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Dates to Remember

April 30 *Bulletin* Deadline
 May 5 Board Meeting

Current event schedules at:
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BUFORD PARK / PISGAH TRAILS UPDATE Seventeen rolling dips and more...

Dave Cooper and Kay Coats

IMPROVEMENTS TO TRAILS ARE UNDER WAY AT MT. PISGAH. The heavily used main trail (1) has received some much-needed improvements thanks to help from AmeriCorps' National Civilian Community Corps. Since this trail is essentially an old road, it is steeper in some areas than modern, well designed trails. Steeper trails can be prone to more erosion. Those familiar with the trail have seen water running down the route and creating miniature gullies. Culverts may not be the best solution since they cost more to install and require ongoing maintenance to keep them clear. Water bars across a trail eventually fill behind the bar and become ineffective. A better solution is a rolling dip, which is built by digging a flat-bottomed trench across the trail. The material removed in digging the trench is used to build a berm on the downslope side to the trench. The flat bottom section is turned at an angle to the trail and sloped outward to get the water off the trail.

The AmeriCorps crew of 10 spent seven days on five separate projects. The largest project, taking three days, was improving the upper section of Trail 1 which had experienced damage from heavy rains over the past eight years.

Other work included:

- Constructing rolling dips on lower Trail 7 up to the first switchback.
- Removal of teasel seed heads in the Spring Box Meadow.
- Planting approximately 1200 bare root native plantings in the North Bottom Lands near the native plant nursery.
- A mass planting to block rogue trails.
- Removal of piles of branches—coarse woody debris—from the edge of the north trailhead and strategically relocating them to areas that had signs of rogue trails as well as to areas of the new plantings.



AmeriCorps on the first day, ready for instructions. Orange marks next to trail show where the dips will go.



Rogue trail with plantings.

The work was completed by AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps at the request of Lane County Parks and under the supervision of the Friends of Buford Park. Obsidian Bill Montgomery started the work group out with some history of previous trail maintenance work and provided routine expertise on their assignments.

Vince Rozzi, Friends Trail Steward, said *“It was a luxury and a great opportunity to have AmeriCorps volunteers here. We hope the AmeriCorps work draws the attention*

(Continued on page 2)

IN MEMORIAM

William (Bill) Atlee Eimstad

11/12/1923–1/30/1921

BILL JOINED THE OBSIDIANS IN 1979 AND PARTICIPATED IN 31 ACTIVITIES that included hiking, summer camp, skiing, and canoeing. He quickly took on an active role leading trips and also chairing the Lodge Grounds Committee in 1983–1984. He organized Field Day work parties and wrote in one report: *I hope no one got poison oak. It is sure wonderful to work with people who pitch in and do.* A licensed Oregon Land Surveyor and owner of a surveying firm, he surveyed the Lodge property and installed the corner markers, and boundary fence. His son Bill did the welding and concrete work for the entrance gate. In August, 1993 Bill was the project manager for the Obsidians' restoration of the Hand Lake Forest Shelter on the boundary of the Mt. Washington wilderness, just a quarter mile off of Highway 242.

Bill served in the 10th Mountain Division, was a Boy Scout troop leader, officiated at ski races, and enjoyed camping and dancing. Bill met his wife Donna at an Obsidian potluck when she was on the Entertainment Committee. They led trips together including a popular overnight canoe trip. He is survived by his wife, four children, six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and three stepchildren.

Editor's Note: A complete obituary can be found in the February 14, 2021 issue of The Register-Guard. For more information on the Hand Lake Shelter Restoration project see pages 4–5 of this Bulletin.

Marilyn Kerins

11/10/1946 – 2/12/2021

A MEMBER FROM 1999–2008, MARILYN WENT ON FIFTY TRIPS including five summer camps. Marilyn's sense of humor and joy enlivened the summer camp spirit, especially the year she brought her granddaughter Mackenzie. Her trip reports of the two trips she led convey her positive attitude:

What do you get when you cross a planned four-mile trip that turns into an eight-mile trip with seven very accomplished Obsidian skiers? A tired trip leader.... This was my first time as a trip leader and I would encourage anyone who has not previously led a trip to give it a go. I'd say I experienced great enthusiasm and much support from the group since I fell more than anyone, including one moderately spectacular fall.

You've gotta love those Obsidians! After a long drive sometimes around boulders in the middle of a one lane dirt road, eight enthusiastic hikers began the hike to Phantom Bridge.

Marilyn was a speech pathologist and spent her career working with children in both clinic and school settings. She is survived by her son, two daughters, and a granddaughter.

Editor's Note: A complete obituary can be found in the February 25, 2021 issue of The Register-Guard.

(Continued from page 1: Buford Park / Mt. Pisgah Trails Update)

of more potential volunteers who are willing to help out with other trail maintenance in Buford Park."

A future drainage project is made possible by a donation from the Chambers Family Foundation. This work will allow:

- Drainage improvements to be made at the intersections of Trails 5, 3, and 56 in the southern edge of the park.
- Trail resurfacing with gravel and installing three culverts of a size to accommodate high water flows.

This will be greatly appreciated by hikers who deal with muddy, winter treks through this area. To learn more about volunteer opportunities at Buford Park, email volunteer@bufordpark.org.

OBSIDIANS, INC

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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.

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Concessions Carla Cooper
Conservation/SciEd ... K. Coots/A. Ruzicka
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Deadline

for May Bulletin

Friday, April 30, 2021

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Leader
Spotlight

Meet Trip Leader Darko Sojak

Angie Ruzicka

IF YOU’VE BEEN AN OBSIDIAN FOR LONG, CHANCES ARE GOOD YOU’VE BEEN ON A HIKE LED BY DARKO. He started hiking with the Obsidians in 2008, and became a member in 2009. His love of exploring started at a young age while fishing the Una River in his native Croatia, and traveling with his family in Europe. In his 20s Darko expanded his travel horizons as a Merchant Marine sailor; he estimates he’s visited over 50 countries.

Janet Jacobsen talked Darko into leading his first hike at Mt. Pisgah—there were 16 people. He recalls being very nervous and found it challenging to put together a couple of introductory sentences. Fortunately the group was supportive, the trip went well, and he’s gone on to lead over 110 hikes!



Darko
Photo by Angie Ruzicka

Although Darko enjoys all types of Obsidian activities he is especially fond of summer camps for the opportunity to explore new places and join in evening camp activities with folks who share the Obsidian spirit. Sunrise hikes are also special to Darko. As a morning person he relishes this quiet time of day and the thrill of watching the sun peek above the hills. He’s glad that he has found others who have a similar love of this special time. An ongoing pursuit is hiking segments of the PCT in Oregon.

Along with leading hikes Darko has been involved in trail maintenance projects and coordinated a variety of volunteer work parties including planting native species and removing invasive species. He is proud of leading Beach Clean-ups through *Stop Oregon Littering and Vandalism* (SOLVE)—he took over from Joella Ewing and believes “lots of little hands can make a big difference.”

Known for his Explora hikes, Darko uses paper maps, online resources, and Google Earth to get ideas for new hikes. He finds it rewarding to introduce people to new places and activities, such as his annual barefoot hike on the coast. As a leader he also appreciates the opportunity to meet new people and learn from others on the trail. Unlike many, Darko delights in crafting trip reports; he makes an effort to capture the details and feel of the hike.

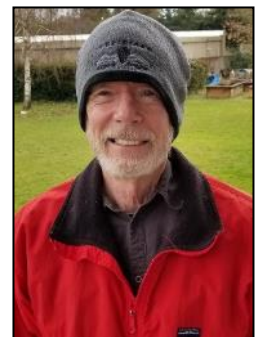
In addition to hiking, Darko enjoys simply being in nature, collecting mushrooms, taking photos, cooking, and eating. Darko offers these words of advice to folks considering leading, “Don’t be afraid to step into uncharted territory. Be fearless and ready to deal with consequences.”

Touching Base with Tom...

Darko Sojak

AS EVERY YEAR, WE LOOK FORWARD TO SPRING. This time, after the yearlong presence of the virus, even more so. Our new disease has now added a whole new dimension to the complexity of life. Springs are, for some people who don’t explore outdoors in the winter, really a new start. Some of our Obsidian friends who were active previous years, now in COVID time, simply disappeared from the scene.

I visited an old friend in his River Road area apartment. Tom Rundle, a lifelong outdoor lover, and enthusiastic Obsidian since 2014, is taking this virus quite seriously. He is doing well. Instead of going on Obsidians outings, Tom is most of the day hunched down in his apartment. He is staying positive, spanning time with reading, playing keyboard, daily exercise, dancing with his tango partner, and riding his bike. Tom, well known for his geology knowledge, has participated in hundreds of Obsidians outings, led over 70 trips and is one of the few to have earned the Obsidian Compleat Award. He is looking forward to vaccinations and times when he can hike with the Obsidians again.



Tom Rundle
Photo by Darko Sojak

Editor’s note: The publication of this article was delayed by more than a month because we did not publish a March Bulletin. Since then, as more and more of us are able to get vaccinated, things are looking brighter. Tom was sighted recently, hiking up Mt. Pisgah. And I am sure that all of us who have been keeping ourselves (and others) safe at the expense of some of our favorite activities, are eager to get back out there too.

