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Dates to Remember

Feb 23	Potluck - Biking, Reuls
Feb 25	Bus Rally
Mar 7	Board Meeting
Mar 13	SciEd-Global Warming

Byways-By-Bus Schedule 2007

See Insert

2007 Membership Directory

See Insert

Art & History Notes:

Florence Ogden Sims Carved Her History In Club Climbing Lore

By Janet Jacobsen

AN ALPENSTOCK is a staff that has been used by mountaineers since the early 1900s for support and balance when hiking and for controlling the rate of descent when glissading. Its history as a weapon and as a means of herding animals predates written records. Some alpenstocks are decorated by painting or engraving and many have been outfitted with leather straps and sharp metal tips.

And we have a great alpenstock!

Have you ever noticed our alpenstock, near the fireplace in the main room of the lodge?

This very interesting piece of memorabilia was donated to the club by Florence Ogden Sims in 1978. The top part of the staff is carved with Frances's initials and an Obsidian arrowhead. Chronicled down the side of the staff are the mountains summited by this pioneering climber from 1928-30: The Three Sisters, Husband, Hood, Jefferson, Broken Top and Bachelor.

The history attached to this alpenstock is fascinating. Florence was a remarkable person.

THIS IMPRESSIVE sportswoman was born in Farmington, Oregon, in 1892 and passed away in 1989 at the age of 97. A charter member of the club, Florence participated in a total of 181 activities between the years 1927 to 1963. Her list of firsts is impressive. She was the first woman to

join the club, the first to climb all Three Sisters (this feat may extend to women climbers in the entire state), the first woman to climb North Sister and the first Ob-



*Photo by Janet Jacobsen
Laurie Funkhouser demonstrates proper(?) technique, using Florence's alpenstock. Note the picture (above Laurie's head) of the Middle Sister climb mentioned in the story.*

(Continued on page 8)

Welcome!

New Members

BELL, MATTHEW (Active)

653 West Broadway
Eugene, OR 97402
503-884-8829

matthew.v.bell@gmail.com

CAREY, SUSAN (Active)

3560 Glen Oak Drive
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485-2239

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FLANDERS, BARBARA (Active)

36607 Lisa Court
Springfield, OR 97478
747-9803

maflanders@aol.com

FLANDERS, DENNIS (Active)

36607 Lisa Court
Springfield, OR 97478
747-9803

maflanders@aol.com

KOPRIVA, EARLINE (Associate)

1335 Goodpasture Island Road
Eugene, OR 97401
484-6048

spydr07@comcast.net

KOPRIVA, TOM (Associate)

1335 Goodpasture Island Road
Eugene, OR 97401
484-6048

freeflyer123@comcast.net

MADDEN, RON (Associate)

210 W. 101st Street, Apt. 8D
New York, NY 10025
212-666-4907

rfmadden@aol.com

Reinstated Members

WRIGHT, LESLIE (Active)

2560 Harris, Eugene, OR 97405
485-4399

llbwright@comcast.net

OBITUARIES

Daisie T. Niccolls

FORMER OBSIDIAN Daisie T. Niccolls died on Dec. 25th at the age of 95. After joining the club in 1976, she went on 28 Byways-By-Bus trips – including several multi-day junkets. Her last trip was in 1987.

Daisie was born in Harrisburg, OR, on June 19, 1911. She worked as a secretary in the UofO's English Department. Gardening, poetry and travel were among her passions.

In addition to the Obsidians, she was a member of the Arboretum and the Writers Guild.

Junior Obsidian Wins

MLK Jr. Poetry Contest

CONGRATULATIONS to Junior Obsidian Madison Babb-Hackett (Jane Hackett's granddaughter), a fifth grader at Hillside School, who won \$30 for the following poem about Martin Luther King, Jr. It was judged the 4J School District's best from fourth and fifth graders. She read her poem to her school's student body and was slated to also read it to the school board.

Martin Luther King was a man

This we can all understand.

If he were alive

We would thrive

In his kind words of wisdom.

*When he gave speeches he taught to love
not to hate*

For some his words were a debate.

When he left this world by getting shot

We bowed our heads and never forgot.

Love is infinite make a lot

That's what Martin Luther King taught.

Favorite Hike Survey

HAVE COMPANY VISITING this summer? Want them to experience the very best our area has to offer? What favorite hike will you take them on?

Well, in the summer of 2008, Eugene will be hosting thousands of out-of-town guests for the U.S. Olympic Track & Field Trials and an Obsidian committee is already developing plans to take visitors on our most representative and enjoyable coastal, mountain and urban hikes.

What hikes should those be? In what should be an interesting and informative exercise – as well as a valuable resource for the committee – members are invited to vote for their favorite two or three hikes and tell us why.

Simply email your responses to bulletin@obsidians.org. We'll publish the results as they come in and pass them on to the Obsidian Olympic Trials Committee.

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322, Eugene, OR 97440

Website: www.obsidians.org

Board of Directors

President - John Pegg

Vice President - Stewart Hoeg

Secretary - Laurie Funkhouser

Treasurer - Sheila Ward

Marianne Camp Jim Duncan

Brian Hamilton Barb Revere

Anne Dhu McLucas

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

Committee Chairpersons

Byways-By-Bus Liz Reanier

Climbs Larry Huff

Concessions Laurie Funkhouser

Conservation Deb Carver

Entertainment Kathy Hoeg

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Trail Maintenance Peter Green

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The Obsidian Bulletin

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For reprint rights, contact above.

Deadline

for March 2007 Bulletin

Saturday, March 3, 2007

Assembly/Mailing Team

For January Bulletin

Zella Andreski, LaRee Beckley, Yuan

Hopkins, Marshall Kandell, John and

Lenore McManigal, Bill Prentice and

Vera Woolley; and Crew Chief

Barb Revere, with Lou Maenz in training

Editorial Team

Writing & Editorial Staff Janet & John

Jacobsen, Marshall Kandell,

Lou Maenz & Barb Revere

Copy Editor Marshall Kandell

Graphics, Design & Desktop Publishing....

John Jacobsen & Stewart Hoeg

Assembly & Mail Manager..... Barb Revere

Cycling Through Salzkammergut

AS ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS, there's no doubt we'll be mesmerized at this month's potluck on Friday, Feb. 23, by the exceptionally beautiful lake views that Chuck and Sandy Reul savored firsthand on their bicycling trip through the Salzkammergut in Austria.

The two Obsidians bicycled a circular course, on what Chuck calls "relatively flat routes," through the Austrian Lake District. Although the region embraces more than 30 lakes, the spectacular mountains, charming hamlets and historic castles and monasteries also leave visitors in awe.

"**THE SCENERY** surpassed our expectations," says Chuck, who had been briefly in Austria on a YMCA trip between his junior and senior years in high school.

The Reuls were surprised by the multitude of activities they could choose from during their two-week adventure last September. "It was often a pleasant problem to choose between the many options," Chuck says. "Ferry rides on lakes, cable cars up mountains, excellent hiking trails and swimming pools at most of the hotels" were among the many offerings they enjoyed.

Despite the region being hit with rain and cool weather during August, Chuck says they had "two weeks of clear, sunny, pleasant weather."

The Reul's cycling adventure was arranged through the British-based Headwater (<http://www.headwater.com>), a travel adventure company that organizes guided and independent bicycling, walking and canoeing tours. "I would recommend Headwater," Chuck says. "We have done 11 trips



Sandy Takes a Break - Photo by Chuck Reul

with the company. Most have been self-guided, which we love. This one, and a trip we did in the Loire area of France in 2001, are our two favorite cycling trips."

February Potluck

**Friday, February 23, 2007, Obsidian Lodge
Potluck, 6:30 p.m. Program, 7:30 p.m.**

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

*Parking at the lodge can get crowded, especially for potlucks.
Please consider carpooling.*

Potlucks

By Chris Cunningham

January Potluck Review:

Sullivan Shares Trail Discoveries

AS WILLIAM SULLIVAN puts it, his job as an outdoor writer is a never-ending one. New hiking trails are created. Existing ones are temporarily closed. Parking lots are relocated. Trailhead locations are modified. For Sullivan, verifying these changes isn't just a matter of making a few phone calls. He literally heads for the hills to investigate.

"I'm always on the lookout for new trails," says the veteran outdoorsman and author.

At the January potluck, Sullivan described a number of new trails he discovered while conducting research for the third edition of his guidebook, "100 Hikes in Northwest Oregon and Southwest Washington," which now contains hundreds of color photographs and maps, a flower identification guide and recommendations for places to stay...and even to

soak weary bones. (By the way, he plans to include these additions as he revises his numerous other guidebooks.)

There is a hike that can be reached entirely by public transportation, if we take AMTRAK up from Eugene. But, even if we drive, we can park at the Portland Zoo and begin our hike on the Marquam Trail, part of a chain of natural areas and paths traversing the west hills of southwest Portland. The trail takes us up to Council Crest, the highest point in Portland, where we can soak up views of Mount St. Helens and the Columbia River. Marquam Trail also passes through the Oregon Health Sciences University campus, where we can pick up the new aerial tram and head down to the waterfront (where we might wander around a bit or simply take the light rail back to the zoo).

(Continued on page 4)

2007 – A Year of Promise?

The following personal opinion column has been reprinted with permission from the February issue of "The Quail," the Lane County Audubon Society's newsletter. Obsidian Pat Bitner is the society's conservation chair.

By Pat Bitner

"Our addiction to oil is real but drilling in the refuge would amount to a declaration that we remain in denial about this addiction. There are some places in our world that are so rare and special, that we have a responsibility to protect them."

-- **Congressman Markey (D-MA)**
on why Democrats will be pushing for Arctic Refuge drilling ban

LIKE DEATH AND TAXES, threats to the environment – ANWR, case in point – never go away. It's just that we begin 2007 with hopes for a brighter future for the planet; that our early optimism stands the test of time. We will have plenty of opportunities to exhort our representatives to do the right thing for nature, and ourselves, in 2007. Conservationists, in my mind, are defined as persons of good will who are able to work with others coming from diverging viewpoints to achieve a workable end product. Certainly, no faction gets everything desired, but the end result is far preferable to failure to achieve anything at all.

