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Dates to Remember

March 10	ExploraTalk
March 14	Get Acquainted/Pi Hike
March 15	Bus Rally
March 27	Potluck
March 27	Bulletin Deadline
April 1	Board Meeting
April 12	Summer Camp Signup

Current event schedules at:

www.obsidians.org

The Register-Guard
Sports/Outdoor Calendar—Tuesday

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The Sawtooths Are Calling!

Obsidian Summer Camp 2020

Friday, August 7—Friday, August 14

John Jacobsen, Summer Camp Boss

A **REGISTRATION FORM FOR CAMP REITER IN THE SAWTOOTHS OF IDAHO** will be included with the April Obsidian *Bulletin* along with details about camp fees and other camping information. Online signup for members will be Sunday April 12 starting at 7:00 AM and for nonmembers three days later. The Camp Reiter Rally is scheduled for Friday, May 1 at 7:00 PM.

A brief preview of Camp Reiter: The Chemeketan Campground is a beautiful spot on the south side of the Sawtooth Range, near the headwaters of the Salmon River (The River of No Return) at the south end of the Stanley Basin. The campground has moderately open lodgepole pine throughout, with practically unlimited tenting spots and space for our normal RV numbers. The location provides easy access to hiking in the Sawtooths and other activities in the area.



Heading into the Sawtooths at the 2000 Obsidian Summer Camp.

Several links to Sawtooth resources and other Camp Reiter info has been posted to the *Summer Camp* page at www.obsidians.org.

USED OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT SALE

at the **OBSIDIAN LODGE** Sunday April 19 2:00–4:00

•Sales are for Obsidian members only •Purchases are open to the public

Tables and lot spaces are free—you keep money from sales.

You may share a table with others if you wish.

The tables will be inside the Lodge. For large items like kayaks, you can sell from lower parking lot. Please register for space.

Setup is 11:00 to 1:00

Sales 2:00 to 4:00

To register for a sale table or if you have any questions:

Call: 541-741-6863 or email: slmaenz@aol.com.



GEAR UP for FUN ALL SEASONS

Welcome New Members!

Hannah Alverson
Salmon, ID 83467

Hollye Holbrook
Eugene, OR 97402

Sheila Marsonette
Springfield, OR 97477

Josiah Martens
Eugene, OR 97402

Margot McDonnell
Eugene, OR 97403

Scott Wilkinson
Eugene, OR 97405

Ken Wong
Eugene, OR 97405

SUMMER TRIPS

Dave Cooper, Summer Trips Chair

AS SPRING AND SUMMER APPROACH, MANY OF US START THINKING ABOUT GETTING OUTDOORS for our favorite activity with other Obsidians. Unfortunately, many people are disappointed when they check the schedule and don't see a trip they want to go on or they find a trip but it has a waiting list. Why aren't there more trips available? Last year for the Obsidians summer season, 38 leaders led 171 trips. Just five people led 40% of those trips! If we are going to have more activities for you to participate in, we need more leaders! Just think how many activities we could offer if every active member would commit to leading at least one trip each year.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again: leading has never been easier. Start at the Obsidian website. Besides the extensive history of our trips, our homepage has links to some very good resources under [Outdoor Links](#). Naturally there is Bill Sullivan, but also take a look at [alltrails.com](#), [hikeoregon.net](#) and the others. Your trip can be out-of-town or in-town. It can be something new and different, but the old favorites are always just as welcome. Once you have a place and date, let the Summer Trips Committee know. We can help with the rest. Winter Trips, Climbs, and Bus Committees are all also facing the same leadership challenge.

If you have never led a trip before, you may feel the need for a little training. We are ready to assist you one-on-one or in a small group to learn the steps and protocols involved. We can meet where there is wi-fi (and pastry) to go over the online process. (Recent upgrades to the online system have made this aspect much smoother.) We can

...leading has never been easier.

offer a hike with experienced leaders where the focus is on covering key tips for an enjoyable, safe trip. We also plan to offer hikes where the use of maps and navigation apps are discussed. We are rewriting the leader guidelines to be a more concise, readable reference for you. In short, you will have much support for planning and leading a successful outing. It is up to you to take the next step in helping keep the Obsidians moving.

Permit Fee Reimbursement for Leaders

ONE ITEM OF CONCERN TO CURRENT AND POTENTIAL LEADERS IS THE EXPANDED PERMIT PROGRAM for the Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Washington, and Three Sisters Wilderness Areas. The Forest Service has tentatively set April 7 as the date to start securing permits for some trailheads in these areas. The Board has decided that trip leaders securing a permit will be fully reimbursed for the cost of the permit through participant fees and/or Club funds.

Remembering Ethel Etter Allen 100 +75 days

MANY THANKS TO OUR OBSIDIAN FRIENDS

THE WONDERFUL FLOWERS, CARDS AND GREAT GREAT TIMES SHARED over the years with our mother, grandmother, great-great grandmother and friend. She was a gentle, soft spoken woman, short on words, but very meaningful words of great wisdom for life. We are all better because we knew her. Thank you for your comforting words and hugs through our loss.

Barb, Paul and Paula Beard

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

Website: www.obsidians.org

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Maryanne Reiter, President
Dave Cooper, Vice President
Denise Rubenstein, Secretary
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer
John Cooper, Steve Cordon,
Marci Hansen, Dave Hawkins,
Kathy Randall, 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

Bus..... S. Cutsforth/J. Northrop
Climbs Maryanne Reiter
Concessions Carla Cooper
Conservation/SciEd K. Coots/J. Rolfe
Entertainment Evelyn Nagy
Extended Trips..... Lana Lindstrom
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The Obsidian Bulletin

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Deadline

for April Bulletin

Friday, March 27, 2020

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Carla Cooper, Bea Fontana, Stewart Hoeg

Assembly/Mailing Team

Manager: Lou Maenz

Team: Tom Adamecyk, Don Baldwin,
Patricia Bean, Clara Emlen, Yuan Hopkins,
Nancy Raymond, Barbara Schomaker,
Janet Whitesides

Willamette Pass Winter Trails and Shelters Update

Lyndell Wilken

THE WINTER TRAIL VOLUNTEER GROUP has received an \$11,000 Title II grant to repair winter shelter roofs located along the 70 miles of marked winter trails at Willamette Pass. Three of the shelter roofs have been leaking, so the funding comes at an opportune time. Thanks go to the new High Cascade Forest Volunteer Executive Director who listened to our request and wrote the grant.

Volunteers have been working on the trails now that the snowpack is high enough to reach the diamonds, and shelters are stocked with wood, in case you want to snowshoe or ski to one of them to enjoy lunch or an evening out around a warm woodstove. The best map showing where the shelters are located, and which trails will lead you to them, is the Willamette Pass Winter Recreation Map which you can buy at the forest district offices or REI. The map is also on Avenza Maps. Further information is available by contacting Lyndell Wilken, the winter trail coordinator at lyndellwilken@gmail.com.



Jan & Rich Anselmo and John Hegg working on the blue diamonds.

Local Site Plans and Designs: Community, Values and Landscape

Jorry Rolfe, Co-Chair of Conservation/Science/Education Committee

“...TO ENCOURAGE OUR CITIZENS TO ENJOY THE OUTDOORS and to see its value as a community asset...” is from Article II of our Obsidian Constitution.

Community assets to take pleasure in outside can be distant wilderness or land close to home. Two recent opportunities made me realize how grateful I am for our regional parks and for the people planning them.

Student Jigisha Modi getting feedback about her Mt. Pisgah summit plan.



Mt. Pisgah Summit Design Strategies—UO Students' Midterm Review:

THE TALENT AND CREATIVITY OF 13 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS in LA589 were on display last month at UO. Mari Baldwin, Janet Jacobsen, and I joined others in viewing their drawings of individually crafted plans for improvements to the summit. Their common goal was to explore different *what if* scenarios of how to anticipate and respond to the area's growing popularity. Hosted by Prof. Bart Johnson, this review that was open to the public revealed the students' analyses of both the environment and park users. They had studied the Howard Buford Recreation Area and user interviews, including ones with several Obsidians, to envision solutions for our beloved public commons. Not surprisingly, they found that the view is important for users! The students' original designs demonstrated their growing expertise in how to optimize the existing habitat plan for our future needs and experiences.

