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**Dates to Remember**

Sept 22	Summer Camp Reunion
Oct 1	Lodge Open House
Oct 10	Science and Ed - Bhutan
Oct 13	Annual Meeting
Oct 18	Board Meeting
Nov 1	Board Meeting

Detailed trip schedules at:  
[www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org) or Register-Guard – Sports – Tuesday

New Lodge Program  
 Science & Education  
 Tuesday  
 See Page 21

Membership Dues  
 Are Due October 1  
 See:  
 Membership Renewal Insert

**Celebrate! Tour! Experience! Enjoy!**

**Club Hosts Open House Oct. 1st  
 For Beautifully Reconstructed Lodge**

*By Janet Jacobsen*

**I**T'S TIME TO CELEBRATE the completion of the lodge reconstruction project. And a gala open house, hosted in the beautifully renovated Obsidian Lodge from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, October 1st, will give everyone a chance to do just that – celebrate, tour, experience and enjoy!



*Photo by John Jacobsen*

It is amazing how the updated building has kept the lodge's historic ambiance. Members will be available to answer your questions as you tour the lodge (*What walls were moved or removed? What color was it before? Did they move the climbing wall? What was here before?*).

On view will be members' paintings in the new Scherer Room, glass etchings in a unique garage door room divider and the 25-plus historical photos. And, of course, there will be cookies and coffee.

Acknowledgement of donors, volunteers, committees and board members will be part of the official program beginning at 2 p.m. There will also be a formal dedication of the Scherer Room, a rededication of the climbing wall and a garage door naming ceremony. Rick Ahrens and John Jacobsen will offer a multi-media presentation on the "History and Construction of the Lodge."

**Obsidian Dues Still a Bargain;  
 And Can Help Match Challenge Gift**

*By Stewart Hoeg*

**I**T'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL time and we have both "good" news and, well, even better news.

The "good" news is we haven't raised our dues in 13 years! All good things must come to an end, however, and (as was announced in the June Bulletin) Obsidian annual dues have been increased to \$30 this year. The adjustment is being made to more accurately reflect the current cost of club operations (\$29.67 per member last year) and the need to repay the Endowment Fund for monies borrowed (approximately \$24,000) to pay for the newly remodeled lodge.

OK, so the "good" news wasn't *that* great. But the "even better" news is really pretty good.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Welcome!

### New Members

**GREEN, PETER** (Active)  
2365 Harvrd Dr., Eugene, 97405  
510-1151 [peteg@nwframing.com](mailto:peteg@nwframing.com)

**GUNNARI, BRIAN** (Associate)  
112 Waterstone Dr., Eugene, 97404  
556-8544 [b.gun@comcast.net](mailto:b.gun@comcast.net)

**GUNNARI, LYNNE** (Associate)  
112 Waterstone Dr., Eugene, 97404  
556-8544 [b.gun@comcast.net](mailto:b.gun@comcast.net)

**HOVEY, LINDA** (Active)  
P.O. Box 71384, Eugene, 97401  
683-1945 [lhovey-2004@yahoo.com](mailto:lhovey-2004@yahoo.com)

**IWASAKI, SACHIKO** (Active)  
346 Broken Oak Loop, Eugene 97405  
485-1391 [iwasaki@oregonducks.org](mailto:iwasaki@oregonducks.org)

**KETHCART, MARGARET** (Active)  
920 Williams St., Eugene, OR 97402  
689-9841

**LEPS, CHRISTINA** (Active)  
6835 N.W. 21st Terrace  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309  
(954) 957-7847 [deps@pinecrest.edu](mailto:deps@pinecrest.edu)

**LICHTENSTEIN, DAVID** (Active)  
4301 N.E. Mason, Portland 97218  
(503) 281-5712 [david@comedytricks.com](mailto:david@comedytricks.com)

**LICHTENSTEIN, JAMES** (Junior)  
4301 N.E. Mason, Portland, 97218  
(503) 281-5112

**LIVINGSTON, MARY** (Active)  
545 Stafford Court, Eugene, OR 97405  
343-0030 [maryliv@efn.org](mailto:maryliv@efn.org)

**MCENTIRE, LLOYD** (Active)  
126 Bauer Lane, Eugene, 97404  
463-7792 [fishpoet@comcast.net](mailto:fishpoet@comcast.net)

**NEARING, FRANCINE** (Active)  
1577 Jeppesen Ave., Eugene, OR 97401  
343-6985 [fcope48@comcast.net](mailto:fcope48@comcast.net)

**SATHER, ART** (Active)  
P.O. Box 50457, Eugene, OR 97405  
687-5696 [blueace@efn.org](mailto:blueace@efn.org)

**SHELDON, ROBBY** (Active)  
3610 Honolulu Ave., Eugene, OR 97404  
206-5161

### Reinstated Members

**DAVIS, WALT** (Active)  
780 E. 44th, Eugene, OR 97405  
485-4043 [wdavis.iii@comcast.net](mailto:wdavis.iii@comcast.net)

### Changes

**BRANDER, STEPHEN**  
59 Constantine Pl., Eugene, OR 97405

**CRUEGER, MARJORIE**  
P.O. Box 586, Monroe, OR 97456

**HORTON, KEN**  
3305 Parsons Run, Suwanee, GA 30024

**JANET JACOBSEN** [jbjacobsen@comcast.net](mailto:jbjacobsen@comcast.net)

**MACAFEE, PATRICIA**  
59 Constantine Pl., Eugene, OR 97405

**RADCHENKO, VALENTYNA**  
P.O. Box 71594, Eugene, OR 97401

## OBITUARIES

### Merle Traudt

**A** MEMORIAL SERVICE was held on Aug. 17th at Hendricks Park for former Obsidian president Merle Alvin Traudt, who died Aug. 11th of age-related causes at age 92. Merle was born Oct. 18, 1913, in Stockham, Neb., to Wilhelm and Martha Traudt. He married Doris Ferris in 1958. She died in 2003.

Merle served in the South Pacific during World War II as an army supply sergeant. He worked as an auto mechanic, as a mechanic for Southern Pacific Railroad and, later, for Boeing Aircraft. Survivors include two stepsons, Robert Thompson of Eugene and Bari Thompson of Lake Oswego; and two grandchildren. A son, Dennis Traudt, died in 2004.

A long time member of the club, his first activity was in 1972. During the 14 years he was active, he completed 337 hikes/climbs. He became the 177th Chief in 1974, having climbed North and Middle Sisters in one day. He made 21 climbs, including 8 of the 10 major Oregon peaks.

### Jon Tressler

**O**BSIDIAN JON TRESSLER died August 31, 2006 from prostate cancer. A member of the club since 1999, he attended summer camp in the Sawtooths in 2000 and the winter Mazama outing in 2001. He did his first trip in March of 1999. His last trip was as leader of a Mt. Pisgah hike in April of 2004. Altogether, he went on 12 trips and led 3, all Mt. Pisgah. Jon was born in 1947.

He believed in a balanced life -- working part time as a lawyer, running long distances with Paws, his faithful dog companion, meditating, cultivating his garden and spending time with his family and friends. He loved backpacking, particularly in the Wallawas, and was an avid bridge player, competing at the national level. He was also a political activist, believing he could make a difference in the world. Jon is survived by his wife Debra and daughter Michele.

## OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322, Eugene, OR 97440  
Website: [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

### Board of Directors

President - Wayne Deeter  
Vice President - John Pegg  
Secretary - Laurie Funkhouser  
Treasurer - Sheila Ward  
Marianne Camp Jim Duncan  
Brian Hamilton Stewart Hoeg  
Anne Dhu McLucas Sandra Larsen

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

### Committee Chairpersons

By-Ways By Bus ..... Liz Reanier  
Climbs ..... Doug Nelson  
Concessions ..... Laurie Funkhouser  
Conservation ..... Judy Newman  
Entertainment ..... Kathy Hoeg  
Extended Trips ..... Lana Lindstrom  
Finance ..... Stewart Hoeg  
Lodge Building ..... Rob Castleberry  
Lodge Grounds ..... Max Brown  
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Membership ..... Sharon Ritchie  
Online ..... Wayne Deeter  
Publications ..... Marshall Kandell  
Publicity ..... Marianne Camp  
Safety ..... John Pegg  
Science & Education ..... John Jacobsen  
Summer Camp ..... Jim Duncan  
Summer Trips ..... Margaret Prentice  
Trail Maintenance ..... Peter Asai  
Winter Trips ..... Jim Pierce  
Youth ..... Andy Jobanek

## The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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

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

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

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

**Deadline  
for October Bulletin  
Saturday, September 30, 2006**

**Assembly/Mailing Team  
For July/August Bulletin**

Don Baldwin, Pat Bitner, Marshall Kandell,  
John and Lenore McManigal, Tom Revere  
and Crew Chief Barb Revere

### Editorial Team

Writing & Editorial Staff ..... Janet & John  
Jacobsen, Marshall Kandell, Barb Revere  
Copy Editor ..... Marshall Kandell  
Graphics, Design & Desktop  
Publishing Manager ..... John Jacobsen  
Assembly & Mail Manager ..... Barb Revere



## Camp Detour Reunion Sept. 22nd

**S**EEMS LIKE AGES AGO, but remember that very full week earlier this summer? Let's see, Tuesday we hiked the Spit and wiggled our toes in the sand; Wednesday we wiggled our boots in the snow on top of Hurricane Ridge; Thursday was paddling in Sequim Bay; and Friday was biking to Port Angeles. Saturday we headed home, stopping in Port Townsend along the way. Whew, what a busy, fun time!

We'll be swapping summer camp stories and reliving our experiences (including singing the Geoduck song!) as we begin a new season of monthly Obsidian potlucks in our newly renovated lodge on Friday, September 22nd. The potluck gets underway at 6:30, with the slide show starting at 7:30. Bring your favorite potluck dish to share...along with your own plates, utensils and cups. And also bring your favorite summer camp photos to share.

**EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T** go to camp this year, you may want to come to enjoy the fun, get ideas of activities to do on the Olympic Peninsula or just to get a feeling for what camp is like.



Photo by John Jacobsen

Janet Jacobsen on the Klahane Ridge Trail - Camp Deetour

At the September potluck the summer camp committee will also reveal the site of and offer photos and information on the 2007 camp.  
-- Lana Lindstrom

### Former Member Has Letter Published in Tim Russert Book

**F**ORMER OBSIDIAN Rex Stevens wrote a letter about his father that was published in the book, *Wisdom of Our Fathers* by Tim Russert (host of *Meet the Press*). Russert asked readers to share what their fathers said or did that made a difference in their lives. He received 63,000 letters.

Rex was surprised to get a phone call from Russert's editor asking if they could publish his letter. It was cut to just several paragraphs, but the essential message is there. Rex's dad often stated, "Thou shalt not steal." In his teenage years, Rex and a friend stole a goose from a neighbor lady who later confronted him with his theft. She said that she would keep it a secret if he promised to never steal again. After his father died, the *Goose Lady* told Rex his father thought the "Thou shalt not steal" message would be more impressive if it came from her.

Rex was climb chair in the early 1960s and served as treasurer in 1966. He and his wife, Shirley, were in the Peace Corps in the Philippines from 1984-1986. His most amazing trip was in 1990 when he trekked to the base camp at Mt. Everest. He and his wife recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their children on an Alaskan cruise.

Rex told me he flunked English 101 at the U of O and had to take English K. When I told him that it was an honor to have his letter published, he replied, "The honor belongs to my father."

-- Janet Jacobsen

### Take Me Out to the Ballgame - A Nine Inning Obsidian Trip!

#### Eugene Emeralds

August 24, 2006

Leader: Stewart Hoeg & Jim Duncan

Distance: From seats to food and beer

How High: Varied with amount of beer

Rating: ("A+")

**F**IFTY-NINE PEOPLE, 42 members and 17 nonmembers, signed up for the first annual trip to see the Eugene Emeralds. At 5:45 under sunny skies and a temperature of 73, the gates were opened for the pre-game barbecue that brought out spouses, friends and relatives who have rarely, if ever, been seen at an Obsidian outing. Clearly, baseball combined with unlimited food was an appealing combination.

There were several other groups attending the pre-game barbecue, which led to a very long line for food. However, this gave people time to chat as they slowly moved towards the hamburgers, hot dogs, GardenBurgers, potato salad, corn on the cob and watermelon. *Fortunately, drinks were readily available.*

The Emeralds quickly fell behind 1-0 in the top of the first. The lead was short-lived, though, as Eugene scored two runs in the bottom of the first. The visiting Vancouver Canadians scored a couple more runs to retake the lead, but our valiant Ems responded with four runs in the bottom of the third inning, including *two home runs*, to retake the lead for good. The final score was 7-3 in favor of the home team and the bottom line was a lot of fun for everyone attending.

## CONSERVATION CORNER

### Book Review:

### "How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed"

*This will appear in the September issue of Lane County Audubon Society's newsletter, The Quail. I believe it is very timely, in view of worldwide concern with global warming and all its ramifications.*

*By Pat Bitner*

#### ***Collapse***, by Jared Diamond

**I**N HIS PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING bestseller, *Guns, Germs and Steel*, Jared Diamond shows us the reasons for the success of western civilizations in developing technologies and immunities which allowed them to dominate the world. *Collapse* shows the flip side; why civilizations of the past collapsed and why civilizations are at risk today.

*Collapse* is, of course, a warning call for today. Diamond spells out what happens when we squander our natural resources and ignore the signals we are receiving. We see what befell the Easter Islanders when they cut down all their trees; the effect of over-population on Rwanda, a major cause of its tragic genocide; the demise of the Greenland settlers who refused to adapt to their surroundings, etc.

There are, also, success stories, such as New Guinea's highlands, where societies have flourished over long periods by adapting their agriculture so that it does not deplete natural resources. Diamond does not limit his analysis to third world societies. Some environments are more fragile than others. He begins his book with an analysis of Montana's 19th and 20th century exploitation of the environment. Mining, timber cutting and overuse of scarce water reserves are examples of activities which have depleted resources which cannot renew at a pace necessary to continue life as it is now.