Winners

• In a sort of holiday miracle, the Administration seems finally to have absorbed the reality of global warming. After lawsuits from environmental organizations and 100,000 petitions urging action without delay, the government would require a recovery plan for the polar bear as an endangered species. As its icy home melts away under the bear, we must keep up the pressure for action on global warming. Ironically, the polar bear has become an icon; it photographs so beautifully; polar cubs are so adorable; huge bears can assume rather ridiculous poses; mothers and cubs so loving -- perfect holiday card material. They just may not be around for our grandchildren's delight.

• For years, South Florida Water Management District has pumped billions of gallons of polluted water directly into Lake Okeechobee -- the state's largest surface drinking water supply. A lawsuit by Earth Justice has produced a Miami court decision with national implications. The court ruled that permits are needed to transfer polluted water. To issue a permit, pollution limits must be established that meet Clean Water Act standards. This decision should have implications in Oregon; toxic mixing zones come to mind.

Fish Poison Without Permits

The Forest Service is proposing to

amend the federal regulations to allow states to apply fish poison (piscicide) in National Forest Service System rivers, streams and lakes without requiring states to file for special use authorizations. This would allow states to poison waterways without any structured environmental analysis. Related road construction and barrier building would also be allowed without environmental review. The Forest Service describes these changes as merely "internal housekeeping." What do you think? The allowable time period for comments has passed, but do keep an eye on this. Should we relax and trust that all will be well?

For a Greener 2007

ECO-RESOLUTIONS to consider:

- Pick one food item you buy regularly and switch to organic.
- Dump one toxic cleaning product and switch to a healthier or homemade one.
- Figure out how to recycle something you would have put in the garbage.
- Switch to recycled paper products.
- Stop pre-rinsing your dishes and clean the lint filter on the dryer before every load.
- Make an effort to buy locally made and fair trade products.
- Be thankful for a lifestyle which includes dishwashers and dryers in the first place!

Sullivan Shares Trails

(Continued from page 3)

TWENTY MILES north of Portland in Washington is a wildlife refuge, where Sullivan says Lewis and Clark slept twice and where Native Americans established the largest Indian village on the Columbia River. Within the refuge are numerous loops and a half-mile boardwalk that offers a novel opportunity for wildlife and bird viewing. Sullivan says, "It's like canoeing through these wetlands without the canoe."

Other new and slightly more distant places Sullivan shared

with us include the evolving landscapes on an ever-active Mount St. Helens; the Bird Creek Meadows Loop within the Yakima Indian Reservation (requiring a special permit); the Columbia Gorge viewpoint on Cape Horn; the historic railroad grade near The Dalles; and a timberline lake on the hidden side of Mt. Hood.

Space prevents a detailed description of each trail, but then, the curious among us can purchase Sullivan's latest "100 Hikes" edition and find out for ourselves!

Susan Anderson: ‘...scared to death’

All-Women's Team Climbs McKinley in 1983

The headline above appeared on a July 13, 1983 Register-Guard story by Bill Lynch. A photocopy of the clipping was sent to the Bulletin by Emmy Dale Chambers, who served as club president in 1981, now lives in Wisconsin and was reminded by the Disaster on Denali story in last month's Bulletin...which she said she enjoyed "very much." Trusting that the R-G won't mind after all these years, we're taking the liberty of reprinting Lynch's article about this former Obsidian.

THE SUCCESSFUL ASCENT by an all-woman climbing team of Mount McKinley, North America's highest mountain, was not the fun Susan Anderson had expected. On her return this week to her home at 3423 Chaucer Way in Eugene, the 41-year-old mother of two described the adventure as a grim and grueling, physically exhausting experience in which "instant death lurks."

Her eyes sparkle with the pleasure of achievement when she recounts the adventure of 22 consecutive days on the glaciers and snowfields of the 20,320-foot mountain's West Buttress route.

But her attitude toward mountain expeditions has changed, she says.

When it is happening the experience is not a pleasure, not to be compared with being near the Three Sisters and looking down upon meadows of alpine flowers. The rewards from the Mount McKinley climb must come afterwards, from the sense of achievement and the memories, she says.

"I'm going to enjoy my (color) slides," she says.

Anderson got home Monday. Late Saturday afternoon she and five other women were camped on McKinley's Kahitna Glacier, waiting for a break in the weather.

"A TINY WINDOW IN THE WEATHER opened and the bush pilot snuck in and we took off," she explained.

The pilot had flown the climbers to the Mount McKinley base camp at the 7,000-foot elevation on June 18. The six women, one a professional climbing guide, were outfitted for a 30-day expedition. Each had 150 pounds of clothes, gear and food.

They crossed the crevassed glacier carrying 60-pound packs and pulling the remaining gear on sleds. Once beyond the glacier they began to climb, shuttling the equipment and supplies up the mountain on their backs. With loaded packs they would gain elevation, then retrace their steps to carry up

another load.

"We literally climbed the mountain at least twice."

On the seventh day they were at 14,000 feet.

On one portion of the ascent, the snow covering a crevasse collapsed under climb leader and guide Susan Havens. She fell 12 feet and became wedged between the icy crevasse walls. Anderson engineered the rescue, hanging over the lip of the crevasse while the others anchored the climbing rope.

While they were crossing the glacier, a woman climber in another group fell in a crevasse and died. Anderson watched a crevasse open under a man in another party. He fell 40 feet, but was rescued.

At the 16,200-foot elevation a mountain storm, a white-out, caught them on a narrow ledge. For the next several days they were trapped with just enough space for two of the three tents.

"JUST TO GO TO THE TOILET, we needed an ice axe for an anchor."

Climbing again, the women reached the 17,200-foot elevation and caught up with an all-male team. The weather again closed in.

After two nights the winds died down and the women and several other climbing groups made a dash for the summit. On that day, July 5th, 28 people reached the summit.

Anderson recalls that other climbers were "appalled that we didn't have over-

night gear."

As the women approached the summit they could see "a wall of weather" coming toward them. It reached the mountaintop just as they did.

"We were socked in. We didn't get anything but close-up pictures at the summit," she says.

BEING WITHOUT BIVOUAC GEAR, they had no choice but to descend. The climb down the summit ridge "was just terrifying." At 18,000 feet visibility returned and they made it back to the tents at the 17,200-foot elevation. They had been climbing for 15 hours.

The next day they began the two-day descent to base camp.

Anderson lost 12 pounds while on the mountain, in part because of the exhausting labor under a sometimes broiling sun, the days of cold storms and a faltering appetite.

"You just don't get a real good appetite when you're



(Continued on page 9)

To All Our Generous Donors A Grateful Club Says “Thank You!”

FOR A COUPLE OF YEARS, Obsidians have heard an ongoing plea for donations: for the reconstruction, for the extra unanticipated costs and to repay the endowment fund and replenish the contingency fund. And, with each plea, our members have responded with patience, good humor and generosity.

And, over this time period, the Bulletin has published the dollar numbers, listed the donors and volunteers, reported on the reconstruction’s progress (and snags) and kept the membership up to date on how the funds being donated were being put to use.

Last month’s Bulletin reported the amazing results of the fund drive connected to the \$5,000 challenge grant and the membership renewal gift categories. Here now are the names of the campaign’s generous donors. To all, a grateful organization offers a heartfelt “Thank You!”

<p>Platinum - \$200</p> <p>Allen, Jane Morse, Bill & Lois Busby, Harold Carnine, Linda Fontana, Bea Hoeg, Kathy Hoeg, Stewart Lodewick, Kenneth Lowry, Joe Madden, Kathryn Newsom, Keith Pierce, Jim Pierce, Lin Still, Steve</p> <p>Gold - \$100</p> <p>Agnew, John Baldwin, Don Baldwin, Ewart Bienvenue, Donald Bradley, Joan Brown, Max Caldwell, Maude Camp, Marianne Carver, Deborah Christensen, Dan Christoferson, Kent Dame, Wendy Davis, Walt Deeter, Wayne DeShetler, Liz Doerr, Don Duncan, Jim Duncan, Sharon Fea, Margaret Lee</p>	<p>Funkhouser, Laurie Gontrum, Maggie Higgins, Carolyn Higgins, Cork Jacobsen, Janet Jacobsen, John Kompanik, Carolyn Landes, Michael Lichtenstein, Ann Lichtenstein, Ed McLucas, Anne Dhu McManigal, John McManigal, Lenore Meares, H Glenn Meyers, Sue Nelson, Douglas O'Donnell, Jack Pegg, John Prouty, Virginia Reanier, Elizabeth Revere, Barb Revere, Tom Ritchie, Sharon Scherer, Carol Shirk, Velma Snell, Julie Strutin, David Terry, Judith Van Deusen, Charlie Williams, Birgitte</p> <p>Silver - \$50</p> <p>Abel, Joan Adams, Pat Behnke, Louise</p>	<p>Berge, Gayle Berkey, Thomas Bitner, Pat Bonine, Anne Brander, Stephen Bruns, Barbara Cameron, Shirley Carpenter, Blyth Carpenter, Russ Castleberry, Rob Cecil, John Cheney, Linda Christiansen, Lynda Christoferson, Kent Cooper, John Cox, William Cunningham, Chris Cutsforth, Sharon Dorland, Julie Dunlap, Larry Durham, Charles Eaton, Robert Esch, Patricia Etter, Rose Mary Fetz, Margot Fizsman, Rachele Noto Fontana, Bep Forsman, Jeannette E Foster, Robert Froyd, Shirley Gilman-Garrick, Lyn Glover, Elizabeth Graham, Kitson Graham, Peter Hamilton, Brian Hamilton, Mary</p>	<p>Harrison, Bob Heinzkill, Richard Higgins, Kristen Holland, Donna Hollander, Anne Hollerud, Margit Houde, Carol Hovis, Scott Hoyland, Brian Hughes, Richard Huntley, Robert Jeffries, Ben Jeffries, Patricia Jobanek, George Johnson, Bill Johnson, Ellen Johnson, Steven Johnson, Vi Jones, Catherine Jones, Rosella Kodama, Elizabeth Kodama, Kenneth Ladd, Teresita Larsen, Sandra Leach, Beverly Lee, Andrea Lichtenstein, David Lindstrom, Lana Malsch, Margaret Martz, Helen Mathes, Peggy Lee McAvoy, Penny McCaffrey, Patrice McGlinsky, Juli Meredith, David Milliman, Colleen</p>	<p>Milliman, Gregory C. Morey, Lola Neth, Effie Newlove, Natalie Newman, Judy Peterson, Pete Petty, Carol Prentice, Bill Prentice, Margaret Rice, Virginia Richman, Bonnie Ridone, Jean Rode, Edith Romoser, Ruth Rusow, Karla Sawyer, Kim Schomaker, Barbara Semans, Steve Sharrard, Nancy Shurtleff, Nola Sistrom, Dorothy Stockdale, Christine Sullivan, William L Sundt, Richard Sutherland, Barbara Svendsen, Glen Thomas, Joyce Thomas, Millard Thomas, Sharon Turner, Dorothy Ward, Sheila Welches, Martha Weltman, Ethel West, Marian White, Cristy Wolling, Susan</p>
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Getting to Know Our Committees -- and Their Chairpersons

Editor's Note: We've asked each of our committee chairpersons to share with the membership a little bit about themselves and their committees. In each Bulletin over the next several months we'll present a few of their profiles.

