

Inside This Issue

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Membership Renewal | 1 |
| Obituary | 2 |
| New Members | 2 |
| Annual Meeting | 3 |
| President's Message | 4 |
| Board Notes | 10 |
| Trip Reports & Activities | 11-20 |
| Upcoming | 21-23 |
| Calendar | 23 |
| Features | |
| Welcome Potluck | 1 |
| Board Nominees | 3 |
| President's Tea | 4 |
| Camp Hamilton Highlights | 5 |
| Otrials | 6 |
| Pedaling in Sisters | 7 |
| Barb's Sampler | 22 |
| Picture of the Month | 24 |

Dates to Remember

| | |
|--------|---------------------------|
| Sep 16 | SciEd Tues - Fire Ecology |
| Sep 18 | Lodge Work Party |
| Sep 20 | Oct Bulletin Deadline |
| Sep 26 | Welcome Potluck |
| Oct 10 | Annual Meeting |
| Oct 15 | Board Meeting |

Lodge & Grounds Cleanup/Work Party
 Thursday, September 18
 4pm-7pm - See Page 23

Membership Dues Are Due October 1
 See Story Right ⇨
 Watch your mailbox for renewal and survey forms.

Annual Meeting
 Friday, October 10
 7:00pm, at the Lodge
 See Page 3

POTLUCK Friday, September 26:

Kicking Off Fall With a Welcome Potluck

FOLLOWING OUR ANNUAL Obsidian summer break from potlucks, the club will plunge into autumn with a special potluck program designed to welcome everyone back, especially new and prospective members. The highlight will be an entertaining multimedia program produced and presented by Sue Sullivan, who has compiled an impressive collection of photos capturing the varied Obsidian activities of the past year. It's a great way to find out about our organization's many exciting and varied activities and how to get involved.

For those expecting the traditional Summer Camp Reunion, many photos of Camp Hamilton 2008 will be included.

You might even see yourself in the photos of summer and winter trips, extended trips, trail maintenance, bus trips, summer camp, and volunteer activities. The photos, taken by many Obsidians, show how much fun we have in the great outdoors. Come see what the Obsidians are all about and what we have been up to. Committee chairs and board members will be available to answer questions.

This potluck, intended to be an entertaining social event where new members can rub elbows with fellow Obsidians, will be held at the Lodge on Friday, September 26. Invite your friends or anyone who would like to know more about our club.

- Laurie Funkhouser, Entertainment Chair

Potluck, 6:30 pm. Program 7:30 pm
Bring your favorite potluck dish to share... along with your own plates, utensils, cups... and \$1.00 to help cover Lodge expenses.



Renew Your Membership Now!

By Julie Dorland, Membership Chair



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR, fellow Obsidians! Time to get your dues in! You may notice that the membership renewal form is **NOT** included with the September Bulletin. This year you will receive a renewal form in the mail, so keep your eyes peeled. You will find three items in the envelope: the renewal form, a very short survey form, and an addressed return envelope. The survey is the third periodic membership survey sponsored by the Board

OBITUARY

James Jeppesen Jr. 1924-2008

A FUNERAL WAS HELD Wednesday, Aug. 13, at Bethesda Lutheran Church in Eugene for James Henry Jeppesen Jr. of Eugene, who died Aug. 9 of age-related causes. He was 84.

He was born April 17, 1924, in Eugene to James and Anna Mobrataan Jeppesen. He and his wife, Clarice, were married Sept. 22, 1957, in Junction City.

He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Oregon and worked as a civil engineer for Lane County Public Works.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, James III of Plattsville, Colo., and Steven of Eugene; a sister, Dolores Haddad

of Eugene; and six grand-children.

James Jeppesen's parents and sister joined the Obsidians in 1949 and were active members for several years. His father was a Chief. His sister, Dolores Haddad, is a Princess. Jim was also active with the Obsidians. Jim did 24 climbs, and led 7 of them. He was the 119th chief, becoming chief in 1953. He was involved in 3 summer camps, the last one in 1966 in the Willows - helping us the second week of it. He was a life member of the club. His last Obsidian activity was a bus trip in 1998.

Remembrances are to the church memorial fund or the Obsidians.

Welcome!

New Members

ARMSTRONG, CAROL (Active)
3780 Knob Hill Lane, Eugene 97405
485-0946 armcar@earthlink.net

ATKINSON, JOHN (Active)
3939 NW Clarence Circle, Corvallis,
OR 97330
752-7175 atkinsoj@peak.org

BAUM, MIKE (Active)
PO Box 316, Vaughn, WA 98394
253-884-9005
mikebaum@vp-photo.com

DANIELSEN, CURT (Active)
2250 E. Deer Valley Road, Apt. 15,
Phoenix, AZ 85024
602-561-4668 curtdn@gmail.com

DRESCHER, MARLENE (Active)
231 Ridgewood Drive, Eugene 97405
342-5591 mdrescher@comcast.net

ENDICOTT, PAT (Active)
3391 Cooperstown Av, Eugene 97408
485-8397 dustyrose2@comcast.net

GILBERT, MANDY (Active)
93 S Jackson St, #40004
Seattle, WA 98104
253-579-4744 westykids@yahoo.com

GILBERT, SCOTT (Active)
93 S Jackson St, #40004
Seattle, WA 98104
253-579-4744 westykids@yayoo.com

MCLAUGHLIN, CATHY (Active)
3220 Crescent Ave, # 59, Eugene 97408
684-7994 katiemac59@comcast.net

Reinstated Members

BOYLAN, BARBARA (Active)
1450 Quaker St, Eugene 97402
345-8905 barboylan@yahoo.com

TURRING, DONNA (Associate)
P.O. Box 5405, Eugene, OR 97405
729-2299 turringd@netscape.net

WOLTERS, KRIS (Active)
3939 NW Clarence Cr, Corvallis 97330
757-2977 kwolters@peak.org

Renew Your Membership Now!

(Continued from page 1)

in order to track club demographics and participation levels of members. The survey is anonymous, will take only a few minutes to complete and can be returned with your membership renewal. Hopefully, you will drop absolutely all other mail and immediately complete the forms, write a check, and return all in the envelope, conveniently addressed and thoughtfully included for you!

I have appreciated all of the wonderful events that the Obsidians do, and I have to remind myself that it is all done by volunteers! Please consider volunteering for one of the committees that form the backbone of the Obsidians. There are many committees for you to choose from, and your contributions to them add to the uniqueness of your Obsidian experience. Committee chairs appreciate the extra help and new ideas. New members, don't be shy! We love to have fresh ideas and thoughts, from both new and old members (not in age, of course!).

OBSDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322, Eugene, OR 97440

Website: www.obsidians.org

Board of Directors

President - Brian Hamilton
Vice President - Jim Duncan
Secretary - Laurie Funkhouser
Treasurer - Stewart Hoeg
Wayne Deeter Marshall Kandell
Anne Dhu McLucas Jim Pierce
Barb Revere

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..... Kathleen Floyd
Conservation..... Juli McGlinsky
Entertainment..... Laurie Funkhouser
Extended Trips..... Jim Duncan
Finance..... Stewart Hoeg
Lodge Building..... Brian Hamilton
Lodge Grounds..... John Jacobsen
Librarian/Historian..... Lenore McManigal
Membership..... Julie Dorland
Online..... Wayne Deeter
Publications.....
Publicity..... Ann Dhu McLucas
Safety..... Doug Nelson
Science & Education..... Joella Ewing
Summer Camp..... John Jacobsen
Summer Trips..... Barb Revere
Trail Maintenance..... Peter Green
Winter Trips..... Jim Pierce
Youth..... Scott Hovis

The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

© 2008

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

bulletin@obsidians.org

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

The Obsidian Bulletin

P.O. Box 51424, Eugene, OR 97405

For reprint rights, contact above.

Deadline

for October 2008 Bulletin

Saturday, September 20, 2008

Assembly/Mailing Team

For July/August Bulletin

Assembly & Mail Manager..... Lou Maenz
Call Manager..... Vera Woolley
Assembly Team ...Tom Adamcyk, Myron Cook, Yuan Hopkins, John & Lenore McManigal

Editorial Team

Writing & Editorial Staff Jean Coberly, Janet & John Jacobsen, Barb Revere, Beth Roy
Copy Editors..... Jean Coberly & Beth Roy
Graphics, Design & Desktop Publishing
..... Stewart Hoeg & John Jacobsen

OBSIDIAN BOARD NOMINEES - 2008



Larry Huff

I HAVE BEEN A HAPPY go lucky member of the great order of Obsidians since 1997. I am a native of the Eugene/Springfield area. I spent my first 14 years in the shadow of Mt Pisgah off Seavey Loop Road where I attended Goshen Elementary school.

At age 11 I initiated my first overnight trip, to the summit of Mt Pisgah, where we spent the night. It wasn't until high school that I cut my teeth in the Cascade Range. I attended high school at the Opportunity Center which was then located in the current St Vincent DePaul Family First Shelter. A teacher there, by the name of Ron, taught and led outdoor adventure classes in the fall and the spring. It was this class and school field trips that wetted my appetite for the outdoors.

I think one of the greatest perks for becoming an Obsidian is the opportunity to meet other people with similar interests. Another is the volunteer opportunities that await the eager Obsidian. I personally enjoy the climbing activities and related educational programs. I am currently a member of Eugene Mountain Rescue and the Willamette Backcountry Ski Patrol.

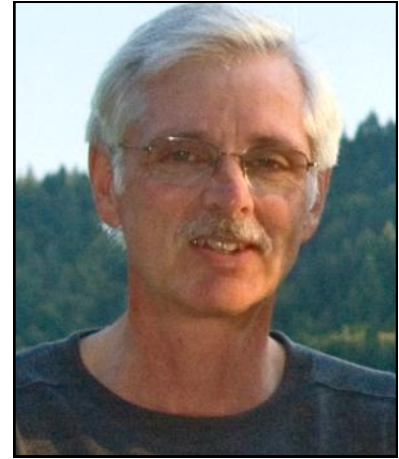
I would like to extend my gratitude to the club for having faith in my abilities and giving me the opportunity to be a member on the Obsidian Board of Directors (now that sounds important).



Verna Kochen

I RETIRED IN 2001 from a career in public education. I returned to the Springfield area where I grew up and joined Obsidians. The Obsidian bus trips have given me the opportunity to see some of the country and to make great new friendships. The trips have been educational, as they often focus on the history and culture. I have served on the hospitality and the bus committees. I am delighted to be able to represent the bus riders by serving on the board.

Apart from Obsidians, I volunteer my time editing a magazine for perfume bottle collectors, an activity which pushes my computer technology skills far beyond what I ever thought I needed to know and keeps me busy solving the problems that come with the job. I also volunteer at a local middle school and play golf.



Stewart Hoeg

I WENT ON MY FIRST Obsidian hike on March 31st of 2002. As of August 9th this year, I have been on 104 Obsidian trips including 45 hikes, 39 bikes, 9 snowshoe trips, 4 extended trips, 2 bus trips, 2 trail maintenances, and one summer camp. I led or co-led 25 of these trips. I have also attended 54 potlucks. Now you know why I am serving my third year as the chair of the Finance Committee and my second year as club treasurer. In addition, since December of 2006, I have been one of two people responsible for the layout and desktop publishing aspect of our monthly newsletter.

I appreciate being asked to continue as a board member for three more years, and am looking forward to helping the club to continue its long record of success.

2008 Annual Meeting

THE OBSIDIAN ANNUAL MEETING will be held Friday October 10, 7:00 p.m. at the Lodge. Members may pay their annual dues to renew their membership at the meeting although mail-in renewal is encouraged. The meeting will include state of the club reports, committee reports, voting for new board members, and other club business.

Note: There will be no potluck preceding the Annual Meeting

Awards

C LIMB, TRIP, AND LEADER AWARDS will be presented at the October 10th annual meeting. To find your 2007 activity totals, check the trip log and leader logs posted on our website in the members' only section. If you think you have earned an award and have not been notified, contact one of these people:

Lenore McManigal, Historian, log books 345-2036 johnmcmnigal@q.com

Janet Jacobsen, Trip Awards 343-8030 jbjacobsen@comcast.net

Sharon Ritchie, Trip Leader Awards 342-8435 rehugr@comcast.net

Larry Huff, Climb Awards. 915-9071, astrovan88@hotmail.com

President's Tea

IT IS A TRADITION at Summer Camp to honor and also to roast the Obsidian president with at an evening gathering, The President's Tea, on the last night of camp. Our president, Brian Hamilton, attended the first week of camp so here is an account for those that missed this grand annual event.

Bea Fontana transformed a washtub into an official Obsidian Idaho hot tub. Kathy Tysen decorated his hot tub chair, scepter and even added fashion flair to his crown, an Obsidian cap. Charlene Pierce headed up the honor guard that escorted him to this architectural wonder. His wife, Mary, soon joined him in the hot tub. Sue Sullivan helped the audience play the game to vote on the truth and the lies about Brian. It was a surprise to learn that Brian took up climbing when he was 50 years old. Wayne Deeter put an apron on Brian to protect him from the traditional elk necklace that was carefully placed around his neck by former President John Pegg. John Jacobsen left the Camp Hamilton sign at home so Brian made do with a paper substitute. Maddie Blumm sang *Tomorrow* and Kathy Tysen sang the *Twelve Days of Camp*.

Since Brian is an architect, Carol Scherer, Ken Kodama, and Jim Pierce sat down in front of the throne to hold a committee meeting to advise Brian on how to design the perfect Obsidian. The new designer Obsidian will look nothing like the old Obsidian. The new Obsidian should look impressive from the front, less so on the side, and even more impressive from the back. That is because this new Obsidian will always be at the front of the line. The new Obsidian will not need knee replacements, hip replacements, or hiking poles. Cost and delays are no problem. Brian took notes and agreed to take on this task.

Beth Kadoma read *The Tale of the Pee Little Thrigs* (written by Dallas Cole for the 1993 Summer Camp), To memorialize Brian's drive up a horrible road to Hell Roaring Rapids, Pat Esch

and Valerie Metcalfe presented a nature collage complete with toy car. Norma Lockyear gifted Brian with a rock that could be used as a bookend. Gayle and Keith Newsom and others offered more tributes to Brian. Rick Ahrens gave him an engineering award. Oops! Brian is an architect.

To conclude the tea, Carol Scherer and Genevieve Bienvenue sang the traditional Obsidian Camp Song from years past. Here is the last verse.

