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Dates to Remember

November 18	Potluck
December 7	Board Meeting
December 16	Potluck
December 31	<i>Bulletin</i> Deadline

Complete current schedules at:

www.obsidians.org or

Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

Reminder:

There is no *Bulletin* in December. Articles for the January *Bulletin* need to be submitted by Saturday, December 31st.

Winter Trips

By Tom Musselwhite

MATCHING LAST YEAR'S EFFORTS, 37 winter trips are scheduled at this time. Twenty leaders are offering a strong assortment of challenging trips across this winter trips season. The preliminary schedule has 11 cross country ski trips, 13 snowshoe trips, one combo X-Ski/snowshoe trip, and 12 hikes.

Scheduled trips are now available through Leader Access for leaders to complete trip descriptions, and food and equipment sections on their trip signup sheets. Until this information is filled in, trips do not become available for signup.

The club's new online signup system turns one year old this month. If you have not tried it out yet, now is a good time to see how easy it is to sign up for a trip. Among the features you will recognize is the place where you enter *have transport* or *need transport* and mark the *can carry* box with the number of passengers you can take.



Drivers are in high demand, especially for winter trips when road conditions are not always the best. Scheduling trips is a good thing, getting there is even better.

Snowshoe trips most often seem to end up on the short end of the transportation piece. Something you might want to consider when thinking about scheduling a winter trip: suggest you work out obvious transportation crunches before the actual time of departure. Trip information: participants, drivers, etc. will be online until shortly before the trip. A few phone calls could save people having to cancel for lack of a ride.

The winter schedule will be available online by the time you get your *Bulletin*. Check it out. There's still plenty of room for more trips to be scheduled. Just send in the trip name and leader info to wintertrips@obsidians.org to get your trip added to the great winter lineup we've got started. Happy Trails!

OBITUARIES

Dr. Kent Christoferson

1927-2011

KENT WAS A WELL KNOWN OPHTHALMOLOGIST IN EUGENE and was a member of the Obsidians until recently. Kent first joined the Obsidians in 1995 and went on a few hikes, but most of his trips with the club were bus trips. Kent was a very outdoors person, taking trips on his own as well as with the Obsidians. He participated in 44 bus trips, including such longer trips as the San Juan Islands, to the Trinity Alps, and boat trips down the Snake and Rogue Rivers. His last trip with the club was in 2007.

Editor's Note: A longer obituary for Kent may be found in the Oct. 8 issue of the Register-Guard.

F. Loretta Mason

1932-2011

LORETTA MASON, A FORMER OBSIDIAN MEMBER, passed away on Oct. 4, 2011. Loretta first joined the Obsidians in 1983 and went on several hikes but most of her excursions were with Byways by Bus. Her last bus trip was in 1998.

Editor's Note: The complete obituary for Loretta may be found in the Oct. 10 issue of the Register-Guard.

Margaret Wiese

1919-2011

LONG TIME OBSIDIAN MEMBER, MARGARET WIESE, passed away early on the morning of Oct. 24. Margaret first joined the club in 1952 and quickly became involved in many of the club activities. She attended her first summer camp in 1961 and participated in a total of 14 summer camps. She climbed seven mountain peaks, led 35 trips and received her 200 trip award in 2005. Her Princess name was Prairie Flower. Margaret's last trip with the club was in 2005 to Sweet Creek Falls. Her love of the outdoors and nature was evident in the poetic reports she wrote for the trips she led.

Editor's Note: A longer obituary for Margaret may be found in the Oct. 28 issue of the Register-Guard.

Annual Obsidian dues were due on Nov. 1, 2011.

Obsidian dues at \$30/yr. - one of the best bargains to be had. Please mail your check (form not needed) today.

Make checks payable to Obsidians, Inc. and send to:

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Board of Directors

John Jacobsen, President
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Kathy Hoeg, Secretary
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer
Matt Bell, Larry Huff, Verna Kocken,
Elle Weaver & Nancy Whitfield

Board meetings are held at 6 pm the first Wednesday of each month, except October when it is the Wednesday after the Annual Meeting, and no meeting in August.

Committee Chairpersons

Byways By Bus	Liz Reanier
Climbs	Larry Huff
Concessions	Lyn Gilman-Garrick
Conservation/SciEd	Joella Ewing
Entertainment	Susan Wanser
Extended Trips	Jim Duncan
Finance	Stewart Hoeg
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Lodge Grounds	John Jacobsen
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Publications	Joanne Ledet
Publicity	Elle Weaver
Safety	Sue Sullivan
Summer Camp	Lana Lindstrom
Summer Trips	Brian Hamilton
Trail Maintenance	Matt Bell
Winter Trips	Tom Musselwhite

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Deadline

**for January 2012 Bulletin
Saturday, December 31, 2011**

Assembly/Mailing Team

For October Bulletin

Assembly & Mail Manager - Lou Maenz
Assembly Team - Don Baldwin, Cathy Irwin, Vi Johnson, John & Lenore McManigal and Barbara Schomaker,

Editorial Team

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

Art or Picnic Table?

By Janet Jacobsen (Photo by Matt Bell)

“I THOUGHT THE ROCKS WERE ART,” was a guest’s comment after Matt Bell’s trail maintenance report at the Annual Meeting. Matt had just described the September work project where Obsidians had placed large rocks for a picnic spot in the meadow near the Spencer Butte parking lot. He said that two years ago the Obsidians had worked with the City Open Space staff to remove the rotting picnic tables in the meadow. City staff decided to replace the tables with maintenance free rocks, some of which were large pieces of basalt that recently fell from the Skinner Butte climbing columns.

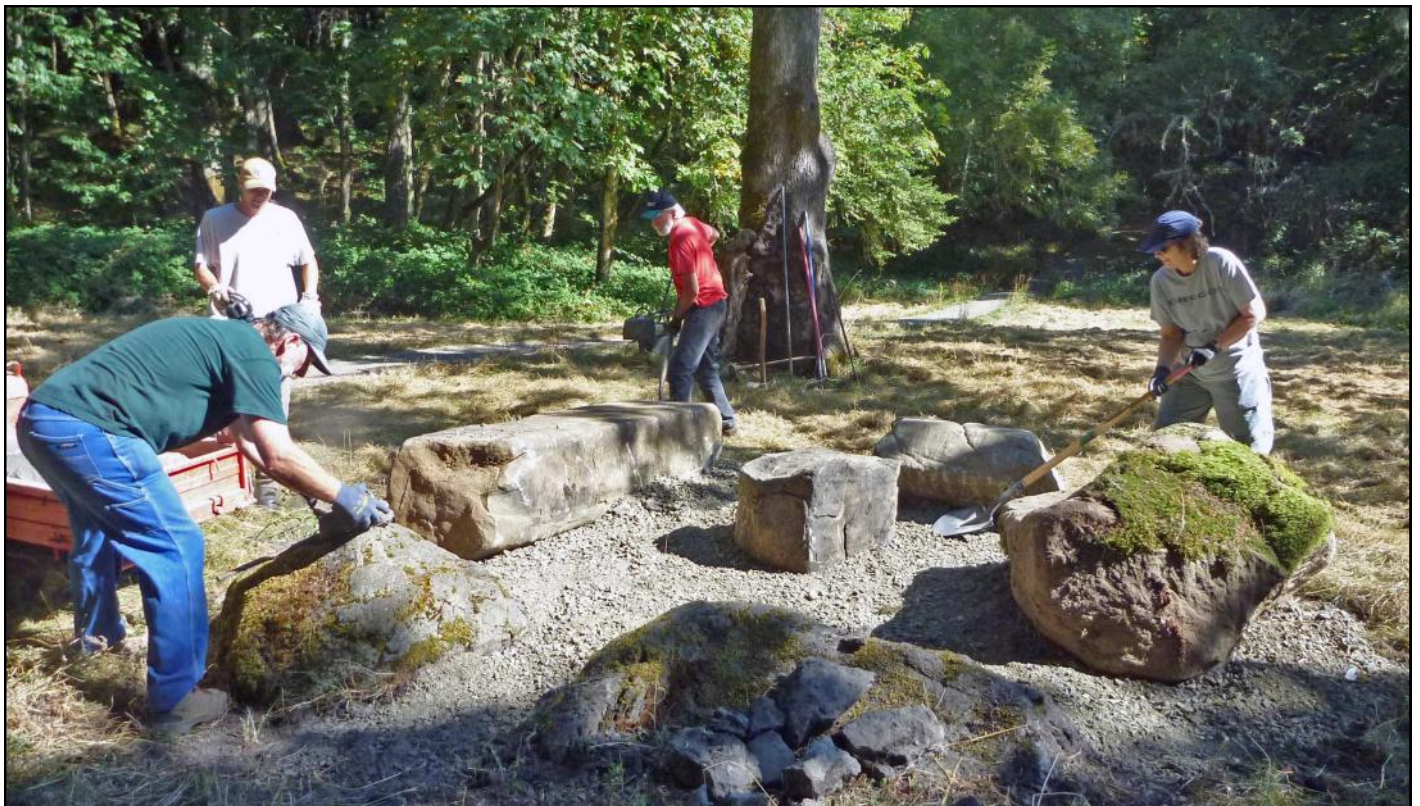
The first task on Saturday morning was to decide where to position the rocks to create a picnic semicircle with artistic and practical seats and table. Volunteers then built the gravel pads after digging up some old fire pits. Christer LaBrecque, Open Space staff, operated the front-end loader that lifted and tucked each rock into place. He received lots of verbal help!

Since not everyone could assist with this project, Christer asked the rest of the volunteers, including me, “to armor around a seep and associated culvert with basalt wall stone.” He said that this is a popular dog water spot since it runs year round, so this work would help reduce erosion from dog use. This project was just up the trail from the meadow with the jubilant sounds of the picnic spot volunteers. Both Christer and Matt repeated the instructions on how to place the stones together so that they would not collapse. Not all of us quickly grasped the physics of building permanent stonewalls.

Volunteers brought up an assortment of basalt rocks in motorized wheelbarrows. Pat Soussan was soon busy making a small waterfall. One of the volunteers chose a big rock and happily remarked, “This is a perfect rock.” While everyone seemed to find a perfect rock that slipped into place, my perfect rock just did not fit. Think of working on a 3-D jigsaw puzzle in the mud. I was covered with mud splatters and my perfect rock still would not fit the perfect space. Jim Pierce provided some physical force for the rock’s final resting place.

Three hours later, the eleven volunteers sat on the picnic rocks to toast our success with lemonade and energy bars. To use some of Christer’s words, “It was a good feeling to finally replace the tables.” But the question, “Is it art?” still teases. On my recent U of O sculpture hike a guest commented, “If the rock is on a pedestal, it is art.” Thus if gravel pads are pedestals, the picnic spot is art! I’m calling it *Matt’s Sculpture*. But if Matt is the definitive judge, he remarked at the last board meeting, “I have never made a sculpture.”

Editor’s note: Elle Weaver emailed the Board with this comment, “I went to see the stone structures at Spencer Butte. As I rarely go through the main Willamette entrance, I was surprised at how nice it looked. The new stone ‘benches’ fit in as though they were always there. Can’t imagine what it took to bring the large ‘picnic table’ from the columns!” See Matt’s Trail Maintenance Report on page 17.



Pacific Crest Trail Maintenance Adventure

By Diane Burt

Editor's Note: Diane Burt, nonmember, is the Fund Development Director for The Child Center

THE IDEA OF GOING ON A HITCH with the Pacific Crest Trail Association's (PCTA) trail maintenance volunteer crew this past summer began with attending a clinic at REI. When I signed up for the clinic I didn't even realize that the topic was about working on the trail. As far as I know, I haven't ever been on any of the trail and knew little about it. My camping experiences were mostly as a child, some as an adult with my children, and then few and far between since they have grown up. I'd never been backpacking. So my husband and I went to the clinic. They showed us the tools—that certainly appealed to my husband who loves to work outdoors and is quite handy with tools. They showed pictures of the beautiful scenic vistas and folks working together on trails. Then they said they supply all of the food, do the cooking and haul in tools and supplies on pack horses. Well, what could be a better way to learn about backpacking than to have experts right there with you. We signed up!

As our August 11 departure date approached, we decided we should get used to hiking with a backpack so we stuffed our packs with increasing amounts of weight and went on walks in the hills, around our neighborhood and along the river bike path. The name of our hitch was Porcupine Rock and we were sent instructions to get to the trailhead at the end of Forest Service Road 12. At the trailhead we met our leaders, one from the PCTA and one from the forest service, the other volunteers, our packhorses and their drivers, Denny and Paul. We learned how to pack up tools and supplies, load up the horses and how to behave around the horses on the trail.