Hand Lake Forest Shelter...RESTORATION

Reprint of report by Bill and Donna Eimstad in the September, 1993 Obsidian Bulletin

HAND LAKE SHELTER IS UNIQUE AMONG SURVIVING SHELTERS on the Willamette National Forest in that Obsidians in earlier years played a prominent part in its establishment.

Constructed in the Adirondack style with a peeled log frame and with walls and roof covered with split shakes, it has withstood the elements for more than 50 years in an area with a high annual snowfall.

The shelter is located on the edge of a meadow surrounding Hand Lake. It is on the boundary of the Mt. Washington Wilderness, and is easily accessible—just a quarter-mile off Hwy. 242 (with convenient parking across the road from the trailhead).

It was built in 1939 by the U. S. Forest Service as part of the development of Hand Lake Ski Area. McKenzie District Ranger Ray Engles directed and personally supervised the

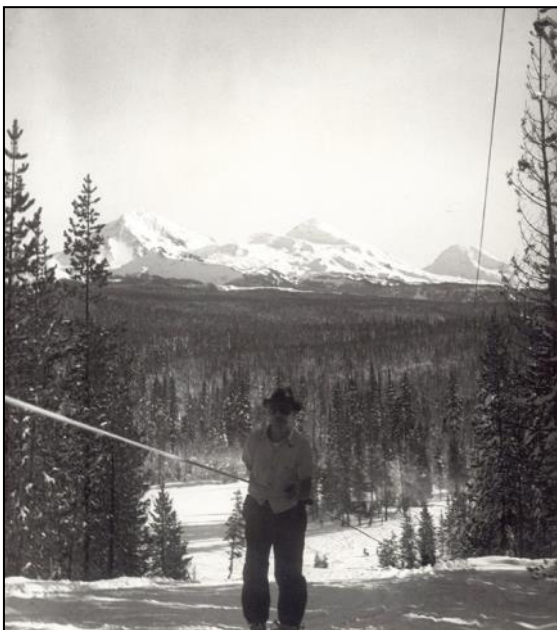
work. One of several such winter sports structures developed during the 30s, it is today the only surviving specimen.

The ski area was first developed in 1932, when an Obsidian work party cleared and graded a ski run near Hand Lake; many years later, a keen eye can still recognize the ski run site!

Later, the Forest Service in conjunction with the Obsidians, the Willamette Ski Patrol and the Ski Laufers, cleared other ski runs in the area. An uphill rope tow was installed, and a ski jump on the east side of the lake was constructed.

Hand Lake Ski Area and its warming hut was in much demand in those days and up until 1941, when the State Highway Department quit plowing Hwy. 242, thus making it inaccessible for winter use.

(Continued on next page)



A skier ascends the Obsidian rope tow from Hand Lake Ski Area in 1941 (looking east).

Photographer: Bailey Castelloe.

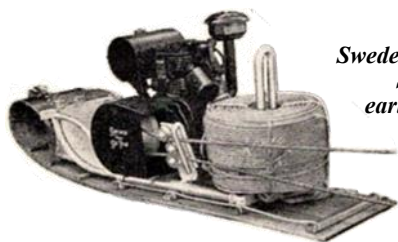


Hand Lake Ski Area (looking north) circa 1940.

Hand Lake shelter is visible in the bowl with skiers lined up to go up the Obsidian rope tow which is visible ascending (lower left corner of the picture.)

From the Obsidian Archives; photographer unknown.

THE OBSIDIANS PURCHASED A SKI TOW IN THE WINTER OF 1939 which they set up in various locations at the Hand Lake Ski Area.



*Sweden Speed
Ski Tow
early 1940s*

Costs:

Sweden Speed Ski Tow \$342.50

1200 ft. of rope (specially treated to avoid soiled clothing): \$14

Insurance: \$27.23/yr.

Forest Service permit: \$5

Weight: 350 lbs.

7 ¼ horsepower.

Specs:

Fuel: uses approx. 2 gallons of gas per day.

Can handle 12 persons at a time.

Does not require an attendant once started.

*(1993 Hand Lake Shelter Restoration report [reprint]
continued from page 4)*

Serious deterioration of the Shelter has been caused in recent years due to contact of its sill logs with the soil, and by the moist debris which has been allowed to pile up along its walls. It has also been heavily vandalized through the years: shakes had been removed for use as firewood by thoughtless picnickers and campers. Serious repairs and restoration work were needed if it was to survive many more winters...

Obsidians, in conjunction with the Forest Service, agreed to assist with the restoration work, and individual members were urged to volunteer to work during August by project leader Bill Eimstad.

The week prior to Obsidian Summer Camp, the young

The 1993 Hand Lake Shelter Restoration Project was fun to do, and I am sure all those involved learned something from Gene Thaxton's professional building experience. Jim Denney was a tireless worker and a great Crew Boss.

Some of the comments heard while work was in progress were: "Use every shake. At this price there are no rejects". "Don't back up (redo)" and "Don't look back". "My knees will never be the same again" "My bottom has a permanent line across it" "Don't yell at your wife". "I am not getting back on a ladder for 10 minutes" and "I can't believe I'm up here sky-walking."

WORK LOG: August 9–14, 1993

Monday, August 9: *Work Crew* – Jim Denney (USFS), Obsidians Bill Eimstad, Glenn Meares, and Gene Thaxton. Gene and Glenn removed old sublayment 1"x12"s on rear or east Shelter side, added new fir boards and started to attach shakes. Jim and Bill removed old underlayment (1"x12"s and shiplap) on Shelter's north side and hung replacement material on lower and upper walls.

Tuesday: *Crew* – Jim Denney and Bill Eimstad; they removed old boards and hung new ones on south wall.

Wednesday: *Crew* – Jim Denney, Bill & Donna Eimstad, John & Lenore McManigal, Glenn Meares and Gene Thaxton. Glenn and Gene cut and fitted shakes around log rafters on Shelter's rear (or east) side; John and Lenore and Bill and Donna put shakes on north and south walls; and Jim put new shiplap on roof and repaired some of the log rafters with resin epoxy.

people of McKenzie Ranger District's Resource Center removed all remaining shakes, some of the 1"x12" underlayment, epoxy filled the soft spots in main sill logs, cut up some felled snags at the site and removed heaps of debris from inside the shelter.

Obsidians and Forest Service personnel worked each and every day of August 9 through 14 (see box below, "WORK LOG"). On leaving the site on the 14th, the rain had set in and there were four more courses of shakes left to close the rear roof and finalize the project. (With just a couple more helpers during the week, the job could have been complete...!).

Jim Denney then added the final shakes to the roof, did some minor interior restoration to the project, and generally cleared the site ready for trail user access.

Thursday: *Crew* – Jim Denney, Bill Eimstad and John McManigal. Bill and John finished shaking south wall plus three courses on north wall. Jim spaced and nailed new shiplap nailers on roof.

Friday: *Crew* – Jim Denney, Bill & Donna Eimstad, Glenn Meares, Marriner Orum, Dave Predeek and Gene Thaxton. Bill and Donna finished shaking north wall. Gene and Glenn finished rear wall. Dave and Marriner removed nails from old lumber and cut off ends of nails inside structure. Gene, Glenn, Dave and Marriner began applying roof shakes to back of Shelter.

Saturday: *Crew* – Jim & Pam Denney, John Cecil, Bill & Donna Eimstad, Bea Fontana, Gene Thaxton and Dave Predeek. Jim and Bill (with Pam hauling shakes) completed front roof. Bea, Gene, John and Dave (with Donna handing up shakes) finished six courses on rear roof.



First day: hanging new shiplap on the north wall.



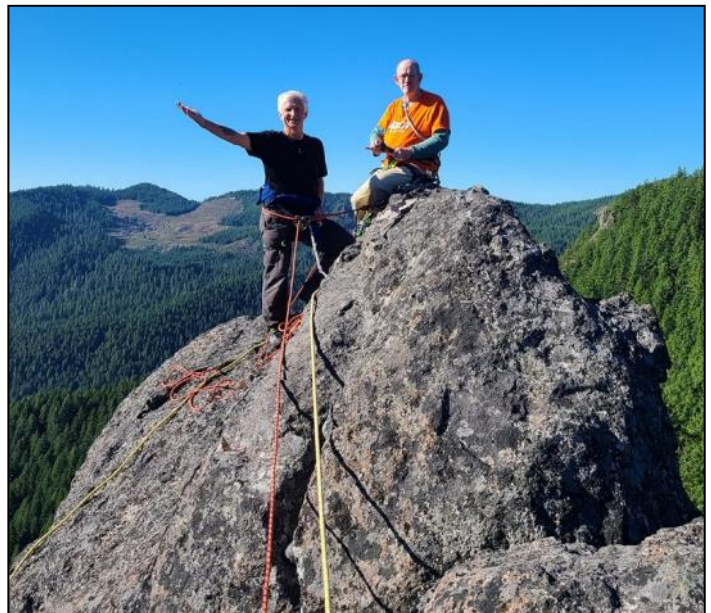
Last day: installing shakes on the back roof.

Photographer: Gene Thaxton.

