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## Dates to Remember

July 15	ExploraTalk
August 30	<i>Bulletin</i> deadline
September 3	Board Meeting
September 7	Lodge Open House

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

### Reminder:

The *Bulletin* is not published in August. The next *Bulletin* will come out in September.

## Waldo Lake: Still at Risk

*Joella Ewing*

**W**ALDO LAKE WILDERNESS was added to the Wilderness Act by the U.S. Congress in 1984 and saved from the prospects of a planned hydroelectric project. Many organizations, including the Obsidians, lobbied their Congressmen and Senators for its addition to Wilderness.

But Waldo Lake is still not completely safe because the lake itself is not within the Wilderness boundary. It is only surrounded by wilderness. Motor boating interests have been on the attack for several years for use of motor boats on the lake. They have appealed, for the second time, a 2010 state regulation banning motors on the lake.

Second only to Crater Lake in size in Oregon and at over 5,000 feet elevation, Waldo is noted as one of the four purest lakes in the world.

For these reasons as well as its beauty, in 1983 then Obsidian president Joe Lowry and past president Ben Ross organized Obsidian participation, with at least twelve other organizations, to promote Waldo Lake Wilderness Legislation. The Waldo Wilderness Council, headed by Ben, led that effort.

The year prior to its inclusion in the Wilderness Act, the State of Oregon Legislature designated Waldo and a 35-mile stretch of the Willamette River's North Fork as part of Oregon's Scenic Waterways System.

But because of its location on Federal property, the Scenic Waterways designation might not have saved it from the dam project. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission could have ignored Oregon law. Therefore, supporters redoubled their commitment to having the Waldo area included under the Wilderness Act. They persuaded Senator Mark Hatfield to hold public hearings in Bend and Salem.

Joe and Ben organized rallies, marches, fund raisers, and a weekend hike around Waldo's 23.3 mile circumference. Mason Williams was featured performer at one of the rallies.

The hike around Waldo was not a race, but some of the hikers chose to be competitive, running most of the way. Bruce Ronning was back in 3:55. Ben and Dr. Ed Sargent finished in 4:45 and 4:47 respectively. It took the writer over



eight hours, and my feet were so blistered and my leg muscles so knotted I couldn't drive home.

All that fun and persuasion were important to Waldo Lake back in 1983—84, but now we need to keep an eye on that lawsuit and be ready to defend Waldo Lake if the court rules in the boaters' favor.

## New Trail Bridge to House Rock Trail

Janet Jacobsen (Photo by Nancy White)

**T**HE FOOTBRIDGE CONNECTING HOUSE ROCK CAMPGROUND TO HOUSE ROCK, House Rock Falls and the Santiam Wagon Road was replaced in May. The original bridge was removed a few years ago for safety reasons. It is interesting to speculate what portions were flown into place. The bridge makes it easy for hikers to quickly discover House Rock, a massive boulder where



pioneer families could camp beneath the overhang for protection from storms.

House Rock campground is located just off Highway 20, twenty miles east of Sweet Home. When approaching the campground, don't drive across the bridge to the campground, but park at a small parking area next to a large sign and picnic table. Look through the trees for the new footbridge and then for the two unmarked trails. The easier trail is just up the back road about 100 feet from the parking space. After reaching and crossing the new foot bridge, one can turn left for the shortest distance to House Rock, but I would suggest that you turn right to hike the one mile loop trail that includes a short walk on the Santiam Wagon Road, an interpretive Santiam Wagon sign, House Rock Waterfall and then a loop back to House Rock.

The trail down to House Rock Waterfall can be slippery and muddy. Don't be discouraged by a large tree across the trail. On a hot day, one can do a bit of rock scramble to find a cool place for lunch.

Combine a stop at House Rock with your hike to Cascadia Park, Rooster Rock, or Iron Mountain. For Forest Service information, google the title of the article. Bill Sullivan's *100 Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades* has a description of the House Rock hike that can be adapted to include the new bridge. He also has the new bridge listed under his *Trail Updates* on his website:

[www.oregonhiking.com/oregon-adventures/trail-updates](http://www.oregonhiking.com/oregon-adventures/trail-updates)

### THE OBSIDIANS FACEBOOK PAGE

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*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

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Concessions ..... Patty MacAfee  
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Trail Maintenance ..... Matt Bell  
Winter Trips ..... Anne Bonine

## THE OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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### Deadline

**for September 2014 Bulletin**

**Saturday, August 30, 2014**

### Assembly/Mailing Team

**For June Bulletin**

Assembly & Mail Manager - Clara Emlen  
Assembly Team - Don Baldwin, Yuan Hopkins, John & Lenore McManigal,  
Margaret Prentice and Martha Welches

### Editorial Team

Writing & Editorial Staff - Bea Fontana,  
Joanne Ledet, Lou Maenz and Ethel Weltman  
Weltman  
Copy Editors - Ethel Weltman & Nancy White  
Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing - Stewart Hoeg

# Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs Update

## A Bavarian Village in 2013—Leavenworth, WA

**Shirley Cameron**

**A** NINE-ACRE NATURE SANCTUARY called the Barn Beach Reserve on the Wenatchee River in Leavenworth, was the gathering place in 2013. The Wenatchee River Institute, the host of the conference, operates the Reserve and sponsors environmental education and events for youth and adults. It's a beautiful place!

To launch the theme *Change and New Challenges for Conservation*, Michael McCloskey recalled that in the beginning the mission was to protect wild land and the land surrounding it. Conservation is less important for outdoor clubs now. Young people are more interested in electronics than being in the outdoors. Birding is up and hunting is down. Now there is professional staff and not so many volunteers. Issues are different: Habitat, wildlife, forests and their role in sequestering carbon, toxic chemicals, climate change, fracking, coal trains.

A high point of the conference for many was viewing the full length film *Green Fire* about Aldo Leopold, his life and his ideas. He is especially known for his book *Sand County*

*Almanac*. It was a treat to have Leopold's youngest daughter Estelle with us as we watched the film and she added personal accounts.