Janet Jacobsen & Barb Revere, Co-Chairpersons Summer Trips Committee



Janet & Barb

LAST YEAR, the Summer Trips Committee, under chair Margaret Prentice, had a record 185 trips with 92 leaders. The 32 people on our new committee hope to continue with a robust schedule that offers a variety of easy, moderate and difficult trips. Barb has served on the committee for two years and has completed 106 trips. Janet has been on the committee for six years and completed 278 trips. "Janet and I like to lead hikes! It's fun to meet people and share the out-of-doors. It is especially rewarding when nonmembers are so appreciative," says Barb. Janet echoes with, "I like to find a hike nearby that entices members and nonmembers to discover something new. One of the best ways to volunteer in our club is to lead a trip."

The hike Janet would most like to lead is a new one, just added to Sullivan's "100 Hikes in Northwest Oregon." It includes Portland's new tram and Council Crest Park.

Barb would like to lead Kentucky Falls on the Coast Range. "I tried last April and it snowed! The road was impassable! We headed for lower altitude and hiked nearby Sweet Creek instead."

Janet led her first hike to Windy Lakes in September 18, 1976. Barb's

first was a "co-lead" with Janet on the Ridgeline Trail, March 29, 2005. Both like to incorporate public transportation into their hikes when possible.

Kathy Hoeg, Chairperson Entertainment Committee

OUR ENTERTAINING monthly potlucks are provided by the efforts of a group of energetic Obsidians who recruit presenters, set up the lodge, write publicity and reports, and organize the buffet. I coordinate the 16-person committee, whose motto is "Many hands make light work!".



Kathy

Being part of the Entertainment Committee is a great pleasure because the potlucks are such enjoyable events - delicious food, lots of fun people to visit with and terrific presentations. The large size of the committee means we each only work a few potlucks a year. Chris Cunningham coordinates a group of writers who do the preview and review articles in the Bulletin.

I moved to Eugene from Houston in 1998 and joined the Obsidians in 2002. I love that the club has not only a great variety of activities, but also wonderful, interesting people to do them with. In my non-Obsidian life, I am a freelance corporate trainer. I present classes on management and interpersonal skills and facilitate organizational development efforts.

Julie Dorland, Chairperson Membership Committee

IHAVE BEEN a little perplexed about what to write, because I am really just figuring out what the heck it is that I do! But given that, here it goes....

I have been a member of the Obsidians since July 2005. I thought since I was enjoying the benefits of membership, I should try to contribute in some way, so I offered to chair membership. Of course, filling Sharon Ritchie's shoes is going to be a big challenge!

Given my limited knowledge of this job, my hopes for the Membership Committee would be threefold:

- To fine-tune the database for ease of use (kudos to John Jacobsen for creation of the database and for kindly and thoughtfully answering every question I pose).
- To encourage prompt payment of dues in October, so the committee isn't emailing and calling members to renew.
- To make new members and guests feel welcomed.

I am a school psychologist and I work with school aged children. I am not a "couch" psychologist, but rather test children to see if they qualify for special education assistance.

When I was about 13, I went camping. I found myself contemplating life (as only a 13-year-old can) beside a lovely creek in a forest. It was magical! I had never felt such peace before; and that was the start of my love of mountains and forests. So, although I grew up in a small beach town in southern California -- where the only thing to do was to go to the beach -- I found much more contentment and happiness in the forest. In my younger years, I spent much time backpacking in the Colorado River area and in Utah. I lived for a while on a dive boat in Hawaii, where I was able to scuba dive with humpback whales.

Disaster on Denali

I've certainly noticed Mark McLaughlin's name many times during my years here, but no, I am not related to him. Just an odd coincidence.

On the topic of 'coincidence', only a couple months ago we were visited here at the Talkeetna Ranger Station by the brother of another climber who perished in that same incident. Walter Taylor's brother John stopped by and spent a few days in the area, and generously contributed to the maintenance of our climbing library here, as his brother was apparently quite a 'book hound', with a keen interest in climbing literature.

Hopefully...the Obsidians are aware of the Climber's Memorial here in town at the Talkeetna Cemetery. The memorial was constructed by several Talkeetna climbing locals in 1993 with donations made by various families and friends. In addition to a peaceful garden and covered seating area, there is a wall denoting each of the mountaineers who have died in the Alaska Range. Unfortunately, most every year, a new plaque of names gets added. Definitely an important and meaningful place for locals, climbers, and general visitors alike....

-- **Maureen McLaughlin**
Talkeetna Ranger Station
Denali National Park & Preserve



I appreciate your using my image (of Mt. McKinley) for such a compelling story.

-- **Joseph Liftik**

I want to thank you for the GREAT article in the newsletter regarding Joe Wilcox's climb. I was at his presentation and your sensitivity and book summaries really broaden the background info that I had. As a climber you helped others who may have been second guessing. I await the upcoming book due this summer on another perspective....we all can learn....and my book club is also using your summaries to debrief the book we read, called "Deep Survival....who lives, who dies, and why" by Laurence Gonzales. It will be a great discussion thanks to your writings!!

-- **Chris Shuraleff**

Autographed "White Winds"

JOE WILCOX, leader of the 1967 Mt. McKinley expedition, has provided another box of autographed "White Winds" for sale by the Obsidians. The dramatic tale of the "disaster on Denali" are \$15 each, with proceeds going to the Endowment Fund in memory of the seven climbers who perished (\$540 in sales to date).

Wilcox also donated three copies to the lodge for loan to members. Since previously donated copies have quietly disappeared, Janet Jacobsen will be handling a special checkout process. Two copies were also given to the Eugene Public Library. Wilcox also donated a signed print of Mt. McKinley (the one inside the book covers), which will be framed and placed in the lodge. Janet has a few copies of the print for sale (\$20).

On behalf of all Obsidians, we want to thank Wilcox for his generosity in donating and autographing the books, which can be purchased at the potluck concessions table or from Janet (343-8030).

Carved In History

(Continued from page 1)

sidian Princess. The name bestowed upon her was Princess Blue Waters.

Florence participated in many of the early Obsidian climbs. One of the most interesting, particularly when considered in relation to the time period, was in 1928, when she was the only woman on a 13 person climb.

FLORENCE ATTENDED the 1929 Hinton Creek summer outing, on which Morris Chevrolet of Eugene transported the climbers to the take off point in six new cars. The photograph of the cars with the Three Sisters in the background appeared in the Register-Guard. They then hiked five miles across Wickiup Plains to Hinton Creek. From this camp, Frances and other members made several climbs. Here they could

watch the falls freeze at night and gush in the morning when the sun turned them on. Dot Dotson was filming many of these events.

Next time you are at the lodge, take time to look closely at the carvings on the alpenstock and then walk over to the opposite wall to view a photo of the Middle Sister climb taken by Ray Sims on August 9, 1928. Florence seems to be marching in step with her alpenstock behind Dot Dotson and Melba Masters. She is followed by Fan Korn, Henry Korn and Marion McClain.

In 1977, Florence attended the Obsidians' 50th Anniversary Banquet where she was honored for her remarkable and pioneering achievements.

(The above feature is part of a continuing series researched by Janet Jacobsen and Rick Ahrens on the history of the artists and photographers who have masterpieces displayed in the Obsidian Lodge.)

Bully, Bully...For Our Bulletin!

By John Pegg

INVITE YOU this month, as you read the Obsidian Bulletin, to think about how lucky we are as a club to have such a fine newsletter. The January issue was a collector's item and one of the best jobs of covering and reporting on an Obsidian related event that I can remember. I am referring to the special feature on the mountaineering tragedy on Denali that claimed seven lives, including two Obsidians. Join me in thanking Marshall Kandell, who gave so much of his time and creativity to bring you this fine article.

But our thanks need to go farther. Obsidians have always taken pride in our Bulletin. We love to read about our adventures and ourselves. John Cecil for years carried the burden of publication almost single handedly on his shoulders, and our gratitude continues for his long service to the club. Many times, he had to beg for contributions to scrape together enough copy for an issue. We seem to have turned a corner in that regard. There is now often more material than can be printed in a single edition. This is in no small part due to the editorial team. The writing, graphics and design expertise, and copy editing skills of the current committee and their

continued outreach to the members is outstanding.

BEFORE I LEAVE this topic to let you enjoy the rest of this month's Bulletin, take a moment to remember the often overlooked and unmentioned part of this publication. This is the assembly and mailing team. With all our modern word processing and computer graphic programs, it all comes down in the end to putting the paper together into a completed product and getting it in the mail. Many of you now view our publication on our website, and I encourage more of you to forgo a printed copy arriving in your mailbox. It is a great savings to the club and the graphics on a computer are a real enhancement. But until we are all "online," join me in thanking crew chief Barb Revere (and Rose Marie Moffitt for many, many years before Barb) and her team.

And remember, members like you and I are really the driving force behind the Bulletin. It is our trips and activities that are the raw material out of which the newsletter comes to life. Let's keep doing what we have always done -- share our fun together in the great outdoors!

'scared to death'

(Continued from page 5)

scared to death," she says.

