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### Dates to Remember

April 26	Potluck
April 26	Bulletin Deadline
May 1	Board Meeting
May 11	Summer Camp Sign-up

Current event schedules at:  
[www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

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**To submit articles for publication,**  
 please send directly to:  
[bulletin@obsidians.org](mailto:bulletin@obsidians.org)  
 (See page 12)

## NEW WEBSITE IS GETTING READY TO LAUNCH Here's What You Need to Know

*Diane Schechter*

**O**UR NEW WEBSITE HAS BEEN A LONG TIME COMING—but we expect that it will be up and running by mid-April! We're very excited to share it with everyone. There are new features which will enhance our website. We expect that it will also improve how we engage with the broader community, so they can learn more about the Obsidians and how to get involved with the Club.



As part of this transition, we have transferred members’ personal information, including trips taken, from our current website to the new one. A small group will be testing the new site to identify any issues that need to be addressed before it is accessible to everyone. We suspect that as we move forward, we will discover glitches that will need to be addressed, and we hope to find most before the site goes live. The committee has worked hard on an extremely challenging undertaking. Please be patient!

#### *What You Will Need to Do*

When we are ready to move forward, we will post this information on our current website. In addition, all members will be sent an email. This will have a link to sign-in on the new website and you will be asked to create a password. This email will be sent to the email address you use on our current website. If you don’t receive an email, be sure to check your spam folders.

Please log in to the new system within a week of receiving the email. This will ensure that you have successfully set up your new password and will give you a chance to familiarize yourself with the new website and how to sign up for a trip. We recommend that passwords be strong—at least 12 characters including upper and lower case letters, numbers, and symbols. If you intend to sign up for Summer Camp, it is especially important that you reset your password and familiarize yourself with the new site before May 11.

#### *How to Sign Up for an Activity*

When you are ready to sign up for an activity, select *Login*, located at the top of the page, in the navigation bar. The default page for members is the list view of the calendar. Scroll through and find the trip that you want to take. You can also search by entering the activity type such as hike, climb, Summer Camp, etc. in the search bar and press enter. If you prefer, you can view the calendar in month or day view.

#### *Select the Activity You Want to Join*

When you click on the activity you want to attend, it will bring up a page with the description and all the details of the event. After reviewing this information, if the trip is available for signup, there will be a Sign Up button in the top right corner of the page. You will then be asked to check the Release of Liability box, because we will no longer use paper signup sheets.

Your emergency contact information will be transferred from our current website and added automatically to each trip you sign up for. You cannot sign up for a trip if your emergency contact information is missing. Either type in the correct or missing

*(Continued on page 3)*

# IN MEMORIAM

## DAN BATES

**D**AN JOINED THE OBSIDIANS IN 1978 and within two years had climbed nine Oregon peaks. In 1994 he climbed his tenth, Middle Sister. Leader Doug Nelson wrote in his trip report: *The pleasure of a beautiful day and magnificent view was enhanced by comradeship and sharing a moment of achievement with Dan Bates who, with this summit, earned both his three peaks and ten peaks awards. Congratulations Dan! Later climbers gave him the name Persistence.*

In total, Dan went on 151 trips, including 16 climbs. He led nine trips, four of them to the Three Pyramids in July. These are usually in very hot weather for “heat-resistant hikers,” except for his July 7, 1995 trip. He wrote: *On the drive up the rain never stopped, but did slack off on a few hopeful occasions. Starting up the trail, we encountered the first of many stream crossings, made more challenging by the recent torrents of rain. These crossings involved a good deal of hand belaying and jumping from rock to rock, with an occasional unfortunate splash into the water. Eventually, we all ended up on the summit, where a brisk wind required additional clothing. The only view was of the inside of a cloud. As we enjoyed lunch during a break in the rain, I unfortunately commented on how lucky we were that it wasn't raining! The first rain drops began falling almost immediately, and gradually picked up. The wind joined in and accelerated so that before very long a substantial rainfall was blowing horizontally across the summit. We hastily packed up and headed down. The next day a Register-Guard story headline read: "Record rain, hail tears through State." The story began: "Eugene was soaked with record rainfall Sunday. Rain dumped on the city reached 0.61 inches, nearly double the old record."*

Dan kept up his membership until his death this past February at the age of 84. He is survived by his wife Clarice who wrote: *He loved the Obsidians and hiking with all of you.* She said there will be a funeral in early August when the family can gather.

### Obsidians Mission:

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

## In the Scherer Room—Carol Petty

Joella Ewing

**F**ORMER OBSIDIAN CAROL PETTY IS THE SCHERER ROOM ARTIST THIS SPRING. Here she describes her art and motivation in her own words:

*Mother Earth gives us inspiration to feed our souls as well as feeding our bodies.*

*Having been born on a farm in northern Wisconsin, my connection to Mother Earth has always been key to who I am. The bliss of summer warmth and fruitful bounty transform into the magic of melting ice crystals licking the snow banks of winter.*

*In 2011 I took classes in oil and acrylic painting. I began my quest to share my voice through art. In 2016 I began "The Colors of Climate Change," researching the environmental status of Mother Earth....I encourage you to enjoy my images of Mother Earth's breathtaking creations, enjoying them as much as I have enjoyed creating them.*

## OBSIDIANS

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

### Officers & Board of Directors

Dave Hawkins, President  
Denise Rubenstein, Vice President  
Angie Ruzicka, Secretary  
Laura Osinga, Treasurer  
Dave Cooper, Russ Davies, Jean Harris,  
Maryanne Reiter, Lisa Van Liefde,  
Sue Zeni

