

Inside This Issue

2018 Bus Rally	1
Basic Climb School 2018	1
New Members	2
Winter Trips Need Help	2
Memorial Announcement	2
New Board Secretary	2
Committee Members	3
Premium Members	3
Story of Lodge Fireplace	4-5
January Board Notes	6
Trip Reports	7-11
2018 Bus Trip Schedule	12
Upcoming Events	12-13
Footnote to January Article	13
ExploraTalk	14
Potluck	14
Calendar	15
Classified	15
Photo of the Month	16

Dates to Remember

February 13	ExploraTalk
February 23	Potluck
March 2	Bulletin Deadline
March 4	Bus Rally
March 7	Board Meeting

Current schedules at:
www.obsidians.org or
Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

Visit our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/#!/theobsidians

2018 Bus Rally

Sunday, March 4, 2-4 PM at the Obsidian Lodge

THE OBSIDIANS BUS COMMITTEE INVITES OBSIDIAN MEMBERS AND GUESTS to join us for the annual Bus Trips Rally at the Lodge on Sunday, March 4, 2-4 PM. This will be a time to hear trip leaders share details about the trips, ask questions, pick up a copy of the yearly bus trips schedule, and sign up for trips you are interested in.

Where will the bus take us this year? Here are a few hints: late spring bird watching, a special gourmet lunch, a brand new carousel, local nonprofits, museums (all very different), a laser light show, adventure rides and lots more. We have a fun year planned. Bus trips provide a great opportunity to spend time with old and new friends while touring the countryside. The rally will feature a slide show of photos from past bus trips. The Concessions Committee will have Obsidians merchandise for sale—watch for new items. Refreshments will be served and we will have some great door prizes!

Basic Climb School 2018

AS SPRING APPROACHES, THE CLIMBS COMMITTEE GETS EXCITED as we plan for the annual Basic Climb School. We look forward to teaching the mountaineering skills that students will need to safely climb Pacific Northwest peaks. Beginning April 2 the Obsidians and Eugene Mountain Rescue will once again teach the fundamentals of rock and snow travel in classroom and field sessions.

The classroom sessions will focus on knots, rope techniques, and equipment. We will also have two field sessions where the classroom material will be put into use. For both the classroom and field sessions, we will have a high instructor-to-student ratio, in order to help everyone with the skills. The cost is \$80 for Obsidians or Eugene Mountain Rescue members, and \$110 for nonmembers. Following the class, the Obsidians will be hosting graduation climbs for Climb School participants to put some of the new skills into practice. The climb fees for the graduation climbs are not included in the Climb School cost and the locations will be determined as the Obsidian climb schedule is developed. Watch these pages and the website for more information to come.



“You can always count on the Obsidians to teach Climb School!”

This photo from Climb School 1960 shows Brian Gannon demonstrating the proper belay technique. Photo by Mirko J. Pitner for the Register-Guard.

Online registration opens Feb. 16 at midnight [12:01 AM]. The class is expected to fill up quickly. For details go to the Obsidian homepage: www.obsidians.org, then click on the Climbs link.

Welcome New Members!

David Clinger
Eugene, OR 97405

Rosanne Jekot
Eugene, OR 97401

Reed DeGolier
Eugene, OR 97404

Zafinna Kramer
Eugene, OR 97405

Membership Count

Active	392
Honorary	6
Junior	11
Life	17
<hr/>	
Total	426

Winter Trips Needs Your Help!

I KNOW IT'S BEEN WINTER MORE BY THE CALENDAR THAN BY THE WEATHER, but we need winter trip leaders until the winter season closes March 31! Winter trips aren't all about skiing and snowshoeing; this time of year we do hikes that we don't do as much in the summer. Even if you haven't led a hike we need you, and we can help you set it up! Pick an easy trip, something you've done, perhaps, or something you want to do with other people. Club members love to see places they haven't been before. In town we have Spencer Butte and Mt. Pisgah, of course, but we also have many parks, including new Suzanne Arlie, miles of river walks, and interesting places to unwind after the effort!

Out of town, there are coast hikes like Tahkenitch, Cape Mountain, Heceta Head, beach hikes, and Cape Perpetua. Nearby are Drift Creek Wilderness and Marys Peak—which has a long way, an intermediate way, and a short way up. Waterfalls are great this time of year, be they Sahalie and Koosah, Alesa and Green Creek, Spirit and Moon, Sweet Creek or ones you know of that maybe others haven't seen.

You choose the hike, decide how many hikers you want to have, and ask anyone on the Winter Trips Committee what you need to do. Leading isn't difficult, and it is deeply appreciated by club members! Contact winter trips at winter trips at wintertrips@obsidians.org.

Michael Smith, Winter Trips Committee member

GLENN MEARES 1927–2017

A MEMORIAL FOR GLENN MEARES will be held at the Obsidian Lodge from 1–3 PM, Saturday, March 31.

Editor's Note: Glenn's obituary appeared in the October Obsidian Bulletin. His complete obituary can be found in the October 29, 2017 issue of the Register-Guard.

MARYANNE REITER IS THE CLUB'S NEW SECRETARY subject to board approval at the Feb. board meeting. Thanks to her for being willing to take over this important position.

Thanks also to Kathy Randall for all her hard work.

John Cooper

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

Website: www.obsidians.org

Board of Directors

John Cooper, President
Lyndell Wilken, Vice President
Maryanne Reiter, Secretary
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer
Dave Cooper, Sharon Cutsforth,
Marc Hansen, Todd Larsen,
Lana Lindstrom, Kathy Randall

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

Bus..... Sharon Cutsforth
Climbs Maryanne Reiter
Concessions Carla Cooper
Conservation/SciEd Jorry Rolfe
Entertainment L. Lindstrom/Emily Rice
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..... Marci Hansen
Safety..... Lyndell Wilken
Summer Camp John Jacobsen
Summer Trips Dave Cooper
Trail Maintenance..... Matt Bell
Winter Trips..... Dave Lodeesen

The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

© 2018

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

bulletin@obsidians.org

For reprint rights, contact:

The Obsidian Bulletin

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

Deadline

for March Bulletin
Friday, March 2, 2018

January

Assembly/Mailing Team

Manager: Lou Maenz

Team: Tom Adamcyk, Don Baldwin,
Sharon Cutsforth, Jan Danforth,
Clara Emlen, and Margaret Prentice

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

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

2018 Committee Members

Bus: Sharon Cutsforth (*Chair*), Judy Adamecyk, Tom Adamcyk, Rick Ahrens, Ethel Allen, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Marcia Claypool, Judy Garwood, Verna Kocken, Vern Marsonette, Lenore McManigal, Jim Northrop, Don Payne, Judy Phelps, Liz Reanier, and Mary Ellen West.

Climbs: Maryanne Reiter (*Chair*), Wayne Deeter, Eric Gran, Brian Hamilton, Marci Hansen, Danni Harris, Marge Huseman, Juli McGlinsky, Danny Manning, and Dalen Willhite.

Concessions: Carla Cooper (*Chair*), Judy Adamecyk, Keiko Bryan, Cindy Cowell, Darlene Mancuso, and Nancy Whitfield.

SciEd/Conservation: Jorry Rolfe (*Chair*), Joella Ewing, Tom Rundle, and Randy Sinnott.

Entertainment: Lana Lindstrom/Emily Rice (*Co-chairs*). Dave Cooper, Joella Ewing, Richard Hughes, Yuan Hopkins, Mary Livingston, Toresa Martell, Emily Rice, and June Sutterfield.

