

### Inside This Issue

Basic Mountaineering	1
New members	2
Obituaries	2
Climbs Corner	3
May Board Notes	4
Trip Reports	5-11
Upcoming	12-13
Summer Camp FAQs	13
At The Lodge	14
Calendar	15
Classifieds	15
Summer Trips Kick-off	15
Picture of the Month	16

### Dates to Remember

May 15	Iris Garden Bus Trip
May 17	Summer Trips Kick-off
May 18	Africa Potluck
May 22	Dragonfly ExploraTalk
June 2	Bulletin Deadline
June 6	Board Meeting

Complete current schedules at:  
[www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org) or  
 Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

*See page 12 for upcoming bus trips. Riders are needed!*

## Basic Mountaineering Class

*Sue Sullivan*

**W**E JUST COMPLETED A SUCCESSFUL CLASS IN BASIC MOUNTAINEERING, with 23 participants in the class.

The April 12 class session focused on rock climbing techniques. There was lots of hands-on time; people practiced tying several knots used in climbing, and also walked through the basics of how a belay and a rappel are done. Maryanne Reiter, Tim McCall and Michele McCall provided capable and entertaining instruction.

On April 14 and 15, the class participants got a chance to practice rock skills at the Columns on Skinner Butte. They learned how to ascend and traverse on a fixed line, and practiced providing belays for one another as they scrambled up some of the easier rock routes. They also got a chance to practice rappelling. We were rewarded with sunny weather both days, making the experience a fun one for all.

The second class session on April 19 focused on glacier travel skills. Brian

*(Continued on page 3)*



# Obituaries

## Hazel Peck: 1911-2012

Hazel Peck died April 19, 2012 at age 101. Hazel joined the club in 1971, when she was 60 years old. She went on 14 hikes and 20 bus trips. She also went to the 1997 summer camp, which was held in the Strawberry Wilderness.

*Editor's Note: See the April 24 issue of the Register-Guard for a more detailed obituary.*

## Robert Tracy: 1923-2012

Robert Tracy died April 23, 2012, of congestive heart disease at age 88. Bob and his wife Ellen joined the club in 1982, and attended two summer camps: 1983 to the Sawtooth Mountains in Idaho, and in 1985 to Howard Prairie Lake near Ashland. Bob went on twenty five trips, leading three of them. He also went on three long bus trips: to Montana, the San Juan Islands, and to Tacoma-Seattle, which was his last trip/activity, in 1999.

*Editor's Note: See the April 28 issue of the Register-Guard for a more detailed obituary.*

### OBSIDIAN MEMBERSHIP REPORT

#### Member Status

Active members	409
Associate members	23
Honorary members	4
Junior members	5
Life members	16
Total members	457

### Welcome

#### **CHALMER, KAREN** (Active)

4484 Shadow Wood Drive  
Eugene, OR 974-05  
221-1708  
[elevenplus@aol.com](mailto:elevenplus@aol.com)

#### **EDWARDS, AUTUMN** (Junior)

PO Box 417  
Dexter, OR 97431  
[frogqueen8@yahoo.com](mailto:frogqueen8@yahoo.com)

#### **EDWARDS, CHYANNE** (Junior)

PO Box 417  
Dexter, OR 97431  
[frogqueen8@yahoo.com](mailto:frogqueen8@yahoo.com)

#### **EDWARDS, TRENTON** (Junior)

PO Box 417  
Dexter, OR 97431  
[frogqueen8@yahoo.com](mailto:frogqueen8@yahoo.com)

#### **JONES, KEVIN** (Active)

63302 Vogt Road  
Bend, OR 97701  
[kevjoness@gmail.com](mailto:kevjoness@gmail.com)

#### **MILLER, CINDY** (Active)

844 18th Avenue  
Sweet Home, OR 97386  
[cinlin63@gmail.com](mailto:cinlin63@gmail.com)

## OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322, Eugene, OR 97440

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

### Board of Directors

Elle Weaver, President  
Matt Bell, Vice President  
Kathy Hoeg, Secretary  
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer

Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, John Jacobsen & 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	Sue Sullivan
Concessions	Lyn Gilman-Garrick
Conservation/SciEd	Joella Ewing
Entertainment	Susan Wanser
Extended Trips	Chris Stockdale
Finance	Stewart Hoeg
Librarian/Historian	Lenore McManigal
Lodge Building	Doug Nelson
Lodge Grounds	John Jacobsen
Membership	Elle Weaver
Online	Wayne Deeter
Publications	Nola Nelson
Publicity	Jan Jacobsen
Safety	Pat Esch
Summer Camp	Lana Lindstrom
Summer Trips	Tom Musselwhite
Trail Maintenance	Matt Bell
Winter Trips	Jim Pierce

### The **OBSIDIAN** Bulletin

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**The Obsidian Bulletin**

P.O. Box 51424, Eugene, OR 97405

### Deadline

for June 2012 Bulletin

**Saturday, June 2, 2012**

### Assembly/Mailing Team

For April Bulletin

Assembly & Mail Manager - Lou Maenz  
Assembly Team - Tom Adamcyk,  
Clara Emlen, Yuan Hopkins, Vi Johnson,  
and Margaret Prentice and Barbara  
Shoemaker

### Editorial Team

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

# The Climbs Corner

*Sue Sullivan*

**T**HE CLIMBS COMMITTEE has been working up some ideas on how to improve communication of the current climbs schedule. Thanks to the work of Wayne Deeter, the climb schedule now appears on the Climbs page of the Obsidian website.

When you scroll to the bottom of the Climbs page, there is a list in the left column of the climbs that are currently planned, both preliminary and scheduled, listed by the month in which they are expected to occur. Next to this list are more detailed descriptions of climbs that are scheduled in the next 30 days. We hope that by sharing this list, people can have an idea of what climbs are upcoming without having to wait for them to appear on the online signup.

Another new concept is being tested by the Climbs Committee. Again, thanks to Mr. Deeter, we have put to-

gether a climber email list that will be available to Obsidian members. People included on this list will be able to get emails with updates on the climbs schedule. They will also be able to send emails to the members of this list. In order to cut down on spam, only people who are included on the climbers email list can send emails to the list.

This will enable us to have more flexibility in the climbs schedule; for example, we can more easily get the word out if we add climbs on short notice when weather opportunities present themselves, or check to see if there is interest if someone is contemplating adding a particular climb to the schedule.

If you are an Obsidian member and are interested in being included in the climbs email list, please contact [climbs@obsidians.org](mailto:climbs@obsidians.org) or [webmaster@obsidians.org](mailto:webmaster@obsidians.org).

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## *(Basic Mountaineering from page 1)*

Hamilton and Shellie Robertson put on an amusing skit explaining about appropriate clothing and equipment for mountaineering. Sue Sullivan, Wayne Deeter and Steve Still demonstrated how to rope up for glacier travel, and Sue did a slide show illustrating glacier travel techniques and mountain hazards.

We lucked out again on the weather for the snow skills practice at Hayrick Butte on April 21. Participants had the opportunity to practice roped travel, setting snow anchors and belays, and got a chance to experience their inner child while practicing self-arrest techniques on the slopes of Hayrick.