*"Now who are all these funny folks
A-climbin' up and down
Who call themselves Obsidians
And hurry out of town
To pack a bed and grub around
And paint their cheeks with white?
Why, they're the whiffin-pooffin birds
And they sleep out at night."*

P.S. August 26: Update from Brian. Latest design of the "perfect Obsidian" is still underway and may not be ready this month.

President's Message:

Summer Camp Misconceptions

IHAVE TO ADMIT THAT I HAD MISCONCEPTIONS about Obsidian Summer Camp. I prefer solitude when I'm camping and try to choose a site far from the crowds, noisy kids, late-night parties, and generators. So I wondered if I really did want to be jammed into a campground with 50 or 100 other folks for a week. I also have not attended Summer Camp reunion potlucks at the Lodge. My feeling was that if I wasn't at the summer camp, why would I go to the reunion? Wouldn't that be like going to someone else's high school reunion?

Since I'm the 2008 president of the Obsidian Board, I felt obligated to go to summer camp this year. After all, the camps are usually named for the current president. So, my wife Mary and I found a sitter for our dog and made arrangements to stay at Camp Hamilton.

There's a lot of truth in the old saying "Don't knock it until you've tried it." After a week at summer camp, I'm pleased to say that I enjoyed it much more than I could have imagined. Before arriving in camp, we attended the pre-camp rally and it hit me that because the Obsidians have been doing this for a long time they have really figured out how to do it right. Once we got to Camp Hamilton we realized that we had never been to a camp like this before. We had a great time! The people, the food, the camp facilities, the variety of daily activities, and the location are just some of the things I really liked about summer camp.

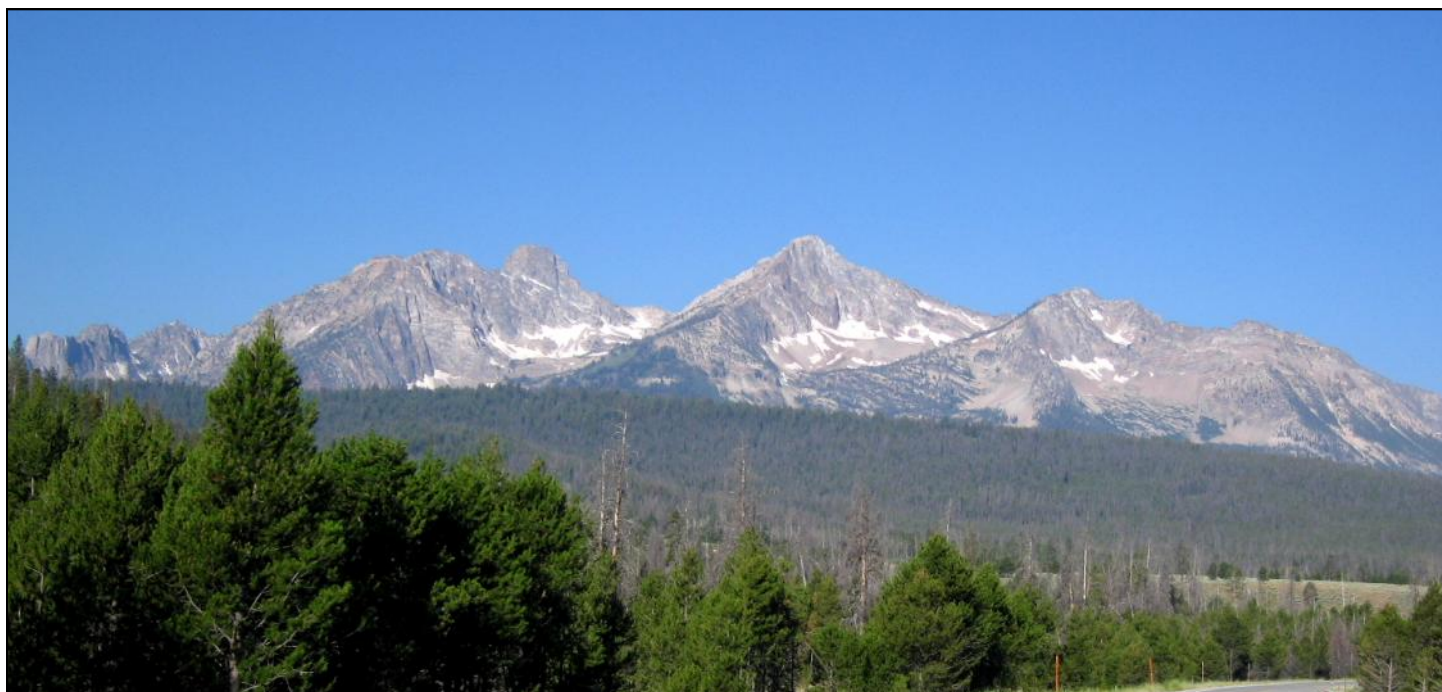
Obsidians are wonderful people! We made new friends and got to know others better. Everyone was having such a good time that the atmosphere in camp was pleasant and festive all week. My fears of a crowded, noisy campground were replaced with the enjoyment of being around people who sought the same kind of outdoor experience that I like. And the camp locale? Absolutely breathtaking! The Sawtooths, White Cloud Mountains, Salmon River, and the Lost River Range were all so beautiful, I was sorry to leave. I'm excited and looking forward to this year's Summer Camp Reunion just so that I can renew my memories!

If you haven't been to a summer camp, you too may have some of the same misconceptions I had. I encourage you to attend this month's potluck, Welcome Back event and Summer Camp Reunion. With any luck, we'll convince you to attend the next summer camp!

Brian Hamilton, Board President

Camp Hamilton Highlights

Story by Janet Jacobsen Photo by Jim Pierce



1. Living at the CCC Bonanza Camp in the Land of the Yankee Fork:

Our campsite was originally the 1880's "upscale" town of Bonanza until a fire forced its residents to move to Custer, now a ghost town two miles down the road. Running water, garbage pick up, and four spacious toilets that were cool during the day and warm at night made us feel that Camp Hamilton was "Nature Upscaled". Bea Fontana made new easy to assemble hand washing tables, stackable hand washing buckets, a strainer for gray water and a "retaining wall" for the drying table. Pat Adams added walls to the kitchen tent. Wayne Deeter repaired the dining canopies. Instead of hauling propane tanks from Eugene, we had a local company deliver propane to camp.

The site was surrounded by hills, forests and meadows along with some howling wolves and mountain goats on a looming peak. The nearby Bonanza Cemetery was the ghostly setting for an evening "coffin" story. Boot Hill with its three tragic graves became the theme for our melodrama musical. Towering above us, Recruit Hill, named by the CCC workers, offered a short, steep hike for a view of the valley. It was 31 degrees some mornings so one arrived at the coffee tent bundled up in fleece and down. By 10 AM, one was adjusting clothing for warmer temperatures in the 80's. The location was convenient for hiking in the White Clouds or the Sawtooths. Stopping in Stanley for ice cream or smoothies was a definite treat! I was surprised each day, after driving the Yankee Fork gravel road back to Bonanza, that the campsite seemed like an oasis of solitude with a "wilderness ambiance", even with the yellow Penske truck.

2. Getting to know Scott and Mandy Gilbert, our cooks: They not only prepared fabulous meals but also participated

in our activities. They (along with Rick Ahrens) were brave enough to jump from a high rock into the cold Salmon River on the raft/kayak excursion. One younger camper remarked, "I want to make enough money someday so they can be my personal chefs." Mandy and Scott spend six months each year working in Antarctica and the other half on their sailboat. Scott cooks for 1200 people in Antarctica and Mandy is a dispatcher. They enjoy cooking for the Obsidians and we were lucky to have them back with us. On the last day of camp, they handed in their membership forms. Hurrah!

3. Hiking the Trails: Week One: 30 trips with 23 leaders
Week Two: 40 trips with 24 leaders. Campers who led three or more hikes were Allan Coons, Sam Tracer, Wayne Deeter, Scott Hovis, Jan Jacobsen, Leila Snow, and Rich Romm. Brian Hamilton, Larry Dunlap, Steve Johnson and Curt Danielsen climbed Mt. Borah, the highest peak in Idaho. We enjoyed hikes to Alice Lake, Sawtooth Lake, Fourth of July Lake, Blackman Peak, Fishhook Creek Meadow, Goat Lake, Smiley Lake, Hell Roaring Lake, Redfish Lake, Flat Rock Junction, Bridal View Falls, Stanley Lake, Lookout Mountain, Redfish Canyon/Bench Lake, Iron Creek, Iron Basin, Saddleback Lake, Finger of Fate, McGown Peak, Walker Lake, WCP-1, and Bonanza Peak. Thanks to the leaders and drivers who made it happen.

4. Kayaking/Rafting/Falling in the Salmon River: Thirty (first week) and eighteen (second week) signed up for kayaking or paddle-rafting on the Salmon River. Obsidians jumped at the chance to paddle a kayak, wear a glamorous wet suit and helmet and possibly enjoy a cold swim. Mark Slipp said it was his all time favorite Obsidian activity and the

(Continued on page 8)

The Bell Lap: An Otrials Overview

By Marshall Jay Kandell

Chair, Ad Hoc Otrials Committee

AFTER A YEAR AND A HALF of imagining, planning, organizing and, finally, performing, it's time to take stock of what we actually accomplished. Although we fell short of our primary objective – giving visiting Olympic Trials and Bach Festival spectators a good look at our area's natural wonders through a three-week series of hikes – we did score major successes on an impressive number of endeavors.

We led 22 hikes with 116 participants (75 members, 41 nonmembers – including repeat hikers) and collected \$252 in fees (against zero expenses). Four hikes had to be scrubbed because of snow, lack of registrants or leader request. For the most part, we were unable to reach our primary target market – those ticket holders and families coming to Eugene for the Trials. Based on follow-up emails and letters, the visitors we did have on our hikes took home wonderful memories and spoke generously of the great sights they saw and the warm and friendly Obsidians they met. A number of local resident nonmembers on our hikes may well become Obsidians.

Having dealt right off the bat with our disappointment, let's look at our accomplishments – many of which offer great prospects for the club if the board, committee chairs and individual members will invest the time, energy and enthusiasm to bring them to fruition.

Website and Online Trip Registration -- For the first time in club history, an online trip registration system was developed, along with an impressive data base with automatic email communications ability built-in. Although expanding the system from a schedule of 20 hikes to a typical summer trips load of more than 200 would be a daunting task, the Otrials system nevertheless provides a prototype. Interestingly, although we hear members constantly calling for such a system, nearly all our member sign-ups continued to come from the YMCA bulletin board.

Publicity – A series of news releases and flyers were emailed to media, Olympic and US Track & Field execs, governmental and tourism officials, area hotels/motels/B&B's, and other outdoors clubs. We received worldwide exposure on the Internet, nice coverage in local media and in magazines such as AAA's *Via* and on local television. Indeed, the Obsidians may never before have had so much positive exposure. A template for future Obsidian news releases was created, along with examples of how to generate a variety of news and feature angles for an event.

CVALCO Membership -- Unable to gain any support from Eugene08, we turned to the Convention & Visitors Association of Lane County. We learned that we could enter our trips on their calendar at no charge, but that membership would gain us other support, including a listing in the Relocation Guide. We did get some support for Otrials, but capitalizing on the membership privileges and services will require some imagination and initiative on the part of various committee and event chairs.

Committee Dynamics – Over an 18-month period, the committee members maintained their enthusiasm, good humor and generous contributions to the project. This was a very complex undertaking with many logistical issues. It took time to work out all the snags. Our first meeting agenda included such subjects as: the Trials calendar, linkage with event organizations, selection of hikes, recruitment of trip leaders, recruitment of drivers, coordination with Summer Trips, registration of participants, meeting/pick-up coordination, rules, website development, publicity and PR, organization of the committee and its responsibilities.

From month to month, situations changed. What looked right one month didn't look so right upon another month's reflection and the gaining of new information. At first, for example, we were worried about how to handle *too many* registrants; in the end, we

scrambled because we didn't have enough. We spent time deciding where our trip meeting place(s) should be; eventually, we were denied use of the SEHS lot and found a welcome mat at Very Little Theatre.

The committee held a total of nine formal meetings, fully documented with agendas and follow-up meeting notes. All of this information is available for anyone who may wish to chair a similar project in the future.

The Hikes – While most of the hikes were ones we do regularly (e.g., Clear Lake, Heceta Head, Kentucky Falls), others were tailored for the Trials visitors (Raptor Center, Animal House, Pre's Rock and Pre's Trail, for example). These are hikes worth repeating more often. A few, like the Raptor Center trip, drew large sign-ups and would be appealing to lots of nonmembers and their youngsters if offered and promoted well. The Animal House hike didn't draw so well, but I'm convinced it's a winner and could also attract a good response. The Pre's Rock and Trail hikes are naturals for Track Town, USA (although we couldn't guarantee Pre's sister, Nita, would be always available to greet our groups).

A review of the trip reports shows general pleasure, wonderful experiences and no untoward incidents. For an Obsidian, any excuse for a hike is a good one...and these were all good hikes.

Finally, I have to thank my fellow committee members. Throughout this long journey, I received nothing but encouragement, support and good cheer from everyone on the committee. All leaders and assistant leaders also graciously volunteered and brought their good spirits to their hikes.

So, a heartfelt ***“thank you”*** to co-chair Dan Christensen and committee members Wayne Deeter, Walt Dolliver, Charles Durham, Carolyn and Cork Higgins, Dick Hildreth, Janet and John Jacobsen, Anne Dhu McLucas, Sam Miller, Ruth Romoser and Elle Weaver...and to all the others who played critical parts in making the journey successful and fun.

Summer Camp Lite: Pedaling in Sisters

By Stewart Hoeg

WHILE OVER 100 OBSIDIANS were driving 500 miles to camp for seven nights in Idaho, a group of 11 (including 9 Obsidians) drove 110 miles to camp for three nights in Sisters, Oregon. The reason for selecting this shorter trip (miles and nights) was all about their love of cycling.

The Spoke Folk, a group of regular bike-riders, was the group taking this trip to Sisters. While not affiliated with the Obsidians, the loosely-organized group (no dues, no board, no officers, no newsletter), has a very strong Obsidian influence. The organizers for this particular trip were two Obsidians: Lyn Gilman-Garrick and Barb Bruns. The founder of the group is long-time Obsidian Dick Moffitt. The group rides every Wednesday if the weather permits: rain or snow-no; hot, cold or in between but dry-yes. The group's "leadership" is made up of a five-person rotation of Wednesday leaders, all of whom happen to be Obsidians: Bill Aspegren, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Stewart Hoeg, Joyce Saunders, and Sharon Ritchie.