Some other topics at the conference: pathways to designation of national parks and monuments (including the effort to make Mt. St. Helens a monument); nine new dam proposals in NW Alaska; fires—hotter, drier; more frequent, and larger; invasive species; prescribed burns; North Cascades National Park expansion; Hydropower Reform Coalition and a culture that doesn't value wilderness.

Specific to Oregon was a discussion about Forest Park, Portland's 500-acre wilderness park, the largest municipal park in the nation. It has a 30-mile trail through forest and streams and more than 30 bike trails, but now bicyclists want a single track trail less than 3 feet wide.

The date for the 2014 conference has been set for the weekend of August 22—24 at the Echo Summit Lodge owned by the California Alpine Club. Clubs should be receiving information soon.

## Celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wilderness Act: Hike and Read

**Janet Jacobsen**

**I** ASKED SEVERAL MEMBERS to share their favorite wilderness books. Here are their informal responses.

Velma Shirk: *In Wilderness is the Preservation of the World*. Photos by Eliot Porter with text chosen from *Walden* and other writing by Henry David Thoreau. I bought it in 1964 for my parents' Christmas and then retrieved it after they both had died. I'm glad I have it, and I go back to it from time to time.

Sam Miller: Two books come to mind. The first is *A Woman in the Polar Night* by Christiane Ritter. In 1934, Ritter, an Austrian housewife and artist, came to the small Arctic island Svalbard (Spitsbergen) to join her husband, Hermann, who spent long periods of time on the island hunting and trapping. They lived in a tarpaulin-covered hut for a year about sixty miles from the nearest neighbor. Her memoir offers thoughtful reflections on isolation and our place in the natural world. The writing is luminous. The second recommendation is *Sierra* written by Diane Siebert and illustrated by Wendell Minor. This children's book has a poem narrative and wonderful illustrations of my favorite mountain range. I frequently read it to my daughter Sierra when she was a toddler and it holds a special place in my heart from that time in our lives. Reviewers describe it as a celebration of the American landscape. Their assessment is

correct.

Bill Sullivan: You might list Edward Abbey's *The Monkey Wrench Gang*. Although it is a naughty novel, it captures the fun, fighting spirit of conservationists.

Tommy Young: *Desert Solitaire: A Season in the Wilderness* by Edward Abbey. A couple of west coast books that I love are *The Log from the Sea Of Cortez* by John Steinbeck, and *Between Pacific Tides* by Edward Ricketts, Calvin and Hedgepath. Of course they are about marine biology and have nothing to do with hiking or wilderness. (Tommy is a retired high school biology/marine life teacher from Florida.)

Joella Ewing: Aldo Leopold's *Sand County Almanac* and of course, there's our own Barry Lopez.

Janet Jacobsen: Margaret Murie, a wilderness advocate, offers two entertaining autobiographies, *Two in the Far North* and its sequel, *Wapiti Wilderness*. They cover a time span from late 1920s to the early 1960s.

For more suggestions, see the *Wilderness Act* link on the Obsidian webpage for a bibliography compiled by Karen Brand (Recreation Staff Officer for the Deschutes National Forest). It includes books by William Douglas, William Stegner, John Muir, and Suzanne Roberts.

# July Board Notes

July 2, 2014

By Susan Wanser

President Matt Bell called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Don Colgan, Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Stewart Hoeg, Shellie Robertson, Susan Wanser and Elle Weaver. Also present were: Anne Bonine, John Cooper, Wayne Deeter, Joella Ewing, Brian Hamilton, Mary Hamilton, Kathy Hoeg, Lana Lindstrom, Patty MacAfee, Doug Nelson, and Chris Stockdale.

The Board approved the minutes of the June 2014 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):** As of July 1, 124 trips have been scheduled. Thus far, 49 trips have been completed, approved, and had fees collected. By contrast, on July 1 of last year, 134 trips had been scheduled, and 55 had been completed. One incident report has been referred to the Summer Trips Committee by the Safety Committee. That incident is currently being investigated.

**Climbs (Brian Hamilton):** Four climbs were completed with 17 members and 5 nonmembers participating. One climb was rescheduled due to weather. Thirteen climbs remain on this season's schedule.

**Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell):** There was one outing in June. We met at the main Willamette Street trailhead and hiked up to the summit to salvage plants ahead of the work to create a more defined trail atop the butte. June participation: twelve participants including ten members.

**Highways and Byways By Bus (Liz Reanier):** The June 18 More Food III bus trip was enjoyed by 22 members and 8 nonmembers. The July trip to Mount St. Helens & NW Trek is full. There is space available on all other trips.

**Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom):** A few folks have cancelled, but more folks have signed up, so we still have 100 participants. There is a higher than usual percentage of nonmembers coming; hopefully, they'll join!

**Conservation, Science, & Education (Joella Ewing):** Fifty-two people attended the McKenzie River ExploraTalk on June 17. Thirty-five people attended the Cascadia Cave Rock Shelter hike on June 20. I'm working with Janet and Mary on the Sept. 7 open house celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Wilderness Act. We will meet with Charles Clark of the USFS July 8 for final coordination of activities with other outdoor groups.

**Publications (Lou Maenz):** In June the *Bulletin* committee compiled, edited and mailed 216 bulletins.

**Entertainment (Susan Wanser):** Thirty-six people attended Don Colgan's and Connie Soper's talk about the Oregon Coast Trail. Mike Wolf, a new member, will be presenting *Bicycling*

*in Cuba* on September 26.

**Membership (Elle Weaver):** One membership application was presented. Currently there are 472 members.

**Publicity (Mary Hamilton):** The annual Ridgeline Celebration was held on June 7 at Spencer Butte main trailhead. Visitors appreciated receiving the recently printed business cards with the Obsidian's website and information. We enticed visitors by serving cookies. The committee continues to post calendars at various locations around town and on Craigslist.

**Online (Wayne Deeter):** There are now 2,869 photos in 208 albums in the Obsidian photo gallery and 281 *likes* of our Facebook page.

**Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal):** All of the reports printed in the June *Bulletin*, have been recorded on each member's activity sheet.

**Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen):** Three work parties to report for the last month: June 5—Routine mowing and blowing for Lodge rental. Thanks to Jim Whitfield and Gary Kirk. June 17—Routine mowing and blowing before ExploraTalk. Thanks to Jim Whitfield, Clara Emlen and Joella Ewing. June 26—Routine mowing and blowing before potluck. Thanks to Jim Whitfield.

## NEW BUSINESS

A huge thanks to Steve Johnson who did an awesome job of painting the new storage shed with the assistance of many members.

The Board approved:

- changes to the Bylaws for both the By-Ways By Bus and Climbing committees
- a change of wording about Climbing awards
- *Safety Policies and Procedures* to replace the *Safety Manual*

Pat Esch, Chairman of the Safety Committee read the following to the Board: *First I want to thank the Board for approving the new Safety Policies and Procedures Manual. I also wish to thank Jim Pierce for starting this process several years ago, proving that the manual could be reduced from thirty six pages to nine. I wish to thank Sue Sullivan for the present revision, and to all the Safety Committee members who contributed along the way. And last but not least, I want to thank my two consultants, John Jacobsen and Elle Weaver, who had a sense of what the manual should say. And finally, I thank Comcast for charging me more than double to get off dial-up so I could email the manual to many recipients in a split second. And to this note, the Board extends a massive thanks to Pat for getting this done!*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board meeting will be on September 3 at 6:00 PM.

## Trip Reports & Other Activities



### Trail Maintenance

#### Spencer Butte Trail

May 28, 2014

Leader: Matthew Bell

Photographer: Jan Jacobsen

Trail Maintenance 2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

**E**LEVEN UNINTIMIDATED VOLUNTEERS met up at the main Spencer Butte parking lot for trail maintenance in spite of a possible thunderstorm, which never appeared. Note: It is always perfect weather for trail maintenance! Our group got down to business for our first Wednesday evening outing of the summer schedule. We worked independently to improve three drainage features and improve two steps in the steep section of the West Trail by adding additional rocks to the trail bed to create steps and reinforce drains. Janet raked much of the duff and fir needles off the West Trail below where we were working. Clara expertly cleaned the steps and kiosk including the roof. All this work was showcased during the Trails Summit hike on May 29 and the Ridgeline Celebration/National Trails Day event on June 7. Members: Matthew Bell, Oliver Bell, Roberta Chord, Autumn Edwards, Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore, Janet Jacobsen, Todd Larsen, Dave Predeek, Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Gary Ladenes



### Climbs

#### Diamond Peak Graduation Climb

June 8, 2014

Leader: Dave Beardsley

Climb: 8 miles, 3,750 ft. (Difficult)

**T**EN CLIMBERS DROVE TO THE PULLOUT at the start of road 2149 to get ready for the possible onslaught of mosquitoes at the trailhead further up the road. There is generally a huge difference in the amount of bugs due to a change in elevation. We all booted up and got our packs ready to hit the trail as soon as we arrived at the trailhead. As it turned out, the mosquitoes were there but not swarming yet this season. We found continuous snow just past the start of the bushwhacking section of the southwest ridge climber's route. Our route this time took us a bit more to the east of the ridge where we enjoyed moderate slopes all the way to the false summit. I have never seen continuous snow the entire length of this ridge this late in the season. From the false summit to the true summit, we also walked on snow the entire way. The summit was also half-covered with snow. Leader treats at the summit were disappointing. I think we need to cover this topic in more depth in next year's basic climb school! Members: Dave Beardsley, Rebecca Eastwood, Brian Vollmer-Buhl, Liz Vollmer-Buhl, George Williamson, Jim Woodard. Nonmembers: Calvin Beardsley, Justin Howell, Caroline McCants, Michael Morris.



### Hikes

#### Amazon Headwaters/Spencer Butte

May 21, 2014 through June 11, 2014

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 6.3 miles, 1,530 ft. (Moderate)

**T**HE HIKERS BY DATE WERE: **MAY 21**—Members: Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Bob Johnson, Lana Lindstrom, Craig Molitor, Jan Pylar, David Reinhard, Tom Rundle, Karla Rusow, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Gary

Ladenes, Carla Lyon, Mike Smith, Kailey Loveland. **MAY 28**—Members: May Fogg, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Bob Johnson, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Heather Shepard, Mike Smith, Janice Smith. **JUNE 4**—Members: David Cooper, May Fogg, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Jan Pylar, David Reinhard, Tom Rundle. Nonmembers: Gary Ladenes, Caroline Moore, Carla Lyon. **JUNE 11**—Members: David Cooper, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Karla Rusow, Mike Smith, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Caroline Moore.

## Mary's Peak

**May 22, 2014**

**Leader: Kris Wolters, Assistant: Janet Jacobsen**

**Photographer: Tommy Young**

**Hike: 5.4 miles, 1,250 ft. (Moderate)**

**IT WAS AROUND 10:00 AM** when we started up East Ridge Trail from Connor's Camp trailhead. Jerri O'Brien, a Chemeketa who highly recommended the scenic trail and assisted in leading, made sure we stopped and turned to the east to see the views and snow-capped mountains. As we neared the rocky summit, the wildflowers were beginning to bloom. From the top, we could see Mt. Rainier, Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Hood and the other mountains down to Diamond Peak. On the other side, we saw the ocean view



complete with surfers wearing Obsidian t-shirts. Back at the car, euphoric hikers toasted the perfect day with cold Italian soda and Jason's oatmeal cookies. We thank Jerri for sharing her favorite trail and Dick Hildreth for awesome sweeping! Members: Keiko Bryan, Barbara Gunther, Dick Hildreth, Janet Jacobsen, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Kris Wolters, Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Jason Weinstein, Jade Isa, Jerri O'Brien, Michael Wolf, Devon Hovis.

