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**Dates to Remember**

October 13	Annual Meeting
October 17	ExploraTalk
October 18	Board Meeting
October 27	Potluck
October 28	Bulletin Deadline
November 1	Board Meeting
November 5	90 <sup>th</sup> Open House

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

Visit our Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/#!/theobsidians](https://www.facebook.com/#!/theobsidians)

Reminder:  
*Bulletin* items for November, December, and early January should be submitted by October 28, the November/December *Bulletin* deadline.

**Obsidians' 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House**

**Obsidian Lodge**  
**Sunday, November 5, 1:00–4:00 PM**

**B**ROWSE THROUGH **OBSIDIAN HISTORY** with photo albums, summit books, log books, and heritage photographs. View the Cy Fulton paintings, Bryan Ryan painting, Dallas Cole ceramic relief *Obsidian Spirit* mural, the Mark McLaughlin-Jerry Clark Memorial Wall and The Three Peaks glass etchings. Find out about our organization's activities. Purchase a commemorative mug. Members will be available to answer your questions as you tour the Lodge and exhibit tables.

Enjoy refreshments and visit with friends. Guests are welcome.

Committee Members: Rick Ahrens, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Bert Ewing, Joella Ewing, John Jacobsen, John Pegg, Gary Kirk, Lenore McManigal, and Janet Jacobsen, chair.

**Obsidians' First Year**

**I**N NOVEMBER WE WILL BE CELEBRATING THE 90<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY of the Obsidians. This and upcoming issues of the *Bulletin* will feature articles about the history of the Obsidians and the Lodge. The following is a chronology of the first year of the club compiled by Janet Jacobsen.

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

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

November 3, 1927: Eugene Outdoor Club was organized with 43 charter members. The charter members are listed on a plaque in the Lodge. (The Obsidian name originated at the first summer outing in 1928 after climbing the Three Sisters in four days. "Hard as obsidian" became a popular metaphor among members of the club and it was decided to advocate the change in the name of the organization.)

November 17, 1927: John Bovard was elected as the first President. A Local Walks Committee was formed to schedule trips every other week. It was decided to hold monthly Board meetings.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Dues Renewal Time

Thank you for renewing your membership. If you have not sent in your dues yet, please take a moment to complete the renewal form that was included in September's *Bulletin* and return it with your check today to:

Obsidians, Inc.  
Attn: Membership  
PO Box 51510  
Eugene, OR 97405

Please include any contact changes on the form.

Renewal forms are also available in the Members Only section of the Obsidian website: [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

## OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405  
Website: [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

### Board of Directors

Laurie Funkhouser, President  
John Cooper, Vice President  
David Cooper, Secretary  
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer  
Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch,  
Marc Hansen, Todd Larsen,  
Maryanne Reiter & Lyndell Wilken

*Board meetings are held at 6:00 PM the first Wednesday of each month, except October when it is the Wednesday after the Annual Meeting. There is no August meeting.*

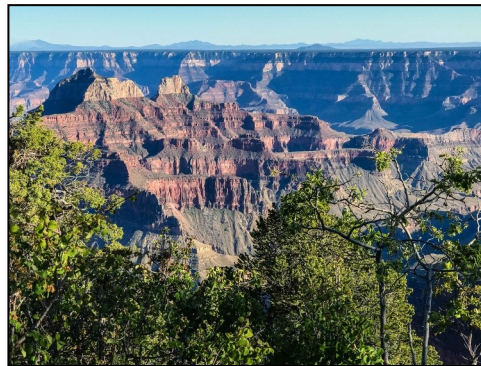
### Committee Chairpersons

By-Ways By Bus.....Sharon Cutsforth  
Climbs..... Maryanne Reiter  
Concessions.....Carla Cooper  
Conservation/SciEd..... Jorry Rolfe  
Entertainment.....Lana Lindstrom  
Extended Trips.....Lana Lindstrom  
Finance..... Stewart Hoeg  
Lodge Building.....Dave Cooper  
Lodge Grounds..... John Jacobsen  
Librarian/Historian..... Lenore McManigal  
Membership..... Diane Schecter  
Online..... Wayne Deeter  
Publications..... Lou Maenz  
Publicity..... Janet Jacobsen  
Safety..... Lyndell Wilken  
Summer Camp..... John Jacobsen  
Summer Trips.....John Cooper  
Trail Maintenance..... Matt Bell  
Winter Trips..... Dave Lodeesen

## Grand Canyon Backpack, Anyone?

AFTER SOLO BACKPACKING TRIPS IN THE GRAND CANYON the last two years, Steve Adey is looking for some company in April 2018. He needs to apply for a permit at the end of November, so if you are interested in joining him, you need to act now. For a detailed information sheet, contact Steve at

[steve80adey@gmail.com](mailto:steve80adey@gmail.com)



## OBITUARY

### Glenn Meares 1927–2017

GLENN MEARES, AN OBSIDIAN MEMBER SINCE 1967, passed away on September 9 at the age of 90. Glenn was a great lover of the outdoors, and during the 40 years he was a member of the Obsidians, he held the office of President in 1978/79 and participated in 236 activities including nine summer camps and 43 mountain climbs. He led 44 trips that ranged from climbing North Sister, skiing at Yellowstone, viewing the sky at Pine Mountain Observatory, to birding at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. He earned his three and ten peak awards. Regarding his accomplishments, he wrote a note for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club: "Each one of these statistics involves memories of shared experiences: good, bad, beautiful, exhilarating, sheer fright and unabashed triumphs. But most of all, camaraderie and lasting friendships that for each of us add collectively to 75 years of our history and the hope that we all 'will find pleasure in the mountains, forest and streams' for another 75 years." Hike on, Glenn.