The eight volunteers were a nice mix of young and not-so-young, male and female, experienced and non-experienced hikers. Only one had prior trail maintenance experience. One of the younger couples was from the Netherlands so we did have a bit of an international mix as well. With our 30+ pound backpacks on, we headed out. The 3.5-mile hike in was gorgeous! Wildflowers, creeks, ferns, lushness, and also burned out areas where trees and landscape were hauntingly gray and black. When the packhorses passed us on the trail, Denny stopped the horses and sang us a cowboy song. We made it to our camping destination right under Three Fingered Jack in a meadow near a stream of snow melt. I found the beauty of the mountain, with colorful layers of red rock,



to be stunning. We set up our tents and kitchen. Then it was time to hike up to the worksite to check it out. Our job was to recut slipped tread and repair rock cribbing.

The problem with reaching our worksite was that it was a very steep climb and the trail was covered with snow. We considered different ways of getting up to the PCT from our base camp in the Canyon Creek meadow. In the end it was decided that going up the steep terrain in the snow would be the safest way, especially considering that the next day we needed to take the tools up with us. We returned to camp, our leaders cooked dinner and we all helped with the dishes, filtering water and clean-up. We all slept well that night.

Up early the next day, we ate breakfast, packed a lunch and lots of water, had a lesson in carrying and using the tools, put on our helmets and headed out across the meadow to the steep, steep hill of snow. Fortunately we had some volunteers who were experienced with snow climbing and helped 'cut in' a trail. Up we went. And up and up. Next across boulders, through scrub trees, and finally we connected with a trail that took us up even further to the PCT where we were to work. It took about 1.5 hours to get to the worksite from our campsite that first day, but after a brief rest we were ready to work in the warm sunshine. Two areas near switchbacks needed to be repaired due to erosion. The trail here is steep and exposed to the elements as there are no trees on the north side at that point. We received more lessons on safety and using tools such as rockbars, pickaxes, shovels and webbing to move rocks.

Over the next few days as we made the trek up the mountainside to the worksite we got faster at going up and coming back down – especially when not hauling up tools. We tore out the existing rocks and brought down new ones – boulders that sometimes gravity sent to the bottom of the hill rather than into the hole we had ready for it. While some worked with the rocks others of us cleared and widened the paths in the switchback areas. We kept our water bottles and lunches cool in the snowbanks and marveled at the beautiful vistas from the top of the Pacific Crest Trail. We all enjoyed getting to know each other and worked well together.

Would I do this again—absolutely! The experience was physically demanding and fun. My husband went on another hitch later in the summer at Crater Lake—car camping, short walk to the worksite, and again—great camaraderie.

Fun, Food and Facts at Annual Meeting

By Joanne Ledet

THE LODGE WAS OPENED OCT. 14 for the annual meeting and it was well attended by interested members. We met at 6:30 pm for the social hour and the opportunity to visit with fellow members while we all partook of the delicious desserts provided by Janet Jacobsen. Marianne Camp helped serve the Harvest Apple Cake and decadent brownies – who could resist!

Lenore receives Honorary Membership from Jan Jacobsen



President John Jacobsen called the meeting to order promptly at 7 pm. He summarized the noteworthy facts of the year, the most significant being the initiation of the online data system. After many hours of programming by John and Wayne Deeter, it made its debut for the winter trip season. There have been few problems and it has made record keeping much easier for the historian and other officers. It has also saved the members many trips to the YMCA to sign up for a trip. He then reported on the get acquainted hikes which have been a huge success. They have introduced the Obsidians to people in the area and have resulted in 30 new members. The extended trips continue to grow in popularity, perhaps due to the lack of summer camp. Lastly, John said the painting that was discovered in a storage closet is being restored and should be ready for display by spring.

The club is on solid ground, financially speaking, reported Stewart Hoeg. This is due in part to the many members who make a contribution when they renew their membership, and also to the generous bequests made in wills this past year.

Three members were nominated to fill positions on the board of directors, Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, and Stewart Hoeg and were elected unanimously by voice vote.

The committee chairs then reported on their various areas

of responsibility. While the late winter snow helped the winter trips committee, it caused problems for some of the summer trips that were scheduled. Some trips had to be cancelled due to snow on the trail, but even so there were 110 completed trips with 564 members and 291 nonmembers participating. Participation and interest have been high for most activities such as trail maintenance, ExploraTalk, Byways By Bus and the extended trips. There is a need for trained leaders to conduct climbs, and in order for there to be a summer camp we need someone to take charge. The club is becoming more visible in the community with activities at the Eugene Celebration, REI, and by good publicity provided by the Register-Guard. We also publicize the club when we wear our Obsidian gear that is sold at many club events.

The fun part of the evening started when we voted to make Lenore McManigal an honorary member. Janet Jacobsen read the many highlights and contributions Lenore has made to the club in her 50 years of membership. A well deserved honor.

Brian Hamilton, Summer Trips Chair, then presented certificates and patches to members who have reached milestones in their Obsidian activities. For a complete listing see awards on page nineteen. Special note should be made of the 500 trips taken by Janet Jacobsen—can that ever be matched?

Other people then presented fun awards to members who did something noteworthy during the year. See page nineteen for all the awards. While most people received a certificate, Jim Pierce was presented with a framed picture. Could anyone take more pictures on a trip than Jim?

It was a fun and productive evening. Join us next year, same time, same place.

Nancy Whitfield receives trip award from Brian Hamilton



ANNUAL MEETING NOTES

October 14, 2011

By Kathy Hoeg

President John Jacobsen called the meeting to order and introduced the Board members and officers. Other Board members present: Matt Bell, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Kathy Hoeg, Stewart Hoeg, Larry Huff, Elle Weaver, and Nancy Whitfield. Also present were: Marianne Camp, Rob Castleberry, Don Colgan, Wayne Deeter, Leona Devine, Jim Duncan, Pat Esch, Joella Ewing, Brian Hamilton, Mary Hamilton, Richard Hughes, Janet Jacobsen, Ray Jensen, Satya Kaskade, Joanne Ledet, Lana Lindstrom, John McManigal, Lenore McManigal, Tom Musselwhite, Doug Nelson, Nola Nelson, Jim Pierce, Dave Predeek, Liz Reanier, Barb Revere, Joe Sanders, Dar-ko Sojak, Pat Soussan, Sue Sullivan, and Susan Wanser.

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Obsidians financial outlook remains bright. As of September 30th our balance sheet had financial assets exceeding \$216,400. During the past twelve months we had positive cash flow from operations of \$3,200. In addition, during the last year we received \$70,300 in bequests and \$3,100 in donations from current members. Thanks to everyone for your continued financial and other support for the club.

STATE OF THE OBSIDIANS

The club moves on, providing a wide array of outdoor activities for our club and community.

Probably the biggest change ever in how we do business was the introduction of the online data system about a year ago that allows for not only online signup, but also committee and leader access, where all their details of trip planning and administration are now handled online. Something Janet Jacobsen introduced last year and continued this year with great vigor is the Get Acquainted Hikes. By all accounts they are a great addition to the Obsidians schedule, providing an easy avenue for people to connect with and learn about the club and potentially recruit new members.

Our Extended Trips committee has greatly expanded their offerings this year, and Jim Duncan will tell you about that welcome increase in his committee

report.

We received the largest gift in club history when we were remembered by Catherine Jones with her bequest to the Obsidians.

Some other work has been undertaken to make improvements in the Lodge, the first of which has been completed—we have a new projection screen.

Last year, we added Dallas Cole's mural, *The Obsidian Spirit*, to the art scene at the Lodge. Hopefully in the coming year a piece of art from the past will reappear—the Bryan Ryan painting found during the Lodge renovation by Janet Jacobsen and Rick Ahrens is in the hands of an art conservator in Portland for restoration.

So as we approach 84 years as a club, the annual cycle continues, probably in many ways much like it has through all those years. We schedule, lead, and go on trips, we get new members, and we lose a few members. We deal with problems. We are doing fine.

I would like to close by thanking all those who make all this possible. The Board of Directors, the many Obsidians Committees, the trip leaders, the many, many volunteers from all facets of the club who make things hum.

Thank you all!

COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS

Summer Trips - Brian Hamilton

With all the late snow in the mountains last spring, it was a good ending for Winter Trips, but a lousy beginning for Summer Trips. Leaders cancelled 20 trips this year, or 17% of the entire Summer Trips schedule, and most of the cancellations were due to too much snow on the trails.

On the positive side, 110 trips have been completed so far. This year, we began the season with a list of pre-selected trips and dates. It seemed to help many leaders decide where and when to lead trips.

By the end of the season, 56 leaders, or about 11% of the club's members, will have volunteered to lead a summer trip.

The big change for Summer Trips this year was the new online signup system. It was a headache for many and could be hard to master, but, it saved tons of time, both during signups before the trips and

afterwards when various committees accessed the database.

The 2011 Summer Trips Committee members did a great job of planning for the season and calling members to recruit trip leaders. They are: Don Colgan, Joella Ewing, Brian Hamilton (chair), Mary Hamilton, Sandra Larsen, Joanne Ledet, Becky Lipton, Helen Martz, Valerie Metcalfe, Tom Musselwhite, Eric Swegles, Judy Terry, Elle Weaver, Martha Welches, and Lyndell Wilken. In addition, Don Colgan backed me up when I couldn't make it to Board meetings and submitted articles to the *Bulletin*. Valerie Metcalfe and Mary Hamilton put together the Summer Trips Kickoff and Leader Training program, and Elle Weaver tirelessly checked the online trip reports for accuracy and completion.

Winter Trips - Tom Musselwhite

For the 2010-11 Winter Trips season, 316 members paid \$316 in trip fees and 90 nonmembers paid \$355 in trip fees, for a total 406 participants and \$671 in trip fees. 32 leaders completed 57 trips.

As of October 12, 2011 (this year) Winter Trips has scheduled 23 trips for the winter season.

Members of the 2011 Winter Trips Committee are Tom Musselwhite (chair), Elle Weaver (trip reports), Chris Stockdale (posts trips to the *Register-Guard* and *Eugene Weekly*), and trip recruiters and assistants: Lana Lindstrom, Valarie Metcalfe, Brian Hamilton, Daphne James, Joella Ewing, Karla Rusow, Judy Terry, and Jim Pierce.

Climbs - Larry Huff

The Climbs Committee at the beginning of 2011 faced the prospect once again of low climb leader turnout, which we knew would result in a decreased amount of climbing activities offered. We were also faced with a thinning pool of climb school instructors and assistants due to both scheduling conflicts and a need for new members to step up. The shrinking activities schedule and access to a consistent pool of instructors for climb school has been a trend that has been taking place over the past few years and it was time to take action. The decision was made to cancel climb school for 2011 and focus the committee's energy on intermediate-level mountaineering

workshops to train many of our members who have been wanting to expand their repertoire of technical as well as leadership skills. The desired result of these workshops was to have a large pool of prospective climb leaders to increase the variety and number of climbs offered as well as rotating in new instructors and assistants for the annual spring climb school. This year's climb schedule as expected began with a series of intermediate workshops and, much to the committee's surprise, finished the season strong with new leaders and an increase in climbs. The committee is happy to report we surpassed all of last year's totals minus fees and participation from climb school. The results were as follows: Participation totals = 141, Members = 112, Nonmembers = 29, Climb fees = \$474.00 (denotes total fees expected for activities rendered; does not reflect actual fees collected). Members of the Climbs Committee are Larry Huff (chair), Sue Sullivan, Doug Nelson, Wayne Deeter, John Pegg, Steve Kuhn, and Peter Green.

Trail Maintenance - Matt Bell

2010-2011 Trail Maintenance Participation: 10 outings with 19 members and 26 nonmembers totaling 255 hours of work.

Sue Sullivan credits the work of the Trail Maintenance committee for reducing the number of lost people on Spencer Butte. In previous years, she received many calls to rescue people from the butte, but last year there was only one call.

Byways By Bus - Liz Reanier

The Bus Committee worked very hard to provide ten trips so far, with the Christmas Celebration at the Lodge for our finale.

Yes, we ride a bus, are noted for our fun and coffee breaks, optional hikes, lots of opportunities for photo-taking and opportunities to learn more history, geography, geology and see lots of Oregon's natural beauty.

The committee is large, but it takes everyone multitasking to keep our trips successful. Ray Jensen continues to share his wisdom. Lenore McManigal bakes cookies, in addition to all her record-keeping and submitting our trip reports. Barbara Flanders keeps track of our monies. Verna Kocken serves on the Board, as well as leads trips and prepares rally sheets. Sharon Cutsforth will be on the Board.

Without our riders and everyone's support and our excellent drivers, our trips would fail.

Summer Camp - Lana Lindstrom

Nobody has stepped forward to be the next Summer Camp leader, so there are no current plans for a Camp. Members who would like to volunteer to be a leader or co-leader are asked to please contact Lana Lindstrom or John Jacobsen.

Extended Trips - Jim Duncan

There were 7 Extended Trips this year, a new record. 4 trips were primarily hiking trips, but in addition, we also had a snowshoe/ski trip, a bird-watching trip, and a kayaking trip. 73 members and 12 nonmembers participated with a total of \$485 in trip fees collected. It takes imagination, organization, a bit of work and lots of patience to lead a successful trip. Special thanks to those leaders who were willing to take on this responsibility – Lana Lindstrom, Mary Holbert, Chris Stockdale, Marianne Camp, Valerie Metcalfe, Joe Sanders, and Jim Duncan. Thanks also to the Extended Trips Committee: Chris Stockdale, Lana Lindstrom, Marianne Camp, Pat Esch and Jim Duncan (chair).