The expedition was a professionally led climb. Anderson and her companions each paid a guide's fee of \$1,650. Round-trip air fare, a special sleeping bag, high altitude climbing gear, a new camera and other expenses boosted the adventure's total cost to about \$4,000.

Anderson began climbing four years ago, making her first ascent with Eugene's Obsidians on 14,161-foot Mount Shasta. She spent two weeks in a Mount Rainier climbing school last summer, learning advanced techniques for ice climbing and glacier travel.

She became a member of the all-woman McKinley team by answering a guide service ad in a climbing magazine. Three other members of the team were from Anchorage, Alaska, and one was from Colorado. Havens, the guide,

was a member of the team that made the first successful all-woman ascent of Nepal's 22,350-foot Ama Dablam.

Anderson says her experience with the mixed group at the Mount Rainier climbing school had convinced her that an all-woman climbing expedition would be more pleasant.

"I felt women would get along better, be tolerant and understanding," she says. "I also felt we would be paced about the same"

She was pleased with how well the six women got along.

"Some days, when we needed to, we just had a good time. We were silly," she says, doing things they wouldn't have done in a mixed group.

Anderson was the oldest member of the group and the only mother. As the days wore on, she says, "I wanted to go home more than the others."

Upon their return to the McKinley base camp a radio phone call was made to Eugene. Her son, Christopher, and daughter, Sid, were safe and her anxieties were eased.

Now, she is happy to be home. "It will be a while" before she thinks about another adventure, Anderson says.

"Susan was a widow when she moved to Eugene," says Emmy Dale. "Last I saw her was at a pre-nuptial party given by her before her marriage in Washington."

"Susan Anderson was a member for a short time," recalls Janet Jacobsen. "She showed her slides of Mt. McKinley at a potluck. Gene Thaxton was her mentor and she thanked him for his mentorship when she gave the slide show. I am not sure that she had a lot of climbing experience when she did this climb."

Board Notes

February 7, 2007

By Laurie Funkhouser, Secretary

Board members present: Treasurer Sheila Ward, Brian Hamilton, Anne McLucas, Jim Duncan, Barb Revere, Marianne Camp and Secretary Laurie Funkhouser. Other members present: Larry Huff, Marshall Kandell, Bea Fontana, Wayne Deeter, Scott Hovis, Liz Reanier, Lenore McManigal, John & Janet Jacobsen, Julie Dorland, Kathy Hoeg, Joella Ewing, Jim Pierce and Doug Nelson. January minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Board approved payment of the outstanding bills. Matured CD was rolled into a one-year CD with Umpqua Bank.

Old Business

Committee Members -- Board approved following members of *Ad Hoc Olympic Track & Field Trials Committee* (chair Marshall Kandell, co-chair Dan Christensen): Cork & Carolyn Higgins, Dick Hildreth, John & Janet Jacobsen, Anne McLucas, Sam Miller, Ruth Romoser and Chris Shuraleff. *Membership Committee* (chair Julie Dorland): Sharon Cutsforth, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Sharon Ritchie, Chris Shuraleff, Shirley Froyd and John Jacobsen.

Tree Removal: In December, a tree in the parking area fell during the bad weather causing damage to nearby trees. Pat Adams bucked the fallen/damaged trees. John Jacobsen reported he is obtaining estimates to remove a tree with rot that is leaning towards the lodge.

New Business

Youth Committee: Scott Hovis plans to have an overnight event at the lodge for grade school age youths on March 3-4 (see story, Page 16). The Board felt it was appropriate to waive lodge fees for the event.

Climb Committee (Larry Huff): Acquisition of additional 10-Peak patches

was discussed and it was decided to adapt current patch inventory and order additional patches in bulk at a later date.

Large Canvas Painting: Janet Jacobsen reported on cost of restoring the painting and that a curator was interested in an exhibit at the lodge along with other works of the artist.

Committee Reports

Summer Trips (Barb Revere/Janet Jacobsen): 18 Obsidians attended the Feb. 1st meeting to obtain caller packets and discuss contacting the members to be leaders. The schedule will be on the website on April 1st.

Winter Trips (Jim Pierce): 22 trip reports (with 4 trips canceled and 3 rescheduled), with 136 members and 28 nonmembers and revenue of \$274.

Climbs (Larry Huff): Climb schedule, almost complete, currently includes 30 trips (26 climbs, 2 class field sessions and 2 ski/climb). Climb school class sessions April 12 & 19; field trips April 14 & 21. Fliers will be distributed. Registration for climb school may be done. Also, Scott Hovis may schedule a youth rock climb at the columns at Skinner Butte on Apr. 28.

Trail Maintenance (Peter Green): Spencer Butte trail maintenance continues and the first trip was on a cold but beautiful clear morning with members Tom Happy, Rick Ahrens, Scott Youngblood, Gary Kirk, Dave Predeek, Larry Huff, Peter Green and Peter Asai; plus nonmembers Adam Gapinski, Monica Green, Pat Soussan and Matt Bell.

Byways-By-Bus (Liz Reanier): See Bus Rally story, Page 16 and schedule insert.

Youth (Scott Hovis): See story, Page 16.

Conservation (Deb Carver): Board approved committee members John and Lisa Manotti, Juli McGlinsky and Judy Newman. The committee is working on a schedule of activities, the

first of which will be a Northwest Earth Institute course relating to climate change, actions by individuals and communities to make a difference and setting a new course for sustainable future. Judy Newman is the contact person.

Entertainment (Kathy Hoeg): 90 attended the Jan. potluck, with 101 for the presentation by Bill Sullivan. Fees collected = \$86.40.

Sci/Ed (Joella Ewing): 24 attended Peter Rodda's presentation in January with \$22 in fees collected. See story, Page 19.

Membership (Julie Dorland): Board approved seven new members and reinstatement. Total members: 550.

Publicity (Anne Dhu McLucas): Board approved committee members Marianne Camp, Bob Huntley, George Jeffcott, Allan Coons and Helen Martz. See WinterFest story, Page 17.

Concessions (Laurie Funkhouser): January sales = \$92.

Online (Wayne Deeter): Continuing to update website and assisting Climbs and Summer Trips prepare their schedules.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): \$150 in lodge rental fees in January. Brian Hamilton, Lodge Committee, will be taking over the rental of the lodge. All trip activities have been logged.

Lodge Building (Brian Hamilton): Will be working with electrician regarding a circuit breaker problem. Preparation of a lodge operation and maintenance manual has begun.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): Work parties spiffed up the grounds in January (Rick Ahrens, Brenda Kameenui, John Pegg, Dave Predeek, Martha Welches, Mary Morrison and Pat Adams); cleaned the roof (Doug Nelson); and did some interior cleaning. John plans on scheduling work parties each month just prior to the potlucks.

TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Snow Shoe Trips

Diamond Creek Falls

December 10, 2006

Leader: Bob Huntley

Photo by Zella Andreski

3 miles, 450 ft. (Moderate)

AT ONE TIME nine people were signed up. By the time we went (after a one day postponement) there were only three. There were a couple inches of new snow over a crusty base, so the going was pretty easy. A few spots of the trail overlooking the Salt Creek canyon were bare of snow. The view of Diamond Creek Falls was made even prettier by a gentle snowfall. Members: Zella Andreski, Linda Hovey and Bob Huntley.



Bob and Linda modeling the latest...

Maxwell Butte Shelter

December 22, 2006

Leader: Scott Hovis

5 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)

FIVE SIGNED UP; only two ended up going. I haven't had any luck with trips during the week. In the future I plan to organize hikes on weekends only. It's too bad because if you want solitude, during the week is the time to go. The snow conditions were poor. Our snowshoes were more for traction. The weather was wonderful and we got a nice view of the mountains from the shelter. The Forest Service has done maintenance on the blue diamond trails. Old posted maps at intersections have been replaced and the numbers of the intersections are now in red. If you want your own map you will need to contact the Detroit Ranger station. With me was nonmember Chrisy Fisher.

Potato Hill

January 6, 2007

Leader: Scott Hovis

4 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

THERE WAS A WINTER STORM warning on the Internet site I visited the day of the trip. Despite this, the roads to Potato Hill were doable. The state had done a good job of plowing and sanding. Our group was the first to arrive; so, we did a lot of trail breaking in the deep snow. It took longer than anticipated, so we shortened our hike. We had a nice view of the valley below, but were unable to see the mountains. This area is good for solitude. I think the crowds go to the nearby Ray Benson SnoPark. My thanks to John and Jim who helped me with my trip decision the night before. Your advice on knowing your limits and having a *Plan B* was encouraging. Members: Jane Allen, Zella Andreski, Walt Dolliver, Scott Hovis, Daphne James and George Jobanek. Nonmembers: Justin Erkess and Valerye Metcalfe.

Gold Lake via Marilyn Lakes

January 7, 2007

Leader: Laurie Funkhouser

4 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)

AFTER CANCELING the trip for the day before due to winter storm warnings, we were able to reschedule for the next day. We arrived at Gold Lake around 10 a.m. under cloud-covered skies and with lots of fresh snow! We strapped on our snowshoes and headed off. A broken trail made snowshoeing a little easier. We wove our way through snow laden trees to our first glimpse of Upper Marilyn Lake and continued on our way to lunch at the Gold Lake Shelter. On the return trip, we headed back to Lower Marilyn Lake, then up to the Gold Lake Road. Sam was hindered by a strained muscle and the road seemed to be the better return option. The return trip required some heart-pounding trail breaking, but not for long! Enjoying the fresh snow were a great crew: Members Marianne Camp, Daniele Delaby, Laurie Funkhouser, Yuan Hopkins, Michelle Tambellini and Sam Tracer; nonmembers Ted Bushek and Heather Croson.

Clear Lake

January 13, 2007

Leader: Bob Huntley

Photo by Zella Andreski

6 miles, 70 ft. (Moderate)



Enjoying the walk

WE LEFT THE east Springfield Albertsons at 8:30. There was a little ice and packed snow on the road, but nothing too hazardous. We parked at Ikenick SnoPark and were on the trail by 10:30. After following the road down to Clear Lake Lodge, we turned right to go around the lake in a counterclockwise direction. The sun came out a little after 11 and there wasn't a breath of wind all day. We basked in sunshine while eating lunch on the lava field on the east side. It was fun trying to identify the many animal tracks. One was that of a coyote. We continued on past Great Spring, around to the lodge, then back up to the cars. This amiable group consisted of nonmember Machiko Shirai and members Effie Neth, Zella Andreski, Paul Flashenberg, Patrice McCaffrey, Stephen Brander, Walt Dolliver, Daphne James, Ellen Sather, Rich Romm and Bob Huntley.

