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### Dates to Remember

January 23	Potluck
January 27	ExploraTalk
January 31	Bulletin deadline
February 4	Board Meeting

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

## A Memorable Connection

*Lana Lindstrom, Summer Camp Chair*

**IT BEGAN AS AN ORDINARY COLD, GREY WINTER HIKE**—Janet Jacobsen’s Ridgeline Trail from the Blanton to Spring trailheads. Mostly the usual suspects, plus a few newcomers. As we climbed, we saw hoar frost on the edges of the sword ferns and small tree branches. Stunningly beautiful!

As we descended, a fairly large group approached us. We exchanged *Hello*s as we passed each other. Janet was in the lead, and the last person greeted us with “Are you the Obsidians?” (Janet was wearing an Obsidian hat), followed by “We’re the Chemeketans” (our sister organization from Salem). Both lines of hikers stopped; conversation ensued, and Darko leapt out of the line to capture the historic moment.

After Janet extolled the merits of the Ridgeline trail, I asked where their 2015 Summer Camp was going to be. *Elk Lake* was the answer, followed by “I was the Chair for 11 years.” “You’re Dave Carter,” I exclaimed! Dave and I have exchanged several emails and at least one phone call, but we had never met face to face. What a coincidence! A memorable connection! It was an extraordinary hike!



## Fit to be Tied

**P**RESIDENT **MATT BELL** showed a hiker who was retying shoelaces a nifty loop trick so that the laces stay tied! He recommends this as the best free tip in *Backpacker Magazine*. Check out the website: [www.backpacker.com/gear/footwear/hiking-boots/common-hiking-boot-lacing-techniques/](http://www.backpacker.com/gear/footwear/hiking-boots/common-hiking-boot-lacing-techniques/)

If you can’t figure out the loop, ask Matt for help at the next potluck.

# Obituaries

## RALPH CORE 1923–2014

**O**BSIDIAN MEMBER, RALPH CORE, passed away on Dec. 2 at the age of 91. Ralph found adventure wherever he lived and believed deeply in many causes, especially environmental issues. Ralph joined the Obsidians late in life and thoroughly enjoyed the contacts he made there. One of his daughters wrote, “Ralph joined the Obsidians to stay connected to like-minded people and good company in the outdoors. Many thanks to the Obsidians for all the adventures Ralph was able to enjoy.”

He is survived by his wife Marianne Maynard, four daughters, and son-in-law Dave Beardsley who is an Obsidian member.

*Editor’s Note: A complete obituary can be found in the Dec. 14 issue of The Register-Guard.*

## ROYAL MURDOCK 1932-2014

**R**OYAL MURDOCK, AN OBSIDIAN MEMBER SINCE 1984, passed away on November 4. Royal grew up in Utah in a large family and received his degree in psychology from the Univ. of Utah. Royal and his family moved to Eugene in 1980 and he soon became involved with issues concerning liberal politics and the environment. With his love of the outdoors he participated in many activities such as biking, mountain climbing, canoeing and hiking. Just six years ago he cycled from San Diego to St. Augustine. He led over 50 Obsidian hikes and participated in 227 activities. One of his favorite trips was leading hikers up Mt. Pisgah to watch the sunset/moonrise.

Royal is survived by his wife and a daughter. A celebration of life is planned for the spring.

*Editor’s Note: A complete obituary can be found in the Nov. 30 issue of The Register-Guard.*



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**THE OBSIDIANS FACEBOOK PAGE** [www.facebook.com/#!/theobsidians](http://www.facebook.com/#!/theobsidians)

Just click on the link and start using/viewing today!

## OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

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

### Board of Directors

Matt Bell, President

Shellie Roberston, Vice President

Susan Wanser, Secretary

Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer

Don Colgan, John Cooper, Sharon

Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Tom Musselwhite, &

Elle Weaver

*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 ..... Sharon Cutsforth

Climbs ..... Maryanne Reiter

Concessions ..... Laurie Funkhouser

Conservation/SciEd ..... Tom Musselwhite

Entertainment ..... Susan Wanser

Extended Trips ..... Chris Stockdale

Finance ..... Stewart Hoeg

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Lodge Grounds ..... John Jacobsen

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Online ..... Wayne Deeter

Publications ..... Lou Maenz

Publicity ..... Jan Jacobsen

Safety ..... Pat Esch

Summer Camp ..... Lana Lindstrom

Summer Trips ..... John Cooper

Trail Maintenance ..... Matt Bell

Winter Trips ..... Anne Bonine

## *The* OBSIDIAN *Bulletin*

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[bulletin@obsidians.org](mailto:bulletin@obsidians.org)

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**The Obsidian Bulletin**

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

### Deadline

for February 2015 *Bulletin*

**Saturday, January 31, 2015**

**November Assembly/**

**Mailing Team**

*Assembly & Mail Manager: Lou Maenz*

*Team: Tom Adamcyk, Don Baldwin, Sha-*

*ron Cutsforth, Clara Emlen, Joanne Ledet,*

*Lenore McManigal Margaret Prentice, and*

*Martha Welches.*

### Editorial Team

*Writing & Editorial Staff - Bea Fontana,*

*Janet Jacobsen, Joanne Ledet, Lou*

*Maenz and Ethel Weltman*

*Copy Editors - Ethel Weltman & Nancy*

*White*

*Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing -*

*Stewart Hoeg*

# Ridgeline Trail Expansion

*Jorry Rolfe*

**WE WERE PLEASED TO HEAR THIS GREAT NEWS IN LATE NOVEMBER:** the Eugene City Council voted unanimously to partner with the *Be Noble Foundation* and the *Lane County Audubon Society* on a \$1.775 million purchase of 26 acres. This undeveloped land (the Beverly property) is located along the headwaters of Amazon Creek, near Martin Street and West Amazon Drive, and supplements the existing public park. Finally, after nearly two decades of lobbying and activism, this natural forested area will be preserved in perpetuity. By making this investment for future generations, the city and its partners have saved this greenway for the whole community, the human one and the wildlife ecosystem.

Many of us regularly enjoy the Ridgeline Trail near these wetlands and riparian areas. In the forested ecosystem, some of us might have been lucky enough to see the pileated woodpeckers making a home in the area, spy a red-legged frog (unfortunately on the decline), or spot the imperiled wayside aster. On Wednesdays in the spring, we morning

hikers eagerly point out to others the first woodland flowers to peek out from under the leaves: trillium, lilies and iris.

Numerous thanks are due to a whole force of Eugeneans for their continual advocacy for the protection of this watershed. To name just a few: city councilor Betty Taylor has long been a supporter, Kevin Matthews with the Southeast neighbors and Eben Fodor with the *Save Amazon Headwaters Committee*. The Noble family, inspired by son Erin's love for hiking along the Ridgeline Trail, started a foundation in his memory to promote local environmental stewardship. Maybe you hiked or climbed with Erin Noble who was also an Obsidian? If not, know that he cherished hiking in the woods near his home. He died in a plane crash in June 2012. Yet before that, he had just committed to helping his mother fundraise for this land purchase.

So, here's to the successful saving of the Amazon headwaters! The well-being of our community and quality of life are safeguarded by such civic actions and decisions. Cheers!

