

Inside This Issue

Upcoming Highlights	1
Obituaries	2
85th Birthday	3
Burro Adventures	4
December Board Notes	5
January Board Notes	6
Trip Reports	7-9
Upcoming	10-11
At The Lodge	12
Calendar	13
Online Trip Photos	13
Picture of the Month	14

Dates to Remember

January 15	ExploraTalk
January 25	Potluck
February 2	Bulletin deadline
February 6	Board Meeting

Complete current schedules at:
www.observians.org or
Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

Eagles ‘N More Bus Trip

February 18-19, 2013

Leaders: Liz Reanier & Rick Ahrens

Cost: Members \$170, Nonmembers \$174

BACK BY POPULAR REQUEST! This interesting and fun trip to view birds in the Klamath Basin is a great winter outing. Local naturalist and fellow Obsidian, Rick Ahrens always makes the trip more enjoyable by sharing his vast knowledge of the natural world. Plus, he is an expert at sighting and identifying birds. Who knows what special sights this year will bring!

Whale Watch Boat Sails March 24 Will You Be On It?

Date: March 24, 2013

Cost: \$30 Tour Boat Fee, plus usual member and nonmember trip fees plus car pool share.

WHALES OFF THE OREGON COAST ARE A SIGHT TO SEE, especially up close and personal. We’ll take a whale watch boat out of Newport on Sunday, March 24, in an attempt to do just that. The first twelve people to sign up for this two-and-a-half hour afternoon trip and send in their \$30 checks will be guaranteed a place on the boat. Make checks out to Newport Marina Store and Charters, and mail them to Joella Ewing at 2384 Washington St., Eugene, OR 97405 by February 22 to confirm your reservation.

Summer Camp 2013

Trinity Alps

July 8-13, 2013

Cost: Members \$165



EAT, SLEEP, HIKE. IT CAN’T GET ANY BETTER THAN THAT! To make it all happen takes months of planning and someone special to take the lead. At the initial planning meeting for the Trinity Alps camp, the Summer Camp Committee members asked the camp to be named *Camp Lana*. We’d like to honor our camp CEO for her dedication and willingness to orchestrate another fun-filled week. Join us in the Trinity Alps!

Online registration will open Sunday, March 17. It is limited to 50 participants—that’s the maximum the site can comfortably accommodate.

Obituaries

Evelyn Hile Claycomb 1917-2012

FORMER OBSIDIAN MEMBER, EVELYN HILE CLAYCOMB, passed away on November 19 in Portland. She lived most of her life in Eugene but moved to Portland in 2007 to be closer to family. Evelyn joined the Obsidians in 1986, and was active with the bus committee. She participated in 78 bus trips, and was treasurer of that group for many years. She is survived by her husband Keith, three children and their families.

Judith Forell 1922-2012

JUDITH FORELL, AN OBSIDIAN MEMBER UNTIL 1998, passed away on November 28. Judith was born in Tasmania, Australia and received her education as a registered nurse in Australia before coming to this country to live. During her 14 years as an Obsidian member she participated in 50 activities, one of which was a bus trip. According to Dick Hildreth, her son-in-law and Obsidian member, "Judith enjoyed her Obsidian friends and outings until quite late in her life."

Editor's Note: A complete obituary for Judith can be found in the Dec. 1st issue of The Register-Guard.

Welcome New Members

Denouden, Ken (Active)
90740 Marcola Rd
Springfield, OR 97478
556-8528
k_denouden@msn.com

Gribble, Gordon (Active)
138 Beaver Meadow Rd
Norwich, VT 05055
802-649-1176

Hassman, Carl (Active)
27179 Orchard Rd
Junction City, OR 97448
968-5545
Hassmanc@att.net

Laidman, Janel (Active)
PO Box 21805
Eugene, OR 97402
653-6451
janelaidman@gmail.com

Murray, Brian (Active)
250 W Broadway #186
Eugene, OR 97401
509-432-3447
yarrumb@gmail.com

Piehl, Mike (Active)
866 Foxglenn Ave.
Eugene, OR 97405
357-8086
mike_piehl@hotmail.com

THE OBSIDIANS NOW HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE at
www.facebook.com/#!/theobsidians.

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

Website: www.obsidians.org

Board of Directors

Elle Weaver, President
Matt Bell, Vice President
Susan Wanser, Secretary
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer

Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, John Jacobsen,
Tom Musselwhite, & 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	Patty McAfee
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	Jorry Rolfe
Safety	Pat Esch
Summer Camp	Lana Lindstrom
Summer Trips	Tom Musselwhite
Trail Maintenance	Matt Bell
Winter Trips	Anne Bonine

The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

© 2013

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

bulletin@obsidians.org

For reprint rights, contact:

The Obsidian Bulletin

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

Deadline
for February 2013 Bulletin
Saturday, February 2, 2013

Assembly/Mailing Team

For November/December Bulletin

*Assembly & Mail Manager - Lou Maenz
Assembly Team - Tom Adamczyk, Don Baldwin, Clara Emlen, Yuan Hopkins, Joanne Ledet, John & Lenore McManigal, and Margaret Prentice*

Editorial Team

Writing & Editorial Staff - Bea Fontana, Joanne Ledet, Nola Nelson, and Ethel Weltman