Conservation, Science, and Education - Joella Ewing

The Conservation, Science and Education committee sponsored seven Explora-Talk programs during the year with 212 total attendees and collected \$201 in lodge use fees. We also participated in the SOLV spring beach cleanup and sponsored a naturalist-led paddle expedition at the South Slough National Estuarine Research Preserve. In addition, Lyn Gilman-Garrick led two Willamette Confluence Project hikes to view the restoration efforts at Buford Park.

Many thanks to committee members Tom Musselwhite, Lyn Gilman-Garrick and Pat Bitner.

Publications - Joanne Ledet

While the 2010 year brought some significant changes such as eliminating the December *Bulletin* and requiring all material to be submitted online, this year had few changes.

The *Bulletin* could not happen if it were not for the people who are willing to write articles of interest, trip leaders who submit very readable reports, and for the committee chairs who faithfully send in their material in a timely fashion.

I especially want to thank the *Bulletin* staff, Bea Fontana, Ken Frazer, Stewart Hoeg, John Jacobsen, Beth Roy and Ethel Weltman. They devote a tremendous amount of time to putting the issue together and making every attempt possible to produce an accurate, informative and readable publication. Luckily, people who submit articles do a good job of proofing their material before hitting that send button, so it makes the job of the publication staff a little easier.

Entertainment - Susan Wanser

This past year we had the usual great presentations at the monthly potlucks. There are no potlucks in July or August because folks are out adventuring themselves during the summer, or at least we hope they are.

I'm sure there are many untold stories amongst us about trips we've taken and adventures we've had. It's fun to hear from people we know, i.e., Obsidians members. So if you've been on a trip and would like to give a presentation, let me know. Also, if you've got a story to tell, but don't think you can fill a whole hour, let me know and perhaps we can arrange for two presenters to share the time. I'm also certain people hear speakers out in the community who they think would be interesting and appropriate for our venue. If so, please pass the information on to me. To provide variety for the potlucks we need input from many sources, so keep your ears and minds open for speakers.

The members of the Entertainment Committee are Laurie Funkhouser, Brian Hamilton, Mary Hamilton, Kathy Hoeg, Brenda Kameenui, Charlie Van Deusen and myself. I would especially like to thank Kathy for making the posters each month and for placing them at the Y, and Charlie for writing up the articles each month about the upcoming potlucks and submitting them to the *Bulletin*.

Membership - Barb Revere

Membership presented approximately 30 new applications for membership in the last 12 months -- November, 2010 through October, 2011. All were approved by our Board of Directors.

We are currently deep into the 2011/12 Membership Drive. 219 members have renewed their membership. With 507 members, we have about 43% renewed. It is slightly better, because I have several unrecorded.

Many thanks to the 11 members of our committee: Bea Fontana, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Helen Martz, Carol Petty, Charlene Pierce, (Jim Pierce worked unofficially), Margaret Prentice, Julia Richardson, Chris Shuralef, Lynne Tracy, and Martha Welches.

Publicity - Elle Weaver

In April REI invited us to present our club at one of their monthly classes and events. We were delighted to see a little more than forty interested people show up. Many were surprised to hear of all the places we typically go on our trips. In June we were also invited by REI to participate with them at the Great American Backyard Campout. To celebrate National Trails Day in June, our members offered hikes to Brice Creek and Goodman Creek as well as a trail maintenance hike to Spencer Butte. Our booth at the Eugene Celebration in August was especially well visited this year. Many thanks to committee members: Mary and Brian Hamilton, Janet and John Jacobsen, Chris Stockdale and all the members who helped with this year's events.

Concessions - Lyn Gilman-Garrick

First and foremost, thanks to all the folks who helped with Concessions this year, whether they pored over t-shirt catalogs or set up our table at potlucks or sold merchandise on bus trips. They include Sharon Duncan, Judy Ness, Lana Lindstrom, Pat Esch, Mary Hamilton, Janet Jacobsen and others.

Because our main goal with Concessions is not to make money but to promote the club and to have fun, we put items on sale and held drawings. Both designed to move surplus items and to make people more aware of and involved in Concessions. We hope to do more sales and drawings in the future. As always, we encourage members, to give us feedback and ideas. Let us know if there's something we should add to our line of merchandise.

Online - Wayne Deeter

After 83 years of paper signups at various places around Eugene -- Hendershott's Gun Shop, Gilbert's Shoe Store, and the one most of us remember, the 'Y', our online signup system became operational last November. As of October 13, there have been 13,371 login accesses for online signup/leader access, an average of 39 per day for the 344 days

we have been up. There have been 1468 logins for committee level access. Since the first guest registered with us on November 3, 2010, we have had 514 people register as guests in order to access our online data system. Of those guests: 240 went on at least 1 trip, 36 went on 5 or more trips, 7 went on 10 or more trips, and 28 have become Obsidian members.

Finance - Stewart Hoeg

The Obsidian Finance Committee during the past year was responsible for putting together the 2011 budget, recommending investments for the Endowment Fund and Contingency Fund and the rebuilding of the Contingency/Capital Fund. In addition, the committee audited the General Fund and the Extended Trips Fund. Thanks to committee members Laree Beckley, Dan Christensen, Jean Coberly, Lana Lindstrom, Liz Reanier, Stephen Brander and chair Stewart Hoeg.

Librarian - Lenore McManigal

About 30 new people became members of the club last year, so each name now has an activity sheet where their trips etc. are recorded. I have kept up the recording on a regular basis, using the *Bulletin's* trip reports to record the names. There is also the unhappy task of giving the Bulletin committee membership information on past and present members who have died. Eleven people have died in the last year.

Lodge Building - Doug Nelson

The Lodge did not require any significant repairs in the past year, and no major renovations were undertaken. The primary work of the committee was routine maintenance and janitorial services. Ad hoc committees and various volunteers undertook several improvement projects. A new bookcase to house the library has been commissioned; a new projection screen has been purchased and installed; and new storage shelves are in place in the Climbs' storage closet. Sue Sullivan and Janet Jacobson have been instrumental in making these improvements.

The surprising development for the Building Committee has been the interest and activity with Lodge rentals. We have greatly exceeded our budgeted expectations for rental income.

All this rental activity has gone remarkably well. Those who have used the Lodge have been both grateful and respectful of our space. If new to the building, they

were usually quite impressed. Lodge rental clearly serves as a positive outreach for the club and service to the community. Rental fees collected to date: \$1,150

Lodge Grounds - John Jacobsen

The Obsidians Grounds Committee continued the ongoing task of removing unsafe trees near the Lodge and oak habitat restoration on the Lodge grounds. Along with removing the unsafe trees near the Lodge, we have largely completed getting blackberries and heavy brush removed to at least 30 feet from the Lodge, as recommended by the state fire marshal. I would like to thank the Grounds Committee members and others who have helped keep the grounds in shape and looking good, and for helping on special projects.

Safety - Sue Sullivan

The Safety Committee has had a very quiet year in 2011. We are charged with the task of investigating any safety concerns that occur on Obsidian outings, and I am pleased to report that there has been very little activity for the Safety Committee this year. Still ahead of us are a couple of projects: to complete the rewrite of the Safety Manual and to update the medications in the First Aid kits. Thanks to committee members Lyndell Wilken, Jim Pierce, Pat Esch, and Verna Kochen for sharing this uneventful year with me on the committee.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

To the Board of Directors:

As allowed by the Obsidian Constitution – ARTICLE III, MEMBERSHIP – SECTION 6, HONORARY MEMBERSHIP, five active members signed to nominate Lenore McManigal for Honorary Membership.

Lenore and her husband, John, have been members since 1962, both receiving 3 and 10 peak awards. She climbed her 10th peak, Mt. Jefferson, September 2, 1984. She received her 200 Trip Award in 2006. Lenore has been Historian of the club since 1992 and thus has attended something like 200 board meetings. She has served on the Board and was Vice-President in 2002. Lenore is on the Bus Committee and is a faithful member of the *Bulletin* mailing crew. Just to mention a few of her volunteer projects, she has served on Nominating Committees, Bus Committee, volunteered on lodge

clean up projects, made pancakes at Father's Day Breakfasts, and even assisted with the Hand Lake Shelter restoration in August of 1993. It was Lenore who made sure that we kept the water fountain when the Lodge was remodeled. She and John continue to attend potlucks and ExploraTalks and participate in bus trips.

Summer Camp has been a regular part of John and Lenore's summers since 1964. The 2002 Summer Camp was named Camp McManigal in honor of John and Lenore's commitment to Summer Camp.

Lenore is clearly qualified as a person who has "rendered distinguished services to the Club" as required for nomination as an Honorary Member in the Obsidians.

Lenore's election was unanimously approved.

ELECTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The nominees for membership on the Board for January 2012 through December 2014 were Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, and Stewart Hoeg. All three nominees were unanimously elected.

AWARDS

2011 Trip and Leader Awards

Brian Hamilton announced the following trip awards.

2011 Trip Awards: 100: Doug Nelson, Nola Nelson, Richard Hughes, Marriane Camp, Nancy Whitfield and Charlie Van Deusen, 200: Jim Duncan and Margaret Prentice, 500: Janet Jacobsen

Janet Jacobsen announced the following leader awards.

2011 Leader Awards: 25: Becky Lipton and Joanne Ledet, 50: Doug Nelson, 75: Scott Hovis

Larry Huff announced the 2011 Climbing Awards: 3-Peak Award Lubos Hubata-Vacek

2011 Special Awards

Outstanding Leadership Award presented by Janet Jacobsen to Liz Reanier, for her many hours supporting Obsidians Bus Trips and for her enthusiastic commitment to seeking out those curious destinations.

Photography Award presented by Joella Ewing to Jim Pierce, for taking more pictures than anyone else on all the trips in which he participates.

Jumping Right In Award presented by

Brian Hamilton to Don Colgan, for a new member facing an intimidating bunch of Board Members and Committee Chairs when substituting for the Summer Trips Chair at two Board Meetings and for preparing articles for Summer Trips Committee to be published in the *Bulletin*.

Sherlock Holmes Award presented by Brian Hamilton to Elle Weaver, for doggedly scanning and double-checking the online trip reports and following clues in order to catch all the errors and inconsistencies made by unnamed perpetrators.

Hand Shake Award presented by Brian Hamilton to Janet Jacobsen, for bravely increasing her chances of catching something when meeting all those unknown people she led on her dozen Get Acquainted hikes.

Major Headache Award presented by Brian Hamilton to John Jacobsen, for all the pain and suffering endured while creating and fine-tuning an online signup system that made life easier for so many of us and potentially eliminated over 700 vehicle trips to the YMCA.

Drill Sergeant Award presented by Brian Hamilton to Valerie Metcalf, for ramrodding the Leaders' Training Program for the second year in a row and force-feeding Obsidians rules and regulations down potential leaders' throats.

Most Photogenic Award presented by Matt Bell to Jim Pierce, for all the trail work that he does and the pictures that he is in, especially the one that makes it into the *Register-Guard* in which he is sweeping stairs.

3 Heads AREN'T Better Than 1 Award presented by Matt Bell to Jim Whitfield, for the numerous times that you have taken a step back and seen the simplest solution to a trail maintenance task. Why work hard when we have you to keep us working smart!

Best Power-Wheelbarrow Roll Award presented by Matt Bell to Todd Larsen, in recognition of his inadvertent act of trail maintenance. After having discussed the location of a prior spill, he also spilled gravel in the same spot on his next trip thereby smoothing out the trail to create a gradual descent rather than a drop in the trail.

One-Person Walking Publicity Committee Award presented by Elle Weaver to Janet Jacobsen, for not only introducing

over 200 guests to our organization by leading the Get Acquainted Hikes over the past two years, but also for being a one-person walking Publicity Committee at all times.

Great Printer Award presented by Elle Weaver to John Jacobsen, for printing the beautiful photos submitted by members. These photos attract members and guests alike to our booth at Eugene Celebration and other events in which we have participated.

Special Contributions Award presented by Larry Huff to Sue Sullivan, for leading the Intermediate-Level Mountaineering workshops and for reorganizing and improving the Climbs storage closet.

Third Time is the Charm Award presented by John Jacobsen to Rob Castleberry, for lifting a particularly virulent Mt. Bailey curse by successfully summiting the mountain on his third try this summer. This after incurring the wrath of the weather gods on his two previous attempts and causing them to drive us from the mountain with pummeling rain, wind, sleet, and snow.

Guinea Pig of the Year Award presented by John Jacobsen to Tom Musselwhite, for being the sucker that had to be the first real-world user of the new online data system. For your patience in dealing with its many idiosyncrasies, bugs and shortcomings. For offering valuable suggestions for its improvement.