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## 2015 Obsidian Board & Officers

### 2015 Officers

President: Matt Bell  
Vice President: Shellie Robertson  
Secretary: Susan Wanser  
Treasurer: Stewart Hoeg

### 2015 Board members

Tom Musselwhite, Susan Wanser, Elle Weaver (thru 2015), Matt Bell, Don Colgan, Shellie Robertson (thru 2016), Sharon Cutsforth (2<sup>nd</sup> term), Pat Esch (2<sup>nd</sup> term), John Cooper (thru 2017).

### SPOTLIGHT ON NEW BOARD MEMBER: JOHN COOPER

**J**OHAN HAS BEEN AN OBSIDIAN FOR 15 YEARS participating in climbs, mountaineering classes and trail maintenance. He was on the board of a hiking club when he lived in Ireland. He is the trip scheduler for the Winter Trips Committee and the new Summer Trips Chair. Behind the scenes John enters each winter trip into the online system. He has sent a multitude of helpful emails to leaders. Winter Trips Chair, Anne Bonine, commented, "He is a whiz on the committee."

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## Planting, Raking, Socks

**O**BSIDIAN VOLUNTEERS were recently involved in three activities to support the community. November 29, Dan Gilmore led a trail maintenance project to plant sixty trees on the new Dillard Connector Trail. December 16, thirty-two hikers donated 100 pairs of new wool socks at the Stocking Stuffer hike/lunch. Two days later Joella Ewing and Janet Jacobsen presented the socks to Terry McDonald at the Major Egan Memorial Service. An early morning windstorm on December 24 brought down seven

trees and littered the Ridgeline Trail with branches. Eugene Parks Open Space staff had their hands/saws full with tree removal and repairs. Nine Obsidian volunteers quickly provided support with a trail clean up on Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup>.

For more information, read the trip reports.

Photos are in the gallery for all three events.



## December Board Notes

### By Susan Wanser

President Matt Bell called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Don Colgan, Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Tom Musselwhite, Shellie Robertson, Susan Wanser and Elle Weaver. Also present were: Oliver Bell, Anne Bonine, John Cooper, Joella Ewing, Brian Hamilton, Mary Hamilton, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Patty MacAfee, Lenore McManigal, Doug Nelson, Maryanne Reiter and Chris Stockdale. The Board approved the minutes of the October Annual meeting and the November 2014 Board meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Board approved payment of the bills.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Summer Trips (Tom Musselwhite):** Summer season concluded November 15 with only two outstanding trip reports due. The summer season schedule offered 154 trips led by 44 leaders. The Summer Trips Committee Chair met with Online and Safety Committee representatives regarding the Online Trip Leader Packet and the need to develop document archives to ensure continuity of documents after revisions occur. A revision history is to be developed for the Summer Trip Leader's Packet and added to the Leader Packet Cover Letter.

**Winter Trips (Anne Bonine):** Five urban hikes went out this month and there were two cancellations due to weather.

**Climbs (Brian Hamilton):** The committee met in November to begin planning the 2015 Climb School. Dates were set and classes will begin at the Lodge on April 6, 2015. Year-end statistics: Two members led seven conditioning hikes and ten members led a total of 19 climbs. Seven climbs were cancelled, generally due to inclement weather.

**Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell):** There was one outing in November. Our volunteers planted 60 trees and transplanted sword ferns along the new Dillard Connector Trail. Year-to-Date Trail Maintenance participation: eleven outings in Spencer Butte Park; three outings with Forest Service. Unique participants: 28 members, 21 nonmembers. Total Volunteer Hours: 487.25

**Highways and Byways By Bus (Sharon Cutsforth):** We are busy planning trips for 2015. Watch for details in January.

**Conservation, Science, & Education (Joella Ewing):** I'm working on scheduling programs for next year as well as finding a new CSE chairperson.

**Publication (Lou Maenz):** 210 issues of the November/December *Bulletin* were mailed.

**Entertainment (Susan Wanser):** The Club now owns a new projector which has the capability to connect to a computer via an HDMI cable thereby providing better color transmission as well as the ability to transmit sound. Sixty-two people attended Craig Romano's presentation about Day Hiking in the San Juans and Gulf Islands on November 14.

**Membership (Elle Weaver):** Currently there are 489 total members: 447 Active, 16 Associate, 6 Honorary, 9 Junior and 11 Life. Reminder emails for dues renewal have been sent out. Renewals continue to be received. Twelve current members

have decided not to renew, mainly due to relocation.

**Publicity (Mary Hamilton):** Bulletin Boards – The committee continues to post calendars at various locations around town and on Craigslist. There is no other activity to report.

**Concessions (Patty MacAfee):** Laurie Funkhouser, the 2015 Concessions Chairperson, and I met to develop next year's merchandise order. It will be submitted the first week in December.

**Online (Wayne Deeter):** There are now 3,940 photos in 281 albums in the Obsidian photo gallery and 301 *likes* of our Facebook page.

**Finance (Stewart Hoeg):** The committee met and created a proposed 2015 Obsidian budget with a projected positive cash flow of \$1,550.

**Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal):** All of the trip reports printed in the December Bulletin have been recorded.

**Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen):** There were no official grounds work parties during November, but there were a couple of leaf and debris wrangling sessions. Thanks to wrangler Jim Whitfield for his help. Luckily neither of the November storms caused any problems for the grounds.

**Safety (Pat Esch):** In November I met with the chairs of Summer Trips, Climbs, Winter Trips, Bus Trips and Extended Trips to work through with John Jacobsen how these committee's Leader Guides would be included as documents on the Obsidian website and linked to the Safety Manual's appendix.

### NEW BUSINESS

The Board approved Elle Weaver to provide the Club's demographic information to some students in the Lewis and Clark College Environmental Studies program who are gathering information for the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs.

The notebooks containing old application forms will now be stored in the Lodge.

The Board approved the following Committee Chairs for 2015. An asterisk designates a change from 2014. Byways by Bus-Sharon Cutsforth; Climbs-Maryanne Reiter\*; Concessions-Laurie Funkhouser\*; Conservation, Science and Education-Joella Ewing; Entertainment-Susan Wanser; Extended Trips-Chris Stockdale; Finance-Stewart Hoeg; Lodge Building-Doug Nelson; Lodge Grounds-John Jacobsen; Librarian/Historian-Lenore McManigal; Membership-Elle Weaver; Online-Wayne Deeter; Publications-Lou Maenz; Publicity-Janet Jacobsen\*; Safety-Pat Esch; Summer Camp-Lana Lindstrom; Summer Trips-to be determined; Trail Maintenance-Matt Bell; Winter Trips-Anne Bonine; Youth-to remain unfilled.

The Club is seeking new Chairs for the Conservation, Science and Education Committee and the Publications Committee as Joella would like to step down as soon as a replacement has been found.

The next Board meeting will be on January 7 at 6:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned for the Annual Holiday Board Dinner downstairs in the Lodge.