*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 (Interim)..... Jim Northrop  
Climbs ..... Maryanne Reiter  
Concessions..... Carla Cooper  
Conservation/SciEd..... Angie Ruzicka  
Entertainment..... Ane McKee  
Extended Trips ..... Lana Lindstrom  
Finance..... Susan Zeni  
Lodge Building ..... Dave Cooper  
Lodge Grounds (Interim) ..... Jim Northrop  
Librarian/Historian..... Bea Fontana  
Membership ..... Diane Schechter  
Online (Interim) ..... Bob Eriksen  
Publications..... Lou Maenz  
Publicity .... D. Rubenstein & L. Van Liefde  
Safety ..... Lyndell Wilken & John Miller  
Stewardship..... Darko Sojak  
Summer Camp..... Lana Lindstrom  
Trips ..... Dave Cooper

## The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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

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**The Obsidian Bulletin**

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

### Deadline

for May Bulletin  
**Friday, April 26**

### Editorial Team

*Writing & Editorial Staff:*

Janet Jacobsen, Lou Maenz

*Copy Editors:*

Ethel Weltman, Karen Yoerger

*Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing:*

Carla Cooper, Bea Fontana, Stewart Hoeg

### Assembly/Mailing Team

*Manager:* Lou Maenz

*Assistant Manager:* Nancy Raymond

*Team:* Tom Adamcyk, Kristen Anderson,  
Don Baldwin, Yuan Hopkins,  
Judy Newman, Barbara Schomaker

(Website Launch, continued from page 1)

information on the signup page or go to your *User Dashboard* (in the login bar at top of page) and then to *Account Profile*. Type it in and then choose *Update* at the bottom of the page.

### Prerequisites

When signing up for an activity, you will also need to check that you meet the prerequisites. Prerequisites will be listed on the trip description page and apply primarily to climbs, more difficult hikes, and snow activities. This will help ensure that everyone has a safe and successful activity.

### Leaders and Committee Chairs

The process for creating trips will be considerably different. There will be a steep learning curve for both leaders and committee chairs, but as is true with any new endeavor, practice will make it easier. There will be additional training sessions for both leaders and committee chairs, and we also hope to produce some YouTube videos.

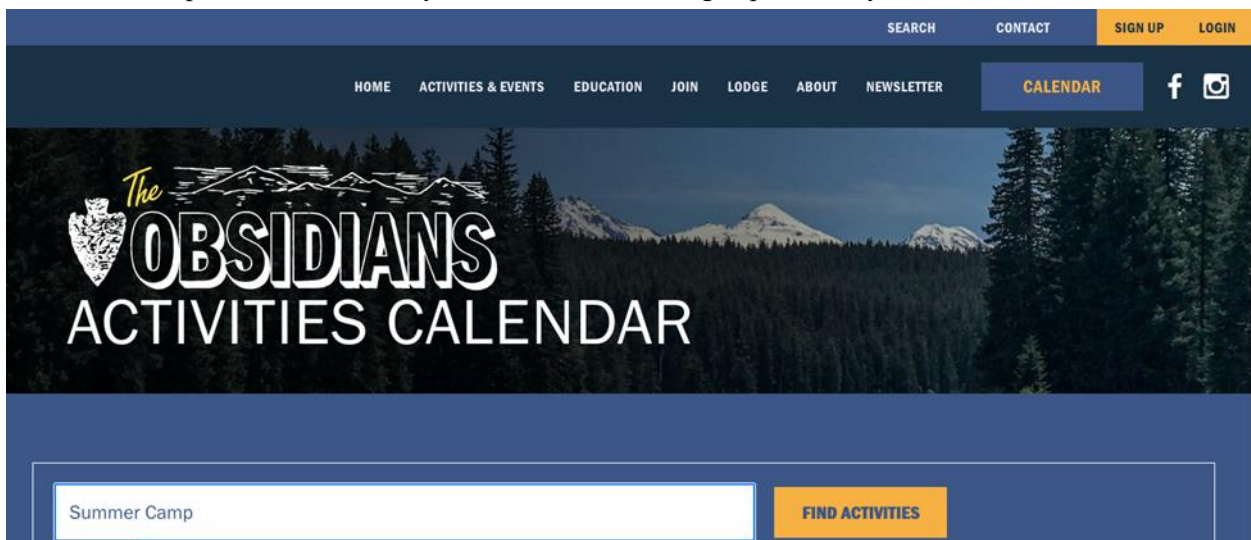
### What If I Need Help?

We know this transition may be challenging for many of our members. We will have help sessions at the Lodge to help you log in, get familiar with the website, and answer your questions. We will also have resource people available for you to call if you are running into problems. Finally, we may even have Zoom sessions. Watch the website for details. Thank you for your patience as we all learn to navigate this new website!

## Steps for Summer Camp Registration

*Lana Lindstrom, Summer Camp Chair*

- 1) *Login*—upper right corner. **Note: You must have previously logged in to the new website and changed your password as outlined in the Website Launch article.**  
To find Summer Camp, either scroll down in the calendar until August or type *Summer Camp* in the search bar and press enter.
- 2) Information about camp will be visible, but you will not be able to sign up until May 11, 7AM.



- 3) When signing up, you will need to check the Release of Liability box and another box affirming that you meet all of the prerequisites. Your emergency contact information will be transferred from our current website and will be added automatically to each trip you sign up for. If it is incorrect or not listed, you will need to type it in before you can sign up.
- 4) After registering online, complete the paper registration form which was distributed at the Rally or downloaded from the home page (scroll down to Summer Camp information.)
- 5) Attach a check and mail it to Summer Camp Registration, PO Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405 within 5 days of registering.
- 6) Additional information about how to navigate the new website is in the article on page one.

Questions: Call or text Camp Boss Steve Johnson, 541-520-2470  
Call Committee Chair Lana Lindstrom, 541-683-1409 (landline)

# WOODS WEALTHY

*Mike Smith*

**I** BEGAN TO HEAR A GENTLE TAPPING ON THE TENT FLY. Then it stopped for a bit, began again, and increased. It was raining, and judging by how the clouds had looked all day and earlier this evening, the rain was likely to continue for some time.