Copy Editors - Nola Nelson & Ethel Weltman

Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing - Stewart Hoeg

Eighty-five Years Ago: Birth of the Obsidians

Janet Jacobsen

SEPTEMBER 6, 1927: A Labor Day weekend mountain storm brought word that two U of O students from The Dalles failed to return home from their climbing trip into the Three Sisters area. Their Model T Ford was found at Frog Camp. The unsuccessful search and rescue effort involved 150-200 men and some women from all over Oregon. Climbers found that the two boys had signed the Middle Sister register book. Setting up Forest Service tents in six inches of snow and living in them, with hardly a letup in rain and sleet, the searchers would return each night to the base camp. Ray Conway, a Mazama of Portland, was in charge. It was in one of these rain soaked tents that it was made apparent that Eugene needed a mountaineers' organization. (The lost climbers were found the following summer beside Chambers Lake between the Middle and South Sisters.)

SEPTEMBER 21, 1927: The search and rescue effort prompted some Eugene folks to meet at the Chamber of Commerce rooms to form an outdoor club. Things went well except for three men who were "disgusted at the idea of having women in the club as they wanted a real He-man organization and so they refused to have anything to do with the club."

NOVEMBER 3, 1927: Eugene Outdoor club was organized with 43 charter members. The charter members are listed on a plaque in the Lodge.

NOVEMBER 17, 1927: John Bovard elected as the first President. A Local Walks committee was formed to schedule trips every other week.

DEC. 4, 1927: One of the first walks was to 'The Braes', where KVAL is now located. An all day trip was made to Castle Rock with 37 in the party led by Prince Glaze. The following year, the name was changed from Eugene Outdoor Club to The Obsidians.

JANUARY 1-2, 1928: Two-day New Year's party at McKenzie Bridge.

FIRST WEEK OF AUGUST 1928: First Summer Camp at foot of Middle Sister.

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OBSIDIANS' 85 YEARS? Check out the Story Catchers link on the Obsidian website. Janet and John Jacobsen were recorded sharing the history of the Obsidians as part of Eugene's 150th birthday. *Story Catchers* partnered with the City of Eugene to offer 150 Eugene residents and organizations the opportunity to record and preserve their stories, memories, and reflections. *Story Catchers* is owned by Obsidian Marsha Barr.



*First Obsidian Winter Outing, January 1, 1928
McKenzie Bridge, Oregon*

Armchair Adventures with a Burro:

Book Reviews by Janet Jacobsen

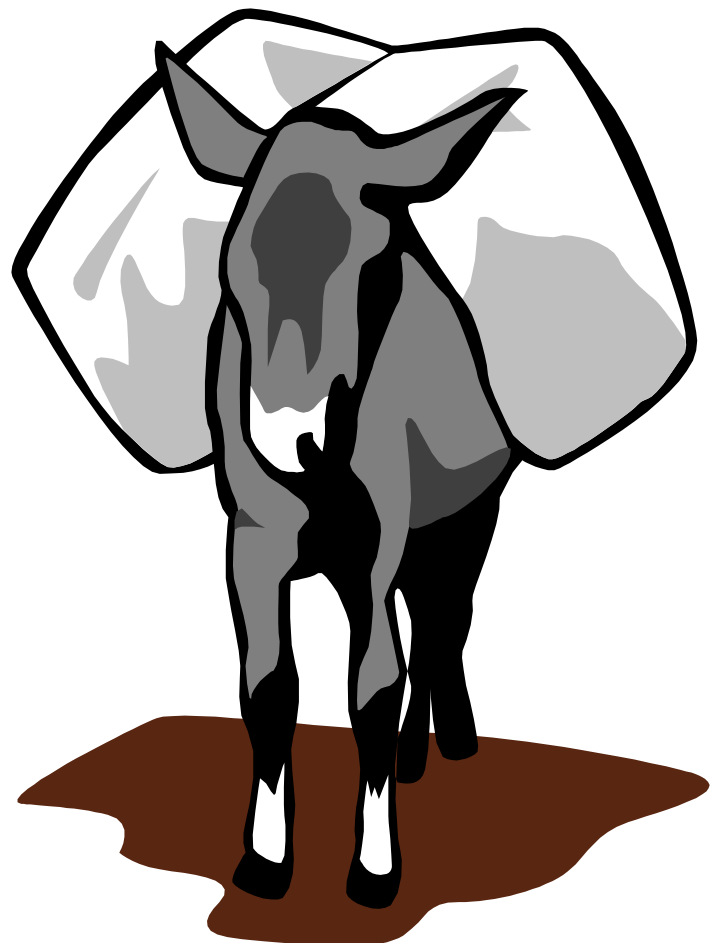
Going Light—With Backpack or Burro, edited by David Brower was published by the Sierra Club in 1953. However burro management is not a lightweight endeavor no matter the copyright date. If you are not up to capturing a burro's respect and admiration, I recommend three travel books to provide armchair friendships with burros named Evita, Blackie, Chub, John, Jack, Jenny, Balboa, Annie and a mule named Juana.

Burro Bill and Me; Ramblings in the American Desert, by Edna Calkins Price takes place in the 1930s. Bill told his bride, "I can't take a soft life." For the next ten years, Bill and Edna traveled by foot with their burros from Death Valley to Grand Canyon via the Arizona Strip. With an unbelievable sense of humor, Edna describes how they became desert rats trudging and scratching out their freedom in a harsh environment.