Class participants included Obsidian members: Rick Harris, Todd Larsen, Frank Chemotti, Jyoti Naik, John Hartman, Erin Noble, and Michael Quigley; and nonmembers: Alando Ballantyne, Ally Bonney, Meghan Horne-Brine, Josh Grenzsund, Corrina Halvorsen, Mike Hanson, Colby Hanson, Elizabeth Hurkes, Jessica Kieras, Bill Lowder, Dana Porter, Spencer Robertson, David Shear, Trevor Taylor, Cambra Ward, and Jason Winiarski.

One of the things that makes this class so successful is the people who volunteer to lend a hand and share their experience with the aspiring climbers. A HUGE thanks to all those who assisted with instruction. Obsidians: Sean Breslin, Sue Hutchinson Carey, Wayne Deeter, Brian Hamilton, Marci Hansen, Danni Harris, Juli McGlinsky, Doug Nelson, Maryanne Reiter, Shellie Robertson, Steve Still, Sue Sullivan, Dalen Willhite, Sue Zeni; and members of Eugene Mountain Rescue: Mick Davis, Mark Gully, John Leavens, Michele McCall, Tim McCall, Don McLaughlin, and Laurie Monico.



# BOARD NOTES

May 2, 2012

By Kathy Hoeg

President Elle Weaver called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Matt Bell, Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Kathy Hoeg, Stewart Hoeg, John Jacobsen and Nancy Whitfield. Also present were: John Cooper, Wayne Deeter, Joella Ewing, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Tom Musselwhite, Doug Nelson, Sue Sullivan, Judy Terry, and Susan Wanser. The Board approved the minutes of the April 2012 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 (Tom Musselwhite):** Summer Trips completed 12 trips in April with 64 members and 16 non-members. Leader Training is scheduled for Thursday, May 17 at the Lodge.

**Winter Trips (Jim Pierce):** The 2011-2012 Winter Trips season has concluded. All paperwork is completed and funds collected.

**Climbs (Sue Sullivan):** We have completed a successful climb school, with 23 persons attending. The climbs schedule is now posted on the Obsidians climbs web page, and we have also put in place an email list for those Obsidians who wish to receive emails about climbs information from other Obsidians climbers.

**Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell):** In March there were five outings on the trails in Spencer Butte park. Four outings were independent of the City and concentrated on swamping the trails of storm debris.

**Highways and Byways By Bus (Liz Reanier):** All remaining trips are open. The John Day trip registration deadline is extended to May 14.

**Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom):** The Camp Rally on April 27 was well attended by 50+ Camp Elle participants. There are 16 people on the Waiting List, half of whom are nonmembers.

**Conservation, Science, & Education (Joella Ewing):** Forty people attended

the April ExploraTalk on Hidden Treasures of Buford Park with \$40 in lodge fees.

**Publication (Nola Nelson):** The April 2012 Obsidian Bulletin contained 14 pages. 260 copies were printed, at a cost of \$225.

**Entertainment (Susan Wanser):** 68 people were present for dinner and 80 people attended the Camp Elle Rally on April 27. \$79.35 was collected. I am now working on speakers for our next season. If anyone knows of someone they would like to recommend, please let me know. Also there have been a few requests for a "Who are the Obsidians and what do they do?" slide show perhaps for the September potluck. Anyone eager to take this on or to suggest someone who might? I understand that soliciting the photos is a large part of the job. I am willing to help with that part, but I am neither a photographer nor a techno whiz.

**Publicity (Janet Jacobsen):** The Publicity committee met April 16. We discussed possibilities for displaying trip photos on our website with Wayne Deeter and John Jacobsen. Our committee is also interested in working with Doug Nelson to have a Bulletin Board at the Lodge to display photos and flyers about our activities.

**Concessions (Lyn Gilman-Garrick):** Most of our merchandise has been ordered for the year, including a large shipment of whistles from Whistles for Life.

**Online (Wayne Deeter):** There is now a web form for people who forget their Obsidian Online username or password. This causes an email message to be sent to them with their login credentials. We now have the ability to create general email lists. The first list, [climbers-list@obsidians.org](mailto:climbers-list@obsidians.org), is ready to be advertised. Currently, to subscribe or unsubscribe to a list you must email [webmaster@obsidians.org](mailto:webmaster@obsidians.org) (or the committee chair, who will forward the request to [webmaster@obsidians.org](mailto:webmaster@obsidians.org).) This is a closed list—only subscribers may send messages to the list.

**Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal):** I have recorded all the activities printed in the last Bulletin.

**Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen):** Three work parties were held this last month.

**Safety (Pat Esch):** I talked to REI about purchasing First Aid Kits at a discount so we could offer them to our trip leaders, but they said they couldn't do that.

## OLD BUSINESS

Stewart Hoeg described our options for moving the Post Office box that is now located downtown.

Janet Jacobsen reported that the Nominating Committee met April 23 at the Lodge to nominate three candidates for the Board of Directors for a three year term beginning in January 2013. The names of Elle Weaver, Tom Musselwhite, and Susan Wanser were presented at the May 2 Board Meeting.

There was a discussion of the first aid kits at the YMCA.

## NEW BUSINESS

Sue Sullivan said that the Basic Mountaineering class that the club offers includes a one day outing to learn rock climbing and another day learning snow climbing. These are currently not counted as trips. The graduation climb is only counted as a trip if the summit is achieved. To qualify to apply for Obsidians membership requires three trips or one climb. Sometimes the group cannot get to the top because of factors out of their control, like weather. Sue proposed that the Climbs Committee start treating the class rock and snow outings as trips and do the necessary paperwork. The Board agreed with this plan.

Elle Weaver read a letter from Obsidians member Ray Cavagnaro. It described the many contributions of Janet and John Jacobsen to the club and proposed both of them for Honorary Membership. Ray used the 'ladies first' rule-of-thumb to decide that Janet should be nominated in 2012, with John another year.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Matt Bell announced that the Ridgeline Trail Celebration will be Saturday, May 5, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

The next Board meeting will be on June 6 at 6:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned.

## TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



### Ski Trips

#### **Red Top Mountain**

**March 11, 2012**

**Leader: Frank Chemotti; Ass't Leader: Sam Miller**

**Xski: 7 miles, 2,300 ft. (Difficult)**

**S**EVERAL INCHES OF LIGHT SNOW HAD COME TO THE WILLAMETTE PASS AREA overnight, and more was falling as we arrived at Crescent Lake Sno-Park. We put skis on in the parking lot and set out. We found the start of the Pretty Lake Trail, where old, faintly visible tracks guided us. We followed the trail until about 5,500 feet, where we turned southwest to break trail. The route from there followed the gradual ramp that eventually arrives at the summit from the south. In the open areas leading up to the summit, we climbed through strong winds, while sunbreaks highlighted vortices of blowing snow. A partly sheltered area near the top provided a lunch spot. The group decided to descend the north ridge for a consistent 1,000-foot run down to the flats near Pretty Lake. Fresh snow here was a foot deep, and the turns at the top were especially wonderful. We had to climb a small amount to get past Pretty Lake, but then we made a few more turns down the slope on the other side and reconnected with our uphill tracks for an easy slide out. Time to summit was four hours; two hours to return. Members: Frank Chemotti, Steven Goins, John Hartman, Sam Miller, Catherine Nelson, and Harold Thompson. Nonmembers: Joshua Ladau.