Suzanne Arlie Park (behind LCC):

DARIAN AND KAREN MORRAY AND I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF A GUIDED TOUR in February with city staff at this nearby site which will become Eugene's largest city park—515 acres, 1½ miles wide. Our tour leaders were park planner Philip Richardson and restoration ecologist Emily Steel, who showed us where vegetation and trees have been removed to not only reduce the threat of wildfire but also to allow prairie and wildflower areas to flourish. It was exciting to see this land become more accessible for future park visitors. In the near term we will be seeing trail development from Mt. Baldy to the site. The hope is that these improvements will constitute the city's commitment to the plan; future grants (applied for this spring) will be based on them. This funding is required for the creation in 2020–21 of the planned park amenities: a mountain bike park, a disc golf course, a nature play trail, reserved group camping, and various hiker trails. Please see the master plan diagram at:

[www.eugene-or.gov/DocumentCenter/View/48303/SAP Master Plan Diagram 11 25 2019](http://www.eugene-or.gov/DocumentCenter/View/48303/SAP_Master_Plan_Diagram_11_25_2019)

Airdrops to Obsidian Climbers

Compiled by Janet Jacobsen and Bea Fontana

WHAT TASTY TREAT WOULD YOU LIKE AIRDROPPED TO YOU ON THE SUMMIT AFTER A HARD OBSIDIAN CLIMB? Ice cream? A loaf of bread? Coke? Food airdrops started showing up in Obsidian *Bulletin* trip reports in the late 1940s.

But even before that, in 1930, Henry Korn, the third Obsidian President, ...*claimed he sent the first air freight in Eugene, in 1919 [from the Eugene Airpark.] The "package" was a loaf of bread, and Henry paid his \$15 for a 15-minute ride, going from the air park to Kincaid Park on the east side of the city. He rigged up a sort of parachute and dropped the loaf of bread to his father, H.H. Korn. The package landed in the chicken yard about 10 feet from Mr. Korn.*¹

Obsidian trip reports and other sources reveal that Henry's brother George, also an Obsidian, continued the tradition in many long-distance deliveries that departed from the Eugene Airpark to Obsidian climbers, skiers and hikers. Pilots Bob Pfeiffer and Joe Daniel were also Obsidians.

April 13, 1947 — Jack Butte

AN OBSIDIAN SKI TRIP WAS MADE INTO JACK BUTTE FROM SANTIAM LODGE under clear sky. By previous arrangement with the Civil Air Patrol, airplane contact was made with the Obsidian party. Signals were exchanged messages and supplies were dropped. This was practice mission simulating the type of contact which would be maintained between air and ground rescue groups in an actual airplane crash situation. Future training exercises of this type are being planned in which radio communication will be used and more advanced supply technique will be used. Piloting the Taylor craft airplane was E. L. Harris, C.A.P.[Civil Air Patrol] wing commander; co-pilot, navigator and observer was Bob Pfeiffer. ... May 1947 Bulletin

This was all wonderfully orchestrated and apparently went smoothly. However, not all airdrops were made purely from a research point of view, and not all of them went off without a hitch.

June 15, 1947 — Hardesty Mountain

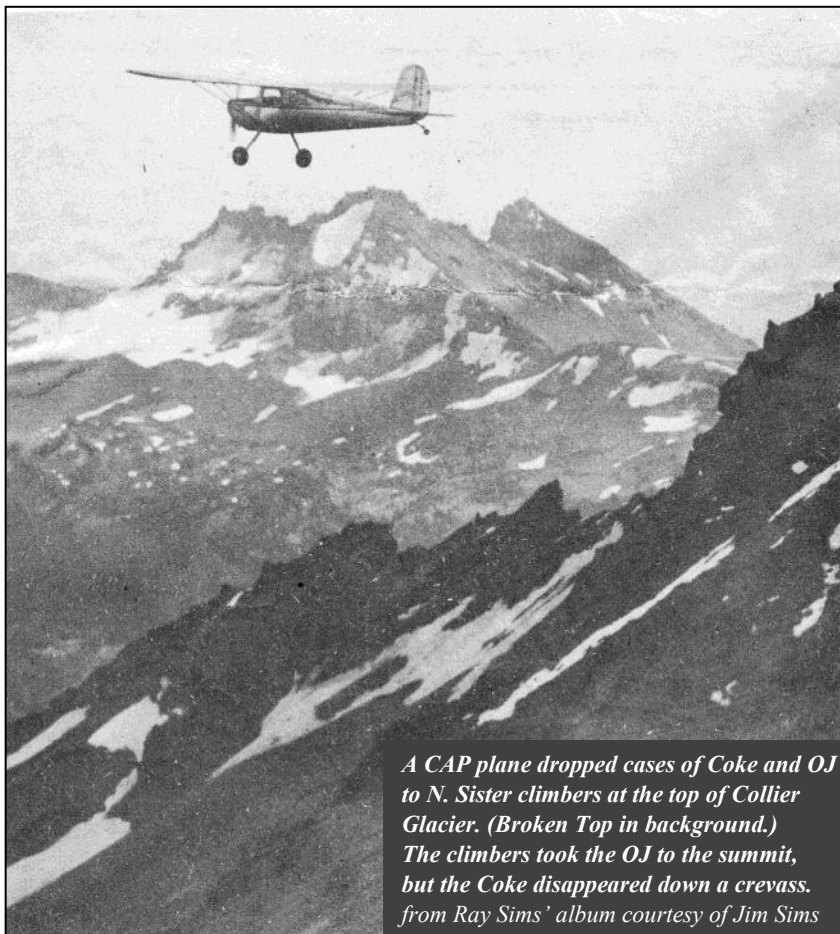
NO SOONER DID FIVE YEAR OLD JIMMY SIMS REACH THE TOP THAN GEORGE KORN, FROM HIS FLYING JEEP had dropped the ice cream and cake, missing the crowd by yards. It was really a treat, after the long climb. July 1947 Bulletin

July 13, 1947 — Diamond Peak

ABOUT 12:30 CAP AIRPLANE PILOTED BY: CLAUD WALKER, WITH BOB PFEIFFER, CO-PILOT AND "BOMBARDIER", dropped supplies including ice cream, candy, bread and butter, papers, cokes, and snow shoes, all of which were supplied by our leader, George Korn. Back at the cars, more cold cokes there waiting, just removed from the creek, these also through courtesy of our good leader. July 1947 Bulletin (See also: July 16, 1947 Register-Guard.)

August 24, 1947 — North Sister Climb

FIVE O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON IS LATE IN THE DAY TO BE SIGNING THE [SUMMIT] BOOK on the North Sister summit, but that was the time when Ray Sims and Brit [E.A. Britton] were sitting there, drinking cokes and signing. The twenty-nine on the climb had left Sunshine camp at five in the morning, arrived on top of Collier Glacier to meet the plane which dropped the case of orange juice to the party, but overshooting them with a case of coke and the morning paper. The trip up the Red Ridge, Camels Hump, East Side and then to the snowfield below Prouty Pinnacle, but here the icefield was just glare ice, and very steep, so it took long time for all of the twenty-nine to cross...to the "chimney" as quite a number had not had experience in such places... The trip down was without incident and the base camp at Sunshine was reached at seven in the evening, flashlights were used on out to Frog camp, where Doris Sims and son Jimmy were waiting with



A CAP plane dropped cases of Coke and OJ to N. Sister climbers at the top of Collier Glacier. (Broken Top in background.) The climbers took the OJ to the summit, but the Coke disappeared down a crevasse. from Ray Sims' album courtesy of Jim Sims

twelve quarts of ice cream, dropped in the afternoon by George Korn and Co. It was a welcome sight, but poor Cynthia and Homer, the carrier pigeons, were lost.... (Read their search and rescue story: *Pigeons to the Rescue* and vice versa on page 6.) October 1947 Bulletin (See also: August 26, 1947 Register-Guard.)