## Eel Creek

**May 24, 2014**

**Leader: Jane Hackett**

**Hike: 6 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)**

**TWO OF US WENT TO EEL CREEK.** We had a great day. The day started off a little overcast and breezy but turned into sunshine by the end of the day. The differences between fall and spring trips are several; no mushrooms in the spring and the sand is softer and harder to walk on. On the other hand, we did not have to wade through the deflation plane. The rhododendrons were blooming and beautiful, along with the bright yellow flowers on the lily pads in the pond. At the end of the day, the wind picked up and it was cooler, probably the norm for the summer. Members: Jane Hackett, Lamonte Smith.

## Hardesty-Eula Ridge—Conditioning

**May 25, 2014**

**Leader & Photographer: Dave Beardsley**

**Hike: 10 miles, 3,323 ft. (Difficult)**

**ON A SCALE OF ONE TO AWESOME, THIS TRIP WAS FABULOUS.** This was one of the several conditioning hikes offered



by the climbing committee this spring to help get ready for the upcoming climbing season. This one went up Hardesty trail #3469 and down Eula Ridge trail #3463. There was a car shuttle at the two trailheads to make this work. Seven strong hikers kept up with my fast pace while lugging heavy packs and carrying on a steady stream of conversation about everything, as well as way too much talk and dreaming about cold IPA. The weather was too nice for a typical Memorial Day weekend. Members: Dave Beardsley, Ken DenOuden, Steven Johnson, Becky Lipton, Andrew McIvor, Jim Woodard. Nonmembers: Michael Morris, Richard Partridge.

## Mt. June/Lost Creek Trail

**May 25, 2014**

**Leader & Photographer: Lana Lindstrom**

**Hike: 6.5 miles, 1,850 ft. (Moderate)**

**THERE ARE THREE STARTING POINTS** to access Mt. June—we took the Lost Creek Trail. The hike is steady uphill for about two miles and then up and down (several times) to the



top. We lucked out with the clear skies, allowing us to see from Mt. Jefferson to Mt. Thielson, and nearby Bohemia Mountain. We lingered at the top, enjoying the views, food and conversation, and admiring the penstemon which clung to the tiny rock crevices. Other flowers included trilliums, fawn lilies, calypso orchids, delphiniums, oxalis, and many more. We had particularly interesting participants such as Rebecca who ran the 2013 New York Marathon, several who biked long distances (both road and mountain), Shelley and Mike who shared my love of the flowers and trees, Mike who has traveled all over the U.S. and Central America (sometimes on his *Bike Friday*), and Allen who volunteered 200+ hours last year doing trail maintenance. Thanks very much to Lisa and Jan for driving. It was a pleasure to lead this trip on such a fine day! Members: Rebecca Eastwood, Chuck Eyers, Lisa Grissell, Lana Lindstrom, Brian Popowsky, Jan Pylar, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle. Nonmembers: Michael Wolf, Kate Shapiro, Allen DeBuhr, Shelley Ferrell.

## **Masonic Cemetery/Ribbon Trail**

**May 26, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Hike: 5 miles, 400 ft. (Easy)**

**EIGHTEEN OF US CELEBRATED MEMORIAL DAY** with a two-hour loop hike from the Masonic Cemetery up to the Ribbon Trail and Hendricks Park, including a stop at the Obsidian Lodge. Hikers shared interesting facts along the way. Dave Preedeck told us about the slow-moving bright yellow slime mold, Richard Essenberg shared the history of the streetcar tracks, and Rick Ahrens identified a few plants. After a healthy muffin break, we toured the Hope Abbey for the 100th anniversary celebration. All of us could see how much the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association has accomplished the last twenty years. Volunteers were serving coffee and cake and answering our questions. Several of us lingered until noon to hear a Vietnam veteran play taps at the public square of the cemetery. Thanks to Lana for helping me lead our large group. Members: Rick Ahrens, Roberta Chord, Larry Dunlap, Autumn Edwards, Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, May Fogg, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Sue Meyers, Dave Preedeck, Judy Sinnott, Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Suzanne Steussy, Tonya Cronkright, Jim Woods, Chris Rawles.

## **Brice Creek**

**May 31, 2014**

**Leader: Jane Hackett**

**Hike: 7 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)**

**GREAT TRIP.** We started at the top of the trail, Champion Creek, and we included side trips to lower and upper Trestle Creek Falls. The lower falls is .3 miles with a climb over a big log with a step cut to make it easier to climb over. I fell through a hole between roots that were not visible. The upper falls is a 1.1-mile side trip and a 1,000 ft. elevation gain. We all thought this hike was worth the effort and energy. For those who have not been on this route, there is a 160 foot falls and the trail goes behind the falls. There is a way to follow the trail on the other side and go back to Champion Park or Lund Park, which is about a four-mile loop. We had a shuttle and completed the trail along Brice Creek. We found a great lunch spot down on the edge of the creek and spent about a half-hour enjoying the crystal clear water. We continued to hike another 2.5 miles to Cedar Creek campground where I experienced difficulty with my ankle. We still had 1.5 miles to the end of the trail and to my car. I gave my keys to Jay and he and Gary sprinted to the end. The rest of us crossed the bridge to the campground and made use of the picnic table and facilities. We were back in Eugene by 4:30. This is a moderate trip with the inclusion of the upper falls. We hiked over six miles, not including the last 1.5 miles. There are healthy patches of poison oak along the trail and great swimming holes in July and August. Lund Park and Cedar Creek campgrounds have bridges that cross over the creek so that you can camp and hike. Members: Jane Allen, Barby Bakke, Juliana Cichy, Alan Curtis, Jane Hackett. Nonmembers: Malissa Bare, Gary Ladenes, Jay Bryant.