It's a long and disturbing book; Diamond offers hope for the planet, but warns that time is running out. "Those who cannot learn from the past are doomed to repeat it." That old quote is doubly apropos today.

### Voluntary Simplicity

*"To live more simply is to live more purposefully and with a minimum of needless distraction"* **Duane Elgin**

**T**HE CONSERVATION Committee is sponsoring the Northwest Earth Institute discussion course, "Voluntary Simplicity". You can think of this as Spring cleaning that applies not only to our external surroundings (our houses, closets, and garages) but also to our approach to life – clearing out the clutter that keeps us from having time and energy for the people, causes and activities we value. One purpose of considering voluntary simplicity is "to acknowledge the connection between our lifestyle choices and the condition of the earth". Our previous courses have led to thoughtful and spirited discussions. I encourage all of you to consider joining us for this eight-session course.

There will be a sign-up sheet, the course book of readings (\$15.00), and informational flyers available at the September 22nd Potluck. Information about the course is also posted on the Obsidians conservation web-page.

## Obsidian Dues Can Help Match Challenge Gift

*(Continued from page 1)*

- At \$30 per year, the cost of membership remains comparatively low... and still a great bargain!
- An anonymous member has offered a \$5,000 challenge: he/she will match up to \$5,000 in total donations made by members in this calendar year to help repay the endowment fund.

**TO ENCOURAGE** members to take advantage of this generous challenge, we have created several new options for membership renewal. For the new membership fee of \$30, everyone gets what he or she has always gotten -- membership in the best outdoors club money can buy. For members wishing and able to pay more, we have created three additional membership levels: Silver, \$50; Gold, \$100; and Platinum,

\$200 (these figures include your \$30 membership dues). Members renewing at these levels get the same benefits as the basic membership, plus recognition in the January Bulletin and the knowledge that dollar contributions above the basic \$30 membership fee will be used to repay the Endowment Fund and help us to meet the \$5,000 challenge. If just half of our members renew at the Silver level (which includes a \$20 contribution to endowment repayment), the \$5,000 challenge will be met.

**ANOTHER CHANGE** this year will be the option to receive the Bulletin exclusively online. For members who are online, the benefits of receiving the Bulletin on your computer are:

- It is available about one week earlier than the mailed print format.

- The pictures are in glorious color.
- You help "save a tree" by eliminating the printing process.
- You save the club money. Printing and mailing the bulletin is the single most expensive cost we incur (\$13.40 per person in 2005).

This is purely optional. It's your choice.

In addition to these changes in the membership renewal form, we will be encouraging members to help repay the Endowment Fund and restore the contingency fund by having forms available at the Lodge Open House on Sunday, Oct. 1st and at the year's remaining potlucks. With your help, borrowing from the Endowment Fund can become a thing of the past. And that would truly be "great" news!

## 2006 Annual Meeting

**T**HE OBSIDIAN ANNUAL MEETING will be held Friday October 13, 7:30 p.m., at the Lodge. Members may pay their annual dues at the meeting although mail-in renewal is encouraged. The meeting will include committee reports, state of the club report, voting for new board members, other club business and various awards earned by members this year will be presented. Come and see what it takes to keep this great organization going.

**Note: there will be no potluck preceding the Annual Meeting.**

## OBSIDIAN BOARD NOMINEES - 2006



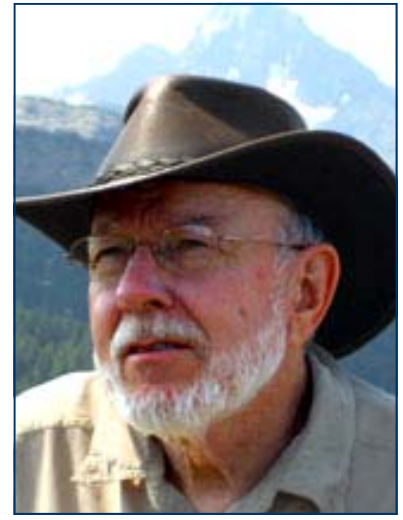
Barb Revere

**B**ARB REVERE'S first Obsidian trip was just over two years ago, on June 7, 2004 – a hike around Clear Lake. “That trail remains one of my all time favorites, as I continue to hike all over Oregon with the club. Since that misty first hike, I have participated in 93 trips, 11 as leader. I learned early that the Obsidians was an all-volunteer group and felt encouraged to join in. I am a regular staff member on the Obsidian Bulletin editorial team, contributing photos and articles, writing the Trip Sampler and, each month, gathering together a faithful crew to fold, staple and mail your Bulletin. Because of the healthy atmosphere of ‘volunteerism’ in the Obsidians, I am honored to be considered for a place on the board.”



Laurie Funkhouser

**L**AURIE FUNKHOUSER'S introduction to Obsidians was “about nine years ago, participating in a hike to Fawn Lake (I think).” Recently, her involvement in the club has increased through leading summer and winter trips, completing climb school, chairing the Concessions Committee and serving as board secretary. “I would appreciate the opportunity to serve on the board, as well as working with the impressive, energetic individuals who are the members of Obsidians in the perpetual development of the organization.”



Jim Duncan

**J**IM DUNCAN has been an Obsidian for almost five years, having joined when Sharon and he first moved to Oregon in 2001. “I will always be grateful for the warm welcome we received from the club at that time,” he says, “and most of the friends we’ve made since moving here are Obsidians. I’ve always been impressed by the number of people who participate in our activities, and the extraordinary volunteer effort that goes into making the organization such a success. Because I value the club so highly, I’ve tried to be an engaged and active member, and have been happy to help wherever I can. I’ve been a board member for the past three years and also served as secretary for a three-year period.” Previously, Jim served on the Summer Trips and Finance Committees, the Lodge Reconstruction Committee, and currently chairs the Summer Camp Committee. “I would consider it a privilege to continue to serve as a board member for the next three years.”



**Vote  
At the Annual Meeting  
Friday, October 13  
7:30, at the Lodge**



# The Adventure

Several Obsidians were among a group of adventurous mountain climbers on a trip to Nepal this past spring. Group members included Sue Sullivan, John Mowat, John Pegg and Deb Carver, representing both the Obsidians and Eugene Mountain Rescue; and Obsidians John and Lisa Manotti. They were joined by six more EMR members and four other climbers. The following is the Bulletin's third and final installment of a fascinating report on their experiences. You can read Sue Sullivan's complete report and see all her photos by clicking on the "Trekking in Nepal" link on the Obsidian website home page...and don't miss Sue's December potluck presentation.

## Story and Photos by Sue Sullivan

**A**PRIL 7...After a fitful night of sleep with intermittent snow flurries, 2:30 a.m. finally arrived and it was time to get up and head for the summit of Island Peak. We were underway by 4. The rock gully had fresh snow and was steep in places. It was important to stay focused on footing and balance. The weather turned reasonably clear and, as the sun rose, we were treated to sparklingly crisp views to the south of Ama Dablam and Makalu. At about 18,800 feet, we traversed a knife-edge ridge to the base of the summit glacier and roped up for the last stretch of the climb.

We wove our way through some crevasses and up the glacier to the final headwall before the summit. At about 19,700 ft, we stopped to get a bite to eat, enjoy the view and contemplate our situation.

Ahead of us were two or three large groups, many with little or no climbing experience. The headwall has a fixed line and there were about 20 of them all on the fixed line at the same time. Instead of just using the fixed line as backup protection, they were pulling themselves up on the line. Without knowing the quality of the anchor at the top, but knowing that it was a snow anchor, we decided it would not be a good idea to get on the line until these folks had completely cleared off. We figured it might take two hours...and then we would probably have to wait for them to get down before we could come down. I was guessing

it would involve a five-hour round trip to do the last 700 feet.

**BY THIS TIME**, the clouds were beginning to build around the summit. By the time we got up, we figured that there wouldn't be much of a view anyway. We decided we had had such a good day to this point there was no sense spoiling it by turning it into an epic by coming down late in the day. All but two of us decided to turn around. David and Clay continued and did manage to make the summit.

In the high peaks, the difference between how you feel going uphill and how you feel on the downhill is remarkable. Going up, I was concentrating on maintaining an even pace, taking two breaths for each step. Once I got into a rhythm, it wasn't difficult to maintain a reasonably steady but slow pace. However, when heading downhill, our pace seemed almost the same as at sea level. We made good time going down the glacier and back onto the rocks. Much of the snow

that had fallen on the rocks had melted off by the time we headed down, which made the traveling much easier. As we approached our high camp we could look back and still see a mob of people on the summit. We would still have been in the waiting line had we stayed and tried for the top.

**WHEN I'D STOP** and take a break, I would feel pretty normal, but the slightest effort would remind me of the elevation. At high camp, I had to stop and catch my breath a couple of times just from the effort it took to cram my sleeping bag into its sack. We packed up and moved on down to base camp, all in the same day as the climb. The cook crew had tea and biscuits waiting for us as we returned. Quite a day.

On April 8, we awoke to a couple of inches of fresh snow at Island Peak base camp. The mountains were mostly in clouds, but our camp was mostly in sunshine. We were

grateful that this wasn't our climb day. For 11 of us, this day marked the end of the climbing portion of our trip. Our only summit attempt was Island Peak. We would no longer have need for ice axes, crampons, climbing hardware, climbing boots. So, before proceeding, we re-sorted our personal gear, kept what we needed for the rest of the trip and sent the



*Approaching Island Peak summit*

# Comes to a Close

things we would not need back to Khumjung until we were headed home. For the remaining five group members, the Island Peak climb was just a warm-up for Pumori, which was their real objective for the trip. At 23,440 feet, Pumori is not just higher, but presents a much greater technical challenge than Island Peak. Most of the group gear would go on with us to Pumori for these climbers to use.

**WE LEFT ISLAND PEAK** base camp and returned to Dingboche that day. After all our acclimatization to the altitude of the previous few days, the air at 14,000 feet seemed pretty thick. Everyone was feeling exhilarated, especially those of us who felt the relief of having the climbing over with. We celebrated by breaking out the bottle of duty-free scotch we had packed in.

On April 9, we headed from Dingboche to Lobuche, up into the Khumbu Valley. This is the valley made famous by 53 years of Everest climbing. It is the route taken by Hillary on his 1953 ascent. We walked along an old weathered moraine up to Duglha, where we met the main trail to the Everest region. Here we crossed the river and ascended a fresher moraine alongside the Khumbu glacier. At the top of this moraine are a large number of stone memorials to climbers who have died on Everest and other peaks in the region. Many of them are for Sherpas, but there are also lots of other nationalities represented. We saw the memorial for Scott Fischer, one of the people who died in the 1996 Everest tragedy. We walked around and read the names and other remembrances.

**AT THIS POINT** we got our first good look at Pumori. It dominated the view as we headed up the valley toward Lobuche. It looked tougher than I remembered from my previous visit to the region. The group planning to climb it had their work cut out for them.

Lobuche will never win any awards for charm. My memories of it from my previous trip were of a garbage-strewn place with a collection of two or three huts. There are now a few more lodges there and the garbage is mostly picked up, but there just isn't much to recommend it. At 16,100 ft., there is not much plant life, so it is just rocks and yak dung and mud.

We camped alongside one of the lodges and played cards to pass the time. John worked on trying to come up with some flowery description of the place that could be used by the Lobuche Chamber of Commerce (if such exists)...something like, "*Ahh, Lobuche... Nestled in the scenic*



*First good look at Pumori.*

*Khumbu valley, the scent of yak dung fires floating in the air..."* Although it has nice views up the Khumbu valley, it still manages to be a dismal place. We were glad we were spending just one night here.

Adding to the general atmosphere of Lobuche was the loo at the edge of our camping area. This won the award for the scariest loo on the trek. The stone walls had sagged a bit, which caused the roof to partially cave in and the door was no longer entirely functional. And just to add more interest, the floor of the loo was a metal grate with about 4-inch spacing between the slats. You had to be very careful where you put your feet or you might slip into the unspeakable mess below. Most people opted to walk a bit to find some other facility to use.

Now that we were on the main route to Everest, we began to see lots more trekkers and climbers.

**AT PUMORI BASE**, it was pretty easy to find yourself just standing and gawking at the view. In one direction, the west side of Everest poked above the northern ridge of Nuptse and, with nearly 12,000 ft. of relief above our camp, it was an impressive sight. But, more often than not, we were looking at Pumori and trying to pick out the logical climbing route. My usual experience with climbing routes is that once you get to the base of the route and get a good look at it, it usually doesn't look as horrible as it looks from a distance. Pumori didn't 'lay back,' though. It just looked nasty.

Now it was time to organize loads to be transported up to Pumori advance base at 18,400'. We trekkers would become porters for a few days to help the climbers get their gear up to this next camp to save their time and energy for their climb.

*(Continued on page 9)*



# BOARD NOTES

**September 6, 2006**

Board members present: President Wayne Deeter, VP John Pegg, Jim Duncan, Sandra Larsen, Sheila Ward, Brian Hamilton, Marianne Camp and Anne Dhu McLucas. Also present were Secretary Laurie Funkhouser, Doug Nelson, Barb Revere, Kathy Hoeg, John & Janet Jacobsen, Larry Huff, Rob Castleberry, Jim Pierce, Marshall Kandell, Judy Newman, Max Brown, Margaret Prentice, and Laurie Funkhouser. The minutes of the July meeting approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Board approved payments: EWEB \$29.66; Publications bulkmail \$120; YMCA (annual donation \$240); Sharon Ritchie (membership \$24.80, administration \$40); Kathy Hoeg (entertainment/digital projector, \$1,078); Janet Jacobsen (summer trips \$10.70); Margaret Prentice (summer trips \$6.99); Sharon Duncan (lodge \$17.99).

## *Old Business*

**Construction** (John Jacobsen) -- Committee recommendations: (1) Review of the janitorial functions focusing on cleanup before and after lodge functions; and (2) Developing a lodge maintenance manual which would include a check-list for an annual in-house inspection, arrange for professional lodge inspection at a predetermined intervals (5 or 10 years) and establish regular work parties for cleanup and maintenance. The proposal for establishing an ad-hoc committee was tabled. The board voted to dissolve the ad-hoc construction committee.

