



Inside This Issue

Membership Changes	2
Board Nominees	3
Potluck Cancellation	3
Annual Meeting Move	3
Board Notes	4
Fundraising Focus	6
Trip Reports	10-20
Upcoming Events	21-23
Calendar into October	23
Features by Members	
Ray Cavagnaro	1
Bhutanese Obsidian	5
Stinging Reminders	7
Janet's Trip Sampler	21

Dates to Remember

Oct 14	Annual Meeting
Oct 19	Board Meeting

Detailed trip schedules at:
www.obsidians.org or
 Register-Guard – Sports – Thursday

Meet the Board Nominees
 See Page 3

Potlucks Cancelled
 Annual Meeting Moved
 See Page 3

Membership Dues Due
 October 1
 See Page 22 &
 Membership Renewal Insert

A "Friendly Teller" Tells How He Became an Obsidian

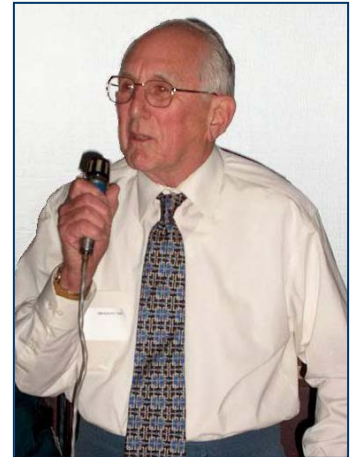
By Barb Revere

RAY CAVAGNARO got a job as a teller at First National Bank when he arrived in Eugene in 1945. "I was a very friendly teller, I talked to everyone and got to know them." That friendliness got Ray into trouble with his boss, into a better job...and into the Obsidians!

"A man would come every week, every Monday, to the bank with a bunch of change for the Obsidians." Curious, Ray asked, "What are Obsidians?" Bob Lyons explained it was a hiking and climbing club; then assured Ray he was welcome to join them any Sunday. He just had to pack a lunch and meet at the City Hall steps, then at West 11th and Willamette. Ray thought this would be a great way to see Oregon and invited fellow teller Ernie Keasling along for the next Sunday.

"We drove by City Hall, looking for a parking space, and we saw all these funny looking people on the steps, lounging around and looking like the scrubs of humanity." Ray and Ernie were taken aback and hesitated going into the wilderness

Continued on Page 8



Ray speaking at Obsidian's 75th Anniversary celebration.

City Throws Cold Water on Plans For Obsidian Lodge Renovation

IT WAS A LONG, HOT AND DISCOURAGING summer for members of the Obsidian Board and Construction Committee expecting to see work start on the much anticipated lodge renovation.

Hoping and planning for construction to begin around the end of June, club leaders instead spent most of the summer seeking city permits and responding to requests for more information and additional tests. Three pages of requests for additional detail had to be supplied, at considerable time and expense by our architects; but a couple of critical items caused major delays and huge potential cost overruns.

A soils survey and a report addressing seismic requirements had to be done...at a cost of \$750.

THAT WAS SMALL CHANGE, however, compared to the big shocker. Because of code changes adopted in October 2004, if the nearest fire hydrant is not producing the required water pressure, then a building must have sprinklers. The hydrant pressure is EWEB's responsibility, but that agency will not do anything to provide the capacity required by the code. The club is still contacting sprinkler contractors and indications to date are that adding sprinklers will cost us anywhere from \$19,000 to \$29,000

"The evolution of the fire protection requirements," says Obsidian president John

Continued on Page 6

Welcome!

New Members

COURTNEY ABBOTT (Active)

2875 Kincaid St.
Eugene, OR 97405
687-8212 cpabbott@teleport.com

SHARON CUTSFORTH (Active)

1120 S. 39th St.
Springfield, OR 97478
746-4929 skcutsforth@msn.com

STEVE GUNN (Active)

1755 Sweetbriar Ln.
Eugene, OR 97405
686-2031 sgunn@constructionfocus.com

MARY HAMILTON (Active)

4295 High St.
Eugene, OR 97405
343-6550

SHERWOOD JEFFERIES (Active)

93601 Pope Rd.
Blachly, OR 97412
925-3732 greyfox@peak.org

LAUREN LAMB (Junior)

2050 Bedford Way
Eugene, OR 97401
343-6845 juleolamb@comcast.net

NATALIE NEWLOVE (Active)

3767 Quail Meadow Way
Eugene, OR 97408
465-4909 mnew@comcast.net

LAURIE REED (Active)

3335 Lake Glenn Dr.
Eugene, OR 97408
688-3745 lareed@att.net

EDITH ROSE (Associate)

250 W. Broadway, Apt. 11
Eugene, OR 97401
349-1903

BERIT "BELLA" SHAVER (Active)