## **Dog Mountain**

**June 1, 2014**

**Leader: Tom Giesen**

**Hike: 6 miles, 2,900 ft. (Difficult)**

**THE FOUR OF US DROVE THE LONG TRIP TO DOG MOUNTAIN TRAILHEAD**, hoping with an early 7:30 AM start, we'd beat the rush. No such luck. We were fortunate to find a safe spot just outside the designated parking area. We gathered our gear, waited for our turn at the only toilets, and were off up the trail. The first section of the trail is the steepest — ouch! There are options for the second section of trail — shorter but steeper or longer and less steep. We chose the steeper option on the grounds that the crowd would tend to take the easier route — probably a correct assumption. The third section leads to Puppy Point. In the process, we transitioned from woods to meadow — what a difference! The meadows were carpets of flowers — yellow balsamroot, paintbrush and a few early lupine. It was windy and chilly and we were all sweaty. From Puppy Point to the top, the trail was often loose rock, but soon we came to the top and to some forest

that gave us a wind-sheltered spot for lunch. The view of the Gorge was panoramic, and to the north was Mt. Adams. Mt. Hood peeked over the ridge across the river. The trip down was uneventful, save that we took the less-steep trail and found an interesting overlook we had not seen before. Members: Brad Bennett, David Cooper, Tom Giesen, Janet Jacobsen.

## Ridgeline Trail: Blanton to Summit

**June 5, 2014**

**Leader: Betty Grant**

**Hike: 9 miles, 860 ft. (Moderate)**

**WE WERE ON THE TRAIL BY 8:15** on a sunny morning. We hiked to the summit of Spencer Butte and rested while we enjoyed the hazy view and returned to our car at 1:00 PM. We enjoyed the conversation, wildflowers, and wealth of ferns, while avoiding the poison oak and the nettles (not easy to do on Spencer Butte). A breeze made the mid-70s temperature perfect. Our time on the summit was shared with a large school group from Creswell. It's so great to see young folks outdoors! Members: May Fogg, Betty Grant, Sue Meyers. Nonmembers: Karen Rich.

## River Campus Loop

**June 6, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Hike: 5.2 miles, (Easy)**

**THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE TRIP WAS NEAR THE CANAL BRIDGE** when we had our first view of the new sculpture *Camas Basket* on the northwest side of the Whilamut Passage over the Willamette River. The new sculpture honors the Kalapuya people and is the second sculpture on the span. We spotted eleven of the fifteen Kalapuya talking stones on our river walk on a beautiful sunny day. After lunch at the Jordan Schnitzer Art Museum, we relaxed on the cushions in the Medusa Plunge installation and then viewed the Van Gogh painting on loan. Members: May Fogg, Lisa Grissell, Janet Jacobsen.

## Ridgeline Trail Celebration

**June 7, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Photographer: John Jacobsen**

**Hike: 5.1 miles, 700 ft. (Easy)**

**THE RIDGELINE TRAIL CELEBRATION HIKE** was designed to encourage guests to experience the Ridgeline Trail, perhaps for the first time. We were glad to have Mike Smith, a new member, on the hike. We started hiking from the Spring Trailhead at 8:30 and made our way up to the top of the butte and back down to the Spencer Butte parking lot where



Mary and Brian Hamilton (Publicity Committee) were hosting the Obsidian photo display at the top of the steps. It was a beautiful day to greet hikers and share club activities. Thanks to John Jacobsen who shuttled the four hikers to Spring Trailhead. Members: Chris Gordon, Janet Jacobsen, Jorry Rolfe. Nonmembers: Mike Smith.

## Mt. Pisgah-Sunset/Moonrise

**June 12, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Hike: 3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)**

**KEN SPOTTED SEVERAL BIRDS** hiding in the vegetation for Nancy and me to view on our way up to the lonely summit. It was too cloudy for the sun and moon to emerge, but our conversation topics made up for their missing faces. Members: Ken DenOuden, Janet Jacobsen. Nonmembers: Nancy Raymond.

## Mt. June

**June 16, 2014**

**Leader: Lana Lindstrom**

**Hike: 7 miles, 1,800 ft. (Moderate)**

**DESPITE VERY DARK SKIES** and some drizzle, all participants showed up to hike the scheduled Iron Mountain. We then discussed, voted, lobbied, and voted again whether or not to drive two hours to the designated hike. Ultimately, we decided to go to Mt. June. In retrospect, this was an excellent choice since it was cold and drizzling (38 degrees at Tombstone Pass), and hailed a bit on Mt June! The delicate calypso orchids, which were so beautiful three weeks ago, were almost non-existent, but we did see lots of other wildflowers — yellow desert parsley and stonecrop, pink penstemon, bear grass, wild onion, paintbrush, etc. Thanks to a very flexible, hardy group and especially to Mary and Frank for driving. Members: Barbara Aten, Keiko Bryan, Dan Christensen, Richard Hughes, Lana Lindstrom, Mary Livingston, Frank Lulich, Nola Nelson, Tom Rundle, Chris Stockdale.



# Obsidians Greet Hikers for Ridgeline Celebration

Article and photo by Janet Jacobsen

**M**ARY AND BRIAN HAMILTON (Publicity Chair and Climbs Chair) were the greeters extraordinaire at the Ridgeline Celebration on June 7. Hikers were interested in the display of historical Spencer Butte photos and of trail maintenance. Mary and Brian also did the setup and take down. Thanks also to Janet Jacobsen, Matt and Oliver Bell, who helped greet and also led hikes. Not shown in the photo are the pristine cement steps cleaned a few days earlier by Clara Emlen on the monthly trail maintenance work project.



## Wilderness Hike Sampler

**E**IGHT YEARS AGO, **BARB REVERE** wrote a monthly column for the *Bulletin* featuring some of the upcoming hikes. Except for the Wassen Creek hike, we matched her descriptions with some of the 2014 wilderness hikes. Check the website for a complete list of trips.

It is not too late to add your favorite wilderness hike to the schedule! If you haven't led a trip, contact [summer-trips@obsidians.org](mailto:summer-trips@obsidians.org) for information on how to make it so.

**July 11 French Pete Creek**—This area was the first lowland forest to be designated wilderness after a lengthy fight by the Friends of the Three Sisters, an organization founded by Obsidians. This is a beautiful and varied country carved by a woodland stream and lined with bracken, bunchberry and tall conifers. Join leader, Don Colgan and bring your rock hopping skills as there are two fords.