Four people arrived in Sisters on Sunday July 27th, one day before the "official" beginning of the trip. Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Lana Lindstrom and non-members Gerry and Vronie Walton set up camp at Cold Springs about 4 miles east of Sisters on highway 242. On Monday, the four early arrivers had a spectacular hike on the Tam McArthur Rim. Although there was still some snow, it didn't cause any significant problems and clear blue skies and no haze made for a day of never-ending views. That afternoon Mike BeBout, Sylvia Harvey, Barb Bruns, and Walt Davis arrived at the

campground. Joyce Saunders and Stewart Hoeg also put in appearances after checking into their rooms at the Best Western in town.

The next morning all 10 people met at a city park at 8:30 in the middle of town. The plan for the day was to ride out mostly back roads to the entrance from Highway 20 to Camp Sherman and the Metolius River. After putting in a brief appearance while the group was preparing to begin their ride, the sun disappeared. However, the countryside was beautiful as was the Metolius. The group stopped for a brown bag lunch at a campground on the Metolius. Shortly after lunch we took a quick detour to the Wizard Falls fish hatch-

ridden into Sisters from the campground, the long return route and back to the campground, won the day's mileage award with over 60 miles.

Wednesday morning brought a new ride and a change in riders. Lana Lindstrom and Joyce Saunders left and taking their place was Paul Garrick, Lyn's husband, who arrived Tuesday evening with food and fresh legs for the Wednesday ride. Day two was a ride in open country heading east towards Terra Bonne and Smith Rock. Unlike Tuesday, Wednesday morning was all about crystal blue skies. The timing couldn't have been better, as the trip east allowed incredible views of Jefferson, Washington, Three-Fingered Jack and the Three Sisters.

Gerry Walton noted that he had never used his bike mirror so much—to look at the mountains behind him! The ride towards a lunch spot on the Deschutes was interrupted by farms populated with a lot of curious Alpacas and some very frisky babies. While communing with the animals, an RV pulled over to join the viewing. The RVers were from Switzerland as is Vronie Walton. Unfortunately, they spoke only Italian and Vronie's Italian is limited. Walt again won

the day's mileage award-- not only did he ride from camp, but after the ride he continued riding up Route 242 all of the way to Dee Wright Observatory. The rest of the group cleaned up at the campground in preparation for a "victory dinner" at the Tumalo Feed Company—a steakhouse midway between Sisters and Bend.

Thursday morning, the "victory diners" headed for home ending the trip. Without a doubt, all the riders agreed the trip, although not summer camp, was a real winner.



Gerry Walton, Stewart Hoeg, Joyce Sanders, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Walt Davis and Barb Bruns at the headwaters of the Metolius

ery. One of our group had promised us we would see two-headed trout. Apparently two heads were better than one, since the alleged fish were not to be found. Just another fish story? However, we did see rainbow trout, tiger trout, sturgeon and a couple of mutant rainbow trout that were a very pale blue with white fins. On the way back to town the group split into two-- a small group opting for the "excitement" of more miles on highway 20 to save about 6 miles of riding getting back into town. Walt, who had

Summer Camp Thank You

IT TAKES A LOT OF VOLUNTEERS working a lot of hours, to pull off a successful Summer Camp. This was another banner year and all the people who helped out - The Summer Camp Committee, all the RPs (Responsible People), every camper doing their duties and all who took on all the “extra” jobs that seem to always crop up - I want to offer a very sincere thank you. It simply wouldn’t happen with you.

All the hard work was rewarded with a great Summer Camp. We enjoyed a wonderful campground, gorgeous vistas, great hiking and the many other activities available in the Sawtooth and White Cloud Mountains of Idaho.

John Jacobsen, Summer Camp Boss



Those Who Joined Us at Camp Hamilton

Both Weeks

Rick Ahrens
Wayne Deeter
Bea Fontana
Scott & Mandy Gilbert, Our Cooks
John & Janet Jacobsen
Mel Zavodsky

Jim & Sharon Duncan
Larry Dunlap
Pat Esch
Brian & Mary Hamilton
Jane, Brennen & Madison Hackett
Cork & Carolyn Higgins

Nola Nelson
John Pegg
Jim & Charlene Pierce
Carol Scherer, Don & Genevieve Bienvenue
Mark Slipp
Sue Sullivan & John Mowat
Kris Wolters & John Atkinson
Kathy Zavela-Tyson & Mike Tyson

Allan Coons & Josh Emmons
Curt Danielsen
Julie Dorland
Marlene Drescher
Joella Ewing
Emese Foss
Laurie Funkhouser
Tom Gould
Janet Hall

Doug & Sookjae McCarty
Judy Newman
Rhonda Nowell
Margaret Prentice
Wes Prouty
Rich Romm
Steve Schriver
Chris Shuraleff
Chris Stockdale

Week 1

The Blumm Family:
Buzz, Cecile, Andrew & Madeline Blumm; David, Becca & Reese Connors; Scott, Talie & Isabella Smith
Dan Christensen

Scott Hovis
Ken & Beth Kodama
Ed Lichtenstein
Norma Lockyear
Juli McGlinsky
Valerie Metcalf
Keith & Gayle Newsom

Week 2

Jen Barnes
Brad Bennett
Norm Benton
Jim & Melody Clarkson

Yuan Hopkins
Daphne James
Ellen & Steve Johnson
Joanne Ledet
Roy Lisi & Leila Snow
Darlene Mancuso
Colleen Milliman

Ron Swisher
Sam Tracer
Donna Turring
Charlie Van Deusen
Elle Weaver
Nancy Whitfield

Summer Camp Highlights

(Continued from page 5)

highlight of the week. Genevieve Bievenue said she would stay another week at camp if she could kayak every day. The kayakers who fell in and the rafters who hauled them had many stories to tell around the campfire. It was an 11-mile adventure!

5. Soaking in the Salmon River hot springs: The Sunbeam Hot Springs and the Soaking Tub at milepost 92 were favorite stops on the way back to camp. Signs at Sunbeam warned that one could be fined if you didn’t wear a bathing suit. One camper remarked, “Things have changed since I was here in 1983. Back then, it was a bit more casual!” Many of us wished that the hot springs were next to our camp so we could enjoy a moonlight soak, clothing optional. Swimming at Redfish Lake was the cooler way to refresh from a hike.

6. Touring Custer and the Dredge: Down the road, the Yankee Fork gold dredge (1939-1952) and the Custer ghost town (1878-1890’s) had daily tours. Gennie Brauer, our Forest Service neighbor at the guard station, was our favorite tour guide. By the time she came to dinner, she knew most of our names. She presented a camp program about the history

of the area that made us feel even more that we were camping where many people lived and dreamed of gold.

7. Visiting with Shoshone-Bannock tribe members at their Fishing Weir on the Yankee Fork: Each morning tribe members would count the fish in the weir and then release the native salmon to go upstream. Last count was 41 native fish released. During the second week, six tribe members ate dinner with us and participated in an informal question and answer program. They shared poignant stories of what it was like years ago when they came to the Yankee Fork with their families to fish for the then abundant salmon.

8. Meeting Margaret Fuller: On the boat crossing Redfish Lake, Roy Lisi and Leila Snow just happened to meet Margaret Fuller, author of our well-used Sawtooth hiking book. They made arrangements for her to eat dinner with us and share her knowledge of hiking trails. She said that we were fortunate on our hikes to have such an explosion of spring and summer flowers blooming at the same time.

9. Observing baby foxes: Many campers were lucky enough to see the baby foxes in a pile of wood near a closed resort. There are still many nonbelievers but photographs will

(Continued on page 9)

BOARD NOTES

September 3, 2008

By Laurie Funkhouser, Secretary

President Brian Hamilton called the meeting to order. The following members of the Board were present: Laurie Funkhouser, Marshall Kandell, Jim Pierce, Barb Revere, Anne McLucas, and Jim Duncan. Other members present were Jan Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Julie Dorland, Joella Ewing, Juli McGlinsky.

The minutes of the July Board Meeting were APPROVED by the Board.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Duncan stepped in for Stewart Hoeg to provide the Treasurer's Report. Board approved payment of the bills.

OLD BUSINESS

Request to Sponsor Barbara Hillary: Brian Hamilton communicated with the University of Oregon Program but received no additional information.

Hikes Near Fern Ridge Reservoir: Brian Hamilton responded to Ms. Sweet; however, has not received any additional inquiries or responses.

NEW BUSINESS

Delegate for FWOV Convention (10/10-12/08, Selma, Oregon): Brian Hamilton informed the Board of the upcoming convention and inquired as to interest in sending a delegate, such as Shirley Cameron who has expressed an interest. The Board DECIDED to provide the registration fee to a delegate in return for generating a report.

CVALCO Membership: In February, the \$150.00 membership will be due. Cari Garrigus of CVALCO (Convention and Visitors Association of Lane County) discussed with Janet Jacobsen the services which membership provides, such

as reference in the relocater guide, distribution point for flyers, etc. Anne McLucas agreed to be the contact for CVALCO publications.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summer Trips (Barb Revere): During the last two months, 37 trips have taken place with 224 members and 84 non-members for total fees of \$589. This does not include the Olympic Trial events. There are only three outstanding reports at this time. Since April 32 trips have been canceled; however, 35 trips have been rescheduled. Total trip reports received for the season - 87.

Climbs (Larry Huff): A total of ten events - 9 climbs and 1 glacier travel refresher - took place over the last two months. There was one cancellation. A total of \$80.00 was received from seven trip reports which noted 27 participants, 3 of which were non-members.

Trail Maintenance (Peter Green): No report as the group is meeting tonight to work on the Skinner Butte trail.

Summer Camp (John Jacobsen): The Camp ended on a positive note despite the lower numbers - 53 first week and 48 second week. The Board APPROVED new committee members of Jim Pierce, Nancy Whitfield and Laurie Funkhouser.

Extended Trips (Jim Duncan): Jim Pierce had a successful extended trip to Mt. Lassen.

Conservation (Juli McGlinsky): The committee is working with Joella Ewing of the Science and Education Committee to present a fire ecology event. In addition, the conservation committee is working to present conservation tips in the *Bulletin* and for the website.

Publication: John Jacobsen announced the *Bulletin* will have a week earlier deadline of September 20 for the October bulletin so please provide information early.

Science and Education (Joella Ewing): The committee, with the Conservation Committee, has developed a September 16, program - "Fire Ecology" - discussing the ethics, safety and policies of fires.

Membership (Julie Dorland): Current membership is 569. Nine new members were APPROVED.

Publicity (Anne Dhu McLucas): The committee is preparing for the Eugene Celebration with a new "tent." There are a few time slots which need to be filled to man the booth. In addition, work is in progress to make a brochure to be distributed at the Eugene Celebration or similar events as well as CVALCO.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): All on-line reports have been recorded.

Lodge Building (Brian Hamilton): There will be a joint Lodge Work Party on Thursday, September 18th from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. A member has rented the Lodge for an anniversary celebration.

Safety (Doug Nelson): There was one incident report generated over the summer months. It was minor and no Board action is recommended. Congratulations to all for another safe season!

AD HOC COMMITTEE

Olympic Trials (Marshall Kandell): The bare-facts report: 22 hikes scheduled; 4 hikes cancelled due to snow, lack of registrants & leader requests; 116 Participants (75 members, 41 nonmembers; including repeat hikers); 20 Out-of-towners; \$252 fees collected; \$0 expenses. The Board APPROVED dissolving the ad hoc committee.

Summer Camp Highlights

(Continued from page 8)

prove them wrong!

10. Displaying our talents at the Campfires: So much talent, amusing trip reports, and a bunch of hams. Mike Tyson (first week) and Leila Snow (2nd week) played the part of Lizzie King singing the not so true story about her lovers. Boot Hill Cemetery came to life.

11. Visiting, working, and laughing with old and new friends: One new camper said, "We had so much fun getting

to know people and seeing new sights. No cell phones, no Internet! It was relaxing." Everyone pitched in, volunteered for extra duty, helped and helped some more. Over half of the campers rallied to take down camp on Saturday morning. It took everyone to make camp a success.

12. Welcoming the next generation: Summer Camp is one way our club provides an opportunity for children to leave electrical outlets and experience the outdoors. Their excited trip reports filled us with laughter. Intragenerational camping joins us together in a rich environment. It is a tradition we hope to continue.

TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Hikes

Tire Mountain

June 27, 2008

Leader: Sandra Larsen

7.6 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

ON THE FIRST DAY of the Olympic Trials in Eugene, eight eager hikers left the city to beat the predicted heat and to see some of the season's first wild flowers. We were able to go in two cars and, after a stop at the Westfir Ranger Station, we drove to our destination. This woodland and meadow hike is one of the first mountain hikes to be snow-free; this day was clear and sunny so we were rewarded not only with many flowers but also with lovely clear views of the various Cascade Mountains. The trail was in good condition, having been readied for the Powder Puff Bike ride on Sunday. We did encounter a few bike riders scouting the route for the big ride. Those people who brought cameras were able to get some colorful photos. We ate our lunch at the summit of Tire Mountain which affords no views since the trees have grown too tall. Our descent was rapid and we had cooler temperatures than in Eugene. We had one person from California who enjoyed seeing a bit of Oregon wilderness on his vacation. A big thank you to our driver and to Paul Flashenberg for setting a lively pace in the lead while the leader was the sweep. Members: Joan Abel, Daniele Delaby, Paul Flashenberg, Lynn Frost, Chris Gordon, Sandra Larsen and Pat Soussan; nonmembers: Matt McBride.

Deception Butte

June 28, 2008

Leader: Ed Lovegren

9 miles, 2,600 ft. (Difficult)

FOUR PEOPLE signed up for the trip; however, two cancelled and one was a "no-show." My one survivor was a great companion and a very fit, swift hiker (if you are slow, blame the heat and call the rest of the group "fast"). We had a beautiful but very warm day. The relocation of the trail has been completed. It now starts

a short way up Deception Creek Road and proceeds about a mile on the Oakridge fitness trail, then goes left up Deception Creek, eventually crossing a new bridge. This adds about one mile to the overall length of the hike. About here the hike gets serious: there are lots of steep, rough, irregular sections and fairly long stretches with serious drop-offs. It's not a dangerous trail but one that might test the nerves of an agoraphobic. The broad summit has a great view westward - no mountain panorama, but a nice wide view without clearcuts. This is an interesting hike with a wide variety of vegetation. The happy hikers were members Marianne Camp and Ed Lovegren, Leader.