Fine by me. Great, even. I was in my tent on Basswood Lake in the Boundary Waters, warm, had a book, a light, no place to go, and nobody nearby. Dinner had been eaten, the dishes cleaned, everything put away, food secured, canoe turned over and tied to a tree, with some dry firewood underneath. I hadn't heard or seen a soul for two days. The tent wasn't going to leak, water wasn't going to soak the floor, my clothes were dry; I was at total peace with the world.

I'm not sure what such peace is worth, but in the woods, where pudding cups or chocolate of any type is currency, tundra swans on the wing are news, loon calls are music, autumn reds and yellows are art, entertainment is turning my full attention to a single leaf with interesting drops of water on it, or watching an eagle catch a thermal and soar out of sight, a rainy night after a day's work makes me woods wealthy. I had paddled around a nearby bay that morning when I noted a beaver swimming off the starboard bow of the canoe. I could not reach my camera, so I contented myself by paddling without removing the paddle from the water, quietly pulling the paddle, followed by turning it perpendicular and feathering it through the water, staying the same distance behind the beaver for about a minute. Eventually, the beaver dived, but with no tail slap. That's ideal, to be so close to an animal without obvious disturbance.

It was a gift, I concluded, after a great day to have such a pleasant night in the wilderness. I turned off the light and lay in the dark, listening to the tapping, occasionally increasing when a light wind blew water off the white spruce above me. I would later drop off to sleep, awakening some time after midnight to no sound. When I went outside, there was a dense mist just this side of rain, but not so dense as to hear it on the tent. It was cloudy, not because I could see clouds, but because I couldn't see any sign of the moon that I knew was above the horizon.

I can't remember if I awakened later that night to the sound of heavy rain. Maybe I just dreamt it. Morning would come with gray skies, but I had no place I needed to be, other than by a warm, crackling fire having my breakfast, looking out over the lake wondering what awaited today for a woods wealthy person.



## Welcome New Members!

**Mike Baker**  
Springfield, OR

**Raymond Frey**  
Eugene, OR

**Drew Simrin**  
Eugene, OR

**Dana Witt**  
Eugene, OR

**Kim Whitley**  
Albany, OR

**Elizabeth Chandler**  
Eugene, OR

**Wendy Fuller**  
Eugene, OR

**Jennifer Sunseri**  
Eugene, OR

**Sonia Wildish**  
Eugene, OR

**Lydia Fazzio**  
Springfield, OR

**Chad Shelton**  
Eugene, OR

**Jerome Wells**  
Atlanta, GA

**Bill Whitley**  
Albany, OR



# Earth Day Can Be Every Day Planet vs. Plastics



*Conservation, Science and Education Committee, Stewardship Committee*

**A**PRIL 22 MARKS THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF THE MODERN ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT IN 1970. Planet vs. Plastics, the theme for Earth Day 2024 is a commitment to end plastics for the sake of human and planetary health, demanding a 60% reduction in the production of ALL plastics by 2040. Find out more on the Earth Day website, [earth-day.org/earth-day-2024/](http://earth-day.org/earth-day-2024/) Take a Plastic quiz, Reject Fast Fashion, Join the Great Global Cleanup or Take a Simple Act of Green.

## What Can You Do?

- Stay informed. Read *Fashion's Desert Graveyard* in the April 2024 *National Geographic Magazine*: [nationalgeographic.com/environment/article/chile-fashion-pollution](http://nationalgeographic.com/environment/article/chile-fashion-pollution)
- Converse with friends while hiking about ways to recycle plastic.
- Visit the Mt. Pisgah Arboretum website: [mountpisgaharboretum.org/join-support/volunteer/](http://mountpisgaharboretum.org/join-support/volunteer/)
- Volunteer—work parties, nature guides, walk leaders.
- Volunteer for storm cleanup and other events with Friends of Buford Park and Mt. Pisgah: <https://bufordpark.org/>
- April 22: Free admission—the Museum of Natural and Cultural History will honor the achievements of the environmental movement and recognize the importance of ongoing ecological stewardship. Walk & Talks begin at noon, 1:00, 2:00, and 3:00 PM.

- Contact Darko Sojak, Angie Ruzicka, Dave Cooper, or Matt Bell if you would like to lead an activity or find out how you can help.

## Sign up online for Obsidian events.

- April 12: Work Party, Mt. Pisgah Arboretum trail work.
- April 22: Mt. Pisgah Moonrise/Sunset Hike.
- April 27: Ridgeline Trail Maintenance.



*Earth Day cartoon from the April 2000 Bulletin. The artist was not credited, but the editors think it was drawn by either Carolyn Orum or Dallas Cole.*



*Photo by Carla Cooper.*

*For more information: about Henderson's shooting star:*  
[https://www.oregonencyclopedia.org/articles/henderson\\_louis\\_f\\_1853\\_1942/](https://www.oregonencyclopedia.org/articles/henderson_louis_f_1853_1942/)

## ***Dodecatheon hendersonii*** **Henderson's shooting star**

**T**HE SECOND OBSIDIANS HONORARY MEMBER IN 1932, Dr. Louis F. Henderson was a professor of botany and curator of the herbarium at the UO, where he built a rich collection of northwest plants. He was a dedicated man in his field of work, and his name appears frequently in the literature of western botany. In 1886, he was honored when the scientific name of *Dodecatheon hendersonii* was given to a species of flower commonly known as bird bill or shooting star, and which is found on Club grounds. The naming of this lovely flower after Dr. Henderson was a fitting tribute to a true conservationist, mountain climber, and lover of all nature. At least sixteen northwest plant species bear the Henderson name. He died in 1942 at the age of 89.