**\$5000 Matching Donations** (John Jacobsen) -- The committee met on Aug. 23rd; \$1,460 has been received to date for matching donations. The membership renewal form edited to emphasize the matching donation, an article placed in the Bulletin and low key promotion planned at open house and potlucks.

**Lodge Open House** -- Janet Jacobsen and Kathy Hoeg have a committee working on the open house program (see story, Page 1). It was decided that McLaughlin-Clark Wall plaque will not include the word "climbing" due to liability concerns. Discussion of covering estimated costs was tabled.

**Climb Fees** (Doug Nelson) -- The board approved following proposed changes to Bylaws, Section 4 (Dues and Other

Fees): Leaders of climbs will collect \$3 from members and \$15 from nonmembers for each climb. The change increases the fees and eliminates per diem language.

## *New Business*

**Annual Meeting** (Wayne Deeter) -- See story, Page 1. Reminder: This year's annual meeting *will NOT* be a potluck.

**Olympic Trials** (Marshall Kandell) -- It was proposed that an ad-hoc committee be authorized to organize special trips during the period from one week prior to the 2008 Track & Field Trials through the week afterwards. It would be an opportunity to promote the club as well as generate fees. The board supported the idea and approved the development of an ad-hoc committee and the commitment to the proposed two-year plan. The Olympic Trials Committee will be chaired by Marshall and co-chaired by Dan Christensen.

**FWOC** (Wayne Deeter) -- The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs convention is Sept. 8-10 at Calaveras Big Trees Park, CA. Shirley Cameron will be attending.

## *Committee Reports*

**Summer Trips** (Margaret Prentice) -- 45 trip reports, 278 members, 78 nonmembers, \$626. A draft copy of the updated Summer Trips Guide, which includes new guidelines regarding bicycle safety, submitted for Safety Committee review.

**Winter Trips** (Jim Pierce) -- Two reports from Feb. 2006, plus nine reports processed by Bill Johnson, for total revenues of \$134 from 65 members and 21 nonmembers (eight trips not yet closed). Jim is seeking ideas regarding record keeping, committee members, etc.

**Climbs** (Doug Nelson) -- 15 climbs scheduled (5 were canceled, 2 rescheduled). Eight reports received: 42 participants (34 members, 8 non) with fees of \$152. One incident report received.

**By-Ways-By-Bus** (Liz Reanier via Janet Jacobsen) -- The Oregon Steam-Up was canceled and other trips are experiencing low ridership due to last minute cancellations. The committee is considering a non-refundable sign-up fee. (See trip reports and upcoming bus trips on Pages 19-21.) Due to a gasoline surcharge, the profits have been reduced and operations are at a break-even mark; therefore, there is little chance of special donations to

operative funds and reserves this season.

**Summer Outing** (Jim Duncan) -- Jim reported the addition of four new members to the committee: John Jacobsen, Carolyn and Cork Higgins and Bill Montgomery. The final financial statement from summer camp shows revenues exceeded expenses by \$6,661. This is primarily due to the conservative budget and a greater number of nonmember participants. The committee plans on transferring \$1,495 to the general fund, donating \$500 for the Entertainment Committee's digital projector and setting up a capital expenses fund. The camp reunion is scheduled for September potluck (see Page 3). Next year's summer camp will be near West Yellowstone, MT, with John Jacobsen as leader and Carolyn Higgins as assistant.

**Conservation** (Judy Newman) -- The North West Earth Institute course (Voluntary Simplicity) will begin in late September or early October - check the webpage for details. The committee will resume monthly meetings (see Page 4).

**Publications** (Marshall Kandell) -- July/August Bulletin costs: \$665.87 (postage \$118.37, \$547.50 printing).

**Entertainment** (Kathy Hoeg) -- A digital projector (Dell 2400 MP) was purchased. A replacement bulb (\$300) is next. Kathy asked the board to promote membership on the Entertainment Committee.

**Science & Education** (John Jacobsen) -- Beginning Oct. 10 programs will be on the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August)

**Membership** (Sharon Ritchie via John Jacobsen) -- 14 new members and 1 reinstated approved by board. Totals to date: 503 active, 34 associates, 3 honorary, 19 junior, 24 life.

**Publicity** (Marianne Camp) -- The Eugene Celebration booth is ready to go! Also working on promoting open house.

**Concessions** (Laurie Funkhouser) -- Sales of \$83, all from coffee.

**Online** (Wayne Deeter) -- Over 200 trip reports received online. Approximately 400 members have email addresses.

**Library/Historian** (Lenore McManigal) -- All trip reports logged; calculating who will receive trip patches/certificates.

**Lodge Building** (Rob Castleberry) -- An exterior maintenance and repair work party for Sept. 16th being organized.



# Climbing the Himalayas

*(Continued from page 7)*

On April 10, we moved up to Pumori Base Camp, at 17,400 ft. For the trekkers, this would be our home base for the next four days; for the Pumori climbers, it would be their base of operations for nearly three weeks. The trek up follows the route toward Everest base camp through Gorak Shep, the last settlement. The trail to the Pumori base camp splits off from the Everest route and ascends an old moraine to a seasonal lake at the base of the mountain. This was one of the most beautiful camps on the trip. Our group was the only one there, and we enjoyed the relative solitude of our little piece of paradise.

We were now so close to the Tibet border we could look through the Lho La pass and see Changtse in Tibet. We could also see the lower part of the Khumbu Icefall, tumbling out of Everest's Western Cwm.

On April 11 we began hauling loads to advanced base. The route was mostly a rocky trail, a bit of scrambling in spots, and one short stretch of miserable icy snow gully. It was real work, but it took less time than I expected. As we worked our way up the loose rock, gasping for air, John Leavens quoted a mutual climbing friend: "NOW we're getting to the glamorous part of climbing!"

**WE GOT TO A SPOT** where it was flat enough to set up the advanced camp; we put the gear into duffels and piled rocks on them to keep them from blowing away. We spent some time eating a snack and taking in the view of Everest across the valley before descending. From here, we could see both the North Col and the South Col. The view in the opposite direction wasn't too shabby either. The route up Pumori from here did indeed 'lay back' a bit, though it still looked challenging.

The next camp would be on a flat spot on the snow ridge just above the rock pyramid advanced base was on. It didn't look like it would be much fun getting there. The climbers would be on their own to do the gear carries from advanced base to that spot. They had no Sherpa support above base camp and we trekkers would be going no higher on the mountain.

After soaking it all in, we headed down to the comforts of base camp and I secretly thanked my lucky stars I hadn't gotten talked in to climbing Pumori.

From Pumori base camp, it was a short scramble back to the trail to Everest base camp, so at various times groups of us would wander over to gawk at the scene. And quite the scene it was. I did a rough estimate of 300 tents at Everest base. The scene was a huge contrast from the peace and isolation of our camp at Pumori.



*Scott Robbins, Deb Carver, John Pegg, Sue Sullivan, John Mowat, Clay and Donna Szollosi. Soaking up the rays before heading down.*

The day has come for the trekkers to head to Lobuche and begin working our way back to civilization, leaving the five climbers to tackle Pumori. We awoke to a crystal clear, bitter cold morning. Everest has a halo of frozen cloud that appears stationary from our position, but we know from experience elsewhere that it means wind in the high mountains. We are in the shadow of Everest at Pumori base and, since Everest is to the east of us, we have to wait until the sun has risen fairly high in the sky before it warms our camp. We gather at the edge of camp in the first rays of sunlight. Anyone

who steps in front and blocks our sunlight gets growled at.

**AFTER THE SUN HITS CAMP**, the Sherpas begin a prayer ceremony to bring blessings on the Pumori climb. Branches of juniper are lit, which infuse the camp with the sweet, incense smell of their burning. I am startled to see a collection of birds arrive just as the fire is lit; the goraks and Tibetan snowcocks sit attentive on the rocks just outside camp, watching the ceremony like parishoners sitting in the back of the church.

The Sherpas recite prayers and present offerings of food. Prayer flags are mounted on a pole and suspended above camp. Tea is poured to drink. The climbers pose in front of the prayer altar and I am reminded of countless pictures I have seen in accounts of Himalayan climbs of just such a scene. I worry about their safety, and pray that this will not be the last picture I have of any one of them. We exchange hugs and well-wishes. I get choked up as I hug John Leavens. It's time for us to head down, and for them to head up.

*Read about the trekkers' return trip and the climbers' experiences in Sue's still growing online journal at:*

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

Members of the Nepal climbing trip were: Sue Sullivan, John Mowat, John Pegg, Deb Carver, John & Lisa Manotti, John Leavens, Scott Robbins, Tim & Michele McCall, Brian Roddy, Carrie Ward, David Knoll, Clay & Donna Szollosi and Adam Ward.



## Hikes

### UofO Campus

June 22, 2006

Leader: Richard Heinzkill

3 miles, 0 ft. ("A")

**T**HE CAMPUS TOUR began at SEHS (weekday campus parking is very limited). This was a building tour and most were viewed from the outside, but we did go in a few. As tour leader, I commented about when many of the buildings were built, architect, name changes, etc., as we snaked our way around the campus. Several tour members shared other interesting tidbits of campus information. We stopped at Erb Memorial Union for a coffee break. Members: Tom Adamsyk, Rick Ahrens, Maggie Gontrum, Richard Heinzkill, Janet Jacobsen, Barb Revere and Martha Welches; nonmember, Mindy Hollenbeck.

### Cone Peak-Iron Mountain

June 24, 2006

Leader: Allan Coons

8 miles, 1,900 ft. ("B")

**OUT OF 18** who signed up or inquired, 11 showed up at SEHS and we met two more at the Brownsville exit. The day was clear and promised to be hot. Because of our number, the group was split in two. I've never seen a better display of wildflowers. We started hiking around 9:30, got back to the cars around 3 and to town about 4:30. The parking area is at 4,100' and the lookout site is 5,646 feet. The book claims 300 species of flowering plants have been documented at what is called Oregon's most accessible site. We saw vanilla leaf, thimbleberry, star-flowered false Solomon's seal, false Solomon's seal, ocean spray, queen's cup lily, dwarf dogwood, bleeding heart, trillium, columbine, tall bluebell, sitka valerian, anemone, yellow wood violet, red elderberry, wild strawberry, windflower, candyflower, salmonberry, bluebell, cowparsnip, thimbleberry, foamflower, Ore-

gon grape, broad-leaved starflower, cliff larkspur, Cascade penstamen, bear grass, prince's-pine, black huckleberry, Cardwell's penstamen, rock penstamen, goats-beard, coral-root orchid, Oregon sunshine, cat's-ear lily, virgate phacelia, stonecrop, small-flowered penstemen, sticky cinquefoil, scarlet gilia, serviceberry, lupine, Indian paintbrush, buckwheat, yarrow, Jacob's ladder, calypso orchid, monkey flower, and many more we couldn't identify. Members: Joan Abel, Jane Allen, Les & Marian Brod, Allan Coons, Bob Foster, Nola Nelson, Micki Webber and Sue Wolling. Nonmembers: Michelle Nugent, Sarah Nugent, Paul Seeman and Gail Wahl.

### Tidbits Mountain

June 28, 2006

Leader: Sam Miller

4 miles, 1,100 ft. ("A")

**SHORT BUT BEAUTIFUL** hike. June yields a trail bordered by rhododendrons, bear grass and assorted wildflowers. Our group enjoyed the walk to the summit, where we ate lunch and viewed the Three Sisters, Mt. Jefferson and other surrounding peaks. Participants were Obsidians Sherwood Jefferies, Sam Miller and Bob Moffitt; and nonmembers Curtis Dunham and Christine Watts.

### Larison Creek

July 8, 2006

Leader: Martha Welches

6 miles, 200 ft. ("B")

**ON A BRIGHT SUNNY SATURDAY** Margaret drove Julie, Zella and me to Larison Creek Trailhead, where Rod met us (he now lives in Oakridge). The green water in Larison Cove contrasted wonderfully with the brilliant blue sky. Then, at a cooler spot along the creek, we arrived at our lunch stop, down a small hill near a quiet pool fed by a small waterfall cascading over rocks.

Rod got his feet ( and boots) wet and, like all prepared Obsidians, had an extra pair of dry socks! Hiking back the same way we came, Zella took pictures and Julie shared some of her summer camp hiking experiences. Rod invited us to his new house in Oakridge to rest and cool

off, which was a delightful interlude. Having a good time were Obsidians Zella Andreski, Julie Dorland, Margaret Prentice, Martha Welches and Rod Wood.

### Diamond View Lake

July 8, 2006

Leader: Walt Dolliver

11 miles, 1,000 ft. ("B")

**THREE OF US** journeyed to the trailhead at Odell Lake and found that the trail had not yet been maintained this season and there was considerable blowdown. All this aside, we followed a very full and rushing Trapper Creek almost all the way to Diamond View Lake at the base of Diamond Peak. The lake was full with the mountain completely reflected in it. Along with the beautiful scenery we were greeted by a large fleet of very hungry mosquitoes, so we were forced to have a standing, moving lunch. We retreated quickly into the trees for the hike back. Members Walt Dolliver and Debbie Hibbard; nonmember Brenda Kameenui.

### Cone Peak-South Peak

July 8, 2006

Leader: Scot Hunt

6 miles, 1,750 ft. ("B")

**FIVE OF US** started our hike from the Iron Mountain trailhead at Tombstone Pass, Hwy. 20. The highly used trail was in very good condition and dry for the entire hike. We climbed north on the main trail up the switchbacks until we crossed the 4,900 ft. (roughly) level at the SE base of Cone Peak. At that point, we cut off-trail, ascending laterally to the NE crossing Hackleman drainage at its point between Cone Peak and the ridge between Cone and South Peak. Using what seemed to be a faint trail or possible game trail, we traveled along the ridge and ascended to the summit of South Peak and had lunch.

The views were good with a little haze. From this viewpoint, we were able to see as far north as Mt. Hood and south as far as North and Middle Sister. The wildflowers were in bloom, but not as many as the week before on my pre-hike. Brian Hoyland pointed out and named many of the flowers, including the Washington lily (since then, my favorite flower).