¹ Barton, L., "Eugene Airpark," Lane County Historian Magazine, Spring 1990.

May 23, 1948 — Ski Trip to Sunshine Shelter and Camp Scott

IN HONOR OF GRETCHEN FRASER OF VANCOUVER WA WHO WAS THE FIRST AMERICAN WOMAN to win a gold medal skiing in the Olympics, 1948. Eugene dedicated the whole weekend in her honor. It was called the Gretchen Fraser week-end. Gretchen Fraser was ordered by her doctor not to take as long a trip as this, so Mickey Embraer of Austria was the honored guest of the day, and being the champion that she is, could ski with the best, and liked our Oregon Mountains very much – “just like Austria” she said.

Leaving Eugene at 4:30 a.m., eight or ten carloads of skiers, most of whom ate breakfast at “Phil’s”, were through the gate at Alder Springs by 6:45, where there was three feet of snow. After driving to the top of Dead Horse Hill, we found seven feet of snow. The Highway Commission had used a Rotary plow in clearing the snow this far.

Sunshine Shelter was reached by mid-morning and was found nearly covered with a record amount of snow. Two airplanes dropped cokes, ice cream and cakes in the open area above the shelter. There were probably fifty skiers in and about the area. We enjoyed a seven-mile downhill ski ride to the top of Dead Horse Hill. July/August 2008 Bulletin (See also: May 1948 Bulletin.)

September 5–6, 1948 — Broken Top

CLIFF AND HAZEL STALSBERG WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING A VERY PLEASANT LABOR DAY WEEK-END TRIP to the Broken Top Area. The group of twenty spent two very cold nights and the best part of three fine sunny days in the arms of Broken Top and the Three Sisters... In several exciting dives two CAP planes dropped packages for the [15] climbers on the south pinnacle. None were recovered, however, as they rolled down the steep sides out of sight and accessibility. To land the packages in the few feet of flat space available on the summit would tax the skill of an air force bombardier...September 1948 Bulletin

Cliff’s daughter Phyllis Stalsberg Gaffney wrote this note to the Bulletin in 2008: ...I remember climbing Broken Top and the plane came over, dropping ice cream to all of us. The container went over into the glacier and I remember grabbing my little brother Chuck, who was slipping over on the red cinder...that ended my climbing career. My palms perspire recalling what was a special surprise turning into near disaster. May 2008 Bulletin

September 5, 1948 — South Sister Climb Anecdote

NORM BENTON (1923-2019) WROTE ABOUT AN AIRDROP ON HIS FIRST CLIMB, South Sister, in 1948: While eating, two light planes arrived, circling a time or two. Then one followed the other in flying low above the summit snowfield and dropping some bundles. About this time, we finished our lunch, one man came over to talk to us. I recognized him as George Korn, who worked at Hendershott’s Sporting Goods store in Eugene. George told us that they were with an Obsidian group, an outdoor club in Eugene. We knew of that club, and some years later I would become a member of that organization. I believe both pilots were Obsidians, or they at least they were making the airdrop for them. George said he and two boys planned to spend the night there at the summit rim, and among the items the planes had dropped were tents and sleeping bags, as well as food and probably a stove and other item. I believe George had run the ski area at Willamette Pass, which at that time was only rope tows... [George gave a quart of ice cream to Norm and his climbing friends.] The Adventures of Norman Benton, Volume IV

July 11, 1954 — Diamond Peak Tenderfoot Climb

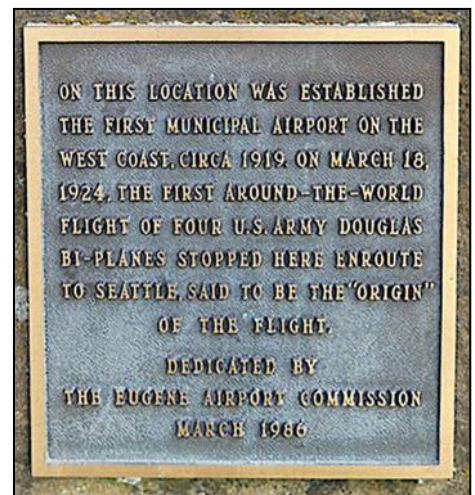
THE ANNUAL TENDERFOOT CLIMB WAS HELD THIS YEAR ON DIAMOND PEAK rather than the usual Middle Sister. The gang met at Crescent Lake for big potluck dinner the eve of the climb. It turned out swell with the leader George Hermach, bringing a huge cake decorated with mountains and mountain climbers and lighted with candles. We had nice campfire later but missed the Obsidian song books. Sunday morning dawned bright and clear over the lake and mountain.... Of the 78 starting, 62 reached the little ol’ (summit) box on top. Joe Daniel flew over about noon and dropped three loads of ice cream bars by parachute on the “false” summit where many ate lunch. The party then went on reaching the top around 1:00 P.M. On the way down we ate the ice cream bars which were carefully packed in the snow.² July/August Bulletin 1954. Thanks to Jim Northrop for aiding the search for airdrops with the climb date in his dad’s climbing journal.

July 23, 1966 — South Sister

THE FIRST GROUP ARRIVED AT THE TOP ABOUT 9:15 while the second group came in about 10:30 Gary Kirk (it was noted in the summit book) was the millstone of the climb, coming in last using the feeble excuse of helping Jerry Clark and Mark McLaughlin at rearguard. After spending an enjoyable time on top out of the wind, with good views to the east we started down. Everybody was back at camp before 2 o’clock. The planned airlift of 48 ice cream bars by Leonard Wojcik had to be cancelled due to the [Eugene] airport being completely socked in.... August/September 1966 Bulletin

(Jerry and Mark died the following year on the Denali [Mt. McKinley] climb. The Lodge Memorial Wall is named in their honor.)

THE TRADITION OF AN ICE CREAM TREAT CONTINUES TO BE MENTIONED IN TRIP REPORTS but now without leaving a trace—except for a few dollars dropped at a favorite ice cream parlor: Prince Pucklers, Rice Hill K & R Drive In, B J’s Ice Cream Parlor in Florence, or Junction City Dari Mart.

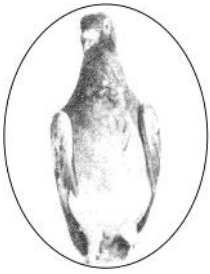


Historical marker in Jefferson Park. The CAP flights flew out of Eugene Airpark, located near 18th & Chambers streets. The Airpark closed in 1954.

²See also: Welch, B., “Echoes of the Past in Store,” Register-Guard (March 4, 2010)

PIGEONS TO THE RESCUE

...AND VICE VERSA
Compiled by Bea Fontana



Cynthia.



Homer.

IN THE MID-1940S, A PAIR OF HOMING PIGEONS NAMED CYNTHIA AND HOMER were airdropped to Obsidians on multiple occasions by Civil Air Patrol flyers. The rationale for the airdrops was a serious one: practicing for mountain search and rescue; but the Obsidians had a lot of fun with those deliveries which also included non-essentials such as ice cream, newspapers, Coke, fruit, and more. (See related article: *Airdrops to Obsidian Climbers* on pages 4-5.)

Parachute drops are not an exact science, and the gusting winds of the high country are capricious at best. The pigeons, in their cardboard container, did not always land on target, and then had to be rescued themselves.