*Adapted from a Science and Education article in the May 1971 Bulletin by Mary Douglass Stovall. While Stovall chaired the committee, they listed 61 species of wild plants growing on the Club's grounds.*

## Article by William L. Sullivan in the *Eugene Weekly*

March 7, 2024:

### ***Where Eagles Rest: Hike to a Lookout and Shelter near Eugene***

**B**ILL SULLIVAN, OUR FAVORITE POTLUCK SPEAKER FOR 27 YEARS OR MORE, wrote an enticing description of a hike to Eagles Rest and Ash Swale Shelter for the *Eugene Weekly*. Member Scott Hovis was with him on the hike. Not far from Eugene, Eagles Rest has been a popular Obsidian destination for decades. Back in the 1980s Obsidians coordinated trail maintenance projects with the Lowell District at Ash Swale Shelter led by John Cecil, Larry Cash, Helen Smith, Jane Hackett, and Mike Wright.

Sullivan wrote that ... *in the 1920s [Ash Swale Shelter] was stopover and watering place for horseback rangers on their way to fire lookouts at Eagles Rest, Mount June and Hardesty Mountain. After the original shelter was bisected by fallen trees, it was rebuilt in 1999. It's still in good shape and*

*open to the public for overnight use. I wouldn't recommend it for more than a picnic stop. There's no stove or firewood, so the three-sided hut would be a cold, damp place to camp in the spring.*

Consider leading this hike! Check out the link to the *Eugene Weekly*. Sullivan's directions will make the hike more interesting!

[eugeneweekly.com/2024/03/07/where-eagles-rest/](http://eugeneweekly.com/2024/03/07/where-eagles-rest/)

*Editor's Note: An Obsidian Honorary member since 2007, Sullivan is the author of 23 books including the 100 Hikes Series for Oregon.*



*Obsidians at Eagles Rest. Photos were taken by Carl Young and found in the Obsidians archives.*



#### ***About Carl Young:***

1860–1938

Carl joined the Obsidians in 1931. He was an active skier, climber, and hiker. There is a light pencil note on his log sheet saying he was 72 years old in 1932. Carl's log sheet shows that he hiked to Eagles Rest March 20, 1932 and again on February 22, 1934.

#### ***About the Obsidians Photo Albums:***

The Obsidians have a long and rich history in Oregon's outdoors. Long-time member, Bert Ewing, has helped to preserve this history by digitally scanning all of our old photos and photo albums.

# MARCH BOARD NOTES

**March 6, 2024**

**From minutes by Angie Ruzicka**

Dave Hawkins called the meeting to order. Board members present: Dave Cooper, Jean Harris, Maryanne Reiter, Denise Rubenstein, Angie Ruzicka, Lisa Van Liefde, Sue Zeni. Others present: Carla Cooper, Bob Eriksen, Lana Lindstrom, John Miller, Jim Northrop, Lyndell Wilken.

The Board approved the minutes for the January 3 Board meeting.

**Treasurer's Report (Laura Osinga):** Sue Zeni presented the year-to-date income and expenses as well as the balance sheet. 990 non-profit tax return is nearly complete; Vanguard investments gained \$3,300. The bills were approved.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Climbs (Maryanne Reiter):** The Climbs Committee has been busy getting ready for Climb School, which starts March 12. We have four classroom sessions and two field sessions to plan for. The Climbs Chair has also been working on the NOLS Wilderness First Aid Class that the Obsidians are sponsoring as well as working with Obsidian member Wim Aarts in developing a crevasse rescue class for mid-May.

**Concessions (Carla Cooper):** We took in \$123 at the February potluck. In addition, we have already received 12 orders for vests this month.

**Entertainment (Ane McKee):** At our February Potluck & Presentation, we were treated with an informative and entertaining talk by award-winning author and columnist, Bob Welch, about his experiences while section-hiking the 2,650-mile PCT. There were 55 diners and a total of 83 attendees for the presentation portion. We continue to hand out Obsidians applications to interested nonmembers at both the P&P and at the GameNight! we held this month.

**Extended Trips (Lana Lindstrom):** Lisa Van Liefde and Emily Rice led a very successful 2-night trip to Shelter Cove to ski and snowshoe. See report and online pictures for details.

**Librarian/Historian (Bea Fontana):** The committee updated the historical list of Honorary Members compiled by Rick Ahrens (October 2003–2008). We added expanded information about each of the Honorary Members, providing a thumbnail of why each recipient earned the honor. John Jacobsen has posted the revised document on the Historical Documents page of the Obsidians website. We have submitted the new document to also be published in the *Bulletin* when there is space. We put together an article for the March Bulletin about April Fool's humor from past Obsidian *Bulletins*. We are working on a couple more Obsidians Laugh articles for future *Bulletins* and hope to continue sharing Obsidians humor that we stumble across in the archives. Jim Pierce quickly responded to our request for an article about the wreck of the New Carissa in 1999 and the Obsidians trip he led in 2008 to visit the site. The committee helped research some specifics for the article.

**Membership (Diane Schechter):** Total Membership—462

**Safety (Lyndell Wilken):** The safety committee met to re-

view the safety manual and related documents. Changes were made and sent to the online committee. An "Emergency Preparedness" class was scheduled for May 19 and the NOLS Wilderness First Aid Class for June 1. Benadryl was delivered to all first aid kits. AED defibrillator pads were ordered to replace the expired pads. The AED was checked.

**Science Education (Angie Ruzicka):** An education walk scheduled for March 8 at Green Island had to be canceled. The McKenzie River Trust folks are working on clean-up and rerouting of trails due to the damage caused by the January ice storm. It will be rescheduled at a future date.

**Stewardship (Darko Sojak):** This February total of 57 Obsidian members and 3 nonmembers participated in five trail maintenance outings and one restoration work party. Thank you leaders and volunteers.

**Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom):** We continue to chunk away at various tasks including preparing for the Rally on March 29. The registration form is ready for print; the camp fee is the same as last year—\$270 for members and \$310 for nonmembers who stay in group campground.