After lunch, we descended the same way, following the ridge SW and ascended Cone Peak, passing a nice volcanic cave shortly before summiting. Once again, we had some spectacular views and a good idea what an eroded volcanic core looks like up close. With the temperature rising, we took a shorter summit stay and descended almost south, intersecting the Iron Mt. Trail. A great hike with members Bryan Hoyland, Scot Hunt, Mary & Ken Frazer and nonmember Mark Anthony.

## Santiam Lake

July 9, 2006

Leader: Judy Terry

Co-Leader: Guy Strahon

10 miles, 700 ft. ("C")

**FIVE OF US**, all Obsidians, got an early start. Who would have thought the 2003 B&B burn area would have been the most beautiful part of our hike?!? The burn was filled with fields and hillsides of bear grass, lupine, columbine, shooting stars, tall stalks of lilies and many more wild flowers. A portion of the trail was snow covered, but we were able to keep the trail in sight. We made good time and arrived at the beautiful lake for lunch. A couple of hikers took a dip to cool off and then it was back on the trail to the cars and the hot valley. Members Paul Brown, Daphne James, Joanne Ledet, Guy Strahon and Judy Terry.

## Eagles' Rest

July 13, 2006

Leader: Marc Hansen

5 miles, 1,422 ft. ("B")

**FIVE PEOPLE SIGNED UP.** A cancellation and a no-show reduced our numbers to three. We headed out Hwy. 58 and turned south on Goodman Creek Road, just past mile post 20. It was pleasant to discover the 3.3 mile road to Eagles Rest trailhead is now well graded and graveled. It was also pleasant to hike in the 2½ miles (recent rain freshened the forest trail), especially while glimpsing an occasional tiger lily in bloom. Somewhat less pleasant was our inability to see fog shrouded Mt. June. But, wait, did you know 4,600' Mt. **June** is so named because Elijah Bristow spotted snow on its summit in **June** of 1846? Overall, a very satisfying experience. Members Marc Hansen and Sherwood Jefferies; nonmember Ed Stuart.

## McKenzie Waterfalls/

### Clear Lake

July 15, 2006

Leader: Ed Lichtenstein

8 miles, 100 ft. ("B")

**A CLEAR, WARM DAY.** Both trails in good condition and great views of falls, lake and mountains. There were, however, an unusually large number of other hikers, including a youth group on the falls trail. We started and finished at Sahalie Falls and did the lake clockwise. We had lunch at the lodge where there are tables, benches and ice cream. I have listed this hike as 7 miles but it is 8+. Our group had six non-members, including a visitor from Russia and a Floridian. Both the hike and hikers were most enjoyable. Members: Max Brown, Julie Dorland, Debra Higbee, Ed Lichtenstein, Sue Meyers and Robby Sheldon; nonmembers Jennifer Barnes, Nadia Bikalovia, Annette Gilmer, Annette Gurdjian, Christina Leps and Kellie Nemke.

## Cowhorn Mountain

July 16, 2006

Leader: John Jacobsen

Photo by Barb Revere

10 miles, 1,850 ft. ("C")



**AN EARLY 7 A.M. START** in order to beat the heat worked pretty well. By 10 or so we were at Windigo Pass and heading up the PCT with a few mosquitoes along for the ride, but under beautifully clear skies. One of the things I really like about this hike is the trail regularly popping out on an open ridge with good views of the surrounding area and of our destination -- Cowhorn -- although some felt it looked a bit daunting. We encountered more snow patches on the trail's north facing slopes than I had ever seen before, but not enough to cause any problems.

Within about two and a half hours we arrived at the base of Cowhorn and left the PCT to head up Cowhorn's steep, exposed western ridge, through scree, over the volcanic dike and on to the rock scramble to the summit that is always the

highlight of this trip. After lunch on the small summit we headed back down, gingerly, scrambling through the rocks and sliding down the scree. The descent went quickly and we reached the cars about 4. A stop at Crescent Junction for refreshments completed a great day on Cowhorn Mountain. Members: Jennifer Baer, Bob Freed, Steve Gunn, John Jacobsen, Daphne James, Barb Revere, Rich Romm and Chris Stockdale; and nonmember Mark Anthony.

## Fuji Mountain

July 16, 2006

Leader: Rod Wood

3 miles, 950 ft. ("A")

**FUJI MOUNTAIN** gives the best view of the Cascade peaks for a nominal investment of time and energy. There was not a cloud in the sky, promising a great vista. We arrived at the trailhead at 10:15 and proceeded up the clear, dry trail through old growth forest. There were lots of pretty blue lupine; also many mosquitoes, but we were prepared. We arrived at the top to find a German couple shooting pictures of the peaks, which extended from Mt. Hood in the north to Mt. Thielsen and beyond in the south (plus Waldo Lake and its surrounding peaks). The view was spectacular, as advertised. After lunch we started down and mosquitoes were no longer a problem. We stopped for a break and found Sherwood missing! Sam remembered that he had gone ahead of us with the German couple. No harm, no foul. We headed down the dusty road to Highway 58 and the DQ in Oakridge. Hikers were Sherwood Jefferies, Richard Sundt, Joanne Ledet, Glen Svendsen, Laurie Reed, Sam Tracer, Barbara Boylan, and Rod Wood. Obsidians all.

## Duffy Lake

July 17, 2006

Leader & Photo: Barb Revere

7 miles, 800 ft. ("B")

**BEAUTIFUL BLUE-GREEN** Duffy Lake was a fitting destination for the nine hikers who accompanied me on this most enjoyable outing. I don't know when I last had such a wonderful trip: beargrass nodding in the slight breeze that did its best to chase the hungry flying hordes away, lunch on the cool lakeshore, warm-water wading, sunlight sparkling in the ripples, Duffy Butte towering over all. At the lake, Sherwood led us about 200 paces around the lake curve to a better

view of Three Fingered Jack. Trail notes: Mosquitoes? Yes. Dust? Yes and getting worse daily. Horse scat? Yes, but we didn't see any animals. Other hikers? Yes, three backpacking groups on their way out and one tent at Duffy. North Santiam River crossing? Inconsequential... someone has placed nice flat rocks for easy walking. Thank you to my fun-loving, affable companions! Members Dan Christensen, Julie Dorland, Jim & Sharon Duncan, Paul Flashenberg, Sherwood Jefferies and Marshall Kandell; and nonmembers Annette Gurdjian and Christina Leps.



At Duffy Lake

## Lowder Mountain

July 19, 2006

Leaders: Jim & Sharon Duncan  
6 miles, 900 ft. ("B")

IT TAKES JUST A LITTLE work to get to the top of Lowder Mountain, but the views on a clear day are well worth the effort. Fortunately, our group of 12 had beautiful weather for views of Diamond Peak from the trail and at the top, every peak from Mt. Bachelor to Mt. Hood. We lingered for lunch, taking in the grand spectacle before us before returning to the trailhead through sloping meadows of wild flowers. Although the flowers weren't as prominent as in previous years, there seemed to be enough to keep us on our toes identifying them. We were happy to find the little clump of gentians we've seen previously on this hike was still there. Back at the cars, we enjoyed small slices of cold watermelon before beginning the drive back to Eugene. Special thanks to Anne and Julie for their willingness to drive. The hikers included members Julie Dorland, Jim & Sharon Duncan, Paul Flashenberg, Dick Hildreth, Sherwood Jefferies, Anne McClucas and Margaret Prentice; and nonmembers Jacquie Chavarria, Linda Decocchin, Annette Gurdjian and Christina Leps.

## Cache Creek / Peak 6762

July 22, 2006

Leader & Photo by: Brian Hoyland  
9 miles, 2,300 ft. ("C")

**STARTING AT THE** Hortense Lake trailhead, we walked south into the Mt. Washington Wilderness on the Dry Creek Trail. A recent burn and no trail maintenance left many blown down trees across the trail. The first mile passes through a badly burned forest, where none of the large trees survived. A light rain fell, but was never enough to get us or the trail dust wet. At Cache Creek, we left the main trail and followed a faint, unmaintained trail along the north bank of Cache Creek to the base of Mt. Washington's northeast face. I made the poor choice of following closely by creek bank, through a tangle of stunted firs and lodgepole pines. The creek drainage leads to a cirque at the base of the craggy north ridge of Mt. Washington and a blade of rock known on the topo maps as Peak 6762' (fondly referred to in older Obsidian trip reports as "Unnecessary Peak").



The intended goal of our trip was to explore a possible climbing route to the summit of Unnecessary Peak. Easy class III scrambling up slabs and snow patches just east of the summit brought us to a saddle on the ridge just below the summit. The headwall is a low angle slab that looks less than a rope length from the ridge to the summit, but it was steep, exposed, and rotten enough that we decided to not try for the summit without a rope and some anchor hardware. By mid-afternoon the clouds had cleared the sun was out as we descended lower angled slopes a short distance east from the summit of Unnecessary Peak. We followed a small creek into the main Cache Creek drainage and then followed Cache Creek back to the Dry Creek trail. A note to future users of this unmaintained climbers trail: stay out of the creek bottom as the trail nears the base of the mountain; use the more open meadows on the hillside just north of the creek. Please con-

tact me if you have climbing info for Unnecessary Peak. Joining me were members Scot Hunt and Doug Nelson.

## Rooster Rock

July 22, 2006

Leader: Steve Gunn  
7 miles, 2,300 ft. ("B")

**THE FORECAST** called for a hot day with temperatures approaching 100 with a slight chance of showers in the morning. Three Obsidians drove to Sweet Home, then 21 miles east on Hwy. 20 to the trailhead. The trail was very well marked and easy to follow throughout. For most of our journey we enjoyed overcast skies and warm temperatures, but very high humidity. There was a spattering of rain, but it served to cool us off since our shirts were already soaked from the high humidity. Mosquitoes were sparse, so the three of us enjoyed a very carefree and relaxing hike in this wilderness area. We munched our lunches at the top of Rooster Rock and arrived back at our vehicle around 2:30. Members: Bob Freed, Steve Gunn and Debra Higbee.

## Yoran Lake/PCT

July 23, 2006

Leader: Laurie Funkhouser  
11 miles, 1,400 ft. ("C")

**AFTER MEETING AT SEHS,** Obsidians Dick Hildreth, Sherwood Jefferies and Laurie Funkhouser and nonmember Alice Strong made a quick detour to transfer to Dick's air-conditioned vehicle! (*Smart move -- 90+ degrees.*) We then headed to the trailhead across from Shelter Cove Resort on Odell Lake. The trail initially follows Trapper Creek, but soon veers southwest for a gradual uphill to Karen Lake, followed by Yoran Lake. The mosquitoes were fed by our involuntary donation of blood during this portion of the trail. Found a spot on Yoran Lake for lunch, as well as a refreshing dip in the water. The connection from Yoran Lake to the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) is not well defined. With the use of a GPS unit and Dick's compass and familiarity with the area, we were able to find Lils Lake and then the PCT without much difficulty. The trail gradually descended back to Odell Lake passing several lakes... Hidden, Arrowhead, Midnight. Afternoon thunderclouds gathered and produced a few rumbles and droplets before we reached the end of the trail. Before heading back to Eugene, we enjoyed cool drinks at Shelter Cove Resort.



## Pacific Crest Trail

July 23, 2006

Leader: Buzz Blumm

13 miles, 200 ft. ("C")

IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL very hot summer day, 104 degrees in the valley (when we finished about 4 p.m.) and probably 95 on the trail at 5,000 feet. George Jobanek (assistant leader), Steve Schriver, Sally Grosscup and nonmember Roby Kennedy started at the McKenzie Pass trailhead; and Buzz Blumm, Ken and Mary Frazer and Daphne James started at Santiam Pass (near Big Lake). We all met for lunch near the halfway point, swapped keys and proceeded on. Spectacular views of the Cascades, with close-ups of Mt. Washington and the Belknaps...and the Sisters several miles south.

## Sullivan Cabin & Cascade Head

July 26, 2006

Leader: Anne Dhu McLucas

Photo by Zella Andreski

9 miles, 1,200 ft. ("B")

A SMALL GROUP set out from Eugene, picking up an additional member in Junction City, to meet hiker/writer Bill Sullivan at Salishan so that he could lead us into his cabin, written about in his books. A bird-watching group from Corvallis joined us, so about 20 people had the privilege of seeing his home-made cabin

on the Siletz River, as well as hearing the history of his father's cabin nearby. We had tea and snacks at the cabin and the Obsidians moved on to get to the Cascade Head trail by 2 p.m. Although the Head was shrouded in mists and a heavy wind blew, everyone made it to the top; and the views for at least part of the way were still spectacular. Hikers included members Joan Abel, Zella Andreski, Julie Dorland, Paul Flashenberg, Anne Dhu McLucas and Anne Montgomery; and nonmembers Lee Darling, Jim Gillette and Laura Vaughan.

## Metolius River

July 26, 2006

Leader: Sharon Thomas

5 miles, 100 ft. ("A")

THIS BEAUTIFUL hike runs entirely along the Metolius River. We began and ended the hike at a very interesting and well kept fish hatchery. It was quite hot, so we cooled ourselves off by dipping neck scarves or hats into the water. We had a lovely time with Obsidians and one nonmember who was doing her final qualifying hike. Members: Jim Duncan & Sharon Duncan, Dick Hildreth, Sherwood Jefferies, Kathy Lindstrom, Helen Martz, Ruth Romoser, Sharon Thomas and Marian West; nonmember, Jennifer Barnes.

## Opal Creek

July 28, 2006

Leader: Julie Dorland

10 miles, 500 ft. ("C")

A BEAUTIFUL (and finally, cooler) day and a group of congenial hikers made for a wonderful hike to Opal Creek. Seven of the eight hikers elected to continue three miles past Opal Pool to view more of Opal Creek and three 500 to 1,000-year-old cedar trees. One hiker remained at Opal Pool and contemplated the beauty. The falls were lovely, the water color a much deeper green than just a month ago (when it was more blue-green); and it's always fun to see the old Merten Mill and Jawbone Flats. Thanks to Jim Duncan for driving (including over a somewhat rough last six graveled miles to the trailhead). Jim also kindly set a good pace; while, as *pseudo*-leader, I acted as sweep! Hiking with me were Obsidians Jim & Sharon Duncan, Ed Lichtenstein and Nola Nelson; and newcomers David Herbert and Jess Tuerk...and Sachiko Iwasaki, who hiked with the Obsidians many years ago and has just recently returned to Eugene after living for over 10 years in Japan.