4670 Larkwood Street
Eugene, OR 97405-3912
687-0152 shaver-berit@hotmail.com

Directory Changes

GEORGE BAITINGER

650 W. 27th Pl.
Eugene, OR 97405-2237

JODI BRENSIKE

12340 Hwy. 66
Ashland, OR 97520-9422

DORA HARRIS

1080 Patterson St., Apt. 204
Eugene, OR 97401-3318

BOB HILL

3731 Bayonne Dr., SE
Salem, OR 97301-3388

MARTIN HOLLAND-BAK

1294 Polk St.
Eugene, OR 97402-3960

SAT NAM KHALSA

2245 Orr Lane
Eugene, OR 97405-1467

DOROTHY SISTROM

1048 Oak Meadows Pl.
Springfield, OR 97477-8115

MARK SLIPP

2501 Concord St.
Woodburn, OR 97071-7602

Theodore Stern

FORMER OBSIDIAN Theodore Stern died June 20 of heart failure. He was 87.

A member for 12 years, Ted logged 87 hikes and led six trips. "I can see from reading his activity sheet, that he took many ski and snowshoe trips in the winters," reports club historian Lenore McManigal.

Stern was born July 27, 1917, in Ossining, N.Y., and married Mary Capuzzi in 1942. He received a B.S. in chemistry from Bowdoin College in 1939; served in the army from 1941 to 1945; and received a doctorate in anthropology from the Univ. of Pennsylvania in 1948 – the same year he moved to Eugene.

HE WAS A PROFESSOR of anthropology at the UofO from 1948 to 1987, when he retired. He focused on linguistics and social anthropology. He studied Southeast Asia and spent sabbaticals in Burma in 1954-55 and in Thailand in 1964-65. He also studied Oregon's Indians and spent summers with the Klamath and Umatilla tribes. He published three books: "The Klamath Indians;" "Chiefs and Chief Traders" (a finalist for the Literary Arts Oregon Book Award); and "Chiefs and Change." Stern was honored last year by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indians for his work in preserving their heritage.

Stern served on the board of the Eugene Symphony; volunteered with the Boy Scouts; and sang in the choir at First Congregational Church. He moved to Los Angeles in 1999. His wife died last year. Survivors include a son, daughter, three brothers and one grandchild. Memorial contributions may be made to the UofO Museum of Natural and Cultural History or the Oregon Bach Festival.

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322
Eugene, OR 97440
Website: www.obsidians.org

Board of Directors

President - John Jacobsen
Vice President - Wayne Deeter
Secretary - Jim Duncan
Treasurer - Sheila Ward
Mary Croson Sandra Larsen
John Pegg Steve Schriver
Susan Sullivan

Board meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month, except August, at the Obsidian Lodge.

Committee Chairpersons

By-Ways By BusLiz Reanier
Climbs..... Sue Sullivan
Concessions Laurie Funkhouser
Conservation Doug Nelson
Entertainment..... Kathy Hoeg
Extended Trips..... Lana Lindstrom
Finance Ken Kodama
Lodge Building Rob Castleberry
Lodge Grounds Max Brown
Librarian/Historian.....Lenore McManigal
MembershipSharon Ritchie
Online Wayne Deeter
PublicationsMarshall Kandell
Publicity..... Mary Croson
SafetyJohn Pegg
Science & Education..... Rick Ahrens
Summer Camp Jim Duncan
Summer Trips Sandra Larsen
Trail MaintenancePeter Asai
Winter Trips..... Bill Johnson
Youth Andy Jobanek

The OBSIDIAN *Bulletin*

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

bulletin@obsidians.org

Although email is preferred, submissions can also be sent to:

The Obsidian Bulletin
P.O. Box 51424, Eugene, OR 97405

Deadline
for October Bulletin
Saturday, October 1st

Editorial Team
Marshall Kandell, Janet and John Jacobsen

Assembly/Mailing Team
For July Bulletin

Pat Bitner, Yuan Hopkins, Lenore and John McManigal, Ardys Ringsdorf, Barbara Sutherland, Vera Woolley, Marshall Kandell and Rose Marie Moffitt (crew chief)

OBSIDIAN BOARD NOMINEES – 2005

Vote at the Annual Meeting October 14, 7 p.m. – EWEB Training Center



Stewart Hoeg

STEWART HOEG has been a member of the Obsidians for three and half years. During that time, he has been on many summer hikes, winter trips, bike rides, extended trips and bus trips. “I have been to most of the potlucks and usually arrive early to assist the Entertainment Committee in setting up the lodge. I have also served on the Finance Committee since early last year and am responsible for leading this year’s auditing activities. In addition, I have participated in trail maintenance, led numerous hikes and been a regular attendee at this years’ board meetings. I really enjoy the wide range of activities the club offers and have met many of my closest friends in town via the club. I am impressed with the amount of volunteer effort put in by club members and look forward to increasing my involvement by joining the board.