Extended Trips: Lana Lindstrom (*Chair*), Kathy Randall, Diane Schechter, Chris Shuraleff, Chris Stockdale, and Nancy Whitfield.

Finance: Stewart Hoeg (*Chair*), Dan Christensen, Dave Hawkins, and Lana Lindstrom.

Lodge Building: David Cooper (*Chair*), Brian Hamilton, John Jacobsen, Meg Kieran, Vern Marsonette, Teresa Martel, Doug Nelson, and Dorene Steggell.

Lodge Grounds: John Jacobsen (*Chair*), Brad Bennett, David Cooper, Carla Emlen, and Jim Northrop.

Librarian/Historian: Lenore McManigal.

Membership: Diane Schechter (*Chair*), Roberta Chord, Daphne James, Carla Lyon, Judy Sinnott, and John Jacobsen.

Online/Webmaster: Wayne Deeter.

Publications/Bulletin: Lou Maenz (*Chair*), Carla Cooper, Bea Fontana, Stewart Hoeg, Janet Jacobsen, Jorry Rolfe, Ethel Weltman, and Tom Adamcyk, Don Baldwin, Sharon Cutsforth, Jan Danforth, Clara Emlen, Margaret Prentice, and Yuan Hopkins.

Publicity: Marci Hansen (*Chair*), Carla Cooper, Brian Hamilton, Mark Hougardy, John Jacobsen, and Darko Sojak.

Safety: Lyndell Wilken (*Chair*), Dave Cooper, John Hegg, Jim Northrup, Maryanne Reiter, and Mike Smith.

Summer Camp: John Jacobsen (*Chair*), and Lana Lindstrom.

Summer Trips: David Cooper (*Chair*), Jan Anselmo, Mari Baldwin, Suzanne Cieutat, Steve Cordon, Joella Ewing, Jane Hackett, Lana Lindstrom, Kathy Randall, and Mike Smith.

Trail Maintenance: Matt Bell (*Chair*), Dan Gilmore, Todd Larsen, and Pat Soussan.

Winter Trips: Dave Lodeesen (*Chair*), Daphne James, Darian Morray, Michael Smith, and David Strutin.

2018 Premium Members

Platinum Members (\$200 or more)

Dick Hildreth
Kathryn Madden
John McManigal
Laura Osinga

Gold Members (\$100–199):

Barbara Aten
Joan Bradley
Deb Carver
Bea Fontana
Janet Jacobsen
John Jacobsen
Michael Landes
Darian Morray
Karen Morray
Jim Northrop
Jack O'Donnell

John Pegg
Wes Prouty
Kathy Randall
Nancy Raymond
David Strutin
Judy Terry
Elise Weldon
Sue Wolling

Silver Members (\$50–99):

Don Baldwin
Larry Banks
Jane Beckwith
Louise Behnke
Donald Bienvenue
Dianna Bordewick
Ben Brown
Max Brown
Hal Busby

Rob Castleberry
Dan Christensen
Carla Cooper
David Cooper
Steve Cordon
Sharon Cutsforth
Wendy Dame
Don Doerr
Jim Duncan
Sharon Duncan
Larry Dunlap
Clara Emlen
Jack Ewing
Joella Ewing
Jacquie Fern
Margot Fetz
Leah Firth
Bob Foster
Judy Garwood
Elizabeth Glover

Kellie Green
Vicky Hanson
Richard Heinzkill
Scott Hovis
Diantha Hull
Brenda Kameenui
Verna Kocken
Bill Lowder
Carla Lyon
Patricia Mac Afee
Helen Martz
Juli McGlinsky
Lynn Meacham
David Meredith
Sam Miller
Greg Milliman
Joe Moll
Kana Moll
Natalie Newlove
Daniel Phillips

Lin Pierce
Virginia Prouty
Liz Reanier
Judy Riggs
Ruth Romoser
Tom Rundle
Karla Rusow
Gordon Sayre
Carol Scherer
Debra Schwartz
Velma Shirk
Richard Sundt
June Sutterfield
Pamela Swisher
Ron Swisher
Harold Thompson
Eric Thornton
Nancy Whitfield
Lyndell Wilken
Tommy Young

Who was Chief Packhorse?

The Story of our Lodge Fireplace

by Bea Fontana



AS I STOOD NEXT TO MY DISPLAY TABLE AT THE OBSIDIAN 95TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE, I was prepared to talk to people about the building of the Lodge, the memorial fireplace, and the Three Peaks etching. But the woman before me asked: “Who was Chief Packhorse? Was he a Native American?” The short answer: “No.” Why that name appears on the honorary plaque above the Lodge fireplace takes a bit more explaining.

Our club was first formed in 1927, after an unsuccessful attempt to find two climbers, caught on the Three Sisters by an early snowstorm, pointed to the need for a local mountaineering club. Our charter members chose the name Eugene Outdoor Club.

The Club held their first summer outing during August 1928 at Obsidian Camp, which is five miles in from Frog Camp. During this camp those in attendance climbed the Husband on Monday, the North Sister on Tuesday, the Middle Sister on Wednesday, rested Thursday, and on Friday climbed the South Sister. On the way back while walking through the black Obsidian on the ground someone remarked that after four mountains in five days they were just about as brown and tough as the Obsidian on the ground. The idea grew and at the next annual meeting it was unanimously decided to change the name of the Club to ‘The Obsidians, Inc.’¹

Although they did not officially change the club name during that first Summer Camp, they did start spin-off groups of ‘Chiefs’ and ‘Princesses’ to be comprised of individuals who had climbed all three of the Sister mountains. They gave colorful names to the initiates: Chief Horsefeathers, Smoketurner, Kodak, Skyhook, Spreadeagle; Princess Dawn, Lightfoot, Sunbeam, Falling Star, Snowflake. These two social groups were never written into the Obsidian by-laws, but were comprised of hard-working, service-minded individuals who did much over the years for the club as well as for the community at large. In recent years, the group has faded away for lack of interest. Three-Peak awards and patches (begun in 1948) continue to give recognition to our climbers and their bonds of friendship and trust.

Dorr Hamlin joined the Obsidians in 1929. His wife Myrtie joined the following year. Dorr became a Chief in 1933 and was given the name Chief Packhorse. Myrtie became Princess Drifting Cloud in 1932. Dorr was elected to the board in 1933 and served as President in 1935. He was awarded Honorary Membership in the 1950s.

Dorr died in January 1955. Myrtie asked that any contributions to his memory be made to a Dorr Hamlin Memorial Fund for a memorial, possibly a fireplace, to be built into our own clubhouse.

Of course for there to be a fireplace, there had to be a clubhouse. *Over the years the Obsidians met at almost every place one can imagine. And our equipment was in everyone’s home. And may possibly still be some of our stuff hidden away in some basement. Over the years the building fund was being continually added to by various ways among them being lots of rummage sales and other events by the Princesses.*² In the meantime, the club rented space at cabins up the McKenzie Highway. There was debate as to whether to build our Lodge high in the mountains or here in town. In 1936 there was renewed interest in getting it done. Dorr Hamlin headed up the Lodge Finance Committee.