ROOSTER ROCK

Paul Winther

AFTER LEADING THE OBSIDIANS' ROOSTER ROCK HIKE in Menagerie Wilderness on October 3, 2020 I could not stop thinking about climbing the rock itself. I called several people and was able to join up with John Creager, a Mazama friend from Portland. On October 27 we headed up the Rooster Rock climbers' trail which is shorter and steeper than the Trout Creek trail. We arrived at the base of the rock to find Jeff Thomas, mutual friend and Mazama historian. After some discussion we agreed to participate in his film. Jeff asked me to lead the climb so he could concentrate on filming. I felt like the climb went well although Jeff, who has had many first ascents at Smith Rock and other places, commented afterwards that it was impressive to see someone make 5.6 look so difficult. Our finale included a picnic basket on the summit. All in all a beautiful day and a lot of fun. I went home tired and happy. John drove to Bend and climbed South Sister the next day. We hope to explore more of the Menagerie spires this summer. Jeff Thomas is the author of the guidebooks *Oregon Rock* and *Oregon High*. ♦



*Paul Winther and Jeff Thomas atop Rooster Rock, October 27, 2020.
Photo by John Creager.*



Rooster Rock photo taken by Obsidian Bob Medill in 1961 shows the deteriorating ladders that once provided access to the pinnacle fire lookout on top.



Rooster Rock viewpoint in 2017. Photo by Dave Lodeesen.

Rooster Rock 1965 hike and climb

Trip report from the May, 1965 Obsidian Bulletin

AT JUST A LITTLE AFTER EIGHT AM EIGHTEEN OBSIDIANS AND FRIENDS left the East Park blocks and started for Rooster Rock on the South Santiam highway. We arrived at the Rock pile starting spot at about 10:00 and then started right straight up. Travel was easy and the weather was good. The top being reached at just about noon. It was windy on top* but we found shelter behind the lookout** and ate our lunches. After lunch we climbed a few of the rocks nearby and then tried Rooster Rock. Five of us made it up Rooster. It was slick and started up on Cal Crawford's shoulders and then tossed rope with two carabiners on the end up into a notch above, so as to have a top belay. At about 3:00 we started down and came back to Eugene thru Mable and Marcola. It was an interesting and easy way back to Eugene, also shorter than on the Freeway. On the trip were: Cal Crawford, Amy and Mark McLaughlin, Helen Smith, Paul Crawford, Willa Davis, Burnie Dawe, Lat Dawe, Bill Dollemore, Bea LeFevre, Austin McLaughlin, George Neavoll, Art and Isabelle Porter, Steve Ross, Lois Schreiner, Ruby Smith, Cal White and the leader, Mark McLaughlin.

(The leader Mark McLaughlin died on Denali in 1967.)

Editor's notes:

Today it would be frowned upon to spontaneously do a climb on a hike.

**The high point of the Rooster Rock hike is a rocky viewpoint at the end of the Rooster Rock trail, (100 yds. up the trail past the base of Rooster Rock.) It is still a popular lunch spot.*

***The pinnacle fire lookout was dismantled in 1963, so at the time of Mark McLaughlin's hike/climb in 1965, all that remained of that were a few boards.*

At the viewpoint down below there was the Staff Cabin—no trace of which remains today.

Watch the Obsidian schedule for a Rooster Rock Hike.

More about Jeff Thomas and his Videos

by Bea Fontana and Janet Jacobsen in collaboration with
Jeff Thomas, author of *Oregon Rock* and *Oregon High*

FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS JEFF THOMAS AND NED THANHOUSER HAVE BEEN WORKING TO COMPLETE TEN SEPARATE FIVE OR SIX-MINUTE VIDEOS with *Oregon Rock—The Pioneers* as the theme. Previous to that Jeff, Adam Baylor, and Sean O'Connor completed a longer video about three historic routes on Beacon Rock in the Columbia River Gorge. This film can be seen on the official Mazama site at mazamas.org/beaconrock/

Jeff wrote: In addition to the ten planned videos we will probably also do some shorter one or two-minute videos with weird and interesting stories such as the 1948 Oregon State Mountain Club climb of Three Fingered Jack that put 48 people on the summit and caused some embarrassing moments for the nearly 20 women on the climb who returned home late in violation of then existing curfews at their sororities and dorms.



Mark Hudon climbs high above the Columbia River in the Dods Jam scene from the film *Beacon Rock: Then & Now*.

Photos [3] extracted from Jeff Thomas' Vimeo: Pat Callis and the Hen (1959)

THE HEN



Pat Callis [above] who is now age 82, climbed *The Hen* four times in one day to re-enact his 1959 climb for Jeff Thomas' video.



A climber begins his ascent of the Hen.

Below:
The Hen is just a stone's throw away from the base of *Rooster Rock*:
Rooster Rock is in the upper right of pic and just the tip of the hen is visible in the lower left.



Don't miss these joyous historical odes to climbers.

The latest completed video concerns Springfield, Oregon native Pat Callis and his 1959 climb of *The Hen* in the Menagerie Wilderness. It was his second date with his future wife Gayle with the goal to teach her the basics of rock climbing. Serendipitously they met Willi Unsoeld and two other Obsidians Art Johnson and Norm Lee at the base of the Hen. They had been turned back on the climb due to a blank section of difficult-looking climbing.

Pat relates how he just happened to have a full bolt kit thanks to Obsidian Ray Harris who had to show him and his climbing partner, Gerry Honey, how to place bolts.

Jeff said that Ray was the expert in Oregon in the 1950s in bolting technology and completed only the second bolted climb in the State circa 1957 with Obsidian Tom Taylor. The climb was *Dog's Head* at the main Coburg Caves, and Ray can be seen in a horizontal position on the overhang in a color photo mounted on the wall at Obsidian Lodge. Ray taught Pat how to bolt and what equipment to use, Pat would later pass the knowledge on to Obsidians Tom and Bob Bauman both of whom would dominate both Oregon mountaineering and rock climbing in the mid-1960s through the mid-1970s. Hopefully Jeff and Ned will have a Vimeo on Tom Bauman by the end of 2021.

Jeff was the Mazama historian when Obsidian Ray Harris donated his handmade climbing equipment such as pitons and hammers and bolt hangers to the organization's museum. Paul Winther has also donated climbing equipment.

If you wish to see the film—no obligation or charge—use the following link to Vimeo. Don't miss this joyous and historical ode to climbers: vimeo.com/492685574.

Editor's note: The video has a short clip of Eva Happy climbing *Rooster Rock*. Her father Tom and brother Eamon are Obsidians.



New Oregon Desert Independent Stewardship Program in 2021

Jorry Rolfe

THE OREGON NATURAL DESERT ASSOCIATION (ONDA) HAS A NEW PROGRAM IN DEVELOPMENT for those of us interested in stewardship as individuals or families. These self-directed, customizable opportunities match you with one of two meaningful recreation monitoring/stewardship projects. This new model was developed to keep people safe during the pandemic and expands the group volunteer trips this year.

ONDA needs hundreds of volunteers to do all the work that they have lined up for 2021 since about 100 miles close to the Oregon Desert Trail need to be maintained. Two projects will be developed with an “adopt-a-trail” type of design. They are in the Steens Mountain Wilderness and the Fremont-Winema National Forest. Both projects have a window of five months from June to October. You decide which days to conduct your work in the section of the wilderness or forest that ONDA has assigned you. To drive to the projects, you will be given multiple possible access points. Camping options and a broad range of hiking distances will be offered.

The way to apply is by completing an online form, telling ONDA your interests and skills, plus a block of time or season you are available; it takes about 12 minutes to complete. ONDA will then contact you and provide an assignment, resources, and guidance.

If you are interested, please read more about the program and find the link to the form on the ONDA website at onda.org/independent-stewards/

FEBRUARY & MARCH BOARD NOTES

February 3, 2021 By Denise Rubenstein

President Maryanne Reiter called the Zoom meeting to order. Board members present: Dave Cooper, Dave Hawkins, Laura Osinga, Jorry Rolfe, Denise Rubenstein and Lyndell Wilken. Others present: Stewart Hoeg, Evelyn Nagy, Kay Coots, Carla Cooper, Lana Landstrom, and Jim Northrop.

The Board approved the minutes for January 6, 2021.

Treasurer’s Report: Stewart Hoeg reviewed the year-to-date income and expenses as well as the balance sheet. The Board approved paying the bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (Stewart Hoeg): The Finance committee discussed and voted by email on a recommendation for allocation of 2020 Obsidian investment income. The committee unanimously recommended allocating 100% of 2020 dividends to the Capital/Contingency Fund. Denise Bean, Lana Lindstrom and Stewart Hoeg reviewed, completed, and mailed a completed annual Personal Property tax form to Lane County.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): An update on the fence issue with the development on our western property line that I wrote about last month: I tracked down the current ownership of the lots to Laurelwood Eugene, LLC, a limited liability company with a Lake Oswego address, but was unable to find a contact phone or email. Sorry, but I kind of threw up my hands with connecting with them and decided to try to go through the City of Eugene Planning and Development but didn’t get back to it until recently. I am currently waiting for a decision on whether this is a Buildings issue or a Code

Compliance issue. I am fairly confident that we might get some compensation...eventually.

I do drop by the Lodge from time to time to check on things and things seem OK. Last fall’s leaves still haven’t gone anywhere on their own. Normally I appreciate stick-to-itiveness, but not always.

Membership (Diane Schechter): Total membership—396

OLD BUSINESS

The Board approved the following members for the 2021 Trail Maintenance Committee: Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore, Todd Larsen, and Pat Soussan.