Anne Dhu McLucas

ANNE DHU MCLUCAS, born and raised in Colorado, came to Eugene in July of 1992, after 30 years living in Boston, and immediately joined the Obsidians as a way of saving her sanity while she ran the School of Music at the University as dean for 10 years. Now a professor of music (a relatively calmer life), she still enjoys hiking, skiing, reading, music, and people. Among her memorable Obsidian adventures have been attending four summer camps, climbing various peaks and leading lots of hikes and ski trips. Despite a deteriorating right knee she remains devoted to hiking and skiing and looks forward to many years with the Obsidians.



Brian Hamilton

BRIAN HAMILTON is a Eugene native and descendent of one of the earliest Lane County pioneer families. Both of his parents were skiers and had climbed most of Oregon’s volcanoes in their late teens and early twenties, often with the Obsidians; a tradition Brian had always wanted to continue. He was raised with an appreciation of the outdoors and, after reaching the age of 50, decided to start climbing the mountains he had known all his life. Thinking, “It’s now or never,” he joined the Obsidians to help him achieve his goal of reaching the summits. Brian graduated from the UO School of Architecture after more than 15 years of outdoor work, including tree planting and forest fire fighting. He has been practicing architecture since 1986. Brian and wife, Mary (a new Obsidian), have been married for 10 years and have four children.

Construction Forces Changes:

Potluck Cancellations

OUR HISTORIC Obsidian Lodge is about to undergo its long-awaited and much needed reconstruction. The work will probably go well into the fall or winter and will involve not just the entryway, but also the main room, the bathrooms and the kitchen. Therefore, reports Entertainment Chair Kathy Hoeg, “We will not be holding the usual potlucks until after the construction is finished. We’ll miss the good speakers and companionship of our fellow Obsidians, but look forward to meeting again when the lodge reopens.”

Watch the Bulletin for updated information. If you have any questions, call Kathy at 484-6196.

2005 Annual Meeting Move

THE OBSIDIAN ANNUAL MEETING will be held Friday October 14, 7 p.m. in the **Training Center of the EWEB riverfront offices at 500 E 4th Avenue**. There will be no potluck dinner prior to the meeting this year.

Members may pay their annual dues at the meeting although mail-in renewal is encouraged. The meeting will include committee reports, state of the club report, construction progress report, other club business and various awards earned by members this year will be presented.

BOARD NOTES

SEPTEMBER 7, 2005

Board members present were President John Jacobsen, Vice President Wayne Deeter, Treasurer Sheila Ward, Secretary Jim Duncan, John Pegg, Mary Croson and Sandra Larsen,. Also present: Kathy & Stewart Hoeg, Bill Johnson, Max Brown, Marshall Kandell, Ed Lichtenstein, John & Lenore McManigal, Brian Hamilton, Liz Reanier, Sharon Ritchie, Lana Lindstrom, Rick Ahrens, Ken Kodama, Bea Fontana and Gene Thaxton. July board meeting minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Report for August distributed. Maturing CDs continue to be rolled over into 30-day maturing CDs. Payment approved for: EWEB, \$32.08; YMCA annual donation, \$240; Sharon Ritchie (leader's award patches), \$210; Mary Croson (publicity), \$55; Jane Hackett (first aid kits), \$26.90; Lana Lindstrom (lodge demolition), \$35; Sheila Ward (postage), \$16.35; Wayne Deeter (on-line), \$49.90.

Old Business

Fundraising Committee (Sharon): \$61, 021 in donations to lodge building fund received. \$800 - \$900 in pledges outstanding. 236 of 554 current members have made donations.

Trip Leader Awards (Sharon): A display of the new trip leaders patches to be awarded at annual meeting was shown.

Annual Meeting (John): Training Center at EWEB reserved for the annual meeting October 14. Committee chairs should present brief overviews of committee activities for the year. Ad hoc committee reports should also be presented.

Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs Convention (John): The convention in August on the Columbia Gorge included a most interesting workshop on helping outdoor clubs on issues of membership, lack of commitment by members, etc.

Lodge Construction Committee: Brian reported demolition of portions of the lodge by volunteers had been completed. Additional demolition and new construction postponed until the city issues a building permit. **(See story, Page 1).**

New Business

Construction Cost Overage: John reviewed the lodge construction issues (See story, Page 1).

He distributed his most recent costing analysis, which revealed that even with possible cuts; the grand total comes to approximately \$178,000, with total funds available of \$144,500 leaving a shortfall of approximately \$34,000. The consensus was to move ahead and the discussion centered on ways to obtain the necessary funds. It was generally agreed that our fundraising efforts should continue, but that the bulk of the monies be obtained by borrowing from the club's endowment fund; i.e., the endowment fund would invest in the club and be repaid in a timely way at market interest rates. Discussion of mechanisms for repayment indicated that the principal and interest could be repaid by making adjustments in some of our user fees (summer camp, bus trips, etc.). Finally, the consensus was that proceeding with expansion and borrowing from the endowment fund were decisions that should be made by the board with full discussion of all the issues at the annual meeting.