**Trips (Dave Cooper):** It was another month of cancellations, reschedules, and changed locations. Still, we completed 29 trips while Stewardship gave people other opportunities to get outside and help clear the trails.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Entertainment Committee Member Addition (Dave Hawkins):** Board approved adding Ali Hennes to the Entertainment Committee

**Trail Maintenance Award Proposal (Angie Ruzicka):** After discussion, the Board approved adding language to the Policies and Practices related to the awarding of Trail Maintenance Badge in the Stewardship section. "The trail maintenance badge will be awarded to members who have participated in 15 trail maintenance projects."

**Seeking a Treasurer (Dave Hawkins):** We are continuing to look for a treasurer. Anyone who is interested should contact Dave Hawkins.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Report on Website & Data Project (Dave Cooper):** Progress continues to be made on several fronts: leaders posting hikes, people signing up, leaders completing reports. Work continues the flow of the trip reports for approval by committee chairs. Carla has developed training materials and will continue to fine-tune as the details of the website evolve.

## OPEN AGENDA ITEMS

**Discussion About the Title "Honorary" vs "Honored"** as a way of recognizing people who have positively impacted the Obsidians. Honorary was originally used because some of the early recipients were nonmembers.

**Discussion About Celebrating Our 100-year Anniversary** coming up in 2027. Possibilities include publishing a book, having one or more events, trail work, period re-enactments, sponsoring epic hikes such as the Santiam Wagon Trail, Blanton to Pisgah, McKenzie River Trail, Grand Obsidian Tour. An ad hoc committee will be formed.

## ADJOURNMENT

# TRIP REPORTS



## Hikes

**Cottage Grove**  
**February 22, 2024**  
**Leader: Steve Adey**  
**Hike: 6 miles, (Easy)**

**GOOD TRIP.** The Chamber of Commerce has several walking maps of historic local sites. The Eugene Library has several books. Check the Bohemia Mining Museum schedule (currently open Thu., Fri., and Sat. only) and Cottage Grove Museum (Sat. and Sun. only). The Historical Society may unlock McFarland Cemetery with enough prior notice. Members: Steve Adey, Lis Sorrell, Peggy Wright.

**Get Acquainted / Ribbon Trail**  
**March 9, 2024**  
**Leader: Dorothy van Winkle**  
**Assistant Leader: Marguerite Cooney**  
**Photographer: Darko Sojak**  
**Hike: 2.5 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)**

**SEVEN GUESTS AND SEVEN MEMBERS EXPERIENCED TYPICAL SPRING WEATHER** for this Get Acquainted hike, from beautiful blue skies to heavy rain. Guests were happy to learn about our club, and members were happy to share what makes our club so great. Thanks to everyone who came out for this monthly walk through the park. Members: Joanna Alexander, Marguerite Cooney, Gwyneth Iredale, Debra Messinger, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Dorothy van Winkle. Nonmembers: Michael Baker, Carolyn Hintz, David Madeira, Drew Simrin, Adam Stiner, Sonia Wildish, Dana Witt.



*Guests and members gather for Get Acquainted Hike.*

**Pi Day**  
**March 14, 2024**  
**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**  
**Hike: 2.5 miles, (Easy)**

**I SUGGESTED THAT OUR MATH ASSIGNMENT FOR PI DAY** should be to find an interesting number. With our guest along, it was so much fun for Pat and me to point out the famous people at the Masonic Cemetery, view the Willamette Mete-

rite replicas at Straub Hall, and the Museum of Natural and Cultural History, that we almost forgot our assignment. We decided that the weight of the meteorite, 15.5 tons or 34,200 pounds, was the most impressive. Most monumental at the cemetery was to see the cast iron gate that had gone missing and, after thirty years, mysteriously reappeared. It is now re-installed with the fence at the McClanahan plot. It was a beautiful day to enjoy our walk with so many spring flowers, especially the fields of fawn lilies and camas at the cemetery. No time for a piece of pie. Members: Patricia Esch, Janet Jacobsen. Nonmembers: Velda Matsdorf.

**North Bank Habitat Management Area**  
**March 16, 2024**  
**Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak**  
**Hike: 8 miles, 1,800 ft. (Moderate)**

**THE WRINKLED HILLS OF THE NORTH BANK HABITAT MANAGEMENT AREA** never disappoint. We started our cold morning hike by wading through the mud on the swampy Chasm Creek Road, then continued up the steep climb to the North Boundary Road, and arrived at the sunny summit of Round Timber around noon. After lunch with a great view, we continued clockwise via the Ridge Trail and the Middle Ridge Trail all the way to the West Entrance Day Use parking lot, which was packed with cars baking in the hot mid-March sun. Members: Holger Krentz, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak.



*A sunny March day to enjoy the North Bank Habitat Management Area.*

**Campbell Center to Springfield**  
**March 23, 2024**  
**Leader: Whitney Gould**  
**Hike: 8 miles, 40 ft. (Moderate)**

**SEVEN HEARTY OBSIDIANS BRAVED 2 1/2 HOURS OF RAIN,** and 1/2 hour of clear skies to walk various trails connecting the Campbell Community Center in Eugene to Island Park in Springfield. We started on the Canoe Canal trail, then followed Pre's bark paths, and returned (mostly) along the river trails. Along the way we saw a sandhill crane, one Kalapuya Talking stone, and crossed two bridges. The fox was hiding from us. Members: Steve Adey, Marguerite Cooney, Whitney Gould, Holger Krentz, Lana Lindstrom, Evelyn Nagy, Lis Sorrell.