Update on the Strategic Planning Committee: Maryanne explained how the group was split into smaller groups based on the core values of Exploration, Education, Stewardship, and Community Outreach. These were gleaned from the following mission statement that was approved by the Board.

“Connecting our community to the mountains, waters, and trails of the great outdoors through exploration, education and stewardship.”

NEW BUSINESS

The Finance Committee reported there were dividend gains of \$4,252 in 2020 and they recommended that those funds be moved to the Contingency Fund. The Board approved the motion.

Meghan Mahoney was approved for membership.

(Continued on page 9)

*(Board Notes
continued from page 8)*

OPEN AGENDA ITEMS

The Board revisited the idea of purchasing Zoom for the Club since it is being used so frequently. It was decided that the purchase makes sense based on current COVID conditions.

Dave Cooper reported that portions of the very old fence at the Club's property line have been taken down, perhaps by owners of new adjoining properties. He suggested that it might make sense to replace it to prevent encroachment on Club property.

ADJOURNMENT

March 3, 2021 by Denise Rubenstein

President Maryanne Reiter called the Zoom meeting to order. Board members present: Denise Bean, Dave Cooper, Marci Hansen, Dave Hawkins, Laura Osinga, Jorry Rolfe, Denise Rubenstein, and Lyndell Wilken. Others present: Jim Northrop, Carla Cooper, Kay Coots, and Stewart Hoeg.

The Board approved the minutes for February 2021.

Treasurer's Report: Stewart Hoeg reviewed the year-to-date income and expenses as well as the balance sheet. The Board approved paying the bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Climbs (Maryanne Reiter): The Climbs Committee has begun to make a list of non-technical climbs and training hikes to be scheduled in the 2021 season.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): The Lodge Grounds Committee has been looking at the need for some perimeter fencing around our property, precipitated by the removal of a section of fence along the new development to our west (see the Lodge Grounds January Board Report for details). We have had some back and forth with the development's owners asking for compensation but they claim our fence was down before their project started so they are not responsible—which I find difficult to believe since who else would want to go to the effort of removing our fence for the entire 300 feet of our shared property line. Oh well, no way to disprove their claim. Jim Northrop is still in contact with them regarding cost sharing for a fence between us and permission to access their property for the fence installation in that area; we are awaiting a response.

The Grounds Committee is ready to move forward with getting bids for several options extending from simply replacing the removed fence section with a 6-foot chain link fence, to fencing other property line sections, to fencing our entire property perimeter. Attached is one possible bidding options scenario, but not necessarily a finalized version. Dave Cooper, Grounds Committee member, will be asking for Board approval at the March meeting for the Grounds Committee to proceed with getting bids for fencing alternatives. The Grounds Committee would return to the Board later, after we receive any bids, with a recommended bid, request

for funding and approval to let a contract. Dave will be available at the meeting to answer questions, or feel free to phone me anytime.

Another area development, the Laurel Ridge PUD, to our east on the other side of the Ribbon Trail, is active again with a Public Hearing on March 17. This PUD has changed a lot since their last proposal—it now includes multi-family residentials not simply lots. I think this PUD has been open for a year or more but has flown under the radar (at least my radar). There may be an issue with road access along the Ribbon Trail that we may want to address but will need to wait until the spirit (and time) allows me to dig into it. We dealt with that same buffering issue back in 2012 when we submitted a letter to the city expressing our concerns. The developer was responsive to the first two issues in the letter.

Librarian/Historian (Lenore McManigal): The Historian Committee researched information for Bill Eimstad's obituary for the *Bulletin*: While he was Grounds Chair in 1983/84, he surveyed the grounds and built the boundary fence. In August 1983 he was project manager for the restoration of the Hand Lake Shelter in the Mt. Washington Wilderness. (Bea Fontana helped install roof shingles on the last day of that project.)

Online/Webmaster (Wayne Deeter): I am requesting Board approval for the following members for the Online Committee for 2021: Jan Anselmo, Steve Cordon, John Jacobsen, and Marci Hansen.

Publications/Bulletin (Lou Maenz): No *Bulletin* for March

Safety (Lyndell Wilken): The AED batteries have been checked and calls made to those checking out the first aid kits during COVID-19 procedures to see if the kits remain fully stocked.

Winter Trips (Dave Cooper): We had 29 trips in February. When all trips have been reconciled the trip fees collected should be \$249.

OLD BUSINESS

Maryanne presented an update from the Strategic Planning Committee. The four subcommittees have offered goals and strategies; Laura Osinga is in the process of editing the work for continuity. The SPC will meet on March 11 for a review of that work and plan the next steps of the process.

NEW BUSINESS

The following members were approved for the 2021 Online Committee: Chair – Wayne Deeter, members Jan Anselmo, Steve Cordon, John Jacobsen, and Marci Hansen.

Lodge Perimeter Fencing: Dave Cooper presented the findings of the Grounds Committee regarding new perimeter fencing. Three options were presented, and the Board approved a motion for the Committee to pursue bids for the different options.

The Club received three separate gifts in memory of Bill Eimstad from Nancy and Troy Maynard, Lenore McManigal, and Jim Northrop. An acknowledgement will be sent to Bill's widow, Donna Eimstad.

ADJOURNMENT

TRIP REPORTS



Bike Trips

Daffodil Bike Ride

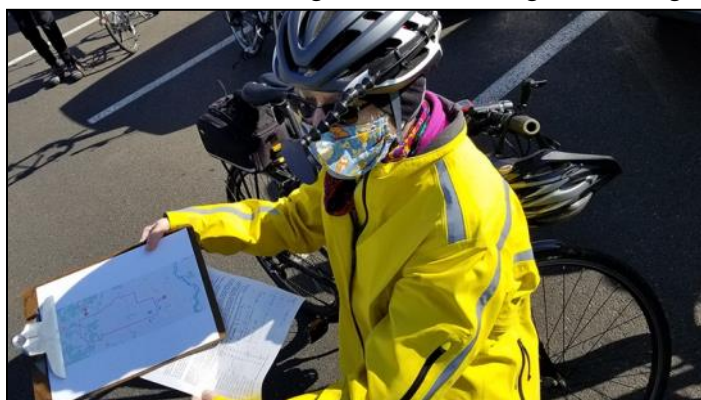
March 13, 2021

Leader: Lana Lindstrom

Photographer: Darko Sojak

Bike: 19 miles, 350 ft. (Moderate)

IT WAS A PERFECT DAY TO CYCLE IN THE JUNCTION CITY AREA and to admire the bazillions of daffodils. Two bald eagles posed for us in a tree; red-winged blackbirds called to us; a harrier glided near the ground looking for lunch; and a couple of male turkeys, with their bright, red wattles, looked for females. We had a long break at the Long Tom Grange,



Leader Lana Lindstrom with a plan.

basking in the sun, and sharing stories. Apparently, years ago, grange members encouraged their neighbors along Ferguson Road to plant daffodils, and the idea spread to surrounding roads. It was a fantastic spring ride with convivial riders. Members: Kitson Graham, Peter Graham, Elizabeth Grant, John Hegg, Gwyneth Iredale, Lana Lindstrom, Angie Ruzicka, Dale Schaper, Chris Shuraleff, Darko Sojak, Lyndell Wilken. Nonmember: Caroline Forell.



Climbs

Mountaineering Conditioning

March 16, 2021

Leader: Jennifer Marlow

Hike: 6 miles, 2,000 ft. (Moderate)

OUR GROUP MET AT THE MAIN PARKING LOT AT MOUNT Pisgah for a training hike in preparation for the upcoming mountaineering season. The hike included two trips up and down Trail 1 at a brisk pace, with participants carry-

ing 20–30 pounds of training weight in their backpacks. We set off under clear skies with beautiful views of the valley below. We stopped momentarily at the summit marker to enjoy the scenery before heading back down to our starting point. After a quick break, we headed back up for our second summit. We enjoyed lovely sunset views on our second lap, and made it back down to the trailhead without needing to pull out our headlamps. Members: Shannon Clawson, Trina Kanewa, Jennifer Marlow, David Morris, Patrick Mucker, Maryanne Reiter.



Hikes

Wild Iris Ridge

January 13, 2021

Leader: Jane Hackett

Hike: 4 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)

JUST LIKE SPRING—A LOT OF WATER AND MUD. We started from the upper trailhead. We hiked on the power line road before dropping down to the usual road. We took the first left hand cutoff, which led us into the south portion of Wild Iris Ridge. There are several old roads in this area. We did one loop that led into more open country and back to the main road. We continued on the usual trail back to the car. There are still unexplored roads, so I can see that it is possible to add a little more mileage to this hike. Members: Donna Bloomfield, Jane Hackett.

Delta Ponds

January 16, 2021

Leader: Jane Hackett

Hike: 5 miles, (Easy)

BEAUTIFUL DAY TO ENJOY THE DELTA PONDS TRAIL. Starting behind Valley River Center, we walked along the bike path until we reached a walkway between the apartments that allowed public use. From there we walked to the north trailhead and took the trail back along the pond. It was fun to see the herons sitting high in the cottonwoods. We could see the stick nests that they were building. There were probably ten or more herons standing at the tops of these very tall trees. We made it over the bridge and back to the cars in two and half hours. Members: Donna Bloomfield, Patricia Cleall, Jane Hackett, Sandra Larsen. Nonmembers: Jane Allen, Meghan Mahoney.