A motion authorizing the Lodge Construction Committee to spend an additional amount up to, but not exceeding \$40,000, to

complete the expansion and renovation was approved by a vote of 6-0. A motion authorizing the endowment fund to act as the lender for an amount up to but not exceeding \$40,000 to Obsidians, Inc., to be repaid over a 10-year period at market rate of return was approved by a 6-0 vote.

A possible increase in membership dues was discussed. The issue will be addressed at a later meeting.

Bea Fontana has kindly agreed to design and etch the glass panes that are part of the pull-down door separating the entryway from the new meeting room in the new lodge renovation. She presented several sketches showing the Three Sisters; there was great enthusiasm for the sketches and Bea's willingness to take on this project (at her own expense!).

Membership Recruitment/Participation (Sharon): A general discussion included ideas for recruiting new members, including setting up tables at REI and YMCA; obtaining names and addresses at Eugene Celebration booth of people who seem truly interested. It was agreed the club should hold a drawing for and award vouchers for two free memberships (winning individuals would still need to meet the qualifying requirements). We might also offer two months of the Bulletin to interested individuals.

Committee Reports

Summer Trips (Sandra Larsen): July, 23 trip reports received (127 members, 42 nonmembers, \$293 in fees). August, 21 reports received (118 members, 46 nonmembers, \$304).

Climbs (Sue Sullivan): Eight reports received (45 members, 1 nonmember, \$100 in fees). Four climbs canceled, 4 reports outstanding, 4 remain on schedule.

By-Ways by Bus (Liz Reanier): Mt. Shasta & Mt. Lassen trip canceled. In August, 42 riders enjoyed a trip to Harrison Hot Springs in B. C. September Cascade Lakes Highway canceled; an October trip to Mt. St. Helens is being firmed up. Plans for the 2006 season are being made. The first committee meeting will be held October 26 at noon at Elmer's Restaurant.

Summer Camp (Jim Duncan): Committee members made a number of scouting trips over the summer to sites in Montana, Idaho and California. At least one additional scouting trip is planned and an announcement will be made shortly about the site of next year's camp.

Publications (Marshall Kandell): 485 July Bulletins printed, 467 mailed; cost \$619.48.

Membership (Sharon Ritchie): Board approved 11 applications for membership (9 Active, 1 Associate, and 1 Junior). Total membership is 554.

Publicity (Mary Croson): Mary is looking for volunteers to staff the Eugene Celebration booth.

Online (Wayne Deeter): The website is up to date.

Finance (Ken Kodama): Stewart reported the general fund audit completed. Kudos to Sheila for a superb job in keeping the books. Bus fund next for auditing.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): All trip reports for June and July are up to date.

Safety (John Pegg): Two minor incidents reported in August; one on the Harrison Hot Springs bus trip; the other on a McKenzie River hike. Responses in both cases were appropriate and efficient and neither incident report required further action.

Bhutanese Obsidian a Real Success Story!

OUR CLUB'S FIRST CONTACT with Pema Chhophyel occurred a few years ago when he guided some trekking Obsidians through the villages, hills and mountains of Bhutan. Two years ago, he went on his first Obsidian hikes with us and attended summer camp last summer. How he got to the U.S. and what he's done since he got here are stories of determination, spirit and success.

Pema completed two years of study at Lane Community College this past spring. Obsidian Blyth Carpenter says, "Pema has astonished us all. He has worked hard, earned excellent grades, taken advantage of every opportunity that has come his way and become a widely recognized and respected figure in Eugene. The tangible result of his efforts has been his acceptance to the University of Oregon."

Mary Spilde, LCC president, also sang Pema's praises in a letter of recommendation:

"**PEMA CAME TO US** from Bhutan. His entry into the United States did not come easily. He demonstrated his determination and persistence in working through all the barriers to accessing higher education in this country."

Listing all of Pema's campus and community activities, Spilde wrote, "When asked to perform a task, he assures it is completed in a quality way. Pema reaches out to international stu-

dents and helps them adjust to life at Lane. He is upbeat and positive and a natural problem solver. I can't think of anyone better to assist students who are either fearful or frustrated by the challenges of being a college student."

Pema will have upper division status at the UofO and be allowed into the competitive business major. "Quite a journey from his Bhutanese village," Blyth exclaims.

"Of course," Blyth adds, "the immediate question is how Pema can afford to take advantage of this opportu-



Those are not Pema's native Himalayas behind him but rather American Border Peak in the North Cascades - Summer Camp hike 2004

nity. First of all, he has been awarded \$15,000 in scholarships from the International Cultural Service Program...the highest amount ICSP has ever awarded. Secondly, Pema's visa permits him to work on campus, as he did during his two years at Lane. He has a summer job and, in the fall, he will be working at the International Resource Center.