IN THE SUMMER OF 1946, THE OBSIDIANS SET UP THEIR SUMMER CAMP IN JEFFERSON PARK, on the north side of Mt Jefferson. *The highlight of the camp was the delivery of by plane of newspapers, bread and fresh fruits by George Korn, Harold Donner and Glen Smeed, who flew over and dropped the supplies by parachute. The last package, which fell in Russell Lake, contained a carrier pigeon, fresh fruit, and butter. The contents, with the exception of the fruit, were undamaged.*¹

THE FOLLOWING YEAR, ON THE AUGUST 1947 CLIMB OF NORTH SISTER, the airdropped pigeons drifted off-course and were lost in the timber. Local newspapers followed the drama for several days and their eventual rescue made the front page of the *Register-Guard* with the headline: **Homing Pigeons Found in Woods.** Some excerpts from that article:

Homer and Cynthia, the homing pigeons, had their first square meal in four days Thursday after sweating out a rescue party on the upper slopes of the three Sisters since Sunday afternoon.

They were dropped by the CAP plane over Frog Camp...[but] a stiff wind had carried the light box and parachute about 500 yards east of camp where it disappeared into the trees.

The thing that frustrates a homing pigeon most is not being able to go home. For four days they waited patiently in a cardboard box for someone, anyone to let them out so they could do their stuff. Late Wednesday night it happened. A search party including George Korn, regional director of the Willamette Ski Patrol, Bob Lyons, president of the Obsidian Club, and Hubert Phillips, cameraman, reached the little box marked by a red Japanese parachute in a cove of firs where it had drifted down from a Civil Air Patrol plane Sunday afternoon. Lyons is credited with the find, but the entire search party had combed the area on the ground after a Tuesday plane search failed to locate the pigeons. Bob Pfeiffer, CAP flyer, was the pilot for the drop and the air search....

*George Korn reported Thursday morning that both pigeons were well and happy, hungry too. The experience, while rough on the pigeons, taught the ski patrol, the Obsidians, and the CAP, some valuable lessons in air-ground rescue. Korn said the entire search was handled with the same diligence that would have been used had Homer and Cynthia been lost climbers or grounded airmen.*²

The *Obsidian Bulletin* did not report on the search for the pigeons but did note: *The scandal caused by Cynthia and Homer who went on an Obsidian trip but stayed out all night alone together.*³

THE PIGEONS MADE THE NEWS AGAIN IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH OF 1948. [New member] Obsidian Jack Meissner had set himself the goal of trekking 300 miles, mostly solo, on cross-country skis from Mt Hood [Government Camp] along the spine of the Cascades to Crater Lake Lodge. The Civil Air Patrol did wellness checks at intervals and dropped supplies. They first sighted Meissner and a companion on the north slope of Mt. Jefferson. *Pilots saw no signs of distress and dropped food and two carrier pigeons, which would deliver messages from the travelers to Eugene.*⁴ [The] two pigeons...were released at once...[and] left together, both bearing notes⁵ strapped to their legs.

*Under normal conditions [the pigeons] should have made the journey from Mt. Jefferson to Eugene in a few hours.*⁵ Two days later the *Register-Guard* reported that the homing pigeons had not yet returned and were feared lost. A full four days after beginning her journey home, Cynthia (who was described as the stronger of the two pigeons) arrived back in Eugene bearing a lengthy note. *Meissner wrote that he had been forced to dig in for three days because of bad weather and that the going was rough. He said that he hoped to make to the Willamette summit by Sunday for the Cross-country races.*⁶

Homer arrived back the following day. The CAP pilots hypothesized that the pigeons were slowed by blizzard conditions, though it is equally possible that warming weather ushering in torrential rains at lower elevations forced them to ground, as pigeons cannot fly when their feathers get wet through. CAP decided that Cynthia should go solo on the next drop, as Homer was probably slowing her down.

Editor's notes: The Meissner trek was not Obsidian-sponsored, and more than one agency thought the venture foolhardy. For an in-depth description of his experience see: [The Greatest Ski Adventure](#)⁴. For those interested in learning more about homing pigeons see: [Pigeon Homing: Observations, Experiments and Confusions](#).



Bundle of boxes retrieved from the lake: strawberries, pigeons, peaches.



Marge Wilson with Cynthia after her rescue from the lake.

¹ *Register-Guard* August 20, 1946

³ *Obsidian Bulletin*, October 1947

⁵ *Register-Guard* March 1, 1948

² *Register-Guard* August 28, 1947

⁴ *The Greatest Ski Adventure* – 1859 Magazine January 10, 2010

⁶ *Register-Guard* March 12, 1948

JANUARY BOARD NOTES

January 2, 2020

By Denise Rubenstein

President Maryanne Reiter called the meeting to order. Board members present: Dave Cooper, John Cooper, Steve Cordon, Stewart Hoeg, Marci Hansen, Dave Hawkins, and Lyndell Wilken. Others present: Denise Rubenstein, Clara Emlen, Diane Schechter, Jim Northrop, Evelyn Nagy, Kathy Hoeg, Wayne Deeter, Kay Coots, and Lou Maenz.

The Board approved the minutes for January 2020.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Stewart Hoeg): Stewart reviewed the year-to-date income and expenses as well as the balance sheet. The Board approved the bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bus Trips (Sharon Cutsforth & Jim Northrop): The Bus Committee is finalizing plans for trips in 2020. Trip details will be available soon. Registrations for these trips will begin March 15 during the Bus Rally at the Lodge; online signup will open on March 18. We have six trips planned plus the Bus Rally and a holiday party at the Lodge December 12.

Climbs (Maryanne Reiter): The Climbs Committee met on Jan 22 to work out the logistics for Climb School and address other business such as efforts to recruit more leaders. Marci Hansen brought examples of hats and shirts for the committee to review. The committee also provided input on a Climbs poster to be used around town to increase visibility and interest in climbing with the Obsidians.

Concessions (Carla Cooper): January was a busy month for our committee as we ordered our new merchandise. All our members were excited to offer our new items at the first potluck of the year. We had robust sales and brought in \$222.73. Thank you to all members of the committee for your efforts the past month!

Conservation/SciEd (Jorry Rolfe & Kay Coots): The ExploraTalk held Jan. 21 with Mike Houck had 28 in attendance and \$33 was collected. A committee meeting was held in which fall programming was discussed.

Entertainment (Evelyn Nagy, Ron & Pam Swisher): The speaker for the January potluck was Bill Sullivan. He discussed his recent book regarding new hikes in Oregon and Washington. We collected \$100 and had approximately 90 guests.

Extended Trips (Lana Lindstrom): Evelyn Nagy led a very successful trip to the northern Oregon Coast (Cape Lookout) in January. We stayed in deluxe cabins and were wowed by the king tides and surf. \$45 in trip fees was collected.

Finance (Stewart Hoeg): The Finance Committee discussed via email a recommendation for allocating 2019 investment income.

Lodge Building (Dave Cooper): A Celebration of Life was just held at the Lodge and another is scheduled. Also coming up is a wedding and a meeting of the McKenzie River Trust. Special thanks to Clara Emlen, Jane Hackett, and Janet Jacobsen for doing some extra cleaning. Also Doug Nelson who cleaned debris out of overflowing gutters and John Jacobsen's inspection and repair of the folding tables. Efforts like these keep the Lodge ready for many types of events.

Librarian/Historian (Lenore McManigal): All the trips in the January *Bulletin* have been recorded in the member logs. There were two requests for information about deceased members. Bert Ewing's archive scans gave easy access to membership applications. Five notebooks with the correct binder holes were ordered to "spread out" the space in the logbooks for current, inactive, and deceased members.

Membership (Diane Schechter): New members for Board approval: Jodi Wiktorowski, Joan Skarda, John Skarda. Total membership: 408.

Publicity (Marci Hansen): I presented a hat design and cost to the climbs committee. We agreed on next steps and are moving forward with our first order of hats to be delivered to members, leaders, and volunteers who purchase them in time for Climb School.

Safety (Lyndell Wilken): The Safety Committee will hold a meeting to review all safety documents February 18. First aid kits at the YMCA will be checked in February. The Lodge AED batteries have been checked.

Summer Camp (John Jacobsen): Summer Camp dates are finalized: Friday, August 7–Friday, August 14, 2020. Planning continues for our camp in the Sawtooth Mountains.