## Larison Rock

July 29, 2006

Leader: Rod Wood

7 miles, 2,100 ft. ("B")

SEVEN OF US arrived at the trailhead shortly before noon. With the temperature in the 60s, overcast sky and not a mosquito in sight, it promised to be a pleasant day for a hike. We were soon climbing through an old growth forest of fir and hemlock. Ten minutes into the hike, the usually indefatigable Walt Dolliver developed leg cramps and was unable to continue. He had not completely recovered from a recent episode of dehydration, so he headed back to the trailhead. Along the way, we snacked on some bright red thimbleberries and huckleberries. The sun broke through the clouds just before we reached the summit about noon. We enjoyed lunch and the view of forested ridges and peaks to the south and west, including Deception Butte. We made it back to the cars to find Walt in good spirits. The hike ended at the Oakridge Dairy Queen. Hikers were members Debra Higbee, Marc Anthony, Walt Dolliver, Les & Marian Brod and Rod Wood; and soon-to-be member Linda Hovey.



View from Cascade Head

## Chucksney Mountain

July 29, 2006

Leader: Allan Coons

11 miles, 2,000 ft. ("C")

**ONLY ONE PERSON** signed up, Dick Hildreth. We left a little before 8 and arrived at the trailhead about 9:30. The day was clear and cool. I have led this trip many times (no, not too many). The highway trip can be a loop (Hwy. 126, Auferheide, Hwy. 58) and the hike is a loop, as well. This is the first time I made both loops clockwise -- a little longer to lunch on Chucksney Ridge. Views of Three Sisters, Bachelor, Diamond Peak and other peaks were spectacular -- none better with the old Cascades in the foreground. Too late to see a lot of wildflowers (there are better wildflower hikes, anyway.) There were lots of small orange butterflies, a few small blue ones and a few swallowtails. If no one signs up next year, I'll take my dog, Louie.

## Hardesty Mountain Youth Trip

July 30, 2006

Co-Leaders: Andy & George Jobanek

9 miles, 3,800 ft. ("C")

**THE STORY OF THIS OUTING** is of a fire raging, a road closed, a wilderness denied, a climb cancelled, a hike substituted, a trail shared, a destination reached. With the closure of the Cascades Lakes Highway due to forest fire, our scheduled South Sister Youth Climb became a Hardesty Mountain hike. Although our summit was lower, our trail miles somewhat reduced (but not greatly) and our view less encompassing, we all enjoyed the hike and each others' company. On this hike were nonmembers Tim Lee (Andy's great friend), Chung-II Lee (Tim's father) and members (and co-leaders) Andy and George Jobanek.

## Tidbits Mountain

August 5, 2006

Leader: Stewart Hoeg

4 miles, 1,100 ft. ("B")

**SIX HIKERS** met at 8:30 on a sunny Saturday, split into two cars and headed up Hwy. 126, arriving at the trailhead around 10:15. Temperature, a pleasant 65. Note to future hikers: parking at the junction of roads 877 and 1509 highly recommended. This will add less than a half mile to your hike and your cars will appreciate avoiding a short stretch of

very bad road. The hike couldn't have been better. We saw countless different wildflowers (columbine, bleeding hearts, paint brush, gentian and penstamen, to name a few), old growth Douglas firs, an impressive rockslide, imposing pinnacles and an amazing view of the Cascades and surrounding valleys. When we got back to the cars around 1:45, everyone agreed the relatively short hike was well worth the nine miles of rough gravel roads. Hikers included Obsidians Ann-Marie Askew, Glen Svendsen, Margaret Prentice and Kathy & Stewart Hoeg; and non-member Gerry Lee.

## Vivian Lake

August 5, 2006

Leader: Joanne Ledet

8 miles, 1,600 ft. ("B")

**WE LEFT AT 8 A.M.** and, after parking at Salt Creek Falls, we set off around 10 on a quick pace through the lightly forested area above the falls. By this time of year the rhododendrons and other wildflowers were done blooming. At the wilderness area, we applied generous amounts of mosquito repellent and the nasty creatures proved not to be a problem for anyone. As most of the elevation gain on this hike is in the middle third of the trip, those hikers with gazelle characteristics bounded ahead and those who preferred to pace themselves brought up the rear. We stopped to enjoy Fall Creek Falls and met up at the lake for lunch and conversation. After taking in the view of Mt. Yoran and a quick swim for some, we started on the return trip, taking the Diamond Creek Falls trail. Some preferred to enjoy that spectacular waterfall from the top while others hiked to the base of the falls for some great photos. Thanks to Carol and Sally for volunteering to drive. Enjoying a great day of hiking were Obsidians Dan Bates, Paul Flashenberg, Bob Freed, Dick Hildreth, Yuan Hopkins, Sherwood Jefferies, Joanne Ledet, Carol Petty, Sally Quigley, Valentyna Radchenko and Richard Sundt; and nonmember Debbie Hibbard.

## Grizzly Peak

August 6, 2006

Leader: Richard Romm

10 miles, 2,700 ft. ("C")

**WE HAD A CLEAR** sunny day and traveled as two separate groups to the summit of Grizzly Peak. The views of Mount Jefferson were unparalleled. We had an

educational, quite informative seminar at Pamela Lake provided by the US Forest Service. Members: Claudia Arias, Paul Brown, Dan Christensen, Allan Coons, Walt Dolliver, Benton Elliott, Ken & Mary Frazer, Debra Higbee, Daphne James, Richard Romm and Steve Schriver. Nonmembers: Jamie McClelland and Joe Neal.

## Clear Lake

August 9, 2006

Leader: Sharon Thomas

5.5 miles, 200 ft. ("B")

**WHEN I PREVIEWED** the scheduled Patjens Lakes hike, I found it extremely dusty, with poor views and lots of noise from the jet skis at nearby Big Lake. After talking to Margaret Prentice and calling all who had signed up, I changed the hike to Clear Lake. There were eight hikers, one of whom had just moved to Eugene and had never seen Clear Lake. It was a very pleasant day and we hiked around the lake counter-clockwise so we could get through the lava in the cooler morning. The views were stunning and a few of the maple trees were already beginning to change colors. The forest service has put together a little guide pointing out areas of special interest, so we had "story hour" as we went. This was a very delightful group of people and we enjoyed showing off this very pretty area to a newcomer. Members: Dick Hildreth, Sherwood Jefferies, Marshall Kandell, Don Ladigan, Helen Martz and Sharon Thomas; nonmembers Mary Livingston and Beth Roy.

## Mt. Pisgah

August 10, 2006

Leader: Marc Hansen

Photo by Barb Revere

4 miles, 200 ft. ("A")



Ruth, Marc & David along Willamette

**A 200 PLUS ACRE** level floodplain lies off the south toe of Mt. Pisgah. Formerly farmed and pastured, it has been in the



process of restoration to its natural condition during the past several years. Old water channels have been re-opened and, perhaps, thousands of native trees replanted. The work is ongoing. We hiked in a circle around all this and enjoyed it immensely. Members Marc Hansen, Barb Revere and Ruth Romoser were joined by nonmember David Herbert.

**Ridgeline Trail**  
**August 11, 2006**  
**Leader: Barb Revere**  
**Photo by Tom Bodley**  
**7 miles, 400 ft. ("B")**



*Along the Ridgeline Trail*

**ON A WELCOME** partly cloudy day, 12 hikers set out from the Blanton Rd. trailhead for a one-way trip to the Spring Blvd. trailhead. We encountered Janet Jacobsen about half-way, just home from a trip to North Dakota. She promptly joined our hike, making our group a lucky 13! We hiked through, with only rest stops, but lingered a bit at an inviting mass of blackberries (we aren't saying where!). The trail is in good condition, but could use some pruning -- especially of the hungry-for-skin poison oak tendrils reaching over the "Baldy bypass" trail. Thanks to Margaret Prentice, Julie Dorland and Tom Adamcyk for the shuttles. Other hikers were club members Carol Petty, Dick Hildreth, Jim & Sharon Duncan, Jan Jacobsen and Tom Berkey; and nonmembers Tom Bodley, Sachiko Iwasaki and Caroline Forell. This group reminded me why I love the Obsidians: interesting conversation, cooperative atmosphere and much laughter!

**Rebel Creek & Rebel Rock Lookout**  
**August 13, 2006**  
**Leader: Laurie Funkhouser**  
**12 miles, 3,300 ft. ("C")**

**CHALLENGING? GRUELING?** One or both of those words describes this hike. With 7:30 start time, four hikers headed out Hwy.126 to Rebel Creek trailhead,

where we met our fifth hiker. The crew started the steady climb following the creek under a canopy of tall trees about 9:30. Good conversation carried us up the trail with stops to taste ripe huckleberries, drink and re-energize. Temperature was ideal with a cooling breeze. Reached the junction at about 12:30 and drank more water and ate more food. The next section traversed the ridge through meadows of thimbleberries(?), flowers and bracken from hip to shoulder high! Played hide and seek with the trail a couple times. After wading through the meadows, we found our next rest stop -- the Lookout. Perched on the ridge, still looking sturdy with a couple broken windows and boards. Refreshed, we started the steady downhill taking in a great view of the Three Sisters and a forest fire cloud plume. Shortly before 5, we welcomed the sight of the parking lot and our waiting vehicles. The weary, but healthy, hikers were nonmembers Nadia Bikalova and Pat Gripp; and Obsidians Dick Hildreth, Daphne James and Laurie Funkhouser.

**Sweet Creek Falls**  
**August 20, 2006**  
**Leader: Ann-Marie Askew**  
**2 miles, 350 ft. ("A")**

**THE TEMPERATURE** was perfect for this short hike along a glorious cascading creek, in which we spotted several crawdads that were such a bright orange, they looked like plastic toys. This continues to be one of my favorite hikes. I was joined by members Bonnie Richman and Sherwood Jefferies and nonmembers Nancy Cheng and Steve Lamb on their first Obsidian hike.

**Lillian Falls/Klov Dahl Bay**  
**August 20, 2006**  
**Leader: Stewart Hoeg**  
**Photo by Barb Revere**  
**8 miles, 2,200 ft. ("B")**

**ON A WARM,** sunny day eight of us arrived at the trailhead at a little after 10. Barb Revere was immediately stung by a wasp! After explaining to the insect community that six of us were Obsidians, most of our hiking crew were left alone. The two nonmembers, however, did manage to accumulate three stings over the course of the hike. The mosquitoes, on the other hand, never showed up. Berries were everywhere -- just about any type you could mention. The hike in was

beautiful. Old growth, mossy Lillian Falls and a shaded trail topped off by our arrival at Waldo Lake. We were treated to a cooling breeze, views of the mountains, sailboats, canoes and kayakers -- and David Early and Jim Duncan "swimming" in the lake. I think David won the award for the shortest swim on record. After lunch, we hiked back to the cars with a natural A/C break at the falls. The hike was topped off by a stop at the Dairy Queen in Oakridge. Hikers included nonmembers David Early and Valerie Duncan and members Jim Duncan, Barb Revere, Nola Nelson, Ed Lichtenstein, Sue Wolling and Stewart Hoeg.



*Ed picking huckleberries*

**Fuji Mt.**  
**August 22, 2006**  
**Leader: Royal Murdock**  
**3 miles, 950 ft. ("A")**

**WE LEFT UNDER** heavy cloud cover, hoping the sun would burn away the mist and allow us to enjoy the famous vista from the summit. Upon reaching the trailhead, the sun broke through and sweaters and jackets were removed. The blueberries were plentiful and delicious, the mosquitoes few and no yellow jackets. On top, only Diamond Peak was visible; the rest of the Cascades veiled in smoky looking mist. During lunch on the summit we were entertained by swarms of orange butterflies and dragon flies that all seemed to be pairing off to fight or mate. Hoping they were all looking for love were Obsidians Dan Bates, Tom Berkey, Margot Fetz, Sherwood Jefferies and Royal Murdock; and nonmember Mary Morrison.

**Shasta Loops + Woodson**  
**August 31, 2006**  
**Leader: Marshall Kandell**  
**4.25 miles, 200 ft. ("A")**

**THIS ALWAYS INTERESTING** urban hike (one member called it the "strangest" hike she'd ever been on...a compliment if

I ever heard one) offers glimpses into all economic levels of housing in the south-east hills, including some mansions and some hidden-in-the-woods abodes. It's a loop hike in all respects, down North Shasta Loop and up South Shasta Loop. Nice vistas, a young vineyard, a conveniently placed porta-john...what more can you ask for? The peacocks failed to show again, but we did start our hike by flushing out a flock of wild turkeys, including chicks. The highlight and drawing card for the hike, however, was the promise of blackberry picking on the final stretch. It was at this point the trip pretty much stalled, as participants filled their containers (and their tummies). Good exercise rewarded with a sweet dessert!

Participants were Obsidians Marshall Kandell, Sandra Larsen, Barb Revere and Clare Tucker; and prospective members Mary Morrison (who just moved here from Chicago) and Myron Cook (who lives in Cottage Grove, but would like to find an apartment in the Eugene area for himself and his cat).



## Backpacks

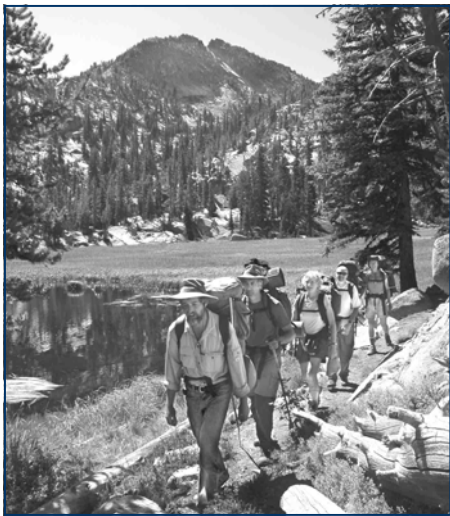
### Elkhorn Crest

August 11-13, 2006

Leader and Photo: Bill Sullivan

27 miles, 3,500 ft. ("C")

**N**INE OF US backpacked from Anthony Lake (west of Baker City) through the gorgeous granite peaks of the Elkhorn Range, a craggy part of the Blue



Mountains. After five miles we camped at Dutch Flat Lake -- scenic, but a bit shallow for swimming. From that base camp we took a 16-mile day hike south along the Elkhorn Crest Trail to Summit Lake, which proved to be even more scenic, and perfect for swimming. Returning intact with me were members Paul Brown, Scott Hovis, Chris Stockdale and Sue Wolling; and nonmembers Christy Fisher, John Halpern, Eskil Mikkelsen and Janell Sorensen.