Gold Lake/Bechtel Shelter

January 27, 2007

Leader: Marianne Camp

Snowshoe 4 miles, 500 ft. (Easy)

NEVER UNDERESTIMATE the determined spirit of Obsidians set on reaching their destination. Our group of 16 set off to the Gold Lake parking lot on what promised to be a glorious sunny day. Just east of Oakridge a semi had jackknifed, blocking traffic. We were told it would be a three to four-hour wait. We discussed other options, but none was as desirable as a day in the snow. We stalled long enough to notice some traffic was moving through town. The good news was one

lane was open, so we were again on our way. It is funny how much more you enjoy a day after you thought it was not going to happen. The sky was sunny and our spirits bright. We were treated to a tour of a deluxe model igloo and a round-trip hike through the snow. Members were Zella Andreski, Ann-Marie Askew, Marianne Camp, Laurie Funkhouser, Linda Hovey, Sachiko Iwasaki, Daphne James, Margaret Malsch, Jim Pierce, Glen Svendsen and Kaushik Vaidyanathan; nonmembers Heather Croson, Debbie Hibbard, Anna Malsch, Charlene Pierce and Carmen Stephens.



Ski Trips

Midnight Lake

December 25, 2006

Leader: Sue Wolling

4 miles, 400 ft. (Easy)

ALTHOUGH AT LEAST 10 people were dreaming of a white Christmas, only three actually showed up to experience it. Despite rain in Eugene, driving to Willamette Pass was uneventful and we had several inches of fresh snow on which to ski and snowshoe. With snow falling and Christmas gifts waiting, we decided to turn around at Bechtel Shelter. It was a nice day in a winter wonderland. Further entertainment was provided by several families and dogs experiencing snow for the first time. Members: Jane Allen, Lynda Christiansen and Sue Wolling.

Mystery Ski Trip

December 28, 2006

Leader: Wayne Deeter

8 miles, 1,200 ft. (Moderate)

THE MYSTERY on this trip was, "Where's the leader?" The trip started off a bit wrong when I had to return home to get my ski boots, making me a bit late arriving at the meeting place. Then I chose to complete a route which was pushing the limits of some of the signees. We started skiing from the Gold Lake SnoPark. It was cold, so those in the earlier car (I had to stop to put on chains) skied out through the fresh powder to try

to warm up. We regrouped and skied up through the Westview Loops to Eagle Rock. We took a break there, snacking and taking in views of Odell, Lakeview Mtn. and Diamond Peak. While sunny, it was still a bit coolish and there was a stiff breeze. Proceeding down the PCT, we turned left onto the old PCT and, after a very tricky creek crossing, took another break in a bit of sunshine at the Yoran Lake trailhead. We tried following the trail up towards Yoran Lake, but lost sight of the blazes, so wandered about a bit. Missing the proper drainage up to Midnight Lake, we instead climbed the steep slope of the butte to the north, finally reaching the shore of the lake. Sam led the bulk of the group back to the SnoPark while I brought up the rear, reaching the cars shortly after sunset. Many thanks to Sam for driving and trail breaking. Members: Mari Baldwin, Wayne Deeter, Dave Jensen, Sat Nam Khalsa, Sam Miller and Dave Predeek.

Gold Lake via Marilyn Lakes

December 30, 2006

Leader: Brian Hamilton

Photo by Chris Stockdale

4 miles, 180 ft. (Easy)



Brian leading the way

THIS WAS ONE OF THOSE days when the weather was much nicer at Willamette Pass than in Eugene. The upper Willamette Valley was socked in with cold fog all day, but we had mostly sunny skies with above-freezing temperatures. Eleven of us left Eugene in three cars at 8 a.m. and were headed down Gold Lake Road by 10. After about a half mile, we left the road for the Marilyn Lakes Loop Trail and it soon became evident the many ups and downs of the trail were too much for a couple of beginning skiers. So, those two turned around to continue down Gold Lake Road, accompanied by an experienced member of the group, to meet the rest of us at the Gold Lake shel-

ter. The other eight skiers enjoyed a nice run through the woods and braved a sketchy snow causeway across the water near the north end of Lower Marilyn Lake.

Recent windstorms left several fallen trees for us to cross on the trail and on Gold Lake Road. After a brief lunch stop at the shelter, we headed out for the return to the Gold Lake SnoPark. Differences in skiing abilities resulted in the group being strung out over a half-mile line along Gold Lake Road. An easy trip for an average skier turned out to be difficult for those just starting out! Nonetheless, everyone appeared to have had a good time, even with the struggles that come with the first time on a backcountry ski trip. Obsidians enjoying great skiing conditions were Jim Clarkson, Bob Huntley, Sue Meyers, Helen Martz, Chris Stockdale, Bob & Valya Freed, Laurie Reed, Sue Wolling, Rich Peevers and Brian Hamilton.

Square Lake

January 7, 2007

Leader: John Pegg

8 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

WHEN WE GOT OUT of the cars at Santiam SnoPark, it was windy, but it often is in the mornings. We expected the winds would lessen later in the day. But they didn't. It continued to snow and the winds just kept getting stronger. The trail to Square Lake goes through the burn from a large fire that swept through the area some years ago and it is an interesting landscape, which from time to time we had an opportunity to enjoy in some of the more sheltered places. We took turns breaking trail through deep, heavy snow, crusted over by the wind in places. We were guided by GPS and compass bearings. After reaching the lake, there was little inclination for a leisurely lunch because of the persistent wind, but the lake was a beautiful sight. The trip back was brutal, with the wind directly in our faces. Frozen pieces of ice on the dead branches kept breaking off and pelting us. But this was a strong group and there were only smiles when we reached the cars. Skiers were Lizzy Grater, a non-member from New York; and Obsidians John Cooper, Sue Sullivan, John Mowat, Mari Baldwin, Royal Murdock, Dave Jensen, Chris Stockdale, Doug McCarty and John Pegg.

Square Lake

January 14, 2007

Leader: Mark Slipp

6 miles, 1,400 ft. (Difficult)

WE LEFT SANTIAM SnoPark at 10 a.m. and skied to the highest point in Jack meadows, where we ate lunch. We ate quickly because the wind was quite brisk. Once we started skiing down we warmed up. The snow was fantastic, just like Utah. We descended 900 ft. into Square Lake basin, then climbed 500 ft. to the ridge close to the spot where we started the descent. From there, we skied South to PCT trailhead, then back to the cars. Skiers were members George Baitinger, Wayne Deeter, Rich Peevers, Mark Slipp, Harold Thompson and Charlie Van Deusen.

Sand Mountain Plateau

January 14, 2007

Leader: Sam Miller

Photo by Sam Miller

9.5 miles, 900 ft. (Difficult)



Chris Shuraleff extols the benefits of exercise and avoiding trans fats

DURING THE PREVIOUS week we were fortunate to have plenty of fresh snow and very cold temperatures at an elevation well below our starting point at Little Nash SnoPark. The result was "hero" snow as we skied 9.5 miles with ease under sunny skies. The wind chill reminded us why fleece is such a great product. Our group was treated to the sight of flocked trees and crystal clear views of Sand Mountain, Mt. Jefferson, Three Finger Jack, Mt. Washington and the Sisters. Members were Bob Smythe, Chris Stockdale, Chris Shuraleff, Dave Jensen, Dave Predeek, Sue Wolling and Sam Miller.

Rosary Lakes Loop

January 14, 2007

Leader: Bill McWhorter

12 miles, 1,000 ft. (Difficult)

THE DAY WAS SUNNY and cold (seven degrees at Willamette Pass); and we passed the usual skiers spun out on Hwy.

58. We started up the Gold Lake road, turned up through the Nordic and downhill centers and on past the Rosaries to the saddle. Snow conditions and scenery were delightful, with at least eight inches of new fluff. Met three guys who had spent two nights at Maiden Shelter; three cheerful girls who had spent a very long night in a very small snow cave; and a snowboarder taking the long way down to the bottom of the runs. Lunch at the saddle and on up the PCT to Maiden Shelter, which is in fine shape. The solar-cell lights are working. We continued on the PCT, turned south on an intermittently steep trail, past the Skyline Creek junction to the Gold Lake Rd. and back to the Gold Lake SnoPark. About six hours on the trail, about 12 to 13 miles. A small but energetic and compatible group had a very good time. Members Jan & Rich Anselmo and Bill McWhorter; non-member Katie Hynes-Petty.

Rosary Lakes

January 20, 2007

Leader: Rich Peevers

9 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

A THREE-HOUR TOUR. I led from the back with this fit and experienced group. The weather was partly cloudy with light snow and temperatures in the upper 20s; and the ski conditions were a trace of fresh on top of rain crust. We were a little concerned about what that might mean on the way down. We reached Upper Rosary Lake after an hour and 40 minutes and decided that Middle Rosary Lake had better lunch accommodations. We had lunch in sunshine, with nice views of Pulpit Rock and the lake, but lunch ended abruptly when clouds obscured the sun and the temperature dropped considerably. The trip down was fun, with only minor spills and better skiing than anticipated. We were back at the parking lot in just over three hours. Thanks to a great bunch of skiers. Obsidians Brian Hamilton, Rich Peevers, Sue Wolling and Charlie Van Deusen; and nonmember Art Souther. A fun trip. I will lead this again.

Gold Lakes

January 21, 2007

Leader: Anne Dhu McLucas

4 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)

THE LATE START (9 a.m.) gave us all a chance to be in a good mood (especially the leader) and as soon as we got out of the fog zone, the day promised to bring

some sunshine, which by the end we had. The trip was designed for beginners and we had some game ones; including one last minute switch to snow shoes instead of skis. The trail was well-packed. WinterFest had brought lots of visitors the day before. For the most part, it was not icy and all nine of us made it to the shelter, albeit at different rates. The happy group included members Kathleen & Jim Floyd, Jim Gillette, Anne Dhu McLucas and Carol Petty; and not-yet members Colette Govan, Clare & Alex VanderHaar and Peggy Windle.