Where the Strange Roads Go Down, by Mary Del Villar and Fred Del Villar, is basically Mary's account of their 750-mile, three month walk in the backcountry of south-western Mexico to the Pacific Ocean and back. It is 1951, before paved roads and tourism. They left New York City with no hiking experience, drove to Mexico and purchased two burros named Evita and Peron. With \$300 (\$2 a day), they began their wandering of the back roads, and discovering the hospitality of its people. The reader will also worry and sweat that the Del Villars might not have enough money for iced beer at the few towns where it is available. Mary and Fred learn techniques to persuade Evita and Peron to go where they do not want to go. "The trick is to inspire a sense of confidence, which we endeavored to do by encouraging cries and firm pushes from behind." And you won't want to move your behind or stop quenching your thirst until you have completed this entertaining walk that takes twice as long with a burro.

Eight Feet in the Andes: travels with a mule in unknown Peru, by Dervla Murphy was first published in 1983. The eight feet belong to the author, her 9-year-old daughter and an 'elegant' mule, Juana, who walked the length of Peru, 1,300 miles. Journal captions like: *Camp on very steep, very stony mountain ledge; Hovel on a High Pass; Camp on sloping ledge on mountain side; Camp in muddy stubble-field; Camp in neglected hacienda field; or Camp in hot neglected hacienda field*, give voice to formidable spirit and humor. Juana deserves some 'grit' credit when she is nearly lost over a precipice. Sadly Dervla and her daughter didn't have a chance to say good-bye to Juana who had moved by train to a pasture down in the valley. The author concludes, "Not saying good-bye is always much easier."

My last recommendation is to go light without a burro and read Bob Welch's *Cascade Summer; My Adventure on Oregon's Pacific Crest Trail*.



DECEMBER BOARD NOTES

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: Anne Bonine, Wayne Deeter, Joella Ewing, Janet Jacobsen, Ed Lichtenstein, Patty MacAfee, Lenore McManigal, Tom Musselwhite, Doug Nelson, Nola Nelson, Jim Pierce, Carolyn Sojak, Darko Sojak, Sue Sullivan, and Susan Wanser.

The Board approved the minutes of the November 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): The summer season ended November 15 with 109 completed trips for the 2012 season.

Winter Trips (Anne Bonine): The winter trips committee has settled into a routine. Three hikes were completed. Future trips scheduled: 13 hikes, 11 Xski, 4 snowshoe, 1 combo.

Highways and Byways By Bus (Liz Reanier): 2012 was a successful year for Bus Trips. We completed all 9 trips as scheduled, averaging 25 riders each trip. The Obsidian Concessions Committee will have their merchandise on display at the luncheon and at the February 24 Bus Rally (at the lodge).

Planning for 2013 bus trips is well underway. A high priority will be to keep the bus trips as reasonably priced as possible. Our extended trip will include the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center at Baker City, the scenic Wallowa Mountains, a Jet Boat ride on the Snake River and much more. This will be a 6 day/5 night trip, August 5-10.

Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom): The Summer Camp Committee met November 26. We are setting the fee for members for the 5-day camp in the Trinity Alps at \$165. Full payment will be due within 5 days of online registration (first come/first served) which will open March 17.

Conservation, Science, & Education (Joella Ewing): We are starting to make calls to fill next year's ExploraTalk roster.

Publication (Nola Nelson): 265 copies of the 20-page November *Bulletin* were printed.

Entertainment (Susan Wanser): There were approximately 60 people present at the November potluck.

Membership (Elle Weaver): The committee emailed members who have not sent in their dues. Final contacts will be sent out this month.

Membership Status: 435 Active, 23 Associate, 5 Honorary, 9 Junior and 16 Life, Total 488.

Publicity (Janet Jacobsen): Tuesday, December 4. Around 30 attended the Obsidian presentation at REI about our 2012 activities.

Online (Wayne Deeter): A *Class* type and sub-type First Aid has been added to the database to accommodate the First Aid class being offered by Safety and Climbs.

The new Photo Album system is now available in the Members Only area. Albums are automatically generated for trips as they occur for club publicity, similar to the notice on the Trip Sign Up form. Another question was how much control the committee should have over the number or type of photos. Wayne noted that nonmembers are able to see the photos, too.

Finance (Stewart Hoeg): During October the Finance Committee prepared a proposed 2013 Obsidian Budget.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): All trips have been recorded which have appeared in the Bulletins.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): Continued routine Lodge Grounds tasks which this time of year consists mainly of keeping falling leaves, needles and other debris cleared from the drives and parking areas. Also mowed some spots—can't believe the grass is still growing.

Safety (Pat Esch): The Safety Manual, without the addendums, will be presented to the Board for approval. The committee has scheduled an Outdoor First Aid Class for January 17, 24, 31, 2013 at the Lodge from 6:30 PM until 9:30 PM. Laurie Monico with Eugene Mountain Rescue will be the instructor. Cost to be determined. Class limit is 18.

OLD BUSINESS

Jim Pierce, representing the Safety Committee, reported that a new version of the Safety Manual was emailed to the Board members on November 27. Elle Weaver asked that the approval of the manual be tabled awaiting further review.

The Board discussed whether to conduct another Membership Survey, as had been done in 2000, 2003, and 2008. Ed Lichtenstein showed summary data from those surveys. Ed said that there would be no cost to the club of doing another survey and that we could add or change any questions. The Board decided not to pursue a survey.