Construction of the Lodge began in 1960, five years after Dorr’s passing. An excerpt from the November 1960 *Bulletin* reads:

MEMORIAL TO DORR HAMLIN:

Fortunate indeed are those of us who knew Dorr. His inimitable wit his untiring efforts toward making one’s membership in the Obsidians more enjoyable and his dependability have not been exceeded by anyone. For a number of years he was caretaker of our lodge up at Camp Belknap and many is the time that he has gone up there and worked all day. When Dorr passed on Obsidians were asked to donate, in lieu of flowers, to a fireplace fund for when we should build our new clubhouse. Myrtie says that if her memory serves her right something like 200 contributions came in for this purpose attesting to Dorr’s popularity. Dorr, over the years was a tireless worker towards the clubhouse that he knew someday would be built, and part of our ability to build at all goes to Dorr Hamlin’s efforts.

Myrtie contributed the additional money needed to pay for the memorial fireplace in the Lodge.



Above: Adirons crafted by Ray Harris in 1961 using railroad rails. Ray was employed by Southern Pacific at that time.



Right: (1961) ‘Funny papers. Sunday.’ Mark McLaughlin, Bill Beaman, Jim Dotson (relaxing, morning after Chiefs initiation, in front of the fireplace)

¹ from the January 1975 *Obsidian Bulletin*, p.4 ² excerpted from the December 1971 *Obsidian Bulletin*, p.1

Fast forward to 1982. As a newly elected board member, I agreed to take over the Building Committee from Clarence Landes who had chaired that committee since 1969. The first few years of my tenure were spent contesting residency of the Lodge with the surrounding wildlife. First it was woodpeckers boring holes in the cedar siding. (*Note: the first mention of this problem is in a Nov. '62 Bulletin!*) Then it was packrats that had taken up residence in the roof—our first clue being their droppings raining down into the assembly room. We replaced the roof and evicted the unwanted tenants. We removed colonies of honeybees from the rafter spaces above the board room—twice! The clue that time was the honey trickling down the sheetrock.

As for the fireplace, we did hire a mason to repair the firebrick lining that first year, but it was not then on my radar to make any cosmetic changes. Three years later, I was chatting with Art Johnson, a 30-year member. (Art who was 89, had recently retired from serving as the club's Librarian/Historian.) We were standing in the hallway behind the fireplace, where we could see through to the main room via 4-inch wide gaps either side of the fireplace. I asked him about the gaps, which had been puzzling me: "Why did the builders leave that space—did it have to do with clearance to combustibles?" His



Our fireplace circa 1962

The 48-star flag was donated by Harmon Pennoyer.

Bob Medill added two more stars, and hung it above the fireplace.

NOTE: It still looked just like this 20 years later, with the exception of a fire screen having been mounted across the opening.

answer was: "Oh no, it was because when they built the fireplace, the club could only afford simple cinderblock. But they left room to add a decorative facing later." The light came on...

The building committee (which consisted of myself, Dallas Cole, Dan Sellard and Gene Thaxton) felt that completion of the fireplace facing would be a good and fitting 25th anniversary present to the Obsidian Lodge. The Board of Directors concurred; so we set to work planning how we would like it to look and then searching for a mason who could make it happen.

We spent a bit of time looking at more decorative rock choices, but quickly decided to instead use basalt from the Springfield Quarry. This was only partly because it would be the least expensive. I liked the idea of using local rock, and of course it would also match our memorial 'climbing' wall.

I made nine drawings of possible stone arrangements, and we chose one that had a stratified look to it. I made a 3-D model with which to convey to the mason how we hoped it would look.



The fireplace model made for the mason.

We interviewed three local masons, and received bids from two of them. Both bids were reasonable, so we chose the mason who had shown us the greatest amount of previous work in basalt, even though his bid was somewhat higher. (We had budgeted \$2,000 for the project. Our mason, Tom Mains, had bid \$1,160.)

Volunteers did the preparatory work, attaching metal ties to the cinderblock, and removing the memorial plaque. It was suggested that we not bother to re-install the plaque. At the time I knew nothing about Dorr Hamlin, but sensed that it was important to keep it. I took it to Royal Awards to have the surface re-polished, and instructed Tom to include a flat space that would accommodate the plaque. (I re-installed the plaque after everything else had been completed.) Wes Prouty constructed and installed the solid cedar cap, which would form a simple but effective transition between the stonework and the cedar paneling above it.

The fire screen had been mounted several inches above the fireplace opening, and extended a foot either side of it. We wanted the new screen to fit inside the opening, so as to not hide any of the stonework. After shopping around, I concluded that we could spend a lot of money and still end up with something nowhere as nice as the old screen; so I took the track and valance to a decorative iron shop, and had them cut it down and weld on new ends. (I cut down the curtain myself.) Total cost: \$15.

It was an interesting and often frustrating project for both the mason and myself. Sometimes it came together nicely—at other times it necessitated a compromise between our preconceived idea how it would look, and what the rock was actually willing to do. We destroyed several carefully chosen pieces of rock in the attempt to fit them into the shape suggesting a lintel above the opening. On one of our trips to the quarry, to collect rock we'd scouted earlier, we found ourselves no longer able to reach that part of the quarry—they had blasted in the interim. Amazing what a few sticks of dynamite and monster earthmovers can do to the topography! Tom Mains was a jewel, he was patient and maintained his good humor throughout. He completed the work in just under three weeks.

Author's note: As I combed our archives, and read through past Bulletins, it was brought home to me as never before, that our elegant Lodge, came about as the result of layers upon layers of volunteer efforts over the past 95 years. They dreamed it; they raised funds—dollar by dollar; they contributed their time, labor and skills to make it happen.

JANUARY BOARD NOTES

January 3, 2018 by Kathy Randall

President John Cooper called the meeting to order. Board members present: Dave Cooper, Sharon Cutsforth, Lyndell Wilken, Maryanne Reiter, Todd Larsen, Marci Hansen, Lana Lindstrom, and Kathy Randall. Others present: Stewart Hoeg, Kathy Hoeg, Carla Cooper, Jorry Rolfe, Wayne Deeter, and Dave Lodeesen.

The Board approved the minutes for December 2017.

Treasurer's Report (Stewart Hoeg): The board approved payment of the bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Winter Trips (Dave Lodeesen): November 15–December 3: 81 trips have been entered on the schedule; 38 trips have been completed: 35 hikes, two bike, one Xski with 389 members, 39 nonmembers and \$442 in trip fees.

Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell): The past month there was one outing led by Pat Soussan that picked up litter along the trail in Spencer Butte Park.

Bus Trips (Sharon Cutsforth): The December outing to Shore Acres was attended by 25 members and eight nonmembers. All eight scheduled bus trips were successfully completed in 2017. Total ridership was 225 (178 members; 47 nonmembers). Total fees collected: \$1,051. The committee will meet on January 11 to finalize chosen trips for 2018.

Extended Trips (Lana Lindstrom): Annual Report: We set a new record for Extended Trips in 2017—seven, including our first international one! One trip was cancelled due to smoke. Much appreciation to the seven leaders. Three trips have already been scheduled for 2018.

Conservation, Science, & Education (Jorry Rolfe): The 2018 ExploraTalk schedule is posted on the website.

Entertainment (Lana Lindstrom): Annual Report: Nine potlucks and programs were well attended; four of them attracted more than 75 participants each. The new sound system is a huge improvement, especially the two cordless microphones. Monthly Report: William Sullivan will present updates to *100 Hikes in Southern Oregon & Northern California* at the January 26 Potluck.