**July 13 and August 23 Black Crater**—The climb of 2,500 ft. in the Three Sisters Wilderness is well compensated for by fabulous views of many high peaks: south to the Sisters, east to central Oregon and north to Mt. Hood. Led by Tom Geisen and Jennifer Baer respectively.

**July 26 Opal Creek**—The Opal Creek Wilderness was the subject of a heated fight between environmentalists, government agencies, and timber concerns from the late 1980s until it was declared a wilderness area in 1996. Don't miss this opportunity to accompany leader Becky Lipton along Opal Creek trail to Opal Pool and Jawbone Flats; you'll see why so many people fought so long to preserve this beautiful area.

**August 8 Wassen Creek**—Led by Gordon Sayre. He wrote in his 2009 trip report: We hiked a users' trail that descends to Wassen Creek from Steampot Road, which runs along a ridge on the south side of the creek's watershed. The old-growth forest is as marvelous as any in the coast range. The

namesake Devil's Staircase waterfall, however, lies a couple miles downstream from the point where we reached the creek. The water was very cold and we were able to wade only a hundred yards or so. Amazingly, the water was as cold and at the same height as it was in February and November when I previously hiked this trail. Those who wish to see the falls should try a different, more difficult route from the north, or come in August and be prepared to shiver. The rest of us should work to get this area preserved as wilderness.

**August 9 Carl Lake**—South of Mt. Jefferson, flanked by North and South Cinder Peaks, sits Carl Lake. Led by Tom Geisen.

**July 26 Jefferson Park**—This is a beautiful area of the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness. Pristine lakes reflect rocky cathedral spires and snowcapped peaks in this lovely basin on the north shoulder of Mt. Jefferson. Led by Randy Sinnott.

**August 23 Scott Mountain**—A search through old trip reports indicates the mosquitoes should be gone by late August and you can plan on a refreshing plunge into one of the lakes along the way. As for views: "You can see all of Oregon from the top," one leader wrote about the view in the Mt. Washington wilderness. Led by Sue Wolling.

**August 24 Marie Lake**—In the Diamond Lake Wilderness, the lake is along the approach to Diamond Peak summit. Led by Tom Musselwhite.

**September 14 Divide Lake**—Your destination is at the southwest base of Mt. Yoran in a glacier carved basin in the Diamond Lake Wilderness. The route follows a ridge offering many lovely views. This is prime time in huckleberry country so bring a baggy, or munch as you go. Led by Don Colgan.

## Upcoming Activities

# Trail Rescue: Do-It-Yourself!

*Rob Castleberry (photo by Holger Krentz)*

**I DON'T WANT TO LEAD THIS HIKE ANYMORE.** That's how Janet Jacobsen began her report about the hike she led to Maxwell Butte last fall. Her group counted more than 150 logs across the trail, making it a very difficult hike. Another survey counted more than 180. At the end of her report, Janet said she'd consider leading the hike again if logs were cleared from the trail. Let's do it! On July 23 and 24 Obsidians and High Cascades Forest Volunteers will work together to clear off as many logs as we can.

Maxwell Butte is north of Santiam Junction in the southwest corner of Jefferson Wilderness. The view along the crest of the Cascades is magnificent, explaining why it's been an Obsidian hiking destination 25 times in the last 40 years. As Obsidians may be observing on other trails, maintenance isn't what it used to be. Funding has declined drastically, not only for Forest Service crews but also for youth employment programs that give young people some work experience while keeping our trails in good condition. Recreation managers have to stretch their budgets to the

limit to meet even the highest priority needs. Without our involvement, the trail coordinator at the Detroit Ranger District doesn't expect any work to be done on that trail until 2018, *at the earliest*.

Some good news about this project: since much of the trail is through lodge pole pine forest, the logs tend to be small. Using some special tools and techniques, we'll be able to swing or push many (or most?) of the logs off the trail without cutting them. Some instruction and coaching will quickly get beginners comfortable with crosscut sawing. Safety and avoiding injury will be highest priority, as always in our volunteer trail work. The trail passes Twin Lakes, perhaps a welcome swimming opportunity after a few hours of working. I have scheduled this project as a two-day outing with car camping at a nearby campground for those of us who will stay over. Those who want to commit for only one day, either July 23 or 24, are very welcome. You can sign up online and enjoy the prospect of a trail left open and inviting thanks to your efforts. And hopefully Janet will be induced to lead another group to that mountaintop.



# Summer Camp: Questions and Answers

**Q. I'm curious about the camp lunches; will they be prepared for us?**

A. It will be the same setup we usually have at camp, except that we will make our lunches **after** breakfast. The staff will put out lunchmeat, cheese, tuna, bread, chips, and fruit and we will prepare our own lunches. Hummus and Toby's paté will also be available. Bring your own sandwich container.

**Q. What do you suppose the food will be like? Will they have good, strong coffee or should I bring my own supply?**

A. I have been told that the coffee is very strong—*cowboy* style. Decaf and herbal teas will also be available. The dinners will be similar to what we usually have—vegetarian lasagna, burritos, herbed chicken, meatloaf and mashed potatoes are probabilities. Vegetarian options and salad will always be available. Soy milk will be available at breakfast.

**Q. Is there cell or internet service at camp?**

A. Nope, your communication toys will be taking a rest. There isn't even a landline—only an emergency satellite phone. The nearest cell service is in John Day.

**Q. Is there electricity at camp? I need to charge my camera!**

A. Electricity is provided by a generator which is turned off between 10 PM and 6 AM. During that time there are no

lights and no water, as the water is pumped from a well with electricity. When the electricity is off, it is dark, so be sure to bring flashlights or headlamps.

**Q. Do you think there will be mosquitoes?**

A. It's a good idea to bring some repellent. They had not yet arrived en masse in mid-June, but with 100 warm-blooded bodies, there's a good possibility that they will find us.