Multi-Day Trip Pills—invented by Janet Jacobsen. The multi-day trips offered this year by Extended Trips, Summer Trips, and Bus Trips have been a big hit. I was lucky enough to go on Liz Reanier's Eagles and More bus trip, Mary Holbert's Cannon Beach trip, Chris Stockdale's Spring Basin trip, Rob Castleberry's Diamond Lake/Crater Lake hiking trip and Barbara and Paul Beard's Astoria bus trip. There have been around 16 multi-day trips including backpacks, hiking, kayaking, canoeing, bus trips, birding, snowshoeing/skiing. To help Jim Duncan (Extended Trips Chair), Brian Hamilton (Summer Trips Chair) Liz Reanier (ByWays by Bus Chair) and Tom Musselwhite (Winter Trips) recruit more leaders for future multi-day trips, I have a bottle of Multi-Day Trip Pills for each of you. The label states: No arm twisting. No phone calls or emails. Immediate results. Members queue up to lead.

OCTOBER BOARD NOTES

October 19, 2011

By Kathy Hoeg

President John Jacobsen called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Matt Bell, Kathy Hoeg, Stewart Hoeg, Verna Kocken, Elle Weaver, and Nancy Whitfield. Also present were: Sharon Cutsforth, Wayne Deeter, Brian Hamilton, Janet Jacobsen, Lenore McManigal, and Barb Revere.

The Board approved the minutes of the September 2011 meeting.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summer Trips (Brian Hamilton): Since the last Board meeting, 29 trips were completed and 5 trips were cancelled. In addition to hikes in the urban area and in the Cascades, the trips included one multi-day trip to Diamond Lake and Crater Lake, two backpack trips, three Get-Acquainted hikes, two canoe/kayak trips, and two bike trips.

Winter Trips (Tom Musselwhite): As of Oct 18, 2011, there are 30 trips on the Preliminary Winter Trips Schedule. The Winter Trips season begins on November 15th, and the Preliminary Schedule becomes public on November 1st.

Climbs (Larry Huff): A total of 4 climbs were completed in the month of September.

Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell): There was one outing on Spencer Butte in September. We replaced the picnic tables we removed several years ago with local rocks and some from the slide at the Skinner Butte Columns. We also improved the drainage and stream side of the first culvert with some rock work.

Highways and Byways By Bus (Liz Reanier): One bus trip to view the fall colors was held on October 4, 2011, and led by Ray Jensen. One bus activity remains on our schedule for 2011-- a Christmas party at the Lodge, the date to be announced.

Extended Trips (Jim Duncan): Two trips are on the schedule for next year -- a snowshoe/ski trip to Newberry Crater in

February, led by Lana Lindstrom (see next Bulletin), and a Columbia Gorge hiking trip in May, led by Paul Flashenberg.

Conservation, Science, & Education (Joella Ewing): Rick Ahren's excellent October 18 ExploraTalk on spiders was well attended with 43 people. This was the last ExploraTalk of the year.

Publication (Joanne Ledet): The Bulletin staff has decided to delay the publication of the July issue by a couple weeks on a permanent basis. The goal is to reduce the size of the September Bulletin which can be quite large.

Entertainment (Susan Wanser): The September potluck included a presentation by Hussain Mirza about his trek to the K2 base camp. 51 people attended.

Membership (Barb Revere): There are 507 members as of October 1.

Concessions (Lyn Gilman-Garrick): Since our last report, Concessions took in \$152 at the October 14 annual meeting and \$45 at the October 18 ExploraTalk bringing our annual total revenue to \$943.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): All of the trips and activities have been recorded from the October Bulletin.

Lodge Building (Doug Nelson): Lodge rental: Sept. 20th by University of Oregon Department of Environmental Studies-\$140.00.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): Two work parties were held since the last Grounds report. On September 30 the grounds were spruced up for the September potluck by mowing the grass, blowing out the drives and parking areas, weed-whacking the wooded areas and some pruning. On October 14, in preparation for the Annual Meeting, a work party was held to do routine maintenance, fall prep work and some planting.

At the meeting, John Jacobsen also described some recent vandalism at the Lodge. Some rocks have been broken, moss clumps were tossed onto the side of the building, and paint was thrown at the building. None of this caused permanent damage.

OLD BUSINESS

Matthew Bell summarized the information he had presented at the last meeting about

the proposed Trails Award -- it would be awarded for participating in trail maintenance work parties and would be a one-time award.

John Jacobsen reported on the activities of the Lodge Furniture and Decorating Ad Hoc Committee. Sue Sullivan has chosen a new projection screen for the Lodge and had it installed. A bookcase is being built for the alcove. Ropes and historic climbing equipment have been assembled and will be mounted on the interior walls.

NEW BUSINESS

On behalf of the Publications Committee, Stewart Hoeg asked for and received Board approval to add Nola Nelson as a member of the committee.

Stewart Hoeg said that he will send out worksheets and information to committees to help them prepare their 2012 Budgets.

John Jacobsen reminded the group that at the November meeting the incoming Board will elect the officers, and at the December meeting the standing Board will approve the committee chairs.

Kathy Hoeg proposed investing in some acoustic controls for the Lodge to mitigate the difficulty of holding conversations when there are lots of people in the building. Some of the measures that were discussed at the meeting were acoustic panels on the ceiling and easily-removable carpeting or mats to cover the concrete floor.

Janet Jacobsen proposed a discussion group to generate ideas and specific strategies for involving new members in the activities of the club and for recruiting and training more trip leaders. Elle Weaver volunteered to join. Some ideas that were proposed at the meeting were: giving inexperienced members small specific tasks at first, helping people learn to be leaders by letting them be assistant leaders first, and giving new members a free coupon for a small item of Obsidians merchandise that can be redeemed at a Potluck.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board meeting will be on November 2, 2011, at 6:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned for food at La Oficina.

NOVEMBER BOARD NOTES

November 2, 2011

By Kathy Hoeg

President John Jacobsen called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Matt Bell, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Kathy Hoeg, Stewart Hoeg, Larry Huff, Verna Kocken, Elle Weaver, and Nancy Whitfield. Also present were: Sharon Cutsforth, Wayne Deeter, Jim Duncan, Pat Esch, Joella Ewing, Laurie Funkhouser, Brian Hamilton, Janet Jacobsen, Lenore McManigal, Doug Nelson, Jim Pierce, Barb Revere, and Sue Sullivan.

The Board approved the minutes of the October 2011 meeting.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summer Trips (Brian Hamilton): The Summer Trips season is winding down. Seven more trips have been completed. In addition to hikes, two of the trips were overnight backpacking trips and two were bike trips.

Winter Trips (Tom Musselwhite): Eleven cross-country ski trips, 13 snowshoe trips, one combination ski and/or snowshoe trip, and 12 hikes for a total of 37 trips are on the Winter Trips Schedule at this time. The Winter Trips Schedule is available for posting and distribution. Qualified Leaders may schedule additional trips at any time by emailing wintertrips@obsidians.org with scheduling requests.

Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell): There has been one outing on Spencer Butte in September. We broke into several small groups to help get the trails ready for fall. Monthly Trail Maintenance Participation -- Outings on Spencer Butte: 1; Participants: 10 total; 8 members; 2 non-members; Estimated Volunteer Hours: 30.

Highways and Byways By Bus (Liz Reanier): The By-Ways-By-Bus Committee held a trip-planning meeting on October 24, 2011. Trip proposals were discussed and a tentative selection and calendar for 2012 was drafted.

Extended Trips (Jim Duncan): Another new trip has been added to the sched-

ule for next year, a 5-day Owyhee River rafting trip in May, led by Pat Esch.

Publication (Joanne Ledet): There will be no Bulletin in December and the January Bulletin will go online around January 8.

Entertainment (Susan Wanser): At the October potluck, Jim Rea presented stories about his Pacific Crest Trail hike done in sections over a period of 7 years. The potluck was attended by 60 people.

Membership (Barb Revere): We have 508 members, total. 456 Active, 23 Associate, 17 Life Members, 8 Juniors, and 4 Honorary.

There was a discussion at the meeting of whether the club should offer a discount in membership dues for members who get the Bulletin online. At the end of the discussion, John Jacobsen asked for a show of hands of how many people would like to pursue this issue, and there was not enough interest to warrant doing that.

Concessions (Lyn Gilman-Garrick): The Concessions Committee took in \$22.00 in sales at the October 28, 2011, potluck.

Finance (Stewart Hoeg): The Finance committee split a CD that came due in October. \$10,000 was reinvested at Umpqua Bank for six months at 0.1% and \$10,000 was moved to US Bank and invested for 19 months at 0.9%.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): All of the trips, climbs, bike rides, bus trips etc. from the October Bulletin have been recorded.

Lodge Building (Doug Nelson): The lodge has been reserved for a rental on November 13th. The U of O Outdoor Pursuits Program will be holding a staff retreat.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): Two work parties were held since the last Grounds report. Thanks to Gary Kirk for transplanting all the sword ferns and to Dick Hildreth for clean up in the extended fire break area.

OLD BUSINESS

Matt Bell presented the addition of a trails maintenance award in the Bylaws and also showed statistics for trail maintenance activity during the last two

years. The Board unanimously approved a Trails Award for members who have participated on 15 trail maintenance trips.

There was a discussion about improving the acoustics of the Lodge, continued from the last Board meeting. Sue Sullivan, Kathy Hoeg, Doug Nelson, and John Jacobsen will work on the project

NEW BUSINESS

John Jacobsen introduced the election of 2012 Board. Stewart Hoeg nominated Elle Weaver for President. Matt Bell for Vice-President and Kathy Hoeg for Secretary. Elle Weaver nominated Stewart Hoeg for Treasurer. There were no other nominations. The Board unanimously voted for all four nominees.

John Jacobsen reminded the meeting attendees that at the December Board meeting incoming President Elle Weaver will propose 2012 Committee Chairs.

At the meeting, there was a discussion of questions that had been emailed in by Darko Sojak. His first question was whether we could improve the quality, variety, and organization of the photos on our web page. Some of the points raised during the discussion were: can we make it possible for Trip Leaders to be able to submit photos along with their Trip Reports? should we allow Trip Reports to be viewed from the home page without having to sign into the Online System? should we take a broader look at updating the web site? Brian Hamilton said that we should consider the web site to be an advertisement for Obsidian activities, and therefore it would be good to have a way for people to look at reports and photos without registering. Matt Bell said that we could address many of our needs by using an external web hosting service to which people could post photos.

Darko's second question was why the Obsidians are not listed on the U.S. Hiking Clubs and Organization's web site. Elle Weaver said that she would register us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board meeting will be on December 7 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned for food at The Humble Beagle.

TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Hikes

Mt. Yoran

August 21, 2011

Leader: Don Colgan

Hike: 9.6 miles, 1,300 ft. (Moderate)

IF I WAS A MASTER CHEF I COULDN'T HAVE COOKED UP a more perfect day for a hike. This was a vintage August Sunday. Twelve of us met at 8:30 at the south end of Amazon Park by the bus station, piled into three vehicles, then drove to Pleasant Hill to pick up our thirteenth hiker. From the trailhead twenty miles past Hills Creek Dam we hiked through a nice stand of forest with Diamond Peak sometimes in view. In about a mile we passed the very pretty Notch Lake and found our trail junction, the Mt. Yoran Trail (Vivian Lake would be the other option). For about 1.6 miles we climbed steadily, then leveled off along a ridge. Another mile and a half brought us past the monolithic Mt. Yoran to the stunning Divide Lake. I had previewed this hike some two weeks earlier and found an impressive and daunting amount of snow, but by today most of it was gone except for a few lingering patches. The mosquitoes were out in force, however. All but one of us trudged another mile or more from the lake up to the divide and then to the top of a rocky 'little sibling' of Mt. Yoran. The views were breathtaking on this picture perfect day. Our hike back was uneventful, and it seems that a good time was had by all. Total distance covered was just over ten miles. We had a special guest today named Ji Wang, a student from China who is enrolled at the U of O this fall. Members: Keiko Bryan, Marianne Camp, Don Colgan, Art Kearney, Brian Popowsky, Joe Sanders, Ernst Schwintzer, Chris Stockdale. Nonmembers: Ellen King, David Saul, Zachary King, Thomas Avery, and Ji Wang.