"**PEMA IS DOING EVERYTHING** possible to be self-sustaining, but still faces an annual shortfall of about \$10,000. With a little help from his friends," adds Blyth, "he will fulfill his dream of graduating from the UofO, though that was a goal beyond our wildest imagination when Pema got off the plane in the fall of 2003."

In her letter of recommendation to the UofO, Spilde concluded by saying, "You will be proud, as I am, to count Pema as one of your alumni."

Obsidians who are close to Pema are already overflowing with pride. "What an amazing young man!" says Blyth. "He has enriched our lives and the lives of so many others."

THOSE WISHING TO FURTHER PEMA'S DREAM can help by contributing to the Bhutan Student Support Fund, c/o Janet Jacobsen, 1590 East 43rd Ave., Eugene, OR, 97405. Blyth Carpenter welcomes calls and inquiries regarding Pema (896-3542, blyth@natworld.com).

Volunteering for Obsidians Can Be a Real Trip!

THE OBSIDIANS give us all a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction. We get to see magnificent vistas, hidden waterfalls, meadows painted with wildflowers from an inspired palette. And it all keeps us in shape, feeling and thinking young.

If you've ever thought, "*I'd sure like to give something back to the club in appreciation for all I've received,*" have we got a deal for you!

Check out the "**How can you volunteer?**" section on the membership renewal form attached to this Bulletin. Take a look at the various opportunities presented and mark those that sound most interesting to you. If you have a skill, talent or interest that isn't represented, write it in. And, if you're not sure what might be involved regarding a specific committee, contact membership chair Sharon Ritchie at 342-8435 or trehugr@ix.netcom.com and she will satisfy your curiosity (or get someone who can).

Our club has prospered for almost 80 years because members like you made it all happen. And because they found that *volunteering for the Obsidians was a real trip!*

Re-filling the Piggy Bank

YOUR ATTENTION is called to a significant change in the "**Special Donations**" section in this year's membership renewal form. Whereas, in past years, you have generously donated to **Endowment** (*which provides a perpetual gift to the club via investment returns on fund*), **Contingency Fund** (*a fund for special club projects and emergencies*) or **General Fund** (*fuels the month-to-month expenses of our organization*), this year we ask that you consider making your donation to the **Contingency Fund** only. Because the fund has been seriously depleted by costs incurred in the lodge renovation, we need to build the fund back up so it will, again, be available for other needs and emergencies.

City Throws Cold Water on Plans Continued from Page 1

Jacobsen, “is a long saga, beginning with the city initially telling us that because the hydrant pressure was extremely low, we needed to provide our own complete fire protection system, including a water tank with capacity to provide an hour and a half of fire use, a high pressure pumping system and sprinklers at an estimated cost of over \$50,000. We asked for a retest of the hydrant nearest us (and guaranteed to pay for it if the results weren’t substantially different from the previous test) based on our architect’s familiarity with the area around the lodge and the knowledge that there was a new line added in the last several years. Luckily, the test showed a substantially improved hydrant flow rate -- enough that we don’t have to install the \$50,000 tank system, but not enough to avoid installing a sprinkler system. So, now, we just have to add sprinklers and can tie directly into the water main in front of our property.”

UNFORTUNATELY, John notes, because the lodge is not a residence it is classified as a commercial building and we need to have commercial quality sprinklers, which require a big water line into the lodge, big valves, etc. Bottom line: it is expensive.

Adding to the summer’s sour notes:

Keeping the climbing wall and bringing it up to code involved additional structural engineering costs and the cost of reinforcing it was more than had been budgeted. Not only did the noted city issues cause increased architectural time to be charged, but a switch of contractors resulted in still more meetings with the architects, resulting in fees significantly above what had been anticipated. A number of smaller items also tended to impact the budget adversely.

“**AT THIS POINT** we could have done several things to contend with the additional costs,” John says. “First of all, we could just ditch our plans to expand and return to the original entryway footprint and simply rebuild what was there. Doing this would get us out from under the new code requirements and eliminate the need for sprinklers.

“Or we could reduce the scope of what we wanted to do, such as reduce the ADA parking, delay the flooring in the entry and forgo the skylight in entry lobby. Another option,” he says, “would be to find additional revenue sources to allow

us to complete the Phase 1 as planned. Perhaps, a combination of scope reduction and additional resources.”

THE CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE studied the issues and felt strongly that going back to the original footprint would be a mistake and that the club might never be able to expand the lodge if it put off dealing with the fire protection. Cutting back on the scope of the project might be OK for a smaller amount, but the committee felt the cutbacks considered here would really hurt the quality and substance of the envisioned lodge in a way nobody wanted.