NEW BUSINESS

Elle Weaver proposed Susan Wanser as Secretary for 2013, and the Board approved this.

Elle Weaver proposed 2013 Committee Chairs, and the Board approved them.

Stewart Hoeg described the proposed 2013 Budget and said that it will be voted on at the January meeting.

Elle Weaver reported that we have been contacted by the Cave Junction Community Development Organization about supporting the building of a trail segment of the Coast-Crest Trail. Matt Bell will respond to them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Registration is open for the First Aid class in January.

The meeting adjourned for food at Mekala's.

JANUARY BOARD NOTES

By Susan Wanser

President Elle Weaver called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Matt Bell, Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Stewart Hoeg, John Jacobsen, Tom Musselwhite, Susan Wanser and Nancy Whitfield. Also present were: Anne Bonine, Wayne Deeter, Kathy Hoeg, Patty MacAfee, Lenore McManigal, Doug Nelson and Jorry Rolfe.

The Board approved the minutes of the December 2012 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Stewart Hoeg reviewed the Budget-vs-Actual Report and the Balance Sheet.

The Board approved payment of the bills.

OLD BUSINESS:

Laurel Ridge update: The Laurel Ridge Neighborhood Association has been trying to stop the proposed housing project and is now conducting a fundraising effort to cover expenses. The Obsidians have taken a non-confrontational approach with the city. Our focus has been to improve trail access to both the Ribbon Trail and the Ridgeline Trail and to decrease the density of the project rather than to stop the project. The Obsidians will not donate financially to the Association.

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summer Trips (Tom Musselwhite): The Summer Trips Committee is beginning to organize for the upcoming summer season. As we develop, more members will likely be added to our committee for approval at a future board meeting. Any member who would love to help recruit leaders and organize a great summer schedule should contact the Summer Trips Chair.

Winter Trips (Anne Bonine): Trips completed: 10 hikes. Participants: 93 members, 37 nonmembers.

Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell): There were no trails outings in December.

Highways and Byways By Bus (Liz Reanier): The Holiday Luncheon at the Lodge on December 6th was enjoyed by 47 people. The atmosphere was festive, the food was delicious and we were well entertained by the musical group Big Foot Lane. Lodge fees of \$54 for this event and a donation of \$245 was made to Obsidians.

We will host the annual Bus Trips Rally on February 24, 2013, 1:00 - 3:00 PM at the Lodge. This will be a time for leaders to tell about their trips for the coming year and the first opportunity to sign up for the trips. Refreshments will be provided by the hospitality committee, everyone is invited to come.

Extended Trips (Chris Stockdale): The Owyhee Rafting trip has enough people signed up so it is set to go. The Spring Basin trip signup will go online this month.

Conservation, Science, & Education (Joella Ewing): The

ExploraTalk schedule is on the lodge calendar for 2013 as follows: January 15, April 16, June 18, September 17, October 15, and December 17—all Tuesdays.

Entertainment (Susan Wanser): The next potluck will feature Bill Sullivan presenting "New Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades" and will be on Jan 25th.

Membership (Elle Weaver): Currently there are: Active Members 426; Associate 21; Honorary 5; Junior 9; Life 16; Total: 477

Final membership letters were mailed in December.

Publicity (Janet Jacobsen):

1000 brochures now have corrected address labels attached. Let's use them! Include them in leader packets. I will leave some in the Board Room.

Online (Wayne Deeter): We are now up to 133 *Likes* on our FaceBook page. Shellie is continuing to keep it up to date. Jan Anselmo will be managing the new photo album system. It now contains 294 photos in 35 albums.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): The only grounds activity over the last month has been a few hours of cleanup after the two larger winter storms blew through.

2013 COMMITTEE MEMBER APPROVALS

The Board approved the 2013 committee members.

2013 BUDGET APPROVAL

The Board approved the 2013 budget as proposed.

OPEN DISCUSSION

There was discussion about ways to make the renewal process easier for members. The possibility of online payment for membership renewal dues was discussed. Another suggestion was to send out a flier separate from the bulletin in case members are missing the renewal information if they don't open the bulletin in a timely manner.

There was also discussion about what benefits there are for being a member rather than remaining a *guest*. Should members receive priority for hikes and special events such as First Aid classes, Extended Trips and Summer Camp? How frequently are there waiting lists for the various activities, i.e. how often are members excluded because guests had registered earlier? Should there be a limit as to how many trips a *guest* could go on each year. Does it really matter if someone remains a *guest*? A subcommittee to consider this question may be developed.

Currently there is a \$5 charge to reactivate a membership that has lapsed. It was decided to leave this charge in the Bylaws but to give the Membership Committee the freedom to waive the fee when deemed appropriate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The meeting adjourned for food at McMenamin's East 19th Street Café.