# January Board Notes

## By Susan Wanser

President Matt Bell called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Don Colgan, John Cooper, Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Tom Musselwhite, Shellie Robertson and Susan Wanser. Also present were: Wayne Deeter, Laurie Funkhouser, Kathy Hoeg, Stewart Hoeg, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Lenore McManigal and Maryanne Reiter. The Board approved the minutes of the December 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:** Proposed Summer Trips Committee members are John Cooper (Chair), Don Colgan, Joella Ewing, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Tom Musselwhite, Judy Terry and Lyndell Wilken.

**Winter Trips (Anne Bonine):** Winter Trips Committee members will be approved at the February Board meeting.

**Climbs (Maryanne Reiter):** Proposed Climb Committee Members are Maryanne Reiter (Chair), Wayne Deeter, Alex Ellis, Ted Glick, Brian Hamilton, Marci Hansen, Danni Harris, Roy McCormick, Doug Nelson, Shellie Robertson, Gordon Sayre, and Dalen Willhite.

**Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell):** Uncharacteristically, there was an outing in Spencer Butte Park in December. The outing organized by Janet Jacobsen cleared storm debris from the Ridgeline and Tie Trails. 2014 Trail Maintenance participation totaled 514.25 volunteer hours with an estimated labor value of \$10,285! Proposed Trails Committee Members are Matt Bell (Chair), Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore, Todd Larsen, and Pat Soussan.

**Highways and Byways By Bus (Sharon Cutsforth):** Bus trip finances are in the black. The Bus Committee voted to make a donation of \$2,000 to the Obsidians in memory of Barbara Flanders. Plans for 2015 bus trips are progressing well. The trip schedule will be published in the February *Bulletin*. The annual Bus Rally is scheduled for February 22, 1—3 PM. Proposed Byways by Bus Committee members are Sharon Cutsforth (Chair), Rick Ahrens, Ethel Allen, Bill Arthur, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Mary Lee Cheadle, Ray Jensen, Verna Kocken, Lenore McManigal, Barbara Payne, Don Payne, Judy Phelps, Liz Reanier, Janet Speelman, Dick Speelman and Mary Ellen West.

**Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom):** Proposed Summer Camp Committee members are Lana Lindstrom (Chair), Don Doerr, Steve Johnson, Chris Stockdale, Elle Weaver and Nancy Whitfield.

**Extended Trips (Chris Stockdale):** Four extended trips have been scheduled so far for 2015. The committee encourages members who are interested in becoming extended trip leaders to join with an established leader in order to learn the ropes. Also, the committee is interested in learning about potential extended trip destinations. Proposed Extended Trip Committee members are Chris Stockdale (Chair), Jim Duncan, Pat Esch, Lana Lindstrom, Chris Shuraleff and Nancy Whitfield.

**Conservation, Science, & Education (Joella Ewing):** Proposed Conservation, Science and Education Committee members are Tom Musselwhite (Chair), Joella Ewing, Tom Giesen, Effie Neth, Dave Predeek and Mike Smith.

**Publication (Lou Maenz):** Proposed Publication Committee members are Lou Maenz (Chair), Bea Fontana, Stewart Hoeg, Janet Jacobsen, Joanne Ledet, Ethel Weltman and Nancy White.

**Entertainment (Susan Wanser):** Proposed Entertainment Committee members are Susan Wanser (Chair), Laurie Funkhouser, Judy Garwood, Kathy Hoeg, Yuan Hopkins, Lana Lindstrom and Mary Livingston.

**Membership (Elle Weaver):** Approximately 91% of our members have renewed for 2015. Those who have not renewed have been updated as Inactive. Proposed Membership Committee members are Elle Weaver (Chair), John Jacobsen, Helen Martz, Diane Schechter and Judy Sinnott.

**Publicity (Janet Jacobsen):** Proposed Publicity Committee members are Janet Jacobsen (Chair), Carla Cooper, Lynne Eichner, Brian Hamilton, Mary Hamilton, Mark Hougardy, John Jacobsen, Jorry Rolfe and Darko Sojak.

**Concessions (Laurie Funkhouser):** Patty MacAfee has successfully chaired the Concessions Committee for over two years, expanding the products and availability of items. Her dedication is greatly appreciated! Proposed Concessions Committee members are Laurie Funkhouser (Chair), Pat Bean, Keiko Bryan and Patty MacAfee.

**Online (Wayne Deeter):** Our web pages have been updated to reflect changes in Board Members and Committee Chairs. Proposed Online Committee members are Wayne Deeter (Chair), Jan Anselmo, Marci Hansen, John Jacobsen, and Shellie Robertson.

**Finance (Stewart Hoeg):** Proposed Finance Committee members are Stewart Hoeg (Chair), Barb Bruns, Dan Christiansen and Lana Lindstrom.

**Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal):** Proposed Library/Historian Committee members are Lenore McManigal (Chair) and Janet Jacobsen.

**Lodge Building (Doug Nelson):** Proposed Lodge Building Committee members are Doug Nelson (Chair), Clara Emlen, Ronald Green, Brian Hamilton, John Jacobsen and Cat Nelson.

**Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen):** Proposed Lodge Grounds Committee members are John Jacobsen (Chair), Marsha Barr, Rob Castleberry, Larry Dunlap, Clara Emlen, Joella Ewing, Ronald Green, Dick Hildreth, Brenda Kameenui, Gary Kirk, Ken Kodama, Joanne Ledet, Doug Nelson, Dave Predeek, Chris Shuraleff, Randy Sinnott, Sam Tracer, Jim Whitfield, Nancy Whitfield and Tom Woxell.

**Safety (Pat Esch):** Proposed Safety Committee members are Patricia Esch (Board Rep and Chair), Anne Bonine (Winter Trips Rep), Sharon Cutsforth (Bus Trips Rep), John Cooper (Summer Trips Rep), Maryanne Reiter (Climbs Rep) and Lyndell Wilken (At Large).

## OLD BUSINESS

The approved changes to the various committees' bylaws have been submitted to John Jacobsen.

## NEW BUSINESS

The Board approved the 2015 Budget as proposed by Stewart, John Cooper as Chair of the Summer Trips Committee, Tom Musselwhite as Chair of the Conservation, Science and Education Committee and all proposed committee members.

The Board expressed their gratitude to the Byways by Bus Committee for their generous donation. (See info in their monthly report.)

## DISCUSSION

The Concessions Committee is considering accepting PayPal for its sales.

The meeting adjourned for food at The Bier Stein.

# Sock Donation

**JOELLA EWING AND JANET JACOBSEN** presented 100 pairs of new wool socks for the homeless to Terry McDonald from St. Vincent de Paul at the annual Major Thomas Egan Memorial Service. The event is held by the railroad tracks where Major Egan, a homeless veteran, froze to death six years ago. It brings our community, veterans, nonprofits, Food Bank, businesses and churches together to develop the Egan Warming Centers that are open for the homeless when the temperature drops below 30 degrees. McDonald accepted the socks remarking, “These guys can really hike their socks off!” The socks were donated at the Obsidian Stocking Stuffer Hike and Chili lunch at the Obsidian Lodge on December 16. (See Trip Report)



## *After the Wind: 1996 Everest Tragedy—One Survivor’s Story*

**Leo Kasischke, Good Heart Publishing, 2014**

**T**HE AUTHOR NARRATES AN INTENSE PERSONAL STORY of what went wrong, why climbers were late and out of time, and what he heard near the top when the sound of the wind vanished. It made him turn around and descend, saving his life. The author has sent a copy to the club for members to read and/or review.