Siuslaw Ridge Explora Hike

January 23, 2021

Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak

Assistant Leader: Angie Ruzicka

Hike: 5.5 miles, 1,400 ft. (Moderate)

OUR 5.5-MILE EXPLORA HIKE TO WHITTAKER CREEK AND CLAY CREEK RECREATION areas was a complete hit. We enjoyed the sunny weather, great trails, fun conversation and



Gwyneth and Kathie.

mushroom picking. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Gwyneth Iredale, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak.

Shotgun Creek Winter

January 30, 2021

Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak

Hike: 4.6 miles, 800 ft. (Easy)

OUR LIVELY GROUP ENJOYED A CLOUDY, 45-DEGREE DAY, the vibrant greenery along Shotgun Creek, and the steep sections of Drury Ridge. Occasional muddy parts slowed us



Holger near huge tree.

down a bit so we could spot and collect a handful of chanterelles, winter chanterelles and hedgehog mushrooms. It was a good day on the trail. Members: Vicky Hanson, Gwyneth Iredale, Holger Krentz, Vern Marsonette, Linda Parks, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Paul Winther.

Eel Creek

January 31, 2021

Leader: Jane Hackett

Photographer: Daphne James

Hike: 6 miles, 100 ft. (Moderate)

TIMED JUST RIGHT—we left Eugene under low clouds and rain. We stopped at the bakery in Elkton for the bathroom, and at Dean Creek Viewing Area to see the few elk that were bedded down in the meadow. By the time we got to the trailhead, the rain was decreasing and the clouds were lifting.



Scrambling up the the big dune.

Although the sun never appeared, there was no wind, and the temperature allowed people to pack away rain jackets. We had to wade through portions of the trail in the deflation plain. We found two bear tracks in a drier portion of the trail. The tide was high, leaving little beach for walking. We had lunch sitting high on the foredune, and watched the waves and the next storm roll in. With the pick-up in the rain and wind, we chose a new route back through the dunes to the cars. Not a lot of miles, but lots of exercise on the way back, hiking up and down on sand and into the wind. The trip was new to some people in the group, and everyone had a great time. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Lynda Christiansen, Patricia Esch, Jane Hackett, Nancy Hoecker, Daphne James, Nancy Whitfield, William Wu.

Dillard / Fox Hollow Loop

February 5, 2021

Leader: David Cooper

Hike: 2 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)

WE HAD A VERY PLEASANT HIKE BETWEEN DILLARD ROAD AND FOX HOLLOW on well-maintained trails. From my leader's perspective, the best part was just a chance to see old friends and meet some new ones. Between COVID and some surgeries, I was grateful to have a chance to be on the trail again with the Obsidians. A beautiful trail, no rain, and Obsidian friends—perfect! Members: Joanna Alexander, Donna Bloomfield, Patricia Cleall, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Hilary Fisher, Janet Jacobsen, Evelyn Nagy, Linda Parks, Jorry Rolfe, Dorothy van Winkle, Nancy Whitfield.

North Butte Explora Hike

February 6, 2021

Leader: Darko Sojak

Hike: 7.4 miles, 870 ft. (Moderate)

IT WAS A CLOUDY, 45 DEGREES WHEN WE ARRIVED AT SHEA VIEWPOINT, just five miles east of Sweet Home. Our fast group hiked along the southwest shore of the Foster Reservoir, crossed the dam, and then took the Marks Ridge Drive gravel road. From the top of Marks Ridge, we used the old logging roads to reach the top of cold North Butte at 11:50. After a short lunch, our happy group went down the same path. Everyone enjoyed today's exploratory hike. Many thanks to Kathy Randall and Gwyneth Iredale for picking up the trash along Marks Ridge Drive. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Gwyneth Iredale, Holger Krentz, Diana Masarie, Wally Miller, Linda Parks, Kathy Randall, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Nancy Whitfield.

Hendricks Winter Garden Walk

February 9, 2021

Leader: Denise Rubenstein

Hike: 2 miles, 150 ft. (Easy)

THE SUN CAME OUT JUST IN TIME ON THIS COLD DAY. We enjoyed a lot of treasures in the garden today—Hendricks Park smelled like a flower shop. It's always changing and



Photo by
Denise
Rubenstein

*Some of the loveliest
hellebores.*

Photo by
Donna
Bloomfield



simply amazing. Looking forward to more visits. Members: Marsha Barr, Donna Bloomfield, Mary Hamilton, Peg Straub, Vicky Hanson, Linda Parks, Cindy Rice, Denise Rubenstein.

Covered Bridges On A Rainy Day

February 13, 2021

Leader: Darko Sojak

Hike: 6.6 miles, 75 ft. (Moderate)

WE HIKED ON PAVED RURAL ROADS from Earnest Covered Bridge to Wendling Covered Bridge—and back. Mohawk Valley was nice on a drizzly day. Members: Donna Bloomfield, Kathie Carpenter, Gwyneth Iredale, Holger Krentz, Linda Parks, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, William Wu.

Oregon's Birthday

February 14, 2021

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Assistant Leader: Peg Straub

Photographer: Holger Krentz

Hike: 8 miles, 300 ft. (Moderate)

WE SHARED OREGON TRIVIA AT THE DORRIS RANCH LIVING HISTORY VILLAGE before we headed up to Willamette Heights Park to see the views of the Willamette River, and of the valley toward Spencer Butte. The totem pole with the beaver and salmon is sadly in need of repair. Then, it was downhill to the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery Park, where we took a back trail down to the LTD bus station to see the 'The Sun' mosaic mural and the Platform Garden. At the Ken



Along the Millrace.

Kesey mural, we studied the book titles that were part of Kesey's personal collection. Looking upward, we could easily see the beaver on the back of the Oregon flag flying over the Springfield Library, and also at the Pioneer Museum. We had no problem finding another beaver in the Homer Simpson mural. Posing for a photo, a few of us tried to push Homer out of his hammock. Oops! I forgot to take us by the Oregon Trail mural, but instead we headed back to the Booth Kelly Trailhead to walk on the Mill Race Path. The highlight was an egret flying over and landing on the water. Thanks to Peg Straub, who shared about Springfield and her father, Governor Bob Straub. Portable toilets at the EMX bus station and on the trail were appreciated. The trip took three hours and fifteen minutes. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Lynda Christiansen, Marguerite Cooney, Patricia Esch, Janet Jacobsen, Holger Krentz, Sandra Larsen, Meghan Mahoney, Linda Parks, Ginny Reich, Peg Straub.

Dorris Ranch / Clearwater Park

February 20, 2021

Leader: Vern Marsonette

Hike: 8 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)

THE GROUP STARTED THE DAY WITH CLOUDY SKIES and temperatures around 45 degrees. As we hiked along, the weather improved, the sun broke through, and our lively conversation and laughter made for a rejuvenating hike. The river was beautiful and the miles flew by. We spotted two eagles that were having a spirited conversation about which one had the fishing rights in the area. Mostly sunny, with some spurts of rain, on and off. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Whitney Gould, Holger Krentz, Vern Marsonette, Lynn Meacham, Kathy Randall, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak.

Meadowlark Prairie

February 22, 2021

Leader: Whitney Gould

Photographer: David Lodeesen

Hike: 6.4 miles, 10 ft. (Easy)

A GREAT WALK WITH A GREAT GROUP! Three miles each way on the paved Fern Ridge Path, with a short detour on the Tsanchiifin Walk, where we got up close to the wetlands.



Watergate.

Saw a fair number of birds—turns out that this is prime bird-watching time. Thanks to all for coming! Members: Marguerite Cooney, Leah Firth, Whitney Gould, Daphne James, David Lodeesen, Meghan Mahoney, Lynn Meacham, Linda Parks, Dorothy van Winkle, Nancy Whitfield.

Robe Hill / Cedar Butte Explora Hike

March 6, 2021

Leader: Darko Sojak

Assistant Leader: Paul Winther

Hike: 11.5 miles, 2,600 ft. (Difficult)

A MAZE OF OLD LOGGING ROADS AND TRAILS northeast of Brownsville was our hiking destination. Without much planning, we explored 11.5 miles of Robe Hill and Snake Hill, with a solid cumulative elevation gain. Thanks and hurrah to everyone for your enthusiasm and support. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Gwyneth Iredale, Holger Krentz, Jessica Moll, Linda Parks, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Paul Winther.

Green Island Birdwalk

March 13, 2021

Leader: Joanna Alexander

Assistant Leader: Randy Sinnott

Hike: 3 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)

ON A LOVELY, SUN-DRENCHED MORNING, we took the north loop trail. The McKenzie River Trust welcomers said to be sure to see the bird boxes, but joked that they would be difficult to locate. Our first delight was running into Dennis Arendt, who had installed many boxes the previous week. He makes the bird nesting boxes, decorates them (including the roofs), and coats them with three layers of shellac. They display beautiful images of nature, birds, and famous artists with their iconic paintings, such as Van Gogh ('Sunflowers', 'Starry Night'), Picasso and Matisse. They were not at all difficult to find. Tree swallows swooped all around us—birder Randy Sinnott counted at least 50 of them—and we saw their dark feathers shimmer with colors in the sunlight. Kate is also a birder, and spotted many birds as well. Western bluebirds also delighted. We trekked on at least four miles, with 25 bird species encountered: Canada goose, American wigeon, California quail, Anna's hummingbird, double-crested cormorant, great blue heron, great egret, turkey vulture, belted kingfisher, red-breasted sapsucker, American kestrel, Steller's jay, California scrub-jay, black-capped chickadee, tree swallow, ruby-crowned kinglet, Bewick's wren, western bluebird, varied thrush, American robin, American goldfinch, golden-crowned sparrow, song sparrow, spotted towhee, yellow-rumped warbler. All seemed satisfied with our adventures away from the isolation of our houses during this too-long period of COVID pandemic. Members: Joanna Alexander, Patricia Cleall, Helen Martz, Linda Parks, Kate Shapiro, Randy Sinnott. Nonmembers: Marie Stringer.