Rosary Lakes

January 28, 2007

Leader: Laurie Funkhouser

6 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

DEPARTED UNDER foggy skies, which turned blue at Lowell. Parked (24 degrees!) at the ODOT facility just beyond Willamette Pass Ski, put on our gear and started up the Rosary Lakes trail, which was...icy! After skiing for about 20 minutes, we concluded it was too icy and decided to try out Midnight Lake instead. As we reached the car, we spoke with a sheriff's deputy who informed us it was NOT okay to park at ODOT (fortunately no ticket!), but was okay to park in the Willamette Pass parking. Then we were off to Gold Lake Nordic Area, geared up again and headed up. Much better! As we headed up the road, we greeted Scott Hovis' group, who overnighted at Bechtel Shelter. We lunched in the sun at the "fake" Midnight Lake; then continued up the icy path to Midnight Lake -- also in the sun! The trip down was a great glide. We felt we had the place to ourselves since we did not see anyone else after Scott's group. The agreeable, enthusiastic skiers with me were nonmembers Eben Fodor and Jesse Rapp.



Hikes

Cape Mtn./Horse Creek

January 1, 2007

Leader: Effie Neth

8 miles, 1,200 ft. (Moderate)

FUN, FUN, FUN! Upon invitation, Mary brought her two delightful goats, Plum and Legs, to join our willing group. We all enjoyed meeting and hik-

ing with the two well-behaved goats, which added one more positive to this much overlooked but absolutely terrific hike. The trail offers up and down terrain alternating thru forests and open elk meadows, an historic lookout site, multiple expansive ocean views, possibility of whale sightings (none on this trip), fording a creek and a good workout on the steep section at the end. The rain mercifully spared us -- only about 10 sprinkles on the hike. The trail was slightly muddy in spots and there were a few downed trees. Sharing a hike with a congenial group of strong hikers was a perfect way to start the new year. Thanks so much to Mary for bringing her handsome goats and to Becky and Charley for driving. Hikers were Sheila Carter, Bob & Volyo Freed, Rebecca Hansen, Mary Holbert (and Plum & Legs), Daphne James, Sue Meyers and Pat Sorenson; and nonmembers Jon Tesdell and Charley & Leslie Wright.

Tahkenitch Dunes

January 1, 2007

Leader: Sheila Ward

6 miles, 650 ft. (Moderate)

I WAS CONCERNED we might encounter downed trees on the trail so decided to do the hike in the wrong direction -- going clockwise instead of my usual counterclockwise. This makes for a very different trip and once more I know it is not my favorite direction. Nonetheless, we did not encounter any problems. As a matter of fact, the trail had had maintenance and was in better shape than it had been in October. Although we had started out with a light rain, by the time we reached the beach and stopped for lunch, the sun was out and, with no wind, it was wonderful. Tahkenitch Creek has caused extensive erosion of the beach and some of the trail, so now you must walk up the creek shoreline a short way to find the trail. We headed to Dairy Queen in Florence for treats. Hikers included members Ann-Marie Askew, Dave Becker, Stephen Brander, Max Brown, Barbara Bruns, Paul Flashenberg, Stewart Hoeg, Yuan Hopkins, Patrice McCaffrey, Barbara Morgan, Kathy Riddle, Nancy Whitfield and Sheila Ward.

Pisgah from East Side

January 7, 2007

Leader: Marc Hansen

5 miles, 1,000 ft. (Easy)

TO GET TO the not-so-often-used East Trailhead of Mount Pisgah, take Hwy. 58 to Pleasant Hill, turn north onto Ridge-

way Rd., go 1.7 miles to parking lot at sharp turn. There are several trails. We hiked west 1.5 miles on a gradual incline to rushing Buckbrush Creek (seasonal). After fording the stream the trail was steeper for the last mile to the windy summit. We then completed the second (forested) half of the loop. Both the departure and return were punctuated by the overhead honking of Canada geese. Our able, congenial group consisted of nonmember Joanie O'Brien and members Margaret Prentice, Pat Soussan and Marc Hansen.

Amazon Headwaters to Dillard Rd.

January 10, 2007

Leader: Margaret Prentice

4 miles, 400 ft. (Easy)

FOR THE SECOND TIME this winter Mother Nature foiled plans to hike along the McKenzie River Trail. After checking forecasts the night before and in the morning, I decided once again it would be wise to cancel. So instead, because we really wanted to get out and hike, Sue Myers, Pat Soussan & yours truly met at Albertson's and drove to the end of E. Amazon. We hiked up the connector trail to the Ridgeline Trail. At that point we opted to take the trail to Dillard Road. As we headed back we met a hiker coming up the bike trail. His opinion was that the trail wasn't too muddy and he recommended it. *Hah!* At least no one fell or got stuck in the mud! The spreading oaks covered in fresh licorice ferns are a highlight of the bike trail. By the time we returned to the Fox Hollow parking lot it was snowing heavily and the snow on the sword ferns created a winter wonderland.

Heceta Head/Washburne Park

January 20, 2007

Leader: Ann-Marie Askew

6 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

WE REALLY LUCKED OUT on the weather: sunny, windless, with temps in the high 40s -- such a relief after recent weeks of snow, ice and severe wind storms. As planned, we walked south along the beach from the Washburne State Park day use area as the tide came in. We noted the need for a beach cleanup and remembered how several of us had participated last year. Then we hiked east up the Hobbit Trail and south up and down to Heceta Head Lighthouse where we ate lunch in the sun. Some of

us wanted to spend the rest of the afternoon basking in its rays. But, after an hour or so, we made the trek back to the Hobbit Trail junction, where we crossed Hwy. 101 and returned to Washburne on the Valley Trail, stopping for a few minutes to stand in the sun and gaze at the shrunken beaver-dammed lake that looked rather like a bombing target in the midst of the lush spruce forest. Arriving at our parked cars, all of us agreed we'd shared a glorious day at the coast in good company. Members Ann-Marie Askew, Sharon Duncan, Yuan Hopkins, Sachi Kolwasaki, Norma Lockyear, Margaret Prentice and Glen Svendsen; nonmembers Dixie Lee and Karen Lee.



Byways-
By-Bus

Christmas Lights Shore Acres

December 1, 2006

Co-Leaders: R. Ahrens/Liz Reanier

THE WEATHER BROKE as we left Eugene heading south on I-5; then through Drain and Elkton, stopping at Elk Reserve at Dean Creek. There were approximately 20 bull elk resting near the highway, so we got a good look at them. We traveled on to Reedsport, stopping at Winchester Bay for refreshments. We stopped at Cape Arago to view the sea lions and seals and arrived at Shore Acres at about 4 p.m. as the lights started twinkling. Some energetic members hiked while the rest of us wandered through the gardens. At 6:15, we boarded the bus, driving to Portside Restaurant for a buffet dinner. Then we all settled in for the ride back to Eugene. On the trip were members Rick Ahrens, Ethel Allen, Ewart Baldwin, Pat Bayliss, Ray Cavagnaro, Mary Lee Cheadle, Kent Christoferson, Sharon Cutsforth, Rosemary Etter, Rachele Fiszman, Margit Hollerud, Vi Johnson, Rosella Jones, Terri Mason, Barbara & Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Kathy Riddle, Edith Rode, Pauline Sievers, Julie Snell, Dick & Janet Speelman, Millard Thomas and Vera Wooley; and nonmembers: Greg Bader, Barb Bakke, Lloyd Bissell, Barbara & Dennis Flanders, David & Sharon Gadonskie, Ann Mennito, Jane Salvadore, Emily Scherer, Sam Scherer, Terry Scherer and Barbara Wilson.

Obsidians at WinterFest

ON SATURDAY, Jan. 20, volunteers Linda Hovey, Bob Huntley and Jim Gillette (and others) joined me at Gold Lake SnoPark in setting up a table, chairs and some Obsidian banners and hand-outs at REI's WinterFest.

Naturally, the commercial ski, snowshoe and clothing stores had fancier booths and more giveaways (several of us got new socks!), but plenty of people also visited the Obsidian table to learn about our winter activities and to chat about our experiences with various kinds of equipment. The day was sunny, but quite chilly. It was wonderful to have the help of several volunteers to trade off and be able to take off skiing for awhile.

-- Anne Dhu McLucas, Publicity Chair



Jim, Anne, Bob & Linda at WinterFest '07

UPCOMING

Barb's Sampler: Valentine's to St. Patrick's Days

By Barb Revere

Sat., Feb. 17 – South Eugene Nature Walk – This *easy* 4.5-mile hike in a forested area of the Churchill neighborhood is one of leader Joanne Ledet's favorite walks. Your route will follow road, forest and creek-side. Negligible elevation gain.

Sun., Feb. 18 – Redtop Mountain – X-Ski, *difficult*. Snowshoeing expert Shea Anderson describes the scenery as "nothing short of stunning." It includes views of nearby craggy peaks and the lovely meadow of Fawn Lake. The area is less frequented than the SnoParks, so you may enjoy your trip in relative solitude. Join leader Gordon Sayre on this more *difficult* ski trip. Distance and elevation gain undetermined.

Thur. Feb. 22 to Tue. Feb. 27 – Wallowas – *Extended X-Ski/S'Shoe*, trip. In northeastern Oregon, the Wallowas provide some of the most beautiful scenery in the state. The granite and limestone peaks are dramatic, the lakes pristine and the snow should be grand. Mule deer, spike-horned mountain goats and Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep winter here – though you may need binoculars to see them. Distance, elevation gain and degree of difficulty vary. Contact leader Chris Stockdale for trip details.

(Same day) Thur. Feb. 22 – Washburne & China Creek Loops – *Easy*

hike. Leader Marshall Kandell schedules this hike at low tide for good tide pool exposure and gives you time to poke and prod along the beach. Five miles, 400 ft elevation gain.