**Q. How does carpooling to trailheads work at camp?**

A. Bring lots of small bills! Drivers are paid \$.09/mile immediately upon returning to camp.

**Q. If I have last minute questions, whom do I contact?**

A. If you're a first timer, chances are good that your Camp Buddy can answer them. Lots of answers are in your camp booklet (including a handy *what should I bring list*). Information has been published in previous *Bulletins*—available online. Q & A's are also on the Obsidian web page under *Summer Camp*—you may want to check shortly before departing for camp just in case new information has been added. We don't have an email list for Summer Camp participants, but if there's a major disaster like a forest fire in the vicinity, we will phone or email everyone, as well as post it on the web page.

See you at camp - no earlier than 1:00 PM on Friday, August 1!

## Celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1964 Wilderness Act Wilderness Open House at Obsidian Lodge Sunday, September 7, 1:00—4:00 PM

**J**OELLA EWING (CONSERVATION/SCI-ED COMMITTEE) AND JANET JACOBSEN (PUBLICITY COMMITTEE) are in the planning stages with other outdoor organizations to host displays, wilderness art, activities, and Ribbon Trail hikes. Mark the date on your calendar and check the website for up to date information. There will not be an August *Bulletin* to remind members! Volunteers are needed for greeting, parking, refreshments, leading hikes, and more. If you would like to help, contact [publicity@obsidians.org](mailto:publicity@obsidians.org)

### Lowder Mountain Hike September 3

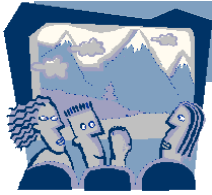
SEPTEMBER 3, 1964 IS THE DAY THAT PRESIDENT JOHNSON SIGNED THE WILDERNESS ACT. From the top of Lowder Mountain,



one can view Karl and Ruth Lakes named after Obsidian members, Karl and Ruth Onthank, who worked to include the area in the Three Sisters Wilderness. Obsidians and other organizations will be celebrating with other wilderness hikes/climbs during the first week of September.

*"If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt, we must leave them something more than the miracles of technology. We must leave them a glimpse of the world as it was in the beginning, not just after we got through with it."* President Johnson

## At The Lodge



# POTLUCK

## Next Potluck will be in September: Biking in Cuba!



### ExploraTalk

Tuesday, July 15 at 7 PM

## Mapmaker Extraordinaire

ACCORDING TO A *SLATE MAGAZINE* ONLINE ARTICLE David Imus's map *The Essential Geography of the USA* is "the greatest paper map of the United States you'll ever see." And you will get to see it and his other award winning maps at the July 15 ExploraTalk, along with his slide presentation entitled *An Overlooked Type of Map*. It will begin at 7 PM at the Lodge.

David's maps of the Willowa Mountains, the State of Oregon, Chugach State Park (Alaska) and the *Essential Geography of the USA* have each received North America's highest cartographic awards, including best of show.

He will begin by covering the history of his work starting with street maps (many for Rand McNally), progressing to X-country ski trail maps, wilderness maps, travel maps, and finally the prizewinning USA map. Then he'll show how general maps make basic geography clear and easy to understand, and that American map makers have overlooked the valuable type of map the *Essential Geography* exemplifies.

David's favorite part of any presentation is the Q and A, so he hopes you will bring lots of questions.

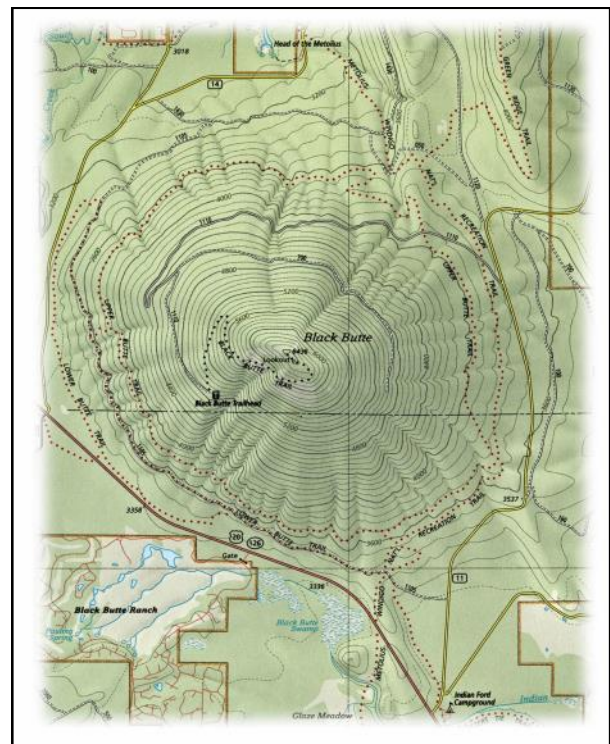
The founder of Imus Geographics said that when he graduated from the UO in 1982 with a degree in geography, cartography was a somewhat cumbersome process using pen and ink on layers and layers of mylar. Each layer added something new, such as streams, different sizes of roads, and boundaries. Until computers became powerful enough to handle all the data, every letter was hand written. His 1998 award winning Oregon map had 250 layers, perfectly aligned.

But David says computerization doesn't necessarily improve the quality of maps, much less make them aesthetically pleasing, which is why he still personally edits and lays out every bit of data that goes onto his maps. He says map making companies that shovel too much information onto a map just because the computer can do it only create a lot of

noise that people find hard to comprehend. The art part many times is lost.

He uses the computer as a drafting tool to create maps, rather than starting with maps that are pre-made. When he finishes he has worked with every piece of type and seen every bend of every stream, taking 5,000 hours to complete the *Essential Geography of the USA*.

Incidentally, the *Slate* article put David Imus on the map of public attention, starting an avalanche of 141,000 inquiries that crashed his computer. Just a small problem compared to the benefit he and his company received. He will have copies of the map for sale at \$8.95 for folded paper maps, \$39.95 for laminated, and \$315 for framed.