#### **Fawn Lake**

**March 18, 2012**

**Leader: Randall Sinnott**

**Xski: 8 miles, 900 ft. (Difficult)**

**SIX OF US LEFT EUGENE WITH A PROMISING FORECAST** for this late season ski outing. Snow was falling in big, wet flakes before we reached Oakridge. We were the first party of the day as we began our trip from the Crescent Junction Sno-Park towards Fawn Lake. The snowpack was very thin, perhaps three feet of base with two or three inches of fresh accumulation. Half way to our destination these depths easily doubled. We also began seeing our shadows as the sun labored to break through the clouds surrounding us. Conditions could not have been much better as the fastest skiers were at the lake an hour and a half after departure. We had brief views of the buttes to the east and opted to lunch well

back from the lake's edge to escape the wind. Twenty minutes later, we set out for the trailhead, enjoying long runs of effortless gliding. By now the sun was out, so our drive home was almost entirely on clear, dry pavement. A final irony: it was snowing from Oakridge all the way into Eugene. The group consisted of members Brian Hamilton, Charlie Van Deusen, Chris Stockdale, Steven Johnson, and leader Randy Sinnott, plus nonmember Katie Hynes-Petty.

#### **Midnight Lake**

**April 7, 2012**

**Leader: Laurie Funkhouser**

**Xski: 6 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)**

**WITH A PARTY OF THREE,** we were able to get a prompt start up Highway 58, leaving Eugene in overcast skies. We reached a dry Gold Lake Nordic Park parking lot with the sun shining brightly. At this time, the Ski Patrol Lodge is closed for the season. The temperature was still cold – hovering at 32 degrees – causing the conditions to be a little icy in the morning. We opted to travel up Abernathy Road passing Bechtel Shelter and ending at Midnight Lake. Warming sunshine made it easy to chat and enjoy lunch. Upon having our fill, the lucky trio of ladies headed back down the ridge to Abernathy Road to head out. The sun had softened the icy conditions making it a pleasant ski back to the car. Truly enjoyed the good company and skill of my companions - Thank you! Members: Laurie Funkhouser. Nonmembers: Linda Eaton and Melanie Speicher.



### SnowShoe Trips

#### **Potato Hill**

**February 19, 2012**

**Leader: Scott Hovis**

**SShoe: 5 miles, 1,000 ft. (Difficult)**

**L**UCK WAS WITH US: we saw some nice views of the mountains. The trail could use a few more blue diamonds in certain places, but if you have any basic trail finding skills at all you should do fine. It would be nice if the Forest Service would put in an outhouse at the Sno-Park. Because the Sno-Park is basically a wide spot on the highway it gets plowed faster than other places. Crowds always seem to want to go to nearby Ray Benson Sno-Park. It would be nice to have less people here at Potato Hill. Five inches of snow on top of old packed snow caused us to 'ski' a bit when on 45-degree hills. Members: Laurie Funkhouser,

Dick Hildreth, Scott Hovis, Daphne James, and Moshe Rapaport. Nonmembers: Karen Chalmers.

## **Lava Lake**

**March 25, 2012**

**Leader: Scott Hovis**

**SShoe: 5 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)**

**HAD A GREAT HIKE WITH A SMALL GROUP.** There was heavy snow on the ground with a bit of rain falling towards the end of the hike. No views due to cloud cover; but still a beautiful area. It's a good trail but there need to be more blue diamonds placed along the hike or you spend extra time looking for the trail. There appear to be some new kiosks going in at the trailhead. Two notes of caution: first, though appearing frozen, the ice on the lake is indeed unstable and not suitable for walking across; two, if crossing the lava beds themselves, be careful of hidden sink holes in the snow! Though you can often hear the highway, this is still a nice getaway hike. Members: Keiko Bryan, Scott Hovis, and Moshe Rapaport. Nonmembers: Karen Chalmers.



## Hikes

### **East Eugene Historic Walk**

**February 24, 2012**

**Leader: Chris Cunningham**

**Hike: 3.4 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)**

**TWELVE OF US MET THIS FAIR WINTER DAY** on 24th and University streets in east Eugene. We began our jaunt just one block from the entrance to the Masonic Cemetery, shaded by a stand of majestic Douglas fir trees and covered now with numerous native plants. Snowdrops and violets were in full bloom, and the buds of Indian plum were just opening. Meandering about, we located the gravesites of historic Oregon figures John Whiteaker, first governor of Oregon, geologist Thomas Condon and artist Maude Kerns. Margaret Prentice showed us the scatter garden sanctuary; a hidden alcove for remembering loved ones. We headed uphill past 22<sup>nd</sup> and Columbia streets. Here the remnants of the streetcar line that serviced the old Fairmount neighborhood—then called Fairmount City—still exist. Established in 1890 as a suburb to Eugene, Fairmount City was annexed into the City of Eugene in 1902. Sadly, Eugene opted in 1917 to use bus lines as a primary form of public transportation. We continued up Fairmount Boulevard to Hendricks Park, past stately homes and the location where wild animals were once maintained in cages, according to Janet Jacobsen and Suzanne Steussy. We soaked up lovely views near Skyline Boulevard, and then walked through the rhododendron garden, where early rhodie bloomers and carpets of hellebores brightened the winter landscape. By then, more than

half the members decided not to pass up Dick Hildreth's invitation to see Dorothea Lange's photography exhibit of Pacific Northwest farm workers at the Knight Law School, so we parted ways at the base of Washburne Park. Members: Keiko Bryan, Chris Cunningham, Joella Ewing, Dick Hildreth, Janet Jacobsen, Helen Martz, John Moser, Margaret Prentice, Moshe Rapaport, and Suzanne Steussy. Nonmembers: Denise Cox and Jyoti Naik.

### **Hills of Southwest Eugene**

**March 3, 2012**

**Leader: Joanne Ledet**

**Hike: 5 miles, 650 ft. (Easy)**

**ON ONE OF THE FEW RAIN-FREE DAYS** of the week, 13 hikers met at the Churchill Plaza for a walk through the hills of southwest Eugene. We walked up Warren Street until we came to the paved path that leads into the wooded areas, then headed sharply uphill for about ¼ mile. We continued on a gentle uphill, spotting deer and wild turkey along the way, until we came to the high point of the hike. The view to the valley floor and the Coburg Hills was not as clear as I had hoped, but with the aid of binoculars we could spot some familiar sights below. We walked on to another vista point with views of Fern Ridge Reservoir and the Coast Range, still under cloudy skies. Retracing our path for a short distance we started downhill, following a creek that was full of water from the recent rains. The path ended at Brittany Street and it was city streets after that until we got back to our cars at the Plaza. Members: Mari Baldwin, Norma Bengiat, Keiko Bryan, Clara Emlen, Janet Jacobsen, Sandra Larsen, Joanne Ledet, Laurie Marshall, Moshe Rapaport, and Jeanne Schmidt. Nonmembers: Michael Quigley, Charmaine Rehg, and Denise Cox.