**Amazon Headwaters / Ridgeline Trail / Spencer Butte Hikes**

Hikes: 3.0–6.2 miles, 750–1,530 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

**Darko Sojak:** 3/2 9 Members, 3/10 3 Members

**Karen Yoerger:** 3/6 17 Members

**John Miller:** 3/8 7 Members, 3/11 4 Members, 3/15 8

Members

**Lynn Meacham:** 3/13 15 Members, 1 Nonmember, 3/20 16

Members

**Blanton Ridge Hikes**

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

Various Leaders

**Margot McDonnell:** 3/5 6 Members

**John Miller:** 3/12 5 Members

**Jorry Rolfe:** 3/19 5 Members

**Denise Rubenstein:** 3/26 9 Members

**Mt. Pisgah Hikes**

Hike: 5.0–8.7 miles, 1,650 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

**Karen Yoerger:** 3/17 10 Members

**John Miller:** 3/18 2 Members

**David Hawkins:** 3/22 10 Members

**Janet Jacobsen:** 3/24 16 Members



*Holger and Jeff on a trail still showing signs of the January ice storm. Photo by Darko Sojak.*



*Damaged during the storm, the cedar handrails on the bridge below the Raptor Center have been repaired. Obsidians installed new handrails back in April and May 2022. Photo by Janet Jacobsen.*



*A string of scarlet elf cup found along the Ridgeline Trail. Photo by Wim Aart.*



*Someone recently drove or parked on the grass at the Blanton Ridge Trailhead parking lot, stopping right before the Tex Matsler flat plaque. The photo makes it obvious why drivers shouldn't do this. Photo by Janet Jacobsen. (Tex Matsler was an early advocate for saving the ridgeline for recreation.)*



## X-ski Trips

### **Berley Lakes Xski**

**March 17, 2024**

**Leader: Harold Thompson**

**Xski: 8 miles, 600 ft. (Moderate)**

**F**IVE SKIERS LEFT FROM THE SANTIAM PASS SNO-PARK on a warm, bluebird day. Heading north through the burn took us to the challenging section negotiating the ravine that Lake Creek flows down through. After multiple twists and turns, we came to the final turn to the west towards Berley Lakes. A leisurely, hour-long lunch stop at Upper Berley Lake with perfect views of Three Fingered Jack was our reward. After lunch, we returned via Lower Berley Lake. One member, Josh, choose to push on to the summit of Maxwell Butte. A great day to be on the snow! Members: Sam Miller, Jukka Naukkarinen, Harold Thompson. Nonmembers: Joshua Ladau, Larry Winiarski.



## Snowshoe Trips

### **Potato Hill**

**March 6, 2024**

**Leader: Scott Hovis**

**Photographer: Lynn Meacham**

**SShoe: 5 miles, 900 ft. (Difficult)**

**T**HREE FOURTHS OF THE TRAIL WAS NOT BROKEN; fresh snow was about 6–8 inches deep. The trailhead starts at the highway and quickly gains a lot of elevation. The payoff is a great photo opportunity of Three Fingered Jack. The rest of the loop is in deep woods where the solitude is nice. Members: Scott Hovis, Steven Johnson, Brenda Kameenui, Lynn Meacham.



*Brenda making her way up the gentle incline toward Potato Hill.*

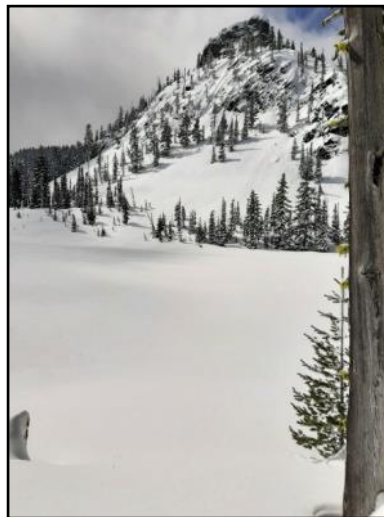
### **Rosary Lakes Snowshoe**

**March 13, 2024**

**Leader & Photographer: Jean Harris**

**SShoe: 8 miles, 1,000 ft. (Difficult)**

**OH, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY TO SNOWSHOE** to the Rosary Lakes! We started at 27 degrees with fresh snow and clearing skies. Every tree and bush was snow-covered. The trail had soft, new snow, which we trekked on, taking turns to lead. The forest is always silent and peaceful, with a mix of large old growth and smaller trees. The three Rosary Lakes sparkled with Pulpit Rock as the backdrop. We turned around along Upper Rosary Lake which allowed us to see all three lakes. Our round trip was a bit over eight miles. With warm days forecast, this was the perfect day between snow-fall and melting snow. Members: Steve Davis, Jean Harris, Sandra Sigrist.



*Rosary Lake and Pulpit Rock.*

### **Gold Lake / Marilyn Lake**

**March 15, 2024**

**Leader: Jean Harris**

**SShoe: 5 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)**

**THIS LOVELY TREK AT THE 5,000-FOOT LEVEL** provided plenty of snow, well-marked trails, and glorious sunshine! As we ambled along between the two Marilyn Lakes, an eagle provided a show for us. The distant sound of a train, wind in the treetops, and gentle dripping from snow falling off the trees gave a tranquil and refreshing backdrop to our snowshoe trek. Being near the crest of the Cascades on a sunny day is pure joy! Members: Keiko Bryan, Marguerite Cooney, Jean Harris.

### **Maxwell Shelter Snowshoe**

**March 17, 2024**

**Leader: Lisa Van Liefde**

**SShoe: 6 miles, 781 ft. (Moderate)**

**WHAT A WAY TO CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY!** We were a small but mighty group of two, and were greeted with spectacular weather and plenty of snow. And surrounded by endless, very green trees. Couldn't have asked for a better way to spend the day. Members: James Dinn, Lisa Van Liefde.

# First Bus Trip of 2024

**Wildlife Safari, May 9**

**Jim Northrop, Trip Leader**



**S**PRING IS HERE AND SO IS OUR FIRST OBSIDIAN BUS TRIP. Sign up now to visit the recently renovated Creswell Historic Schoolhouse, Wildlife Safari, and the Douglas County Museum. Our own Verlean McCoy, Obsidian and chair of the Creswell Heritage Foundation, will tell us about the seven-year, \$365,000 effort to save, restore, and transform an 1875 schoolhouse, church, clubhouse, and finally a library, into a community center. The restoration is remarkable; just in time for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the schoolhouse next year.