So what to do? Raise more money? Borrow from bank? Borrow from a member? Borrow against the Endowment Fund?

“We would be talking in the neighborhood of a \$30,000 - \$35,000 or so shortfall if we put everything back in, provide something for contingencies, and if the worst case scenario for sprinklers comes to pass,” John says.

“Of course if we managed to get a bid at the lower end of the sprinkler estimates and used very little of the contingency, we would be in the \$10,000 - \$15,000 short-fall range.

Donations Still Needed

With the summer surprises adding to the construction cost burden, the need for member donations continues. If you would like to provide an additional donation or you have not given yet, please do. The club still needs your help. Include it with your membership form or use the form from past issues.

IT WAS FELT BY THE COMMITTEE that borrowing against the Endowment Fund was the most reasonable thing to do, since it would greatly simplify the loan process, interest paid would remain in the clubs coffers and the Endowment Fund would continue to receive its normal returns. Acting on that recommendation, the board voted at the Sept. 6th meeting to do just that. The board unanimously approved the additional potential construction costs up to \$40,000, *if needed*, and OK’d a loan of up to that amount from the endowment fund, to be repaid at market interest rates over a 10-year period. A full report and discussion of the situation will be scheduled at the annual meeting on Friday, Oct. 14th, at 7 p.m. at EWEB.

It has, indeed, been a long, hot summer. For many Obsidians involved in the lodge renovation project, the months have also brought unwelcome surprises, frustration and lots and lots of meetings. Much more is going into the renovation of the lodge than mere construction materials. Once again, the finished lodge will reflect the dreams, emotions and generous time and energy of member volunteers.

-- Marshall Jay Kandell

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

To the following generous donors, for “honoring our past by building for our future.”

Donations to the Obsidian Building Fund: July 1 to September 1, 2005

<p style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px;">Mt. Pisgah \$1 - \$99</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Anonymous Peter Asai Tom, Alec & Maryanne Holser and Margaret Anolfo <i>in memory of Bill Holser</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Robert & Doris Jones</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Virginia Vincent <i>in memory of Beverly Leach</i> Martha Welches</p>	<p style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px;">Diamond Pk \$100 - \$249</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dan Bates Julie Snell Mary Ellen West</p> <p style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px;">Mt Thielsen \$250 - \$499</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jack & Dallas Cole</p>	<p style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px;">Three Sisters 1000-\$4999</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Maude R. Caldwell <i>in memory of Bill Loy, in honor of Maude Caldwell & in memory of Dorothy Hayes</i></p>
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The Stinging Reminders of a Short, Easy Hike!

By Ann-Marie Askew

SEEMINGLY ZILLIONS of invisible hypodermic needles prod my legs, lower arms and hands as I turn on my computer to Google “stinging nettles remedy.” The search engine brings up more than 16,000 references.

“Stinging may last only a few minutes or as long as an hour.”

Not in my case. I encountered the nettles several hours ago. Another reference indicates it may last days, so I continue searching for treatment.

I read that the juice of the nettle is an antidote for its own sting. That’s no help, because I certainly did not bring any nettles home with me. Another reference recommends smearing diluted alcohol on the affected areas. I rush to the bathroom to slather rubbing alcohol over my tingling limbs and hands. For good measure, I also spray them with Bac-tine. I don’t notice any relief.

SO, I CONTINUE to educate myself about my tormentor. I learn stinging nettles are of the genus *Urtica*, from the Latin verb “uro:” to burn. Their stinging hairs are sharp polished spines containing histamine and formic acid (think fire ants). Now, I know the source of my discomfort. I also learn stinging nettles are considered to BE a remedy for a multitude of diseases and that people even eat them!

*“Homeopaths use stinging nettle (*Urtica urens*) to treat people with first or second degree burns.”*

That statement is by Dana Ullman, MPH, a homeopath and friend from the School of Public Health at UC Berkeley, whom I haven’t seen for 20 years. Other references state stinging nettles are used to treat hay fever, arthritis, wounds, gout, hemorrhoids, prostate cancer and are even among the ingredients of some hair products. Their stems have been used for weaving, fish nets and the production of paper. This is all very interesting, but not helpful in relieving my discomfort. After composing an email to Dana -- the homeopathic ghost from my past -- I turn off

my computer, pour a glass of red wine and fix something to eat as I think about what got me into this situation.

Friday, Sept. 2, was just a few days after Hurricane Katrina destroyed New Orleans and other communities along the Gulf Coast. Having spent several days addicted to news broadcasts, I decided to get my mind off the horrors by hiking up Spencer Butte. As an Obsidian, I certainly know what to bring on a hike, but I drove to the 52nd St. trailhead around 4:30 p.m. without any

Partial to Marshall

There’s an odd Obsidian named Marshall, to whom the mosquitoes are quite partial. Despite covering himself with DEET from his graying beard to his booted feet, there seems to be no skeeter deterrent at all.