## Climbs

### Prouty Glacier, South Sister

June 16-17, 2006

Leader: Mark Slipp

12 miles, 5,000 ft. (Rating I-1)

**C**LIMBERS: Wayne Deeter, Chance Fitzpatrick, Marty Gangle (nonmember), Larry Huff and Mark Slipp. We set off at 10:30 for Green Lakes Basin. We hiked on dirt for about half a mile before we were able to put on our skis and snowshoes. Wayne, Marty and I were skiing in and Chance and Larry were snowshoeing. We traveled in about three and a half miles. When we went to ascend a steep slope of rock and snow, Marty broke through the snow. His leg got trapped under a rock and his pack pulled him backwards, injuring his knee. At this point, we didn't know how bad. He was in pain and having trouble walking. We decided we had to take him back to the car. We all took as much of Marty's weight out of his pack as we could and he was still unable to walk very fast with his pack on. So we left the pack behind. Wayne and Larry volunteered to come back to get it the next day. Without his pack, Marty moved quickly and we returned to the cars by 4 p.m. I drove Marty back to Eugene. Wayne and Larry stayed and camped overnight. Marty's diagnosis was a sprained knee. Special thanks to Chance, Larry and Wayne for carrying as much weight as possible from Marty's pack and for retrieving the pack. We'll have to try the mountain again next year.

### Mt. Whitney

July 26-28, 2006

Leader: Buzz Blumm

22 miles, 6,200 ft.

**WE LEFT EUGENE** at 6 a.m., drove all day and after many road construction delays, reached Lone Pine at 9 p.m. We then drove up the hill to Whitney Portal (trailhead and campground) and slept for about four hours near the trailhead. This was the ultimate day hike. We started at 3 a.m., hiking with headlamps for two hours until daylight, then on up the mountain amidst some of the most beautiful landscapes in the country. George and Andy Jobanek reached the top at 9:40 a.m., Jane Engert (nonmember) and Ken & Mary Frazer about an hour later; and I got within a "stone's throw" of the top before being forced back by a violent lightning storm. We stayed that night at the El Rancho Motel in Bishop, CA, and drove home the next day.

### North Sister/South Ridge

July 29- 30, 2006

Leader: John Pegg

10 miles, 3,000 ft. (Rating I-2)

**ONE MIGHT SAY** this was the North Sister VIP trip. The assistant leader was our president, Wayne Deeter. It was led by club VP and included current board member Marianne Camp. One could also call it the *seniors climb*, since most climbers were in their 50s. Whatever the name, it was an adventure. We weren't sure we could even get to the trailhead because the Black Crater Fire had closed Old McKenzie Hwy. and some Sisters neighborhoods were evacuating. But the highway remained open as far as milepost 74 and the trailhead was at milepost 71, so the group of seven hiked in to Arrowhead Lake by the Obsidian Trail on Saturday and camped out under cloudy, windy skies. We set alarms for 3:30 a.m. and were on our way at 4:25.

The snow on the lower parts of the mountain was shrinking fast, but it was not long before we found a route on snow excellent for crampons most of the way. I would not say we were moving fast, but we made progress. The sun revealed mixed clouds above us and a sea of clouds in the valleys below. But the wind continued to threaten miserable climbing conditions. It was a struggle getting on the ridge, as it always is because of the loose rocks and scree, but we made it and after a rest behind a large rock to get out of the wind, we continued up the ridge.





*N. Sister leader John Pegg setting anchor for traverse. Photo by Chance Fitzpatrick*

We watched planes fly through to fight the fire. At one point we could smell the smoke, which was a little spooky.

When we reached the Dinner Plate (the steep snow traverse you cross to gain access to the summit rock climb), there were two surprises. First, the wind stopped and the sky cleared. It was going to be a nice day. Second, the snow patch was greatly reduced for this time of year. This made protecting the route across a little difficult. We used a large bomber rock for an anchor and a sling through one of the few solid rocks higher up for a directional. Then, I was belayed out across the rubble left by the receding snow to the remaining and very steep (about 50 degrees) snowfield. Luckily, I was able to drive two pickets in for firm anchors.

Wayne then came across carrying another rope, which we needed for the next stage of the climb, the ascent of the Bowling Alley. This is a scary place and well named since rocks routinely roll through here as they pick up speed and sail off the mountain. It is also easy to kick rocks loose on climbers below you. As the others made their way across the Dinner Plate, Wayne and I set a fixed line to the ridge above the gully. One by one, the climbers reached the top of the fixed line and made their way around the exposed ridge for the easy rock scramble to the summit. As leader, I kept looking with concern at my watch. But because of the fair weather and blue skies, it

would have been a shame to turn back climbers who had come so far. Finally, six of the seven climbers had reached the summit and had rappelled down from the ridge. One climber was not feeling well enough to make the traverse, carefully descending Bowling Alley and slowly crossing the softening snow on the Dinner Plate.

Then it happened. The last climber slipped on the soft snow and fell. But the protection held and he was able to climb back up and continue. Then he fell again! But once again the protection held. He pulled himself together and made it to the other side, unhurt with a slightly injured knee, a cut on his hand and a new appreciation for being alive. All this was taking time and the descent back to camp was painfully slow, owing to the injury as well as the physical exhaustion of others. By the time we got back to camp it was clear we would be traveling back to the cars by headlamp. One climber decided to stay another night along with a climber who planned to spend an extra night at Arrowhead Lake. The others wearily packed up. Wayne led the fast group and I walked out with the slower but determined injured climber. We finally made it to the trailhead at 1 a.m! By the time we drove to Eugene, we had been up for 23 hours.

Climbers were Obsidians Marianne Camp (to the Dinner Plate), John Young, Bill Cox, Chance Fitzpatrick, Marcia Barr, Wayne Deeter and John Pegg.

## **Mount Lassen** **August 6, 2006** **Leader: Jim Pierce** **5 miles, 2,000 ft. (Easy)**

**NO ONE CALLED** about this fascinating adventure until after I had already left.

A long drive for a short summit? The drive took seven hours one way...the entire climb, up and down, took just 3.5 hours. The "climb" is only two Pisgahs, but it is high...starting at 8,490 feet (as high as the top of Mount Bailey) and ending at 10,453 feet (top of Jefferson). The 2.5 mile trail is steeper and rougher than Pisgah. Well, from the parking lot, it **looks** like more than Pisgah squared.

Lassen is a volcano! A new one, formed about 11,000 years ago. The last eruptions were in May, 1915. They were the largest in the U.S. in recorded history until Mount St. Helens. So, the lava is new...and rough. After just a few steps, the thinness of the air is quite apparent. The trail reminds me of the final ridge on South Sister, only with a hundred switchbacks. Beside the peak are brilliant turquoise melt pools surrounded by red snow (bacteria). There are fascinating lava formations and informative signs all the way up and even an exposed snowfield to cross. White bark pines thrive in protected places up to almost 10,000 feet. The summit crater is a bit smaller than South Sister. The 100-foot summit pinnacle is a class three scramble up talus and scree. The 360° views of Shasta and the High Sierras were partly obscured by a fire.

In all, a fun and "easy" climb for a 10,000-foot Cascade volcano. Making the climb alone, I was amongst 300 other hikers of all ages, sizes, capabilities and nationalities.

## **Mt. McLoughlin** **August 11-12, 2006** **Leader: Larry Huff** **11 miles, 4,000 ft. (Class-1)**

**THREE OF US** depart Friday afternoon on a 200-mile road trip and arrive at the trailhead at 8:45 p.m. -- the only vehicle present. We quickly set up camp to get some rest for our a.m. start. It is a star filled and moonlit night. An hour later another car arrives. The other group heads up the mountain at 10:30. and arrives back as we were waking up at 5:30 a.m. It is a mildly brisk morning.. Two other parties arrive and get the jump on us. At 7 a.m we begin our climb. As we briskly hike along we quickly warm up

and, before too long, I call a break to take a layer off. We arrive at the junction of PCT, proceed to the next junction and depart PCT. We soon overtake the parties ahead of us., take a break and hydrate. We head up the south ridge of the mountain and the sustained steepness of the trail. We arrive above tree line, note the location for reference on our descent. Stripping to shorts and t-shirts and drinking fluids, we get our first look at the upper mountain. Spectacular, with excellent views. We snap pictures, swapping cameras for personal shots.

Onward and upward. We decided to negotiate the ridge by climbing the boulder route on the south side of the ridge -- a boulder hopping scramble with an intermittent scree track or two.

We arrive at the summit on a bluebird day with a mild wind and plenty of room to spread out and take in the scenery. Mt. Shasta loomed above, a distant marine layer in the south. Mazama, Thielsen and Bailey spread before us on the north horizon. The Klamath basin and Pelican Butte are to our northeast and east and the Mountain Lakes Wilderness lay to our southeast. There are several lakes visible – Four Mile, Klamath, Lake of the Woods, Fish and Willow Lakes. After lounging around for about an hour, we are joined by many parties of climbers. Time we descend...down the north side of the ridge, with plenty of scree to soften our progress. We greet a throng of climbers going upwards...the majority dressed for a walk in the park. I am always amazed by the lack of concern by many folks in a wilderness setting. If we build a trail they will come.

The walk out is pleasant and uneventful. For a change of highway pace we take the scenic route back to Eugene. As we head toward Medford, we take the Eagle Point cutoff. In Shady Cove we enjoy Mexican food on the deck next to the Rogue river. I was fortunate to have two excellent climbing companions in Obsidian Marianne Camp and nonmember Gary Wong.

### **Three-Fingered Jack** **August 12, 2006** **Leader: Andy Jobanek** **Reporter: George Jobanek** **14 miles, 3,000 ft. ("C")**

**THREE-FINGERED JACK** is a fun mountain to introduce to climbers who have never attempted it before. More often than not, their heads are full of stories of

how scary it is, how precarious the ridge, how exposed the crawl, how tiny the actual summit. And, more often than not, Andy and I are the source of those stories (or climbers we have led up the mountain, having led Jack so often). This latest batch of novitiates to the wonders of Three-Fingered Jack was a wonderful group to climb with. We left the trailhead at 4:30, hiking for the first hour by headlamp, hoping to get well ahead of a group of Mazamas we heard were climbing Jack the same day. This early start allowed us to get up the ridge, through the crawl, up the chimney, out to that tiny summit and back down before we saw anyone else on the mountain (and they were Boy Scouts, not Mazamas). Through it all, everyone was highly capable. Andy led a wonderful climb, his last before leaving for college. Members: Chance Fitzpatrick, Andy & George Jobanek and Julie McGlinsky; nonmember, Sean Allensworth.

### **Mount Thielsen** **August 19, 2006** **Leader: Kim Sawyer** **Photo by Chris Stockdale** **9 miles, 3,000 ft.**



*George setting protection.*

**WE LEFT THE TRAILHEAD** at 6:10 a.m. and walked at a steady pace up to the PCT. We felt as if we had the mountain to ourselves. We were passed by three climbers, but after Chicken Point, we again had the mountain to ourselves. Following a brief review of prussicks and how to use them, I climbed to the summit and set three points of protection. As this was the first time I had taken on this task, George followed me up and double-checked the anchors (all was okay). The other eight in our group headed up, as well as six free climbers using our rope as a route guide. So, we were 16 on the summit at once; cozy, to say the least.

While on the summit we had to share the spot with swarming flies, annoying

but not harmful. We had all summited by 11:15. When we retreated to Chicken Point, there was another crowd of at least 10 more people there, so it was a good time to beat it back down the hill. We cut down the scree slope, bushwhacked a short way to the PCT and headed on out. Our climb group consisted of steady and strong hikers who got along well and we all had a great time getting to know one another. Climbers were Obsidians Chance Fitzpatrick, George Jobanek, Linda & Virgil Lamb, Kim Sawyer and Chris Stockdale; and nonmembers Emily Casey, John Dougherty (visiting Chris from Colorado), Dan Keller and Barry Smith. Special Thanks to George for being a great teacher, as well as a good friend and climb partner. *P.S: We missed you Andy! Good luck at college!*



### **Scio Covered Bridge** **July 15, 2006** **Leader & Photo: Sharon Ritchie** **47 miles, 200 ft. ("Moderate")**

**THIS IS EVERYONE'S** favorite ride. The weather was perfect -- high clouds, cool breeze in the morning, warm sunshine in the afternoon. We started with a brisk discussion of safety issues following introductions. Good suggestions were made. Then off to a hill climb and ridge ride with wonderful views. A great run downhill and then rolling hills and flatland as we visited five covered bridges. Several were built in 1936 and all had been restored. We ate lunch at Larwood Park, site of the third bridge.





My sincere thanks to Mike BeBout for taking the lead and keeping us from getting lost on the many left & right turns, as well as confronting the nasty dog on the long downhill. As usual, a wonderful day and a great group of people! Members Mike BeBout, Paul Brown, Barb Bruns, Walt Davis, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Sylvia Harvey, Darrell McBee, Sharon Ritchie, Guy Strahon and Judy Terry; nonmembers Paul Garrick, Lloyd McEntire and Art Sather.