After coffee and pastry across the street at the Creswell Bakery, we will head down I-5 to Winston. If you have not visited Wildlife Safari before, you are in for a treat. This 600-acre animal park features over 500 animals from around the world, roaming freely as though in the wild. Our 56-passenger motor coach will provide views from on high as we slowly drive the 4.5-mile loop, with our onboard safari guide narrating. After lunch, we switch seats to the other side of the bus and go through the park a second time. Bring your lunch or purchase burgers, sandwiches, and salads (\$10 to \$17.75) at the Safari Grill. Explore animal exhibits, a petting zoo, gift shop, and artwork in the Safari Village.

After viewing the animals, we head next to the Douglas County Museum. You could spend a day exploring the Smithsonian quality exhibits in this gem of a museum. We will have about one and a half hours to take in the train depot, loggers bunkhouse, Oregon Trail exhibit, David Douglas Natural History Area, and much more. Did you know that a 1959 explosion of a dynamite truck leveled eight city blocks in Roseburg? There is something for all, and a gift shop to boot.

Cost is \$80 for members and \$83 for nonmembers. We board the bus at 7:45 AM at Valley River Center, west of Regal Cinemas, and next to the bike path and river. The bus departs at 8:00. Our expected return is around 5:00 PM. Bring a water bottle. Optional: a snack, binoculars, a lunch, or lunch money. Make payment to *Obsidians Bus Trips* and send to Judy Garwood, 4145 East Amazon Drive, Eugene, OR 97405. You can contact Judy at 541-683-5539. Payment is due before April 29. Please join us for an exciting and informative day.



## Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast and Rhody Walk/Hike

**Sunday, May 12**

*Jim Northrop*

**C**HILDREN, BRING YOUR MOTHERS! MOTHERS, BRING YOUR CHILDREN! Everyone else, bring yourself, a neighbor, or a friend.

The Entertainment and Bus Trips committees are co-sponsoring a Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast at the Lodge, followed by a hike on the Ribbon Trail to the Hendricks Park Rhododendron Garden. Mother's Day is the peak of blooms in the garden. The Friends of Hendricks Park will be available in the park to assist visitors.

We will be serving pancakes (blueberry and plain), syrup, coffee, orange juice, and other fixings from 9:30 to 11:00 AM. Arrive any time. If you like, bring your favorite pancake topping or breakfast dish to share. You can also bring a post-hike dessert. Bring your own table setting. But most importantly, bring yourself.

After breakfast groups of hikers will set off on the Ribbon Trail for the Rhododendron Garden. For those unable to hike, we will carpool to the garden and drop off walkers to tour the garden and then be picked up. Or you may prefer to stay at the Lodge, work a jigsaw puzzle, play a game, or just converse with old friends. We expect to be done by 2:00 PM.

We are making a special effort to bring members who are homebound or in assisted living to the Lodge. We will assist with arranging transportation. If you sign up online, indicate whether you need a ride or can offer a ride. Signing up online will help us plan but is not required. You may also call Jim Northrop at 343-3426 or email at [jim.b.northrop@gmail.com](mailto:jim.b.northrop@gmail.com) to arrange transportation.



There will be a special gift for all mothers.



## Climbs Around the World with Morgan Watson of Crux Rock Gym

Morgan Watson started skiing, backpacking and climbing mountains in Colorado, where he grew up. He has visited all seven continents and has climbed four of their highest peaks. Morgan and his wife, whom he met at the South Pole, have owned Crux Rock Gym since 2018 and, there, they assist others with their fitness goals and reaching new heights in their climbing gym. As our featured speaker, Morgan will share with us his adventures and incredible photos of some of his climbs and excursions around the world, including Peru, Kyrgyzstan and Nepal.



**Potluck**  
Friday, April 26, 2024  
Obsidian Lodge  
Social 6:05 PM  
Potluck 6:30 PM, Program 7:30 PM

*Bring your favorite potluck dish to share along with your own plates, utensils, and cups to be washed at home.*

## Oregon Wild is celebrating 50 years of protecting Oregon's old-growth forests, rivers, and wildlife!

**T**HIS ANNIVERSARY YEAR IS A TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR CONSERVATION LEGACY, raise a toast to a half-century of relentless advocacy, and build support for the years ahead with the community and partners who make our work possible.

To honor our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and to celebrate with you, we're hosting two anniversary galas: Friday, May 10 in Portland, and Saturday, May 11 in Eugene. Complete with dinner, drinks, awards, and inspiring presentations, this is a once-in-a-generation event for Oregon Wild that will impact Oregon's wild places and wildlife for years to come.

Tickets (must be purchased by April 26) and more information are available here:

[oregonwild.org/evergreengala](http://oregonwild.org/evergreengala)

*Editor's note: Chandra LeGue, Senior Conservation Advocate with Oregon Wild, will be the speaker at the May 31 Potluck.*



## About *Bulletin* Submissions

*Lou Maenz, Publications Chair*

*Ethel Weltman, Copy Editor*

**W**E WELCOME ANY AND ALL ENTRIES TO THE **BULLETIN**, but we ask you not to add formatting as it can be difficult to reformat to meet our requirements. This does not refer to basic punctuation or paragraphing but to the more esoteric formatting like columns, bullets, multiple fonts, or centering. Write out what you want in paragraph form, indicate any special instructions in the main email, and send to [bulletin@obsidians.org](mailto:bulletin@obsidians.org), preferably as an attached Word file. This will save time and effort for everyone.