He is survived by his wife Marty, his son David Meares of Reno, NV, and his daughter Cindy Otten of Canby, OR.

A memorial service will be held at the Lodge at a future date.

## The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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

For reprint rights, contact:

*The Obsidian Bulletin*

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

### Deadline

for November Bulletin

**Saturday, October 28, 2017**

### September

### Assembly/Mailing Team

Manager: Lou Maenz

Team: Judy Adamcyk, Tom Adamcyk,  
Don Baldwin, Pat Bean,  
Clara Emlen, Nancy Raymond

### Editorial Team

Writing & Editorial Staff:

Janet Jacobsen, Lou Maenz

Copy Editors:

Jorry Rolfe, Ethel Weltman

Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing:  
Carla Cooper, Bea Fontana, Stewart Hoeg

## Obsidians' First Year

(Continued from page 1)

December 4, 1927: One of the first walks was to 'The Braes', where KVAL is now located. An all-day trip was made on December 11 to Castle Rock with 37 in the party, led by Prince Glaze.

January 1–2, 1928: Two-day New Year's party at the McKenzie Hotel, McKenzie Bridge. Thirty-four people attended with 29 of them on a chartered bus from Eugene. One group hiked to Frissell Point while another under the leadership of Ray Sims, rode the bus to Lost Creek Ranch for skiing, tobogganing and snowshoe sports. It took over an hour to turn the bus around in two-and-a-half feet of snow at Lost Creek Ranch. It was a "real winter vacation."

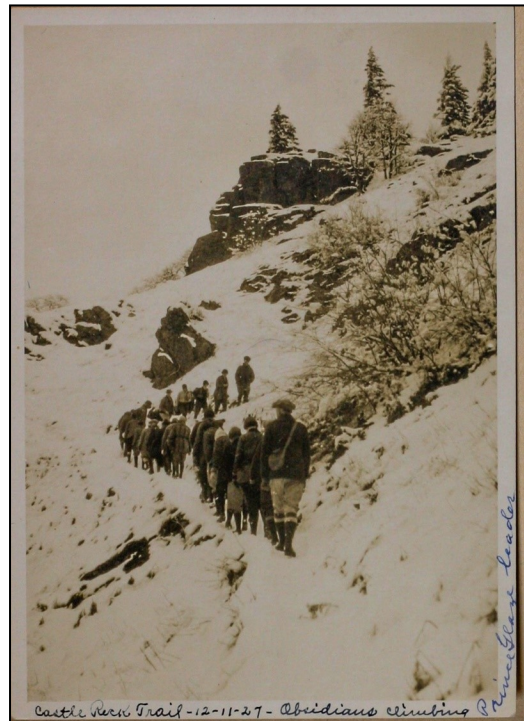
August 5–19, 1928: First Summer Camp at foot of Middle Sister.

Sources:

*History of the Obsidian Club of Eugene, Oregon* by Ray Sims, compiled from *Bulletins* by Sharon Ritchie

*History of the Obsidian Club* by John Bovard

*Obsidian Bulletin*, January 2013



Castle Rock Trail , 12-11-27, Obsidians climbing, Prince Glaze leading.

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## The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs (FWOC): The Present and Past

Written by Jorry Rolfe on National Public Lands Day 2017

### The Present

**K**EEPING PUBLIC LANDS IN PUBLIC HANDS was the theme of the FWOC 2017 convention down in southern Oregon which I attended as our delegate in late August. The program was diverse: we heard from the Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands group about how the Cascade Siskiyou Monument is under attack; an organizer with SUWA in Utah showed us a slideshow about citizen efforts to designate certain public lands as part of the National Preservation System; and Oregon Wild's Erik Fernandez talked about the threat of privatizing public lands. Additionally, we adopted eleven resolutions that advocate and inform about specific issues. Clearly, this year we saw that FWOC is a tool that can facilitate uniting the members for a broader scope of opposition to challenges attacking conservation and environmental successes of the past. Please read more about the resolutions we passed at this website and add FWOC support to *your* letters or personal appeals:

[www.federationofwesternoutdoorclubs.org/  
fwoc\\_resolutions.html](http://www.federationofwesternoutdoorclubs.org/fwoc_resolutions.html)

### The Past

**FWOC WAS FOUNDED IN SEPTEMBER, 1932** at the Mazama Lodge on Mt. Hood. The fourteen charter members, including the Obsidians, banded together to form an organization that they felt could take a more active role in conservation than that of the individual clubs. The American frontier had closed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and members, seeking to enjoy nature rather than exploit it, longed for a different relationship to the land—one of respect that was rooted in a new ethic. The Federation became dedicated to protecting our natural environment and uniting Western conservation groups in a shared agenda. Starting in the 1950s and on into the 60s and 70s, the Federation was a conservation leader in the Northwest. Members helped secure passage of the Wilderness Act and made contributions to the establishment of the North Cascades NP, various national forest wilderness areas in Oregon and California, and a national monument to protect the Giant Sequoias. FWOC has carried this work forward ever since, now representing 45 clubs. Here's to 85 years of cooperation among the conservation community!

## TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



### Backpacks

#### **Mt. Jefferson/Berley Lakes**

September 15–17, 2017

Leader: Scott Hovis

Photographer: Tommy Young

Backpack: 3 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

**I** CALLED THE WILLAMETTE NATIONAL FOREST FIRE CONTROL at their office on HooDoo Ski Bowl at 541-719-8371 and learned the southern part of the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness was open and there was minimal smoke, so we left for our backpack trip. The weather window was fine and we had decent views. The old Santiam Trail has not been maintained. It's best to park at the PCT Trail entrance off Highway 20, then take the actual PCT Trail 1.5 miles to the Santiam Lake Trail which leads to the Berley Lakes. Great job, team. I thought we worked together nicely. Thanks. Members: Mari Baldwin, Ben Brown, Steve Cordon, Nikki Frank, Scott Hovis, Tommy Young.



*Lower Berley Lake*



### Climbs

#### **Broken Top**

August 5, 2017

Leader: Marci Hansen

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

**W**HILE IT WAS HOT EVERYWHERE ELSE, the weather at Broken Top was perfect. We started hiking at 4 AM to

avoid the heat of the day and were treated with an awesome sunrise. Five of the six climbers made it to the summit. One climber stopped at the U-turn on the summit block as he'd had too much exposure for his liking. We were car to car in twelve hours. Super fun day and great views as usual. Members: Rebecca Eastwood, Marci Hansen, Bill Lowder, Juli McGlinsky, Laura Osinga. Nonmembers: Brett Sliger.

#### **Mt. McLoughlin**

August 12, 2017

Leader: Kimberly Van Winkle

Photographer: Dave Lodeesen

Climb: 10.5 miles, 4,000 ft. (Difficult)

**OUR GROUP TRAVELED TO THE FISH LAKE AREA** the evening before the climb to get a short night of sleep before an early start. Thankfully the helicopter picking up water to douse nearby small forest fires finished its job before we needed to crawl into our tents. We started before sunrise and were rewarded with a nearly empty trail on the ascent and, for a short time, we had the summit to ourselves. We had a great view of Mt. Shasta to the south, but the north was obscured by smoke. Some in the group, new to Obsidian Climbing tradition, were introduced to Summit Treats (also known as Leader Treats). All in the group made it to the summit. It was a beautiful day to be on a mountain. Members: Marguerite Cooney, Rebecca Eastwood, Michael King, David Lodeesen, Kimberly Van Winkle.



*Clockwise from top: Dave, Kimberly, Michael, Rebecca, and Marguerite on the summit of Mt. McLoughlin*

#### **South Sister**

August 28, 2017

Leader: Kimberly Van Winkle

Climb: 12 miles, 4,800 ft. (Difficult)

**OUR SMALL GROUP HIKE**D INTO BEAUTIFUL MORaine LAKE to camp on a hot and smoky day. This allowed us a start before sunrise with fresh legs to ascend South Sister. Few people were on the Climber Trail this Monday morning which is typically packed with hikers on a September weekend. Our

group even had the summit area to ourselves! The smoke was minimal in the morning allowing for decent views from the summit. The air quality slowly worsened as we descended due to wildfires in the area—the smoke from a very nearby fire was visible from the trail. Overall, it was a fun and efficient group to hike with. Members: Steve Cordon, Michael King, Kimberly Van Winkle.



## Hikes



## Trail Maintenance

### Spencer Butte

August 30, 2017

Leader: Matthew Bell

Photographer: Pat Soussan

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

**T**HIS PAST WINTER THIS SECTION OF TRAIL was inches deep in muck, and during the spring, it had water flowing along the trail when we cleaned it. So for the last Wednesday evening outing of our summer season, we improved drainage on the Tie Trail and did some light brushing along the trail. Dev had marked three spots for drainage features, and Dave, Dan, and June chipped, hacked, and scraped them in. We were fortunate to have enough people to be able to do some brushing also. Pat, Tom, and Rebecca cut back overhanging brush and branches that were encroaching on the trail. Special thanks go to Clara and Janet for clearing the trailhead steps, kiosk, and parking lot. Members: Matthew Bell, David Cooper, Rebecca Eastwood, Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore, Janet Jacobsen, Tom Rundle, Pat Soussan, June Sutterfield.



*June clears a culvert.*

### Campus/River Walk

September 1, 2017

Leader and Photographer: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 3 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)

**T**HE HIGHLIGHT OF THE 2.5 HOUR CAMPUS WALK was meeting Quentin Holmes, president of the Friends of the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery, at the G.A.R. burial plot. He shared the history of the tall, blue marble statue standing guard there over the graves of penniless Civil War veterans. The next stop was *The Family*, a basalt sculpture near the Museum of Art. A plaque states that it honors Karl Onthank, associate dean of students from 1948–1957, who was also an Obsidian member. We had a friendly chat with the campus policeman about his new Duck truck on its first day on the job. *Cascade Charley*, an outdoor fountain and sculpture, was flowing as was the really large waterfall at Autzen Stadium. We finally found the Heisman trophy display (in the Hatfield-Dowlin Complex lobby) and then quickly walked to the Museum of Natural and Cultural History to see the new Wolf Exhibit. Thanks to my three curious companions who were game to seek out new places. Members: Steve Adey, Janet Jacobsen, Tom Rundle. Nonmembers: Joanna Alexander.