Tue., Feb. 27 – McKenzie Bridge RS to Belknap Hot Springs Resort – *Moderate*. If soaking in a 102 degree pool sounds good, this is the hike for you! We'll walk four miles along the McKenzie River Trail to the resort for lunch. Options at the resort include wandering the gardens, reading in the lodge or a dip in the hot pool. We'll return on the same deeply wooded trail. Best of all, we'll let LTD do the driving. I'll lead this 8-mile hike (300 ft. elevation gain).

Sat., Mar. 3 – Arrowhead Lake – X-Ski, *difficult*. This small lake -- which is, in fact, shaped like an arrowhead -- lies just off the PCT near Mt. Yoran. The area is wooded, with beautiful rocky outcrops. You may spy Diamond Peak along your route. Leader Laurie Funkhouser plans to cover 10 miles and climb 1,000 ft.

Sun., Mar. 4 – Trestle Creek Falls Loop – Hike, *moderate*. This is one of the great little hikes relatively close to town. Led by Ann-Marie Askew, this 3.5-mile trail begins at the east end of the Brice Creek trail and loops west through old growth forest and between two tumbling creeks. Both creeks should be running full and the falls and cascades will

be spectacular (1,000 ft. elevation gain).

Sat., Mar. 10 – Diamond Creek Falls -- S'Shoe, *easy*. You'll cover a variety of terrain on this easy three mile trail (250 ft. elevation gain) and view two superb waterfalls: Salt Creek Falls, dropping 98 ft., and Diamond Creek Falls, dropping 72 ft. Led by Jim Pierce.

Sat., Mar. 17 – Sand Mountain – X-Ski, *difficult*. This ancient crater stands amidst the lava flows of the Santiam Pass area. A 1967 forest fire opened its slopes, providing many opportunities for skiing to and from the restored lookout tower at its top. Led by Bill Johnson, this trip will test your backcountry skills and provide a change from the usual SnoPark crowds. This difficult trip covers about 10 miles with bushwhacking and appreciable elevation gain.

Notes:

- A winter trip classified as "*easy*" is not a *lesson*. Participants in winter trips should test and know how to use their equipment before the trips. Contact Eugene Parks Department's winter schedule for lessons.

- If you will be leading a trip and would like us to highlight it in next month's Sampler, tell us what's so special about the trip in an email to:

bulletin@obsidians.org.

Scott Hovis Breathes Life Into Obsidian Youth Committee

DO YOU ENJOY working with kids? If so, Obsidian Youth Committee chair Scott Hovis would welcome your participation and help in any of the upcoming events

- **Sat., Feb. 24** -- snow play, tubing, sledding, grade school.
- **Sat.-Sun., Mar. 3-4** -- lodge overnight, grade school.
- **Sun. – Tue., Mar. 25-27** -- backpack, coast, teens.
- **Sat., Apr. 28** -- rock climbing, Skinner Butte, teens.

In particular, says Scott, “we will need help with driving and chaperoning, including someone with a pick-up and cover to carry sleds, tubes, etc.”

Scott is structuring two hours of activities for the lodge overnighter and is going to do a half-hour art lesson. Anyone who would also like to be involved in a half-hour activity would be welcome. Maybe story telling, singing, organizing s’mores around the fireplace or a compass treasure hunt in the lodge.

For the backpack trip, Scott needs a” lady chaperon.”

“I’m sure there are many other ways to help,” Scott says. Feel free to contact him at 345-7788 or shovis@lane.k12.or.us

Byways-By-Bus Rally, Feb. 25

THE ANNUAL Byways-By-Bus rally will begin at 1 p.m. on Sunday, February 25, at the lodge. Tables will be set up for members and their friends to sign up for any or all of the 13 trips planned for 2007. During the rally, trip leaders will tell about each of their trips.

There will be three overnight trips. Eagles’N More is the first. The next is Wolf Haven, Int’l, NW Trek and Tacoma Glass Museum led by Rick Ahrens and Liz Reanier. The third overnight trip is called “The End of the Trail for Lewis and Clark.” The leaders will be Barbara and Paul Beard. We will meet them at Whiskey Creek, where the Beards will have cooked us lunch over a fire, like Lewis and Clark did. The second day, we will tour the newly restored Fort Clatsop and other sites along the NW coast of Oregon.

There is still room on the bus for the February 20-21 Eagles’N More trip, led by Rick Ahrens and Liz Reanier. Cost is \$160 (\$164 nonmembers). This cost pays for one night’s lodging and several meals. The next trip -- called “A Day in the Country” -- will be led on March 21st by Mary Ellen West and Liz Reanier and will investigate places in Harrisburg, Junction City and the Long Tom Trail. The cost is \$50 (\$52 nonmembers). -- *Lenore McManigal*

Nearby Nature Quest, Feb. 25

LEARN ABOUT our fine feathered friends and make a birdhouse to take home. Also enjoy a family-paced hike, a snack, and a visit from a costumed Kinder Critter. Meet outside the park host residence in Alton Baker Park (between dog run and community gardens), 1-3 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 25; \$2/person or \$5/family, plus a small donation for birdhouse materials. Pre-registration strongly suggested, 687-9699.

Winter Trips for March and April

THE TORRID pace of winter trips will be tapering off in March AND April...just when the days are getting longer. There will still be plenty of snow for ski and snowshoe trips and maybe even less rain for hikes. Perhaps, you would like to lead some kind of trip in March or April. Please check the schedule on the website and see if you can add something. Email your plans to winter-trips@obsidians.org. Thanks.

-- *Jim Pierce, Winter Trips Chair*

Pisgah Mondays

Feb. 19, 26, Mar. 5, etc.

HIKERS!

If it’s Monday

Must be Mt. Pisgah!

A hiking group is starting.

Pisgah summit -- 8 a.m. Mondays

Meet at the kiosk for the summit trail

Rain or shine. *Not* Obsidian sponsored

No need to RSVP, no reminders sent

No fees, no signups, no reports

Just show up and do it!

Are we there yet?

Feb. 19, 2007

New Conservation Course

THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE is sponsoring another course offered through the Northwest Earth Institute. This is a new course on global warming. There will be four discussions focused on the evidence of climate change, actions that individuals and communities can take to make a difference, and setting a new course for a sustainable future. You can learn more about the course from their website.

<http://www.nwei.org/pages/gw.html>.

Please call Judy Newman for more details. The only charge for the class is the cost of the book of readings, which is \$16.00.

Events at Mt. Pisgah

For information about the following events, call 747-1504.

BIRD WALK, Sat., March 10, 8-10 a.m. -- Join birder Davey Wendt and seek out winter sparrows, western bluebirds and many other feathered friends. Meet at the visitor center, rain or shine. Coffee served!

SPRING EQUINOX HIKE to Summit, Wed., March 21, 6- 8 p.m. -- Celebrate the vernal equinox with a hike to the top with arboretum site manager Tom LoCascio. On your walk, learn about the ecology and history of the site. Enjoy the sunset on the way down! Meet at visitor center, rain or shine.

Crater Lake Weekend Fees Due, Pre-Trip Meeting Scheduled

THOSE GOING on the Crater Lake Cross Country Ski & Snowshoe trip (March 31-April 1) are reminded that the remainder of the trip fee is due by February 28th. The balance is \$127 for members; \$137 for nonmembers. Make checks payable to Obsidians, Inc., write your phone number and email address on a piece of paper accompanying the check, and send to: **Sharon Ritchie, P.O. Box 50883, Eugene, OR 97405.**

Any who have changed their minds about going should let Sharon know as soon as possible so those on the waiting list can be contacted. Since payment is due to the Prospect Historical Hotel, no part of the trip fee will be refundable after Feb. 28th unless someone takes your place.

The pre-trip meeting will be Monday, March 12, at 7 p.m. at the lodge. At that time, maps and general information will be distributed and carpooling and meal selection arrangements will be made.

WAITING LIST: There's always the possibility of a cancellation; so, if you're interested, call or email Sharon and put yourself on the waiting list. No deposit is required unless an opening occurs.

TRIP DETAILS: Friday to Sunday, March 30 to April 1. The full price (\$137 for members; \$147 for nonmembers) includes shared accommodations at the Prospect Motel on Friday and Saturday nights, delicious buffet breakfasts on



Saturday and Sunday, sack lunches on Saturday and Sunday, and Saturday dinner in the hotel's lovely dining room. On Saturday, we will ski and snowshoe at Crater Lake or hike along the Rogue River. On Sunday, a park ranger will lead the Obsidians on a snowshoe trip (the U.S. government will provide the snowshoes).

For more information, call Sharon at 342-8435 or email at trehugr@comcast.net.

Extended Trip Scheduled to Frenchglen, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, June 8-10

AN EXTENDED TRIP led by Marianne Camp has been scheduled for the June 8-10 weekend in Frenchglen, which is about 60 miles south of Burns, adjacent to Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in southeastern Oregon. Malheur Wildlife Refuge is one of the most important freshwater marshes in the western US. Three major bird migration corridors within the Pacific Flyway converge here, creating a way station for all kinds of birds - waterfowl, shorebirds, songbirds, and birds of prey. Our very own Rick Ahrens will be participating on the trip as the resident naturalist. The focus of this trip is birding; bring your binoculars!

Trip participants will be staying in the historic Frenchglen Hotel, which was established in 1916 and is a popular destination for people from all over the world. Many historical sites are close by, the Alvord Desert is just an hour away and Steens Mountain is right outside the hotel's front door (snow levels will prevent driving to its top so early in the year).

THE HOTEL'S evening meal is served family style and is good down home cooking. It will provide a nice setting for sharing the day's adventures. The most popular dessert is homemade marionberry cobbler a la mode.



The hotel has eight rooms, each with double beds and shared bathrooms down the hall. A newer motel style addition has five rooms with queen beds and private baths. The cost of the trip will depend on your desired unit and occupancy. Breakfast and lunch are not included in the cost.

PRICES, which include your room and dinners for both Friday and Saturday, are:

- Double bed rooms, single occupancy, \$195; double occupancy, \$130 each.
- Queen bed rooms (private bath) single occupancy, \$230; double occupancy, \$145 each.
- Nonmembers, add \$10.

Additional information regarding the logistics of the trip will be provided at a pre-trip meeting.

To reserve a spot, send a \$10 nonrefundable check *payable to Obsidians, Inc.* to: Marianne Camp, 1245 W. 16th Ave., Apt. 1, Eugene, OR 97402. Please include your phone number and email address. Deposits need to be received by March 1st. Questions: Call Marianne at 221-1866 or email at :

mcamp@head-start.lane.or.us.