### **Salmon Creek Trail**

**March 15, 2012**

**Leader: Rob Castleberry**

**Hike: 8 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)**

**THE WEATHER FORECASTS PROMISED 100% CHANCE OF RAIN**, and accurate they were. No downpours, just varying gradations of drizzle. We started next to the fish hatchery, just east of old town Oakridge, proceeding upstream along the south bank of Salmon Creek. The creek had obviously flooded recently, beyond its current vigorous flow, and shifting channels flooded the trail in a few places. We jumped across and sought higher ground until the trail re-emerged. After about three miles and a quick standup lunch, we arrived at a newly constructed connector segment that climbs up and over a flank of Aubrey Mountain to connect to Road 207. The construction, done entirely by volunteers, became necessary after flooding last year in the gorge below washed out a long bridge that couldn't be replaced. We caught up with a few volunteers from GOATS (Greater Oakridge Area Trail Stewards) and the Scorpions crew of the High Cascades Forest Volunteers, collaborators in the project, out in the rain working to finish the trail. Surprised to see us

emerge out of the dripping woods, they said we were the first group to their knowledge to walk up from the hatchery across the new connector segment. After descending to Road 207 and across Salmon Creek, we headed back along the north bank. Randy's GPS showed a total walking distance of almost 10 miles, a couple more miles than advertised. Alas, no sunshine, but rain gear and footwear were well tested. Members: Keiko Bryan, Rob Castleberry, Janet Jacobsen, Jorry Rolfe, Randall Sinnott, and Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Jenny Likens.

## Ridgeline Trail

April 1, 2012

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 6.2 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)

FIVE OF US APPRECIATED ALL OF THE WORK that Eugene Parks and Open Space Staff and the Obsidian Trail volunteers accomplished the previous day. The section from 52<sup>nd</sup> & Willamette to the Tie Trail still has some large trees to scramble over. This will be a big job for Open Space staff. We saw two Calypso orchids, many droopy trilliums, and fawn lilies still waiting for warmer weather to bloom. It was not the wildflower hike I anticipated. We readjusted our expectations when Norma Bengiat told us that in the Bronx, dandelions were the first sign of spring. We did have rain for the last hour of the hike and were glad to see the shuttle car waiting for us at the Spring Trailhead. I was sorry that one hiker canceled who had planned to bring plastic ants for an April Fools surprise. Next year! Members: Norma Bengiat, Maggie Gontrum, and Janet Jacobsen. Nonmembers: Sonja Kolstoe and Daniel Hartnell.

## King's Valley

April 5, 2012

Leader: Dan Christensen

Hike: 5 miles, 600 ft. (Easy)

THE WEATHER FOR THE TRIP WAS EXPECTED TO BE MARGINAL, at best. Fortunately, the weather gods smiled on us. Other than a couple of brief showers and a few granules of hail near the end, the weather was comfortable: cloudy with some sun breaks. The King's Valley hike is actually two hikes originating at separate historic sites. The first began at the historic (1875) Plunkett farmhouse, a site donated to Benton County and managed by the county as a park. The hike begins along Plunkett Creek, then turns up a ridgeline to continue on a two-mile plus loop which takes you back to the farmhouse. The ridgeline is fairly steep, but 20 switchbacks in a very well-maintained trail enable one to comfortably reach the ridge top. The vegetation is primarily typical Coast Range foothill dense rain forest. Some trilliums were blooming but most of the flowers typically found this time of year were absent. For the second leg of the trip we drove a couple of miles further up King's Valley Road and then two miles west to the Ft. Hoskins site, which is also now a county park. This park has an excellent covered picnic area with a great view southeast across a portion of the valley.

After lunch, we began a loop trip around the old fort site which contains lots of interpretive signs to give one an excellent understanding of the area's history. The original farmhouse, built on the property in 1868 by the pioneer family who bought the fort site from the government at the end of the Civil War, is also viewable from the outside on this loop. Once the loop was completed, we crossed the park road and climbed another ridge above the park. This climb does not seem as steep as the one on Plunkett Ridge, but because it has very few switchbacks it is a bit more difficult. This portion of the trail circles around an extensive open savannah, containing some oaks and Douglas firs, and back down to the park. Each of these two hikes is 2-2 1/2 miles with elevation gain of no more than 500-600 feet. We had left Springfield around 8:00 and were back to the parking lot before 3:00. Members: Dan Christensen, Patricia MacAfee, Moshe Rapaport, Rich Romm, Chris Stockdale, and Jim Whitfield.

## Yachats to Waldport

April 11, 2012

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 7 miles, 0 ft. (Moderate)

WE LEFT EUGENE AT 8:00 WITH HIGH HOPES for a change in the weather forecast. After Steve Johnson and I arranged the car shuttle, we started hiking from the Adobe parking lot around 10:30. A few minutes later, two of us decided it was time to put on rain pants. We found a dry spot under some trees at Tillicum Campground for lunch. The showers were forgotten when sun and blue sky appeared for the remainder of the hike. The most challenging part was figuring out the best way to cross the streams: 1) take off shoes and wade; 2) keep shoes on no matter how deep; 3) scramble over rocks to a better jump-off spot; 4) wear Keens with no socks. We arrived at Patterson State Park around 1:30, all of us happy that it turned out to be a great day for a hike on the beach. Members: Dick Hildreth, Janet Jacobsen, Ellen Johnson, Steven Johnson, Sandra Larsen, Moshe Rapaport, and Susan Sanazaro.

## Sweet Creek Falls

April 14, 2012

Leader: Marianne Camp

Hike: 3 miles, 350 ft. (Easy)

HOW LUCKY WE FELT when the weather cooperated and we had sunny 60-degree weather. A group of nine, including three children, enjoyed a day together exploring springtime along the creek. The water was running full and fast with wild flowers abundant. Many in the group were new to the Obsidians and three were on their third hike to qualify them as members. Two adults were reading the book *Last Child in the Woods*, so we felt fortunate to have three children so interested in their environment. It is always fun to share Sweet Creek with someone seeing it for the first time. It is one of my favorites. Members: Barbara Aten, Marianne Camp, and Roberta Chord. Nonmembers: Cheryl Carson,

Chyanne Edwards, Trenton Edwards, Autumn Edwards, Charlotte Brandt, and Wendy Hubacek.

## North Fork, Middle Fork Willamette River

April 15, 2012

Leader: Tom Musselwhite

Photographer: Darko Sojak

Hike: 7 miles, 1,300 ft. (Moderate)

**WE DEPARTED FROM TOWN AT 8:30 AM** with a plan: if we run into snow, turn around and go the other way. By 10:30 our party of nine intrepid Obsidians were starting our hike up Cayuse Creek, a tributary of the North Fork in the heart of the Willamette National Forest. After about a mile of clear trail we encountered our first snow at about 2,900 feet. Not to be daunted, we pressed forward anyway. Shortly, we started noticing elk tracks, coyote scat, elk scat, deer tracks, tracks we identified to be that of a rabbit and cougar tracks we judged to be from the night before. The snow was nice and had a lot to offer, but not great hiking, so we drove down river to check out the new Buffalo Rock segment of the North Fork Trail. The trailhead is a little bit obscure, but



we found it easily thanks to master trail guide Bill Sullivan's great instructions. It's right across the river from Kiahanie Campground off of Forest Road 1939. Only a few miles downstream from our originally planned hike, the difference in the volume of water in the river was remarkable. Melting snow on the watershed created cascading rivulets that seemed to pour out of every crevice. At this lower elevation, about 2,000 feet, trilliums and a few other wildflowers were beginning to bloom. The high river level also made more apparent the complex braided nature of the river. Numerous intertwining smaller channels made islands of vegetation obscuring the main channel from our riverside view. After lunch and another five miles of hiking along the new trail segment, we returned to our cars and were on the way back to town by 3:00 PM. Despite the low snow level, it was a fantastic day to get out there. Members: Joella Ewing, Eric

Grape, Dick Hildreth, Linda Hovey, Diantha Hull, Diana Masarie, Tom Musselwhite, Darko Sojak, and Sam Tracer.