Contact Janet Jacobsen to borrow.

# Marketing 101: Spreading the Word

**R**ECENTLY LANA LINDSTROM, while leading the Turkey Trimmings hike on city streets in the south hills, was stopped by a car. A woman rolled down her window to ask Lana if there were any hiking trails nearby. As it turned out, the driver and her companion wanted to move to Eugene and purchase a house near hiking trails. Lana told them all about the Ridgeline Trail. She quickly then pulled out an Obsidian business card from her pack and told them to contact our outdoor club when they moved.

This illustrates a great opportunity for sharing and promoting the Obsidians! Do you have one of our cards? Pick some up at the Lodge or at the Y Bulletin Board. Be ready to help someone find out about our club. Have questions? Contact the Publicity Committee at [publicity@obsidians.org](mailto:publicity@obsidians.org)





## Trip Reports & Other Activities



### Backpacks

#### Eagle Creek-Fall Colors

October 17, 2014

Leader & Photographer: Becky Lipton

Backpack: 7.5 miles, 1,400 ft. (Difficult)

**F**OUR ADVENTUROUS BACKPACKERS headed to the magnificent Eagle Creek trail in the Columbia River Gorge, in hopes of enjoying fall colors along with numerous



waterfalls as the creek tumbles down between tall basalt cliffs. Because of the unusually warm fall, only occasional deciduous trees were beginning to show some change in color. A fine, light rain was beginning as we left the parking lot. However, other surprises were waiting for us! Three to four foot-long, *huge* red Chinook salmon packed the stream bed, in the midst of their spawning throes. Large groups of salmon eggs were visible even from the trail. On the way out, we had the greatest surprise of all! We backpacked up the trail about 7½ miles, along pathways blasted out of the basalt cliff, often with sheer drop offs. We encountered one unique waterfall after the other, with names like Punch Bowl Falls and Tunnel Falls, as the Eagle Creek gorge narrowed and widened, and dropped 1,400 feet in that distance. The fine rain intensified as we hiked closer to Mt. Hood, so an early-to-bed was the order of the evening. The next day, we continued to explore up Eagle Creek with a light drizzle that finally cleared by early afternoon, allowing us to warm up and dry out by a campfire that evening. The third day arrived clear and sunny and as we were hiking back down the gorge, what should we see, but a group of young folk tightrope-walking across the Eagle Creek gorge!!! Well, we had to stop and watch that phenomenon and what an amazing feat it was. After falling off more than half a dozen times, (thank goodness for safety harnesses!) the young man finally succeeded in crossing the gorge, turned around and walked back on the line!

Totally amazing!!! Members: Jennifer Haynes, Jonathan Jost, Becky Lipton, Tom Rundle. Members: Janet Jacobsen, Andrew McIvor, Sam Miller, Jorry Rolfe, Mike Smith, Fumiyo Tao, Nancy Whitfield.



### Byways By Bus

#### Christmas Lights

December 2, 2014

Leader: Verna Kocken

**A** GROUP OF 26 OBSIDIANS AND GUESTS left the Shopko parking lot in the afternoon and arrived at Applebee's Restaurant in Roseburg at 5:20 PM for dinner. We used up all their available tables and tied up the kitchen for about the next hour. Then we took a driving tour down Northeast Stephens, past the library and the beautifully decorated Douglas County Court house. From there we went out Harvard Avenue, Stewart Parkway, and out of town on Garden Valley Road to River Forks Park where the North and South Umpqua Rivers join and become the Umpqua. The light show is spearheaded by the Rotary Club and sponsored by a variety of local businesses and organizations. Spectacular additions appear each year. The newest arrival is a 41-foot tall nutcracker sculpted with chainsaws from a variety of felled trees. The working apparatus has enough force to crack coconuts (though we did not try it out!) The weather held for the trip through the light show, but the rain came hard and fast on the way home, stopping just short of Eugene long enough for us to get to our cars. Members: Thomas Adamecyk, Ethel Allen, Bill Arthur, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Paula Beard, Sharon Cutsforth, Clara Emlen, Dennis Flanders, Verna Kocken, John McManigal, Lenore McManigal, Craig Molitor, Barbara Payne, Don Payne, Judy Phelps, Margaret Prentice, Liz Reanier, Janet Speelman, Richard Speelman. Nonmembers: Marcia Claypool, Edith Pattee, Jan Sears, Dawn Daugherty, Joanna Molitor, Karen Carpenter.



### Trail Maintenance

#### Spencer Butte Trail

November 29, 2014

Leader: Dan Gilmore

Photographer: Darko Sojak

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

**O**UR GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS MET CARRIE KARL at the Dillard Trailhead of Dillard/Skyline park to re-vegetate the work area along parts of the new Dillard Connector trail.

We planted 60 trees and transplanted sword ferns. We also cleaned the kiosks and checked and cleaned culverts. Members:



Roberta Chord, David Cooper, Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore, Betty Grant, Jane Hackett, Christiane Hougardy, Mark Hougardy, Janet Jacobsen, Mike Smith, Darko Sojak, Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: George Evano, Nick Evano.

### Ridgeline Storm Clean-up

**December 27, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Photographer: Pat Soussan**

**Trail Maintenance: 4 miles, 1,094 ft. (Moderate)**

**WIND GUSTS EARLY WEDNESDAY MORNING LITTERED** the trail with branches and three trees. We contacted the Open Space staff and said our club would clear the trails. Dave Cooper, Pat Soussan, and Rick Ahrens started at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Street Trailhead while the rest of us began our sweep at the Fox



Hollow Trailhead. Rakes were the tool of choice. Most of us met up at the Meadow Junction for snacks at 11:30. Thanks to Pat for the scones, to Matt for the colorful cookies, and to Rick for the turkey jerky. My kale cheese chips were greeted with skepticism. It was a quick trip back to the cars. We welcomed soon-to-be member, Barbara Theus, who drove in from Waltherville to help. Another thanks to the Open Space staff for the tree removal. Members: Rick Ahrens, Matthew Bell, Oliver Bell, David Cooper, Clara Emlen, Mark Hougardy, Janet Jacobsen, Dave Predeek, Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Barbara Theus.



## Hikes

### Amazon Headwaters

**October 29, 2014 through December 17, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Hike: 6.2 miles, 1,530 ft. (Moderate)**

**T**HE HIKERS BY DATE WERE: **October 29**—Members: David Cooper, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Craig Molitor, Caroline Moore, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle. **November 5**—Members: David Cooper, May Fogg, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Bob Johnson, Craig Molitor, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Rick Sanford, Mike Smith. **November 12**—Members: Rob Castleberry, David Cooper, May Fogg, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Effie Neth, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Mike Smith, Nancy Whitfield. **November 19**—Members: David Cooper, May Fogg, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Craig Molitor, Caroline Moore, Tom Rundle, Art Skach, Mike Smith. **November 26**—Members: David Cooper, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Bob Johnson, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Art Skach, Mike Smith. **December 3**—Members: David Cooper, Barbara Gunther, Mark Hougardy, Janet Jacobsen, Bob Johnson, Craig Molitor, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Mike Smith. **December 10**—Members: David Cooper, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Caroline Moore, Jorry Rolfe, Mike Smith. **December 17**—Members: David Cooper, Chris Gordon, Janet Jacobsen, Caroline Moore, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Mike Smith. Nonmembers: Barbara Theus.