Diamond Lake - Crater Lake

August 26, 2011

Leader: Rob Castleberry

Hike: (Moderate)

FOURTEEN PARTICIPATED IN THIS MULTI-DAY TRIP. We camped at Diamond Lake's Broken Arrow Campground, using it as a base camp for excursions in different directions over a three day weekend. On Friday Rob led 13 of us on a hike to the top of Tipsoo Peak for a sweeping view of the lake, surrounding peaks, and beyond. After a potluck on the lake shore, Janet led eight of us to Crater Lake and a short hike to The Watchman lookout for a lovely sunset. On Saturday John led a group of six to the top of Mt. Bailey under perfect conditions, breaking the curse of two previous Obsidian outings turned back by weather. Janet led eight to hike up Mt. Scott, visit the Pinnacles, and hike the new trail to Plaikni Falls. On Sunday Jim led a walk to Boundary Springs, source of the Rogue River, and three of us walked the Silent Creek trail west of the campground. Weather cooperated,

mosquitoes were few in most areas, and the campground satisfactory. The many attractions to choose from make this a trip to be repeated in the future. Members: Keiko Bryan, Marianne Camp, Rob Castleberry, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Laurie Marshall, Valerie Metcalfe, Nola Nelson, Eric Swegles, Jim Whitfield, Nancy Whitfield, and Peggy Windle. Nonmembers: Lisa Berenschot and Tom Etges.

Gerdine Butte

August 28, 2011

Leader: Scott Hovis

Hike: 7 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

SEVERAL OF THE PEOPLE THOUGHT THE TRIP should be listed as difficult because of a lot of off-trail walking. After leaving the trailhead you quickly come to Charlton Lake. This is a good time to look for Gerdine Butte. It helps for bushwhacking shortly up the PCT when you need to leave the trail going east. Hidden Lake is at the base of the butte. Keep looking for Gerdine Butte through the trees. It helps to have walking sticks because of some of the steep slopes. Bugs were not bad, especially compared to when I had recently been to nearby Waldo Lake where they were testy. There were delays on Highway 58 because of construction. Members: Paul Flashenberg, Chuck Harpham, Bob Harrison, Dick Hildreth, Scott Hovis, Rich Romm, Susan Sanazaro, and Ernst Schwintzer. Nonmembers: Jane Kay.

Green Lakes

September 11, 2011

Leader: Daphne James

Hike: 8.4 miles, 1,100 ft. (Moderate)

IT HAS BEEN AN INTERESTING FEW MONTHS: a long wet spring, snow on the trails into Aug., lingering mosquitoes, fire and smoke in our favorite mountains. We encountered none of those things. We had lovely blue skies with just enough cloud cover to keep it from being overly hot. Hiking along Fall Creek the water was high and the waterfalls at their best. We had the usual spectacular views of South Sister and Broken Top that make this hike memorable. We took a relaxed lunch at the larger of Green Lakes. Dick ventured into the very cold waters for a refreshing swim. Our crew thoroughly enjoyed this hike. Members: Dick Hildreth and Daphne James. Nonmembers: Deborah Ogburn and Phyllis Goldman.

Mt. Pisgah Autumnal Equinox Hike

September 21, 2011

Leader and Photographer: Darko Sojak

Hike: 2.8 miles, 1,000 ft. (Easy)

THE DUSTY PARKING LOT AT MT. PISGAH WAS ALMOST FULL. The unusually warm evening attracted 14 signed-up hikers and two more (Ruth Kinane and Pat Evens) who joined us on the trailhead. The western sky at sunset time was semi-cloudy but nice. On the way down, we enjoyed a great view of the Eugene lights with thousands of singing cicadas. A big thanks goes to Janet for support. Members: Janet Jacobsen, Lisa Marcus, Susan Sanazaro, Joe Sanders, Darko Sojak, Pat Soussan, Jim Whitfield, and Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Jeffery Kornfeld, Jorry Rolfe, Ann Rollins, Teresa Cruz, Laurie Fox, Taylor Theis, Ruth Kinane, and Pat Evens.



Rosary Lakes

September 23, 2011

Leader: Chris Cunningham

Hike: 7 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

WELL PAST MOSQUITO SEASON AND HOT SUMMER WEATHER, our five-some found a lot to be grateful for on this autumn day. Imagine our delight to find no cars in the parking lot! With just two hikers on the trail the entire day, this was not the Rosary Lakes I have become accustomed to. Cloudless skies kept Odell Lake an aquamarine backdrop, always in our sight, adding interest to what otherwise is not a terribly interesting trail. So much dead and dying timber covers these hillsides. We stopped to admire the craggy Pulpit Rock, which overlooks lower Rosary Lake. At lunch time, we sat just an arm's length from the Middle Lake, then sauntered to the smaller upper lake before extending our hike up the trail a bit. We began our descent about 1:00, when we just began to feel the 75-degree weather. Members: Chris Cunningham, Pete Peterson, Susan Sanazaro, and Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Lisa Romano.

Tam McArthur Rim

September 24, 2011

Leader: Judy Terry

Hike: 5 miles, 1,200 ft. (Moderate)

OUR GROUP STARTED UP THE TRAIL to Tam McArthur Rim on a clear beautiful day. It was early enough that the temperature was comfortable for the steady climb up. At the top we had wonderful views of the neighboring mountains. We could see lingering smoke and evidence of the ongoing fires at the Big Lake area. Smoke had settled into the lower regions and Mt. Hood was barely visible because of the smoke. At the top of the rim there was a forest ranger, who had been involved the prior evening with an unattended campfire. A helicopter had dropped two smoke jumpers on the site to control the situation. The ranger was still there monitoring the area. After lunch we went to a sloping snowfield. Several of us climbed a short distance and slid down the snowy hill. That's one way to stay cooled off! Members: Love Opincar, Guy Strahon, Judy Terry, and Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Jorry Rolfe, Nathan Thompson, and Kerry Whalen.

Obsidian Trail - Arrowhead Lake

September 24, 2011

Leader: Bob Harrison

Photographer: Ernst Schwintzer

Hike: 12 miles, 2,100 ft. (Difficult)

A GROUP OF SIX OBSIDIANS left from Campbell Senior Center at 7:15 am on a clear morning for a hike to Arrowhead Lake via the Obsidian Trail. The weather was perfect with clear skies, warm temperature, and no mosquitoes, so we were all in good spirits. In the discussions along the way it became evident that the leader's idea of which lake is Arrowhead Lake was different than some other members of the group. It was decided to go to the leader's Arrowhead Lake which was about 600 feet above the PCT and the lakes Bill Sullivan calls Arrowhead Lakes. We followed the trail along Glacier Creek until we reached the PCT and then we followed climbers' trails around the bluff and passed the snow-covered slopes to get to the top. We reached the lake before noon and had a leisurely lunch, did some exploring, took photographs and started the return a little after 1:00. The return trip was uneventful except for a missing hat that was soon recovered and a few raindrops when we reached the cars. Members: Frank Chemotti, Paul Flashenberg, Bob Harrison, Sarah Praskiewicz, Ernst Schwintzer, and Chris Stockdale.



Ridgeline Trail

September 25, 2011

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 6.2 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)

THE RAINY WEATHER FORECAST prompted me to cancel the drive up river and hike the nearby Ridgeline Trail instead. On her second hike with the Obsidians, Harriet Kelly, who is an avid mushroom picker, was surprised how fast we did the 6.2 miles. There were no mushrooms to be seen on this hike. We were back at the car by noon, all of us with plans for a busy afternoon. Members: Janet Jacobsen, Laurie Marshall, and Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Harriet Kelly.

Lakeview Mountain

October 1, 2011

Leader: Frank Chemotti

Hike: 11 miles, 2,500 ft. (Difficult)

WEATHER FORECASTS WERE QUESTIONABLE, but upon passing over the crest of Highway 58, we found some sun, some cloud, and (importantly) no rain. We hiked quickly along the trail to

Fawn Lake and then Stag Lake. We then traveled off-trail for a mile over steepening terrain to reach the ridge south of Lakeview and scrambled the rest of the way to the summit. On top, things were calm and cool. We stayed briefly to enjoy lunch and a view of many lakes and nearby peaks. Diamond Peak remained clouded down to its flanks. To return, rather than go right back to Stag Lake, the group decided to make a bit of a loop—we continued south along the ridge, reached a smaller peak, then followed another ridge southwest for a more gradual descent to Saddle Lake, where we regained a trail and started back toward Fawn Lake and the trailhead. Members: Frank Chemotti and Chris Stockdale. Nonmembers: Maria Gulemetova.

Matthieu Lakes

October 2, 2011

Leader: Jim Duncan

Hike: 6 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

NINE OBSIDIANS TOOK A CHANCE that the rain in Eugene wouldn't necessarily mean rain in the mountains and we went ahead with our scheduled hike to Matthieu Lakes. And, we were rewarded with an almost perfect day for hiking – partly sunny skies, cool temperatures, and good views of the mountains. The upper loop had views of Belknap Crater, Mt. Washington and Three Fingered Jack over our right shoulder, with clouds covering most of Mt. Jefferson. We stopped for a leisurely lunch at South Matthieu Lake facing North and Middle Sister, then continued the loop trail down to North Matthieu Lake on our way back to the trailhead. Our congenial group all agreed that it was a good day to be out in the mountains. Members: Barbara Aten, Jacque Davis, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Laurie Marshall, Nola Nelson, Diane Pergamit, Pat Soussan, and Jim Whitfield.

Gander Lake/Winchester Ridge Loop

October 2, 2011

Leader and Photographer: Jan Anselmo

Hike: 11 miles, 2,751 ft. (Difficult)

HIKERS MET THE LEADER AT THE LION MOUNTAIN BAKERY in uptown Oakridge. We started at an obscure trailhead that not many folks use. We gained much of our elevation in the first mile, which was a nice warm-up. Weather was a pleasant hiking temp with a mixture of clouds and filtered sun, and no bugs. Many hiked to Waldo Mountain Lookout in t-shirts and shorts. We tromped pass Gander Lake and entered the meadow. After climbing past a rocky outcropping with great views to the lakes below that we had just passed, we proceeded to climb through a burn section. Turning at the junction for Waldo Mountain Lookout, we entered another wooded section leading to our lunch spot. At the top there was little wind and spectacular views of Waldo Lake, the Sisters and surrounding terrain. Some even managed a nice refreshing nap. Our next section was along Winchester Ridge—a faint trail because of low use. Of course this was what made it more interesting. There were huckleberries to enjoy, and from the purplish scat along the trail, we were not the only ones enjoying nature's bounty (think big, black and furry). Our final section of the trail wound its way down through a canopy of old growth to Swan Lake. As we reached our cars, a light rain began to fall. Perfect. Thank you Lyndell, for your assistance and for being my trail sweep. This was a great hike made even better by such congenial participants. Members: Jan Anselmo, Richard Anselmo, Rob Castleberry, Lynda Christiansen, Don Cross, Dick Hildreth, Becky Lipton, Kate Parrish, Ernst



Schwintzer, Chris Stockdale, and Lyndell Wilken. Nonmembers: Robert Beal.

Scott Mountain

October 8, 2011

Leader: David Morris

Photographer: Ernst Schwintzer

Hike: 8.2 miles, 1,300 ft. (Moderate)

SEVEN EAGER HIKERS MET at the Thurston Albertson's parking lot. The rains for the last two weeks had lifted and talk about sun screen was in the air. We picked up two more hikers in Vida. It was perfect hiking weather: sunny and a little chilly at first but everyone warmed right up. On the way to the mountain there were patches of snow on the trail about 1/2 inch deep and the occasional mud puddles were iced over. We stopped for a break at a small trailside lake. What a beautiful view—without a wind the small lake reflected Scott Mountain, the sky and the trees like a mirror. Just before the summit we encountered several late season wildflowers and around the corner we had a view of the Three Sisters. We snapped some pictures just before a cloud bank engulfed the mountain. We spent some time at the summit eating lunch and taking in the great views. On the trip back we made a side trip to Tenas Lake and spent at least a half an hour basking in the sun. What a nice end to a great hike. Members: Ellen Johnson, Steven Johnson, Lisa Marcus, David Morris, Joe Sanders, Ernst Schwintzer, Jim Whitfield, and Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Catherine Burke-Maher.



Maiden Peak

October 9, 2011

Leader: Lubos Hubata-Vacek

Hike: 11.6 miles, 2,900 ft. (Difficult)

WE HIKE UNDER MOSTLY CLOUDY SKIES, yet the temperature was mild and later on we had some sunshine. Towards the top we encountered a little bit of snow. The views from the top were good. We had the company of several mountain bikers at the top, otherwise we had the trail for ourselves. The landscape was pretty; refreshed after some rain in the previous week. Members: Don Cross, Lubos Hubata-Vacek, and Becky Lipton.

Mt. Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise

October 11, 2011

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 2.8 miles, 1,000 ft. (Easy)

A DOWNPOUR EARLIER IN THE DAY surprisingly eased to blue skies for our sunset/moonrise hike. We started up the trail at 5:15 pm to be on top for the moonrise at 6:08 pm. We enjoyed visiting while we patiently waited for the white full moon to appear above the eastern hills. There were low clouds to the west so the sun dropped out of sight before the 6:36 sunset time. Since it was a warm evening and the moon was putting on quite a show, we didn't rush back to our cars. A reminder for next year is that the hike could have started 20 minutes later. Members: Janet Jacobsen, Love Opincar, Darko Sojak, and Pat Sossan. Nonmembers: Jane Dods.