Lillian Falls

June 29, 2008

Leader: Guy Strahon

3 miles, 600 ft. (Easy)

SIX INTREPID HIKERS left Eugene on a Sunday for the Lillian Falls hike. We arrived at the trailhead, which is located 24 miles northeast of Oakridge. The mosquitoes were glad we finally showed up and wasted little time in sampling our blood. The hike itself was very rewarding: shady, and with diverse old growth forest. There were numerous types of wild flowers (identified by Anne Montgomery and Jim Pierce). The walk to the falls is only 1 1/4 miles, but it was especially nice this year due to the high volume of water. We returned to our cars and then drove back 1/2 mile, stopping at the Joe Goddard Old Growth Nature trail. This is a short stroll through a grove of trees, some of which are over 600 years old! It is ironic that an Oregon logger is responsible for saving these trees for posterity. When the rest of this forest was being harvested for timber, Joe Goddard suggested to the Forest Service that they set aside this small section so people could come and view a true stand of old growth. Our group marveled at the size and beauty of these trees. Thanks Joe. We then drove back to Oakridge and had lunch at the A&W. Our group included five Obsidians: Jean Coberly, Anne Montgomery, Jim Pierce, Guy Strahon and Judy Terry. One nonmember, Kim Skvkas, joined us for the day.

Linton Lake/Proxy Falls

July 1, 2008

Leader: Dan Christensen

5 miles, 500 ft. (Easy)

THIS "INTRO TO THE CASCADES" hike was originally designed to take Olympic Trials visitors to Little Belknap Crater, giving them an up-close exposure to the McKenzie Pass lava fields. The McKenzie Highway was closed at the Alder Springs gate, due to snow and bridge work, so we diverted to this scenic, easy hike into Linton Lake and Proxy Falls. It was a beautiful sunny day with only a few patches of snow remaining. Many wildflowers were in bloom along the way, including rhodies, penstemon, anemone and fawn lilies. Plenty of lava was present as well for study by those not familiar with it. Our visitors seemed to be excited about every flower, rock formation and lichen, taking seemingly hundreds of digital photos. Co-leader Jim Pierce proved his expertise by identifying many of the plants and rock formations along the way. Upper and Lower Proxy Falls were spectacular, especially with the spring snow runoff continuing in full force. It's wonderful to have such beautiful falls within easy access of the trailhead. Linton isn't an especially attractive Cascade lake, but the relatively short hike in provides an excellent exposure to the Cascade forest environment. Jill Evers and Joan Ludtke, teachers in Michigan, were the Olympic Trials visitors who joined us for this hike. Eugene newcomer Jim Robertson, who took a membership application with him, also joined us. This pair of hikes is highly recommended for visitors and newcomers, as well as locals, seeking a short but scenic outing. Members: Dan Christensen, Jim Pierce and Ruth Romoser; nonmembers: Jill Evers, Joan Ludtke and Jim Robertson. [Otrials Hike]

Animal House Hike

July 6, 2008

Leader: Richard Hildreth

4 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)

SEVEN PARTICIPANTS joined leader Dick Hildreth at the Very Little Theater parking lot for this walk to several campus area movie locations on the last day of the Olympic Trials. Sites visited included

Little's Market, two fraternity houses, a classroom, Johnson Hall, the EMU Fishbowl, Gerlinger Hall, and the embankment south of Hayward Field. The walk took about two hours, not including the walk from the campus back to the cars parked at VLT. Special thanks to Marshall for locating a web site that was very helpful in putting the hike together. Members participating were Jean Coberly, Dick Hildreth, Sherri Matsunaga, and Ruth Romoser. Nonmembers included Annette Buckmaster, Kathryn Dunn, Carolyn Eckel (from the Mazamas), and Paul Fenley. [Otrials Hike]

Canyon Creek Meadows

July 6, 2008

Leader: Robert Scherer

7.5 miles, 1,400 ft. (Moderate)

THIS WAS A NICE HIKE near Canyon Creek Meadows. Due to our cold and wet spring we came to snow on the trail about 1.5 miles from the trailhead. We continued on snow for about 2.5 miles and ended up on a bench above the meadows for lunch. After lunch, the group sprinkled some of the ashes of Princess Vine Maple (Dorothy Scherer) at the base of a young fir tree. The hike into Canyon Creek Meadows was one of Clarence (Chief Fireball) and Dorothy Scherer's favorite hikes. Along on the hike were the children, grandchildren and friends of Clarence and Dorothy. This hike is best suited for later in the year when there is not as much snow on the ground. Members: Donald Bienvenue, Genevieve Bienvenue, Janet Jacobson, Carol Scherer, Emily Scherer, Robert Scherer, Samuel Scherer and Terry Scherer; nonmembers: Molly Bateson, Victor Bellotti, Nancy Scherer and Susan Waddell.

Washburne/China Creek

July 7, 2008

Leader: Marshall Kandell

5.5 miles, 400 ft. (Easy)

AFTER CANCELLATIONS and no-shows, we had seven congenial hikers on a day of absolutely wonderful weather and astonishing scenery. We were surprised to find the day area parking lot closed at Washburne State Park (they were striping the lot), but the camp hosts let us park in the campground, close to the north trail to the beach. This meant extending the hike along the surf at low tide a bit, to no one's objection. And, when Dick Hildreth

asked if he could go beyond the Hobbit Trail entrance all the way to the base of Heceta Head, we all joined him. Tide permitting, this will now become part of my Washburne hikes. The sight of Heceta Head looming above you as you draw nearer and nearer is eye-popping. The variety of vegetation on the headland is surprising in its colorations. What, at a distance, appeared to be bird guano turned out to be white moss or fungi (I'll have to ask someone who knows). The real Hobbit Trail is now a quite short stretch, with the upper portion completely blocked by intentionally placed debris and limbs. A rabbit did cross our path near the top, however. Rabbit. Hobbit. We're getting closer to spotting one, I think. A short stop at the beaver pond and then it was lunchtime in the meadow, which was carpeted with bright yellow flowers.

This "Sound of Music" scene made it difficult for us to leave. The China Creek Loop was impressive, as always. Mary Ellen West had tipped me off to a murder mystery along the trail from the meadow back to the campground. Someone had died in a cabin fire years ago, but the body had never been found. She said you could still see the ivy-covered chimney. Unfortunately, she didn't remember any details. We couldn't spot the chimney, but the camp hostess told us the event occurred more than a century ago and you had to go off the trail a bit to see the remains of the cabin. I'll do my best to find out more about this juicy story before I lead this hike again. Even a great hike like this can be enhanced with a bit of murder and mystery. Joining us on the hike was Rosemary Camozzi, editor of *Oregon Coast* and *Northwest* magazines. She seemed to enjoy the hike as much as we enjoyed having her with us. We followed the hike with celebratory ice cream treats at BJs. Members: Kathy Floyd, Dick Hildreth, Marshall Kandell, Sam Miller, Margaret Prentice and Lamonte Smith; nonmembers: Rosemary Camozzi. [Otrials Hike]

Salt Creek Falls

July 10, 2008

Leader: Charles Durham

4 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)

Photo by Jim Pierce

SEVEN HARDY SOULS met in the parking lot of the Very Little Theater. After introductions, we departed Eugene for Salt

Creek Falls. After a brief potty stop in Oakridge we arrived at the falls and geared up for the trailhead. But wait, the bridge to our trail head was damaged (too much snow last winter). So we had to resort to Plan #2: hike down to the bottom of the 286-ft. Salt Creek Falls, although some only made it half way down.



Jim and I hiked to the bottom which was a treat. If you get a chance try it out - the wind, water mist and rainbows are all around you. Unfortunately you can only record the view in your memory because the wind and water mist make it impossible to take pictures. Back at the trailhead we still had lots of time left so we tried Plan # 3: try to get across the damaged bridge to the trailhead. So we volunteered Jim to be the first to test the integrity of the bridge; he succeeded and the rest of us followed.

We had lunch and passed the famous Too Much Bear Lake (no bears spotted), and on to the bottom of 100-ft. Diamond Creek Falls. Since the return loop is not as scenic, our attention turned to identifying wildlife, plants and flowers (candy stripes, bear grass, Oregon grape, and a Stellar's Jay). Any items we were unable to identify Jim and Barb helped us out, including (as per Jim) a fresh bear paddy. We were back at the trail head by 2:30 and someone suggested we deserved a treat, so off we went for ice cream in Oakridge. Members: Charles Durham (leader) Jim Pierce (co-leader), Ruth Romoser, Barb Revere, and Marshall Kandell; nonmembers: Love Opincar and Jim Robertson. [Otrials Hike]

McKenzie Waterfalls/

Clear Lake

July 12, 2008

Leader: Ed Lichtenstein

9.3 miles, 100 ft. (Moderate)

FOUR CARS CARRYING our group parked at Sahalie Falls which was hot and sunny. After reuniting a little boy with his parents, we looked at the falls and then headed up river, crossed Highway 126, and circled the lake counter-clockwise, to hike the exposed, sunny portion before it got too warm. We lunched at Great Springs, then continued on to the lodge for another break (and ice cream for some). Then we finished circling the lake, went back across the highway and did the falls loop.

As usual, the falls and lake were lovely and a couple of the hikers had not seen these before. I had listed this trip as being 8 miles; thanks to Brad's GPS, we now know it to be 9.3 miles. Members were Richard Sundt, Paul Flashenberg, Brad Bennett, Sally Bennett, Sue Meyers, Dan Christensen, Yuan Hopkins, Daniele Delaby (thanks for being sweep), Sue Wollong, and leader Ed Lichtenstein; nonmembers were Rick McMonagle, John Bright, Kate Perle, Kevin Jones, and Sandor Lan.

Cone Peak/Iron Mountain

July 13, 2008

Leader: Laurie Funkhouser

6.6 miles, 1,500 ft. (Moderate)

THE CREW CONGREGATED at South Eugene H.S. to discuss a change in destination due to Detroit Forest Service's report of deep (6-10 feet) snow at Hunt's Cove. After a brief discussion, we made plans to head to Iron Mountain and Cone Peak and we were off! Reached the busy parking lot shortly before 10:00, geared up and headed to Cone Peak. Accompanying our group, courtesy of Richard Romm, were Rob and Mady of the Chemeketans who were well-versed in identifying the flowers along the trail. And the flowers were blooming, including larkspur, paint brush, Oregon sunflower, avalanche lilies, linen, and more! The clearing/meadow near the top of Cone Peak was filled with color. As we continued on the trail to circle Iron Mountain, the temperature was rising - 90s? - so the tall trees offered relief. The final zig-zag up Cone Peak was hot but tons of blooms and a touch of snow. Scattered remnants at the top were all that remained of the

lookout. We rested and ate lunch while taking in the views of Three Sisters, Jefferson, Washington and Hood. Judging from the smoke, Hood probably had a forest fire going. We completed the circle, with one minor, short-lived, directional snafu, to return safely to the cars. A great trip! Thank you to Obsidians Brad Bennett, Dick Hildreth, Rich Romm, Denise Butler, Mardel Chinburg, and Laurie Funkhouser; nonmembers Annette Gilmer and Jennifer Holderman; and Chemeketans Rob and Mady Kim-mich.

Walk, Wine and Dine

July 15, 2008

Leader: Joanne Ledet

4 miles, 400 ft. (Easy)

WHEN I LED THE SW EUGENE Hills hike on June 19, Ruth Romoser made the suggestion of making this same hike into an evening hike and then dining at the Koho Bistro. I thought it such a fine idea I immediately added this walk to the summer hike schedule. Luckily it was not too hot when we met at the Churchill Plaza parking lot for a 4-mile walk through the hills. We took our time though as we walked along city streets and into the wooded areas, especially on the steep portion of the walk. We were treated to views of some wild turkeys and were pleasantly surprised to find some water in the small creek even though there has not been rain in some time. We finished our walk by looping back to Churchill Plaza, in ample time for our 7:30 p.m. dinner reservations. All nine walkers chose to stay for dinner and we were rewarded with fabulous meals in a pleasant setting. The nine walkers and diners were: Jean Coberly, Myron Cook, Walt Dolliver, Margaret Prentice, Ruth Romoser, Charley Wright, Leslie Wright, nonmember Carol Armstrong and leader Joanne Ledet.

Tidbits Mountain

July 18, 2008

Leader: Stewart Hoeg

3.5 miles, 700 ft. (Moderate)

ALL THE SIGNS WERE PROPITIOUS. The weather forecast was mid-70's with a zero percent chance of rain, and everyone was on time and ready to go at 8 am at SEHS. We drove up Highway 126, turned onto Road 15 and met at the campground on Blue River Reservoir for a restroom break. We quickly made our

way to the gravel of Road 1509 for an eight-mile drive to the trailhead. The road conditions were our first sign that everything wasn't going to be perfect after all. Although the road was open, it was quickly obvious that it had been a hard winter. The road was passable but littered with downed trees, boulders and other debris. We parked at a wide spot in the road a quarter of a mile from the trailhead because the connecting road is notorious for its car-eating potholes. When we got to the top of the road to the trailhead parking area, we found two sinkholes marked by rock cairns-yet another reason to park down below.

We started up the trail under crystal clear skies and a temperature of 60. The trail was lined with blooming rhododendrons and many other wildflowers--flowers that are rarely seen this late in the year. Right before the junction that leads to the rock slide and the climb to the summit, we suddenly ran into large patches of snow. After navigating 6 or 7 patches of snow before reaching the rockslide, and being confronted with yet another large snow patch, we decided that continuing was too risky and returned to the junction. Since it was only 11:15, we decided to head down to the cars for lunch.