### Larison Rock

**November 2, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Photographer: Darko Sojak**

**Hike: 8.6 miles, 2,400 ft. (Difficult)**

**THE YELLOW LEAVES OF VINE MAPLES** and big leaf maples painted a spectacular landscape of fall color on the steep trail. It took two hours to reach the top of the rock (pillar) at 3,615 feet, where a fire lookout used to perch. We ate lunch and appreciated the warmth of the sun trying to emerge from the clouds. The five first-time hikers on the trail were impressed with the trail and we wondered who was doing the trail restoration on a steep section of the trail that recently burned. Back at home, I checked the *Disciples of Dirt* website and found that trail was damaged during the recent Deception Creek fire. The *Disciples of Dirt*, *Goats* (Greater Oakridge Area Trail Stewards), and USFS were the trail angels, with a work party scheduled the following weekend to build crib walls as part of the reclamation. We also wondered why there were 50 plus numbered orange flags along the trail and who was Larison? *Oregon Geographic Names* notes, "This rock and the creek nearby were named for George Larison, a resident of the valley of Middle Fork Willamette River. He was a son-in-law of B. J. Pengra, a





pioneer of Oregon.” Members: David Cooper, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Art Skach, Mike Smith, Darko Sojak.

### Eel Creek

**November 9, 2014**

**Leader: Jane Hackett**

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

**IT WAS A NICE MISTY DAY.** No water to wade through. The two of us had lunch on the beach. Brian took a long walk on the beach as the wind and waves increased. We managed to get back to the car and on our way to Florence before we ran into the rain. Great elk viewing at Dean Creek. Members: Jane Hackett, Brian Popowsky.

### Obsidian Loop

**November 9, 2014**

**Leader & Photographer: Mike Smith**

**Hike: 12 miles, 1,800 ft. (Difficult)**

**THIS WAS A SHORT NOTICE, LATE SEASON TRIP** to the Obsidian Loop Trail. I set the trip up on Monday, November 3, and we completed the hike on the 9<sup>th</sup>. I honestly expected I would be walking the loop alone. This is not exactly optimal time to be doing trips to the Cascades, and a lot of people are busy this time of year. Nevertheless, five hardy souls joined me, as we went up the McKenzie Highway and 242 in fog, and got on the trail before 9:30. Rain was predicted from 10 to 4, and the predictions were perfect. We did the loop clockwise for a change, climbing through patches of snow on the north faces. At about 6,900 feet, we broke through to the open area with lakes and some rain. The Sisters were somewhere in the fog, but the visibility was maybe 1/2 mile, and that is being generous. We found a nice sheltered spot for lunch at the base of Obsidian Falls, a far cry from the sunny open area where I had taken a group two months earlier. On the way back, it rained hard at times, but while the gear got wet, we stayed dry. Indeed, I heard at least two participants wanted to shed layers before the final three miles. The Obsidian Trail is nice any time. While we didn't see the mountain views, the fog, the snow, the rain, and even the wind made for a special day up in the mountains. I thank all the participants, who worked together, had fun, and were really happy to shed the wet gear and get into dry cars for the trip



back!! Members: Barbara Gunther, Becky Lipton, Jorry Rolfe, Art Skach, Mike Smith, Jim Woodard.

### Dillard Connector Trail Grand Opening

**November 13, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Hike: 4 miles, 500 ft. (Easy)**

**WE STARTED UP THE AMAZON HEADWATERS TRAIL** at 12:45 PM and luckily, were just in time for the 1:30 Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting Ceremony near the top of the trail at Dillard



Road. With the background pitter patter of rain on the tent, Mayor Kitty Piercy, a representative of City Parks and Open Space, and the president of the *Disciples of Dirt* shared greetings and praise for the Open Space staff who worked on the trail. Matt Bell and Obsidians were acknowledged for their trail maintenance work on the Ridgeline Trail. Honors go to those



who had the dream for the 0.4 mile missing link connecting trail so that trail users do not have to walk on Dillard Road. I'm sorry I don't remember all of the names who were mentioned. Hot apple cider took off the chill of the rain and wind before we started back on the two-mile hike to our cars. Thanks to Carla and David Cooper who helped represent the Obsidians at the event. The November Trail Maintenance project will be planting near the new 40 foot footbridge on the trail. Members: Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Janet Jacobsen.

## Castle Rock

**November 16, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Photographer: Holger Krentz**

**Hike: 13.2 miles, 2,600 ft. (Difficult)**

**IT WAS 25 DEGREES AND THE SKY WAS CLEAR** when we left Eugene at 8:00 AM. On the trail, we soon shed some of our



warm clothing as sun filtered through the old trees. Needle ice, frost heaving from the trail, threaded much of the trail. The reward for the 2½-hour hike was a long lunch break basking in the sun and the view of the snow-capped mountains from Mt. Washington to the Three Sisters. Did we need sun screen? We were back at the cars by 3:00. Thanks to Steve Johnson who led the way and Sam Miller who was the sweep. It didn't seem like a 13.2-mile hike, more like 11.4 miles. Check out Holger Krentz's photos in the gallery. Members: May Fogg, Barbara Gunther, Janet Jacobsen, Steven Johnson, Holger Krentz, Becky Lipton, Sam Miller, Tom Rundle, Jeanine Taylor.

## Turkey Trimming

**November 28, 2014**

**Leader: Lana Lindstrom**

**Photographer: Holger Krentz**

**Hike: 7.5 miles, 750 ft. (Moderate)**

**THE WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE EARLY MORNING WAS ZERO PERCENT CHANCE OF RAIN**, but it was drizzling when we met in the parking lot. Nobody bailed; several of us had umbrellas and everyone had good rain gear. And it rained intermittently during the 2.5 hours. This hike is designed to burn off Thanksgiving Day calories, so includes several huffy-puffy hills and a fast pace. I believe most of us were glad that we had gotten the exercise and enjoyed the opportunity to visit with friends! Members: Jan Anselmo, Mari Baldwin, David Hawkins, Richard Hughes, Janet Jacobsen, Holger Krentz, Lana Lindstrom, Mary Livingston, Helen Martz, Evelyn Nagy, Ruth Romoser.