Summer Camp 2007 Spectacular Scenery, Wildlife, Great Hikes!

By Jim Duncan

CAMP PEGG promises to be one of our best yet! The location, at the doorstep of Yellowstone National Park, offers some of the most spectacular hikes and scenic vistas you can imagine. And hiking into the backcountry gives you an experience of Yellowstone that can't be matched by simply driving through the park. Want to summit a 10,300 ft. mountain (without doing too much work)? You can do that at Mt. Washburn, where the trailhead starts at 8,900 ft. Along the way, you may see bighorn sheep and, at the top, the entire Yellowstone caldera lies before you, with views of the Grand Tetons beyond. This is just one of dozens of great hikes that will be available to us in the park or in the Metcalf Wilderness Area adjacent to camp. You won't want to miss this year's camp!

Dates:

Two one-week sessions of camp, July 28-Aug. 4 & Aug. 4-11.

Registration:

The Summer Camp Rally will be a potluck at the lodge on March 23. We will show slides of the area, describe the site and answer questions. Registration forms will be printed in the March Bulletin and will also be available online. The forms, plus the registration fee, may be turned in at the rally or mailed in from March 23 to 31. With two sessions, we hope to accommodate everyone who wants to go to camp. Applications submitted between March 23 - 31 will be drawn randomly for spaces at camp.

Cost:

The budget hasn't been finalized yet, but the cost will be approximately \$200 for members, half that amount for children ages 6 - 11, and approximately \$240 for nonmembers.

The Campsite:

Beaver Creek Campground is located 20 miles west of Yellowstone National Park near Earthquake Lake at the edge of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness Area. Loop A of the campground has been reserved for use by the Obsidians. The road

Bears:

WE WILL BE CAMPING and hiking in bear country and appropriate precautions must be taken. No food, snacks, toothpaste, etc.. may be stored in your tent. These must be locked in your vehicles. All the food for the kitchen will be locked in the truck at night. We recommend that you hike in groups of at least four and it is important to always be alert for the presence of bears. Every group going into the backcountry should carry at least one (preferably two) canisters of bear spray. Bear spray is carried by the rangers in the area and is a very effective deterrent in case of an encounter with a bear. The spray is a mixture containing cayenne pepper. It is under very high pressure and the canisters should be regarded as the equivalent of a loaded firearm -- they're not toys! We expect many people will want to have their own bear spray or share the cost with a couple of friends. The canisters cost \$47. We will make this option available on the registration form if you wish to buy one.



Beaver Creek Campground, Big Sky Country - Photo by John Jacobsen

into the campground is asphalt, as is the half-mile loop containing 26 designated camping sites. Most of the sites will easily handle multiple tents. Potable water and vault toilets are located on site. Campers should bring their solar showers; and our four shower stalls will be available. The campsite is spacious and nicely wooded, surrounded by hills and mountains, and about 1/4 mile from Earthquake Lake.

Hiking:

Several trailheads leading west into the Metcalf Wilderness or east into the Gallatin National Forest are located about five miles from camp. These can be reached by following a good gravel road that parallels Beaver Creek. For many people, however, the real jackpot is that the West Entrance to Yellowstone National Park (and the town of West Yellowstone, MT) is only a 25-minute drive along the north shore of Hebgen Lake. Once in the park, there are good hikes in every direction.

Yellowstone National Park:

For those wanting a break from hiking, all the sightseeing attractions of Yellowstone are close at hand. The vistas are spectacular in the park and the wildlife close at hand (some of it may be in the road). From the West Entrance, it's only 20 miles to the beginning of the Geyser Basins and 30 miles to Old Faithful. The geysers, hot springs, fumaroles and mudpots are amazing, especially when you consider that these boiling acidic waters are teeming with life. Heading east, it's 40 miles to the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone from the West Yellowstone entrance, and Mammoth Hot Springs is 48 miles north. Binoculars are essential! Expect to see bison, elk, pronghorn, mule deer, coyotes and, if you're lucky, perhaps a moose or black bear or grizzly bear. And, if you're willing to arrive before dawn in the Lamar River Valley area you may spot wolves.

Food:

In the Obsidian Summer Camp tradition, food will be good and plentiful. Breakfast and dinner will be served in camp and sack lunches will be prepared each day before breakfast. The first meal will be dinner on Saturday of each week; the last meal will be breakfast (sack lunches provided) the following Saturday.

It's Simple! Swap Clothing, Equipment at Lodge on April 15th

A GROUP OF OBSIDIANS who met last fall to explore the concept of *voluntary simplicity* is sponsoring a clothing and recreational and fitness equipment swap at the lodge on Sunday, April 15, from 1 to 4 p.m. It's a perfect excuse to get rid of some clutter. The only cost is a \$1 lodge use fee.

Bring your "stuff" to the lodge between 1 and 3 p.m. and it will be designated for specific areas for clothing and equipment. Sift through what others brought, and if something catches your eye, grab it.

More details will be in next month's Bulletin. It will be a perfect chance to clean out the closets and get something for nothing. That doesn't happen very often! Mark your calendar.

SciEd Tuesdays, March 13

Marine Biologist Offers Global Warming Perspectives

IF YOU THINK you've heard enough about global warming, retired OSU marine geologist Dr. Vern Kulm may give you some new things to think about at the monthly SciEd Committee program on Tuesday, March 13, at 7 p.m. in the Obsidian Lodge.

In his digital slide presentation, Dr. Kulm will discuss the history of natural climate change and how it relates to the modern changes we are seeing. He will amplify aspects of Al Gore's film, "An Inconvenient Truth," and examine what Oregon and California are doing to redress human impact. Dr. Kulm will also incorporate into his program information from the long awaited climate scientists' report just released in Paris.

Potluck Coming Attractions

March 23

Summer Camp Rally

John Jacobsen

May 18

(a week early to avoid holiday)

What's Wat in Thailand

Lindstrom/Hughes

April 27

Willamette Riverkeeper

Amy Morrison

June 22

West Eugene Wetlands

Rick Ahrens

Bulletin Classifieds

Obsidian Goodies

T-shirts, \$10 (no matter design or size); sweatshirt, \$15; cap, \$15; mug or tumbler, \$10; whistle, \$3.

Contact Laurie 206-2303 or lafunkh@aol.com.

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

Obsidian Calendar

February

15 Thu – **Rosary Lakes**, S'Shoe, D, S.Hoeg484-6196
16 Fri – **W. Eugene Wetlands**, 5m 50', Cunningham.....344-0486
17 Sat – **Rosary Lakes**, X-Ski 6m 600' M, B.Huntley.....687-1823
17 Sat – **S. Eugene Nature Walk**, 4m 500' E, J.Ledet.....683-2603
17 Sat – **Spencer Butte**, Trail Maintenance, P.Asai.....933-3927
18 Sun – **Fawn Lake X-Ski** 7m 1000' M, B.Hamilton.....343-6550
18 Sun – **Red Top**, X-Ski D, G.Sayre345-2370
21 Wed – **Amazon Creek to Fern Ridge**, M.Clarkson.....334-6883
22-27 Thu-Tue – **Wallowas**, X-Ski/S'Shoe, C.Stockdale .767-3668
22 Thu – **Washburne Loops**, 5mi 400' E M.Kandell.....345-8095
23 Fri – **Cycling in Austrian Lake Region**, Ruels,.....Potluck
24 Sat – **Amazon Hdwtrs to Dillard Rd**, M.Prentice.....687-5850
24 Sat – **Grade School snow sports**, Tubing, S.Hovis.....345-7788
27 Tue – **McKenzie River Trail**, Via LTD, B.Revere726-4989

March

3 Sat – **Arrowhead Lake**, X-Ski, D, L.Funkhouser.....206-2303
3-4 Sat-Sun – **Grade School-Lodge**, Overnight, S.Hovis 345-7788
4 Sun – **Trestle Creek Falls**, 3.5m 1000' M, A.Askew.....687-1659
7 Wed – **North Shasta Loop Hike**, E, R.Romoser.....726-8154
10 Sat – **Salt Creek Falls**, S'Shoe, E, J.Pierce.....344-1775
10-11 Sat-Sun–**Gold Lake**, X-Ski/S'Shoe, B.Cox.....688-0602
17 Sat – **Sand Mtn Bushwack**, X-Ski, B.Johnson.....746-1513
23 Fri – **Summer Camp Rally**,Potluck
24 Sat – **Coast Hike - TBA**, B.Montgomery.....736-8955
24 Sat – **Indian Ridge Lookout**, X-Ski, D, B.Hoyland.....338-9881
24 Sat – **Beach clean up**, Hike/Trail Maint, B.Revere729-4989

Summer Trips Dreaming

By Barb Revere

FEELING CONFINED? A little cabin fever settling in? Have you caught yourself daydreaming of a cool lake plunge on a hot day in August? We've got the cure - sign up to lead a trip!

You probably already know that the Summer Trips Committee's schedule building effort is well underway. A committee member may have already contacted you about leading trips. If not, someone will be in touch soon, so why not take a few moments to look at your summer schedule and plan your trips for 2007?

Here are some ideas to help you start your summer dreaming:

- If your trips last year were successful, lead them again.
- If your usual trip is going stale, go back in time -- online.

Online trip reports go back 30 years. Searching reports by date will bring up many trips that haven't been on the schedule in a few years. Scroll back a few years. Select the month when you'd like to lead this year. You'll be delighted to read of trails that you've forgotten were there. Like ladies' jodhpurs and wool longjohns, trips go out of style. Perhaps the regular leader retired to Byways-By-Bus.

• Did you know that the U.S. Forest Service also has trails and maps online? Try these sites for some ideas:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/willamette/recreation/tripplanning/index.html>

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/siuslaw/recreation/tripplanning/index.shtml>

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon/recreation/trails/trail-name.shtml>

• Many of us turn to the featured hikes in Bill Sullivan's "100 Hikes in the Central Cascades," but don't neglect the pages between hike #100 and the index. One hundred more hikes are listed, with directions to trailheads.



Snow, south hills of Eugene. Photo by John Jacobsen



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