Still they buzz and flutter and bite Snacking on his nose and ears, both left and right. Through his shirt and even (gasp!) his pants... while he waves, slaps, curses and rants, trying his hardest to win this eternal fight.

It’s the season, everyone explains; it’s the season, it’s all those late rains. “It’s your blood, it’s too sweet; must be all that stuff that you eat.” Instead of rare beef, substitute organic grains.

Just hang in there until July has had it. August’s dry heat will convince them to quit, giving blessed relief to odd Obsidian Marshall, to whom they were, indeed, quite partial. Now, here’s a bug sporting a bright yellow jacket.
-- Marshall Jay Kandell

of the essentials -- not even water; just my car keys and wallet. I was wearing shorts, a tank top and tennis shoes. Familiar with the short, well-used trail, I figured I’d be up and back in a couple of hours and didn’t even think about my lack of preparation for the unexpected.

MY HIKE UP THE well-maintained trail through Douglas fir and sword fern, and then up onto the bald summit, took less than an hour. I spent perhaps 30 minutes at the top, basking in the late afternoon sun and scanning the 360 degree view. Five vultures perched in the branches of a fir beneath me.

Climbing down off the craggy knob, I figured I’d get back to my car well before dusk. As I descended, I thought about how it’s impossible to climb up or down the same way twice. Then, I wondered why my chosen path hadn’t converged with the well-used trail and realized I was probably following a water run-off. Eventually, I found myself within a tangle of brush and ferns with no trail in sight. Not wanting to climb back up, I decided to bushwhack my way down, expecting to encounter the trail soon. I proceeded cautiously, carefully avoiding clumps of stinging nettle and watching for sudden holes under fallen firs.

When I came across a pile of bones, I briefly thought about cougar sightings and hoped the deer had met a natural death. Unable to tell how much daylight was left, I started to feel a bit panicky. I started to talk out loud to myself, saying things like, “No reason to panic...all I have to do is continue down off the mountain...the trail has to be here somewhere...”

FORCING MYSELF through the brush as rapidly as possible, I realized I was in the midst of a large clump of stinging nettle. “Oh well,” I said to myself out loud. “That’s the least of my problems, because if I don’t get out of here before dark, it’s going to get awfully cold.” With that thought, I yelled, “**Hello! Anybody hear me? I’m lost!**” Silence. No one responded and, of course, I hadn’t brought my Obsidian whistle.

I thought about how no one knew I was on the mountain. I live alone and hadn’t told anyone I was going out. Yeah, my car was parked in the lot off Willamette, but would anyone even notice it or wonder if someone was lost on Spencer Butte?

“Well,” I said to myself, “at least I’ve stopped obsessing about the suffering in New Orleans. And my problems are nothing compared to what those people are going through; and it’s

Continued on Page 9

A Friendly Teller...

Continued from Page 1

with such people, but Ray had told the man he'd be there.

"WELL, WE BIT THE BULLET... 'the two big shots from the big city' ...we bit the bullet and we went. We were greeted so warmly and we just had a wonderful time that day! I've kinda forgotten the hike, but it wasn't too long, and it was nice. The companionship was wonderful, and the glory of hiking in the woods! We had no idea that these mountains had trails! We were both flatlanders, me from Illinois and Ernie from Wisconsin. We were completely green!"

Ray and Ernie were there the next Sunday, and the next Sunday, and the next Sunday!

"This was so completely new to me. In Chicago, we went out to have a good time at a nightclub and spent all our money on booze. But here were these wholesome folks, doing wholesome things in God's country. It was inspiring."

Later, Ray recruited one of his bank customers, Clarence Scherer.

"ERNIE FOUND HIS WIFE in the Obsidians, so did Clarence. I (on the other hand) did not," Ray laughed, "but we lived happily ever after anyway."

All three went on to serve on the board for several years. Each also served as club president: Ernie in 1949, Ray in 1950, Clarence in 1953. The three were lifelong friends as well as hiking and climbing companions.

Ray's friendly approach to "teller-ing" began to get him into trouble. His boss called Ray aside one day and told him he talked too much with the customers and that was why his accounts didn't balance at the end of the day. He was told to do better.

"Well, it didn't get better," Ray said. "I was often off just a little bit, three or four days a week. So the boss called me aside again and gave me a job as a loan officer. My failing got me a better job!"

RAY VIVIDLY REMEMBERS an Obsidian meeting while he was president. "There was quite an argument about climbing mountains. The leaders would not take (climbers) unless they were qualified. I mean really qualified. And the good climbers got to climbing by themselves. It was a sadness, because they (the climbers) broke away. But they left a legacy, because we had to look at the (issue). So, today, you don't climb a mountain without good training and equipment."