## Ridgeline Trail/ Shuttle

**November 30, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Photographer: Holger Krentz**

**Hike: 6 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)**

**TREES AND PLANTS DECORATED WITH FROSTY CREATIONS** created a holiday landscape for our cold hike. We crossed paths with a Chemekatan hiking group on their way to the top of Spencer Butte. Everyone was talking! Darko, Mark, Chris, David, and I showed off the trees and ferns we planted the day before on a trail maintenance project near the new footbridge on the Dillard Connecting Trail. The sun was shining for us on our way up Mt. Baldy, where we had clear views of South Sister and just a point of Middle Sister. Our fast group made it back to the cars by 11:30. A perfect hike! Members: Carla



Cooper, David Cooper, Christiane Hougardy, Mark Hougardy, Janet Jacobsen, Holger Krentz, Lana Lindstrom, Dave Predeek, Tom Rundle, Darko Sojak.

## River Campus Loop

**December 5, 2014**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Photographer: Carla Cooper**

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

**SURPRISE! IT DIDN'T RAIN** while we explored the campus outdoor sculpture. We finally found the zebrafish bench and identified a bufflehead duck diving in the pond near the Wha-lik Talking Stone. Taking advantage of the free day at the Natural





History Museum, we viewed *Road Trip! The Roadside Geology of Oregon* exhibit by Oregon geologist Marli Miller. There wasn't time to peruse. Lunch was at the 19<sup>th</sup> Street Café and then back to our cars. A sunny, dry First Friday. Members: Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Sharon Duncan, May Fogg, Mark Hougardy, Janet Jacobsen, Nola Nelson. Nonmembers: Polly Bennett.

**Cummins Creek**  
**December 7, 2014**  
**Leader: Mike Smith**  
**Photographer: Carla Cooper**  
**Hike: 9.5 miles, 1,300 ft. (Moderate)**

WE LEFT FOGGY EUGENE and enjoyed a sunny day on the coast, temps in the high 50s, a nice south wind, and almost no



mud on the Cummins Creek trail. This is a significant climb (750 feet) to the Gwynn Creek junction, and tops out at 1,330 feet net elevation gain before dropping down to a luncheon spot with a view of the ocean and Cummins Ridge

(Wilderness). It would have helped if my pack hadn't started to roll down the hill. I went after it, stopping it a good 50 feet below, falling flat on my back. I'm sure it gave everybody confidence in their leader. The Pacific was moderately rough today, ahead of brewing storms several hundred miles off shore. It was a good group and we had the trail to ourselves except for two trail runners. For those who go over to Perpetua, yes, the restrooms are open, and yes, they use leaf blowers and electricity for reasons that for some of us were unclear. I'd be happy to lead this hike again. It's best done clockwise. Members: Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Betty Grant, Lisa Grissell, Jane Hackett, Janet Jacobsen, Becky Lipton, Mike Smith, Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Cindy Miller, Janessa Esquible.

**Cummins Creek Wilderness**  
**December 14, 2014**  
**Leader & Photographer: Mike Smith**  
**Hike: 12 miles, 1,200 ft. (Moderate)**

WE VISITED THE CUMMINS CREEK WILDERNESS and the only trail through it. There were a few downed trees and a lot of small branches on the trail from the past week's windstorm, but the trail was dry, and the brush cleared since last spring's solo hike. We saw no other groups on the trail, which had been my experience before. The east wind was quite cold, despite some sun and no fog. The distance is 6.25 miles one way, and the trail gains 1,300 feet with 400 more feet of additional climbing from the descents. I didn't remember all that from



before. We didn't go up Cummins Mountain. A road leads up there, and during the short daylight hours, we really didn't have the time. The group was spread out, so despite seven of us, it was possible to feel alone in this area. There are no creeks or streams—Cummins Creek is far below to the north, Bob Creek to the south. Despite the lack of views, save for one reasonable view of the ocean early in the hike, this is a lovely, quiet wilderness. One won't find many people here. Members: Janet Jacobsen, Andrew McIvor, Sam Miller, Jorry Rolfe, Mike Smith, Fumiyo Tao, Nancy Whitfield.



## Stocking Stuffer Hike and Lunch

December 16, 2014

Leader: Joella Ewing, Asst: Janet Jacobsen

Photographer: Carla Cooper

Hike 2.5 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)

THE LODGE WAS WARM AND INVITING for the 32 hikers who showed up at 10:00 AM with their new wool socks for the



stocking stuffer hike and chili feed. John and Janet Jacobsen led two groups on the Ribbon Trail to Hendricks Park. The smell of chili and cornbread greeted the returning hikers. Decisions had to be made: Spicy? Vegetarian? Meat? Chips? Onions? Cheese? Chipotle toppings? Coleslaw? Dessert? Thanks to Mary Livingston, Joella Ewing, Janet Jacobsen and Margaret Essenberg who made the chili. Another thanks to Obsidians

who could not attend but sent socks. A big thanks to EWEB who rescheduled their water maintenance to another day to make it easier for us in many ways! Joel and Janet presented 100 pairs of socks at the Major Egan Memorial Service two days later. Members: Rick Ahrens, Mari Baldwin, Anne Bonine, Roberta Chord, Lynda Christiansen, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Clara Emlen, Patricia Esch, Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, May Fogg, Joella Ewing, Betty Grant, Jane Hackett, Yuan Hopkins, Mark Hougardy, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Mary Livingston, Patricia Mac Afee, Helen Martz, Lois Morse, Jorry Rolfe, Ruth Romoser, Karla Rusow, Barbara Schomaker, Sue Wolling. Nonmembers: Mindy Hollenbeck, Kelly Yucalvich.

## Mt. Pisgah/Winter Solstice

December 21, 2014

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Easy)

BY THE TIME WE REACHED THE SUMMIT, the clouds were lower and it was raining. Those who were wearing rain pants were happy for making the correct attire decision. We didn't linger on top even with invitations from a large group of runners, who were willing to share eggnog and wine. Our goal was Track Town Pizza, where we dried out and lingered for two hours! My nephew and a former Obsidian, David Morgan, made the rainy I-5 drive from Seattle to join us for pizza. Members: Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Laurie Funkhouser, Jane Hackett, Anna Hougardy, Christiane Hougardy, Mark Hougardy, Janet Jacobsen, Caroline Moore, Tom Rundle, Cindy Rust, Nancy Whitfield.

## Upcoming

# Sisters XC/Snowshoe Extended Trip

## Sisters XC/Snowshoe Extended Trip

March 1-3, 2015

Lana Lindstrom

**T**HIS EXTENDED TRIP IS FOR CROSS-COUNTRY SKIERS AND SNOWSHOERS ALIKE. The first day our outings will begin at the Ray Benson snow park on Santiam Pass. The next day will be out of Sisters on Road 16 toward Three Creek Lake. The last day will either be back to the Santiam Pass area or toward Three Fingered Jack.

The details:

Dates: Sunday, March 1-Tuesday, March 3, 2015

Cost: \$115 (\$120 nonmembers)

Payment in full is due within five days of registering online. Make the check payable to Obsidians Inc. and mail

to Lana Lindstrom, PO Box 5506, Eugene, OR 97405.

What is included: two nights lodging at the Sisters Best Western Hotel, two persons per room; two continental breakfasts. Hotel rooms include microwaves and refrigerators. Lunches and dinners are at your own expense. Dinner on March 2 will be at the Open Door Restaurant. Fun playing in the snow with like-minded folks.

Maximum: 18 persons

Cancellations: \$20 is non-refundable. The balance is refundable if cancelled before February 26.

