provided a short talk about Obsidians Karl and Ruth Onthank for whom the lakes below the cliff are named. Members: Marguerite Cooney, Michelle Cordon, Steve Cordon, Rebecca Eastwood, May Fogg, Barbara Gunther, Debbie Krakauer, David Lodeesen, Brian Popowsky, Karla Rusow, Judy Terry. Nonmembers: Paul Flashenberg.

Florence Barefoot Beach Hike
July 23, 2017
Leader: Darko Sojak
Photographer: Keiko Bryan
Hike: 4 miles, 20 ft. (Moderate)

The weather forecast predicted heavy winds and yes, they were right. We started hiking in 20 mph winds and, according to a local website, finished our trek with 26 mph north gusts. Everybody managed four barefoot miles, staying somewhat closer to the ocean where the sand was wet, compacted, and easier on our feet. At the end of the hike Vicky sang her song that she wrote years ago:
I’ve got sand in my toes,
I’ve got sand in my nose,
I’ve got sand all over even in my pantyhose,
I’ve got sand in my hair,
I’ve got sand in my shoes,
And that’s why I’m singing *The Sand Dune Blues*.

By 1:00, our happy group was back to 83°F Eugene. Thanks everybody for making the first Obsidian barefoot hike fun and enjoyable. Members: Patricia Bean, Keiko Bryan, Jane Hackett, Vicky Hanson, Holger Krentz, Noah Lee, Kathy Randall, Darko Sojak.

Canyon Creek Meadows
July 27, 2017
Leader: John Cooper
Hike: 7.5 miles, 1,400 ft. (Moderate)
*CANYON CREEK MEADOWS IS A HIKE* for which one needs motivation in order to drive six miles of washboard road at the end. Once there the rewards are abundant. The five of us left Eugene at 7 and arrived at the Jack Lake Trailhead after 9:30. There was plenty of parking which is not always the case. We headed out and shortly started on the loop going in a clockwise direction. Gradually more and more wildflowers came out to meet us and soon we were at the south meadows. The display of lupines sprinkled with arnica, with painted lady butterflies flying everywhere, were amazing to see. We met the trail to the north meadows and headed up. As we gained in elevation the flowers were less abundant but present. We had a relaxing lunch at the head of the north meadows and continued to spot interesting flowers. Cheshire Mayrsohn, a botanist by training, patiently identified the flowers for us. The group headed back to the loop and continued on through the B and B Complex burn and back to the car. The sunny warm weather, the company, and the flowers, continued on a beautiful forest. Members: May Fogg, Noah Lee, Kathy Randall, Darko Sojak. Nonmembers: Cheshire Mayrsohn.

Rosary Lakes
August 5, 2017
Leader: Judy Terry
Hike: 5.4 miles, 600 ft. (Easy)
*THE CLOSING OF THE JEFFERSON WILDERNESS*, just prior to the scheduled hike to Duffy, had me scrambling to find a quick solution. I selected Rosary Lakes farther south, but was still concerned about smoke and possible fire danger in that area. The result was a beautiful bluebird day with basically no mosquitoes, and a good canopy of trees to keep us comfortable. The lakes were gorgeous and were active with fish jumping and ducks with ducklings. The trail was in perfect condition. We had a relaxing lunch at the edge of Middle Rosary Lake. Members: Barbara Gunther, Ruthy Kanagy, Lucy Nelson, Pat Soussan, Guy Strahon, June Sutterfield, Judy Terry. Nonmembers: Jan Danforth, George Cardenas, Lois Andersen.

Scott Mountain/Benson Lake
August 8, 2017
Leader: Sue Wolling
Hike: 10 miles, 1,300 ft. (Difficult)
*DESPITE THE LIKELIHOOD OF SMOKE AND MOSQUITOES*, our group of seven headed up to the Scott Mountain Trailhead. We were pleased to see that the last mile of gravel road, which last year had potholes that could eat a Subaru for breakfast, had been recently graded and was in good shape. By doing the hike on a Tuesday, we avoided the mobs of parked cars that can overrun this trailhead/campground on the weekends. We quickly parked and started our hike. This wonderful, varied trail has some of everything: the sparkling blue of Benson and the Tenas Lakes, fields of wildflowers, a knockout view of the Cascade Peaks from atop Scott Mountain, a short section through a burn with acres of fireweed, a walk alongside a lava flow—and yes, some smoke and some mosquitoes. We enjoyed all of it, and as a special treat, we shared the last section of trail with thousands of tiny frogs that we hope will grow up to eat lots of mosquitoes! Members: Mari Baldwin, Ben Brown, Lynda Christiansen, Ruthy Kanagy, Lyndell Wilken, Sue Wolling. Nonmembers: Denise Bean.