Pi Hike

March 14, 2021

Leader & Photographer: Janet Jacobsen

Assistant Leader: Jorry Rolfe

Hike: 4.5 miles, 387 ft. (Easy)

WITH DEPARTURE TIMES 30 MINUTES APART, Jorry and I each led eight hikers through the Masonic Cemetery. We stopped at the 'mathematician's bench' and asked our umbrella-adorned Obsidians to hunt for a spelling mistake in the marker for Dr. Paul Civin (1919-2005), a University of



Vickie, Marie and Jorry look at Paul Civin's marker for the incorrect spelling of mathematician.

Oregon math professor, and also an Obsidian. The mistake was that the word ‘mathematician’ was missing the letter ‘e’. In my group, Ginny Reich shared information about her father, Dr. Robert Clark, who wrote a biography of Thomas Condon, and whose marker is near the Condon plot. Joanna pointed out that the nearby Irish yew tree is a tribute to Condon’s Irish background. A meadow of blooming fawn lilies was a surprise. Meanwhile, Jorry’s group was fortunate to have Marguerite Cooney guide them to the hard-to-find public trail to a bog near the golf course. For many, the trails and sights were new. Another flower surprise was the plethora of trillium in full bloom on the Ribbon Trail. Our last stop was at Sweet Life for a pastry—not pie. Thanks to Obsidian Karen Seidel and to Charley Wright, both long time members of the Friends of the Masonic Cemetery who, when I called them on the phone, quickly answered my question, “Are there mathematicians buried at the cemetery?” Jorry and I were glad we were able to safely accommodate so many, especially with comments like, “I LOVED this walk.” Members: Joanna Alexander, Donna Bloomfield, Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Sharon Duncan, Patricia Esch, Vicky Hanson, Kathy Hoeg, Gwyneth Iredale, Janet Jacobsen, Sandra Larsen, Lynn Meacham, Ginny Reich, Jorry Rolfe, Peg Straub, Dorothy van Winkle. Nonmembers: Marie Stringer, Katie Dahill.

Dorris Ranch / Clearwater Park
March 15, 2021

Leader: Whitney Gould
Hike: 8 miles, 20 ft. (Moderate)

SMALL, FRIENDLY GROUP, great weather, and lovely views of the river. We started with an unplanned 1/3-mile, easy walk along a woody trail (courtesy of Leah), then got onto the main paved path for the rest of our journey. We talked about planning another walk, starting along the same main path, then turning onto the Mill Race path, and then finding our way back to the Dorris Ranch parking lot. A definite possibility for the near future. Members: Joanna Alexander, Leah Firth, Whitney Gould, Jorry Rolfe, Marie Stringer.

Lower Alpine Trail
March 21, 2021

Leader: Darko Sojak
Hike: 5.6 miles, 1,160 ft. (Moderate)

THE STEEP LOWER ALPINE TRAIL WAS A GREAT REMEDY for cool, morning muscles. We traversed a couple of mossy ridges and one clearcut area, and reached our lunch destination at noon. After a short lunch, seasoned with a light drizzle, we headed the same way back. Finally, the sun peeked out, so we could enjoy wildflowers in full grace. It was a good day on the trail. Members: Brad Bennett, Donna Bloomfield, Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Holger Krentz, Lynn Meacham, Linda Parks, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak. Nonmembers: Doug Sandburg, Elijah Blais.

University of Oregon Campus Walk
March 22, 2021

Leader: Joanna Alexander
Hike: 2.5 miles, (Easy)

THIS SECOND DAY OF SPRING, the forecast showers held off until after the walk, making for a delightful setting to amble about campus. Introductions included a little story about our relationship with trees. One of us marveled at the fact that she was born just steps away from our meeting place, while another said that, being an Army brat, she was the complete

opposite. One played beneath a tree in her childhood while another climbed one. Still another likes to walk around, look at landscaped gardens and trees, and name them. We saw fabulous saucer magnolia trees in bloom, and other trees in bud. We lingered in the old part of campus looking at its old trees, including the amazing bigleaf maple that was extraordinarily festooned with licorice fern. We stopped to look at Jeff Bartow’s sculpture in front of Kalapuya Ilihi, ‘From the Mad River to the Little Salmon River or the Responsibility of Raising a Child.’ A stop at Starbucks across from Hiron’s satisfied natural and social needs after we’d visited the Arts Complex and the Knight Science Center trees. Everyone seemed to enjoy the morning quite a bit. Members: Joanna Alexander, Donna Bloomfield, Nikki Frank, Sheridan Gates, Kathy Hoeg, Meghan Mahoney, Evelyn Nagy, Jorry Rolfe, Marie Stringer.

Siltcoos River to Carter Lake
March 23, 2021

Leader: Daphne James
Photographer: Holger Krentz
Hike: 7 miles, 150 ft. (Moderate)

THIS TRIP COMBINED THE WAXMYRTLE AND TAYLOR DUNES TRAILS. We began at the Waxmyrtle trailhead and hiked through the coastal forest along the lovely Siltcoos River to



Jean and her find—two [Japanese?] floats.



Daphne and Jean heading back to the parking lot. Jean dragged those floats all the way back.

the beach. We timed our beach stretch to be two and a half hours after high tide, and we had plenty of sand for a hike south. At the number 112 sign we turned east and got on the Taylor Dunes trail. From there, we hiked through forests and dunes to a trail junction. We turned right at the junction, which took us through a closed-for-winter campground to some picnic tables on the shore of Carter Lake. After lunch looking out on the sparkling lake, we continued through the campground to the Taylor Dunes trailhead. The trail took us past Taylor Lake and a viewpoint, then brought us back to the junction for our return to the beach and our starting point. This hike is the full Oregon Coast experience: river views, coastal forest, beach, dunes and lakes. Members: Pam Caples, Kathie Carpenter, Jacque Davis, Elizabeth Grant, Jean Harris, Daphne James, Brenda Kameenui, Holger Krentz, Diane Schechter.

Rooster Rock

March 27, 2021

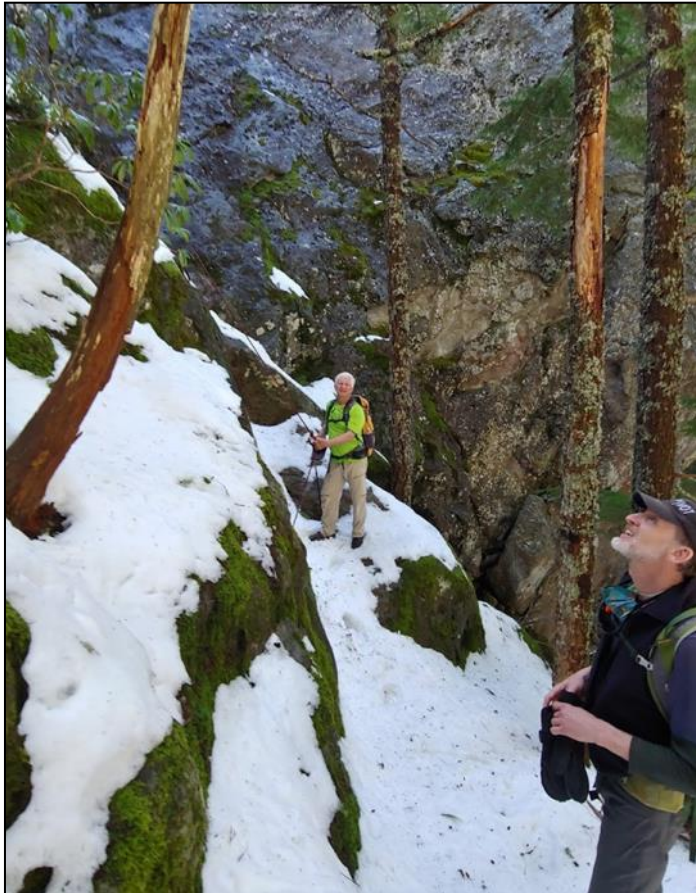
Leader: Paul Winther

Assistant Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Photographer: Gwyneth Iredale

Hike: 6.6 miles, 2,300 ft. (Moderate)

ANOTHER PERFECT DAY FOR OUR HIKE TO ROOSTER ROCK in the Menagerie Wilderness. From our meet-up at Foster Lake (also called Shea Viewpoint), we drove twenty-two miles to the Trout Creek Trailhead, across from Trout Creek Campground. Two of our drivers had to park along the highway since the small parking lot was full. The hike starts in the forest with a gradual incline. Darko spotted some hedgehog mushrooms which he later harvested. Snow queen, spring beauty and yellow violets were in bloom, and the rhodias should be beautiful later in the spring. After a couple of clothing adjustments, we reached a steeper section of trail—a warmup for what lay ahead. We stopped at one of two places



Paul and Darko at the base of Rooster Rock—no climb today!

where, through the trees, one can see Rooster Rock and the Hen, two of the remnant volcanic plugs of the Old Cascades. Our group of eight moved efficiently to the junction with the Rooster Rock climber's trail. From there, the snow-covered trail climbed steeply to the viewpoint above the rock, where we enjoyed lunch and the wonderful views. The snowy, difficult footing prevented a side trip to the Hen—we put that off for another day. We covered the round-trip of six miles and 2,300 feet in under four hours. Look for this hike on the schedule several more times this year. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Gwyneth Iredale, Janet Jacobsen, Linda Parks, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Paul Winther, Karen Yoerger.