Online registration will open on Sunday, January 18, 2015. Obsidians will have preference for the first 48 hours, after which nonmembers can sign up.

Questions: Lana, 683-1409 [lana\\_lindstrom@hotmail.com](mailto: lana_lindstrom@hotmail.com)



# Orcas Island, Moran State Park Extended Trip

**Orcas Island, Moran State Park Extended Trip**  
**June 20–25, 2015**  
**Lana Lindstrom**

**Y**OU'VE HEARD ABOUT THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS FOR YEARS, but haven't been there? Well, here's your chance! The Obsidians will have an Extended Trip (mini-Camp) on Orcas Island at the Moran State Park Environmental Learning Center from June 20–25, 2015. See: [www.parks.wa.gov/361/Camp-Moran](http://www.parks.wa.gov/361/Camp-Moran) for details about the facility (flush toilets and showers). Unlike our usual trips, **no tent camping** is allowed at this facility; everyone must sleep in a cabin or vehicle. Folks with small RVs can stay in them. Parking is extremely limited, so all vehicles will be snuggled together.

Signups will open on Sunday, February 15 at approximately 7:00 AM. Until that time, you won't see this trip listed. *Signups for the first 48 hours will be limited to members only.* See below for signup tips.

Cost: \$195 members (\$200 nonmembers)

Within five days of signing up, send a check payable to Obsidians for the full amount to Lana Lindstrom, PO Box 5506, Eugene, OR 97405. If you don't send in your payment promptly, you will be dropped. This trip is limited to 40 persons.

~ Cancellation Policy: \$30 is non-refundable. If you cancel by May 31, the balance will be refunded (\$165 for members). No refunds for cancellations on/after June 1.

Wait List folks: If you are on the Waiting List, do not send in a payment at this time. I will email you if your name moves to #40. Payment in full will be due five days thereafter. And if your plans change, please cancel yourself on the list so others have a realistic picture of who is still interested in going.

What's included: Lodging in a cabin (bring your own bedding and towels) and five dinners. Breakfast and lunches are on your own. Hiking, biking, and kayaking with like-minded friends.

The details: There will only be 2–4 persons per large cabin/duplex on a self-selected basis. Some of the facilities have a bathroom in the building; others use a bathhouse. There is a full kitchen including a walk-in refrigerator and a freezer for our use. Scott and Mandy Gilbert who have cooked at previous summer camps will prepare four of the dinners; pizza will be the fifth dinner.

There are six longer hikes in Moran State Park, which can be accessed directly from camp; no vehicle is required! Two additional hikes on Turtle Mountain require a bike/car. A nearby lake has kayak rentals (sit-upons only). Outfitters run sea kayak trips in two different bays or you can bring your own. Bike trips will be led to San Juan, Lopez, and

Shaw Islands.

Since this is an Extended Trip, not a full Summer Camp, there will not be a Rally or camp booklet.

Watch future *Bulletins* for additional information about this trip.

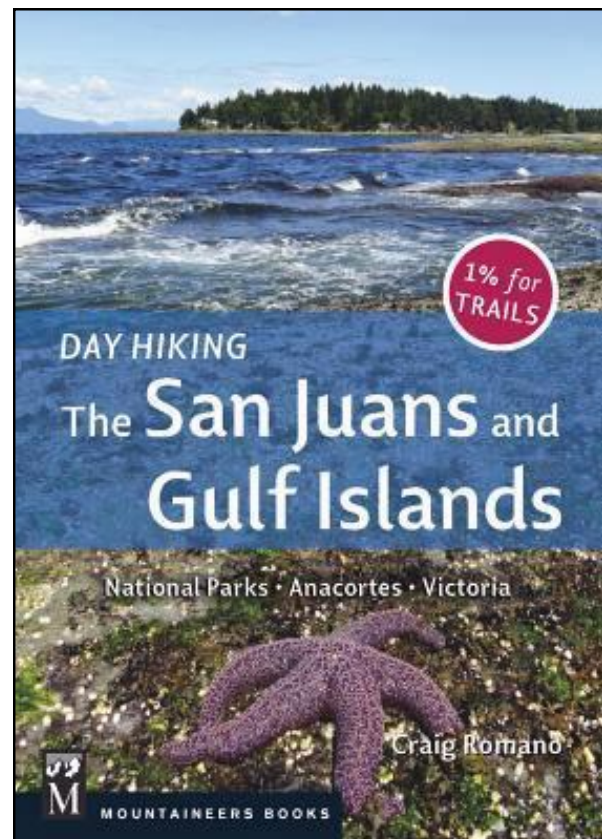
Questions? call lana 683-1409, [lana\\_lindstrom@hotmail.com](mailto:lana_lindstrom@hotmail.com)

## Online signup tips

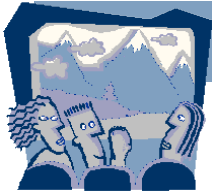
Scroll Bar: After you enter your ID and password on the online system, you will see the first eight trips listed in date order. Usually additional trips are also available for signup. In order to see those trips use the pull down menu or scroll bar just to the right of the trip listings (to the right of *signup*). On some tablets or iPads you may need to use your finger to scroll down. It's a good idea to practice finding more than the first eight listings before you need to sign up for this trip!

Log off: After you've signed up for a trip, please log off (upper right corner). If a lot of people are logged on at the same time the response is exceedingly slow. This is particularly important when popular trips go online!

Carpooling: When you sign up, please check one of two boxes regarding transportation—you need a ride or, if you have a ride and want riders, also indicate how many riders you would like. Participants make their own arrangements regarding carpooling.



## At The Lodge



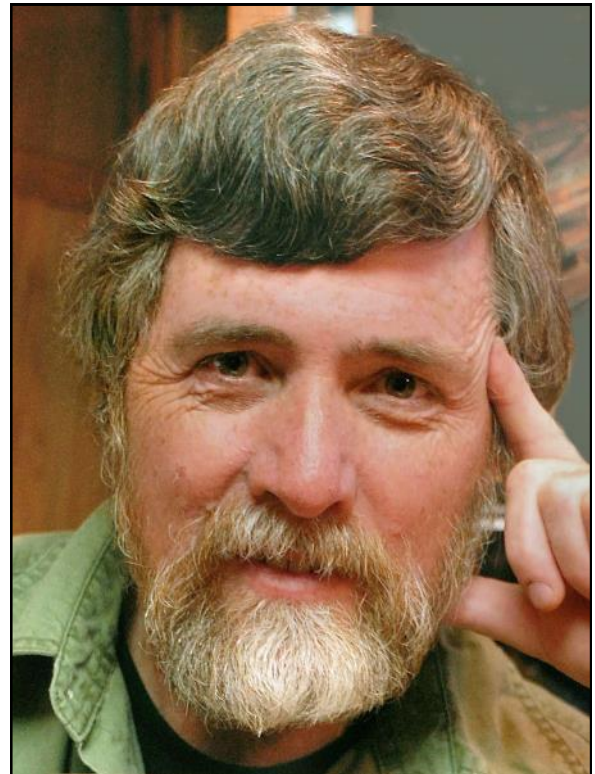
# POTLUCK

Friday January 23 at 6:30 PM

## New and Endangered Oregon Wilderness Hikes

**J**OIN AUTHOR **WILLIAM L. SULLIVAN** for a slide show celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wilderness Act. We'll visit hiking trails in spectacular areas protected during each decade from the 1960s to the present. More than half of Oregon's road-less land is still unprotected, so Sullivan goes on to show us interesting hikes in endangered areas—from the desert to the rainforest. Expect tales of history, geology, and wildlife along the way.