## North Fork Santiam River

April 18, 2012

Leader: Dan Christensen

Hike: 9 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)

**IT RAINED IN THE VALLEY** the night before the hike. Then it rained more during the two-hour trip up I-5 and through the Elkhorn Valley to the trailhead. But then, by some divine intervention, or strong leadership, the rain stopped as we set out down the trail. Only a couple of showers were experienced the rest of the day. We still had to deal with lots of water. There was more water on the trail than normally experienced. Rain water was dripping off the trees and brushing up against our rainpants as we walked along. We were almost certain at least one or two of the seven bridges along the trail would be out, but felt we would go as far as we could. Possibly we would find a way around the expected 'outages.' Our most challenging experience, however, occurred unexpectedly early in the hike. The one creek which isn't bridged because it is always a 'walk-across' was, in fact, a raging torrent. Following much discussion, we decided we didn't want to hazard a wet wade across the creek. However, on a slope just above the normal crossing, a large Douglas fir had fallen across the creek. Jim managed to climb up to the tree, gain access to it, and scramble across. This emboldened the rest of us to follow him without incident. The North Santiam River was running much higher than I had ever seen it. When driving along Elkhorn Road we had noticed that the river downstream was very muddy. Fortunately, the river along the trail was its normal, beautiful, emerald green color, albeit with lots more white water than normally seen. The waterfalls were running strong through the chutes and canyons. So much water was running over Henline Falls, visible across the river dropping down from Henline Mountain, that it seemed like a different waterfall. The normal three plumes had merged into just one very large one. The hike through an old growth Douglas fir forest then proceeded smoothly. The hike would be relatively flat if it were not for a ridge which bisects the trail around mid-point. The ridge requires a climb 500 feet up its south side and 400 feet down the north side. The hike continued uneventfully until we reached the first bridge outage. But, again, a Doug fir had conveniently fallen across the stream. It provided an easy, uneventful, crossing. When we reached the beautiful Three Pools spot on the river, we decided to stop for lunch. We then proceeded on some distance further before deciding to turn back as trail conditions had slowed our progress significantly. We never did find out if the last bridge was out. We retraced our steps back to the trailhead without incident and returned to Eugene just before 6:00 PM. Members: Keiko Bryan, Dan Christensen, Janet Jacobsen, Moshe Rapaport, Jorry Rolfe, Susan Sanazaro, and Jim Whitfield. Nonmembers: Cindy Miller.



## Pre's Trail

April 20, 2012

Leader: Margaret Prentice

Hike: 4 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)

**THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR MORNING** was seeing the fox calmly sunning itself by its den, near the pond. We later learned it has been living there for four or five years. There were many signs of spring on this beautiful morning: the osprey was on its nest by the stadium, birds were singing happily and, among others, we identified two flickers and even a few American widgeons which surprisingly had not left yet. Wildflowers were blooming, and larkspur, fawn lilies and Solomon's seal were about to bloom. Although prepared for rain there was nary a drop, only clouds and sunshine and it was pleasantly warm. There were only three of us but it enabled us to get better acquainted with each other so members Clara Emlen, Sharon Cutsforth and I spent an enjoyable morning together.

## Mt. Pisgah—Earth Day

April 22, 2012

Leader: Darko Sojak

Hike: 3.3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)



**THE THREE OF US HAD A GREAT SHORT HIKE**, through blooming meadows, in so far the warmest day of the year. Members: Janet Jacobsen, Darko Sojak, and Suzanne Steussy.

## Cummins Creek - Cape Perpetua

April 22, 2012

Leader: Mary Holbert

Hike: 8.2 miles, 1,500 ft. (Difficult)

**SIX OF US ENJOYED A LOVELY DAY** on Cape Perpetua. Some portions of the trail had a blow-down for added varie-

ty and increased muscle demand. There was mud. The leader was somewhat confused a couple of times about which way to go, and was cheerfully aided by fellow hikers. We ascended to a viewpoint with comfortable seating to enjoy ocean view dining and sunbathing. The group was very well matched in terms of hiking speed, and all seemed to enjoy the day thoroughly. Members: Mary Holbert, Becky Lipton, and Moshe Rapaport. Nonmembers: Elizabeth David, Jim Woodard, and Austin Diamond.



## Water

### Whale Watching Cruise—Newport

April 21, 2012

Leader: Joella Ewing

Photographer: Roberta Chord

Water: 0 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)



**SOME FRIENDS OF MINE** went to the coast Saturday to play bridge and saw two whales. Twelve Obsidians went to the coast the same Saturday to see whales and saw two bridges and sea lions and puffins—but no whales. (The captain said they saw three on the morning fishing trip, so they were out there.) But it was a gorgeous sunny day to spend on the water. We will try again next year. Newport Marina Store and Charters took us on a great ride, and everyone said they enjoyed it. The drive to Newport takes about 2 1/2 hours from Eugene, which gave us all about an hour and a half to grab a good lunch. Members: Thomas Adamcyk, Pat Bitner, Roberta Chord, Clara Emlen, Joella Ewing, Brian Hamilton, Mary Hamilton, Dick Hildreth, and Noy Rathakette. Nonmembers: Elizabeth David, Judy Adamcyk, and Caroline Forell.



## Byways By Bus

### **Oregon Coast / Lunch at Adobe Inn**

**March 27, 2012**

**Leader: Liz Reanier**

**Bus Trip**

**W**E LEFT SHOPKO PARKING LOT AT 8 AM for our first trip of the year. As I look forward and backward, it was the best weather—some light rain, but we had full sun on the ocean during lunch. We traveled Highway 126 to Florence, with our snack and rest stop at the Gingerbread House Restaurant, where all were treated to warm gingerbread and coffee. In Florence, we drove the Old Town main street and everyone had 45 minutes to shop. Then we turned north on Highway 101 with great views of the ocean to Yachats, with lunch served at the Adobe Inn. The sun shone, so the view of the breakers was fantastic. The waves were very high. We drove north to Waldport, with a stop at the Alsea Bridge Interpretive Center. We continued north to Newport before heading inland. After Corvallis, we had our afternoon break at Hazelnut Hill, where most had ice cream and many bought nuts and other goodies. We arrived back in Eugene by 5:30. It was a great day. Trip leader was Liz Reanier; members: 17, nonmembers: 4.



## Bike

### **Long Tom Grange**

**April 20, 2012**

**Leader: Patricia Esch**

**Bike: 20 miles, 250 ft. (Easy)**

**B**IG CLOUDS WITH PATCHES OF BLUE AND SUN ping-ponged nine riders from cool to warm. Along the way we saw wild iris, redtailed hawks, wild turkeys, a few camas in bloom and yes, there were still daffodils. The traffic varied from none to a big truck with trailer that insisted on passing within inches of us despite the oncoming car (no bike lane on the infamous Territorial Highway), scaring some of us off the edge of the pavement. We spent some time talking through the moment, and then rode on through more beauty and a warm lunch in the sun at the Grange. With the hills behind us, we breezed back to the Safeway parking lot in Junction City. Members: Anne Bonine, Barbara Bruns, Patricia Esch, Lana Lindstrom, Moshe Ra-

paport, Joe Sanders, Eric Swegles, and Judy Terry. Non-members: Mike Lee.