Membership (Diane Schechter): To date, 257 members have renewed. Reminder emails went out in November to those who had not renewed. Total members: 415, active members: 381, honorary members: 6, junior members: 11, life members: 17.

Publicity (Janet Jacobsen): What I have learned: One of the best and easiest ways to talk up our club is to wear an Obsidian cap or an Obsidian patch on your pack.

Concessions (Carla Cooper): We brought in \$22 in December, bringing the total to \$2059.26 for sales in 2017. Many thanks to Patty MacAfee for her years serving on Concessions as she goes off the committee this year.

Online (Wayne Deeter): The contacts page of our website has been updated to show new Board Members and Officers and new committee Chairs.

Finance (Stewart Hoeg): The Finance Committee has begun work on the 2018 budget and has moved \$20,000 electronically from the US Bank checking account into Vanguard's

Federal Money Market Fund. Annual Report: During 2017 the Finance Committee: 1) Prepared the 2018 budget. 2) Recommended investments for the Endowment Fund and Contingency Fund, and performed annual audits of Obsidian accounts. 3) Completed successful 2016 activity audits of the general fund, endowment fund, contingency fund, extended trip fund, summer camp accounts, and bus accounts in addition to an audit of this year's summer camp. 4) Began work on a proposed club financial policy.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): We had a work party in early December to transplant sword ferns, filling in some of our new planting beds around the grounds. Thanks to Dave Cooper, Jim Northrop, Pat Soussan, and Sam Tracer for helping out.

Safety (Lyndell Wilken): The next Emergency Preparedness class is scheduled for April 28, 2018.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board reviewed recommendations from committee chairs of Obsidian members to attend the NOLS Wilderness First Aid Classes. Since Darko Sojak is unable to attend the January class, Steve Johnson was selected to attend with Kerry Edinger.

Marci Hansen gave a brief update on the status of a potential U of O School of Journalism & Communication project related to marketing for the Obsidians. She is looking forward to seeing what they propose for promoting the Obsidians.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed and approved the 2018 budget.

The Board approved the nominations of the following members to serve as committee chairs for 2018: Entertainment: Lana Lindstrom and Emily Rice, Publicity: Marci Hansen, Summer Trips: Dave Cooper.

The Board approved the proposed members for the following committees: Bus, Climbs, Concessions, Entertainment, Extended Trips, Finance, Lodge Buildings, Lodge Grounds, Membership, Online, Safety, Summer Trips, Winter Trips, and Conservation, Science & Education.

Discussion was initiated regarding the current driver reimbursement rate for carpooling to Obsidian hikes, etc. The current rate of \$0.09 per mile was initiated in March 2009. It was based on 2/3 of the IRS mileage rate at that time. The Mazamas charge \$0.10 per mile. Willamette Pass charges \$25 for a round trip bus ride. Discussion was held regarding whether the Obsidians should increase the driver reimbursement rate. One proposal was to raise the rate to \$0.13 per mile. Charging \$0.10 per mile was considered due to the ease in calculation at that rate, although it is a miniscule increase. After some discussion it was decided to table the issue and put an article in the January *Bulletin* to gauge club opinion on the topic. Lyndell Wilken will be point on this issue.

There was a proposal from a club member to add to the Winter Trips schedule a series of 15 exercise/stretching/conditioning sessions (3x/week x 5 weeks) to be held at Tugman Park. After discussion, the board agreed this did not fit the definition of a *trip* so it was not appropriate to put on the Winter Trips schedule. It was felt this idea would be more appropriately addressed by putting an article in the *Bulletin*. This will be suggested to the proposing member.

TRIP REPORTS



Hikes

Spencer Butte

December 25, 2017

Leader: Jennifer Baer

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

THE ICE VANISHED AND SKIES WERE BLUE for this holiday hike. The Headwaters and Ridgeline trails were relatively quiet, but the crowds appeared when we reached the main trail to the top of the Butte. Lots of holiday cheer and treats at the top. Thanks to all for a great start to a day of festivities and special thanks to those who brought the delicious treats! Members: Jennifer Baer, Marguerite Cooney, Janet Jacobsen, David Lodeesen, Cynthia Poindexter, Tom Rundle, Meg Stewart Smith.

Walking Through The Solar System

December 31, 2017

Leader: Mike Smith

Hike: 7 miles, 30 ft. (Easy)

TWELVE OF US WALKED THROUGH THE SOLAR SYSTEM on a cold, foggy day, ‘visiting’ all the planets. Only Mercury is visible to the unaided eye even on a clear night or dawn. We see the planets where we do because they rise and set due to the Earth’s rotation. Because they move, they change position in the sky at night, unlike the ‘fixed’ stars. The inner planets between the Earth and Sun are seen only when the sun has just set or is about to rise in the evening and morning sky; Venus is bright while Mercury is more difficult to spot. The

outer planets— Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune— are brightest and closest to us when we pass them and visible all night long. They rise at sunset. After passage, they rise a little earlier each night, until finally they rise and set with the Sun and are behind the Sun; we call that superior conjunction. The planets keep rising earlier and are visible in the morning sky until they finally rise when the Sun is setting. The inner planets never do that because they have to be outside the Earth’s orbit and the Earth is not between them and the sun. Anyway, it was a nice New Years’ Eve day hike with a good group!! Members: Steve Adey, Marguerite Cooney, Denise Egri, Serge Faumont, Joel Greer, David Lodeesen, Jim Northrop, Mike Smith, David Strutin. Nonmembers: Rebecca Eastwood, Joe Sanders, Kay Coots.

Elijah Bristow State Park

December 31, 2017

Leader: Kathy Randall

Hike: 5.5 miles, 50 ft. (Easy)

OUR LITTLE GROUP ENJOYED A PLEASANT, BUT CHILLY, HIKE along the Middle Fork of the Willamette River from Elijah Bristow State Park. to Dexter Dam and back. The trails were damp and muddy in places. We were the only hikers on the trail. We were entertained by a pileated woodpecker high in a tree along the angler’s trail. Members: Jan Danforth, Jane Hackett, Holger Krentz, Kathy Randall.

New Year’s Day

Spencer Butte (2 hikes)

January 1, 2018

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 2.2 miles, 600 ft. (Easy)

NINETEEN OF US MET AT 9:30 at the cold and cloudy Spencer Butte parking lot for our 6th annual New Year hike. We toasted to New Experiences in 2018 with pomegranate Italian



*Two groups of hikers met above the fog for another Obsidian New Year!
Photo by Carla Cooper. See trip reports.*

soda. Above the puffy clouds on the summit we shed a few layers of clothing to enjoy the balmy temperatures and clear views of the snow-capped mountains. We mingled with Mike Smith's hikers for conversation and the traditional photo with our letters for a Happy New Year. The biggest challenges were to get the letters in order and to finally decide to leave the sun and start back down. Thanks to Pat Soussan's litter pick-up hike a few days earlier, the trail was pristine for all of the crowds we met coming up the trail. Members: Keiko Bryan, Carla Cooper, Clara Emlen, Leah Firth, Nancy Hoecker, Christiane Hougardy, Mark Hougardy, Janet Jacobsen, Brenda Kameenui, Sandra Larsen, Marida Martin, Helen Martz, Evelyn Nagy, Cynthia Poindexter, Meg Stewart Smith. Nonmembers: Berit 'Bella' Shaver, Jane Allen, Gwyneth Iredale, Chloe Allen.