Winter Trips (Steve Cordon): January had 24 trips. 212 members and 41 nonmembers participated. \$315 in fees were collected. We will be working with the Summer Trips and Climbs committees in an effort to attract new leaders.

OLD BUSINESS

Lou Maenz presented the flyer for the Used Outdoor Equipment Sale to be held April 19 at the Lodge. The discussion ironed out details. Sale tables are available for Obsidian members only, but the sale is open to the public. Watch the *Bulletin* for further details.

Lyndell presented the Club's current thinking on USFS fee reimbursement. Leaders will pay for the permit, collect the permit and Obsidians fees at the start of the trip and turn in trip fees to the Trip Chair. Trip leaders will be reimbursed by the Club for trip cancellation and no-shows.

NEW BUSINESS

The Finance Committee determined that the allocation of 2019 investment income will be put in the Club's Capital Contingency Fund.

Dave Cooper drafted a Bylaw change that more accurately reflects trip fee exemptions. The Board moved to accept the change. *There is no charge for Trail Maintenance trips and public service trips with the primary purpose of conservation and/or recreational stewardship. There will be no charge for outdoor activities with the primary purpose of introducing nonmembers to the Club.*

The Board approved three new members. See Membership Committee Report.

Maryanne Reiter summarized the New Leader Recruitment ideas that have been developed so far. The group provided further input and it was determined that the two trip chairs will meet with Maryanne and Jim Northrop for further work on the topic. Good progress is being made.

ADJOURNMENT

TRIP REPORTS



Bike Trips

12 Bridges Loop

February 8, 2020

Leader: Richard Hughes

Bike: 26 miles, 450 ft. (Easy)

TWO UNASSUMING CYCLISTS RODE INTO THE STORM only to be welcomed by the sun. Although it began to sprinkle a tad, we were distracted by the tall stories each had to share. Member: Richard Hughes. Nonmember: Tim Vignos.

Pleasant Hill Loop

February 16, 2020

Leader: Richard Hughes

Bike: 25 miles, 666 ft. (Easy)

SUNDAY, IN LIEU OF SATURDAY, TURNED OUT TO BE A BEAUTIFUL DAY for cycling the rolling hills around Pleasant Hill. Budding flowers and the clear roads made for a perfect day to meander. Members: Richard Hughes, Jonathan Jost.

Brownsville Loop

February 22, 2020

Leader: Richard Hughes

Photographer: Darian Morray

Bike: 45 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

ELEVEN WAS THE IDEAL TIME TO START THE RIDE on such a brisk morning. Heading north we soon encountered our first and only hill on Gap Road. After a few hundred feet of climb,



Richard, Sue and Darian eagerly awaiting cinnamon rolls in Brownsville.

we were in Brownsville enjoying our lunch. The return ride was much warmer with a slight tailwind. A perfect day. Members: Richard Hughes, Darian Morray, Sue Wolling.



Hikes

Holman Vista to Darko's Hidden Cove

February 1, 2020

Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak

Hike: 6.3 miles, 150 ft. (Moderate)

THE COASTAL FORECAST WAS WIND, A LIGHT DRIZZLE AND 50°F. Right on the money! Our big group armed with raincoats, ponchos, rain pants, backpack covers, and umbrellas gathered at the Holman Vista parking lot. At the



Part of the trail was flooded. Kathleen at the front.



Hundreds of rough-skinned newts at the trail.

wildlife observation platform we realized that the fast-flowing Sutton Creek was too deep for wading, so the leader chose plan B. From Holman Vista we hiked along Sutton Creek to Dune Lake where we had a short break enhanced by Vicky's fantastic mini muffins. The rain was already slowing down. After the short hike around Alder Lake, we explored

the maze of forested dunes trails, finishing back at the trailhead just before 1:00. Everybody enjoyed hiking 7.2 sandy miles with plenty of ups and downs. Kudos to Rachelle



Betty Grant measuring bear tracks.

for co-leading and Keiko for sweeping. In Florence we stopped at the new Asian restaurant for an excellent lunch. Members: Keiko Bryan, Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Kathleen Ehli, Leah Firth, Betty Grant, Jane Hackett, Vicky Hanson, David Hawkins, Holger Krentz, Denise Rubenstein, Darko Sojak, Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Joan Skarda, John Skarda, Gwyneth Iredale, Rachelle Masin, Ken Wong.

Groundhog Day

February 2, 2020

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Photographer: Carla Cooper

Hike: 6.3 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)

YES! WE SPOTTED THE GROUNDHOG ON A LOW TREE BRANCH in the Masonic Cemetery. Quietly we watched and took photos. Henry (the Cooper grandchild) and I quietly



A few were bamboozled by the groundhog!

approached for a closer look. When Henry realized the true nature of the groundhog, he held it up and shouted, "It's a puppet!" Bamboozled and laughter best describes this wildlife sighting. Henry described it as being pranked. There were so many flowers blooming in the Masonic Cemetery that it was hard to believe that the groundhog's shadow predicted a late spring, but it did snow the next morning. Join



Snowdrops, or visibaba as they are known to Darko.

us next year for the tenth annual groundhog hike. Members: Keiko Bryan, Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Kathleen Ehli, Patricia Esch, Nancy Hoecker, Janet Jacobsen, Caralynn Judy, Henry Judy, Lauren Judy, Holger Krentz, Sandra Larsen, Erin Murphy, Jorry Rolfe, Darko Sojak, Dorothy van Winkle, Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Cynthia Poindexter, Ken Wong.

Mt. Baldy Sunrise

February 9, 2020

Leader: Darko Sojak

Hike: 3.5 miles, 950 ft. (Easy)

DAILY HOPE ILLUMINATED FROM THE EAST. Sunrise was shy in the cold morning fog. Members: Janet Jacobsen, Holger Krentz, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak.

Oregon's Birthday

February 14, 2020

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Photographer: David Lodeesen

Hike: 8 miles, 300 ft. (Moderate)

OUR FIFTH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF OREGON'S BIRTHDAY started at the Dorris Ranch where we shared Oregon trivia before heading up to Willamette Heights Park to see the



Sandra and Keiko at Dorris Ranch.

totem pole. Then it was downhill to the Simpson Mural, the Oregon Trail Mural, and Springfield City Hall. Our pace picked up on the Springfield Mill Race Path and Middle Fork Willamette Path, but thanks to Keiko, we took time to watch these showstoppers—an egret, a turtle, and mergansers. We completed the loop in 3½ hours and headed quickly to the Public House for lunch where we met up with Pat Esch’s Friday bike group. Most surprising were the early signs of



Darko.

Members: Kathleen Ehli, Patricia Esch, Ken Hartupee, Holger Krentz, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Dorothy van Winkle, Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Hannah Alverson.



Nancy, Keiko, Ginny, Sandra, Steve, Kathy, Holger, Janet.

spring—the fawn lilies and ossoberry leafing out—and that the restrooms at the Booth-Kelly Path Trailhead were closed for the season. Members: Steve Adey, Keiko Bryan, Nancy Hoecker, Janet Jacobsen, Holger Krentz, Sandra Larsen, David Lodeesen, Kathy Randall, Ginny Reich.

Coast Fork Willamette Explora

February 16, 2020

Leader: Darko Sojak

Photographer: Nancy Whitfield

Hike: 6 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)

ON A SUNNY, UPPER 40°, MORNING WE ENJOYED the riverbank walk from Buford Park North Trailhead to the southernmost point of Howard Buford Recreation Area.



On top of Spencer Butte.

hike welcomed Curtis Lahti! Members: David Clinger, Marguerite Cooney, Betty Grant, Nancy Hoecker, David Lodeesen, Jorry Rolfe. Nonmembers: Curtis Lahti.