### New Item, Just In! Lightweight Visors \$15

Sta-Dri sweatband  
Adjustable hook and loop closure  
Two Colors: Gray and Green  
Available at potlucks or contact:  
[sales@obsidians.org](mailto:sales@obsidians.org)

# OBSIDIAN CALENDAR

## April

- 9 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M**.....Miller 255-6254
- 10 Wed Amazon Hdwrts/Spencer Butte Hike **M**.. Sigrist 916-612-5517
- 10 Wed North Bank Habitat Area Hike **M**..... Anderson 805-798-1842
- 13 Sat Get Acquainted/Ribbon Trail Hike **E** ....van Winkle 485-7416
- 16 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M**. Sigrist 916-612-5517
- 17 Wed Amazon Hdwrts/Spencer Butte Hike **M**..... Morray 953-5679
- 18 Thu 30<sup>th</sup> & Spring to Hendricks Hike **E**... Van Liefde 949-677-1379
- 18 Thu GameNight!..... McKee 554-1364
- 21 Sun Diamond Peak Climb **D** ..... Reiter 521-8472
- 22 Mon Mt Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike **M**.....Jacobsen 206-1251
- 23 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M**..... Miller 255-6254
- 26 Fri Pisgah East Side Loop Hike **M**.....Hawkins 505-0119
- 26 Fri Climbs around the world - Morgan Watson ..... **Potluck**
- 27 Sat Trail Maintenance TrlMnt **M**..... Bell 503-884-8829
- 30 Tue Silver Falls/Abiqua Falls Hike **M** ..... Johnson 520-2470

## May

- 1 Wed Pisgah w/Pacific Source Hike **E**..... Cooper 868-5427
- 2 Thu Wild Iris Ridge Hike **M** ..... Van Liefde 949-677-1379
- 3 Fri Smith Rock Climb ..... Reiter 525-1709
- 4 Sat Grand Canyon Backpack BkPk **D**..... Adey 520-9285
- 11 Sat Green Island, MRT Stewardship WrkPrty **M**...Sojak 799-9199
- 11 Sat Get Acquainted/Ribbon Trail Hike **E** ....van Winkle 485-7416
- 13 Mon Crevasse Rescue Training ..... Aarts 503-804-8370
- 14 Tue GameNight!..... McKee 554-1364
- 19 Sun Emergency Preparedness -1st Aid Class ..... Wilken343-3080
- 22 Wed Mt Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike **M**.....Jacobsen 206-1251
- 23 Thu Fox Hollow to Mt Baldy **E**..... Van Liefde 949-677-1379

- 24 Fri Pisgah East Side Loop Hike **M** ..... Hawkins 505-0119
- 25 Sat Middle Sister Climb **D** ..... Reiter 521-8472
- 29 Wed Trail Maintenance **M**..... Bell 503-884-8829
- 31 Fri Protecting Old-Growth Forests & Wild Places.....Potluck

## June

- 1 Sat Wilderness First Aid ..... Reiter 521-8472
- 1 Sat National Trails Day TrlMnt **M**..... Bell 503-884-8829
- 6 Thu Alton Baker Park Hike **M** ..... Van Liefde 949-677-1379
- 20 Thu 52<sup>nd</sup> to Blanton Ridge Hike **E**..... Van Liefde 949-677-1379
- 26 Wed Trail Maintenance TrlMnt **M**..... Bell 503-884-8829
- 28 Fri Macduff Mountain Hike **D**..... Johnson 520-2470

## July

- 4 Thu Obsidians Butte to Butte Hike **E** ..... Sojak 799-9199
- 10 Wed North Umpqua Car Camp **M** ..... Metcalfe 221-5702
- 20 Sat Mt Thielsen Climb **D**..... Reiter 521-8472
- 28 Sun Annual Beach Barefoot Hike **M**.....Sojak 799-9199
- 31 Wed Trail Maintenance **M**..... Bell 503-884-8829

## August

- 12 Mon Camp Fontana-Mt Baker, WA SmCmp **M**...Johnson 520-2470
- 28 Wed Trail Maintenance **M**..... Bell 503-884-8829

## September

- 15 Sun Crown Z, Perkins and Pacific Hike **M** .....Sojak 799-9199
- 21 Sat Mt Hubris/Cosmic Wall Climb ..... Reiter 521-8472
- 28 Sat National Public Lands Day TrlMnt **M** ..... Bell 503-884-8829

## Celebration of Life for Gary Kirk

**A**N INFORMAL GATHERING, OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, will be held at the Obsidians Lodge.

Saturday, April 20, at 2 PM  
(memories/story-sharing at 3 PM)

Please RSVP to [robingreene1@hotmail.com](mailto:robingreene1@hotmail.com).

*Editor's Note: Gary's In Memoriam appeared in the [November 2023 Obsidian Bulletin](#). His obituary can be found in the March 31 issue of the Register-Guard and is also available online at:*

[www.registerguard.com/obituaries/pore0762221](http://www.registerguard.com/obituaries/pore0762221)



Upcoming GameNight! dates are:

Thursday, April 18, Tuesday, May 14,  
Thursday, June 13

Questions? Contact: Ane McKee

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

## Evening Hikes Begin April 18 *Lisa Van Liefde*

**I**F YOU ENJOY HIKING IN THE EARLY EVENING, or after work, then sign up for the Evening Hikes series, which will begin on April 18. All hikes are in Eugene or Springfield. No carpooling—we meet at the trailhead approximately every other Thursday night at 6 PM. Some hikes are rated easy, others will be conditioning hikes with a faster pace. Distance will vary from 3–5 miles.

If you're interested in becoming a leader, this is a great opportunity to learn the ropes! You will co-lead with Lisa for as few or as many hikes as you'd like. Reach out to Lisa directly if interested in leading: [lisa.vanliefde@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.vanliefde@gmail.com).

Below are the hike dates that are set through June. Dates for July–Sept will be added later.

April 18: 30<sup>th</sup> and Spring trailhead to Hendricks Park 2.7 miles, easy

May 2: Wild Iris Ridge 4.5 miles, moderate

May 23: Fox Hollow to Mt. Baldy 3.4 miles, easy

June 6: Alton Baker Park, Pre's trail 4.3 miles, moderate

June 20: 52<sup>nd</sup> to Blanton Ridge trailhead, 3.5 miles, easy



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April 2024



*Snow on the mountains all around. Photo by Holger Krentz.  
See the North Bank Habitat Management Area  
trip report on page 8.*

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