Leader: Mike Smith Asst Leader: David Lodeesen
Hike: 5.5 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

WE HAD 16 ON THE HIKE AND AS WE ASCENDED towards the Tie Trail, we could see areas of sunlight on the trees high above us. We got up on top and were joined shortly thereafter by Janet's group from the main parking lot. After the photo and treats, this leader left with Steve Cordon to hike to the Pisgah trailhead via Baldy, the Suzanne Arlie Trail, LCC, the Shell Station, and Seavey Loop Rd. Dave Lodeesen took over and brought everybody minus two back to the cars. Members: Jennifer Baer, Mari Baldwin, Brad Bennett, Marguerite Cooney, David Cooper, Steve Cordon, Diantha Hull, David Lodeesen, Jorry Rolfe, Tom Rundle, Richard Shields, Randy Sinnott, Mike Smith, Dorene Steggell, David Strutin. Nonmembers: David Clinger.

Pisgah Full Moon Rise
January 1, 2018
Leader: Mike Smith
Asst Leader: Marguerite Coney
Hike: 3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

WE HAD TWENTY ON THIS HIKE, and several people brought food along. On top, there was intermittent heavy fog with clearing. We saw beautiful alpenglow on Diamond Peak and the Sisters (Hope and Charity) and a beautiful full moon rise. We then got off the mountain without incident. Steve and I did one hike today, not two. It was really special to hike from Willamette Street to the top of Spencer Butte and Mt. Pisgah to see if we could do it on foot in a reasonable time period. The answer is an unequivocal yes! Members: Steve Adey, Rick Ahrens, Brad Bennett, Keiko Bryan, Jim Cameron, Marguerite Cooney, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Steve Cordon, Christiane Hougardy, Mark Hougardy, Diantha Hull, Janet Jacobsen, David Lodeesen, Evelyn Nagy, Mike Smith, Meg Stewart Smith. Nonmembers: Rebecca Eastwood, Caroline Moore, Rosanne Jekot.

Spring Blvd - Spencer Butte
January 6, 2018
Leader: Lynn Meacham
Hike: 9.5 miles, 2,200 ft. (Difficult)

FOUR OF US MET AT THE BASE OF MT. BALDY for our 9.5-mile hike up to the top of Spencer Butte. Sunshine and great cloud formations awaited us. After snacks and Dave taking selfies, we headed back down to our cars. We then met at

Hideaway Bakery for nourishment. What a great day for my first Obsidian trip lead. Members: Marguerite Cooney, David Lodeesen, Lynn Meacham, Mike Smith.

Waxmyrtle Trail & Beach
January 7, 2018
Leader: Darko Sojak
Hike: 6 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)

GOOD JANUARY WEATHER, PLEASANT TEMPERATURE, nice trail and **GREAT** group of people. We hiked 6 miles instead of planned 6.6. I'll lead this one again. Members: Keiko Bryan, Barbara Gunther, Jane Hackett, Christiane Hougardy, Mark Hougardy, Janet Jacobsen, Helen Martz, Kathy Randall, Jorry Rolfe, Cindy Rust, Diane Schechter, Darko Sojak, Pat Soussan, Nancy Whitfield.

Mt. Baldy Sunrise
January 14, 2018
Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak
Hike: 3.5 miles, 950 ft. (Easy)

AS GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER WROTE, "Nothing is more beautiful than the loveliness of the woods before sunrise." Three of us enjoyed today's sunrise immensely.



Red bracket mushrooms on the log.

On the way down from Mt. Baldy we saw a pygmy owl warming up on the morning sun. Members: Janet Jacobsen, Holger Krentz, Darko Sojak.

McDowell Creek Falls
January 15, 2018
Leader: Janet Jacobsen
Photographer: Carla Cooper
Hike: 1.7 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)

WE DROVE OUT OF FOGGY EUGENE THROUGH THE MOHAWK VALLEY for a sunny walk at McDowell Creek Falls County Park, west of Sweet Home. Royal Terrace Falls, Crystal Pool and Majestic Falls were the three show stoppers for photographers. We lost count when our three youngest and most energetic junior members viewed any water descending vertically as a waterfall. Lunch at Ixtapa Mexican restaurant in Lebanon added another ripple to our idyllic jaunt. The drive from the Safeway on Pioneer Parkway to the park took

one hour including a wrong slight left turn off of Pleasant Valley Road to White's Electronics and Museum (displays interesting discoveries found with metal detectors as well as vintage machines). Members: Brad Bennett, Kathie



L to R, top to bottom: Dave, Nancy, Brad, Dorene, Janet, Angie, Kathie, Vicky, Henry, Caralynn, Lauren.

Carpenter, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Vicky Hanson, Nancy Hoecker, Caralynn Judy, Henry Judy, Lauren Judy, Dorene Steggell. Nonmembers: Angela West.

North Fork Willamette

January 19, 2018

Leader: Jane Hackett

Hike: 5.5 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)

THREE MEMBERS OF OUR GROUP HAVE NEVER BEEN HERE BEFORE so it was a delight to lead the group on a trail closer to home and open year round. The river was full and running fast. The little purple snow queens were popping out along the edge of the trail—way too early for my taste. The trail for the most part was in good shape with only one downed tree in the middle of the second section (easy to get over) and a few muddy areas to work around. Toward the end of the trip we saw three kayakers headed downriver for the white water. That was a first for me; I always wonder why kayakers are not taking advantage of the winter water on this river. We had no rain until after the hike. Great day. Members: Brad Bennett, Esme Greer, Joel Greer, Jane Hackett, Brian Popowsky. Nonmembers: Reed DeGolier.

River Path North

January 25, 2018

Leader: Carla Cooper

Hike: 6 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)

THE TIMING FOR THIS HIKE WAS PERFECT BETWEEN RAINSTORMS. A few sprinkles were falling as the five of us headed north on the bike path at 10:00, but the rain stopped almost immediately. We enjoyed a dry, brisk walk, a good lunch at Café Yumm, and a walk back on the opposite side of the river. As we said our goodbyes, a few raindrops began to fall and then turned to a downpour as I drove home. We were all glad the gray skies and morning rain had not deterred us from the hike this morning. Members: Carla Cooper, May Fogg, Jane Hackett, Vicky Hanson. Nonmembers: Kay Coots.

Finley Wildlife Refuge

January 27, 2018

Leader: Jane Hackett

Hike: 5 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)

FOUR OF THE PEOPLE IN THE GROUP HAD NEVER BEEN TO THE REFUGE so that made it more fun for me. Very little rain and a few sprinkles would sum up the day. As we approached the refuge, we saw large flocks that were, unfortunately, flying away from the refuge; however, everyone was excited to see several immature bald eagles along with one or two mature eagles. Birds seen included red-tailed hawks, kestrels, one female harrier, tundra swans, Canada geese (both dusky and cackling), varied thrushes, red-winged blackbirds, great egrets, belted kingfishers, pintails, ring necks, mallards, and cormorants. We stopped at headquarters for lunch and both the gift shop and the bathrooms were open. We did the Mill Hill Loop to the Tie Trail to the Woodpecker Loop and discovered a new covered viewing/picnic platform with great views of the valley below. The usual mud was present on all trails and the amount of running water was significant. Great day for all. Started home around 2:30. Members: Brad Bennett, Denise Egri, Serge Faumont, Esme Greer, Joel Greer, Jane Hackett, David Strutin. Nonmembers: Jim Zajac.