Sullivan has hiked every trail he could find in the state for his popular *100 Hikes* guidebooks, a series he updates continually. His latest book, *The Oregon Variations*, is a collection of short stories, with one story set in every county in the state. He has also written four novels and many non-fiction books about Oregon.



### January Potluck

Friday, January 23, 2015

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 27 at 7 PM

## A 1904 Pioneer Forest Ranger Tells Tales of Early Experiences

**G**ATHER 'ROUND THE CAMPFIRE, FOLKS, to hear tales from 1904 pioneer Forest Ranger Cy Bingham. Dressed in early 1900 garb including 17-inch boots, Cy (aka Steven Coady) will tell about joining the U.S. Department of the Interior in 1904 when it was called the General Land Office, when pay was \$65 per month, and a Ranger had to either already possess all he needed to do his job or purchase it. The agency later became the U.S. Forest Service under the Department of Agriculture.

These early Rangers weren't book-learned men; they were ex-cowboys, mountain men, gold miners, trappers and generally outdoorsmen who didn't mind the elements. Cy

fell into the categories of both ex-cowboy and gold miner.

Cy took on the Forest Service, riding its coattails as long as possible. The Forest Service was good to Cy, giving him a district that stretched the length of the Cascade Mountains. Cy and wife Connie blazed the original *Skyline Trail*, now called the Pacific Crest Trail.

Steven has impersonated Cy at campground amphitheaters for years, telling stories of Judge John Waldo and John Muir, and of how a lumber company wanted to purchase Spencer Butte and log it bare, and how Calapuya natives created a savanna appearance to the valley by burning off grass to fertilize next year's camas bulb crop.



## Upcoming



### Bus Trips News— 2015

**WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE VARIETY OF BUS TRIPS BEING PLANNED FOR 2015!** The detailed schedule will be available in February. The first two trips will offer opportunities for bird watching, there will be another *More Food* trip, a couple of trips to explore the foothills east of the Willamette Valley, a visit to the Oregon Zoo, and our long trip will be September 13–19 to Yellowstone National Park and Jackson Hole, Wyoming. We hope you will join us on some of these trips. You are always welcome to bring a friend or relative along.

February 22: Bus Rally at the Lodge, 1:00–3:00 PM. Hear trip details and sign up.

March 3: Looking for birds on Sauvie Island west of Portland with Rick Ahrens.

### Lost and Found

**SOMEONE DROPPED A WATCH** into a sock sack at the Stocking Stuffer event December 16. If you would like to claim it, call Joella Ewing at 244-9197.

## Filming Wild

**I THOUGHT OBSIDIANS MIGHT FIND THIS INTERESTING** because supposedly the action takes place on the Pacific Crest Trail. No doubt there are Obsidians who have read Cheryl Strayed's book, *Wild*, about her decision to take a walk (like half the Pacific Crest Trail) because she needed some time to think and get her life in order. Her book was on the *N.Y. Times* best seller list for 87 weeks and now has been made into a movie released in December. Freelance writer Tim Neville who lives in Bend decided to look at the places where the filming was done. Although the book is set in Minnesota, California and Oregon, all but seven scenes were filmed in Oregon. Sites of the filming include: Crater Lake National Park, the Oregon Badlands, Mt. Hood Ski Bowl, Newberry National Monument, Tom, Dick and Harry Mountain and Eagle Fern Park. (Tim Neville also identifies sites in Portland.) So if you recognize some of the scenes in the movie, although the movie may say the action is taking place in the Modoc Plateau in California, or wherever, you know the site is probably actually in Oregon and is just pretending to be somewhere else.

Richard Heinzkill, adapted from an essay by Tim Neville, *New York Times*, Sunday, 12/7/2014.

### Obsidian Calendar

#### January

10 Sat <b>Berley Lakes Xski M Sinnott</b> .....	915-0234
14 Wed <b>North Fork Willamette Hike E Hackett</b> .....	953-7046
14 Wed <b>Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen</b> .....	343-8030
17 Sat <b>Exploring Springfield Hike E Lindstrom</b> .....	683-1409
18 Sun <b>Redtop Mountain Xski D Thompson</b> .....	683-8942
18 Sun <b>Heceta Head Hike E Hackett</b> .....	953-7046
19 Mon <b>Odell Overlook SSHoe M Hovis</b> .....	731-3412
21 Wed <b>Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen</b> .....	343-8030
24 Sat <b>Fawn Lake Xski M Sinnott</b> .....	915-0234
26 Mon <b>Clearwater Park Hike E Romoser</b> .....	726-8154
28 Wed <b>Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen</b> .....	343-8030
31 Sat <b>Goodman Creek Hike E Hackett</b> .....	953-7046

#### February

4 Wed <b>Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen</b> .....	343-8030
6 Fri <b>River/Campus Loop Hike E Jacobsen</b> .....	343-8030
7 Sat <b>Circle Lake Xski M Wolling</b> .....	345-2110
7 Sat <b>Gathering Winter Mushrooms Hike Kelly</b> .....	505-8886
7 Sat <b>Salt Creek/Diamond Creek SSHoe M Hovis</b> .....	731-3412
8 Sun <b>Fall Creek Hike E Hackett</b> .....	953-7046
11 Wed <b>Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen</b> .....	343-8030
18 Wed <b>Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen</b> .....	343-8030
20 Fri <b>Backpacking/Overnight SSHoe Hovis</b> .....	731-3412
25 Wed <b>Spencer Butte Hike M Jacobsen</b> .....	343-8030

#### March

1 Sun <b>Booth Lake Loop Xski D Miller</b> .....	484-4586
1 Sun <b>Sisters X C/Snowshoe Lindstrom</b> .....	683-1409
3 Tue <b>Mt. Baldy Hike M Romoser</b> .....	726-8154
7 Sat <b>Pulpit Rock SSHoe D Wilken</b> .....	343-3080
7 Sat <b>Potato Hill SSHoe D Hovis</b> .....	731-3412

#### April

4 Sat <b>Sand Mountain Xski D Miller</b> .....	484-4586
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#### June

20 Jun <b>Orcas Island, San Juans Lindstrom</b> .....	683-1409
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## Save The Date!

**May 8–12, 2015**

**Extended trip to the Deer Creek**

**Leader: Chris Stockdale**

**SPEND FOUR DAYS CAMPING**, hiking, biking, canoeing, visiting the Oregon Caves or just hanging out at this beautiful location, just south of Grants Pass. More information will be published in the February *Bulletin*, with signups starting February 15.



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**January 2015**



*Three nonmembers on Turkey Trimming Hike—photo by Holger Krentz (Trip report on page 10)*