## Marcola

July 16, 2006

Leader: Guy Strahon

Co-Leader: Judy Terry

16.5 miles, 0 ft. ("A")

IT WAS A DARK and gloomy night (*just kidding!*). It turned out to be a perfect day for a 16.5 mile bike ride (sunny, calm and about 68-70 degrees). Four people turned out for the ride -- Obsidians Guy Strahon, Judy Terry and Virginia Rice; and nonmember Fran Nearing. We rode by the Springfield golf course and saw a deer along the way. We stopped at Mohawk General Store for water and a snack when two nonmembers ( Art Sather and Lloyd McEntire) joined us for the remainder of the ride. With the completion of their ride both Art and Fran had finished their third Obsidian event and will apply for membership. It was an enjoyable ride with very pleasant company as always.

## The Brothel

July 29, 2006

Leader and Photo: Sharon Ritchie

39 miles, 100 ft. ("Moderate")

AFTER A STRING of over 100 degree days, 17 of us had high clouds, a breeze and a warm afternoon for the return. We met at Pleasant Hill High School and biked all the back roads into Cottage Grove where we got on the Row River Bike Trail, which took us into downtown Cottage Grove.



We ate a great lunch at The Brothel and returned to Pleasant Hill. I do believe the group was strung out on the road over a mile, but everyone waited at all the intersections, etc., and I'm pleased to say that no one got lost! Many thanks to Stewart for, once again, taking the point.

Members Barb Bruns, Walt Davis, Pat Esch, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Kitson & Peter Graham, Stewart Hoeg, Norma Lockyear, Penny McAvoy, Darrell McBee, Royal Murdock, Kathy Riddle, Sharon Ritchie and Art Sather; nonmembers Paul Garrick, Lloyd McEntire and Pam Morris.

## Orchard Point Park

August 26, 2006

Leader: Sharon Ritchie

25 miles, 50 ft. ("Easy")

THIS WAS A SHORT, easy ride to Fern Ridge Lake for lunch at Orchard Point. Although high temperatures were promised for later in the day, it was very pleasant during the ride. My most sincere thanks to all members -- Lana Lindstrom, Stewart Hoeg, Gayle Berge, Pat Esch and Norma Lockyear -- for joining for a nice morning of biking. The few sailboats on the lake were beautiful. Also, thanks to Stewart for again taking the point.

## Winery Trip

August 30, 2006

Leader: Joyce Sanders

34 miles, 0 ft.

BEAUTIFUL SCENERY via Lorane Highway to the Sylvan Ridge/Hinman Winery on Briggs Hill Road. We all enjoyed lunch on the patio overlooking the vineyards. The return was mostly on Doane Rd. and Crow Rd.-- then the bike path into town. It was perfect biking weather! We were happy to have Royal's granddaughter ride with us. Members: Jan & Rich Anselmo, Mike BeBout, Barb Bruns, Walt Davis, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Sylvia Harvey, Stewart Hoeg, Dick Moffitt, Royal Murdock, Kathy Riddle, Sharon Ritchie and Joyce Sanders; and nonmember Vanessa Monahan-Rial.



## Bus Trips

### Yosemite-Shasta-Lassen

June 5-11, 2006

Leader: Liz Reanier

Co-Leader: Don Payne

**T**WENTY-ONE OBSIDIANS and guests had a fantastic trip they will always remember. Even those who had been to Yosemite said so. The group was small, so everyone was able to get to know each other. We drove south on I-5 to Redding, with two side trips. One was to Mt. Shasta recreational area -- where there is a ski lift and a close-up view of Mt. Shasta and the surrounding area. The second side trip was to the historic town of McCloud, where we all snooped around for about an hour. In Redding, we drove out to Turtle Bay to walk the spectacular Sundial Bridge spanning the Sacramento River. (Little did we know we would return later in our trip.) We stayed the night at LaQuinta Inn. On June 6, a long travel day, we continued down I-5 and took scenic Hwy. 120 into Yosemite. Fortunately, a friend called me from Stamford, CT, telling me about the huge mudslide blocking the direct western route into the park. (We experienced some power and phone line outages and some produce and other food shortages, but nothing we couldn't readily deal with.)

The scenery was as breathtakingly fabulous as I had always imagined. We had our own tour into Yosemite Village and Curry Village, where we stayed. Everyone had time to settle in their tent cabins and get the lay of the land. Most of our time was free and we honored the "buddy" system to keep track of everyone. On June 7th, most of us took tours -- the longest was to Glacier Peak, right above Curry Village. On June 8, we drove to Mariposa Grove, where the largest sequoias are, and took a tram ride to hear their history. The dogwood trees were gorgeous. We finished the day back at the village, where some ambitious hikers found a trail. On June 9., we took back roads which did not have rest stops, parks or even fast food restaurants. After we sighted Burger King and everyone had lunch, we went to I-5 for gas and civilization. We were running very late and, after checking into our motel, had a

last minute dinner at the Black Bear (very accommodating, good food and fast service).

On June 10, we boarded our bus for the trip to Mt. Lassen, but learned it was closed due to late snow. Lots of pictures of the very snowy mountains were taken and we watched climbers. We had a nice introduction at the interpretative center; then headed back to Redding for Plan B – lunch, viewing of exhibits and time to again walk the Sundial Bridge and gardens. We traveled south to the Olive Pit in Corning to sample and purchase olives (all kinds) before returning to Redding. On June 11, we were homeward bound, up I-5 and 97, getting into Klamath Falls too early for lunch. So we visited State-line bird refuge, where egrets and white pelicans were available. After lunch at Applebee's, we planned to stop at Dairy Queen in Oakridge, but a roadblock stopped us. So we stopped at the DQ in Pleasant Hill, instead.

Participants: Obsidians Don & Ewart Baldwin, Louise Behnke, Pat Bitner, Kent Christoferson, Sharon Cutsford, Rachele Fiszman, Jeannette Forsman, Dora Harris, Mary Ann Holser, Rosella Jones, Verna Kocken, Dot Leland, Amy Maxwell, Barbara & Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Julia Snell and Vera Woolley; and nonmembers Fern Jacobsen and Margene Keithcart.

## **Yaquina Lighthouse Oregon Coast Aquarium June 20, 2006**

**Leader: Liz Reanier**

**RICK AHRENS** co-led this trip and did all the advanced planning. Twenty-three Obsidians and friends enjoyed a beautiful day on the Oregon Coast. We traveled backroads and spent the morning at the Oregon Coast Aquarium, where Rick explained about the birds we saw. Everyone visited the various exhibits at his or her own pace. After lunch at the aquarium, we drove to the Yaquina Bay interpretive center and up to the view point. We saw lots of sunbathing sea lions and many birds. We had ice cream in Florence before traveling home. Another wonderful birding day with Rick. Thanks, Rick. Participants: members Rick Ahrens, Ethel Allen, Mary Lee Cheadle, Sharon Cutsforth, Patricia Esch, Rachele Fiszman, Jeannette Forsman, Bette Hack, Doral Harris, John & Lenore McManigal, Mariner Orum, Don Payne,

Ray Jensen, Liz Reanier, Edith Rode, Nola Shurtleff and Dick & Janet Speelman; and nonmembers Bev Aldrich, Pat Baylis, Jean Reimer and Pepper Stewart.

## **Wildlife Images July 12, 2006**

**Leaders: Ray Jensen & Liz Reanier  
Reporter: Ray Jensen**

**WILDLIFE IMAGES** Rehabilitation and Education Center, 24-acre complex in the Rogue Valley near Merlin, was established in 1981 by J. David Siddon to care for injured or orphaned animals and provide public educational opportunities. It is non-profit, dependent on private donations.

Our excellent guide, Chris, led a 90-minute tour offering close-ups of many species: including wolves, foxes, cougar, lynx, bobcat, a badger gleefully dusting himself, black bears, many birds...and more. Their birds of prey building is configured to allow visitors to quietly observe bald eagles without disturbing them. The climax was two grizzly (Kodiak) bears named Griz and Kody who greeted us by standing tall (*very* tall) and waving front feet to obtain treats. Golf carts were provided so everyone was able to fully enjoy the very interesting tour on a mild, pleasant summer day, a rarity in Southern Oregon. Some 10 miles downstream, we lunched at Indian Mary Park in the scenic Hellgate Canyon stretch of the Rogue River.

Besides our sack lunches, we had great food goodies at our mid-morning rest stop and, on the return home, ice cream at Rice Hill. John Bunker was our driver. Participants, all Obsidians, were: Ethel Allen, Ewart Baldwin, the Beards (Barbara, Paula, Paul), Mary Lee Cheadle, Barbara Chinn, Sharon Cutsforth, Rose Mary Etter, Betty Hack, Dora Harris, Evelyn Hile, Ben Jeffries, Ray Jensen, Mary Lemons, Maude Nilsen, Barbara & Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Janet & Dick Speelman, Mary Ellen West and Vera Woolley.

## **Oregon Zoo August 15, 2006 Leader: Rick Ahrens Co-Leader: Liz Reanier**

**IT WAS LOVELY** weather. We had a rest stop in Tualatin enroute. Some riders scattered to meet friends or go it on their own, while others followed Rick, who gave us a wonderful presentation on the history of zoos and highlighted the Ore-

gon Zoo. Everyone had a favorite exhibit, but the birds and butterflies scored quite high. The "Cougar Crossing" cougar chose to stay secluded until it was nearly time to leave for the return trip. Happy faces left the bus, saying they had a great day. Participants: members Rick Ahrens, Mary Lee Cheadle, Barbara Chinn, Kent Christoferson, Rosemary Etter, Rachele Fiszman, Dora Harris, Evelyn Hile, Mary Ann Holser, Ben Jeffries, John & Lenore McManigal, Maude Nilsen, Liz Reanier, Bonnie Richman, Edith Rode, Karen Seidel, Dorothy Sstrom, June Smith, Nadine Smith, Nan Smith, Rachel Smith, Bobby Sorrels, Janet Speelman, Mary Ellen West and Vera Woolley; nonmembers Gordon Rosenberg and Debbie Weinberger.



## **Winter Trips**

### **Fuji Shelter Snowshoe February 4, 2006**

**Leader: Scott Hovis  
8 miles, 1,200 ft. (Intermediate)**

**T**HERE WAS a fair amount of new snow, but our snow park at Salt Creek Falls had been plowed. We dodged Hwy. 58 trucks and then headed up through the fresh snow. It was nice to have two people in great shape helping cut trail. To my surprise, the creeks were still flowing. I was reminded how fast tracks can be covered with snow. If you go off trail it is not a good strategy to return by following your tracks! Members Scott Hovis and George Jobanek; nonmember Alan Ott.

### **Midnight Lake Snowshoe March 5, 2006**

**Leader: John Agnew  
5 miles, 350 ft (Intermediate)**

**AN EASY TRIP** from Gold Lake Snow Park to Midnight Lake was enjoyed by all. The weather was near freezing with very light snow falling...perfect. Members: John Agnew, Scott Hovis and Kathy Lindstrom; nonmembers Matt Bell and Jack Lindstrom.



## UPCOMING



# Upcoming Byways-By-Bus Trips

## Mt. Hood/ Warm Springs Indian Museum

(Lunch at Timberline Lodge)

Tues., October 3

Leaders: Don and Barbara Payne

Co-leader: Liz Reanier

\$62 (\$64 nonmembers)

A longer day trip, with arrival back in Eugene about 7:30 p.m. Reservations and checks to Mary Lee Cheadle, 3225 Richard Ave., Eugene 97402.

## Fall Colors

Tuesday, Oct. 17

Leaders: Bette Hack, Liz Reanier

\$42 (includes lunch)

Reservations and checks to Mary Lee Cheadle, 3225 Richard Ave., Eugene 97402

## Shore Acres Lights/Sea Lion/Seals

Friday, December 1

Leaders: Rick Ahrens, Liz Reanier

\$30 members (\$32 nonmembers). Dinner cost not included.

Leave Shopko at noon; route 1-5, Drain, Elkton, Reedsport to Shore Acres turn-off. Weather permitting, we will go just beyond Shore Acres to Simpson Reef Overlook to view the California sea lions and harbor seals hauled out on an off-shore island. Rick will also talk about the northern elephant seals which have their pups here early in January. We will arrive at Shore Acres by 4 p.m. when the lights go on and will enjoy strolling around seeing the sights and, hopefully, a beautiful sunset. We will re-board the bus at 6 enroute to a sit-down dinner(to be arranged). Return to Eugene by about 10:30. Reservations and checks to Janet Speelman, 1496 West 28th Ave., Eugene 97405.

## Events at Mt. Pisgah

*For information about and registration for the following events, Call 747-1504. References to member and non-member fees refer to Arboretum membership, not Obsidian membership.*

**HAWK WALK**, Sat., Sept. 23, 2 - 4 p.m. Join Obsidian Rick Ahrens, an expert birder, and hike to the top of Mount Pisgah to look for these magnificent predators of the sky. Bring binoculars and appropriate footwear. Meet at visitor center, rain or shine. Suggested donation: \$3 (MPA members free).

**MEDICINAL HERB WALK**, Sat., Sept. 23, 10 a.m.- noon. Herbalist Sue Sierralupé explores the world of northwest medicinal herbs. Meet at visitor center, rain or shine. Suggested donation: \$3 (MPA members free).

**STAR PARTY**, Fri., Sept. 29, 7 - 10 p.m. Join members of Eugene Astronomical Society for stargazing. Getting oriented to the skies as experts use lasers to point out major constellations and clusters. At sunset, view a first quarter moon and look for Jupiter before it disappears below the horizon. Bring a flashlight covered with red cellophane or a brown paper bag. Suggested donation: \$3 per per-

son/ \$6 per family. Cancelled if rain or cloudy skies, call (541) 747-1504 for an events recording regarding cancellation.

**SINGLES HIKE**, Sat., Sept. 30, 9:30 a.m. - noon. Explore seasonal changes on this autumn trek for singles of all ages. Tom LoCascio, arboretum site manager of 24 years, leads this moderately difficult hike. A great opportunity to walk, talk and learn about Mount Pisgah! Dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes. Coffee and refreshments provided. Meet at visitor center, rain or shine. Suggested donation: \$4 (MPA members free).

**FALL BIRD WALK**, Sat., Oct. 1, 8 -10 a.m. Dick Lamster and Maeve Sowles of the Lane County Audubon Society lead. Bring binoculars, a field guide and a snack. Meet at visitor center, rain or shine. Suggested donation: \$3 (MPA members free).