## Extended Trips

### **Mt. Tahoma Ski/Snowshoe Trip**

**February 27, 2012**

**Leader and photographer: Chris Stockdale**

**Extended Trip (Difficult)**

**I**N GOOD WEATHER, the reward for skiing 2,400 feet in 4.5 miles to the Mt. Tahoma High Hut is an up-close view of Mt. Rainier. The six of us who stayed in the nearby town of Ashford woke to a brilliant blue sky and, with great anticipation, headed out for our trek to this hut, which at 4,760 feet is the highest of the huts in the Mt. Tahoma Trails Association's trail system. However, as we were skiing up a groomed road bordered by tall trees, our views of surrounding peaks were limited, and as we gained elevation, the clouds starting blowing in. Sure enough, when we finally reached the hut, no rewarding view was forthcoming. But as the second group of four arrived, they brought clearing weather with them and we were all delighted with incredible views of Rainier, St. Helens and other surrounding peaks.

The High Hut is a well-equipped and comfortable refuge in the mountains. Heated by an efficient propane stove, it also offers a full kitchen with propane oven and enough plates,



pots and pans to handle a crowd. Sleeping accommodations are basic, with two bunks and a futon on the main level and a sleeping loft with sleeping mats. The only discomfort is the trek to the outhouse which, in the bitter cold winds with driving snow that developed, made us very reluctant to head out until completely desperate.

On the following day, people split into groups for skiing or snowshoeing the roads and trails in the area. Sue Wolling, Susan Wanser, and Chris Stockdale headed out to check out

the Yurt, another great place to spend the night. Their loop planned according to the map didn't quite work the way they thought and they had to break trail through deep snow, crossing several creeks on less than sturdy-looking snow bridges. Bill Sullivan led Larry Dunlap and Ruby Seitz to explore the Anderson Lakes trail and they, too, encountered challenging conditions such as steep drops, unmarked routes and more creek crossings. Scott Hovis, Daphne James, Karen Chalmers and (skier), and Laurie Funkhouser snowshoed behind Bill's group. During the night, the wind picked up to gale force and the snow just kept blowing. Needless to say, the views totally disappeared on Wednesday. Some crazies ventured out to test the new snow and went to the Snow Bowl Hut (which burned down a few years ago and is currently being rebuilt and renamed the Phoenix Hut) to check out the Bowl. The skiing was disappointing for the telemarkers as they found the bowl was just an old clear cut that was now full of small trees and bushes. The others decided a day lounging around the hut appealed more.

All three nights we dined well on burritos with turkey and trimmings, coconut curry ramen with chicken and veggies, and Chef Sullivan's offering of a proper Greek salad followed by eggplant parmesan. All this was accompanied by plentiful wine since we had hauled in three boxes.

We woke on Thursday to find about two feet of new snow which, although powder, made the ski out a little harder than anticipated since the groomers were not scheduled to come back that day. Fortunately, though, the sno-park had been plowed so we were able to drive out and celebrate our successful trip with a big breakfast in Ashford before heading home.

Members: Larry Dunlap, Laurie Funkhouser, Scott Hovis, Daphne James, Chris Stockdale, Bill Sullivan, Susan Wanser, and Sue Wolling. Nonmembers: Ruby Seitz and Karen Chalmers.

## **Crater Lake Ski & Snowshoe** **March 30, 2012** **Leader and photographer: Chris Stockdale** **Extended Trip**

**THE FORECAST FOR "RAIN, THEN SNOW; HIGH NEAR 45.** Windy, with a southwest wind between 25 and 34mph, with gusts as high as 50mph. Chance of precipitation 100%" did nothing to inspire the group that arrived at the Union Creek Resort for an advertised ski and snowshoe trip at Crater Lake. And yes, they arrived in pouring rain. But being the true Obsidians that they are, group members took it in stride and found plenty to occupy themselves. Some chose to hike to the Rogue River viewpoint and see the unbelievable torrential waters cascading down the narrow gorge; others enjoyed a leisurely lunch at Beckie's Café and the rest relaxed in the lodge. Waking the next morning to more rain, we were surprised when we saw that rain change to heavy snow that quickly covered the ground, creating a really mushy footing. But seeing the snow got many inspired to get out

and find out what they could do. We knew the road from the Visitors Center up to the rim had been closed because the snowplow had broken down but then heard the road had reopened. Skiers and snowshoers headed off looking for snow to play in. Some stopped along Highway 62 to ski on the PCT toward the lake and were happy to find sunshine and good snow conditions. Others tried going to the rim but discovered that once again, the road was closed – this time due to high winds and drifting snow. And several found a road close to the lodge that had enough snow for skiing. The group gathered in the living room of the lodge, which offers a large fireplace, for Happy Hour. It seemed everybody had found an activity to suit them and the general mood was upbeat. A team of volunteers assembled a large quantity of chicken and vegetarian enchiladas, with Spanish rice and salad, along with many assorted snacks. For those with room left, there were wonderful cookies and cake. Kudos to the men's team for a spectacular clean up of the dishes and kitchen.

We woke on the final morning to more snow, and most people opted to pack up and leave. The new owners of the Union Creek Resort treated us well; because we had reserved all the rooms in the lodge, plus an extra large cabin for the group, we had exclusive use of the lodge facilities, including the kitchen, living room and game room. In addition, we received a great discount on prices so it was an inexpensive weekend for all. All the rooms in the lodge have their own wash basins, microwaves, mini-refrigerators and coffee makers. Showers and toilets are down the hall, but lines never seemed to form. The cabin, which is actually a former Forest Service house, had a full kitchen, large living room



and spacious accommodations. The group consensus was that this trip should be repeated in 2013.

Members: Marianne Camp, Charles Durham, Patricia Esch, Mary Holbert, Daphne James, Brenda Kameenui, Helen Martz, Valerie Metcalfe, Judy Newman, Jorry Rolfe, Diane Schechter, Chris Shuraleff, Randall Sinnott, Chris Stockdale, Charlie Van Deusen, Jim Whitfield, and Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Harriet Kelly, Greg Torland, and Gari-lyn Johnston.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Byways By Bus Riders Needed!

### **Museum, Iris Gardens and Nursery**

**Tuesday, May 15, 2012**

**Leaders: Sharon Cutsforth and Bill Arthur**

**Cost: members \$37, nonmembers \$39**

**Reservations/checks: Barbara Payne, 746-1964**

**A**NTIQUE FARM MACHINERY, historic buildings, exceptional hand-crafted wooden models, beautiful flowers and (of course) a chance to shop. Come with us as we tour the Harrisburg Museum under the guidance of our own Obsidian Bill Arthur. This museum is dedicated to recognizing the area's historic farming community with a wide variety of displays. We will have our coffee break at the museum. Late morning we will head north to Schreiner's Iris Gardens at Salem. There will be plenty of time to stroll among the flowers. In business since 1925, Schreiner's ten acre display gardens contain 500 named Iris varieties. Bring a sack lunch, there are picnic tables available. After lunch we travel to Garland Nursery at Corvallis, a 4<sup>th</sup> generation family-owned business providing a wide variety of quality plants, garden supplies, and an interesting selection of home décor and gift items. All this on six acres in a peaceful, park-like setting. If you enjoy gardening, this is the place for you. We will leave Shopko parking lot at 8:00 AM and plan to return around 5:30 PM.