# Upcoming

## Bus Trips

### Back to the Coast

**Date:** August 13 (Wednesday)

**Leader:** Mary Ellen West

**Cost:** \$48 (\$50 nonmembers) to Janet Speelman 344-3019

WE ARE RETURNING TO THE OREGON HATCHERY RESEARCH CENTER for an extended visit. The center, on a tributary of the Alsea River, 25 miles east of Waldport, is a world renowned research center. We will have our lunch (bring your own) on the beautiful grounds overlooking Fall Creek. After our visit, we will move on to the coast to explore the life of native Americans. The Cape Perpetua Visitor's Center has archaeological objects helping to tell the story. Finally, ice cream in Florence.

### Oregon History: Men (Families) & Machines

**Date:** September 11 (Thursday)

**Leader:** Mary Ellen West

**Cost:** \$55 (\$57 nonmembers) Janet Speelman 344-3019

THIS TRIP IS A HISTORY ADVENTURE starting at the newly re-opened *End of the Oregon Trail Museum* in Oregon City for a look at the experience of the first white settlers in the 1840s and 1850s. We will have lunch (bring your own) on the Abernathy Green near the museum. This was an arrival spot for many early travelers. We will move on to the new *Oregon Rail Heritage Center* located in Portland on the east side of the Willamette near OMSI. It is a railroad museum engine house. The center sits at the hub of four railroad lines. It is home to historic steam and diesel engines. On our way back to Eugene, we will stop at Baumans (Heritage farm) in Woodburn for plants, produce and ice cream.

### Fall Color in the Cascades

**October 8, 2014**

**Leaders:** Bill Arthur, Paul and Barbara Beard

**Cost:** \$45 (\$47 nonmembers) Mary Lee Cheadle, 689-1055

OVER THE RIVERS AND THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS to Sisters we will travel. The back roads to Highway 34 and Highway 20 will be vivid with color and the waters of the falls and streams crystal clear. Coffee break will be at the Calapooia State Park. Our destination, Sisters, will find us shopping and dining and walking the city sidewalks. So fill your purses with money as there will be plenty of quaint shops and cafes and trinkets for all. Come along with your fellow Obsidians and friends, join in the fun—relax on the luxury coach line and leave the driving to the driver of MTR. Loading the bus at 7:40 AM at Shopko parking lot, driving away at 8 AM. We invite you all to come share a day of pleasing sites, great fellowship and of course, good food. Bring your camera and good walking shoes. We will make some great stops along our route over the mountains and back home. Looking forward to hosting you on a beautiful day of color.

### Christmas Lights at River Forks Park

**Date:** December 2 (Tuesday)

**Leader:** Verna Kocken

**Cost:** \$57 (\$59 nonmembers) Liz Reanier 687-1925

## Obsidian Calendar

### July

11 Fri French Pete Creek Hike M Colgan .....	485-2787
12 Sat Middle Pyramid Hike M Adkins .....	344-4163
12 Sat Mt. Washington Climb D Ellis .....	917-880-6744
12 Sat Mt. Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike Jacobsen .....	343-8030
13 Sun Black Crater Hike D Giesen .....	554-4162
13 Sun Clear Lake-Carmin Hike M Hackett .....	953-7046
14 Mon Mt. Jefferson Climb Hamilton .....	343-6550
15 Tue Mt. St. Helens Bus Cutsforth .....	746-4929
15 Tue Award Wining Cartography .....	ExploraTalk
18 Fri Siuslaw Falls Bike M Esch .....	338-8280
19 Sat 3 Mile Lake Hike M Hackett .....	953-7046
20 Sun Mt. Thielsen Climb Willhite .....	406-570-4514
23 Wed Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen .....	343-8030
23 Wed Maxwell Butte Trail Main. D Castleberry .....	513-8504
24 Thu Pre's Rock/Hendricks Park Hike E Hildreth .....	345-7520
25 Fri North Sister Climb Harris .....	729-3460
25 Fri Obsidian Limited Trail Main. M Larsen .....	509-949-0034
26 Sat Opal Creek Hike M Lipton .....	736-7498
26 Sat Jefferson Park Hike D Sinnott .....	915-0234
27 Sun Baker Beach Hike M Hovis .....	731-3412
30 Wed Spencer Butte Trail Trl Mnt M .....	Bell 503-884-8829
30 Wed Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen .....	343-8030

### August

1 Fri Strawberry Mountains Camp Lindstrom .....	683-1409
2 Sat Three Fingered Jack Climb Harris .....	729-3460
8 Fri Wassen Creek Hike Sayre .....	345-2370
9 Sat PCT-Mt Hood Bk Pk D Lipton .....	736-7498
9 Sat Carl Lake Hike M Giesen .....	554-4162
10 Sun Mt. Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike Jacobsen .....	343-8030
13 Wed Back to the Coast Bus West .....	343-5492
13 Wed Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen .....	343-8030
14 Thu Middle Fork Willamette Hike M Duncan .....	343-8079
16 Sat North & Middle Sisters Hike D Ellis .....	917-880-674
16 Sat Arrowhead Lake Hike D Harrison .....	556-3654
17 Sun Black Crater Hike M Baer .....	431-0767
20 Wed Spencer Butte Hike E Jacobsen .....	343-8030
23 Sat Divide Lake Hike M Terry .....	345-0720
23 Sat Scott Mountain Hike D Wolling .....	345-2110
23 Sat Middle Sister Climb Harris .....	521-5807
24 Sun Marie Lake Hike M Musselwhite .....	461-3296
27 Wed Spencer Butte Trail Trl Mnt M Bell .....	503-884-8829
27 Wed Spencer Butte Hike E Jacobsen .....	343-8030
30 Sat Fall Cr to Broken Top Bk Pk D Lipton .....	736-7498
31 Sun Row River Bike M Strahon .....	221-7730

### September

3 Wed Lowder Mountain Hike M Jacobsen .....	343-8030
4 Thu Women's Hosmer Lake Water E Esch .....	338-8280

Welcome New Members

Raymond, Nancy  
2163 Harris Street  
Eugene, OR 97405  
510-2654  
[nancyjraymond@comcast.net](mailto:nancyjraymond@comcast.net)



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**July/August 2014**



*Photo from 1942 Summer Camp President's Tea*