Pre's Trail

January 30, 2018

Leader: Carla Cooper Asst Leader: David Cooper

Hike: 4.2 miles, 20 ft. (Easy)

SEVEN OF US TOOK ADVANTAGE OF A LOVELY MORNING for our walk on Pre's Trail. The soft, level trail was easy on our feet and legs, and the birdsongs along the canal added to our enjoyment. Members: Brad Bennett, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, David Lodeesen, Vern Marsonette, Dorene Steggell. Nonmembers: Kay Coots.

Mt. Pisgah Sunset

January 31, 2018

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 3.5 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

CLOUDS OBSCURED THE SUNSET AND GAVE NO ENCOURAGEMENT to linger for the moonrise. Our reward was a frog serenade back at the parking lot. Perhaps instead we should have scheduled our celestial hike for a predawn viewing of the super blue blood moon. Members: Brad Bennett, Nancy Hoecker, Janet Jacobsen, David Lodeesen.

Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer Butte

December 27, 2017–January 2018

Various leaders: Steve Cordon (12/27), Janet Jacobsen (1/3), Dorene Steggell (1/10), Lana Lindstrom (1/17), Tom Rundle (1/24 & 1/31),
Hike: 6.2 miles, 1,530 ft. (Moderate)

THE HIKES BY DATE WERE: December 27: 11 Members, 2 Nonmembers. January 3: 17 Members. January 10: 13 Members, 3 Nonmembers. January 17: 20 Members, 2 Nonmembers. January 24: 12 Members: January 31: 17 Members.

Mt. Pisgah

December 23, 2017–January 28, 2018

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 6–7.3 miles, 1,400–1,600 ft. (Moderate)

THE HIKES BY DATE WERE: December 23: 4 Members, 1 Nonmember. December 30: 7 Members, 3 Nonmembers. January 6: 10 Members, 2 Nonmembers. January 13: 21 Members. January 20: 12 Members, 2 Nonmembers. January 26: 5 Members. January 28: 6 Members, 2 Nonmembers

Blanton Hts - Spencer

December 30, 2017 & January 27, 2018

Leader: Mike Smith Asst Leader: Marguerite Cooney (12/30), Mike Smith (1/27)

Hike: 9 miles, 2,000 ft. (Difficult)

THE HIKES BY DATE WERE: December 30: 5 Members. January 27: 2 Members.

[You may access these trip reports with a list of participants on the Obsidian Website.—Ed.]



**Extended
Trip**



Big Lake Ski or Snowshoe

January 14, 2018

Leader: Diane Schechter

Photographer: David Lodeesen

Ext Trip: 3.5 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)

TWENTY PEOPLE ATTENDED THE THREE DAY/TWO NIGHT TRIP to the Big Lake Youth Camp on the Santiam Pass. We had a group of upbeat, flexible, and adventurous people prepared for anything. Two days prior to departure we got word that the snow conditions were marginal so we adjusted and brought hiking gear, just in case. The group all met up at the McKenzie Ranger District on our first day. We split into two groups: one group hiked the Tamolitch trail, the second group went snowshoeing at Ray Benson. Those who went snowshoeing around the North Loop found icy snow, but were rewarded with a beautiful sunny day and great views of Mt. Washington and Three Fingered Jack. Hikers enjoyed a short but brisk 4.2-mile hike along the McKenzie, ending at the always beautiful Blue Pool. We all met back around 3:00

where a bus and flatbed truck were waiting to take us and our gear the 3.5 miles to our accommodations. We stayed at Headquarters Lodge which was modest, but comfortable, with bunk beds for most of the group and a large common space with ample room for relaxing, eating, and cooking. On our second day we split into five groups: one group skied the road towards Cache Mountain, two groups went snowshoeing up to Brandenburg Shelter with some of them continuing on for a longer day, and two groups went on shorter snowshoeing trips. Conditions were still icy, but we had clear skies. Many people came back from the outings with all sorts of garbage that they picked up en route. Our time back at the lodge was filled with happy hour, hors d'oeuvres, dinner,



Marguerite building a fire in the Brandenburg warming shelter.

and dessert, followed by reading, visiting, and games. On our final day, we all packed up, cleaned the lodge, and skied or snowshoed back out to Ray Benson Sno-Park. It had rained the previous night and was a bit warmer so the conditions were more slushy, making for better conditions especially for the skiers. Everyone had a really great time. Members: Marsha Barr, Keiko Bryan, Marguerite Cooney, Steve Cordon, Lisa Grissell, Jane Hackett, Richard Hughes, Daphne James, Brenda Kameenui, Sandra Larsen, Lana Lindstrom, David Lodeesen, Lynn Meacham, Evelyn Nagy, Judy Newman, Kathy Randall, Emily Rice, Diane Schechter, Mike Smith, Nancy Whitfield.



**Ski
Trip**

Odell Butte Lookout

January 28, 2018

Leader & Photographer: Sam Miller

Xski: 10 miles, 2,000 ft. (Moderate)

AN ASCENT TO THE FIRE LOOKOUT ON ODELL BUTTE IS A GOOD CHOICE when snow conditions elsewhere are abysmal. Good weather and good company made this a fine outing despite surface conditions that were less than optimal. Our group enjoyed a summit lunch with expansive views of the surrounding peaks and a rapid descent on surfaces ranging from soft snow to crusty ice. Everyone agreed that it

was another good day to be outdoors in Oregon. Members: David Clinger, Lubos Hubata-Vacek, Sam Miller, Harold Thompson. Nonmembers: Larry Winiarski.



Odell Butte Lookout.



Snowshoe Trips

Tait's Loop via PCT

January 20, 2018

Leader: Mike Smith

SShoe: 7.5 miles, 1,100 ft. (Difficult)

FIVE OF US DID A HIKE THAT I HOPED WOULD WORK. I looked at a couple of weather models a week prior and there was hope for snow. Since there was plenty of snow in the PCT parking lot we parked across Highway 58 and walked to the trailhead. Initially, there were about two inches of snow on the trail, enough to snowshoe. About 1/2 mile short of the junction, the light snow on top was definitely covering ice and crusted snow below. We got to the Tie Trail up to Tait's Loop, and to my pleasure, the diamonds I had put up or checked were visible. Other than one error, we got to the top and Tait's Loop although there was a lot more debris on the trail that wasn't covered. We had lunch overlooking Lower Rosary Lake, then continued around the loop, back down the Tie Trail, and back to the Trailhead. Zaffina Kramer is a new member, and this was her first snowshoe. She was a natural and did an excellent job. Members: Marguerite Cooney, David Lodeesen, Lynn Meacham, Mike Smith. Nonmembers: Zaffina Kramer.

Salt Creek

January 27, 2018

Leader: Scott Hovis

Photographer: David Lodeesen

SShoe: 4 miles, 300 ft. (Moderate)

ONE WORD DESCRIBES TODAY'S ACTIVITY—WET. That being said, eight hardy Obsidians showed up to snowshoe from the Sno-Park to Salt Creek Falls and through the Diamond

Creek Falls Loop Trail. The previous day brought about a foot of fresh snow on top of a nearly missing base layer. We started out with a temperature of 34 degrees with a misty light rain falling. Salt Creek Falls were as magnificent as ever as the falling mist turned into real rain. On we trudged, wishing the temperature would drop a few degrees and turn this wet mess into a mini blizzard—YES! But not to be—bummer. The snow along the trail was still pretty good for snowshoeing, being anywhere from a few inches to over a foot in many places. With little to no base snow, we had several blowdowns and deadfalls to climb over or go around. The wetness must have kept others off the trail or at home as we only came across two other snowshoers. We stopped at an overlook above Diamond Creek Falls to scarf down a quick lunch and marched on back



The Obsidians at Salt Creek Falls.

to the cars to get out of this constant rain. We all made it back soggy, but safely, with this warning: be very careful near the cliffs as the snow can give way in huge sheets and take you down with it. Members: Mari Baldwin, Marguerite Cooney, May Fogg, Scott Hovis, Holger Krentz, David Lodeesen, Lynn Meacham. Nonmembers: Rebecca Eastwood.