Trip Reports & Other Activities



Hikes

Cascadia and House Rock

November 3, 2012

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Photographer: Lamonte Smith

Hike: 6 miles, 630 ft. (Easy)

IT WAS A SPECTACULAR FALL COLOR DRIVE up the Mohawk Valley to Sweet Home and Cascadia State Park. From 1895-1940, the park was a private resort with a hotel, store, bathhouse, cabins and campground. Jim Whitfield, who grew up in Sweet Home, was our local expert regaling us with historical anecdotes. We hiked up to Lower Soda Falls and then back down to the Soda Spring Trail. When we stopped at the creek-side patio to see where the natural soda springs access is now capped, Jim shared how his family would bring empty pop bottles and caps to fill with soda water. Jim commented, "No, it didn't taste so good but we were told it was good for us." We ate lunch in the picnic area and then continued on Highway 20 to Latiwi Creek Road. We then drove 1-½ miles to the 2nd green gate with Santiam Wagon Road sign. It was a sensory 'Yellow Leaf Road' that led us to the signs for the loop to House Rock Falls and historic House Rock where pioneer families used to camp. We all felt fortunate that November gave us such an out of the ordinary day to hike and connect to history. Back on Highway 20, we stopped to read the historic sign about the 1905 transcontinental automobile race and the Santiam Wagon Road. Note: There is no longer a footbridge from House Rock Campground to House Rock. The 2012-2013 edition



of Sullivan's *100 Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades* had up to date directions and historical information. Members: Julie Dorland, Patricia Esch, Janet Jacobsen, Sue Meyers, Jyoti Naik, Judy Parker, Lamonte Smith, Jim Whitfield, Tom Woxell. Nonmembers: Mike Piehl, Maria Gulemetova, Carl Hassman.

Mushroom Foray

November 8, 2012

Leader: Harriet Kelly Asst Leader: Judy Ness

Photographer: Darko Sojak

Hike: 3 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)

ELEVEN MUSHROOM HUNTERS headed up Highway 126 and stopped at the McKenzie Ranger's Station to get individual picker permits. The required permits are free for home/non-commercial users. Harriet Kelly, a member of the Cascade



Mycological Society and a leader of Cascade Myco forays, offered a synopsis of mushroom hunting safety and an overview on what we might expect to find in the Trail Bridge area. The group caravanned up to the trailhead, described by Bill Sullivan's Central Oregon Cascades hike #61 McKenzie River. We walked the first mile in (towards Tamolitch Pool) as a group, learning what to look for and how the terrain might indicate the presence of a target species. Chanterelles were located beneath Doug firs, where the understory included deep duff and was relatively clear of salal. The most successful collection of edibles was found fruiting in the carpet of mosses nearest the streams, just west of the river trail. Pig's Ears (Ghompus), golden chanterelles, Lobster Mushroom, white chanterelles, hedgehogs, and winter chanterelles (Yellow Foot) were a sampling of edibles harvested. After the initial walk in together, the hunters headed off trail and dispersed loosely into twos and threes. Walkie-talkies were used to keep contact. A core group stayed together to benefit from the extra eyeballs and Harriet's identification ability and educational information. Many mushrooms were

found just off the trail. A few participants were climbing and scouring the hillsides with great enthusiasm. After lunch, we started moving back to the trailhead to check an area on the other side of the road. This area produced several large Lobster Mushrooms, and more white Chanterelles. By this time, participants were finding mushrooms regularly on their own. Brief discussions on how to cook and freeze their 'catch' were offered. Identification of mystery mushrooms and inedible species began with a pocket field guide and Harriet's varied and useful experience in gathering mushrooms. We are looking forward to a second foray this Fall—likely to the



Coast. Members: Julie Dorland, Harriet Kelly, Lana Lindstrom, Howard Loewinger, Judy Ness, Randall Sinnott, Darko Sojak, Jim Whitfield, Tom Woxell. Nonmembers: Donna Heath.

Ridgeline Trail
November 10, 2012
Leader: Janet Jacobsen
Photographer: Darko Sojak
Hike: 6.2 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)

I RECRUITED EIGHT DRIVERS to handle the car shuttle for 16 hikers. The 13 hikers who showed up for the hike had no complaints about the crisp fall weather and changing leaves. Seven had not hiked the entire trail. Darko, our mushroom forager, filled a sack with edible mushrooms. The sun came out for our ascent to the top of Baldy where I gave everyone a packet of my dried apples. The trip including the shuttle took 3 hours and 15 minutes. Members: Anne Bonine, Don Cross, Janet Jacobsen, Holger Krentz, Sandra Larsen, Lana Lindstrom, Jyoti Naik, Judy Parker, Jorry Rolfe, Darko Sojak, Tom Woxell. Nonmembers: Brian Murray, Sandra Kwak.

Sweet Creek
November 18, 2012
Leader & Photographer: Jim Pierce
Hike: 2.5 miles, 150 ft. (Easy)

TEN TENACIOUS TRAVELERS TROMPED TREED TRAILS.



The Sweet Creek trail was wet. The river had a healthy flow, so the waterfalls were full. There is so much to see on such a short stroll. Due to sharp eyes, close to the ground, we saw all seven fern types. For a time, a snail named Fred joined our hike. What a marvelous day to share! Members: Barbara Aten, Roberta Chord, Autumn Edwards, Chyanne Edwards, Trenton Edwards, Jim Pierce. Nonmembers: Janel Laidman, Steve Hennes, Alison Hennes, Doug Thiesen.