Brice Creek
August 19, 2017
Leader: Jennifer Baer
Hike: 8.5 miles, 600 ft. (Easy)
*AS WE DROVE TO BRICE CREEK* the sky was covered with dark clouds. Pulling into the parking area the sky opened up to a bluebird day. There was a little nip in the air as we followed Brice Creek upstream from Cedar Creek Campground. The forest occasionally opened up to reveal the beautiful clear creek with many small waterfalls and areas for a swim. The lower falls were still flowing and we did this uphill portion prior to having lunch back at Brice Creek. Occasionally we noticed little whiffs of smoke from all the fires in the Cascades, but it was mainly good clean forest air for hiking. This was an easy, casual day of hiking in a beautiful forest. Members: May Fogg, Noah Lee, Kathy Randall, Tom Rundle, Darko Sojak, Guy Strahon, June Sutterfield, Judy Terry, Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Kathie Carpenter, Lois Andersen.
Bingo Lake
August 27, 2017
Leader: David Cooper
Hike: 6.2 miles, 350 ft. (Moderate)
This was an excellent way to escape the smoke at lower elevations. We had blue skies, but we spent a lot of time looking down at the huckleberries. And of course we did more than just look at them. Starting from Shadow Bay, it was an easy walk to the South Waldo Shelter. In another half mile we entered the Waldo wilderness and headed up the High Divide Trail. It took a little while to get to Bingo Lake as we crossed downed trees and ate huckleberries. Bingo Lake was a nice spot for lunch and more berry picking. Some went for a swim. A very pleasant day at a leisurely pace. Members: David Cooper, Mike Smith, Cari Soderlund, Dorene Steggell, June Sutterfield. Nonmembers: Kathie Carpenter.

Fawn Lake Loop
August 27, 2017
Leader and Photographer: Darko Sojak
Hike: 11.4 miles, 1,522 ft. (Moderate)
We were happy to escape the valley smoke, but we didn’t escape the heat. Six of us enjoyed a long, up and down, 11.4-mile trail to Fawn Lake, Stage Lake and Pretty Lake in the Diamond Peak Wilderness. We hiked on a solid trail through a semi-dense forest that hid dozens of beautiful Ponderosa pines (six feet in diameter) and Douglas-firs. A couple of Obsidians took a lunch time swim at Stage Lake. At the end of our 90°F hike, we stopped at Odell Sportsman Center for ice cream and refreshments. Members: Marguerite Cooney, Daphne James, Kathy Randall, Tom Rundle, Darko Sojak. Nonmembers: JoDee Martin.

Amazon Headwaters/Spencer Butte
June 28-August 23, 2017
Various leaders: Mike Smith (6/28), Steve Cordon (7/5, 7/19, & 8/9), Tom Rundle (7/12 & 7/26), Mike Smith (8/16), David Cooper (8/23)
Hike: 6.2 miles, 1,530 ft. ( Moderate)

Byways
By Bus

More Food VI
July 11, 2017
Leader: Mary Ellen West
Photographer: Alice Kreutz
MMMM GOOD! Good food produced in the Willamette Valley was on display at the sixth annual Food Trip, enjoyed by 24 Obsidians and friends. Our trip started at Camas Country Mill Store and Bakery where we enjoyed coffee and assorted goodies made from Camas Mill whole grain flours. Our coffee break was held in the old one room schoolhouse moved next to the bakery. Sue Hunton brought us up-to-date on growth at the farm and the mill. Our second stop was at the Rogue Farm near Independence. Hops, seen for miles, were growing in preparation for processing at the farm. This area was once the hops capital and is growing again. We were given a description of the planting, growing, harvesting, and processing of hops for the Rogue Brewery in Newport. This historic farm is at the end of the road beside the Willamette River. Then we were off to the Bauman Farm for lunch. Bauman’s, located near Gervais, is an Obsidian bus trips’ favorite. It is a wonderful plant nursery, garden store, bakery and fruit & vegetable stand. Lunch, provided by Bauman’s, was served in the garden among the beautiful hanging baskets. Obsidian berries were a special treat with
lunch. The next stop, a few miles north in Hubbard, was the 90-year-old Voget Meat Market. This award-winning German meat operation provided samples which made it easy for shopping choices. Our final stop was in Aurora at the Pacific Hazelnut and Candy Company. Hazelnuts from the valley are processed on site. Nuts and quality chocolate products are the feature here. Our final treat was celebrating Marian West’s birthday with carrot cake. Riders had a full day, and the eating was good! Thanks once again to Alice Krentz for taking great photos. Look for our pictures in the New Gallery on the Obsidian website. Members: Judy Adamcyk, Thomas Adamcyk, Ethel Allen, Bill Arthur, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Mary Lee Cheadle, Sharon Cutsforth, Sharon Gadomski, Betsy Halpern, Diane Jeffcott, Jim Northrop, Don Payne, Judy Phelps, Virginia Prouty, Barbara Wallace, Marian West, Mary Ellen West, Cristy White. Nonmembers: Connie McIndoo, Alice Krentz, Pete Ferrero, Karen Carpenter, Marlene Boehm.