After surviving the snow and making the decision that discretion was the better part of valor, you would think we would be rewarded with an easy descent. Such was not to be. One hiker stumbled and slipped about 15-20 feet down the embankment. Two nearby hikers quickly jumped into action and scrambled down the slope to assist. The good news was that the person who tripped was fine. The bad news is one of the rescuers cut his arm sliding down the hill. Fortunately, we had plenty of first aid supplies and quickly had a bandage on the arm. When we got back to the cars another bandage was applied while we ate lunch. Despite the snow and the slips, everyone was in good spirits and humor. After lunch one car headed back to Eugene to make sure that our hero's arm had been properly treated while the rest of us made a short detour to the old growth nature trail at the Delta Campground just off 126 on the Aufderheide Road. Hikers included nonmembers Lisa Cunningham, Carol Armstrong and Sarah Procter, and members Stewart Hoeg, Kathy Hoeg, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Jim Fritz, Barb Bruns, Pam Morris, Bill Rodgers and Bud Proctor.

Kentucky Falls/ North Fork Smith River

July 20, 2008

Leader: Julie Dorland/ Chuck Eyers
8 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

WE HAD BEEN INFORMED that a slide blocked a portion of the North Fork Smith River trail. However, we had varying accounts of where the slide occurred. Given this uncertainty, we talked with the group outlining various possibilities and arrived at a group consensus. We hiked down to Kentucky Falls and then continued about two miles down the North Fork Smith River trail. Apparently, the slide is about one-half mile further down the path. Word has it that the slide is significant (a Forest Service employee was injured trying to clear it), and while passable for very skilled hikers, hiking this portion of the trail is not a good idea for an Obsidian group in the trail's current condition. See the U.S. Forest Service web site at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/siuslaw/recreation/tripplanning/florcoos/trails/kfalls1376.shtml> for additional information. In any event, it was a perfect day for a hike, sunny and warm but not hot, and Kentucky Falls was lovely. During the drive up to the falls, we saw many wildflowers, including foxglove, tiger lily, and fireweed. The agreeable group included leaders Chuck Eyers and Julie Dorland, members Sue Meyers, Carol Armstrong, Susan Sanazaro, Daniele Delaby, Yuan Hopkins, and Lena Houston, and nonmembers Don Colgan, Joe

Tyndall, Marla Norton, Sheila Guilder, and Leigh Williams. A special thanks to drivers Don Colgan, Carol Armstrong, Lena Houston, and Julie Dorland.

Horsepasture Mountain

August 2, 2008

Leader: Barb Revere
3.3 miles, 910 ft. (Easy)
Photo by Robert Leppan

WE ALL AGREED that the 360-degree view was worth the hard pull to the top. The forested skirts of the Three Sisters were close enough to touch -- almost. Bachelor, Washington, Jack, Jefferson and Hood were all on view in the very clear air. Nevertheless, after arriving at the summit and saluting those eight peaks, we all sat down and tucked into lunch, facing south towards familiar Diamond Peak. Afterwards, Beth, Wayne and Dick used a map to identify many of the minor peaks. The flowers at the top meadow are fading fast, but the lower meadows were closer to peak bloom. Overall, we saw three kinds of lily, plus columbine, lupine, wallflower, and so, so many others. Many different butterflies flitted around us as we ate lunch. The trail is well described in the guide books: short and steep, especially the last few switchbacks. We found a swarm of wasps or hornets beside the trail about three-quarters of the way up the top meadow. They weren't aggressive, but there were a lot of them. The trail is also badly overgrown in the lower meadows. In some areas, the footing is rough with rocks,

holes and other obstructions, all hidden by vines, shrubs and flowers. We all took extra care. Road 1993 is drivable, but partially obstructed with rock slides and tree fall. Before heading back to town, we stopped at Delta Campground and hiked the half-mile old-growth trail. We welcomed Lisa Cunningham on her third hike with the club. The three other nonmembers, all on their first Obsidian hike, were Karl Skoog, Robert Leppan and Peggy Dodd. All four agreed to come back and join us for more outings! Club members included Beth Roy, Wayne Cleall, Marshall Kandell, Robert Sundt, Dick Hildreth and leader, Barb Revere. Many thanks to Beth and Lisa for driving. Special thanks to all for being cheerful, appreciative, responsible and helpful, making this a very safe and fun outing.

Williams Lake

August 7, 2008

Leader: Joanne Ledet
8 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

THIS IS THE KIND OF HIKE that had it all: an unexpected detour in our hiking route, thunder, lightning, rain, a bear, a stubborn grouse and LOTS of mosquitoes. The mosquitoes were the size of a Boeing 747 and they were not flying friendly skies. They were killers and they were relentless. But in spite of the mosquitoes and discovering two bridges were out, necessitating sloggling through the muck at Otter Lake twice rather than once, the seven hikers took all in stride and with good humor. My thanks to them for making lemonade out of lemons. The hikers on this 8-mile hike were: non-member Don Colgan and members Dick Hildreth, Mary Holbert, Anne Hollander, Lamonte Smith, Pat Soussan and leader Joanne Ledet.

Indigo Springs via Paddy's Valley

August 9, 2008

Leader: Julie Dorland/Chuck Eyers
6.8 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

WE HAD PERFECT CONDITIONS for a hike - a cooler-than-usual summer day. There seemed to be more water crossings than last year, and a muddy, boggy portion as we were exiting Paddy's Valley. Fortunately, we had very few mosquitoes (we had heard that other trails were full of them) as we hiked through a variety of environments from deep woods with bubbling river to higher and drier areas. Hik-



Atop Horse Pasture Mountain.

ers included leaders Chuck Eyers and Julie Dorland, members Wayne Cleall, Beth Roy, Daniele Delaby, Pat Soussan, Sachiko Iwasaki, and Dick Hildreth, and nonmembers Leigh Almack, Estelle Sweet, John Bright, and Art Kearney. Sadly, 20 plus people wanted to go on this hike, so there were several disappointed members and nonmembers. Thanks to drivers Beth Roy and Daniele Delaby and to Dick Hildreth, who provided assistance to the leaders. After the hike, we all enjoyed dinner at the Trailhead Cafe in Oakridge - while non-descript from the outside, the food was delicious! Thanks to Chuck for making the arrangements and suggesting this café - we highly recommend it for Obsidians returning through Oakridge.

Clear Lake

August 9, 2008

Leader: Jennifer Barnes

5 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)

THREE MEMBERS and 11 nonmembers gathered under misty skies in Springfield. A light scattered shower got us going quickly on the trail, but by the time we sat at the lodge and ate our lunches the skies had cleared. We finished the easy trek around the beautiful blue and turquoise waters of Clear Lake in good time. Everyone in the group agreed that it had been a nice outing and we headed our separate ways. Members hiking were Jen Barnes, Virginia Rice and Karla Rusow. Nonmembers were Duane Charters, Dan, Pat and Bill Endicott, Robert and Peggy Leppan, Richie Haslag, Nate Thompson, Tiffany Cavin, Claire Beekman, and Kim Skukas.

Crescent Mountain

August 10, 2008

Leader: Richard Romm

8.4 miles, 2,200 ft. (Difficult)

THIS WASN'T OPIE DILLDOCK, as originally scheduled. The closing of Highway 242 made that trailhead inaccessible. Opie Dildock (make a note of it) has been rescheduled for 9/7. This wasn't the Broken Top Circuit, either, which was the initial substitute. (Residual snow along that route made for a questionable journey.) However, it was a perfect day on Crescent Mountain! Ellen Sather got us in a proper frame of mind with coffee, muffins, and a ho-hum view of the McKenzie. Her hospitality is always a high point. We had great weather, a strong group of hikers, beautiful wild-

flowers, and ample views of the mountains, from Diamond Peak to Jefferson. It was my first trip on this trail and I highly recommend it. Members: Denise Butler, Laurie Funkhouser, Richard Hildreth, Daphne James, Ellen Johnson, Steve Johnson, Richard Romm, Ellen Sather and Elle Weaver; nonmembers: Tim Swallen.

Lowder Mountain

August 12, 2008

Leaders: Jim and Sharon Duncan

5.6 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)

Photo by Stewart Hoeg



LOWDER MOUNTAIN offers a nice walk through forest and wildflower meadows, and just enough exercise to work up an appetite for lunch once you reach the top. Our congenial group of eleven hikers stumbled along the overgrown trail through the meadows, enjoying some of the flowers that were blooming and the occasional views of Diamond Peak. We then switch-backed our way to the top for wonderful views of the central Cascades peaks, including Mt. Hood. Upon returning to our cars, Barb treated the group to delicious homemade brownies to celebrate her birthday. Enjoying a near perfect day were members Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Kathy Hoeg, Stewart Hoeg, Sachiko Iwasaki, Kathy Lindstrom, Barb Revere, Ruth Romoser, Lamonte (Smitty) Smith, and nonmembers Pat Endicott and Bruce Swenson.

Canyon Creek Meadows

August 16, 2008

Leader: Judith Terry

7.5 miles, 1, 400 ft. (Moderate)

IT WAS A VERY HOT DAY. Before we even had our daypacks on, we could tell we were in for it. The hikers fell into a slow but steady pace, and were rewarded with meadows filled with flowers, still blooming at this late date. There were patches of snow and fortunately very few

mosquitoes to bother us. We decided to go to the 6500-ft. viewpoint on Three Fingered Jack and actually had a nice breeze on the climb to the saddle. By following the loop by Canyon Creek it was not as hot on our return. Covering the distance were members Carol Armstrong, Guy Strahon, Judith Terry, Charley Wright and Leslie Wright; and nonmembers Duane Charters and Daisy LaPoma.

Mt. Pisgah-Sunset/Moonrise

August 16, 2008

Leader: Royal Murdock

4.2 miles, 1,000 ft. (Easy)

AT 5 PM IT WAS 90 DEGREES and three people had canceled the 6:30 pm hike scheduled up Mt. Pisgah for the almost simultaneous setting of the sun and rising of the full moon. We started out from the Mount Pleasant trailhead at 6:30 pm and were in the shade of the mountain and enjoyed the gentle breeze which cooled us to the summit. Clouds had formed and turned the western sky crimson in the setting sun. The full moon seemed late, very late. Finally, it emerged from behind a cloud bank for a few moments, then remained mostly hidden as we descended the mountain. Braving the heat were members John Agnew, LaRee Beckley, Royal Murdock and Martha Welches.

Three Fingered Jack

August 17, 2008

Leader: Laurie Funkhouser

10.4 miles, 1,400 ft. (Difficult)

DECIDED TO HEAD OUT a little earlier - 7:30 instead of 8:00 - to gain more daylight and a little relief from the heat. We arrived at the trailhead at about 10:00 am after driving through suspicious thunderhead clouds worth keeping an eye on. The first approximately two miles of the trail is through the burned area of B&B fire. The burned trees are stark with sleek shiny silver trunks bearing charcoal black scars. The ground is covered with blooming plants - scarlet gilia, lupine, etc. - as well as 1-2 foot trees! The trail was dusty as it slowly ascended to the unburned ridge. Approximately 20 PCNT hikers traversed the trail with us. Once on the ridge, Dick Hildreth spied Martin Lake which is the landmark to descend to for the possible return loop. A couple of patches of snow still remained which provided some refrigeration. Maddie and Andrew wore "hats" of snow which provided a breeding ground for the mosqui-

toes that greeted us at lunch. Our lunch stop was brief but had wonderful views of the climbing trail to the top of Three Fingered Jack as well as the Three Sisters and Mt. Washington. Not only did the mosquitoes hurry us along, but also the boom from the overhead clouds. Opted to return the route we came to avoid any encounters with lightning but did not avoid the few raindrops that fell. Thank you to the great hiking crew (!) which included members Daphne James, Denise Butler, Buzz, Cecile, Andrew and Maddie Blumm, Dick Hildreth, and Laurie Funhouser; and nonmember Chris Molly.

Cowhorn Mountain

August 17, 2008

Leader & Photo: John Jacobsen
9.5 miles, 1,850 ft. (Difficult)



Janet, Brad and Jeff

THE INTENT OF AN EARLY 7:00 am departure from Eugene was to beat the extreme heat as well as get a head start on the long drive. We managed to get the head start OK, but when we reached the trailhead at Windigo Pass, it seemed unusually warm and I had visions of another scorcher. Luckily, we soon had cloud cover providing some shade and a nice breeze as we headed north along the PCT toward Cowhorn with hardly a mosquito along for company this trip. With our small group we made great time on the trail and within a couple of hours we arrived at the base of Cowhorn. We 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 with several million little black flies on the small summit, we headed back down, gingerly down-scrambling through the rocks and sliding down the scree.

Back on the trail we encountered five PCT through-hikers on their way from Mexico to Canada, who gladly took all our offered leftover food and water. As we approached the trailhead, a forest

fire cropped up about a half-mile west of the trail. We reached the cars about 3:00 and were glad to get out of the area. A stop at Crescent Lake Lodge for refreshments completed a great day on Cowhorn Mountain with a very congenial group. Members: Janet Jacobsen and John Jacobsen; nonmembers: Brad Wechner and Jeff Wright.

Crescent Mountain

August 17, 2008

Leader: Barb Revere
8.4 miles, 2, 200 ft. (Difficult)

WALKING FROM THE LOWER meadows up to the higher meadows was like walking back into spring. Ferns and thimbleberry had overgrown all but the tallest flowers in the meadow valley, but in the highest meadows, the lupine, asters and beargrass were freshly bloomed and gave a wonderful perfume. Because of the late snow melt, the meadows were displaying the full wildflower progression from spring to summer; we saw too many flowers to enumerate here. The view from the top was lovely and included the Sisters, Husband, Jack and Jeff. Mt. Hood was lost in the haze. The trail is in great shape, with less than a handful of logs to step over. The Maude Creek bridge is broken down. The middle snapped under the snow load last winter and rests on the creek bed, however it is very stable and is easily and safely crossed. The weather was not lovely - way too hot and humid (90s). Talk about sweat! We were all conscientious about drinking water and all rest breaks were appreciated. What a pleasure to find a cooler breeze welcoming us back to town. Members: Rob Castleberry, Paul Flashenberg and Barb Revere.



Climbs

Mt. Shasta

July 10-12 2008

Leader: Larry Huff

9 miles, 5,500 ft.

Rating: Class 2 (3)

WITH CALIFORNIA literally on fire, and the fact that Mt. Shasta was rapidly becoming unavailable for climbing for the year, I was ambivalent about

making the trip south. However, Brian Hamilton and I drove down for an opportunity to bag a fourteener. We chose the Hotlum Wintum route on the east side of the mountain, as it was the one route on the mountain that still had ample snow cover. We arrived at the trailhead at 11:30 pm and quickly made the back of Brian's pickup a temporary shelter for the night. The trailhead elevation is approximately 7,200 ft., and our goal for the next day was to hike about 4 miles to high camp at 10,000 ft., at the base of the Wintum Snowfield.