Trail Maintenance

Fern Ridge North
February 23, 2020
Leader: Darko Sojak
Hike: 6 miles, 50 ft. (Easy)

DUE TO WIND AND RAIN, THE TRIP WAS ABORTED after 1.2 miles. Members: Lynda Christiansen, Kay Coots, Esme Greer, Joel Greer, Richard Hughes, Kathy Randall, Darko Sojak.

Amazon Headwaters/Spencer Butte

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

Various Leaders:

Janet Whitesides (2/5) 17 members, 2 nonmembers

Tom Rundle (2/12) 15 members, 4 nonmembers

Photographer: David Lodeesen



Heading back down.

Mt. Pisgah Hike

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

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Photographer: Darko Sojak

Sunset/moonrise (2/8) 10 members, 5 nonmembers



Kathleen, Holger and Gweneth enjoying last rays of the day.

Ridgeline Drainage

October 26, 2019

Leader: Matt Bell

2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

OUR PROJECT FOR THE DAY WAS TO CLEAR DRAINAGE FEATURES ALONG THE MAIN TRAIL. We hiked up the trail to work our way back down. Our group worked quickly as we were pursued back down the butte by a backpack-leaf-blower-wielding Deverton. We even exposed two small culverts under the raised turnpike in the first meadow. Dev cleared them by blasting the debris out using the leaf-blower. Members: Matt Bell, David Clinger, Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore, Janet Jacobsen, Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Tom Mulhern, Yolanda Mulhern.

Checker Mallow Salvage and Planting

November 30, 2019 Leader: Matt Bell

Photographers: Darko Sojak & Pat Soussan

2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)



Jessica, Yolanda and Pat planting checker mallow.



One of the many rescued frosty plants.

THIS WAS A SPECIAL OUTING. WE RETURNED TO THE RIBBON TRAIL TO SALVAGE more meadow checker mallow. This is something we did for the first time a year prior. The main difference this time was that we carried them in totes to our lodge

grounds and re-planted them there. The City's hope is that these plants will thrive on the lodge grounds due to their proximity and similar soil type. This spring, if you notice clusters of new white flowers on the grounds, these are the meadow checker mallow transplants. Members: Rick Ahrens, Joanna Alexander, Matt Bell, Kathleen Ehli, Dan Gilmore, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Darko Sojak, Pat Soussan, Janet Whitesides. Nonmembers: Jessica Moll, Tom Mulhern, Yolanda Mulhern.

Ridgeline Drainage Clearing

January 25, 2020

Leader: Matt Bell

Photographer: Pat Soussan

2 miles, 150 ft. (Moderate)

WE MET MARLON AT THE FOX HOLLOW TRAILHEAD FOR A NICE MORNING OF DRAINAGE CLEARING. We hiked up the Ridgeline and worked to clear drainage ditches, culverts, and



Abigail and Jane check the culvert.

outflows just up the trail from Fox Hollow. Dan and Pat worked diligently to clear a blocked outflow under a pile of storm debris. Members: Matt Bell, Oliver Bell, Dan Gilmore, Jane Hackett, Janet Jacobsen, Dave Predeek, Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Nathaniel Bell, Fletcher Bell, Abigail Blinn.



Snowshoe Trips

Odell Overlook

January 25, 2020

Leader: Scott Hovis

Photographer: Anne Campbell

3.5 miles, 400 ft. (Easy)

THE PREDICTED RAIN CAME LATE. We were able to enjoy the sunny day, with few people for a Saturday. The measuring post, not far from the parking lot, indicated a base

of four feet deep. Plenty to play in but we really need at least twice as much snow for a healthy forest. The Mountainview Shelter was nicely stocked with firewood. Gray jays are always there hoping to get a handout. Trail conditions were good. Signage is good and the blue diamonds are well placed to mark the paths. If you forget your snow park pass, you can



Stopped at Westview Shelter for lunch.



Happy snowshoer Michael.

buy one at the bicycle shop in Oakridge. Members: Linda Anson, Mari Baldwin, Anne Campbell, Rebecca Eastwood, Michael Myers, Cindy Rice, Diana Wheat.

Salt Creek Falls

February 8, 2020

Leader: Scott Hovis

3.5 miles, 500 ft. (Easy)

THE SALT CREEK FALLS PATH IS MY ADOPTED SNOWSHOE TRAIL. This is why I lead it twice a year. I belong to the High Cascade Volunteers, a group that maintains nine or eleven trails in the Willamette Pass area. Please refer to my earlier report about conditions. This year they were very similar. Members: Joanna Alexander, Linda Anson, Keiko Bryan, Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Betty Grant, Scott Hovis, Michael Myers, Cindy Rice, Nancy Whitfield. Non-members: Scott Wilkinson.

Diamond Creek Falls

February 9, 2020

Leader: Jane Hackett

5 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)

A GORGEOUS DAY FOR A SNOWSHOE TRIP. A few inches of new snow, sun and bright blue sky. A great group that completely enjoyed the day. We took our time taking pictures and taking in the canyons and one tiny water fall. Diamond Creek Falls is a good size and looks like a large water slide. The temperature when we started was around 30 degrees. By the time we reached the falls everything was melting. We arrived back at the cars just a little damp but feeling good. Members: Jacquie Fern, Jane Hackett, Jessica Moll, Chris Shuraleff, Lisa Van Liefde, Nancy Whitfield, Paul Winther. Nonmembers: Scott Wilkinson.

North Blowout Shelter

February 16, 2020

Leader: Jane Hackett

Photographer: Daphne James

5.5 miles, 350 ft. (Moderate)

THIS ORIGINALLY WAS SCHEDULED AS A TRIP TO FAY LAKE. Due to an accident on Highway 22, the road was closed at the junction. So off to Ray-Benson we went. It was a stunning day:



We went on Ray Benson North Loop.

12 inches of new fluffy snow, broken clouds with sun, and blue sky. The clouds never lifted off Washington or Three Fingered Jack but the views were great. We had a leisurely lunch at the

shelter. A fire was attempted by two women who got there before us. It was smoky, to say the least. The wind came up after lunch and we snowshoed into a stiff cold breeze. By the time we were back on 126, the pavement was bare and the drive home was easy. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Jane Hackett, Daphne James, Steven Johnson, Lynn Meacham, Lisa Van Liefde, Diana Wheat, Paul Winther.

Nickerson Loop

February 23, 2020

Leader: Jane Hackett

4 miles, 350 ft. (Moderate)

FOUR MEMBERS AND ONE NONMEMBER SHOWED UP to check out the newly cleaned up Nickerson Loop Trail. The weather was not cooperative, but we all appreciated the new blue diamonds. The trail received some maintenance from the Scorpions this last summer. Mike Smith put up the new diamonds. You can now find your way along the trail without difficulty. I would like to say we had great views of mountains, but not so much. Members: Marguerite Cooney, Jane Hackett, Daphne James, Mike Smith. Nonmembers: Riccie Shipley.



**Ski
Trips**

Fawn Lake

February 3, 2020

Leader: Steven Johnson

Xski: 7 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

OUR GROUP OF FIVE WERE GREETED AT THE CRESCENT SNO-PARK by a chilly 22 degree overcast day and a rather hard snow pack with a light dusting of new snow. We proceeded up the Fawn Lake Trail but struggled with the icy conditions. The hero of the day was Harold who had brought extra ski skins to share which made the slick conditions to the lake passable. By the time we reached Fawn Lake both the snow conditions and weather had improved so we enjoyed our lunch on the frozen lake. After lunch we decided to extend our trip by skiing out on the Fawn Lake Loop past Pretty Lake. This presented the challenge of climbing up the ridge above Fawn Lake then descending down the other side to make our loop. We ended this challenging day of skiing with sunny skies. Members: Steven Johnson, Randy Sinnott, David Strutin, Harold Thompson, Sue Wolling.