**Camp Funkhouser - North Cascades**

**July 30-August 5, 2017**

**Leader:** John Jacobsen

**Photographers:** Rick Ahrens, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Holger Krentz, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Carol Scherer, Darko Sojak, Meg Stewart Smith

**Camp Funkhouser in the North Cascades of Washington** along the Methow River, 23 miles west of Winthrop, was enjoyed by 89 Obsidian summer campers and guests. This was a primitive camp, the first in several years where we needed to bring in all our own facilities. While this year was not the first time we needed to secure a Special Use Permit to set up on National Forest land, it was the first time that the procedures to get the permit were so rigorous. But in the end, all the effort was worth it because our camp at the end of Lost River Road was great, with lots of room to spread out in the open forested areas. Our camp also provided easy and relatively close access to all the great hiking the east side of the North Cascades offers at Hart’s Pass and Washington/Rainy Passes. Classic hikes such as Maple Pass, Blue Lake, Windy Pass, Cutthroat Pass, Lake Ann, Grasshopper Pass, Goat Peak and Easy Pass were enjoyed. Passes seem to be a popular destination. Thanks to 21 different leaders for leading 35 trips during Summer Camp, with Larry Dunlap leading 5 hikes, one each day. Sunshine Catering provided our dinners, while Summer Camp staff provided both continental breakfasts with hot cereal and fixings for trail lunches. Our evening campfires (sans a fire) included trip reports, skits, singing, and an incredible talent show. Smoke from forest fires, both the Diamond Creek Fire burning about 20 miles northeast of camp and Canadian fires farther north, combined with high temperatures, provided for less than stellar hiking conditions. We did enjoy clear skies the first full day of camp on Monday, and then on Thursday things eased up somewhat, but by Friday the smoke and heat returned with a vengeance. While conditions could have been better, Obsidians persevered and had a great week of hiking and enjoying our time in the North Cascades.

The sun dropped behind the mountains around 6:45 to make our evening flameless campfires a pleasant temperature. The daily trip reports gave leaders a chance to entertain us with facts and suspect anecdotes. Larry Dunlap changed the pronunciation of Maple Pass to say “A map’ll help” you find which pass is which. Brad Bennett tried to convince us that swimming in Blue Lake was cold—Really Cold. A shuttle for Cutthroat Pass had confusing starts and stops before they finally met up for the hike. Reports of changing a flat tire in 97 degree temperatures or locking one’s key in the car evoked sympathetic smiles.

Before eating dinner with us on Monday night, District Ranger Mike Liu, gave us the latest news on the nearby forest fire. Wednesday late afternoon, Mike Smith presented solar eclipse tips and answered many questions. The question most often asked was, “When do I take my glasses off?”

The highlight was the Talent Show on Thursday night. We rolled with laughter, attesting that our Obsidian Spirit was not daunted by adverse weather conditions and smoke.