*Janet, Steve, Tom, and Joanna give their opinions of the Duck police truck on its first day on campus.*

### Black Meadow, Bingo, and Waldo Lakes (exploratory)

September 3, 2017

Leader: Mike Smith

Hike: 14 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

**IT WAS GOOD TO GET OUT OF EUGENE**—the heat and the bad air quality. We could see a decent sun at the trailhead to Mount Ray. We took that about 2.5 miles to the junction where we went straight towards Black Meadow (north leads to South Waldo Shelter and south to Island Lakes and eventu-

ally Fuji Mtn.) On the way huckleberries were for the picking, and I found that I had decent hand-mouth coordination. At the same time, I was taking pictures of the blowdowns so that Dave Cooper, also along, could help coordinate their removal with the Scorpions. The distance from that first junction to Black Meadow is about two miles, but it is over a height of land, has a steep descent, and occasionally requires some navigation ability. We got to the next junction to Deer Camp Lake, where I decided, after looking at the contours, that this was not a good idea to visit. There were no complaints. We then hiked north to lunch at Bingo Lake where two of us were last week on Dave's hike and I picked a peck of huckleberries. We headed north to Waldo Lake and the South Waldo Shelter, then took the trail back south and saw Archie Knowles's tree. From there, it was to the car and back to hazardous air quality. Members: Marguerite Cooney, David Cooper, Lynn Meacham, Mike Smith.

## Divide Lake

September 9, 2017

Leader: David Cooper

Hike: 10 miles, 1,640 ft. (Difficult)

**RECENT RAIN AND WINDS FROM THE WEST** made for a smoke-free day under blue skies. Although views of Diamond Peak were still a little hazy, everyone was glad for the much needed break away from the smoke of this year's terrible fire season. We also had huckleberries to snack on along the way. Divide Lake was such a lovely destination that some decided to relax there while others went up to reach the PCT. After regrouping back at the lake for lunch, we began our return with a couple of berry pickers heading out first. A few stopped for a brief geology lesson below Mt. Yorlan. Another nice stop coming out was Notch Lake. Another great day outside with a fun bunch of Obsidians. Members: Mari Baldwin, Brad Bennett, Marguerite Cooney, David Cooper, David Lodeesen, Lynn Meacham, Tom Rundle, Mike Smith, Pam Symond. Nonmembers: Kathie Carpenter.

## Rigdon Lakes

September 10, 2017

Leader: Daphne James

Hike: 8 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)

**WITH WILD FIRES RAGING THROUGHOUT OUR STATE** and smoke coming and going into the Willamette Valley, we were delighted to have what turned out to be a splendidly clear and sunny day for our Waldo Wilderness hike. The Waldo Lake/Rigdon Lakes Loop is a study in contrast, alternating from the lush forest of the north Waldo shore to the more stark, but equally beautiful, shorelines of the Rigdon Lakes. Situated in the heart of the Taylor Burn, Upper and Lower Rigdon Lakes and Lake Kiwi are vividly blue and offer striking views of the surrounding rock formations. We took full advantage of the lovely day with a break at Upper Rigdon for huckleberries and taking in the sight of massive Rigdon Butte towering above. We then headed back to the Waldo shore for a swim and lunch. Although the burn area is covered in colorful vegetation and a sprinkling of 5–15 foot trees that have grown back since the 1998 fire, this area is pretty exposed and best hiked on a cooler, late summer or fall day. Members: Marguerite Cooney, Daphne James, David Lodeesen. Nonmembers: Kathie Carpenter, Denise Bean.

## Finding Waldo's Tree - Waldo Lake

September 10, 2017

Leader and Photographer: Mark Hougardy

Hike: 6 miles, 100 ft. (Moderate)

**CAMP EDITH MIGHT NOT BE REMEMBERED**, but it has never truly been lost. Like many peaceful places in Oregon's Cascades, it can reveal itself to those who seek it. An almost forgotten campsite, Camp Edith was once a favorite destination for Oregon's most famous outdoorsman and conservationist, Judge John Breckenridge Waldo. He explored and documented the Cascades from 1877 to 1907, increased public awareness with his letters to state newspapers in support of forest conservation, and steadfastly pushed legislation to preserve the mountains for future generations. Today, Oregonians can appreciate six national forests, a national park, and at least 18 wilderness areas because of Waldo's vision and perseverance. On his treks, Waldo would travel along the Cascades' crest for months at a time. Although he traveled with a handful of colleagues and friends, it is likely that he became homesick for his family. One of his most beloved destinations now bears his name, Waldo Lake, and it's upon this magnificent shore where he christened the camp in honor of his daughter, Edith. The campsite doesn't appear on any maps and it quietly rests with only a century-old blazed tree to signify its human history.



*Mark, Keiko, Barbara, Christiane, Jorry, George, and Debbie in front of the Camp Edith tree.*

I first learned about Camp Edith while studying Waldo's journals at the UO Archives last year with fellow Obsidians. In the archives were several photographs, including one photo from 1890 that was simply titled, "Camp Edith, Waldo Lake." But where was it? I found a few references to the camp in his journals but nothing definitive. An online article said it was in the shadow of Mount Ray near the lake. I met one chiseled-faced and bearded man who said that it was somewhere on the south shore. It was helpful information, but since Waldo Lake has an area of 10 square miles, locating the camp would require some fieldwork. On this trip, our only tools were a copy of the 1890 black and white photograph, several entries from the judge's journal, and a 2004 Forest Service photo showing a tree with an inscription. The hike started at Shadow Bay. We were fortunate that thick smoke from nearby fires was blowing in another direction, giving our day a striking clarity. After walking a bit studying the photo, we bushwhacked through the forest, crossed marshy fields, and clambered over downed trees. We made slow pro-