Mt. Baldy Full Moonrise

March 28, 2021

Leader: Darko Sojak

Hike: 3.5 miles, 950 ft. (Easy)

STEADY, LIGHT RAIN ACCOMPANIED THREE OF US to the top of very windy Mt. Baldy. The fog prevented us from seeing the moonrise, so we descended briskly. Members: Meghan Mahoney, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak.

Amazon Headwaters/Spencer Butte Hikes

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

Various Leaders

Kathie Carpenter: 1/27 12 Members

Lana Lindstrom: 2/3 13 Members

Janet Jacobsen: 2/10 11 Members,

3/31 13 Members, 2 Nonmembers

Denise Rubenstein: 2/17 12 Members, 3/3 14 Members,

3/24 14 Members, 1 Nonmember

Mike Smith: 2/24 12 Members

Karen Yoerger: 3/10 16 Members

Jorry Rolfe: 3/17 12 Members



Happy St. Patrick's Day: Caroline, Vern, Mike and Carla atop Spencer Butte. Photographer: Darian Morray.

Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hikes

Hike: 8.5 miles, 1,740 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

Jonathan Jost: 1/12 3 Members, 1 Nonmember, 2/9 8 Members

Leah Firth, Jorry Rolfe: 1/26 7 Members

Janet Jacobsen: 2/2 7 Members,

2/23 7 Members, 1 Nonmember

Randy Sinnott: 2/16 9 Members

Elizabeth Grant: 2/19 2 Members, 3/12 4 Members

Sue Wolling: 3/2 10 Members

Leah Firth: 3/9 5 Members, 2 Nonmembers

Karen Yoerger: 3/16 9 Members

Jorry Rolfe: 3/23 9 Members

52nd Street / Spencer Butte Hikes

Hike: 5.2 miles, 1,150 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

Karen Yoerger: 1/27 6 Members, 1 Nonmember

Evelyn Nagy: 2/3 6 Members, 2/24 6 Members, 3/17 4 Members

Joanna Alexander: 2/10 4 Members, 1 Nonmember,

2/17 2 Members, 3/3 6 Members, 1 Nonmember,

3/10 3 Members, 1 Nonmember, 3/24 3 Members, 3 Nonmembers

Mt. Pisgah Hikes

Hikes: 3.5–9.5 miles, 1,000–2,000 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

Key Coats: 1/28 6 Members, 1 Nonmember

Janet Jacobsen: 1/28 7 Members,

1/31 5 Members, 2 Nonmembers, 2/6 9 Members,

2/13 8 Members, 2/20 10 Members, 2/26 9 Members,

2/28 10 Members, 2 Nonmembers,

3/6 10 Members, 3 Nonmembers,

3/13 10 Members, 2 Nonmembers, 3/28 8 Members

Karen Yoerger: 2/11 5 Members, 3/11 7 Members

Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom: 3/20 16 Members

Jorry Rolfe: 3/27 6 Members, 1 Nonmember



Snow Shoe Trips

Gold Lake via Marilyn Lake

February 7, 2021

Leader: Jane Hackett

Photographer: Denise Rubenstein

SShoe: 6 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)

A GREAT WINTER DAY. We arrived at Gold Lake Sno-Park with sunny, blue skies and a 29-degree temperature. For the rest of the day, the temperature stayed low. Taking the



Kathy scolding the bird—or attempting to teach it something?

trail between Upper and Lower Marilyn Lakes provided a beautiful view of iced-over winter lakes, with no tracks or trails to interrupt the snow. We had lunch at the bridge on Gold Lake Road. The Clark's nutcrackers made their presence known to everyone in the group—obnoxious. People were interested in seeing Gold Lake, so we broke trail into

the campground and down to the lake edge—beautiful. A group of cross-country skiers was spotted skiing across the far end of the lake. After that, it was the long road back to the cars. Everyone had a great time. Members: Donna Bloomfield, Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Patricia Esch, Jane Hackett, Linda Parks, Denise Rubenstein, Lisa Van Liefde.

Salt Creek Falls

February 28, 2021

Leader: Jane Hackett

SShoe: 5 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

A FOOT OF NEW SNOW WITH SPRING CONDITIONS—raining in the woods and clear blue skies. Although the parking areas were very full, we did not have a crowded trail. Everyone enjoyed the day, the views and the waterfall. I think everyone was happy to get back to the cars and out of the continuous dripping from the trees. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Michael Dunne, Patricia Esch, Theo Glick, Jane Hackett, Holger Krentz, Kathy Randall, Diana Wheat.



Ski Trips

Gold Lake

February 14, 2021

Leader: Jane Hackett

Xski: 5.5 miles, 100 ft. (Moderate)

BIG LAKE TURNED INTO GOLD LAKE. With just the two of us, and the probability that the Santiam pass would present bigger driving problems, we adjusted. This was William's first attempt at cross country skiing, and I am working on rebuilding my own skills. There were 24 inches of new snow. We had a great time, and took a few tumbles. Tons of people at the sno-park. Members: Jane Hackett, William Wu.

North Blowout Shelter

March 7, 2021

Leader: Jane Hackett

Xski: 6 miles, 300 ft. (Moderate)

EASY DRIVE TO RAY BENSON SNO-PARK. Blue skies and sun, along with gusty wind and 27 degrees. Six inches of new powder over a packed base made for perfect conditions. No views of big mountains—too many low clouds kept them under cover. We both had a good time and enjoyed one of the better snow days this season. Members: Jane Hackett. Non-member: Bhavia Wagner.



Trail Maintenance

Ridgeline Drainage & Brushing

January 30, 2021

Leader: Matt Bell

TrIMnt: 1 mile, 100 ft. (Moderate)

OUR GROUP MET FOR AS LEISURELY A TRAIL MAINTENANCE TRIP as I can remember. We hiked into Amazon Headwaters Park, checking the drainage ditches as we went.

Overall, the trail is in very good condition. We split into two groups at the trail junction near Dillard Road, with Janet and Pat returning along the lower trail, and the rest of our group lightly cleaning the drainage ditches and culverts on our way back to the trailhead. Back at the trailhead, we found that Clara had cleaned the kiosk, and was busy cutting back the blackberries from around it. We all enjoyed some of Janet's persimmon bread. Members: Matt Bell, Nathaniel Bell, Oliver Bell, Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore, Janet Jacobsen, Dave Predeek, Pat Soussan.

Spencer Butte Drainage

February 27, 2021

Leader: Matt Bell

TrIMnt: 2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

WE MET UP ON A BRISK MORNING TO CLEAN THE TRAILHEAD and clear drainage. Larry, Dan, and Matt hiked up the West Trail, clearing drainage along the way. We summited, and then came down the Main Trail, clearing drainage ditches and checking culverts. We met the rest of our group as they finished cleaning the trailhead. Under Mark's guidance, we cleared away sticks to help the fawn lilies prosper. Clara and Joanna immaculately cleaned the steps. Janet filled a garbage bag, primarily with bags of dog poop. It seems somewhat ironic to fill a large bag with small bags. Members: Joanna Alexander, Matt Bell, Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore, Janet Jacobsen, Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Mark Conley, Larry Dunlap.

Blanton Ridge Drainage

March 27, 2021

Leader: Matt Bell

TrIMnt: 2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

OUR GROUP MET AT THE WILLAMETTE & 52ND TRAILHEAD parking lot on a beautiful spring morning. We broke into two groups. Pat, Clara, Joanna, and Mark met at the main trailhead to clean the steps and kiosk, and to tend the fawn lilies that are getting ready to bloom. They also cleaned the kiosk at Willamette & 52nd. The rest of our group—Larry, Dave, Dan, Nathaniel, Andrew, and I—hiked along Blanton Ridge to clean the drainage ditches and cut back sword ferns and slough that was piled on the uphill side of the trail. We cleaned four sets of ditches and culverts, and cleaned about 100 yards of slough. We enjoyed seeing wildflowers starting to bloom, including houndstongue. Thanks go to Dave Predeek for answering my questions about which flowers were blooming. Members: Joanna Alexander, Matt Bell, Nathaniel Bell, Patricia Cleall, Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore, Dave Predeek. Nonmembers: Larry Dunlap, Mark Conley, Andrew Highison.



Work Party

Coyote Creek Restoration

March 14, 2021

Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak

WrkPrty: 2 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)

IN COOPERATION WITH THE MCKENZIE RIVER TRUST and the Long Tom Watershed Council, our cheerful group removed a bunch of teasel on the Lorane Valley property.



Lana Lindstrom, Angie Ruzicka and Denise Rubenstein remove teasel.