We arrived after a typical slog fest up the scree to a windswept plateau and promptly pitched the tent and took a siesta. When we woke up, the camp was swarming with activity. What started out to be a peaceful location became "climbers central" for the guided climbs this weekend. Brian and I sighed but we made the best of the situation and went about our business preparing for the big climb the next morning. We woke up at 1:30 in the morning to a brilliant star display and quickly pulled our boots, jackets, and helmets on. We loaded the back packs with essential food, clothing and gear and headed out into the night. A few minutes later we found the snow to be firm and we put on crampons, then quickly worked our way up the snowfield and began to pass other climbing parties. We noticed a change in the snowfield: it had become icy and it was becoming hard to find a path that wasn't water/ice. We also noticed that it was much darker than when we had started the climb. There was no moon but this was a bit eerie.

We proceeded up the snowfield swinging way to the right (north) to try and stay on firm snow. We continued up and up until Brian found his way to an awesome vantage point of the Hotlum Ice Fall. After some pics of the ice fall Brian resumed the climb with me. A few minutes later we discussed the ice on the slope and if one of us did slip it was a long way down. We decided to pull the rope and the ice screws out and start a swap the leader belay run to the ridge over yonder. Our decision to protect the route slowed us down a lot. By the time we made the ridge, the sun was out and already softening up the snow. We decided to take a rest on the ridge, rehydrate and get some nourishment. It was at this time that Brian pointed out the smoky haze that was obscuring the lower

mountain, which helped explain the eerie darkness of earlier in the morning. We put away the rope and the protection and moved from the ridge onto the Wintum glacier.

At 12,500 ft. it was still turning out to be a slow-moving climb with intense sun, soft snow and rarefied air. We continued upward now following in the steps of the guided groups that we passed earlier in the morning. We were postholing at times all the way to the top of our thighs. It was only 8:30 am and I was imagining a descent in the afternoon slipping, sliding, and plunging to our waists. Or worse yet, twisting or hyperflexing my knees in the soft snow – not a pleasant thought. Ok already, I called the climb at the 13,000 ft. level (bahhh). As it would turn out it was a bit of work to get down anyway. We have already decided to make a date with the mountain next year under cooler conditions and a better snowpack. Members: Larry Huff and Brian Hamilton.

North Sister
August 2-3, 2008
Leader: Larry Huff
12 miles, 4,900 ft.
Rating: 2 (4)

A WEATHER DISTURBANCE moved through western Oregon on August 1st, the day before the climb. Ivan and I headed up that evening before the official climb to get an early start from the trailhead. The cooler weather that moved through turned out to be a good thing as it kept the temperature comfortable and the snow remained firm.

We were loaded down under heavy packs as we made are way up the trail to our high camp. We arrived at camp, a pretty meadow with a stream located just below the Hayden Glacier. We pitched the tent and ate our lunch. A few minutes later we grabbed the rope and our harnesses, helmets and a couple of pickets. We headed up on the glacier for some glacier travel/crevasse rescue practice. We practiced for a couple of hours and spent some time going over our route. We snapped a bunch of pictures, swapped beta with some other climbers, and headed back to camp.

When we arrived back in camp, we were greeted by an emerging tent village, as there were a couple of guided groups coming up for a climb of the Middle Sister the next morning. We made some

dinner and decided to call it an early night. We woke up the next morning at 2:15 am under a brilliant canopy of stars. It was a nice evening/morning and the transition to “let’s get up and climb” was smoother than normal. We left camp at 3:00 am and headed up a rock ridge to access the hogsback about a third of the way up the glacier. The hogsback is a ridge of snow that is the traditional route up the Hayden Glacier and keeps us well away from the gaping crevasses below us on both sides. The climb of the glacier was uneventful. It was dark out but very peaceful as we transitioned on to the rock, and we made our way over to the Collier Glacier.

It was now dawn and the cascade peaks are starting to show their early morning alpenglow. We stop to snap some pictures of the beautiful surroundings. We arrived at the base of the south ridge of the North Sister. It is tricky here to gain the ridge as everything you touch moves and it is very hard to make forward progression. We gained the ridge, but a little lower than we should have. We paid for it by having to belay each other around two gendarmes. We now had a clear route before us, but we had to move up the south ridge on shallow scree which is pretty slick. We slogged up the ridge and come to the base of a long series of gendarmes. We traversed the west side of the gendarmes and proceeded up a loose talus gully to a gap. We passed through the gap and traversed below a noted gendarme called the Camel’s Hump. We passed here easily ascended another loose talus gully and re-emerged back on the ridge. A little while later after a couple of moderately exposed traverses, we arrived at the Dinner Plate, also known as the Terrible Traverse. It is here that the climbing becomes technical. Ivan set up a belay anchor with one picket and his ice axe. I put my crampons on and tied in to the rope. I proceeded out onto the snowfield that covers about 70% of the traverse. The snow was hard and I had to chop steps to continue, which I admit had me feeling reluctant. I sucked it up though and just started chopping and kicking steps with a purpose.

Five pickets later and a sketchy dismount onto the rock on the opposite side, I set up a belay and brought Ivan across. Ivan then resumed his belay position and I worked my way up to the base of the Bowling Alley (a fourth-class gully). I belayed Ivan up to me and then he pro-

ceeded on to lead the Bowling Alley and belayed me up to him. We scrambled up to the summit from here and were treated to a great view of the cascades and beyond to Mary’s Peak in the Coast Range. The view of the North Sister was awesome and sobering. This is a rugged, ragged, dangerous mountain which deserves lots of respect. We did not linger long, knowing we had to repeat the technical stuff in reverse. I am happy to report that our descent was smooth, learning from our miscues on the way up. We were weary, but satisfied with our summit of the “Black Beast” of the Oregon Cascades. Members: Larry Huff; non-member: Ivan Paskalev.

Flagstone
August 3, 2008
Leader: Doug Nelson
Rating: Fifth Class

LOCATED JUST OFF Quartz Creek Road about 15 miles above Finn Rock, “Flagstone” is the climbers’ name for the rock summit of what the Willamette National Forest Map calls “Sardine Butte.” To quote Greg Orton’s *Oregon Rock Climbing*, “Flagstone is a dome-like formation formed from an andesitic lava flow...Flagstone offers some of the finest slab and face climbing in Oregon.” The rock at Flag is unusually solid by Oregon standards, a Cascade climber’s dream come true. However, “slab” in the climbers’ lingo usually means virtually featureless and smooth, which is a very challenging style of rock to ascend. Some climbers really don’t like it much! A fairly small area, and close to the road, Flagstone offers a great variety of bolted sport climbs, from some pretty easy and well-protected beginner routes to lines much more difficult than our group cared to attempt.

The trees immediately adjacent to the rock have never been logged, leaving a small island of remnant old-growth forest surrounding the summit. There were still a few rhododendron blooms and other wild flowers around, which makes for a very pretty place to climb. The day was fine and warm, and we were glad that we had gotten an early start. There were five in our group, all fairly experienced at sport climbing except one member who had not done much climbing outside the gym. Everyone did a great job! We all practiced new skills or put up routes we had not previously climbed or lead. We started on the north side. The two Sues

and I practiced “multi-pitch” skills and climbing in a group of three on a two pitch climb rated 5.8, with Sue C. doing much of the work: leading the first pitch, setting up the belay station and doing most of the belaying. Meanwhile Scott and Juli hooted and hollered while they had too much fun on a three pitch 5.9 that goes all the way to the summit. After lunch we moved around to the south side and Scott and I were both able to put up a couple of 5.9's that we had not previously lead. It was a bit late by the time we loaded back up and made the drive down to town. I think we were all just about “climbed out” but the chatter in the car was animated and happy. Once again, a good time was had by all. Thanks to my friends for sharing another fine day on the rock. Members: Sue Carey, Scot Hunt, Juli McGlinsky, Doug Nelson and Sue Zeni.

Broken Top
August 9, 2008
Leader: Brian Hamilton
10.75 miles, 3,650 ft.
Rating: 1- (5.2)

WE STARTED OUT at the Green Lakes trailhead at 6:20 am. The temperature was about 42 degrees and there were a few clouds overhead. After an hour, we left the trail and followed a compass heading toward the saddle on Broken Top's northwest ridge. As we approached the ridge, low clouds began moving in and wrapping themselves around the summit. To the west, we saw that clouds had also swallowed South and Middle Sisters. At the ridge itself, a stiff cold wind began blowing from the west, so we tried to stay on the east side of the ridge as much as possible. The Tam MacArthur Rim area east of the ridge seemed to remain clear and warm, but visibility at the ridge was occasionally no more than 25 yards.

We made it to the summit block at 10:30, exposed to the full force of the wind, and debated making the 4th-class climb to the top. We knew that once we were on the summit block, we would need to set anchors and rope up or risk being blown off balance by a strong gust. Instead, we backed down about 500 feet to take shelter behind a small gendarme and waited to see if the weather would calm down. After 30 minutes, the clouds cleared from the summit, but the wind remained strong and cold and more clouds



Mary and Meredith at Sunshine on the way to Middle Sister. Photo by Brian Hamilton

were on the horizon. At that point, we decided to leave the summit for another day and hiked down the climbers' trail to Green Lakes. It was a beautiful day at the lower elevation and we met lots of backpackers and day hikers along the trail. We were back at the trailhead by 2:45, looking forward to giving the mountain another try in the future. Climbers were members Brian Hamilton, leader, and Larry Huff, assistant leader.

Middle Sister
August 16-17, 2008
Leader: Brian Hamilton
15 miles, 3,560 ft. (Moderate)

THIS TRIP STARTED OUT on an upbeat note: the west end of Old McKenzie Highway had opened on Saturday morning which cut 54 miles off the route we had planned to drive through Sisters to reach the Obsidian Trailhead. At the trailhead, we shouldered our packs and soon encountered the first blown-down tree we would have to go around. Over the next few hours, we had to step over, duck under, or go around 78 blow-downs (we counted them on the way out), making the trail more difficult than expected. We wondered if the lack of trail maintenance was related to the road closure over the last two summers, Forest Service budget cuts, or money expended on forest fires instead of clearing trails. By mid-afternoon, we had set up camp at Arrowhead Lake and thunderheads began approaching from the south. The line of

volcanoes from Middle Sister to Three Fingered Jack was not attracting lightning strikes, but we saw several strikes to the east of Mt. Washington and also to the south of us. This was the night of the full moon, but instead of moon glow, we were treated to occasional cloudbursts throughout the night. Waking up at 4:00 am, we prepared for the ascent.

The sky above the Middle Sister was clear, but there were clouds all around. By 5:30, we began working our way up to the Renfrew Glacier and the west end of Folding Rock. As the leader, I was comfortable with steep snow slopes and glacier travel, but my two companions had little mountaineering experience. (I had previously decided that we would not bring crampons and ice axes on this trip and that we would not complete the climb if conditions required that type of equipment.) Even so, my co-climbers bravely took on the steep snow field we had to climb to get onto the Renfrew and then we made our way around the base of Folding Rock. At 8,700 feet, we decided that we had gone far enough. My co-climbers were pleased with the progress they had made, but their lack of experience on steep snow fields and rocky ridges dictated that we should begin our return to camp. Descending the steep snow was a challenge and an opportunity for glissading and self-arrest lessons, both of which would have been easier with ice axes instead of trekking poles! The snow was not very soft. With lots of icy knobs, glissading was bumpy and

painful! Back at our campsite, we took time to rest, and then began packing just as a thunderstorm moved closer and started sprinkling on us. Six miles later, we reached the trailhead and enjoyed smoked salmon and cheese on crackers at our own little tailgate party. Even without tagging the summit, we had come back with memories of a fun and beautiful trip. The climbers were nonmember Meredith Fox and Obsidians Mary Hamilton and Brian Hamilton (leader.)

North Sister

August 16-17, 2008

Leader & Photo: Wayne Deeter

17 miles, 5,000 ft.

Rating: I-3

IN SPITE OF THE HEAVY SNOWFALL this winter, there wasn't as much left this late as I'd have liked. We crossed a crack in the hogback fairly low down on the Hayden. Then there was about a 1000-foot stretch of rock to cross between the top of the Hayden and the snowfield above the Collier. The snow on the Dinner Plate was much reduced from what Larry had reported from two weeks before. It was now only about 20 feet across. A group of six Chemeketans who climbed via the southeast spur made it to the Dinner Plate ahead of us. We worked with them to share ropes in order to expedite the climbs of both our groups. We were treated to a bit of lightning and thunder in the west as we were descending. Congratulations are due to Mark Slipp, Roy McCormick and Mike Baum on their first summits of the Mean Mama. Members: Wayne Deeter, Roy McCormick and Mark Slipp; nonmembers: Mike Baum.

Three Fingered Jack

August 23, 2008

Leader: Doug Nelson

12 miles, 3,000 ft.

Rating: I-5.1

AFTER A WEEK of cool, damp weather we were fortunate to get a fine clear day for our climb of Three Fingered Jack. We camped at the PCT trail head at the Santiam Pass on Friday evening. We rose early under a bright moon and stars to make the hike through the burn toward the mountain in the cool of the pre-dawn morning. Our group of four moved steadily, slowing when we reached the upper mountain to move



Roy on top of North Sister - August 16th climb.

carefully on the steep and very loose rock slopes traversing along the west side under the "gendarmes," or shorter rock peaks, that guard the true summit pinnacle. The last gendarme is passed on the east side via a narrow rock ledge called "The Crawl" that perches above the 800-foot near vertical cliff. We fixed a rope across The Crawl, then scrambled up to the base of the summit pinnacle. Jeff Thomas, in his climbing guide *Oregon High*, describes it like this: "Finish up horrid rock to the summit, a somewhat terrifying mixture of cinders and cobbles...The view is spectacular." We made short work of the last bit, working our way one at a time to the tiny summit using a rope set partially on slings left behind by previous parties. We each spent a few moments savoring our successful trip up the mountain, then started the second (and sometimes more difficult) half of the climb which is the descent. The trip down went well. The day was bright and warm, the flowers fine and the mosquitoes voracious. We were all footsore and satisfied when we arrived back at the car about eleven hours after the trip began. I enjoyed leading this trip again after a few years' hiatus. I appreciated the help and support from fellow climbers and Obsidians Wayne Deeter and Larry Huff and enjoyed the chance to get to know prospective member Tom Spettel. Thanks guys. You all did a great job up there.