### **Fossils, Ghost Towns, Painted Hills, Museums**

**Mon–Thurs, June 4–7, 2012**

**Leaders: Sharon Cutsforth, Barbara & Don Payne**

**Cost: members \$430, nonmembers \$438**

**Reservations/checks: Sharon Cutsforth, 746-4929**

**COME WITH US ON A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME** as we spend four days exploring geologic, historic and scenic areas of central Oregon. Our small group will travel in a comfortable motor coach! Enjoy lovely scenery as we travel to John Day where we will spend two nights. Day trips will take us to the Painted Hills, Sheep Rock and Clarno units of the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument. We will travel through Picture Gorge, ghost towns of Richmond and Shaniko, visit Mascall Overlook and the Oregon Paleo Institute in Fossil. In John Day we visit the Kam Wah Chung State Heritage Site. Then it's off to Prairie City to visit the DeWitt Museum and Prairie City Depot. We will check out the



Oxbow Restaurant and Saloon in Prairie City to view the historic mahogany and rosewood bar with its *Twin Virgins* carved in Milan, Italy, about 1879.

Then it is off to Bend where we spend our last night. Before heading home we will visit the Paulina Lake and Obsidian Flow area, as well as the High Desert Museum.

## Extended Trips

### **Opal Creek Extended Trip**

**Sunday-Tuesday, September 16-18, 2012**

**Leader: Pat Esch**

**Cost: \$120**

**S**PEND THREE DAYS AND TWO NIGHTS AT JAWBONE FLATS in two cabins in the Opal Creek Wilderness located east of Albany. Opal Creek is uncut ancient forest with pristine streams and dramatic ridge lines. Each cabin has four bedrooms, a kitchen and two baths with showers. The deck overlooks the Little North Santiam River. You bring your own sleeping bag.

There will be a 10 AM shuttle on Sunday to ferry our baggage to our cabins while we hike the three miles in, have lunch, explore and sit down to a vegetarian dinner prepared by Opal Creek Center's staff. The next day those who wish can take a longer hike, shorter ones or just hang out. Another vegetarian dinner prepared by staff culminates our day. The third day the shuttle will take our luggage and put it in our vehicles so we can hike out at our leisure. Everyone will provide his/her own breakfasts, lunches and drinks. Dinners are included in the price.

## OTHER ORGANIZATION EVENTS

### Eugene Natural History Society

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

**Friday, May 18:** The Blues, the Admirals, the Sulphers, and especially the Swallowtails delight our senses when the sun becomes a regular here in the Willamette Valley. If you haven't already guessed, these are all butterflies, and Robert Michael Pyle, the author of fourteen books, including *Chasing Monarchs*, *Where Bigfoot Walks*, and *Wintergreen*, will be sharing his incredible world of butterflies with Lane County residents. The local chapter of the North American Butterfly Association and the Eugene Natural History Society are co-sponsoring Robert Michael Pyle, a Yale-trained ecologist and Guggenheim fellow, now living and butterflying in southwestern Washington.

### MOUNT PISGAH ARBORETUM'S WILDFLOWER AND MUSIC FESTIVAL SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2012, 10 AM—5 PM

SET ASIDE SUNDAY, MAY 20 FOR A DAY OF WILDFLOWERS, MUSIC, FOOD, CRAFTS, AND FUN! You don't have to be a plant expert to love our upcoming Wildflower Festival. The festival is loaded with fun things to do, for everyone in the family. As many as four hundred wildflowers will be on

display, from asters to violets. Flowers are collected and organized for attendees to get a close look. Top botanists of the region will be on hand to answer questions. There will also be live music to amplify this festive frolic in the meadow. A wide variety of plants, baked goods, and arts and crafts will be on sale, with proceeds supporting the Arboretum's work in habitat restoration and environmental education. Nature Tour Guides will weave folks through the trails providing more information about the Arboretum's ecology and history. Bring the entire family (except the dog) to enjoy the festival as well as explore nearby nature trails. For more information, call 747-3817 or go online to [www.MountPisgahArboretum.org](http://www.MountPisgahArboretum.org).

### WREN Willamette Resources & Educational Network (WREN)

will hold its 6<sup>th</sup> Annual *Walkin' & Rollin' Event* on **Saturday, May 26, 2012** from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The event is free, open to the public and encourages participants to explore the West Eugene Wetlands by biking, rolling or walking the Fern Ridge Bike Path between Bailey Hill and Greenhill Road. Local experts and organizations will have educational displays highlighting the many wonders of the wetlands and participants receive a Wetland Passport they can have stamped at each booth for a chance to win prizes in a drawing.

## Summer Camp FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

### *When exactly is the final payment for Camp due?*

It's due in PO Box 51424, Eugene, 97405 no later than June 15. If you're a member the amount is \$160. The balance for nonmembers is \$190.

### *I'd like to carpool to Camp with someone. Who do I contact?*

Now that we have online registrations, carpooling is easy. Look online to see who wants a ride (if you want to drive) or who is looking for passengers (if you want a ride). Contact those folks. **Note to all:** if you want to change your online 'want/have' ride information, email the CEO and she'll change it for you ([lane.lindstrom@hotmail.com](mailto:lane.lindstrom@hotmail.com)).

### *Is there a pamphlet which provides me with additional information about Camp... like the directions to Camp and what to bring? How do I get one?*

You can pick up your Camp Booklet (one per household) at the May or June potluck. It will be mailed to out of town registrants in June.

### *I blew it and forgot to sign up for Summer Camp. There's quite a Waiting List. Should I still sign up online and hope that there will be lots of cancellations?*

Sure, why not. It won't cost you anything unless enough people cancel that you move up the list to #90. Sign up

online, but don't complete the paper registration form or send in any money until you become eligible. Sometimes, particularly if the cancellation occurs within a week or two of camp, many people on the Waiting List choose not to attend, in which case, you can go!

### *I forgot what the cancellation policy is. I paid my initial deposit, but I'm still not sure if I can go to Camp.*

If you cancel before June 15 (final payment due date), you will forfeit the \$35 deposit.

If you cancel between June 15 and July 31 and someone on the Waiting List takes your place, you will forfeit the \$35 deposit only.

If you cancel August 1 or later, you will forfeit the entire payment.

To cancel, login to your Obsidian account with your ID and password. The bottom half of the screen displays the trips that you're signed up for. Select *Camp Elle-Mt. Baker* and hit the *Cancel* button on the far right side.

Even if you're on the waiting list and change your mind, please cancel yourself from Summer Camp. It lets the folks below you have a more accurate picture of their chances of attending Camp.

## AT THE LODGE



# POTLUCK

Friday, May 18, 6:30 PM

## African Adventures - Mt. Kenya and the Drakensberg

**L**AST FALL, **Obsidian Chris Stockdale** headed for Kenya and South Africa with adventure in mind. She first did a strenuous climb up to Pt. Lenana at 16,355 feet on Mt. Kenya. The climb up Mt. Kenya is considered harder than the longer climb up Kilimanjaro, even though the elevation is lower. Chris has climbed both and agrees with that sentiment, but attributes part of it to the fact that 30 years have elapsed since she climbed Kilimanjaro. The next adventure of this trip was a 6-day trek into the Drakensberg Mountains in the southeastern part of South Africa. The trek was supported by five Zulu porters, was led by a white South African, and traversed magnificent stretches of the mountains. The only other human beings sighted during this whole time were two Basuto people heading back to their village . . . and they were way off in the distance. Plentiful bird life and wildflowers along with spectacular scenery made this an unforgettable journey.