Urban Hike T-day Trimming
November 23, 2012
Leader: Lana Lindstrom
Hike: 6.5 miles, 750 ft. (Moderate)

AFTER SHARING WHAT OUR FAVORITE FOOD WAS the day before, we proceeded to work at least some of it off. Over hill and over dale, to the Ribbon Trail we went. Then through Laurel Hill neighborhoods and back through Hendricks Park trails to Amazon park. The 2.5 hours passed quickly with amicable conversation while we burned approximately 600 calories -- perhaps half of what we ingested yesterday. A bonus was that it was sunny and dry! Members: Mari Baldwin, Dick Hildreth, Richard Hughes, Janet Jacobsen, Holger Krentz, Lana Lindstrom, Sue Meyers, Evelyn Nagy, Tom Woxell. Nonmembers: Sandra Kwak.

Moon Mountain
December 6, 2012
Leader: Moshe Rapaport
Hike: 4 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)

WE HIKE UP THE NATURE TRAIL ON TOP OF SNOWBERRY ROAD, and south along the utility road saddle. We then followed the ridgeline along the unnamed ridge (Laurel Hill?) between Moon Mountain and Hendricks Hill, continuing along the Ribbon Trail. We dropped back down to Laurel Hill Valley at the junction just before Hendricks Park, and returned to the starting point via local streets. Members: Patricia Esch, Moshe Rapaport.

Brice Creek
December 8, 2012
Leader & Photographer: Jim Pierce
Hike: 5.5 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)

SIXTEEN SOCIABLE STALWART STEPPERS ... wonderful weather window ... beautiful boiling Brice Creek ... tremendous towering trees ... fabulous fern-filled forest ... What a grand day! Members: Barbara Aten, Don Cross, Betty Grant, Holger Krentz, Becky Lipton, Sue Meyers, Charlene Pierce, Jim Pierce, Sarah Praskievicz, Joe Sanders. Nonmembers: Ruthy Kanagy, Deborah Neighbors, Sandra Kwak, Cheryl Belleau, Claire Belleau, Ann Vokacek.



Castleberry, Hannah Fleischmann, Jyoti Naik. Nonmembers: Daniel Hartnell, Jason Rydquist, Deron Fort, Ari Songer.

Extended Trips

Opal Creek
September 16, 2012
Leader: Helen Martz Asst Leader: Patricia Esch
Extended Trip: (Moderate)

ACCORDING TO JOHN MUIR, "In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he (sic) seeks." Muir could easily have been describing our experience at Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center with its shimmering pools, majestic cedars, colorful fungi and cascading waterfalls. Thirteen of us enjoyed a variety of trails including Cedar Flats, Beachie Saddle and Battle Axe Creek, as well as the pleasant trail to and from Jawbone Flats with its remnants of sawmill and mining equipment. Jawbone Flats itself is historically interesting and quite charming, and the Opal Creek staff were helpful and knowledgeable. Pleasantly tired from sun and hiking, we relaxed each evening on the comfortable cabin decks at Happy Hour, content in the knowledge that someone else was cooking dinner, a dinner that can only be described as scrumptiously creative gourmet vegetarian. Old-timers and newcomers alike enjoyed the whole experience. Members: Barbara Aten, Anne Bonine, Barbara Bruns, Clara Emlen, Patricia Esch, Helen Martz, Jorry Rolfe, Randall Sinnott, Pat Soussan, Marian West. Nonmembers: Lynnette Rankin, Patty Burkart, Jake Bradshaw.



Climbs

South Sister
September 23, 2012
Leader: Buzz Blumm
Photographer: Jyoti Naik
Climb: 12 miles, 4,800 ft. (Difficult)

WE CONVENED AT SEHS AT 6 AM, then car-pooled in two cars to the trailhead. We hit the trail at 9 AM on a partly cloudy cool day. We encountered only about 20 others along the way, as opposed to the usual 100 or so on most September Sundays. It was a reasonably fast group and we made the summit about 1:30, in and out of the clouds. After an hour or so lounging at the top, we started down, arriving at the parking lot at 6:30. No mishaps, and everyone had a lovely day. Members: Buzz Blumm, Madeline Blumm, Rob

UPCOMING EVENTS

Owyhee River Raft Trip: 5 spots still open!

May 10-14, 2013

Leader: Pat Esch

Cost: Members \$1,035, Nonmembers \$1,040

IF YOU STILL HAVE THAT DREAM OF RAFTING THE OWYHEE RIVER, we will try again! Join Obsidians and Ouzel Outfitters next May on a 5-day guided raft trip where you can hang out on the guide's oar raft, become part of an oar-assisted paddle raft or paddle one of their inflatable kayaks. 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 trip is rated Class III (moderate) and Ouzel is noted for their emphasis on safety and experienced guides. They have scheduled us to start in Rome on May 10th (again) and finish on the 14th at Birch Creek. Ouzel provides all rafting equipment and kayaks,

camping gear (2-person tent, sleeping bag and pad), meals (vegetarian options) and return transportation to Rome. The price includes Ouzel's fee, an add-on of 10% for the guides' tips and the Obsidian trip fee; an exceptional price since their prices have gone up and this is only \$10 more than last year. They need a minimum of 10 participants with an upper limit of 15.

Signup: Prospective boaters should sign up on line and within 5 days of signing up, mail me a check for \$100. All deposit checks should be made out to Obsidian Trips and addressed to Patricia Esch, 1555 Monterey Ave, Eugene, OR 97401. Final payment is due February 1, 2013. **The deposit is 20% non-refundable if participant cancels before February 1st.** There will be a pre-trip meeting to answer questions and arrange carpooling. Questions? Call Pat at 338-8280.