Bike
Trips

Wolf Creek/Clay Creek

July 13, 2008

Leader: Joyce Sanders

50 miles, 3,300 ft. (Difficult)

WE CHANGED THE DATE to a day later hoping for cooler weather, but Mother Nature did not cooperate. To use Stewart Hoeg's description: we fried and died. The bicycling to Clay Creek, a very nice campground, was quite pleasant, but the return was a challenge because of afternoon heat. Stewart and George went ahead and drove a few miles back to retrieve the rest of us. Always a super group of friends. Members: Barbara Bruns, Stewart Hoeg, George Jobanek, Sharon Ritchie and Joyce Sanders.

Disston to Oakridge

July 19, 2008

Leader: Sam Miller

38 miles, 3,500 ft. (Difficult)

UNDER CLEAR BLUE SKIES and with cool morning temperatures ideal for sustained hill climbing on bikes, our cycling threesome departed near Disston outside of Cottage Grove at 8:00 am. We biked along beautiful Brice Creek upwards

toward Holland Peak on remote roads with virtually no traffic. Our destination was Oakridge. After 38.5 miles and somewhere between 3,500' and 4,500' of elevation gain (depending on your method of calculation or tolerance for ambiguity versus precision) we arrived in Oakridge for a well-deserved lunch break at Subway before returning to Eugene. If you're seeking a challenging ride with great views, this trip is worthy of consideration. Members participating in this outing were Sue Wolling and Sam Miller (co-leaders), Lloyd McEntire, and Zola Miller, shuttle driver supreme.

Coast Range Foothills

July 20, 2008

Leader: Doug Nelson

35 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

I HAVE ALWAYS WANTED to join the "Wednesday Group" of Obsidian bicyclists, but that is a work day for me. My wish finally came true when several of the group joined me for my Sunday ride in the Coast Range. We met at Kirk Park, just across from Fern Ridge Dam, on what turned out to be a fine morning for a ride. The weather was cool enough for most folks to leave the windbreakers on as we started, but by the time we had finished pedaling up the Lawrence Road hill, I think everyone was layered down to t-shirts and shorts. This loop ride, described in the Lane County Bicycle Map, is a pleasant country ride on mostly low-traffic roads. The hills are strategically placed at the first half of the ride, so the harder work comes when riders are fresh. Then the level final leg of the trip was assisted by a nice tail wind from the north. Our overall pace was pretty relaxed, with several short "chat" breaks as we regrouped at intersections. I couldn't have asked for a more congenial group of experienced and strong riders, or a nicer summer morning for a ride. Circumstances like that make the leader's role exceptionally easy and enjoyable. Thanks to everyone who joined me on this very pleasant outing, with special thanks to George Jobanek for making sure everyone in the group made all the turns, and to Sharon Ritchie for doing the "sweep" detail. Members: Bill Aspegren, Paul Garrick, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Stewart Hoeg, George Jobanek, Doug Nelson, Sharon Ritchie and Joyce Sanders; non-members: Nathan Nelson.

Row River Bike Path

July 20, 2008

Leader: Guy Strahon

32 miles, 100 ft. (Moderate)

SIX PEOPLE SIGNED UP for the bike trip, but only three actually showed up for the ride. It turned out to be a perfect day for riding (very little wind, abundant sunshine, mid-80s). We lunched at Wild Wood Falls and had an easy trip back to our starting point, where we cooled off with watermelon. Members Barbara Bruns, Guy Strahon, and Judy Terry enjoyed each others' company and great day.

Sunrise Cafe/Pleasant Hill

July 26, 2008

Leader: Stewart Hoeg

35 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

IT MIGHT BE CLOUDY. It might be cool. So said the weather forecasters. Instead, we had to settle for idyllic. Eight riders met at 9:30 at Campbell Senior Center under crystal clear skies and a temperature in the upper 60's. We rode out the bike path and through Springfield to catch Weyerhaeuser Road to Jasper. Weyerhaeuser was traffic-free as always, and the views were great. Our only competition for the road was two women and their dogs as we came to the end of the road. Navigating the fourth of four gates, we caught Hills Creek Road into Jasper. We crossed the bridge in Jasper over the middle fork of the Willamette and took Edenvale up to Pleasant Hill for lunch. After lunch was the always scary trip across the bridge on Highway 58 just west of Pleasant Hill. The bridge crossing was made with ease, and we completed our leisurely ride on Matthews and Seavey Loop and eventually back to the river bike path. Riders, all members, included Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Paul Garrick, Bud Proctor, Bill Aspegren, Darrell McBee, George Jobanek, Sharon Ritchie and Stewart Hoeg.

Gathering Together Farm

August 2, 2008

Leader: Lyn Gilman-Garrick

27 miles, 0 ft. (Moderate)

WE BIKED A 27-MILE LOOP through the rolling farm country just south of Philomath, stopping for lunch at Gathering Together Farm. Gathering Together Farm is an organic farm which sells fresh produce and local meats, jams, honey and

pickles. It also has a wonderful restaurant which is open for lunch every day of the week and dinners on Fridays only. The weather started out cloudy but by afternoon the clouds had rolled away, leaving warm sunshine. No accidents, no flat tires, no lost bikers. Couldn't ask for more! Members: Barbara Bruns, Paul Garrick, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Kitson Graham, Peter Graham, Stewart Hoeg, George Jobanek, Darrell McBee, Sharon Ritchie and Joyce Sanders.



Byways By Bus

French Prairie

July 8, 2008

Leader: Mary Ellen West

ONE WRITER DESCRIBED French Prairie as the Garden of Eden at the end of the Oregon Trail. Perhaps this is an exaggeration, but this area north of Salem along the Willamette River has a unique cultural history and remains a rural delight of productive farmland. Hopefully, urban development will not ruin this fertile region. Following a stop at the Santiam Rest Area, we began at the St. Louis Catholic Church, established in 1845 mainly to serve the retired French Canadian trappers from the Hudson's Bay Company and other immigrants. The present structure dates from 1880. The local priest greeted us and Brenda Howard from the local historical society gave a most interesting talk about the church and the community, plus relating the saga of Marie Dorion, who went west in 1811 with the Hunt (Astoria) party and in 1850 died and is buried at this site. She was a fantastic and remarkable lady, and well-respected by all. We also visited the well-maintained cemetery. We then went to Ferguson's Fragrance Nursery where we enjoyed our sack lunches in their beautiful gardens - an immense, very impressive place with thousands of plants and flowers. We went next to the nearby St. Paul Church, built with locally made bricks in 1846. This mission was founded by the famous Father Blanchet, and even today is the focal point of the community. The 1993 earthquake caused such severe damage that the church was unfit for occupancy. The 60,000 bricks, origi-

nally bonded with mud, were removed one by one and replaced with mortar, which was a huge achievement. Fr. Borho, who is 82 and in his 18th year of service here, described the statuary and other furnishings. Then our guide, Jean Abderhalden, took us through the church and grounds, the old cemetery site, the 1832 relocated and restored Murphy house, and finally to the Farm Store, a well-managed grain and feed mill. Our last stop was at Baumans farm store and farm near Gervais, which features great produce, bakery products, flowers, and delicious ice cream.

We were back in Eugene at 5:20, with Richard Patch as our excellent driver. Our thanks and appreciation to our leader, Mary Ellen West, for a great day. Reporter: Ray Jensen; members: Ethel Allen, Patricia Baylis, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Barbara Chinn, Rose Mary Etter, Rachele Fiszman, Barbara Flanders, Dennis Flanders, Bette Hack, Dora Harris, MaryAnn Holser, Ray Jensen, John McManigal, Lenore McManigal, Natalie Newlove, Barbara Payne, Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Ardys Ringsdorf, Nola Shurtleff, Julie Snell, Dick Speelman, Janet Speelman, Mary Ellen West and Hawke Williams; non-members: Natalie McClatchey and Carolyn Rayborn.

Oregon Garden/ Silver Falls State Park August 5, 2008 Leader: Bette Hack

BETTE HACK WAS THE LEADER on this trip, and Liz Reanier was the co-leader. We left ShopKo parking lot on Tuesday at 8 am on a very nice summer day which promised to be hot. We drove north on I-5 and took highways 22 and 214 to the entrance to the South Falls. We stopped in this area and found a picnic table in the shade by Silver Creek, where we had our morning coffee break with goodies provided by the hospitality committee.

Don Payne led a hike of about a mile which goes under the South Falls. We then went to the north entrance, through the Silverton Hills, now covered with tree farms, and through the town of Silverton. We drove to the entrance of the Oregon Garden and to the Visitors Center. The Visitors Center now contains the restaurant as well as a gift shop and ticket information. Ethel Allen's daughter Bonnie

works as an office assistant and was there to greet us as well as handing out the Garden Guide. As it was now noon, most of the group lined up at the lunch counter to order lunch. The Garden now has a large covered tram to ride free, and we all rode this, some going around twice. The tram also takes guests by the new resort hotel slated to be open by September. It is being built by Moonstone Hotel Properties on a hilltop near the Garden's Rediscovery Forest. Everyone enjoyed the tram, with the driver describing the various parts of the garden in detail. We left for home by 3 pm and had good weather - warm but not too hot.

Thanks to Don Payne for leading the hike, to the Hospitality Committee for providing the refreshments, and to Liz Reanier, co-leader, who handled the finances. Thanks to our very helpful bus driver, Richard Patch. Members: Ethel Allen, Mary Lee Cheadle, Mary Ann Cougill, Sharon Cutsforth, Rachele Fiszman, Barbara Flanders, Dennis Flanders, Bette Hack, Dora Harris, Phyllis Hulse, Marjorie Jackson, Natalie Newlove, Barbara Payne, Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Janet Speelman and Vera Wooley. Non-members: Alice Anderson, Adel Badel, Ron Bauer, Larita Brown, Virginia Cheadle, Jackie Giustina, Beverly Robertson, Rosa Smathers, Diana Whisen and Ellen Zimmerman.



Backpacks

Blacklock Point August 1-3, 2008 Leader: Bill Sullivan 14 miles, 200 ft. (Difficult)

SEVEN OF US TREKKED along Oregon's most remote beach on a joint trip of the Salem Chemeketans and Eugene Obsidians, helping to update a "100 Hikes" guidebook for the Oregon Coast. How remote is the New River's beach south of Bandon? Reg Pullen, the BLM staffer who waded the river with us and piloted our route through snowy plover closure areas, assured us that only 50 people a year hike here. Even the well-marked, primitive BLM campground where we set up our tents between the

grassy beach dune and the lazy New River sees perhaps only a dozen campers a year. We saw a plover, a seal, and lots of flotsam kelp. On the second day we hiked past Floras Lake's kiteboarding center into the coastal forest of Blacklock Point, where we camped on a spectacular headland surrounded by seastacks, tidepools, and more untrod sand. Cape Blanco's lighthouse flashed our tents every ten seconds at night.

Participants were leader Bill Sullivan (Chemeketan and Obsidian), spouse Janell Sorensen, Scott Hovis (Obsidian, completing his second qualifying Chemeketan hike), Obsidian Becky Lipton, Chemeketan Mona Knapp, and guests Tom Warner and John Bander.



Canoe/ Kayak

Smith Reservoir July 18, 2008 Leader: Ellen Sather 4 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)

THE FIRST "FULL MOON" KAYAK at Smith Reservoir was very successful and we did see the moon - once we got back on the highway! Thanks to Sam Houston, everyone had a kayak; good thing as no one volunteered to swim. Sam caught rainbow trout (catch and release) as we all paddled to the picnic site. Once on land Daphne James built a great fire. She was also good enough to have a birthday which we celebrated with the most delicious tiramisu cake, brought by Marline, from the Sweet Life Bakery. We had a beautiful twilight paddle back to our cars. Sam saw an osprey training its young to dive for fish. The rest of us must have been thinking about cake rather than being observant. Thanks also to Daphne and Dick Hildreth for making the evening go so smoothly. Members: Dick Hildreth, Sam Houston, Daphne James and Ellen Sather; nonmembers: Marline Drescher, Caroline Forell and Diane Kurz.

UPCOMING

Obsidians Invited To Blood-Letting Party

By Chris Stockdale

Calling all healthy, red-blooded Obsidians to donate blood!

WE'RE HAVING A SPECIAL evening just for you at Lane Memorial Blood Bank, 2211 Willamette Street, on Tuesday, October 14, from 4:30-6:30pm. I'll have pizza (and perhaps beer) for everybody.

Why should you give blood? So that people like Richard Hughes will survive traumatic injuries. Richard, a long-time Obsidian, is not somebody you would have considered as a potential candidate for blood transfusions. Extremely fit and healthy, he was the envy of people many years younger. But he is also proof that the unexpected can happen to anybody at any time without warning. While fetching a snow shovel from the loft in his garage, the metal extension ladder he was using slipped and he fell on top of it, onto the

concrete floor. When he was examined in the hospital emergency room, doctors discovered Richard had ruptured his spleen, broken three ribs, broken his clavicle in two places, had another break in his scapula and a broken thumb. During his time in Intensive Care, Richard was given 13 units of red blood cells along with several doses of platelets. Thanks to the great medical care he received, the readily available supply of donated blood and his extreme fitness, Richard made an amazingly fast recovery. And his story is just one of thousands of people in Lane County who can thank blood donors for a second chance at life.

Although many Obsidians are regular blood donors (see the article in the May Bulletin), I know there are many more members who would qualify to give but just haven't taken the step to become a donor. The basic requirement for giving blood is that you be in

good general health, although some conditions may prevent you from donating. If you are on medication or have questions, the best thing to do is call the blood bank and speak with one of our nurses. You can check our website for other possible reasons for deferral: www.lmbb.org; click on Donate Blood/Donating Whole Blood and then click on "Check Eligibility."

If you've ever thought about donating blood, this would be a great time to start. If you're a little apprehensive about the procedure (and many people are), you'll have the support of fellow members who have been doing it for years. Plenty of people to hold your hand! Call 484-9111 to make an appointment. If you can't come on the 14th, please come on another day.

Call Chris at 484-9111 or send an email cstockdale@lmbb.org if you have any questions.