Ray Benson

February 18, 2020

Leader: Steven Johnson

Xski: 7 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

I PUT THIS SKI TRIP ON THE SCHEDULE WITH ONLY THREE DAYS' NOTICE as I wanted to target some clear weather following two days of snow. Only one other person signed up for this trip; however, we were rewarded with excellent ski conditions with a foot of powder, and we had the entire snow park to ourselves. We did the whole loop from Ray Benson Sno-Park, visiting all three shelters for a total distance of 9.2 miles. We especially enjoyed the last mile out from North Blowout Shelter as this is a mostly downhill section of the trail. Members: Steven Johnson, Sam Miller.

Gold Lake Sno-Park Off-Trail

February 23, 2020

Leader: Gordon Sayre Asst. Leader: John Hartman
Xski: 10 miles, 1,000 ft. (Difficult)

THIS TRIP WAS PLANNED TO EXPLORE THE DEER CREEK TRAIL which connects the PCT and the Abernethy Road at the point where it ends at a washed-out bridge. John Hartman supplied GPS maps of this trail and of a new trail that appears to connect the PCT to the Yoran Lake Trail and thereby offer a short-cut for hungry PCT thru-hikers eager to get to Shelter Cove Resort. We ended up doing the first trail, but not the second. Sunday turned out to be a snowy stormy day in the

midst of two weeks of sunny dry weather. Light rain greeted us at Gold Lake Sno-Park and changed to snow as we began skiing. Conditions were very good on the packed trails, and slower trail-breaking on our Deer Creek route. At lunch time we tried to say warm, and wondered where the PCT was, although it turned out to be just a couple hundred yards away. On the descent we added a loop past Bechtel Shelter and the steep snow-shoe trail behind it. All four skiers managed the challenge, whether on heavy back-country skis or light and skinny old skis. Three backcountry regulars welcomed Michael Myers, a new Obsidian member on his first XC ski trip. Hope he can enjoy many more skis with us in the future. Members: John Hartman, Michael Myers, Gordon Sayre. Nonmembers: Larry Winiarski.

UPCOMING



Bus Trips 2020

Trips Rally At The Lodge

March 15 (Sun), 2–4 PM

LEARN ABOUT 2020 BUS TRIPS—this will be the first opportunity to register for trips. Enjoy refreshments and door prizes. Obsidians merchandise will be on display. A great time to renew friendships and meet new people.

A Day At OMSI

April 16 (Thurs)

Leaders: Judy Phelps, Sharon Cutsforth

Cost: \$62 (\$64 nonmembers)

Reservations & checks: Sharon Cutsforth, 746-4929

Load bus at (former) Shopko at 7:30 AM, depart 8:00

RAIN OR SHINE THIS WILL BE A FUN DAY WITH FRIENDS. Heading north our first stop will be in Albany for our coffee break at McDonald's (on your own). We will then proceed to the OMSI Center in Portland. Along the way we will likely see sheep in the green fields and possibly some hawks or eagles. Your OMSI admission is included in the trip cost. If you wish to attend a theater presentation you will need to purchase those tickets on your own. We will have approximately 3 to 3½ hours to visit exhibits, have lunch and view theater presentations. There is a large cafeteria (*Theory*) open from 11–2. You may also bring your lunch if you wish, however, you may have to leave lunch bags and backpacks in an unsecured lunch room. We will reboard the bus at 3 PM and travel Highway 99 back to Eugene. Our estimated time of arrival in Eugene is 6:00 PM.

Seneca Lumber & Dune Buggy Ride

May 28 (Thurs)

Leaders: Barbara & Paul Beard, Craig Molitor

Cost: \$83 (\$85 nonmembers)

Reservations & checks to: Judy Garwood, 683-5539

Load bus at (former) Shopko 7:30 AM, depart 8:00

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF LEARNING, RELAXING AND PLAYING. Traveling north on Hwy. 99 our first stop will be at Seneca Lumber to learn more about the innovative technology and cogeneration process they utilize to generate power and thermal energy from waste products left behind after logging and lumber production. This will be followed by a coffee break at Orchard Point Park on Fern Ridge Lake before continuing our drive to the coast via Hwy. 36 and Triangle Lake. Lunch will be on your own in Old Town in Florence. After lunch we'll drive south of Florence to board large buggies for a tour in the dunes. Be sure to bring warm clothing, a hooded coat or sweatshirt, and be prepared for the weather. Our return trip will be on Hwy. 126 with a stop at the Gingerbread House for snacks before returning to Eugene at approximately 6:00 PM.

Other destinations, dates & leaders for 2020 are:

Mt. Angel Abbey: June 16 (Tues), Jim Northrop

Odell Lake Lodge: July 14 (Tues), Jim Northrop

John Day Fossil Beds & the Wallowas:

September 21–26 (Mon–Sat), Jim Northrop

Trip details available at the Rally

Columbia River Sternwheeler:

October 14–16 (Wed–Fri), Barbara & Paul Beard

Holiday Party at the Lodge: Sat, December 12

The 2020 Bus Trips are now posted on the Obsidians home page www.obsidians.org, middle of the page under *Bus Trips*. Online registration will open March 21.

Watch for trip details in future *Bulletins*.

Contact information: bustrips@obsidians.org

Sharon Cutsforth, Committee Co-Chair, 746-4929 or

Jim Northrop, Committee Co-Chair, 343-3426.

UPCOMING

Waterfalls & Wildflowers in the Columbia Gorge

May 4–6, 2020

Chris Shuraleff, Leader

Jane Hackett, Assistant Leader

HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO EXPLORE the waterfalls in the Columbia Gorge, see the view from Angels Rest or hike Dog Mountain, but just haven't found the energy to plan an overnight trip? Here's your opportunity to do so with other Obsidians. Chris Shuraleff is leading an Obsidian trip May 4-6, staying at Menucha Retreat and Conference Center in Corbett. This beautiful, peaceful facility sits on a bluff above the Columbia River, 25 miles east of downtown Portland. The member cost of \$185 includes lodging, all meals, and trip fees.

For more details, visit our website www.obsidians.org and click on the *Extended Trips* link in the middle of the home page.

Also visit: www.menucha.org

This trip is full but you can put yourself on the wait list.



Lower Columbia Extended Trip

August 30–September 3

Leader: Emily Rice

JOIN US ON AUGUST 30–SEPTEMBER 3 for three days of kayaking and one day of land exploration on a five-day/four-night extended trip to the Lower Columbia. Skamokawa, WA will be our starting point for exploring the lower Columbia River by kayak. Professional guides from Columbia River Kayaking will be leading the three kayak day trips. We will be staying at the Skamokawa Resort in a house and a condo with views of the river. Details are posted under *Extended Trips* in the middle of the Obsidian website home page.

Signup will open on March 28.

Get Acquainted Pi* Hike

Obsidian Lodge

Saturday, March 14, 2020, 1:59 PM

BRING A FRIEND who wants to learn about our club.

Sign up online
or contact Janet Jacobsen:
jbjacobsen@comcast.net

(*Pi = 3.14159)

SERVICE TRIPS

Solve Beach Cleanup

Saturday, March 28, 2020

Leader: Darko Sojak

FOR THE PAST THIRTEEN YEARS Obsidians have participated in the SOLVE annual beach cleanup. SOLVE is a statewide nonprofit organization that takes action every day to keep Oregon clean and green. They mobilize over 35,000 volunteers, and organize over 1,000 cleanup and restoration projects throughout the state. Please sign up online and join me on the annual Spring Oregon Beach Cleanup a few miles north of Florence. Dress for weather and wear closed-toe shoes. SOLVE will provide bags and gloves. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own bags for litter pickup. On the way back we will stop in Florence for lunch.

For more information, contact: darchey@comcast.net

Green Island Work Party with McKenzie River Trust

Jorry Rolfe and Kay Coots

ON THURSDAY, APRIL 2, THERE WILL BE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY for Obsidians to participate with staff of the McKenzie River Trust in helping to protect Western pond turtle habitat. The morning project goes from 9–12 at Green Island, six miles north of Eugene. We will be helping to ensure that there are usable nesting grounds on this 1,200-acre conservation site. Western pond turtle habitat is critical in protecting and ensuring populations of this threatened species (which is up for Endangered Species Listing in Oregon). We will be helping the Trust to provide the best possible conditions for these iconic Willamette Valley turtles.