You Can Put Me Down, Carla; an Encounter with a Snake on the Trail by Brad Bennett
Bigfoot to the Rescue in Ape Cave by Janet Jacobsen
A rumba dance performed by Tom Rundle and Jennifer Baer
Two skits advocating a sustainable garden or dwelling: The Three Obsidians and the Big Bad Wolf, and Jack and the Magic Beans performed by the Blumm Family Troupe
Getting to Know You, a duet sung by Darlene Mancuso and Michelle Cordon
Count on Me sung by Maddie Blumm and Bella Smith
John Jacobsen Saved my Life at Yellowstone Summer Camp retold by Maddie Blumm
Seven Wild Women of Robinson Creek directed by Betty Grant
Obsidian Song as remembered and directed by Carol Scherer
Song sent to camp from Marlene Drescher who was unable to attend
Wherever You Go performed by Rick Ahrens with his guitar
Can’t Help But Wonder Where I’m Bound performed by Bea Fontana, Michelle Cordon and Rick Ahrens
Camp Funkhouser 2017 poem by Brenda Kame’ enui

Cecile Blumm said that the Blumm family was the biggest group at camp and thanked everyone for making the week so special with great memories for the kids. One first timer remarked that the week was “Priceless.”

Brenda’s poem (on the next page) captures the hard work it takes to carry out a successful summer camp. John Jacobsen, Camp Boss and Lana Lindstrom, Food Manager, worked behind the scenes for months to negotiate and resolve each obstacle. We thank them.
Camp Funkhouser 2017

Brenda Kame’enui

John J is a nice guy
He’s taciturn too.
He set up this camp
For me and for you.

He does all the front work
Calls ahead for a permit
John keeps the camp rolling
So we can enjoy it.

That Lana,
A wonder is she.
She dances like a butterfly
She’s fast like a bee.

She scouts mountain campsites
Slings turkey and tofu.
Lana leads hikes to wildflowers
She wants the best time for you.

And Richard…
A gopher is he.
He spends all his time
Keeping up with that bee.

Kris and Nancy, they greet us
And pass the nametags.
Soon we find space
For rolled sleeping bags.

Brad hauls river water
It’s heavy, my gosh.
Bea is the brilliance
Of shower and hand wash.

Carla peddles lunchbags and ballcaps
Dan peddles wash water
Jim works the gross job
When the weather gets hotter.

Steve’s coffee is first
On sleepyheads’ lists
He pours fresh java
With boiling pot and strong fist.

Randy and Jorry serve oatmeal at six
With cranberries and raisins for this
healthy bunch
It takes Chris, Diane and Darko with
Pam and Buzz to make lunch.

Lyndell tosses greens and marsala
Evelyn cleans up pepper dills
Dan takes out the trash
Jenn keeps tubs from the landfill.

Dave and Rick
Scrub crusty pots
With a thimble of bleach,
They get all the spots.

Janet strong-arms sweet singers
And brave actors too
Her passion for laughter
Means more fun for you.

From the signboard and trail maps
To the Methow and moon glow
From blue berries to Blue Lake
It’s good to go slow.

From pesto to carpools
And leisure to latrines
Camp Funkhouser is nothing
But a well-oiled machine.

So it’s thanks to John and to Lana
And all in-between.
Our time at this camp
Has surely been keen.
Pam, Frank, Ron, and Dan ready to go up to Blue Lake

Zack Marin finds the perfect angle for photos

Rich, Katherine, Ellen, Emily, Diantha, Daphne, Keiko, and Kay at Maple Pass

Steve Johnson and Steve Cordon on the way to Maple Pass

Maple Pass hike with Kathy, Zack, Silva, Igor, David, Larry, Fumiyo, Jim, Jennifer, Darko, and Alan
Happy Hikers on Methow Creek

Chris and Lyndell admiring the wildflowers

The Take-down Crew

Other worldly view through smoke over the Methow River

The hardworking take-down crew had the truck loaded and ready to roll at 9:15
UPCOMING

Travels Through the Countryside of Russia
Guest Speaker—Dr. Nadja Nikolaeva
Friday, September 29, 7:00 PM
Obsidian Lodge

This may be the first time we will have a visitor from Russia present a program. Dr. Nadja Nikolaeva, a researcher at the Forest Research Institute of the Karelian Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences, specializes in the study of birch trees.

Dr. Nikolaeva will give an illustrated talk, Travels Through the Countryside Of Russia. She says, “I like to talk with different people and exchange experiences.” She will be spending her vacation in Oregon and plans to travel from Mt. Hood to the Redwoods.

The speaker is hosted by Obsidian member Alan Curtis. This event is cosponsored with the Native Plant Society of Oregon.