gress, partially to avoid stepping on a number of dime-sized toads. One plump toad was the size of an apple. At the shoreline we again studied the older photo: it showed the campsite in the foreground, and in the distance were what appeared to be several shadowy outlines of land jutting across the lake. As we looked across the water, we could see similar landforms, but our angle was off the mark. We needed to explore further, so we split up. Several hours after starting our hike one member of our group, Jorry, let out a call: "I found it!" The rest of us followed her voice through the woods to an area by the shore. Blazed on a tree was a heart-shape mark. The bark's growth had covered the outside letters, but the inscription was readable: "Camp Edith, Waldo Lake." We were excited about the find. We enjoyed lunch, shared our own stories, and even read a few of Waldo's journal entries. We left agreeing to be discreet about the camp's exact location and left it as we found it. One of Waldo's journal entries from 1890 was fitting for our hike that day, "The lake stretches away up to the North; crags and peaks tower above us. It is a splendid scene—this source of rivers and cities, hid away, like pure trains of thought from vulgar observation—in the deep bosom of the wilderness buried. Camp Edith sends you greeting—greeting to Edith from *Papa's Lake*." Members: Keiko Bryan, Barbara Gunther, Christiane Hougardy, Mark Hougardy, Debbie Krakauer, Jorry Rolfe. Nonmembers: George Cardenas.

### **Birthday Lake**

**September 17, 2017**

**Leader: Kathy Randall**

**Hike: 6.4 miles, 1,030 ft. (Moderate)**

**OUR TRIP BEGAN UNDER SMOKE-FILLED SKIES** with the smell of smoke in the air. Fortunately, after a mile of steady uphill climbing, we escaped the smoke for good. Upon reaching our destination of Birthday Lake, we enjoyed lunch on the point on the west shore. The group was feeling the need for further exploration, so we decided to continue on to Island Lakes. It was about another mile and 250' of elevation gain to lovely Upper Island Lake which has a very picturesque isthmus and camping possibilities. From there we descended (cross-country) to Lower Island Lake—another pretty lake with a campsite on the north shore. Back on the trail for the return hike, we met several groups of mountain bikers. We also enjoyed spotting and photographing numerous varieties of fungi we encountered along the way. Members: Marguerite Cooney, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Kathy Randall, Darko Sojak.

### **Amazon Headwaters/Spencer Butte**

**August 30 and September 13, 2017**

**Leader: Steve Cordon (for both)**

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

**THE HIKERS BY DATE WERE: August 30:** Members: Jennifer Baer, David Cooper, Steve Cordon, Hilary Fisher, Janet Jacobsen, Michael King, Carla Lyon, Caroline Moore, Jim Northrop, Tom Rundle, Mike Smith, Cari Soderlund, Dorene Steggell, June Sutterfield. Nonmembers: Kathie Carpenter, Gerrit Strand. **September 13:** Members: Jennifer Baer, David Cooper, Steve Cordon, Hilary Fisher, Michael King, David Lodeesen, Carla Lyon, Caroline Moore, Anita Pierce, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Dorene Steggell, June Sutterfield,

Tommy Young. Nonmembers: Kathie Carpenter, Dan Russell.



## **Byways By Bus**

### **Southwest National Parks**

**September 10–22, 2017**

**Leader: Sharon Cutsforth**

**Assistant Leader: Jim Northrop**

**Photographers: Janet and John Jacobsen, Holger Krentz**

**ON SEPTEMBER 10 WE SET OFF ON AN AMAZING ADVENTURE** aboard our luxury MTR motor coach with Augie Bergman as driver and Char Bergman as tour planner. Our riders included twenty-one Obsidians and eleven guests; many began the trip as strangers and returned home as friends. The plan was to visit nine national parks, three national monuments, four state parks and more. Several adjustments to the schedule were made as we traveled, but we did see all the planned national parks and as well as some unplanned stops. The trip leaders greatly appreciated the flexibility of all participants. We were blessed with perfect weather most of the way, ranging from 100 degree temps in Death Valley to 40+ degrees at higher elevations. We traveled over 4,000 miles in thirteen days with elevations ranging from below sea level to 11,000 feet above. It would be impossible to include all the details of this special trip, so here are the highlights. **Lehman Caves in Great Basin National Park, NV**—The mineral formations are incredibly beautiful and a ranger led a very informative, easy tour through different rooms. **Border Inn in Baker, NV**—star gazing and seeing the Milky Way. **San Rafael Swell, Utah**—seeing unusual, colorful rock formations on Highway 70. **Goblin Valley State Park, UT**—Many went down and walked among the Goblins where imaginations went wild spotting many humans and other creatures in the thousands of red rock formations.



*Goblin Valley State Park.*

**Arches and Canyonlands National Parks, Utah**—Short hikes were taken among the beautiful and unusual red rocks with several natural arches. **Hovenweep National Monument, CO/UT**—our first view of ancient Puebloan communities where Square Tower is one of its most iconic structures. **Mesa Verde National Park, CO**—Many riders had an expe-

rience of a lifetime as they toured the Cliff Palace and Balcony House cliff dwellings, climbing several 10–12 foot ladders and crawling through a narrow 12-foot tunnel. To add even more excitement, a thunder and lightning rainstorm moved in at Balcony House leaving people quite wet and with their adrenaline pumping. **Durango and Silverton, CO**—We were late arriving at our motel, so we ordered salads and pizza delivered there where we shared the lobby with a group of retired and active firefighters from New England, traveling by motorcycle to Fort Collins to take part in an annual memorial ceremony honoring fallen comrades. The Durango & Silverton narrow gauge steam train ride along the Animas River canyon was a new experience for most. With solid rock walls on the left side of the train and a sheer drop to the canyon on the right, it was a thrilling and beautiful ride. Being a large group, we had an open air car mostly to ourselves allowing great views. At the historic Grand Hotel in Silverton with its beautiful crystal chandeliers, we enjoyed the delicious buffet lunch.