Spring Basin Wilderness Hiking Trip

May 17-19, 2013

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Cost: Members \$110, Nonmembers \$115

IF YOU MISSED THE PREVIOUS TRIPS TO THE SPRING BASIN WILDERNESS, you now have another opportunity to go this spring. We will head to Spring Basin on Friday, May 17 for two nights, and return to Eugene on Sunday. We will be staying at the OMSI Camp Hancock Field Station, a rustic but comfortable camp right on the edge of the Spring Basin Wilderness, close to the John Day Clarno unit. We will be housed in A-frame cabins with two bunk beds each. Communal showers and toilets are close by, and meals are served in the dining hall. Included in the trip price are two dinners, two breakfasts and lunch fixings. At this time, the trip is limited to 16 people.

Scout Camp Trail near Crooked River Ranch is an optional hike on our way over to Camp Hancock. It is an easy 3-mile loop with 650 ft. elevation gain. Saturday and Sunday mornings, we can hike on trails near the Hancock Station or in the Spring Basin Wilderness. Another option is to visit the Clarno Unit in the John Day Fossil Beds where there are several short hikes. That could be combined with driving an additional 18 miles to Fossil, where we could arrange to dig and collect fossils in the Fossil Beds at Wheeler High School.

I would like to lead an optional pre-trip, leaving on Thursday, May 16 to visit Sheep Rock Unit near Dayville and the Painted Hills Unit in nearby Mitchell. We'd have time for exploring and hiking in some dramatic landscapes and probably spend the night in Mitchell.

Trip price, including meals and accommodation is \$110 members and \$115 nonmembers. To reserve your spot, sign up online and send a non-refundable check for \$20, payable to the Obsidians, to Janet Jacobsen, 4975 Old Dillard Rd, Eugene OR 97405. Call Janet at 343-8030 for more information or email her at bjacobsen@comcast.net. There will be an organizational meeting for participants at the lodge in late April or early May.

Read Chris Stockdale's account of the Spring Basin Wilderness trip in 2010 in the June 2010 and June 2011 *Bulletins* at

www.obsidians.org/bulletin/Issues/2010_Bulletins/2010_06_Bulletin.pdf



Summer Camp 2013
Trinity Alps
July 8-13, 2013
Cost: Members \$165

THE TRINITY ALPS YIELD THEIR INNER SECRETS to backpackers and hikers, so join 49 of your soon to be BFFs (Best Friends Forever) for five days at Summer Camp, Monday, July 8 to Saturday, July 13.

The Trinities are the snowcapped peaks northwest of Redding, California. At 517,000 acres, the Wilderness is the second largest wilderness in California and takes in portions of three national forests: the Shasta-Trinity, Klamath, and Six Rivers. The area includes high ridges with peaks ranging from 7,000-9,000 feet, deep glacial canyons, and spectacular mountain meadows. The wildflowers should be at their peak.

Fawn Group Campground is 14 miles north of Weaverville on Highway 3 and is on Trinity Reservoir. The camp is in a stand of conifer trees which provide substantial shade;



the elevation is approximately 2,500 feet. Our sister organization from Salem, the Chemeketans, camped here in 2012, and at a nearby campground in 1996. “Attendees enjoyed the hiking very much, noting especially the wonderful lakes situated in dramatic white granite cirques. Nearly all the lakes were warm enough for a refreshing swim before hitting the trail to return to camp. We couldn’t have picked a better place to explore and enjoy the great out-of-doors.” (Note: they were there the first two weeks in August.)

Online registration will open Sunday, March 17. It is limited to 50 participants—that’s the maximum the site can comfortably accommodate. The fee is \$165 for Obsidians; this includes the site, continental breakfasts, the usual choices to make your own lunches, and catered dinners. This camp will be a bit different than our usual setup since we are not bringing the kitchen or hiring cooks; and we have flush toilets! We are also requesting the full payment upon registration. But we expect the same (or more) camaraderie and great hiking that we’ve experienced at other Summer Camps.



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

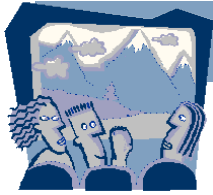
Friday, January 18:

AT RIMROCK DRAW ROCKSHELTER NEAR RILEY, one can find stones, bones and seeds that tell about life 10,000 years ago in Oregon. Marge Helzer, anthropology instructor and researcher will give a talk on the artifacts found at Rimrock Draw Rockshelter.

Friday, February 15:

A PROGRAM ON THE LARGEST TIDAL MARSH RESTORATION IN OREGON TO DATE. Roy Lowe, project Leader for the Oregon Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex, guided this restoration to improve estuarine health for the benefit of a wide array of fish, wildlife and invertebrates. Roy is a fine naturalist and will captivate your interest with both his photography and stories of the Bandon project, completed in September, 2011.

AT THE LODGE



POTLUCK

Friday, January 25, 6 PM

New Oregon Cascades Hikes

AUTHOR AND HIKING GURU **WILLIAM L. SULLIVAN** takes us on a dozen new trails he discovered in the area between Salem and Bend while researching the newly



released fourth edition of his guidebook, *100 Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades*. Included are paths to a warm springs near Oakridge, a lake with a reflection of South Sister, and a wildflower meadow at Mt. Jefferson. Along the way, expect anecdotes about local history, wildflowers, and outdoor lore.