Registration opens March 12.

AT THE LODGE



ExploraTalk

Tuesday, March 10 at 7 PM



Forest Service Permits and Fees

Presenter: Matt Peterson

MATT PETERSON, RECREATION PROGRAM MANAGER WITH THE FOREST SERVICE, will provide information about the new Central Cascades wilderness permitting system to be implemented this year. Matt has worked with the Forest Service for almost twelve years, including ten years on the Willamette National Forest as the Recreation Program Manager. Prior to the Forest Service, he worked as a wildlife biologist, environmental educator, and volunteer coordinator, and he completed two masters degrees at the University of Oregon in Planning and in Environmental Studies. He grew up in the upper Midwest, exploring the lakes of northern Minnesota and Wisconsin, and for the last 20-plus years, has been traipsing around Oregon and the Pacific Northwest with his wife and two boys.

Details will also be provided to members regarding reimbursing trip leaders for permit fees for club hikes at applicable trailheads from the Friday before Memorial Day to the last Friday in September.



Mt. Jefferson reflected in Russell Lake. Photo by Matt Peterson.



POTLUCK

Friday, March 27 at 6:30 PM

Long-Distance Walking in the UK (The Easy Way)

Presenter: Carla Cooper



OBSIDIANS CARLA AND DAVID COOPER WILL SHARE PHOTOS and highlights from their five walks in England and Scotland. Come hear why long-distance walking in the UK is so appealing as they take you along Wainwright's Coast to Coast, the West Highland Way, the Cotswold Way, the Great Glen Way, and the Speyside Way.

Potluck

Friday, March 27

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.

OBSIDIAN CALENDAR

March

9 Mon Mt Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike M Cordon 513-3452
 10 Tue Forest Service Permits and Fees **ExploraTalk**
 11 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M Cordon 513-3452
 14 Sat Get Acquainted Pi Hike Hike E Jacobsen 206-1251
 14 Sat Fay Lake SShoe M Hackett 953-7046
 15 Sun Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike M ... Cordon 513-3452
 15 Sun The Bus Rally Bus Cutsforth 746-4929
 18 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M Smith 520-488-9569
 19 Thu Mt. Pisgah—Spring Equinox Hike M Jacobsen 206-1251
 20 Fri Gold Lake via Marilyn Lakes SShoe M ... Hackett 953-7046
 21 Sat Drift Crk Wilderness, N Trail Hike M Smith 520-488-9569
 24 Tue Salem Exploration Hike E Northrop 343-3426
 25 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M Cordon 513-3452
 27 Fri Walking in the UK **Potluck**
 28 Sat Beach Clean-Up with SOLVE Hike E Sojak 799-9199
 28 Sat Hendricks Park Stroll Hike E Rubenstein 248-514-5092
 28 Sat Trail Maintenance Trl Mnt M Bell 503-884-8829
 30 Mon Basic Climb School 2020 ClbSch Reiter 521-8472

April

1 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M Cooper 868-5427
 2 Thu Green Island Work Party w/MRT E Rolfe 206-9501
 5 Sun Finley Wildlife Refuge Hike E Hackett 953-7046
 6 Mon Silver Falls Hike M Grant 514-1176
 8 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M Whitesides 919-593-5578
 14 Tue Seneca and Sustainability **ExploraTalk**
 14 Tue Delta Ponds Birding Hike E Montgomery 688-7025
 15 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M Smith 520-488-9569
 16 Thu Pisgah w/Pacific Source Hike M Cooper 868-5427
 16 Thu A Day at OMSI Bus Phelps 726-0118
 18 Sat Cottage Grove Mural Walk Hike E Hougardy 206-9532
 19 Sun Shellburg Falls Hike M Hackett 953-7046
 19 Sun Sale Used Gear **Open House**
 20 Mon Grand Canyon Backpack 2020 Bk Pk D Adey 520-9285
 22 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M Rubenstein 248-514-5092
 24 Fri Exploring Croatia **Potluck**

25 Sat Sutton Creek Hike E Rundle 653-0741
 25 Sat Trail Maintenance Trl Mnt M Bell 503-884-8829
 29 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M Rundle 653-0741

May

4 Mon Columbia Gorge Hiking Ext Trp M Shuraleff 954-4474
 6 Wed Amazon Hdwttrs/Spencer Butte Hike M ... Cooper 868-5427
 13 Wed Hart Mountain CarCmp Hackett 953-7046
 13 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike M Cooper 868-5427
 16 Sat Horse Rock Geology Hike E Rundle 653-0741
 17 Sun UO Scamps & Scholars Walk Hike E ... Hougardy 206-9532
 23 Sat Gwynn Creek Loop Hike M Rundle 653-0741
 27 Wed Smith Rock CarCmp M Whitesides 919-593-5578
 27 Wed Trail Maintenance Trl Mnt M Bell 503-884-8829
 28 Thu Seneca Lumber & Dune Buggy Ride Bus ... Beard 994-2337
 29 Fri Biking Taiwan! **Potluck**

June

6 Sat National Trails Day Trl Mnt M Bell 503-884-8829
 7 Sun Horsepasture Mountain Hike E Hackett 953-7046
 13 Sat Iron Mountain Hike M Rundle 653-0741
 14 Sun Lookout Creek Hike M Cooper 868-5427
 15 Mon Steens Mountain CarCmp Hackett 953-7046
 16 Tue Thompson's Mills, Oregon Gardens Bus Northrop 343-3426
 20 Sat Marys Peak Wildflowers?? Hike M Rundle 653-0741
 24 Wed Trail Maintenance Trl Mnt M Bell 503-884-8829
 27 Sat Heceta Head Loop Hike M Rundle 653-0741
 28 Sun Depoe Bay-Newport Ext Trp M Hougardy 206-9532

July

12 Sun Newport-Waldport Ext Trp M Hougardy 206-9532
 14 Tue Odell Lake Bus Northrop 343-3426
 18 Sat Yapoah Crater Loop Hike D Rundle 653-0741
 26 Sun Annual Beach Barefoot Hike Hike M Sojak 799-9199
 26 Sun Waldport to Heceta Head Ext Trp M ... Hougardy 206-9532
 29 Wed Trail Maintenance Trl Mnt M Bell 503-884-8829

Nepal Eco-Trip

JOIN OBSIDIAN MARK HOUGARDY TO SEE THE RARE AND ELUSIVE RED PANDAS during an eco-trip to Nepal. The dates are October 22–30, 2020. Mark works for the Red Panda Network (RPN), an organization committed to the conservation of wild red pandas and their habitat through the education and empowerment of local communities. There may be as few as 2,500 red pandas remaining in the wild. RPN leads small group eco-trips (maximum eight people) into red panda habitat.

We will be overnighing in local homestays, experiencing Nepali culture, dining on regional food, and hiking in the Himalayan forest. All meals, local accommodations, hotel, in-country transportation, and local guides are included. We will spend some time in Kathmandu visiting temples and sightseeing before traveling to the field. The eco-trip price is \$2,350. The airfare to/from Kathmandu is separate. Full information and photos can be found at www.redpandanetwork.org/ecotrips.

Email Mark at hougardy@gmail.com with questions and information about a 10% discount offered by RPN.

FOR SALE

Karhu Odyssey cross country skis*
 waxless, metal edges, 175 cm
with Rottefella NNN bindings
 plus:
Masters XT 2000 metal poles.

*Skis not new, but in excellent condition according to Bergs Ski Shop—barely used in the last 10 years.

FREE: **Boots: size 7 ½**—not pretty but functional

\$80 or best offer

Call or text Wanda at 413-218-9046

Note: There is no charge for placement 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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March 2020



*Twenty happy Obsidians celebrate a spring-like day
on the seven-year anniversary of the Wednesday conditioning hike!
Photo by Darian Morray*

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