*Letting off steam.*

**San Juan Mountains, CO**—The drive to Cortez was spectacular. By this time we were getting a bit overwhelmed by the beauty of the southwest, but there was much more to come! **Petrified Forest National Park, AZ**—We were awed by the petrified logs and pieces of ancient forests. **Grand Canyon National Park, AZ**—It was amazing in the summer sun and for its vastness. Several hiked a stretch of the rim trail while others shuttled from one viewpoint to another. A special treat was a stop at Desert View Watchtower providing panoramic views for over 100 miles. It is an original structure designed by Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter, often referred to as the architect of the southwest. **Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks, UT**—These two beautiful parks are very different. Bryce is a huge canyon filled with amazing red and white rock formations while Zion is a narrow canyon between towering rock walls. Both allowed riders the opportunity for some hiking. With our eyes and minds filled with amazing sights, it was time to begin the long ride home. **Death Valley National Park, CA/NV**—a totally different type of landscape. At Bad Water Basin where it was 100 degrees, the salt flats are an unusual sight. **Tecopa, CA**—China Ranch Date Farm, an unexpected treat, is in a desert oasis. This family-owned-and-operated farm gave us a warm welcome and a chance to enjoy date milkshakes and purchase fresh-baked date breads and cookies. The gift shop included many unusual items and a variety of beautiful rocks for sale. Needless to say, the bus took on some extra weight at this stop.



*China Ranch Date Farm—the date clusters are covered to protect them from animals and birds that also enjoy dates.*

**Bodie, CA**—Frozen in time in a ‘state of arrested decay’, this ghost town is a state park and a popular summer tourist destination. Since it is at 8,000 feet, only two rangers live there in winter. **McArthur-Burney Falls State Park, CA**—Our final stop was at 129-foot Burney Falls, not the highest or largest waterfall in the state, but possibly the most beautiful. It is said that Teddy Roosevelt once described them as the “eighth wonder of the world”. We arrived back in Eugene in time to see a glorious sunset as we crossed over the Willamette River, a great welcome home. This was the longest and most ambitious bus trip the committee has planned in over 20 years. We were a tired, but happy group as we reached home, many commenting on seeing sights and having adventures they had never experienced before. We had a few speed bumps along the way: two falls requiring emergency medical transport, a temporarily displaced hiker, and a water hose leak that brought us to a truck stop for emergency repairs. About three days into the trip, the leader lost her voice. Assistant leader Jim Northrop stepped in and did an excellent job as leader. All in all it was a fantastic trip and we had the assistance of some truly wonderful people just when we needed it. Members: Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Thomas Berkey, Sharon Cutsforth, Bea Fontana, Judy Garwood, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Verna Kocken, Holger Krentz, Darlene Mancuso, Vern Marsonette, Craig Molitor, Jim Northrop, Don Payne, Judy Phelps, Barbara Schomaker, Debra Schwartz, Velma Shirk, Mary Ellen West. Nonmembers: Marcia Claypool, Lee Altschuler, Alice Krentz, Swee Berkey, Janet Enright, Sheila Marsonette, Judi Shirk, John Mellot, Theresa Mellot, Sharon Pounds, Wayne Pounds.



*Getting efficient at bus boarding.*





*Grand Canyon*



*On the trail at Windows in Arches National Park.*



*Don has one limb in each state.*



*Jim and Don on the ladder to enter Balcony House at Mesa Verde.*



*101° at Furnace Creek.*



*Bryce Canyon National Park.*



*Ghost town—Bodie State Park*



*Picnic under the ponderosa pine.*



*They made it happen: Jim, Char, Augie, Don, Judy, and Sharon.*

# Obsidian Lodge History: The First 30 Years

Karen Seidel, July 1987 Bulletin

A retelling of the epic story—starting in 1928—leading up to Obsidian Lodge

**T**HE ORIGINAL IMPETUS FOR A CLUB LODGE appears to have been the Obsidians' first summer outing in 1928. Returning to Eugene, that first summer camp committee realized it had no place to store the club's brand new outing equipment and dishes. Taking immediate action, the Board appointed a committee to investigate a room in the old Hampton Building at 6<sup>th</sup> and Willamette. However, it did not meet the club's requirements.

No further activity related to Lodge construction or acquisition seems to have occurred until 1936, when under the leadership of Bailey Castelloe (construction committee chairman) and Dorr Hamlin (Lodge finance committee chairman)—a five-acre site at the base of Deer Butte was tentatively approved. It was "about 300 yards above the ski trail, an ideal location, having the full benefit of the sun and a perfect view of the Sisters." The Forest Service assured the lease of the property as soon as the club submitted construction plans. A special meeting of the membership was called in June 1937 to "vote their approval of the site, the general plans, and the authorization of bonds to be issued."

Instead, all hell seems to have broken loose, and the June *Bulletin* headlined *All Plans for Obsidian Lodge rejected by Membership*. Expense was not the major point of contention. The issue, and not for the last time, was location. Members were split between a mountain Lodge even higher on the McKenzie Pass (near Sims Butte) and a town Lodge (near Eugene on the McKenzie River). In 1941 the issue surfaced again when town Lodge advocates proposed a central location that could be used for meeting, parties, potlucks, and record and equipment storage. Opponents countered that "the Obsidian club was not a dancing or social club; it is a mountaineering club." The choice was seen as a choice between "a high-country Lodge or Eugene party center."