Sullivan is the author of three novels and a dozen books about Oregon, including the popular *100 Hikes* series, *Oregon Trips & Trails*, *Hiking Oregon's History*, and *Oregon Favorites*. His journal of a 1,000-mile hike he took across Oregon, *Listening for Coyote*, was chosen by the Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission as one of *Oregon's 100 Books*, the one hundred most significant books in the state's history.

January Potluck

Friday, January 25, 2013

Social hour, 6 PM 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.



ExploraTalk Tuesday January 15, 7 PM

Birds You Will Probably Never See in Oregon

LAST MARCH AND APRIL, **DAVE STONE** took a road trip to the Texas Gulf Coast to find and photograph birds we can never hope to see around here. He visited ten birding hot spots in Texas and the southwest, including Padre Island, Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, Big Bend National Park, Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge and more. Along the way, he visited the rugged Red Rock country in Southern Utah, White Sands National Monument and several ancient petroglyph sites. He will show us the fruits of his trip at 7 PM at the Lodge on Tuesday, January 15.

Dave has been photographing professionally since 1988, with photos published by National Geographic, National Audubon Society and numerous regional publications. He teaches Nature Photography, Photoshop Elements, Travel Photography and a class called Making Friends with Your Digital Camera at Lane Community College.

High Island Roseate Spoonbill

Photo by David Stone, Wildlife Photography



Obsidian Calendar

Thank you Shirley Cameron!

SHIRLEY, A LONG TIME OBSIDIAN, has also been an active member of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs. She has represented the Obsidians at their annual fall conferences voting for conservation and the environment.

Shirley Cameron is retiring from compiling Club News for Outdoors West. She is now spending winters in Green Valley, Arizona and summer in Eugene, Oregon. We wish to express our thanks to Shirley for compiling Club News for so many years. Club News was an important way for member clubs to share their activities and learn about other groups. *From Outdoors West, Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs.*

If you would like to read Shirley's last column go to:

[www.federationofwesternoutdoorclubs.org/
FWOC_Fall_2012.pdf](http://www.federationofwesternoutdoorclubs.org/FWOC_Fall_2012.pdf)

January

12 Sat	McDowell Creek Falls Hike	E Jacobsen	343-8030
12 Sat	Berley Lakes Xski	M Sinnott	915-0234
13 Sun	Bechtel Shelter	SShoe M Pierce	344-1775
15 Tue	Birds Not Seen in Oregon		ExploraTalk
17 Thu	Outdoor First Aid Class	Sullivan	342-6546
19 Sat	Circle Lake Xski/	SShoe D Stockdale	767-3668
25 Fri	New Oregon Cascades Hikes	Sullivan	Potluck
27 Sun	Redtop Xski	D Sayre	345-2370

February

02 Sat	Ridgeline Trail Hike	M Jacobsen	343-8030
03 Sun	Mt. Hood Climb	Hamilton	343-6550
09 Sat	Circle Lake Loop Xski	M Wollin	345-2110
10 Sun	Fuji Mountain Xski	D Thompson	683-8942
16 Sat	Diamond Creek Falls	SShoe M Pierce	344-1775
12 Tue	Jo Ann and Lorin Lakes Xski	D Anselmo	782-2369
22 Fri	Walking Tours of England		Potluck
23 Sat	Sand Mountain Lookout	Xski D Miller	484-4586
24 Sun	Gold Lake Xski	E Cooper	344-8517

March

02 Sat	Heceta Head Lighthouse Hike	M Soussan	345-3046
05 Tue	Tait's Trail Rosary Lakes	SShoe M Wilken	343-3080
09 Sat	Berley Lakes Xski	M Miller	484-4586
16 Sat	Fawn Lake Xski	D Sinnott	915-0234
22 Fri	The State of Determination		Potluck

Photos on the Obsidian Website

Wayne Deeter

OBSIDIAN MEMBERS MAY NOW SUBMIT PHOTOS from Obsidian trips they have been on directly to the Obsidian website. You must log in to the *Members Only* area using the same username and password as you use for online signups. Click on the *Submit Photos* link to the left. Then choose the trip you were on in the drop-down box and click on the *Select* button.

If the trip does not show up in the box (probably because it was more than a couple weeks ago), you may still submit photos for it. Enter the trip name in the box at the bottom and click on *Create*. Send a message to webmaster@obsidians.org after you have entered your photos so that the Photo Manager knows to associate them with the trip report.

Be sure to add captions to your photos so that people years from now will know what they are looking at. The caption should identify all recognizable people in the photo. If they aren't your pictures (i.e., someone on the trip emailed them to you), be sure to have permission to post them, and give credit for them (there's a convenient pull-down box for that purpose with the names of everyone who was on the trip.)

After review these photos will show up along with the online trip report. The Publications crew may also select one or more photos to include in the *Bulletin*.

Enjoy!



Obsidians gearing up for a hike to Tire Mountain On 10/14/2012
Photo by Holger Krentz

(Photo taken from new Obsidian photo gallery)



Dunes on December 2, 2012 Eel Creek Hike—Photo by Janel Laidman

January 2013



PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
EUGENE, OR
PERMIT 803

OBSIDIANS, INC. IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OBSIDIANS, INC.
P.O. BOX 51510
EUGENE, OR 97405