Upcoming Bus Trip

Wildlife Safari & Fall Foliage

Date: Tuesday, October 21

Leader: Ray Jensen Cost: \$38 members, \$40 non

Send checks to: Mary Lee Cheadle

WE'LL BE VISITING Wildlife Safari in Winston, where you can view over 500 animals in their natural habitat, roaming freely. Our route will be through Lorane, Drain, and Yoncalla, arriving at Wildlife Safari at 10AM for our first 4.5 mile bus circuit with a step-on guide. There are always new changes here, including the new lion enclosure.

Lunch (your cost) will be at their new Smokin' Hippo restaurant with burgers, fries, BBQ sandwiches, and other good things. We will have time to visit Snowball, the rescued white deer, cheetahs and other exhibits.

After a second drive through in early afternoon we will return via Lookingglass, Melrose, and Umpqua, with ice cream at Rice Hill. Weather, road conditions and the elusive

autumn colors may alter our plans a bit but you will see animals and trees.

Upcoming Extended Trip

Lewis and Clark on the Columbia River

Date: October 3-5

Leader: Jim Duncan Cost: \$120 members; \$126 non

IF THE RECENT Lewis and Clark Bicentennial passed you by or you haven't yet seen newly reconstructed Fort Clatsop, this is your chance to make amends on an Obsidians Extended Trip. Jim Duncan will lead an extended trip on October 3 - 5 that will explore Lewis and Clark history at the end of their journey to the Pacific Ocean.

We will be staying at Fort Columbia State Park across from Astoria, at or near the site of Station Camp, the western-most camp of the Corps of Discovery on the Columbia River (November 15-24, 1805). During the trip, we'll visit the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, Cape Disappointment Lighthouse, and Fort Clatsop. There are hiking trails at both Fort Columbia and Cape Disappointment State Parks.

Find a Good Trip to Fall For!

Thurs., Sep. 11, 18 & 25 - Rexus Trail -- Three hikes, easy. Want to stay in touch with Obsidian friends and keep in shape - or have a good weekly excuse for indulgence in your favorite bakery item? Join leader Marshall Kandell three Thursdays in September for this 4-mile walk in Eugene: "This is an easy hike on a low-impact trail up one side of Amazon Creek and down the other. It's an ideal way to get in some good exercise and keep loose between more strenuous outings. The hike winds up at the Hideaway Bakery for those needing to replenish their calories."

Thurs., Sep. 18 - Fuji Mountain - Hike, difficult. There is a shorter way to the top of Fuji Mountain, but this trip starts at the bottom and maximizes the scenery on the way up. In the words of leader Lyndell Wilken: "Fuji Mountain has one of the best views of Waldo Lake and the surrounding wilderness area. Our hike will follow a 16-mile loop that will include Birthday, Upper Island and Lower Island lakes. If we want to make the hike shorter an out and back 11.2 mile hike is an alternative. The elevation gain will be around 2200 feet. Our descent will take us north on rolling terrain to Island Lakes along the South Waldo Trail. At the Mt. Rae junction there will be some tree blazes from the early 1900's that are of interest to history buffs. We (then) follow the Mt. Rae trail to the Waldo Road and join the Gold Lake Trail back to the cars." Either way, this has a difficult rating.

Fri., Sep. 19 - Red Butte - Hike, difficult. Led by Dick Hildreth and Sam Miller, this destination became a favorite the first time I visited it. The trail winds first to Duffy and Mowich Lakes, where a refreshing dip comes to mind. Then you go off-trail, climbing 5848 ft. Red Butte, getting beautiful views of Mt. Jefferson, Three Fingered Jack and beyond. The B&B complex fire raged here in 2003, but the lake-shores were left green and the burned areas are regenerating nicely.

Sat., Sep. 20 - Broken Hand - Hike, difficult. Three Creek Lake, Tam

McArthur Rim and Broken Hand are the sights this more difficult hike visits. On the east side of Broken Top and the Sisters, this hike is 14 miles but climbs only 1200 ft. Leader Pat Adams is willing to turn it into a backpack if participants are interested.

Same Day (Sep.20) Our Daily Bread - Bike, moderate. Your destination is a terrific little lunch spot in Veneta and your mandate is to have fun on this 45-mile bike ride led by Sharon Ritchie. Your route takes advantage of the bike paths out Amazon Creek. Remember, don't lunch too well, you still have to do the ride back!

Sun., Sep. 21 - Belknap Crater/Little Belknap - Hike, moderate. Belknap Crater, and its smaller cousin, Little Belknap Crater both erupted relatively recently and are very interesting examples of the volcanic forces that shape our Cascades. The route is steep and off-trail to Belknap, but relatively level to Little Belknap. But beware, much of the trail is a jumble of lava rocks and the going is difficult without good boots and strong ankles. John Jacobsen leads this trip, which is rated difficult. There is little shade, so sunscreen and hats are advised.

Same Day -- Sep. 21 - Clear Lake - Hike, easy. Just in time for the McKenzie area's fall spectacular, this hike, led by Beth Roy, will thrill you with color contrasts, super views of the Sisters and Mt. Washington and the clear beauty of the lake itself. Don't miss it!

Sat., Sep. 27 - Lorane to Drain - Bike, difficult. Leader Lyndel Wilken says, "This 52-mile *difficult* ride will begin at the Lorane Grange Hall just west of the Lorane post office. From the Lorane country store we follow the Siuslaw River Road west to the Buck Creek turn off. Our first climb is about an 8 % grade before dropping to the Smith River Road. Going east on the Smith River road we encounter our second climb with another 8% plus. A quick 2 miles downhill will take us to our lunch stop in Drain. After lunch we follow Hwy 99 to Lorane Hwy and climb the last steep grade before reaching our end

point at the Lorane Country Store. This ride features the forests and ferns of the coastal range mountains and has minimal traffic. Our estimated average speed will be 10-11 mph with frequent stops to rest and take in the views."

Sat., Sep. 27 - Umpqua Dunes - Hike, moderate. Fall on the Oregon coast is a well kept secret. The weather is often mild and the crowds are absent. This trip led by the Huntleys is a dune and beach walk with plenty of beautiful scenery. Join Bob and Zella for a bit of wild solitude, plenty of sea air and sand beneath your feet.

Sun., Sep. 28 - Heceta Head - Hike, easy. This hike has something for every Oregon Coast addict: sandy beach, tide pools, rocky headland climb, forested valley, interesting fungi, birds and wildflowers. Led by Anne-Marie Askew this hike will become your favorite.

Same Day (Sep. 28) - Maiden Peak - Hike, difficult. Though this hike is a major undertaking, leader Doug McCarty says "Everybody makes it." The views are of the Willamette Pass area, including Diamond Peak and Waldo Lake. The scenery is worth every bit of the 2900-foot climb and 11 -mile roundtrip distance.

Sun., Oct. 5 - Carl Lake - Hike, difficult. Laurie Funkhouser leads this 12-mile hike to pristine Carl Lake with many lovely views along the entire route. You'll start on the Cabot Creek trail, south and east of Mt. Jefferson, then fork off towards North Cinder Peak and Forked Butte.

Same Day - Oct. 5 - Castle Rock - Hike, difficult - Get a really nice view up the McKenzie Valley on this rocky out crop via Kings Valley trail. The trailhead is relatively close-in, starting near the Rainbow campground.

Sat., Oct. 11 - Fall Creek - Hike, moderate. This very close-in hike, led by Ed Lichtenstein has varied terrain along a beautiful creek full of great swimming holes, picnic spots and side creeks. The travel through a 2002 burn area is interesting as you note the re-growth and regeneration. There is even a cave to explore at Slick Creek.



Wildfire Ecology

JOIN TIM INGLESBEE, director of Firefighters United for Safety Ethics and Ecology, at 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 16, at the lodge for a SciEd slide show presentation about wildfire ecology and federal policy that affects wildfire management. The presentation will discuss the critical importance of wildfire as a natural disturbance element necessary for forest health and the real life impacts of wild fire suppression through 60 years of Smokey the Bear fire policy. This program is cosponsored by the Conservation Committee.

Mark your calendars for future SciEd Tuesday programs:

Tuesday, October 21 - Photographer and policy analyst James Johnston will show slides that explore the wild heart of the Oregon Coast Range, featuring owls, old-growth and the Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR).

Tuesday, November 18- Chris Orsinger, Executive Director of the Friends of Buford Park and Mt. Pisgah will speak on protecting and enhancing native ecosystems and compatible recreation in the Mt. Pisgah area.

- Joella Ewing, SciEd Chair

Obsidian Calendar

September

- 13 Sat – **Bellfountain**, Bike 38m **M**, S.Ritchie 342-8435
- 13-14 Sat-Sun – **Broken Top**, Climb, W.Deeter... 954-0924
- 13 Sat – **Scott Mountain**, 9.7m 1300' **D**, Predeek. 345-5531
- 13 Sat – **Sweet Creek**, 2.5m 150' **E**, J.Pierce..... 344-1775
- 13 Sat – **Trestle Falls**, **M**, K.Rusow..... 744-7990
- 14 Sun – **Black Meadow**, 9.8m 1000' **M**, S.Hovis 345-7788
- 14 Sun – **Fuji Mountain**, 3m 950' **E**, R.Wood 782-2710
- 14 Sun – **Green Lakes**, 9.6m 500' **M**, D.James 683-7488
- 14 Sun – **June—Hardesty**, 9.6m **M**, Funkhouser. 206-2303
- 15 Mon – **Ridgeline Litter Pickup**, J Jacobsen 343-8030
- 16 Tue – **Vivian Lake**, 8m 1600' **M**, D.Jeffcott.... 344-6447
- 16 Tue – **Wildfire Ecology** SciEd Tuesday
- 18 Thu – **Lodge and Grounds Spruce up**
- 18 Thu – **Fuji Mountain**, 15m 2200' **D**, L.Wilken 343-3080
- 19-21 Fri-Sun – **Alder Springs**, Backpack, Hovis 345-7788
- 20 Sat – **Broken Hand**, 14m 1700' **D**, P.Adams (746-2204)
- 20 Sat – **Mt. Thielsen**, Climb, J.Pierce..... 344-1775
- 20 Sat – **Our Daily Bread**, Bike 45m **M**, Ritchie. 342-8435
- 20 Sat – **Yoran Lake**, 10.2m 1100' **D**, Dolliver 345-2975
- 21 Sun – **Belknap Crater**, 8.5m **D**, Jacobsen 343-8030
- 21 Sun – **Clear Lake**, 5m **E**, B.Roy 687-0128
- 21 Sun – **Four-In-One Cone**, 8.6m **M**, Tucker 344-8371
- 21 Sun – **Indigo & Chuckle Springs**, **M**, Duncan 343-8079
- 21 Sun – **Waldo Lake Wilderness**, **M**, P.Asai 933-3927
- 23 Tue – **McKenzie River Trail**, **M**, B.Revere 726-4989
- 26 Fri – **Camp Hamilton Reunion**, Potluck
- 26 Fri – **Red Butte**, 11.8m 1800' **D**, S.Miller..... 484-4586
- 27 Sat – **Diamond Peak**, Climb, J.Pierce 344-1775
- 27 Sat – **Lorane—Drain**, Bike 52m **D**, L.Wilken. 343-3080
- 27 Sat – **Mt. Yoran**, 11m 2500' **D**, J.Hackett..... 984-0049
- 27 Sat – **Umpqua Dunes**, 8m 200' **M**, Huntley..... 687-1823
- 27 Sat – **Vivian Lake**, 8m 1600' **M**, C.Durham 687-0885
- 28 Sun – **Heceta Head**, 6m 800' **M**, A.Askew..... 687-1659
- 28 Sun – **Maiden Peak**, 11m 2900' **D**, McCarty ... 342-6962
- 28 Sun – **Wolf Creek**, Bike 52m 1560' **D**, Hughes 683-1409
- 30 Tue – **High Desert Museum**, Bus, B.Payne 746-1964
- 30 Tue – **Rosary Lakes**, 5.4m 600' **M**, D.Jeffcott. 344-6447

October

- 3-5 Fri-Sun – **Lewis & Clark**, History, J.Duncan. 343-8079
- 5 Sun – **Carl Lake**, 9.4m 1050' **M**, L.Funkhouser 206-2303
- 5 Sun – **Castle Rock**, 11m 2600' **D**, A.Coons..... 687-9741
- 11 Sat – **Fall Creek**, 9m 700' **M**, E.Lichtenstein... 683-0688
- 11 Sat – **McKenzie Riv Tr**, 10m –600 **M**, Revere 726-4989
- 12 Sun – **Duffy Lake**, 6.6m 800' **M**, B.Revere 726-4989
- 12 Sun – **Black Butte** 3.8m 1600' **M**, J.Pierce..... 726-4989



Lodge Work Party September 18

WEEDS, LEAVES, DUST, RUST, AND COBWEBS! It's time for another Lodge and grounds cleanup party. Please join us for 3-hour work party beginning at 4:00 PM, Thursday, September 18 to get the Lodge ready for the September potluck. You can help to clean the Lodge roof, gutters, and outbuildings. Inside the Lodge, we can use your help with dusting, sweeping, and cleaning of the woodwork, appliances, restrooms, and kitchen. You're welcome to join us even if you can spend just an hour or two. It's so much easier if everyone volunteers just a little bit of their time to help.

Call Brian Hamilton (343-6550) or John Jacobsen (729-2902) for more information.

Media Notes:

THE MMRS (Monday Morning Regulars) at Mt. Pisgah made the news in the Northwest Senior & Boomer News. Several Obsidians are part of the regulars who meet Mondays at 9:00 at Mt. Pisgah to cut brush. A quote by Dave Predeek made the headline *They Call Themselves the "tree liberators."* Dave joked that they freed the white oaks and wild roses from Scotch Broom and blackberries.



CHRIS STOCKDALE WAS SURPRISED to see a photo of her self in the Outdoor Section of *Register Guard* on Tuesday, August 26,. The caption under the Bill Sullivan's dramatic photo stated:
▶ *"Chris Stockdale, a member of the Obsidians from Cottage Grove, hikes above Aneroid Lake in the Wallowa Mountains in northeast Oregon."* Chris backpacked last summer in the Wallowa on an Obsidian trip led by Sullivan. Sullivan's article was titled *ALONE in the WALLOWAS Getting off the beaten track at McCully Basin*. Now all of us want to go.



Hiking in the White Cloud Mountains, Idaho, Obsidian Summer Camp - Photo by John Jacobsen



OBSIDIANS, INC.
P.O. BOX 51424
EUGENE, OR 97405

OBSIDIANS, INC. IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
EUGENE, OR
PERMIT 803

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



September 2008