Note: During this time, the Obsidians had acquired cabins for outdoor and social activities. The first cabins, rented from the Forest Service in 1928, were located at Lost Creek Ranch. In 1940 the club voted to move to the Belknap CCC Camp and rehabilitated the cabins there. They were used for winter ski trips, New Year's Eve and other parties, hikes and dances. However, even though electric lights were installed and other improvements made, usage of the cabins declined (except for work parties to clean up after the pack rats). Lack of usage, plus high rental and maintenance costs, convinced the club to give them up. They were used for the last time in November 1955 for a Chiefs' initiation.

**THE TOWN LODGE PROMOTERS CARRIED THE DAY** at special meeting in April 1944 when the Board was given authority to purchase a lot on the southwest corner of 17<sup>th</sup> and High Streets. At the 1947 annual meeting, tentative Lodge plans were presented by the Building Committee. Actual construction had to wait until building costs lowered. Building design and financial planning progressed, but difficulties were encountered. The 1952 annual meeting report stated: "The Building Committee put in long hours of work and planning against adverse conditions which ruined all their well-laid plans." The adverse conditions must have centered around zoning. The following year Mike Stahl, building committee

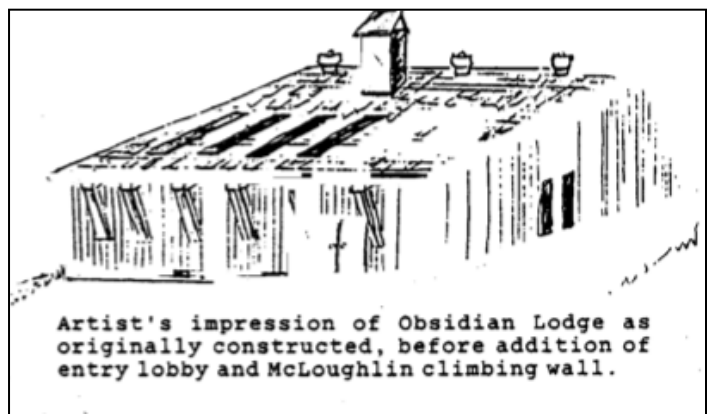
chairman, reported that the lot had been rezoned so that club house could now be built. Unfortunately, the city then ordered the club to pave the street around the lot, creating deficit in the building fund.

For the next two years, construction commencement was delayed by financial problems. Early in 1954, Bailey Castelloe and Louis Waldorf, building and finance committee chairmen, reported: *After years of wishing and planning, we Obsidians are to have a home of our own, on our lot at 17<sup>th</sup> and High Streets. A place where we can have our all-member meetings, parties and potlucks, and room where we can invite our friends and the public to enjoy with us our beautiful pictures. There will be library for our books, magazines and enlarged pictures, place for board meetings and club records, and store rooms for outing and climbing equipment. IF we can raise the money to pay for it. About \$7,000 cash will be needed, besides the work we can do ourselves. Of this amount the Board has approved the use of \$2,000 of club funds. To make the club house a success, it will be necessary for every member to fully support it, financially and otherwise.*

The financial drive resulted in pledges from over one-third of the membership, as well as donations of lumber and promises of electrical equipment and plumbing installation. However, contributions were deemed insufficient, and, in 1955, the Building Committee recommended that the lot be sold, cheaper site be purchased, and the cost difference be used to pay for the building. Because of the financial problems, plus problem of meeting city parking requirements and the desires of some members for more space for picnicking and ball playing, the Board decided to put the lot up for sale in January 1957. In September, board meeting notes state: "The Building Committee is still attempting to sell the lot but has reduced the price (from \$25,000) to more realistic figure of \$15,000."

Taking office later that year, Ray Sims, charter member and new president, declared: "After 30 years, we still need a place to store our equipment, hold board meetings and special meetings, have picture nights, all of our entertainments, potluck dinners, and even a place to meet for trips and, above all, for our annual meetings."

*To be continued in future Bulletins*



## AT THE LODGE

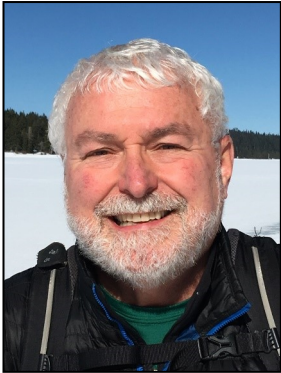


# POTLUCK

Friday, October 27 at 6:30 PM

## Beauty from the Beast:

### Plate Tectonics and the Landscapes of the Pacific Northwest



Dr. Robert J. Lillie

**T**HE SAME GEOLOGICAL FORCES THAT THREATEN OUR LIVES with earthquakes and volcanic eruptions also nourish our spirits by forming spectacular mountains, valleys, and coastlines. Dr. Bob Lillie relates this *Beauty from the Beast* story of the Pacific Northwest by highlighting spectacular scenery in national, state and local parklands. He draws on his experience as a geology professor, park ranger, and graphic illustrator to remind Northwest residents that our towns and iconic parklands are subject to geologic processes that affect our lives and livelihoods. By learning to live with the beast of earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions, we can more fully appreciate the beauty that surrounds us.

Dr. Robert J. (Bob) Lillie is a writer, illustrator, and national park ranger specializing in communicating park landscapes and their deeper meanings to the public. He was a Professor of Geosciences at Oregon State University and has authored several books. He lives in the Coast Range near Marys Peak.