Tamolitch Pool to Clear Lake

October 23, 2011

Leader: Becky Lipton

Hike: 10.5 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)

EIGHT EAGER HIKERS LEFT AN OVERCAST EUGENE and were met with dazzling fall colors on the McKenzie River Trail. Hiking to Tamolitch Pool, we were met with blue skies and glowing golden maples reflecting in the darkly aquamarine water. Golden vine and big leaf maples wowed us throughout the hike...and rainbows reflected off the mist rising from the waterfalls. Members: Don Cross, Paul Flashenberg, Becky Lipton, Lisa Marcus, Diana Masarie, Nola Nelson, Joe Sanders, and Ernst Schwintzer



Climbs

Mt. Yoran

September 11, 2011

Leader: Wayne Deeter

Climb: 11 miles, 2,000 ft.

WE WERE PLEASED TO FIND that there were already ripe huckleberries along the trail, but had to pick them on the fly as the mosquitoes discouraged stopping. Once at Divide Lake we followed the climbers trail up to the saddle between Mt. Yoran and the slightly higher, unnamed peak to the east. We then scrambled around to the south side of Yoran, and up the gully to the top. We spent more than an hour there, basking in

the sun and admiring the views of the surrounding peaks and lakes. This was a fine substitute for the originally planned two-day climb of The Husband, which had to be canceled due to wildfire on the east side of Substitute Point. Members: Wayne Deeter, Larry Huff, Doug Nelson, and Sue Zeni.

Broken Top

September 17, 2011

Leaders: Sean Breslin/Ass't Leader Doug Nelson

Climb: 17 miles, 3,900 ft. (Difficult)

FOUR VERY EAGER CLIMBERS found themselves at the Green Lakes Trailhead by 12 pm. It was a beautiful day with a slight initial crisp to the air; very comfortable to hike in. By 3 pm we found ourselves already at the natural spring above Green Lakes and spent the rest of the day reading and bouldering on what we dubbed the 'White-Jones Route' in preparation for the next day's climb. Bright and early at 6 am the next day we had our bags packed and our headlamps on. The wind gradually began to pick up as we gained the northwest ridge. We continued scrambling up and into the cloud along the ridgeline where the rock gradually became wetter and the wind picked up. By the time we had progressed to the 15-foot 'crux' wall, the rock was fairly wet but still doable. Two of us went straight up the wall and two circumvented to the left. We debated whether or not to go directly for the summit on the very exposed Class 4 scramble, but the dampness of the rock made us think that the circuitous but more typical 'cat-walk' traverse to the right was a better idea. We all summited around 8:30 am but the wind, cold, and damp convinced us to head directly back to camp! On the way back to camp the cloud remained over the mountain but the lower reaches began to clear. After packing up camp and making our way back to the Green Lakes Trail we spied a beautiful and completely cloud-free Broken Top summit! Note to self...next time around take your time. The climbers were all in spectacular shape and halved the time that I had allotted for each stretch of the climb. Nice job Doug, Kevin, and Dalen! Members: Sean Breslin, Doug Nelson, and Dalen Willhite. Nonmembers: Kevin Jones.

Mt. Hubris/Cosmic Wall

October 7, 2011

Leaders: Wayne Deeter/Ass't Leader Doug Nelson

Climb: 7 miles, 2,500 ft.

THE TRIP WAS POSTPONED A WEEK due to a forecast of poor weather (who wants to be three pitches up when the rain starts?). We could just barely make out the snow-covered slopes of Shasta in the moonlight as we drove by on our way to Castle Crags State Park Friday night. Jupiter shone brightly to the south at our 4:30 am wake-up call. Not long after our 5:30 start we stopped to layer down—2,000 feet in three miles makes for a rather steep trail! There was a party of three camped near Castle Rock, apparently there also to climb The Cosmic Wall. But they were taking their time to get to it, so we were first-on, starting our climb at about 8 am. The views were magnificent—a dusting of new snow over the old on Mt. Shasta, and snow showing on the mountains to the southwest. We linked together the traditional 3rd and 4th pitches, as this can be easily done with a 60-meter rope, thus bypassing the problematical belay station and its manky 1/4" inch, rusty bolt (yikes)! Sean enjoyed his first ride on the stegosaurus. We basked in the sun on top for a while – it gets rather chilly at the last belay station, sitting in the shade with the



wind blowing through the notch. There are now bolts for the second rappel station, so there's no longer a need to sling the tree. Have we just not noticed them before, or are they new? A third party was headed up the route when we collected our gear from the base of the climb—hope they had headlamps! We capped off the day with a relaxing meal at the brew pub in Mt. Shasta City before tackling the long drive back to town. Members: Sean Breslin, Wayne Deeter, and Doug Nelson.



Bike Trips

Parvin Covered Bridge

August 19, 2011

Leader: Patricia Esch

Bike: 25 miles, 250 ft. (Moderate)

FIVE BIKERS GATHERED IN PLEASANT HILL for a social ride to the newly reconstructed Parvin covered bridge, east of Dexter. The short, steep downhill beginning was fun but gave food for thought about the return. We took back roads north of Highway 58, under the railroad, past Elijah Bristow Park, crossed the highway to Dexter, under the railroad again and zipped down Parvin Road to the bridge, which was originally built in 1921. Standing underneath by the stream, we could see mostly old beams with some new replacements. The siding and roof looked new with a shiny white paint job. Returning to the park, we ate lunch and were glad on this warming up, sunny day that biking creates its own breeze. Members: Barbara Bruns, Patricia Esch, Don Kindt, Joe Sanders, and Peggy Windle.

Detering Orchard

October 8, 2011

Leader: Patricia Esch

Bike: 28 miles, 20 ft. (Moderate)

SIX RIDERS MET FOR AN EASY RIDE (READ FLAT) north through bucolic Coburg and up the Willamette Valley to Detering Orchard for 28 miles of quiet countryside, except for some road traffic. Saturday was the magic day for apple cobbler and ice cream at Detering's Fall Festival, so there were lots of people, pumpkins and apples of all kinds. We enjoyed people watching

(just how do you put long, leafy corn stalks into your car?) as we ate our lunch and indulged in one or more servings of dessert. The weather was cool with some sun and the breeze at our backs, so it was perfect for our return. Members: Anne Bonine, Barbara Bruns, Patricia Esch, Don Kindt, and Moshe Rapaport. Nonmembers: Lonnie Hinde.

Lorane/Doane Hill Loop

October 15, 2011

Leader: Lyn Gilman-Garrick

Bike: 35 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

EIGHT HEARTY SOULS TURNED UP to bike to Sylvan Ridge Winery. The weather forecast predicted sun and warmth but we got clouds and cold. Despite the less than desirable conditions we all had a good time tackling Lorane, Briggs and Doane Hills and relaxing on the deck of the winery with our lunches and home-made brownies. Members: Bill Aspegren, Joyce Davis, Walt Davis, Paul Garrick, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Stewart Hoeg, George Jobanek, and Art Sather.

McKenzie View/Coburg Bottom Loop

October 23, 2011

Leader: Guy Strahon

Bike: 26 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)

FIVE OBSIDIAN BIKERS LEFT THE SHOPKO PARKING LOT for an excellent ride out McKenzie View Road. It was a dry day with the temperature around 55 degrees. The fall foliage was colorful and I enjoyed the smell of burning leaves in the air (brings back childhood memories!). After riding out to Hill Road and back, we continued on Coburg Road into the town of Coburg and then west of town to the Bottom Loop Road. After a leisurely ride through farm country, it was back to Coburg for lunch at the Pizza Place. Some had hot soup w/breadsticks and some had pizza. YUM! Then, enjoying the temperature of 66 degrees, we rode back to the Shopko lot to end a very beautiful day with good people! Members: Barbara Bruns, Patricia Esch, Don Kindt, Guy Strahon, and Peggy Windle.



Backpacks

Jefferson Park

September 9, 2011

Leader: Scott Hovis

Backpack: 17 miles, 2,000 ft. (Difficult)

THERE WERE PLENTY OF BUGS TO GO AROUND...but the trade off was the wildflowers this late in the season. We wondered about horse etiquette. Several riders on horses passed us, and we didn't know whether you should go up the slope from a horse or down; should you talk to it or be quiet? It might be a good article for the bulletin to pursue. Trails were in good condition except where the lakes are; a lot of too much love is necessitating restoration. The lake temps were swimmable. A map at the trailhead showing placement of the posts that campers are required to camp by would be helpful. The restaurant that reopened at Marion Forks is worth a stop. Members: Mari Baldwin,

Keiko Bryan, Scott Hovis, and Chris Stockdale.

South Waldo Lake

September 23, 2011

Leader: Scott Hovis

Backpack: 11 miles, 1000 ft. (Moderate)

THE WALDO LAKE TRAIL is always nicely maintained, but the side trails like the Black Meadows Loop Trail could use some help. It was faint in areas, and there was a lot of blow down that needs a saw crew. Some helpful surveyors tape has been put up here and there but I'm not sure how long that will last. We stayed next to the South Waldo Lake Shelter. The roof is in good shape but the wood stove is showing signs of wear. The doors are missing, and I'm guessing the 5% lean of the stove pipe is causing a poor up draft, as much of the smoke is billowing out the front. The ax is useless at the moment as the handle is broken. Like many things this summer, the huckleberries are late because of the heavy snows; I've never seen so many berries at the beginning of fall. Members: Keiko Bryan and Scott Hovis. Nonmembers: Christy Fisher and Dorothy Kilmer.



Trail Maintenance

Spencer Butte

September 24, 2011

Leader: Matthew Bell

Trail Maintenance: 2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

THIS MONTH'S OUTING WAS VERY EXCITING. Unlike many of our outings in which we do our best to undo the damage to the trail and environment that Spencer Butte receives, we actually added back and created features for future hikers and picnickers to enjoy. Several years ago we removed the two wooden picnic tables from the meadow because they were rotting. Today we got to replace them with rocks that will last a lot longer! Christer LaBrecque had selected some choice pieces from the last rockslide at the Skinner Butte Columns. Our group split into two to tackle the day's tasks. One group would focus on clearing a pad for the rocks that Christer would place with the Bobcat. As the excavation began we discovered a deep pile of ash and charcoal. This led to some discussion and Christer informed us that in the 70's people used to drive into the meadow and light bonfires and party. Extra kudos go to Jim Whitfield for realizing that instead of shoveling the ash Christer could just scrape and scoop it all up with the Bobcat, saving us a lot of work and time. As Jim Pierce and Steve Gibson delivered gravel for the pad, Christer began placing rocks to sit on and use as a table. Jim Whitfield and Erin Noble worked to spread the gravel and prepare spots for the rocks. Christer spotted a rock that had dislodged when a tree fell and it now forms a really comfortable recliner in the rock circle. The largest rock maxed out the Bobcat and thankfully came to rest perfectly on the first attempt to place it. The meadow is now much improved with the rock circle. The second group of Janet Jacobsen, Pat Soussan, Alex and Matthew Lockfeld, and Lisa Marcus worked to improve the drainage around the spring and culvert that are just to the east of the

meadow. They worked to line the streamside with rocks to stop the banks from continuing to slough into the stream. Two large rocks were added along the south side of the trail to provide seating and to help delineate the trail side. The seating also has the added benefit of allowing people to enjoy the sounds of water flowing over the rock waterfall painstakingly and muddily created by Pat Soussan. After all of our hard work we inaugurated the stone circle by enjoying some well deserved snacks and lemonade. Members: Matthew Bell, Janet Jacobsen, Lisa Marcus, Jim Pierce, Pat Soussan, and Jim Whitfield. Nonmembers: Steve Gibson, Alex Lockfeld, Matthew Lockfeld, and Erin Noble.



Byways By Bus

Astoria's Bi-Centennial

Sept. 14-17, 2011

Leaders: Paul and Barbara Beard

PAUL AND BARBARA BEARD were the organizers and leaders of this very enjoyable trip. Twenty-eight riders and one excellent bus driver left Eugene on Wednesday, September 14 for a 4-day excursion through the northwest Coast Range to Astoria, enjoying a part of a year-long celebration of Astoria's Bi-Centennial. Our trip, approximately 500 miles, only had us on I-5 for about 20 miles.

The theme for the trip was to take our minds back 200 years, to relive life, myths, and rugged country, to explore the terrain, rivers, forests, forts, Indian culture, fur traders and settlers, and to remember their hardships which paved the way for us to enjoy life in Oregon as we know it. These hardy people called immigrants carved the path to the Oregon country.

As we began our trek two miles outside of Eugene we crossed our first river, the McKenzie. From that point on most riders were watching and noting the names of rivers we crossed. We were beginning to especially take note of the difficulties the immigrants faced crossing rivers. As we traveled the old Hwy. 99 through Harrisburg and Albany to our first stop at the Santiam River on I-5 for a coffee break, we were already getting a good count and awareness of how many rivers and how much water we have in Oregon.