BUS TRIPS

Christmas Lights at Shore Acres
November 30 – December 1 (Thurs–Fri)
Leaders: Barbara & Paul Beard
Cost: $174 ($178 nonmembers)
Reservations & checks: Judy Phelps, 726-0118

We will load bus at 8:30 AM and depart at 9:00 on this trip to see the spectacular colored lights display in Shore Acres State Park. Our route will take us down I-5 to Hwy. 38, through Drain, Reedsport, and down Hwy. 101 to Coos Bay. Bring a sack lunch to be enjoyed at one of the stops along the way. We hope to see some of the resident elk at the Dean Creek Elk Viewing area. There will be a few more pull-off stops prior to arriving at the Mill Creek Casino in Coos Bay, our overnight destination. Following early check-in and dinner (included) we plan to leave before 6:00 PM for Shore Acres via the Charleston area. Entry cost to the park is also included in cost of the trip. There will be ample time to tour the lighted grounds, enjoy the animation and see the decorated house. Christmas goodies will be shared on the way back to the Casino. Allowing time for a leisurely breakfast at the Casino, we will load the bus at 9:00 AM and depart at 9:30 on Friday. We will travel north on Hwy. 101 with a stop at Old Town Florence on the waterfront. There will be time for some holiday shopping and lunch (on your own) before departing for home around 2:30 PM. Heading inland on Hwy. 126, we expect to arrive back at Shopko by 4:30 PM.

Bus trip information is also available on the Obsidian home page: www.obsidians.org
Contact information: bustrips@obsidians.org
Sharon Cutsforth, Bus Committee Chair, 746-4929

Save the Date!

Obsidians and Friends will leave Shopko parking lot at 8:00 AM for an exciting and relaxing day along the McKenzie River. The refreshing clear water, the occasional rapids and forested banks make this a beautiful drive any time of the year. We are hoping there will also be some fall color along the way. Our route will take us along the river as much as possible. Crossing the McKenzie at Armitage Park, we will make our way to Warterville via McKenzie View and other back roads. Our first stop will be at EWEB Park on Leaburg Lake; here we will have a coffee break and time to explore the grounds a bit. Our destination today will be Belknap Hot Springs Resort where we will enjoy a BBQ lunch provided by the Beard family. We have reserved the Great Room for comfortable lunching and visiting with friends.

Lunch and use of the room are included in trip cost. There will be ample time for touring the grounds, enjoying the hot pools, or taking a walk along the river. If time allows we will travel on up the highway for a stop at the beautiful Sahalie Falls, near the headwaters of the McKenzie. We will arrive back in Eugene by 5:30 PM.

SAVE THE DATE

Fall Color – McKenzie River & Belknap Springs
October 3 (Tues)
Leaders: Barbara & Paul Beard
Cost: $68 ($70 nonmembers)
Reservations & checks: Judy Phelps, 726-0118

The Eugene Outdoor Club was organized with 43 charter members on November 3, 1927. The Obsidian name originated at the first summer outing in 1928. Watch for details about the Open House in the October Bulletin and on the website.

Committee Members: Rick Ahrens, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Bert Ewing, Joella Ewing, John Jacobsen, John Pegg, Gary Kirk, Lenore McManigal, and Janet Jacobsen, chair.

Celebrate the Obsidians’ 90th Anniversary
Open House At the Obsidian Lodge
Sunday, November 5, 1:00–4:00 PM

The Obsidian name originated at the first summer outing in 1928. Watch for details about the Open House in the October Bulletin and on the website.

Committee Members: Rick Ahrens, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Bert Ewing, Joella Ewing, John Jacobsen, John Pegg, Gary Kirk, Lenore McManigal, and Janet Jacobsen, chair.
AT THE LODGE

Potluck
Friday, September 22 at 6:30 PM

Images from the Polar Extremes

Join National Geographic photographer and photo editor Krista Rossow for an evening of Images from the Polar Extremes. Krista will share photos from expeditions she took with National Geographic/Lindblad Expeditions in the Arctic and Antarctica, while giving tips on how to improve your wildlife and landscape photography and insights into conservation efforts in those regions.

For over a decade, Krista Rossow has worked as a photographer, photo editor, and educator for the National Geographic Society. She began her career as a photo editor at National Geographic Traveler magazine where she shaped compelling stories from world-class imagery. As a photographer she has shot feature stories for Traveler in New Orleans, San Francisco, South Africa, Costa Rica, and most recently in Asheville, North Carolina. She regularly judges Instagram contests for @NatGeoTravel and is photo editing her second book for the Society. She travels with National Geographic Expeditions, teaching photography as an Expert on ships in the Galapagos Islands, Peru and Chile, the Arctic, Alaska and British Columbia, and Antarctica. She sees the camera as a tool for understanding new cultures, meeting the locals, and exploring the natural world.