### Potluck

Friday, October 27, 2017

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

Obsidian Lodge

*Bring your favorite potluck dish to share...along with your own plates, utensils and cups... and \$1 to help cover club expenses*



## ExploraTalk

Tuesday, October 17 at 7:00 PM

## The Oregon Desert Trail:

### Hiking on the Dry Side

**R**ENE PATRICK, THE OREGON DESERT TRAIL COORDINATOR, will talk about the Oregon Desert Trail initiative. She brings thirteen years of long-distance hiking experience with her as she helps shape the future of this 800-mile trail that traverses the state starting in the Oregon Badlands Wilderness, and including the Fremont NRT, Paisley Caves, the Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge, Steens Mountain and the Owyhee Canyonlands. Renee will also talk about a *water alternate* option on the Chewaucan River.



# Obsidian Calendar

## October

10 Tue	EMX to Wetlands Hike E Rundle .....	653-0741
11 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Morray .....	953-5679
12 Thu	Maxwell Butte Hike D Miller .....	484-4586
15 Sun	Charlton Lake To Irish Lake Hike M Sojak .....	799-9199
15 Sun	Acker Rock - Peregrine Traverse Climb Reiter	521-8472
17 Tue	The Oregon Desert Trail .....	ExploraTalk
18 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Steggell .....	343-7018
19 Thu	Andrew Reasoner Preserve Hike E Rundle .....	653-0741
22 Sun	Waldo Lake Perimeter Hike D Smith .....	520-488-9569
24 Tue	Creswell Bakery Loop Bike E Hughes .....	933-5542
25 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Lodeesen .....	214-709-0352
27 Fri	Plate Tectonics & Pacific NW .....	Potluck
28 Sat	Trail Maintenance Trl Mnt M Bell .....	503-884-8829

## November

1 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Jacobsen .....	206-1251
3 Fri	Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike E Jacobsen .....	206-1251
5 Sun	90th Anniversary Open House Jacobsen .....	206-1251
8 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Cooper .....	868-5427
10 Fri	Veteran's Day Hike Hike E Lodeesen .....	214-709-0352
14 Tue	The Best Rides in Oregon .....	ExploraTalk
15 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Rundle .....	653-0741
17 Fri	Walking With Masai Youth .....	Potluck
22 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Smith .....	520-488-9569
25 Sat	Trail Maintenance Trl Mnt M Bell .....	503-884-8829
29 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Rundle .....	653-0741
30 Thu	Shore Acres Christmas Lights Bus Beard .....	994-2337

## UPCOMING BUS TRIP



### Christmas Lights at Shore Acres November 30–December 1 (Thurs–Fri)

Leaders: Barbara & Paul Beard

Cost: \$174 (\$178 nonmembers)

Reservations & checks: Judy Phelps, 726-0118

**WE WILL THE LOAD BUS AT 8:30 AM AND DEPART AT 9:00** on this trip to see the spectacular colored lights display in Shore Acres State Park. Our route will take us down I-5 to Hwy. 38, through Drain, Reedsport, and down Hwy. 101 to Coos Bay. **Bring a sack lunch** to be enjoyed at one of the stops along the way. We hope to see some of the resident elk at the Dean Creek Elk Viewing area. There will be a few more pull-off stops prior to arriving at the Mill Creek Casino in Coos Bay, our overnight destination. Following early check-in and dinner (included) we plan to leave before 6:00 PM for Shore Acres via the Charleston area. Entry cost to the park is also included in cost of the trip. There will be ample time to tour the lighted grounds, enjoy the animation and see the decorated house. Christmas goodies will be shared on the way back to the Casino. Allowing time for a leisurely breakfast at the Casino, we will load the bus at 9:00 AM and depart at 9:30 on Friday. We will travel north on Hwy.101 with a stop at Old Town Florence on the waterfront. There will be time for some holiday shopping and lunch (on your own) before departing for home around 2:30 PM. Heading inland on Hwy. 126, we expect to arrive back at Shopko by 4:30 PM.

Bus trip information is also available on the Obsidian home page: [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

Contact information: [bustrips@obsidians.org](mailto:bustrips@obsidians.org)

## Shopping for trips? A few tips...

**T**O SEE THE LATEST UPDATES TO OUR TRIP SCHEDULE, be sure to visit the Obsidian Online Signup [www.obsidians.org/onlinesignup/index.htm](http://www.obsidians.org/onlinesignup/index.htm). There you will find the necessary links to retrieve your password, if you have forgotten it, or to register if you are a nonmember.

Can't spot the trip you want? Be sure to scroll down through the entire list to view all current selections.

On the Obsidian home page [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org) you will find a handful of links (Summer Trips, Climbs, Bus Trips, and many more) taking you to expanded descriptions of upcoming trips and events.

Wondering if an upcoming trip is a fit for you? Follow THE REPORT PAGE link to search for reports of past trips.

## Bulletin Classifieds

### Ski Clothes For Sale \$25-50

- 3 pair mens large Sport Hill ski pants
  - 1 pair mens Pacific Trail ski pants size large
  - 1 Pacific Crest mens ski parka size large
  - 1 mens Sport Hill ski top size large
  - 1 pair mens Edelweiss downhill bib ski pants size 36
- Call Sandra 541-687-2589

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



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October 2017



*Grand Canyon, photo by John Jacobsen. See trip report on page 7.*

ENJOY the photos in color! ONLINE *Bulletin* at [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)