At Salem we turned north on Hwy. 221, heading for McMinnville. A few miles south of Dayton, we turned right toward the Willamette River and crossed the river aboard the Wheatland Ferry, a cable drawn barge with the capacity of carrying 60 tons. It could hold the bus, except for the fact that the incline to the ferry was too steep. Therefore, we rode across the Willamette and back afoot. This was a great experience on a sunny day on the open river. It took us back a bit to river crossings via barges, without the hardships many settlers possibly experienced floating across on rafts of logs.

In Dayton, we saw the tower and observation area remains of the Ft. Yamhill fort, which was moved to the Dayton area and placed in the city park. We also drove by the home of Joel Palmer, which is now a very fine restaurant. We connected with

Hwy. 47 at McMinnville to Forest Grove and Hwy. 26 west. Our lunch break was a picnic at a rest stop on Hwy. 26, and then we turned north on Hwy. 103 through Jewell and to the Young River Falls. What a wonderful fan of water over the rocks, even in September. Not one person on the bus tour had ever seen the falls, except the leaders. Some of us hiked to the bottom of the trail, enjoying the deep green pool below the falls. Then on to Ft. Clatsop, where a wonderful park ranger talked and showed a short film about the Lewis and Clark hardships living through an Oregon winter there. We checked into several B&Bs to enjoy two nights in Astoria. Janet Jacobsen enjoyed hiking up the hill to the top of the Astoria Column for a great view, before joining the rest of the group at Fulio's Italian restaurant for dinner.

Day two found us at Fort Stevens, with a little drizzle. We toured the Military Museum and some braved the rain to take in displays of the fur traders and Indian encampment. We were back to Astoria at noon for a fine lunch on the waterfront of the Columbia at Baked Alaska restaurant. After lunch, we took the trolley along the waterfront with an interesting conductor as our guide. We even participated in turning the trolley to forward seating for the return trip. We next had a tour of the Heritage Museum, with a splendid art collection and then across the Columbia to the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center. Some did hike to the lighthouse. Dinner was at the Silver Salmon, in downtown Astoria, with some of the group taking in the lecture at the Liberty Theater, presented by author Jane Kirkpatrick.

Day three was a beautiful sunny day, especially clear for viewing the sights along the north Oregon coast. Our first stop was the rugged Ecola State Park. There is great walking along the cliffs and a wonderful view of the lighthouse perched out on the rocks. We drove through a dense forest before arriving in the open area for viewing. At Garibaldi, just north of Tillamook, we enjoyed a delicious lunch at Pirates Cove. Then it was on to the Coast Guard station, for a tour of the operations there. The station has a 47 ft. life boat that is equipped with the capability of turning itself right side up again in heavy storms in a matter of eight seconds. This is a very busy Coast Guard station with the Tillamook Bay bar and heavy traffic for the fishing industry. Many rescues have happened at this station. We were all in awe of the work being done and the highly trained personnel at this facility. We made a stop at the Tillamook Cheese Factory, enjoying their famous ice cream and other items. We arrived in Lincoln City and the Inn at Spanish Head in plenty of time to enjoy beach walks before and after dinner. We watched as one of the bellmen from the Inn drew messages of welcome to the Obsidians in the sand. At 8 pm, we celebrated a 50th wedding anniversary of guests Doug and Maxine Hughes. Pop, popcorn and a movie depicting families on the Oregon Trail was enjoyed by the group.

Our final day found us staring out the windows again, at the beautiful ocean and more drawings in the sand—OBSIDIANS. This morning saw us at the Glass Museum in the Taft area and on to Depoe Bay for the Indian Salmon Bake held in the city park. The afternoon found us atop Cape Perpetua observing the views from approximately 800 to 1000 ft. above the ocean. Florence found us again snacking on ice cream at one of their popular snack stops. Then we traveled on Hwy 126 to Mapleton for our homeward bound trip to Eugene. The last river crossing was the Long Tom River, making a total of 30 rivers for the trip.

Rules of river counts are that the river could only appear one time in the listings. We all saw new things and sights, and gained a greater appreciation of those hardy settlers who helped develop this great state we call Oregon.

Members: Tom and Judy Adamcyk, Bill Arthur, Barbara & Paul Beard, Paula Beard, Barbara Bruns, Sharon Cutsforth, Rosemary Etter, Barbara and Dennis Flanders, Barbara and Kess Hottle, Janet Jacobsen, John and Lenore McManigal, Barbara & Don Payne, Virginia Prouty, Liz Reanier, Mary Ellen West, Christy White. Nonmembers: Doug and Maxine Hughes, Velma Hammer, Edith Pattee, Judith Phelps, Jan Sears.

Fall Color – Spirit Mountain and More

October 4, 2011

Leader: Ray Jensen

ON A BEAUTIFUL CLEAR MORNING of October 4, 2011, our rest stop was at the Santiam River, where we enjoyed our usual great snacks and goodies.

We then went through Salem and west on Hwy 22 to the Grand Ronde Reservation, where we found major changes in what had been a rural slum. Improvements include an administration (governance) building, health and medical facilities, social services, churches, housing units, and an educational center. Education and efforts to preserve their cultural heritage are emphasized. For example, classes are held twice weekly to study Chinuk Wawa (Chinook Jargon). All these are from casino earnings, which are well spent.

A picture stop was made here at their well-designed Veterans Memorial to honor vets from the tribes and locals.

Then it was on to the casino for lunch and unnamed vices. No reports were given of any winnings—a popular resort and great food. There is a Spirit Mountain, just north of the reservation.

To experience a huge contrast, we went to the Brigittine Monastery, near Amity on the South Yamhill River. This Order was established in the 14th century by St. Bridget of Sweden. The eight monks produce delicious chocolates as their only source of income. It is excellent quality and most of us purchased the 1 lb. boxes.

At 3 pm we went to the chapel for the announced ten minute prayer. Instead, it was Vespers, a 40 minute liturgical mass, including prayer, chants, readings, music, a sermon, communion, but NO offering. All the brothers wore the traditional drab brown hooded robes. It was a very interesting, even inspirational experience.

Because of rainy weather and limited fall color, we opted for a direct route home via Perrydale and Corvallis, with driver Richard Patch returning us to Shopko at 5:30 pm.

There were 27 riders, including members: Ethel Allen, Alice Anderson, Bill Arthur, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Paula Beard, MaryLee Cheadle, Leona Devine, Rose Mary Etter, Barbara Flanders, Dennis Flanders, Ray Jensen (leader), John McManigal, Lenore McManigal, Barbara Payne, Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Ardys Ringsdorf, Julie Snell, Janet Speelman. Nonmembers: Jean Blankenshop, Velma Hammer, Doug Hughes, Maxine Hughes, Natalie McCatchey, Judith Phelps.

2011 Awards

Honorary Membership

Lenore McManigal

Trip Awards

100 Trips: Doug Nelson, Nola Nelson, Richard Hughes, Charlie Van Deusen, Nancy Whitfield, and Marianne Camp

200 Trips: Jim Duncan and Margaret Prentice

500 Trips: Janet Jacobsen

Leader Awards

25 Leads: Becky Lipton and Joanne Ledet

50 Leads: Doug Nelson

75 Leads: Scott Hovis

Special Awards

Jumping Right In Award—Don Colgan: For a new member facing an intimidating bunch of board members and committee chairs when substituting for the Summer Trips Chair at two board meetings and for preparing articles for Summer Trips committee to be published in the *Bulletin*. Brian Hamilton, Obsidian Summer Trips Chair

Sherlock Holmes Award—Elle Weaver: For doggedly scanning and double-checking the online trip reports and following clues in order to catch all the errors and inconsistencies made by unnamed perpetrators. Brian Hamilton, Obsidian Summer Trips Chair

Hand Shake Award—Janet Jacobsen: For bravely increasing her chances of catching something when meeting all those unknown people she led on her dozen Get Acquainted hikes. Brian Hamilton, Obsidian Summer Trips Chair

Major Headache Award—John Jacobsen: For all the pain and suffering endured while creating and fine-tuning an online signup system that made life easier for so many of us and potentially eliminated over 700 vehicle trips to the YMCA. Brian Hamilton, Obsidian Summer Trips Chair

Drill Sargent Award—Valerie Metcalf: For ramrodding the Leaders Training Program for the second year in a row and force-feeding Obsidian rules and regulations down potential leaders' throats. Brian Hamilton, Obsidian Summer Trips Chair

Outstanding Leadership Award—Liz Reanier: For your many hours supporting Obsidian Bus Trips. For your enthusiastic commitment to seeking out those curious destinations. Obsidian Bus Committee

Most Photogenic Award—Jim Pierce: For all the trail work that you do and the pictures that you're in, the one that makes it into the *Register-Guard* is the one in which you're sweeping stairs. Matt Bell, Trail Maintenance Chair

Three Heads AREN'T Better Than One Award—Jim Whitfield: For the numerous times that you have taken a step back and seen the simplest solution to a trail maintenance task. Why work hard when we have you to keep us working smart! Matt Bell, Trail Maintenance Chair

Best Power—Wheelbarrow Roll Award—Todd Larsen: In recognition of your inadvertent act of trail maintenance. After having discussed the location of a prior spill, you also spilled

gravel in the same spot on your next trip thereby smoothing out the trail to create a gradual descent rather than a drop in the trail. Matt Bell, Trail Maintenance Chair

Third Time Is a Charm Award—Rob Castleberry: For lifting a particularly virulent Mt. Bailey curse by successfully summiting the mountain on his third try this summer. This, after incurring the wrath of the weather gods on his two previous attempts and causing them to drive us from the mountain with pummelings of rain, wind, sleet and snow. John W. Jacobsen, Mt. Bailey Climb Leader

Guinea Pig of the Year Award—Tom Musselwhite: For being the sucker that had to be the first real world user of the new online data system. For your patience in dealing with its many idiosyncrasies, bugs and shortcomings. For offering valuable suggestions for its improvement. John W. Jacobsen, Database Nerd.

Photography Award—Jim Pierce: For taking more pictures than anyone else on all the trips in which he participates, Joella Ewing, Sci-Ed/Conservation Chair

One-Person Walking Publicity Committee Award—Janet Jacobsen: For introducing over 200 guests to our organization by leading the Get Acquainted Hikes over the past two years, and for being a one-person walking Publicity Committee at all times, Elle Weaver, Publicity Chair

Great Printer Award—John Jacobsen: For printing the beautiful photos submitted by members. These photos attract members and guests alike to our booth at Eugene Celebration and other events in which we have participated, Elle Weaver, Publicity Chair

Special Contributions Award—Sue Sullivan: for leading the Intermediate-Level Mountaineering workshops and for reorganizing and improving the Climbs storage closet, Larry Huff, Climbs Chair

Liz Reanier receiving award from Janet Jacobsen



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Newberry Crater Snowshoe/X-Ski Trip

February 1 - 3, 2012

Leader: Lana Lindstrom

Cost: \$125 members (maximum of 12 participants)

HAVE YOU EVER SKIED OR SNOWSHOED in a potentially active volcanic caldera? Here's your chance. On a clear day, the views of the surrounding peaks, lakes and black obsidian flows with snow on them are awesome!

Newberry National Volcanic Monument (25 miles south-east of Bend) is an approximately four mile wide caldera with two lakes, volcanic cones and obsidian lava flows. We will carpool over (will need three drivers) and then ski or snowshoe three miles. We will carry our own gear, plus food to prepare two dinners. The accommodations are two cabins (Reeds and Snowbird) at Paulina Lake Lodge (see www.paulinalakelodge.com). The cabins are heated with full kitchens and indoor plumbing; all linens are provided. The cost includes two dinners prepared by participants. You'll bring your own breakfasts and lunches. The trip is scheduled during the week to minimize encounters with snowmobiles.

Cost: \$125 per person including a \$20 non-refundable deposit within 5 days of signing up online. The balance is due

by December 27. Make checks payable to Obsidians Inc. and mail to Lana Lindstrom, PO Box 5506, Eugene, OR 97405. Contact Lana at 683-1409 or лана_lindstrom@hotmail.com if you have any further questions.