**AUTUMN ELDER WALK**, Sat., Oct. 7, 1 - 3 p.m. Join nature guide Harold Schyberg on a gentle autumn stroll through the arboretum as he answers the question, "What is everything, anyway?" Refreshments. Meet at visitor center, rain or shine. Suggested donation: \$4 (MPA members free).

## Science and Education Tuesdays

**T**HE SCIENCE and Education Committee is starting a Science and Education Night at the Lodge the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, beginning on October 10 at 7:00 p.m.



John and Pema

The October program will be about the country of Bhutan, Land of the Thunder Dragon, presented by Obsidians Pema Chhophyel, who is from Bhutan, and John Jacobsen, who is not.

If anyone has suggestions for future programs, contact John Jacobsen at

[johnwjacobsen@comcast.net](mailto:johnwjacobsen@comcast.net)

# Barb's September Trip Sampler

**B**ARB REVERE has looked over upcoming trips and selected an attractive sampling for special mention. If you are leading a trip and would like us to know why you think it will offer something special, email us:

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

**Sun., Sept. 17 –The Three Pyramids** – Quoting a description from a Sept. 2005 trip report for this hike: “The flowers on the ridge were spectacular, especially the Washington lily. The view from the former lookout tower...stretched from Mt. Adams to Broken Top and the Three Sisters. For many, the close-up view of Mt. Jefferson was the dramatic payoff.” Join Jane Hackett for this six-mile, 1,800 ft. hike.

**Wed., Sept. 20 – Tam McArthur Rim** – Hiking to this ridge east of Three Sisters and Broken Top is surprisingly doable given the altitude and the wonderful wide-angle views. The snowfields of Broken Top, Broken Hand and Mt. Bachelor add to the spectacle of this “B” hike led by Sharon Thomas. Other peaks to look for are Tumalo, Pilot Butte, Three Sisters, Mt. Washington, Three-Fingered Jack, Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Hood, Mt. Adams and Melvin Butte. Five miles, 1,200 ft.

**Sat., Sept. 23 -- Camp Creek Road** – On this 35-mile “C” bike trip, leader Sharon Ritchie plans to cut through campus, then on through the bike paths of Springfield to catch this quiet ride along the banks of the McKenzie. You’ll continue on up rural Upper Camp Creek Rd. before returning to town.

**Same Day (Sept. 23) – Vivian Lake** –Led by Walt Dolliver, few hikes pack in as many “photo ops” as this hike along Fall and Diamond Creeks. Mount Yoran looms, Vivian Lake sparkles, four waterfalls thunder and fall color should be at its peak. Seven miles, 500 ft.

**Sun., Sept. 24 – Maiden Peak** – One long-time club member told me that in the 40s and 50s Obsidian hikers who did this hike would carry supplies for the lookout crew stationed at the top of this peak. Leader Doug McCarty won’t ask you to carry any extra weight this trip, but be prepared for the 11.6 miles and almost 3,000 ft. elevation gain on this “C” hike. The views are well worth your

efforts as Maiden Peak towers over everything in the area and views extend from Jefferson to Diamond Peak.

**Same Day (Sept. 24) –Indigo Springs** – This is the third year Jim and Sharon Duncan have led this trip to the source of the Willamette River. You’ll walk through old growth, ford streams and learn about the Oregon Central Military Wagon Road and some of the early settlers in the area. This is a six-mile “B” hike with about 400 ft. gain.

**Wed., Sept. 27 – Larison Creek** – Just what you need to get out of the mid-week doldrums – a beautiful creek-side walk. Larison Creek is carpeted with rhodies, mosses and ferns beneath a thick canopy of Doug fir, red cedar and yew. Join Margaret Prentice on this wonderful six-mile old growth walk with little elevation gain and lots of interest.

**Sat., Sept. 30 – Dome Rock** – Your trail follows a ridge with good views before switch backing up to Big Dome Rock for views of Mt. Thielsen, Mt. Bailey, Diamond Peak and the Three Sisters. Fall colors should be abundant along this 9.4-mile “B” hike, led by Rob Castleberry.

**Sun., Oct. 1 – Black Meadow** – Solitude awaits your group on this trip to the southern part of the Waldo Lake Wilderness – but you may have to share it with elk, deer or bear. Bring a swimsuit for a dip along the shores of Waldo Lake, one of the clearest lakes in the world. Scott Hovis leads this 9.8-mile, 1,000 ft. “B” hike.

**Same Day (Oct. 1) – Bunchgrass Ridge** – In the same area as Black Meadow, this longer “C” hike of 12 miles has great potential for wildlife viewing and good views to boot. Chris Stockdale leads.

**Sat., Oct. 7 – Eugene Walking Tour** – In past years, thanks to the high cost of gasoline, urban hikes began to gain in popularity, but now we appreciate them for the great walks they are! Join Janet Hall on her eight-mile tour of Eugene for good company and a quick workout.

**Same Day (Oct. 7) – Erma Bell-Otter Lakes Loop** – A perennial favorite and with good reason. This gently graded trail visits four beautiful alpine lakes in the northern end of the Waldo Wilderness. There is a hidden waterfall,

the lakes are swimable and osprey are often seen in the trees lining the shore. I’ll be your leader on this moderate “B” hike of eight miles, 400 ft. gain.

**Sun., Oct. 8 – Eel Creek** – A big sweeping loop on the dunes south of Reedsport, this is a unique opportunity to explore this interesting area. Your walk will include dunes, surf, creek, bog and even a forest “island” surrounded by sand. Join Bob Huntley on this six mile “B” hike. Watch the gulls, look for bear tracks and enjoy the salt spray and sun – you’ll return to town refreshed and renewed!

**Same Day (Oct. 8)–Lakeview Mountain** –Join George Baitinger on this 12-mile, 2,500 ft. “C” hike. I can’t improve on George’s description in a past report on this lovely hike: “We were watching a bald eagle flying over Stag Lake calling out to us not to trespass on his domain. Lakeview Mountain, with its rugged 7,000 ft. summit, looks over Stag Lake and is quite impressive when seen from the lake. For those who climb to the summit, numerous small lakes can be seen from that vantage point. Diamond Lake dominates the view to the west, while Odell can be seen to the north. Below, forests of lodgepole pine mixed with fir are plentiful. But the trail to Lakeview Mountain passes many huge Ponderosa pine and Douglas fir which add to the variety.”

**Sat., Oct. 14 – Cape Perpetua** – We recently took three rambunctious grandsons to Cape Perpetua and gained new appreciation for the variety of experiences offered at this favorite coastal stop. Blow-holes, Cook’s Chasm and the Devil’s Churn are all that some people see here, but there are miles of trail in the nearby forest with many big Sitka spruce to awe you. Join Bill Montgomery on this six-mile “B” hike and explore the area.

**Sun., Oct. 15 – Belknap Crater** – For this location the attraction is view, view and view! Climbing this crater, in the starkly beautiful McKenzie lava fields, affords close-up views north to Mt. Washington, south to the Sisters and east to Black Butte and beyond. John Jacobsen leads this 8.5-mile, 1,700 ft. “C” hike.



# Winter Is Coming!

**W**INTER IS ON ITS WAY. Snow will come to our mountains, despite global warming. Jim Pierce, the new winter trips chair, is asking for volunteers to help on the Winter Trips Committee ("kind of like the Summer Trips Committee, only less work," says Jim). There are a lot of jobs to do...some small, some LARGE. Please contact Jim at 344-1775 or at [jim.pierce@jimsmarsjars.com](mailto:jim.pierce@jimsmarsjars.com).

Also, winter trip leaders can start thinking of where and when they would like to take their groups this season.

## Volunteering for Obsidians Can Be a Real Trip!

**T**HE OBSIDIANS give us all a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction. We get to see magnificent vistas, hidden waterfalls, meadows painted with wildflowers from an inspired palette. And it all keeps us in shape, feeling and thinking young.

If you've ever thought, "I'd sure like to give something back to the club in appreciation for all I've received," have we got a deal for you!

Check out the "How can you volunteer?" section on the membership renewal form inserted in this Bulletin. Take a look at the various opportunities presented and mark those most interesting to you. If you have a skill, talent or interest not represented, write it in. And, if you're not sure what might be involved regarding a specific committee, contact membership chair Sharon Ritchie at:

342-8435 or [rehugr@comcast.net](mailto:rehugr@comcast.net)

and she will satisfy your curiosity (or get someone who can).

Our club has prospered for almost 80 years because members like you made it all happen. And because they found that *volunteering for the Obsidians was a real trip!*

### Leaders Requested To Post Trips Earlier

**T**HE SUMMER TRIPS COMMITTEE has requested that leaders post their trip sign-up sheets at least nine days prior to the trips. This will make it more convenient for those who may only come into the YMCA or the south part of town once a week to sign-up.

## Bulletin Classifieds

For Sale

THOUSAND TRAILS/NACO Membership, \$2,000.00

Contact Laurie Funkhouser at 206-2303

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

# Obsidian Calendar

## September

16 Sat – **Diamond Peak**, Climb, .....L.Huff (915-9071)  
16 Sat – **Erma Bell/William Lk**, 8.4m 800' B, J.Ledet (683-2603)  
16 Sat – **Matthieu Lk**, 6m 800' B, ..... B.Schomaker (485-1378)  
16 Sat – **McKenzie River Tr**, 6m B, ...C.Cunningham (344-0486)  
17 Sun – **Four-In-One Cone**, 8.6m 1500' B, C.Tucker (344-8371)  
17 Sun – **Mt. McLoughlin via west**, Climb, W.Deeter (942-0824)  
17 Sun – **Mt. Pisgah, N side**, 4m 1000' A, .. M.Hansen (343-5114)  
17 Sun – **Olallie Mountain**, 7.2m 1200' B,.... M.Perrin (485-8957)  
17 Sun – **Three Pyramids**, 6m 1800' B, .....J.Hackett (984-0049)  
19 Tue – **Divide Lk/Mt Yoran**, 8m 1200' B, Clarkon (334-6883)  
20 Wed – **Tam McArthur Rim**, 5m 1200' B, .Thomas (747-1623)  
21 Thu – **Fuji Mountain**, 11.2m 2200' C, ....L.Wilken (343-3080)  
22 Fri – **Camp Deetour Reunion**, ..... Potluck  
23 Sat – **Camp Creek Road**, Bike 35m C, ... S.Ritchie (342-8435)  
23 Sat – **Mt. Pisgah times two**, 7m 2000' B, .... J.Hall (342-6779)  
23 Sat – **Mt. Washington**, Climb, .....W.Deeter (942-0824)  
24 Sun – **Indigo Springs**, 6.3m 400' B, .J. & S.Duncan (343-8079)  
24 Sun – **Maiden Peak**, 11.6m 2900' C, ....D.McCarty (342-6962)  
24 Sun – **South Sister**, Climb, ..... B.Blumm (343-8830)  
24 Sun – **Tahkenitch Dunes**, 6.5m 650' B, .J.Dorland (484-0280)  
24 Sun – **Vivian Lake**, 8m 1600' B, .....D.Jeffcott (344-6447)  
27 Wed – **Larison Creek**, 6m 200' B, ..... M.Prentice (687-5850)  
30 Sat – **Canyon Creek Mdw**, 7.5m 1400' B, P.Adams (746-2204)  
30 Sat – **Dome Rock**, 9.4m 500' B, .....R.Castleberry (726-2412)  
30 Sat – **Lorane/Drain lp**, Bike 50m C, ....L.Wilken (343-3080)  
30-1 Sat-Sun – **Mt. Hubris**, Rk Climb, M.Reiter (521-8472)

## October

1 Sun – **Black Meadow**, ..... S.Hovis (345-7788)  
1 Sun – **Bunchgrass Ridge**, 12m C, .....C.Stockdale (767-3668)  
1 Sun – **Mt. Pisgah, N side**, 4m 1000' A, .... M.Hansen (343-5114)  
1 Sun – **Open House, Lodge 1-4 pm**  
1 Sun – **Snow Creek**, 8m B, J..... Hackett (984-0049)  
3 Tue – **Mt. Hood**, Bus, ..... M.Cheadle (689-1085)  
7 Sat – **Erma Bell-Otter Lk Lp**, 8m 400' B, B.Revere (726-4989)  
7 Sat – **Eugene Walking Tour**, 8m B,..... J.Hall (342-6779)  
7 Sat – **Orchard Pt/Fern Rdg**, Bike 30m B, S.Ritchie (342-8435)  
7 Sat – **TBA**, Bike, .....D.Nelson (746-6774)  
8 Sun – **Eel Creek**, 6m B, ..... B.Huntley (687-1823)  
8 Sun – **Lakeview Mtn**, 12m 2500' C,..... G.Baitinger (344-9345)  
10 Tue – **Bhutan—Chhophyel**..... Science & Ed Tues  
12 Thu – **Siltcoos Rv-Carter Lk** , 5.5m B, .....S.Ward (686-5679)  
13 Fri – **Aubrey-Heckleth Lp**, 8m B, ..... Mathes (485-1356)  
14 Sat – **Cape Perpetua**, 6m B, .....B.Montgomery (736-8955)  
15 Sun – **Belknap Cr**, 8.5m 1670' C, .....J.Jacobsen (343-8030)

## Willamette Backcountry Ski Patrol Accepting Applications

**T**HE WILLAMETTE BACKCOUNTRY Ski Patrol is accepting applications from September through December. Applicants can chose the level of involvement that suits them best.

This is an award-winning patrol made up of a diverse group of individuals dedicated to providing trail and safety information, search and rescue services and first aid to skiers in the Willamette Pass ski area (in partnership with the Middle Fork Ranger District of the U.S. Forest Service). Members have opportunities to learn advanced wilderness survival skills, first aid, map/compass/GPS navigation techniques, avalanche safety and rescue; and to improve their ski skills and their confidence.

For an application or more information, contact the patrol at [wbsp@wbsp.org](mailto:wbsp@wbsp.org) or visit their website at <http://www.wbsp.org>.



*Mt. Everest halo. See the final chapter of the Nepal story on Page 6. - Photo by Sue Sullivan*



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September 2006