Bike Trip

Armitage to Brownsville

January 13, 2018

Leader: Darian Morray

Bike: 49 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

NINE RIDERS GATHERED IN COLD FOG AT ARMITAGE PARK for the ride north. It was sunny in Eugene but the valley stayed foggy throughout the day. We rode through the town of Coburg and over the freeway on Diamond Hill Rd., then climbed the hill on Gap Rd., arriving in Brownsville in time for cinnamon rolls and other delicacies at about 11:30. We returned avoiding the Gap Road hill and arrived safely back at Armitage around 2:30. A wonderful time was had by all. Members: Jan Anselmo, Richard Anselmo, John Hegg, Richard Hughes, Steven Koester, Darian Morray, David Strutin, Harold Thompson, Sue Wolling.

UPCOMING

Bus Trips—2018



A Caring Community

March 8 (Thurs)

Leaders: Sharon Cutsforth, Judy Garwood

Cost: \$61 (\$63 nonmembers)

Reservations & checks: Judy Adamcyk, 302-8160

Load bus at 8:15 AM, depart at 8:30. (Late start)

WE LIVE IN A CARING COMMUNITY. On this trip we will visit three places that provide support services for our residents. We'll start the day with a visit to Food for Lane County where we'll learn about their programs while enjoying our morning coffee. A tour of the facility will follow. For lunch, we'll be heading to the Renaissance Room at Lane Community College to enjoy an international cuisine lunch, served family style (cost included). Students enrolled in the Culinary Arts Program plan, prepare and serve the meal in a lovely setting. After lunch our group will have an opportunity to learn more about the program, as the chef and some students will be available to answer questions. Our third visit will be to the St. Vincent de Paul facility on Chad Drive where we will see a presentation about Bascom Village and learn about their other programs. We will be shown the building and have a little time to enjoy browsing in their shop before returning to Shopko around 5:00. **Please note:** This trip involves a fair amount of walking, both indoors and outside (on LCC campus). Please wear warm clothing, closed toe shoes and bring an umbrella.

Evergreen Air & Space Museum

April 19 (Thurs)

Leaders: Jim Northrop, Mary Ellen West

Cost: \$68 (nonmembers \$70)

Reservations & checks: Judy Phelps, 726-0118

Load bus at 7:30 AM., depart at 8:00

WHAT BETTER WAY TO SPEND A RAINY SPRING DAY than with a trip to the museum. We head to McMinnville to tour the Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum, home to Howard Hughes's *Spruce Goose*, the world's largest wooden flying boat. We will have a guided tour and enjoy an IMAX big screen movie. Bring a sack lunch to eat outside or purchase lunch in the museum café. Afterward we head to the Woodburn/Mt. Angel area where, depending on time, interest and the weather, we will view the tulip fields, Mount Angel Abbey and/or Bauman's Farm. We hope to arrive back at Shopko around 5:30 PM.

Oregon Jewish Museum

May 17 (Thurs)

Leaders: Mary Ellen West, Jim Northrop

Birding At Summer Lake

June 12 – 14 (Tues–Thurs)

Leaders: Sharon Cutsforth, Rick Ahrens

Old Albany And New Carousel

July 19 (Thurs)

Leaders: Vern Marsonette, Mary Ellen West

Exploring Eastern Washington

Sept. 10 – 15 (Mon–Sat)

Leaders: Barbara & Paul Beard, Sharon Cutsforth

A Day At The High Desert Museum

Oct 11 (Thurs)

Leaders: Sharon Cutsforth, Don Payne

Christmas Party At The Lodge

December 8 (Saturday) 2–4 PM

Refreshments, music, door prizes, fun

WATCH FOR DETAILS ON ALL BUS TRIP ACTIVITIES in the March *Bulletin* or come to the Bus Rally on Sunday, March 4, 2–4 PM at the Obsidians Lodge.

Please Note: when paying for bus trips, please make checks payable to *Obsidians Bus Trips Account*. Thank you!

Bus Trip information is also available on the Obsidians home page: www.obsidians.org

Contact information: bustrips@obsidians.org

Sharon Cutsforth, Bus Committee Chair, 746-4929

Special Event At The Lodge:

Sponsored by the Bus Trips Committee

Fossils, Shells & Rocks

April 22 (Sunday) 2–4 PM

Presented by: John Mellott

Kayaking Ahead



EVERY YEAR THE OBSIDIANS OFFERS KAYAKING and canoeing trips. Perhaps these outings sound interesting but you don't feel you have the skills. Well, training is available. The City of Eugene Recreation Program offers classes where you can learn skills to make your outings on the water safer and more enjoyable. Classes offered include flatwater safety in the pool, a flatwater trip, a Willamette River run and a multiday John Day river trip.

Visit www.eugene-or.gov/750/Activities to find out more or stop by Campbell Community Center at 155 High St. or The River House at 301 N. Adams St.

Mari Baldwin

Save the Dates

SOLVE Beach Cleanup

Saturday, March 24, 2018

Leader: Darko Sojak

Outdoor Emergency Preparedness Class Coming in April

When: Saturday, April 28, 8:30 AM–4:30 PM

Where: Obsidian Lodge

Registration: 20 places will be available for signup on the Obsidian web site in April

Instructor: Lyndell Wilken

2018 Spring FWOC Spring Officer Retreat

THIRTEEN ATTENDEES WILL GATHER MID-MARCH for the annual gathering of the board of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs (FWOC). The Obsidians is one of the founding member clubs since the formation of this alliance in 1932. Currently, there are close to 40 organizational members in FWOC.

The federation has provided support for conservation initiatives—support that has been regarded as crucial. For the most part, what the Federation has backed has become law, and what it has opposed has failed. FWOC members helped secure passage of the *Wilderness Act* and made important contributions to the establishment of several national parks, wilderness areas, and national monuments. Through the years, the federation has been concerned with most of the leading issues in the West, has weighed in with resolutions on them, and has lobbied legislators in pursuit of passage.

Jorry Rolfe, the current chair of the Obsidians' Conservation/Science/Education Committee, will attend this retreat as the current FWOC vice-president. The meeting will focus mainly on goals and specific strategies the group collectively is thinking about for the Federation going forward. For more information about the alliance, please check out their website at federationofwesternoutdoorclubs.org.

FRIENDS OF THE CENTRAL CASCADES Wilderness, with the Willamette National Forest, are holding a volunteer information meeting at 10 AM, March 17 in the Stellaria Building, 150 Shelton-McMurphy Blvd. They are seeking volunteers to help install trail signs and restore campsites in the Three Sisters Wilderness, or to work as Trailhead Hosts on weekends at Scott Lake and Obsidian trailheads.