*Charlie Van Duesen*



### May Potluck

Friday, May 18, 2012

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

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



ExploraTalk: Tuesday, May 22, 7 PM

## Dragonflies and Damselflies of the Willamette Valley

**Y**OU SEE THEM IN YARDS, GARDENS, AND ON YOUR **H**IKES—the dragonflies and damselflies live most of their lives underwater in a carnivorous nymph phase seeking prey, then as adults they dominate life over and near the water. Discover insects in Oregon whose ancestors were here before the dinosaurs, who can live for five years, fly 35 mph, and truly eat ‘on the fly’. Thirty-seven species have been recorded in West Eugene.



Cary Kerst, an aquatic entomologist retired from a career in environmental sciences, will provide a photographic introduction to the life history, habits, and behavior of these fascinating insects. He and co-author Steve Gordon won the West Eugene Wetlands Partnership Award for their research and writing of *Dragonflies and Damselflies of the Willamette Valley, Oregon: A Beginner's Guide*.

*Joella Ewing, Conservation/SciEd Chair*

## Classifieds For Sale

**Bike Friday Pocket Crusoe Gripshift 27** Like new—blue with fenders, kickstand & rack for \$1,000

**Cannondale Silk Warrior 700** Excellent condition—grey with fenders, kickstand & rack for \$1,000

Contact Shirley Froyd 942-1609

**Paha Que screenhouse**, 10X12, blue roof, used one season. Fabulous, but too heavy for one person to set up. \$150, includes separate floor and extra poles.

All four walls can be used as awnings. Two large zipper doors for quick access. Walls and doors are true No-See-Um mesh to keep even the tiniest insects out. Full stake-down points and attached guy lines allows the Screen Room to stay put in high winds.

Nola Nelson: [nolagnelson@yahoo.com](mailto:nolagnelson@yahoo.com) or 942-5326

## For Rent

**SPEND THE WEEKEND ON THE COAST FOR \$100???** Small, 1930s cabin, ocean view, woodstove. Seven miles south of Yachats. \$50 a night for two, \$75 a night for four, two night minimum, weekends only. More info at [claretucker@comcast.net](mailto:claretucker@comcast.net).

# Obsidian Calendar

## May

10 Thu	<b>Buford Park/Pisgah Hike M</b>	Gilman-Garrick	....345-5236
11 Fri	<b>Blacklock Point Backpack M</b>	hovis	.....521-3663
12 Sat	<b>Kentucky Falls Hike M</b>	Ewing	.....344-9197
13 Sun	<b>Trials Country Hike E</b>	McLucas	.....914-7033
13 Sun	<b>Yachats to Waldport Hike M</b>	Jacobsen	.....343-8030
15 Tue	<b>Iris Gardens, etc. Bus</b>	Cutsforth	.....746-4929
17 Thu	<b>Horse Rock Hike E</b>	Lindstrom	.....683-1409
18 Fri	<b>Africa</b>	Chris Stockdale	..... <b>Potluck</b>
19 Sat	<b>North Sister Climb</b>	Deeter	.....954-0924
19 Sat	<b>McKenzie River Trail Hike M</b>	Morris	.....726-7474
19 Sat	<b>Delta Ponds Hike E</b>	Ewing	.....344-9197
20 Sun	<b>Castle Rock Hike D</b>	Stockdale	.....767-3668
22 Tue	<b>Damsel &amp; Dragonflies</b>		..... <b>ExploreTalk</b>
26 Sat	<b>Mt. Thielsen Climb</b>	Deeter	.....954-0924
27 Sun	<b>Heceta Head Hike M</b>	Soussan	.....345-3046
30 Wed	<b>Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance</b>	Bell	.....503-884-8829
31 Thu	<b>Silver Falls Hike M</b>	Sanders	.....255-2524

## June

01 Fri	<b>Parvin Covered Bridge Bike M</b>	Esch	.....338-8280
02 Sat	<b>Nat'l Trails Day Trail Maintenance</b>	Bell	.....503-884-8829
02 Sat	<b>N Bank Deer Preserve Hike D</b>	Stockdale	.....767-3668
02 Sat	<b>Mt. Thielsen Climb</b>	Deeter	.....954-0924
03 Sun	<b>Brice Creek Hike M</b>	Ledet	.....683-2603
03 Sun	<b>Mt. Hood Climb</b>	Hamilton	.....343-6550
04 Mon	<b>Fossils, Ghost Towns, etc. Bus</b>	Cutsforth	.....746-4929
09 Sat	<b>Lowder Mountain Hike M</b>	Morris	.....726-7474
09 Sat	<b>Fish Lake Canoe</b>	Sather	.....822-0311
09 Sat	<b>Dog Mountain Hike D</b>	Lipton	.....736-7498
10 Sun	<b>Ankeny Nat'l Wildlife Refuge Bike M</b>	Hughes	.....683-1409
10 Sun	<b>Trestle Creek Falls Hike M</b>	Musselwhite	.....461-3296
13 Wed	<b>Columbia Gorge Extended Trip M</b>	Duncan	.....343-8079
16 Sat	<b>South Sister Climb</b>	Robertson	.....525-4734
16 Sat	<b>Chi Gong Meditation Hike M</b>	Lipton	.....736-7498
20 Wed	<b>Mt. Pisgah Solstice Hike M</b>	Jacobsen	.....343-8030
22 Fri	<b>Sustainable Enlightenment</b>	Doug McCarty	..... <b>Potluck</b>
24 Sun	<b>Three Mile Lake Hike M</b>	Hovis	.....521-3663
27 Wed	<b>Mt. Pisgah Hike M</b>	Soussan	.....345-3046

## Summer Trips Kickoff & Leader Training

7:00 - 9:00 PM, Thursday, May 17 - At the Lodge

**S**UMMER IS ON THE WAY! It's time to dust off your trail guides, get out your maps, and start planning for the 2012 summer trips season. The Summer Trips Committee has already begun recruiting for trip leaders. If you haven't yet led an Obsidian trip, consider coming to the Summer Trips Kickoff and Leader Training at the Obsidian Lodge, Thursday, May 17. Catch up with old and new friends, enjoy some refreshments, and of course, acquire the information needed to lead an Obsidian trip. Experienced trip leaders will speak on numerous topics such as: *How to determine a destination*, *How to manage the online sign-up list*, as well as *What to bring*, and *How to submit the online trip report and what to include in your report*. The evening of presentations is designed for new and potential leaders as well as for

experienced leaders who just want a refresher. If you are a new member and are considering leading a trip, here is an opportunity to learn some basic tips.

One of the most important ways a member can contribute to the club is to lead a trip. It can be a short or long one, urban, mountain, coast or just outside of town. If you are a new Obsidian member or have never led a trip, we'll get you started with all the information you need to lead a successful trip. Please let the Summer Trips Committee know if there is a trip or trips that you want to lead.

We'll hand out leader packets during the evening (to save postage) to those who have already signed up to lead a summer trip. Everyone is welcome.

**Valerie Metcalfe, Leader Training Coordinator**



*Picture taken by Chris Stockdale on Mt. Tahoma extended trip. Read report on page 10.*

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