Members: Linda Anson, Lynda Christiansen, David Cooper, Elizabeth Grant, Nancy Hoecker, Lubos Hubata-Vacek, Lana Lindstrom, Barbara Orsi, Linda Parks, Cindy Rice, Jorry Rolfe, Denise Rubenstein, Angie Ruzicka, Gordon Sayre, Darko Sojak.

Obsidian Grounds

April 1, 2021

Leader: John Jacobsen

WrkPrty: (Moderate)

WOW, IT IS AMAZING WHAT A DOZEN FOLKS CAN DO IN THREE HOURS! Specifically, we would cut back sword ferns; weed and clean planting beds; mulch planting beds; clean, weed and mulch recently planted trees and other plants; pressure wash the handicap parking area; and clean the gutters on both the Lodge and the storage building. Weeding, weeding and more weeding. A beautiful, sunny spring day was a great backdrop for this industrious crew. Thanks all. Members: Joanna Alexander, Mari Baldwin, Ben Brown, Rob Castleberry, David Cooper, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Meg Kieran, Sandra Larsen, Vern Marsonette, Jim Northrop, Denise Rubenstein.

As the World Turns...

Lou Maenz, Publications Chair

OUR SOAP OPERA OF LIFE WITH COVID IS OPENING UP A BIT—as you all know—and as it morphs, we morph. The seven members of the editorial committee will once again be meeting on Zoom as we are not all yet completely vaccine protected. Hopefully soon we will be meeting in person and then—fingers crossed—revert back to having lunch on the patio at Cornucopia. A huge thank you to our layout designers and editors who smoothly and seamlessly transitioned to the needs of the COVID world and ran our meetings.

The folder team, by the time you receive this *Bulletin*, will have returned in person to process the necessary folding, labeling, and tabbing that has fallen to Instaprint during this past year. This will be done once again at the Lodge, but downstairs, six feet apart and with doors wide open. Thank you all for hanging in there during the past year and being ready to resume this necessary task and follow the *Guiding Light* into our *Search for Tomorrow*.



Summer Trips Update

DAVE COOPER HAS SWITCHED HATS FROM WINTER TRIPS TO SUMMER TRIPS. Trips are needed! Take a look at your summer plans and sign up to lead one of your favorite outings. Need ideas? Our website can help. Look at the trips you have been on by using the My Trips tab in the signup area or check out the new Trip History on the main page. No need to have it all figured out. If you have a **place** and a **date**, Dave can help you get the rest of the information to get your trip scheduled.

If you have questions about permits, trail closures...email Dave at dwcoop@yahoo.com.

Permits and Fire closures

Dave Cooper, Summer Trips Chair

APRIL 6 WAS THE FIRST DAY TO APPLY FOR PERMITS IN THE WILLAMETTE NATIONAL FOREST WILDERNESS AREAS. (Bookmark Recreation.gov for access to apply for permits). Beginning Friday, May 28 and ending on Friday, September 24, 2021 day-use permits will be required for 19 out of 79 trails in the Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Washington, and Three Sisters wilderness areas. During the same period, overnight-use permits will be required for all trails in those same three wilderness areas. There are some exceptions for PCT hikers, volunteers, and hunters. More information about the permits can be found here: go.usa.gov/xsrZF

Some areas will be closed this year because of the wild-fires. Don't even think about Jefferson Park. Everything in the Willamette National Forest north of Pamela Lake trail is closed, including the PCT. The entire Opal Creek Wilderness is closed. The severe winds that spread the fires last year took down a lot of trees throughout the Cascades. Just on one section of the North Fork Willamette Trail out of Westfir it took volunteers several days to remove three substantial bridges and the trees that demolished them. Check the Willamette and Deschutes Forest Service web pages to find out about all closures and restrictions.



Success and Disappointment As the Permit System Opens



Janet Jacobsen

ON APRIL 6, AT 7:00 AM, AT LEAST FOUR OBSIDIANS WERE PRIMED TO GO ONLINE TO GET A PERMIT for their favorite trailhead(s). The pressure was on! Most were successful in getting a permit for 6 to 9 hikers, but not for twelve. It may be possible to obtain additional permits in the week prior to the trip date. Dave Cooper suggests that this will be a great time to search out new, non-permit trails to enjoy and share with others.

Eugene Family YMCA's Fitness Adventure Challenge



THE Y IS SPONSORING ITS FIRST-EVER FITNESS CHALLENGES including hiking or walking 127 miles, the distance from Eugene to Crater Lake. The cost is \$40 for members / \$50 for nonmembers. Everyone will receive a T-shirt! The Y provides several ways to track your progress: Strava or on paper.

One can choose other fitness adventures:

- SWIM the length of the Coast Fork Willamette River—40 miles
- RUN the length of the Oregon Coast Highway—363 miles
- BIKE the length of the Oregon Timber Trail—670 miles
- REACH nirvana by completing 52 yoga sessions.

Support the Y, your health, and sign up for Obsidian hikes!

For information: bit.ly/YFitnessAdventures
or email Beth Casper at beth@eugeneymca.org

OBSIDIAN CALENDAR

April

13 Tue	Blanton Ridge–Spencer Butte Hike M	Young 941-780-4156
14 Wed	52 nd Street/Spencer Butte Hike M	Alexander 458-209-7798
14 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M	Jacobsen 206-1251
17 Sat	SOLVE Beach Clean Up Hike E	Sojak 799-9199
17 Sat	Diamond Peak Climb D	Kanewa 525-1709
17 Sat	Rooster Rock Hike M	Jacobsen 206-1251
18 Sun	Circle Mt Pisgah Hike M	Bean 953-6868
20 Tue	Blanton Ridge–Spencer Butte Hike M	Young 941-780-4156
21 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M	Smith 520-488-9569
24 Sat	Trail Maintenance TrlMnt M	Bell 503-884-8829
27 Tue	Blanton Ridge–Spencer Butte Hike M	Young 941-780-4156
28 Wed	Mountaineer Conditioning Hike M	Marlow 925-899-6399
28 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M	Lindstrom 683-1409

May

3 Mon	Silver Falls Hike M	Johnson 520-2470
5 Wed	52 nd St. / Spencer Butte Hike M	Alexander 458-209-7798
5 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M	Yoerger 510-2832

8 Sat	Santiam Wagon Rd/House Rock Hike E	Cooper 868-5427
8 Sat	Shotgun Creek Loop Hike E	Bean 953-6868
12 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M	Rolfe 206-9501
15 Sat	South Sister Climb D	Reiter 521-8472
15 Sat	Diamond Peak Climb D	Harris 521-5807
19 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M	Smith 520-488-9569
26 Wed	Trail Maintenance TrlMnt M	Bell 503-884-8829
26 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M	Carpenter 505-2370

June

2 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M	Yoerger 510-2832
5 Sat	National Trails Day TrlMnt M	Bell 503-884-8829
9 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M	Gould 510-368-8941
16 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M	Murray 953-5679
17 Thu	U of O Campus Walk Hike E	Alexander 458-209-7798
23 Wed	Amazon Headwaters Hike M	Straub 514-7298
25 Fri	Mt Adams Climb D	Reiter 521-8472
28 Mon	Macduff Mountain Hike D	Johnson 520-2470
30 Wed	Trail Maintenance M	Bell 503-884-8829

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION about our activities, visit the Obsidian website: obsidians.org
If you plan to join Obsidian trips, be prepared to abide by our protocols: [COVID-19 Protocols](#)



Ridgeline Trail/Spencer Butte Trail

Saturday	April 24, 9 AM–noon
Wednesday	May 26 5:30–8 PM
Saturday	June 5, 9 AM–noon National Trails Day
Wednesday	June 30, 5:30–8 PM
Wednesday	July 28, 5:30–8 PM
Wednesday	August 25, 5:30–8 PM

For details, sign up online
 or email Matt Bell trails@obsidians.org

OBSIDIAN BOARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE

THE OBSIDIAN NOMINATING COMMITTEE will soon begin the process of selecting three candidates to run for three-year terms on the Obsidian Board of Directors beginning January, 2022. If you have any suggestions for nominations, please contact Lana Lindstrom, Chair.

Backpack in Nevada's Humboldt National Forest

Jarbidge Wilderness Area (a non-Obsidian trip)
July 16–21, 2021
 Limited to 10 participants

DAN CHAMNESS has been a Desert Trail Association (DTA) and a Mazama member since 1976 and an Obsidian since 1978. After the DTA was liquidated in 2020, Dan and others planned to offer informal hiking and outings in the Great Basin and Mojave Deserts. Delayed because of COVID, the Jarbidge backpack trip is now on their schedule. It will start at Pine Creek Campground and includes following the Jarbidge River and setting up camp at Emerald Lake at 9,400 feet. Dan recommends reading *Backpacking Nevada: From Slickrock Canyons to Granite Summits* by Mike White. Contact Dan for the prospectus and to find out more about the trip. His contact information is also in the Obsidian Membership Directory. He lives in Prineville.

For info email: Dan Chamness at chamness@crestviewcable.com
 or Bill Gentes at euro8fra@gmail.com

**Welcome
New Members!**

Sharon Bruns
Eugene, OR 97401

Lisa Marks
Eugene, OR 97401

Marie Stringer
Eugene, OR 97401



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April 2021



*One of several nice bridges. Photo by Darko Sojak.
Shotgun Creek Winter hike. See trip report on page 11.*

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