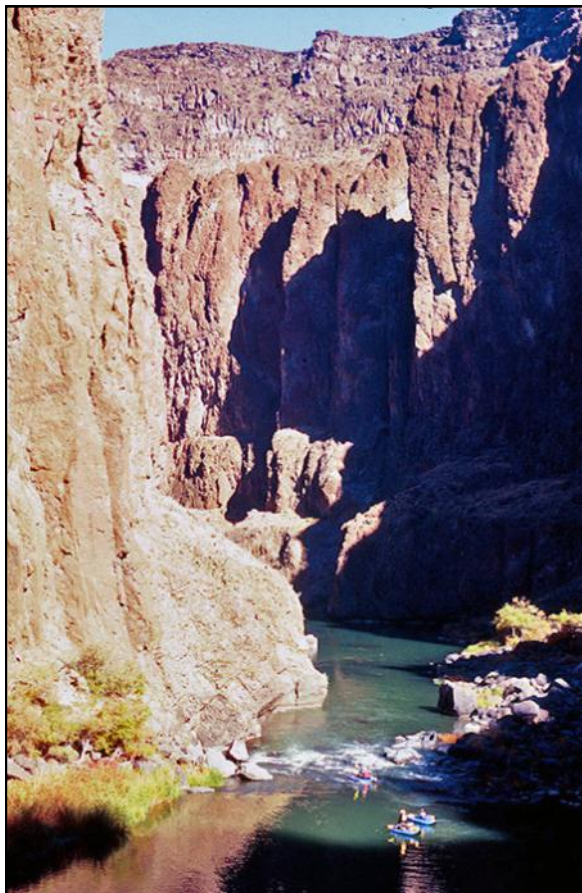
Owyhee River Raft Trip

May 10-14, 2012

Leader: Pat Esch

Cost: Members \$1,025 and \$1,030 for nonmembers

IF YOU'VE EVER DREAMED OF RAFTING or kayaking the spectacular Owyhee River, here's the best chance you may ever have. Join the Obsidians and Ouzel Outfitters on a 5-day guided paddle raft trip (inflatable kayaks optional) next May. We'll explore 63 miles of this scenic and dramatic canyon at a leisurely pace with great hiking, camping, photo ops, birding and hot springs. The rafting trip is rated Class III (moderate) and Ouzel is noted for their emphasis on safety and experienced guides. The trip begins May 10, 2012 in Rome, Oregon and ends at Birch Creek on May 14. Ouzel provides all rafting equipment, meals and return transportation to Rome. We'll bring our own camping gear. The total cost apiece for members will be \$1,025 and \$1,030 for nonmembers.



This is a great price for an extended raft trip with a commercial outfitter and is for a minimum of 10 participants with a maximum of 15.

Signup: Prospective boaters should sign up on line and within 5 days of signing up mail me a deposit check of \$100. All deposit checks must arrive in my mailbox by December 12, 2011, made out to Obsidian Trips and addressed to Patricia Esch, 1555 Monterey Ave., Eugene, OR, 97401. **We need at least 10 signups with deposit checks by December 12 to hold the May 10 start date and the price!!** Final payment is due February 1, 2012. There will be a pre-trip meeting to answer questions, give out information and arrange carpooling to Rome. (It's a long way!). Questions? Call Pat at 338-8280.



Byways By Bus

Holiday Gathering at the Obsidian Lodge

Date: December 6, 2011 from 11 am to 3 pm

Cost: \$5 members, \$10 nonmembers

Reservations & checks to: Janet Speelman, 344-3019

THE BUS COMMITTEE DECIDED THIS YEAR to have a party at the lodge instead of a bus trip, as the weather in December is often very bad. Come to join us for a nice lunch, which will include many of the gourmet dishes that the Bus committee members are noted for. The trip fee of \$5 or \$10 will go directly into the Club treasury, as all trip fees do. There will be entertainment and music at the event, so everyone is invited. Just remember to make your reservation with Janet Speelman so we will know how many to prepare lunch for. Call Janet Speelman at 344-3019 to make your reservation.

OTHER ORGANIZATION EVENTS

Documentary: *Green Fire*

GREEN FIRE, A NEW DOCUMENTARY ON ALDO LEOPOLD, shows free to the public in Room 150 Columbia Hall, UO campus, Friday, November 11, 7:30 pm. The film will be released on public television in early 2012. See it in Eugene first!

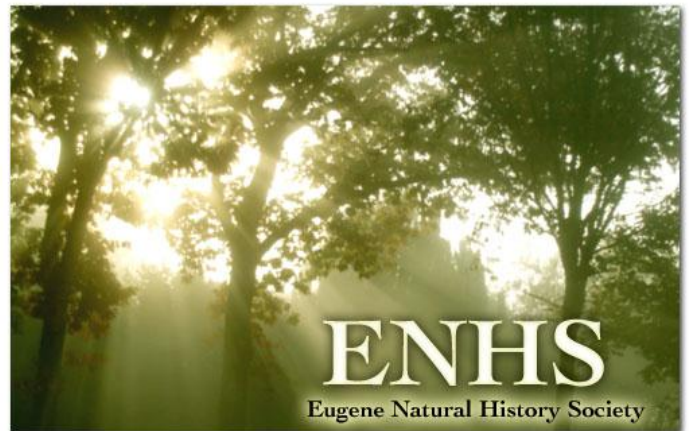
Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time highlights Leopold's life and extraordinary career, explaining how he shaped conservation in the twentieth century and still inspires people today. Though probably best known as the author of the conservation classic *A Sand County Almanac*, Leopold is also renowned for his work as an educator, philosopher, forester, ecologist, and wilderness advocate. He received an advanced degree from the Yale Forest School in 1909. Leopold penned, "Nothing so important as an ethic is ever 'written'," and further explained, "it evolves in the minds of a thinking community." Leopold regarded a land ethic as a product of social evolution.

Working for the US Forest Service, Leopold pursued difficult questions about how people change land and how people might be encouraged to practice conservation rather than to exploit the wealth of the land. In 1933 he published the first textbook in the field of wildlife ecology, *Game Management*. Later that year he was hired by the University of Wisconsin as the nation's first professor in that field.

Green Fire is a production of the Aldo Leopold Foundation, the US Forest Service, and the Center for Humans and Nature. Learn more about the Aldo Leopold Foundation and the *Green Fire* movie at www.aldoleopold.org

The film's Eugene showing is sponsored by the Eugene Natural History Society, the Museum of Natural and Cultural History, Willamette National Forest, and UO Department of Environmental Studies.

Eugene Natural History Society



All events are free at 7:30 pm in Room 100, Willamette Hall, UO Campus

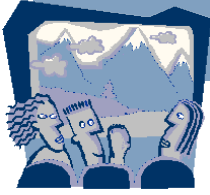
Friday, November 18:

Eugene's own Larry Deckman, dedicated amateur astronomer and founder and owner of www.StarFinders.com, will present a *Story of Constellations*.

Friday, December 9:

Marine birds have lifestyles perhaps more diverse than humans, from those that hardly venture over the water to those that stay in and over the ocean for many months at a time. Come to the December meeting of the Eugene Natural History Society and enjoy a program on Sea Birds by Jan Hodder, Academic Coordinator and instructor at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology. She'll talk about numerous sea birds, including their fascinating adaptations and survival mechanisms.

AT THE LODGE



POTLUCK

Friday, November 18, 6:30 pm

Hiking in Spain

RECENTLY, TWO STUDENTS from the Springfield High Adventure Club, led by history teacher James March and former SHS teacher Bree Fuqua, completed 500 miles of hiking in Spain. After stops in London and Paris, sophomores Deija Zavala and Auna Godinez began their trek in St. Jean Pied de Port at the foot of the Pyrenees. Staying in pilgrim hostels, they experienced the rich culture and history of Spain along the way, meeting pilgrims from all over the world as they journeyed to their destination in the city of Santiago de Compostela. Join us November 18th for pictures, stories, and good food.

Charlie Van Deusen

November Potluck

Friday, November 18, 2011

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

Bring your favorite potluck dish to share...along with plates, utensils and cups...

plus \$1 to help cover club expenses.



POTLUCK

Friday, December 16, 6:30 pm

Adelie Penguins

JOIN US **DECEMBER 16TH** for a lively slide show and talk by Noah Strycker, Oregon birder and author of *Among Penguins: A Bird Man in Antarctica*. Strycker will entertain us with an account of the three months he spent in Antarctica researching and photographing a quarter million Adelie penguins as they went about their business of nesting, fighting,

incubating, feeding, sliding, diving, swimming, and surviving in the extremely harsh conditions of their habitat.

By Charlie Van Deusen



December Potluck

Friday, December 16, 2011

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

Bring your favorite potluck dish to share...along with plates, utensils and cups...

plus \$1 to help cover club expenses.

Whistles!

By Janet Jacobsen

ON TWO RECENT BUS TRIPS I carried a Concession Bus Box* to see if anyone had missed an opportunity to buy mugs, note cards, whistles, caps and other popular items. On the first trip to Vancouver, WA, I sold notecards and one cap. On the second trip, to Astoria, I really worked on my sales presentation. I carried my Obsidian mug when there was coffee. I wore my Obsidian beanie when it was windy. I even purchased two Obsidian bandanas for the bus driver and leader, Barbara Beard, to wave at each other in emergencies. Then came the pièce de résistance. At the Garibaldi Coast Guard Station, we heard the story of how a scuba diver was rescued after five hours in the ocean. A crew member on the Coast Guard search boat crisscrossing the water in the dark heard the man's whistle. I sold two whistles when our group got back on the bus. I increased my sales by 20% on this trip.** Kudos to the leaders, Barbara and Paul Beard, who led a memorable trip and also wore their Obsidian vests!

**Box packed by Lyn Gilman Garrick, Concessions Chair.*

*** Lyn needs volunteers for the committee. It will stand out on your resume.*

Patagonia Anyone?



DEAR FRIENDS,

THE MAZAMA MOUNTAINEERS OF OREGON wish to extend an invitation to Obsidian members to join us on a hiking outing to Patagonia in Argentina and Chile, March 8 to 21, 2012.

It will be a fun adventure for outdoor persons of all ages because we will have three local guides, making it possible to have daily hikes of different speeds and distances for the comfort and ability of the participants. All meals and overnights in picturesque inns and lodges, and all land travels are included. Some of the things and places we will enjoy visiting will be Buenos Aires and El Calafete, the spectacular Perito Moreno Glacier, Los Glaciares National Park, Torres del Paine National Park, the Cerco Torre Trail, the classic Fitzroy Massif, and the vast Patagonian forests and steppes.

For complete itinerary, more information and cost, call Mazama outing leader Helen Hanson at 503-254-9465 or email Darlene Nelson at darlenenelson@verizon.net

Ms. Helen F. Hanson
10237 NE Morris St.
Portland, OR 97220

Obsidian Calendar

November

13 Sun	Cummins Ridge, Hike, M, Pierce.....	344-1775
15 Tue	North Fork Willamette, Hike, M, Musselwhite.....	461-3296
18 Fri	Hiking in Spain.....	Potluck
19 Sat	Kentucky Falls, Hike, E, Pierce.....	344-1775
20 Sun	Ridgeline Trail, Hike, M, Jacobsen.....	343-8030
26 Sat	Spencer Butte, Trl Mnt, Bell.....	503-884-8829

December

03 Sat	Brice Creek - One Way, Hike, E, Pierce.....	344-1775
06 Tue	Holiday Gathering at Lodge, Bus, Reanier.....	687-1925
11 Sun	Odell Overview, SShoe, E, Hovis.....	521-3663
16 Fri	Adelie Penguins.....	Potluck
17 Sat	Midnight Lake, Xski, M, Wolling.....	345-2110
18 Sun	Three Mile Lake/Tahkenitch, Hike, M, Lipton.....	736-7498
20 Tue	PCT N Santiam Sno Park, SShoe, M, Hildreth.....	345-7520
26 Mon	Pretty Lake, Xski, D, Sullivan.....	342-6546
31 Sat	Waldo Lake Road SShoe E Musselwhite.....	461-3296

January

14 Sat	Maklaks, Combo, E, Lindstrom.....	683-1409
15 Sun	Diamond Creek Falls, SShoe, E, Hovis.....	521-3663
20 Fri	Eugene Wetlands, Hike, E, Cunningham.....	344-0486
21 Sat	Bechtel Shelter, SShoe, M, Pierce.....	344-1775
22 Sun	Gold Lake, SShoe, E, Hovis.....	521-3663
22 Sun	Cone Peak, Xski, D, Sayre.....	345-2370
22 Sun	Finley Refuge, Hike, M, Gilman-Garrick.....	345-5236
27 Fri	Bill Sullivan.....	Potluck
29 Sun	Maxwell Butte, SShoe, M, James.....	683-7488

February

01 Wed	Newberry Crater Snow, Ext Trp, Lindstrom....	683-1409
02 Thu	Maiden Peak Cabin, Xski, D, Wilken.....	343-3080
05 Sun	Maxwell Butte, SShoe, M, Hovis.....	521-3663
08 Wed	Lorin Lake, Xski, D, Anselmo.....	782-2369
12 Sun	Maiden Peak, Xski, D, Thompson.....	683-8942
12 Sun	Siltcoos River/Lagoon, Hike, Gilman-Garrick ...	345-5236
18 Feb	Hoodoo Butte/Potato Hill, Xski, D, Miller.....	484-4586
19 Feb	Potato Hill, SShoe, D, Hovis.....	521-3663
24 Feb	East Eugene Historic Walk Hike, Cunningham.....	344-0486

Classifieds

Yachats Rental

STEPS TO ROCKY SHORE WALKING PATH and one block to 6 miles of sandy beach. Many day hikes in area. Two-story house with ocean views, 3 bedrooms and 3 baths. Winter two person special: \$95/night, 2 night minimum; additional cleaning fee fully refundable. See www.Whalesnook.com or contact Steve at 852-3823.

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



Dick Hildreth resting at Waldo Mountain lookout—photo by Jan Anselmo

November/December 2011



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