For more information visit the events page at centralcascades.org/events

Nearby Nature Spring New Volunteer Orientation

Tuesday, March 6

WANT TO HELP CONNECT KIDS AND NATURE NEARBY? Love spending time outdoors? Learn all about leading school nature walks in Alton Baker Park, as well as other Nearby Nature volunteer opportunities, on Tuesday, March 6, from 6:30–8 PM in the Tykeson Room at the Eugene Public Library. No experience needed—training provided in April. Questions?

Call Nearby Nature at 687-9699, email info@nearbynature.org, or see www.nearbynature.org/volunteer.



Footnote re: **John Cooper, 2018 President**
January 2018 Obsidian *Bulletin*

...[John and his wife] "bought the Metropol Café, a French Market Fare Bistro."*

*Explication: They were able to purchase everything except the rights to the name of the business, which they renamed the French Horn Café.



AT THE LODGE



POTLUCK

Friday, February 23 at 6:30 PM

John Muir's Strategies to Save the Earth

Presented by Barbara Mossberg



BARBARA MOSSBERG, A UNIVERSITY OF OREGON PROFESSOR of literature, will entertain us with stories of John Muir's strategies to save the earth. Muir's writings about wilderness transformed its definition from *wasteland* to something we love and want to preserve; they generated a new way of thinking which led to laws creating our national parks and federal lands.

Dr. Mossberg is a prominent figure on the national and international stage of Muir studies. She is a Fulbright scholar, prizewinning poet, and an inspirational speaker and actor. She is committed to fostering respect of the earth and each other through knowledge of the literary and lively arts.

Potluck

Friday, February 23, 2018

Obsidian Lodge

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

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



Barbara Mossberg with actor channeling John Muir

Potlucks will now be held on the **last Friday** of the month, except in May and November, due to holidays. (In the past, they were usually scheduled for the fourth Friday.)



ExploraTalk

Tuesday, February 13
at 7:00 PM

Forest Ecology

Presented by Whitey Lueck

WHITEY LUECK WILL BE SHOWING SLIDES from his master's work in forest ecology at Oregon State University. He lived on Bachelor Butte in the Deschutes National Forest and studied the whitebark pine tree at timberline on the volcanic peak (its highest elevation). His interesting and amusing observations include the critical role and close relationship of the Clark's nutcracker with the whitebark pine.

Whitey and his anemometer on Bachelor Butte, with whitebark pines and Broken Top in background. (October 1978)



OBSIDIAN CALENDAR

February

10 Sat	Mt. Pisgah Hike M Jacobsen	206-1251
10 Sat	Salt Creek SShoe M Hovis	731-3412
11 Sun	Clearwater - Dorris Ranch Hike M Randall	844-5916
13 Tue	Forest Ecology	ExploraTalk
13 Tue	Oregon B'day - Dorris Ranch Hike E Jacobsen .	206-1251
14 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Morray	953-5679
15 Thu	Spencer Butte LitterPick-up Trl Mnt M Soussan	345-3046
17 Sat	Mt. Pisgah Hike M Cooper	868-5427
18 Sun	Clear Lake SShoe M James	683-7488
18 Sun	Amanda Lake Trail Hike E Jacobsen	206-1251
21 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Smith	520-488-9569
22 Thu	National Chili Day - Skinner Hike E Jacobsen ...	206-1251
23 Fri	John Muir	Potluck
23 Fri	Mt. Pisgah Hike M Steggell	343-7018
24 Sat	Nickerson Loop SShoe M Rundle	653-0741
25 Sun	Rosary Lakes - Tait's Loop SShoe D Smith	520-488-9569
25 Sun	North Bank Deer Preserve Hike M Jacobsen	206-1251
28 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Strutin	221-9015

March

3 Sat	Potato Hill SShoe D Hovis	731-3412
3 Sat	Mt. Pisgah Hike M Jacobsen	206-1251
7 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Smith	520-488-9569
8 Thu	Kiwanis Camp XSkI/SShoe Ext Trp E Lindstrom	683-1409
10 Sat	Sand Mountain Lookout Xski D Sayre	345-2370
10 Sat	Mt. Pisgah Hike M Jacobsen	206-1251
14 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Strutin	221-9015
14 Wed	Obsidian Lodge Pi Hike E Jacobsen	206-1251
15 Thu	EMX To Wetlands Hike M Rundle	653-0741

17 Sat	Rosary Lakes SShoe M Wilken	343-3080
20 Tue	Teaching Leadership Through Storytelling. ExploraTalk	
21 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Lodeesen	214-709-0352
22 Thu	Delta Ponds Fowl Play Hike M Rundle	653-0741
23 Fri	Mt. Pisgah Hike M Steggell	343-7018
24 Sat	SOLVE Beach Cleanup Hike E Sojak	799-9199
27 Tue	Salem Exploration Hike E Jacobsen	206-1251
28 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M Morray	953-5679
28 Wed	Pisgah Sunset Moonrise Hike M Jacobsen	206-1251
30 Fri	Hiking in Norway	Potluck
30 Fri	Mt. Pisgah Hike M Jacobsen	206-1251
31 Sat	N. Fork Smith to Kentucky Falls Hike D Morray	953-5679

April

2 Mon	Basic Climb School 2018 ClbSch Reiter	521-8472
9 Mon	Wild Iris Ridge Hike E Cooper	868-5427
17 Tue	Geology and Rocks	ExploraTalk
19 Thu	Sweet Creek/Sutton Creek Hike E Rundle	653-0741
26 Thu	Yaquina Hd-Cape Perpetua BkPk D Hougardy .	206-9532
27 Fri	Rafting the Grand Canyon	Potluck

May

12 Sat	Heceta Head Geology Hike M Rundle	653-0741
18 Fri	Hiking the Continental Divide	Potluck
19 Sat	Horse Rock Geology Hike E Rundle	653-0741

June

9 Sat	Iron Mountain Geology Hike M Rundle	653-0741
19 Tue	Lizards Tales	ExploraTalk
23 Sat	Yapoah Crater Geology Hike D Rundle	653-0741

Shopping for trips? A few tips...

TO SEE THE LATEST UPDATES TO OUR TRIP SCHEDULE, be sure to visit the Obsidian Online Signup 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 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

Four Backpackers Need a Lift

FOUR OBSIDIANS NEED A LIFT from the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center to Eugene. We will be finishing up a forty-mile backpacking trip along the coast and could really use a ride to town.

If you are planning a trip on the coast please leave room for four backpackers on your return trip. We will pay the full round trip carpooling amount of 170 miles.

Date: Sunday, April 29, 2018.

We are planning to arrive at the Visitor Center by 5PM.

Contact Mark Hougardy, email: hougardy@gmail.com

FOR SALE

Men's ski clothes: \$15-\$50

3 pairs Sport Hill ski pants size large

1 pair Pacific Trail ski pants size large

1 Pacific Crest ski parka size large

1 Sport Hill ski top size large

1 pair Edelweiss downhill bib ski pants size 36

Barrecrafters roof mounted ski rack

(for a car with roof gutters)—\$20

Fisher Touring Crown X-country skis 180 cm.—\$45

Arriva Exel ski poles—\$15

Outdoor Product waist/fanny pack—\$10

Call Sandra 687-2589 or email sglars@comcast.net



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

OBSIDIANS, INC. IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
EUGENE, OR
PERMIT 803



February 2018



Top of Spencer Butte by Lynn Meacham. See Page 8.

ENJOY the photos in color! ONLINE *Bulletin* at www.observians.org