Potluck
Friday, September 22, 2017
Potluck, 6:30 PM Program, 7:30 PM
Obsidian Lodge
Bring your favorite potluck dish to share...along with your own plates, utensils and cups... and $1 to help cover club expenses

ExploraTalk
Tuesday, September 19 at 7:00 PM

Birding Without Borders: Noah Strycker’s Big Year

See the article on page 1.
### Obsidian Calendar

#### September

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<td>20 Wed</td>
<td>Croatia's Natural Wonders Ext Trp Sojak</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Wed</td>
<td>Amazon Headwaters Hike M King</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Thu</td>
<td>Youran Lake / Lls Lake Loop Hike D Bennett</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Thu</td>
<td>North Fork Willamette Hike M Christensen</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Fri</td>
<td>Images from the Polar Extremes</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Fri</td>
<td>Images from the Polar Extremes</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Sat</td>
<td>Acker Rock - Peregrine Traverse Climb Reiter</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Sat</td>
<td>SOLVE / Beach Cleanup Hike E Ewing</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 Sun</td>
<td>South Sister Hike D Blumm</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Mon</td>
<td>Substitute Point Hike M Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 Wed</td>
<td>Amazon Headwaters Hike M Smith</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>29 Fri</td>
<td>Coffin Mt / Bachelor Mt Hike M Jacobsen</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Fri</td>
<td>Travels Through Russia</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Sat</td>
<td>National Public Lands Day Trl Mnt M Bell</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Sat</td>
<td>Mt McLoughlin Climb Hamilton</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Sat</td>
<td>Youran Lake / Lls Lake Loop Hike D Anselmo</td>
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#### October

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Sun</td>
<td>Lost Coast / Humbolt Cal. Bk Pk M Hovis</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Sun</td>
<td>The Twins Hike M Cooper</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Tue</td>
<td>Fall Color &amp; BBQ Bus Beard</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Tue</td>
<td>Upper North Fork Suislaw Bike M Hughes</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Wed</td>
<td>Amazon Headwaters Hike M Rundle</td>
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#### November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Wed</td>
<td>Amazon Headwaters Hike M Jacobsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Fri</td>
<td>Amazon Headwaters Hike M Jacobsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Sat</td>
<td>90th Anniversary Open House Jacobsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Wed</td>
<td>Amazon Headwaters Hike M Cooper</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Tue</td>
<td>The Best Rides in Oregon</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Wed</td>
<td>Amazon Headwaters Hike M Rundle</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Wed</td>
<td>Amazon Headwaters Hike M Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Sat</td>
<td>Trail Maintenance Trl Mnt M Bell</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>29 Wed</td>
<td>Amazon Headwaters Hike M Rundle</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Thu</td>
<td>Shore Acres Christmas Lights Bus Beard</td>
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</table>

With all of the forest fires and smoky conditions that are occurring, some trips are having to be cancelled, rescheduled, or relocated. Be sure to check back online for any last minutes updates that might be posted by your trip leaders.

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**Shopping for trips? A few tips...**

To see the latest updates to our trip schedule, be sure to visit the Obsidian Online Signup [www.obsidians.org/onlinesignup/index.htm](http://www.obsidians.org/onlinesignup/index.htm). There you will find the necessary links to retrieve your password, if you have forgotten it, or to register if you are a nonmember.

Can’t spot the trip you want? Be sure to scroll down through the entire list to view all current selections.

On the Obsidian home page [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org) you will find a handful of links (Summer Trips, Climbs, Bus Trips, and many more) taking you to expanded descriptions of upcoming trips and events.

Wondering if an upcoming trip is a fit for you? Follow THE REPORT PAGE link to search for reports of past trips.

---

**Nearby Nature’s 21st Annual Haunted Hike!**

**Saturday, October 21, 5:30–9 PM**

**Alton Baker Park**

**Celebrate night creatures!** Enjoy a pumpkin-lit hike in Alton Baker Park and meet an entertaining costumed bat, frog, spider, owl, and more. Enjoy fun crafts, snacks, games, and a raffle as well. Rain or moonshine. Members free, non-members $5/person.

Pre-registration REQUIRED at [www.nearbynature.org/pre-registration](http://www.nearbynature.org/pre-registration).

Questions—call 687-9699.
Maple Pass by Daphne James

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