Ray once drove a visiting cousin, a midwesterner, over east of the mountains and pointed out the Three Sisters. He mentioned he'd climbed them all. To this day, Ray is sure that cousin thought he was lying. But Ray did, indeed, climb all three. In fact, he climbed North three times. He also climbed Jefferson, Three Fingered Jack, Broken Top, Mount

Bachelor, Diamond Peak and Mount Thielsen. He twice attempted Hood, but was forced off by storms.

Back when Ray first joined the club, there was only one hike a week, always on Sunday. The leader of the hike always carried a coffeepot. It was tradition. When they reached their destination, the leader had to make coffee for everyone. Ray hopes that coffeepot is still around somewhere.

Ray couldn't name a favorite hike, "because there are so many great places out there."

HE LED HIKES FOR YEARS to Maiden Peak. He also led hikes to Cap Hagen Lookout, carrying supplies into the Forest Service employee manning the tower. "I always called the ranger station ahead of time to let them get the supplies they needed. Then we'd each carry a part of what they had into the lookout."

Ray shook his head. "In those days, we cooperated with the Forest Service. Not like later when the kooks in the club began to criticize the Forest Service as lackeys for the rich lumber companies. The club turned away and fought the Forest Service for a time. I didn't like that at all. We were all on the same side. We were all conservationists. We both wanted to preserve the land set aside. I thought it was too bad to have a rift like what occurred."

Ray is glad to note that we have trail maintenance activities again.

Membership in the Obsidians has meant a lot to Ray over the years. "I met so many people in different walks of life. University professors, business people, school teachers, every type of person. People I would never have met otherwise. So many became lifelong friends.

"We got to know all the generations at summer camps. I care-take a home owned by the children of Clarence Scherer. They don't want to part with it and, so, I clean it and repair it, garden and paint a bit."

AT 85, RAY APPEARS much younger. Fall and winter often find him traveling to visit relatives in Chicago and Arizona. While he has not climbed since the '70s, and quit hiking with the Obsidians in 1990s, Ray still occasionally walks up Mt. Pisgah---at his own speed he points out. His poor hearing makes bus trip and potlucks difficult to enjoy, but he has stayed in touch with a handful of Obsidians, helping out with rides and other assistance.

And he is still the friendly guy he's always been. Until his recent move to Eugene, he was active in the Washburne Historic District and Neighborhood Association in Springfield, and he was Secretary to the Advisory Board of the Springfield Police. Ray now lives in Washington Abbey where he is ready to 'make things happen' and to help others get to appointments. For St. Alice's Catholic Church, he makes weekly visits to assisted living facilities, joining residents in prayer and administering Communion. It is no surprise that last year Ray was awarded The Good Neighbor Award in Springfield. Ray is characteristically modest about his volunteerism. He says he gets more out of it than the people he helps. "I guess I was brought up that way."

Stinging Reminder

Continued from Page 7

ing through; and it's really no big deal if I have to spend a cold night on Spencer Butte covered with nothing but the stabbing effects of stinging nettle!"

IN THAT FRAME OF MIND, I continued to force myself through ever thicker brush. Eventually, I heard the welcome sound of cars, so I figured I must be approaching either Willamette or Fox Hollow. I no longer saw sunbeams through the thick forest canopy, so I tried to pick up my pace as I bushwhacked for what seemed like a very long time. Finally, I spotted a trail down the steep slope and joyfully slid towards it on my behind, using sword fern to stay on course.

Indeed, I recognized the Ridgeline

Trail and turned left, figuring I would soon come to the intersection where it meets the trail leading to the butte. I half jogged, unwilling to stop to remove the rocks in my shoes, because it was dusk and I wanted to get to my car before dark. Much to my surprise, I never came to the intersection, finding myself much closer to Willamette than I'd thought. I was so turned around I didn't know what angle I'd come down off the mountain.

I GOT HOME about 8, just as it was getting dark. First thing I did was run a cool bath with a cup of Epson salts. Only as I undressed did I focus on the sharp, invisible nettle pricks all over my limbs and hands. I washed clumps of brush out of my hair, then rinsed in

the shower. After drying my prickly skin and donning my bathrobe, I turned on the computer to Google "*stinging nettle remedy*."

The bothersome symptoms continued all night, although I eventually fell asleep sometime after 2 a.m. When I awoke this morning, the prickles had lessened. It's now Saturday afternoon as I'm finishing this essay; and writing has provided a worthwhile distraction to my skin's discomfort. And, as I appreciate my good fortune, I think about our nation's shameful lack of preparation and response to Hurricane Katrina, and how my little adventure taught me a few lessons and perhaps a warning to others who are tempted to take off unprepared on "short easy" hikes.

MEDIA MIX

YOU MAY HAVE read about the Eugene teenager who was hospitalized with a nasty virus in Hong Kong recently and whose family needed both financial and medical help in order to



On a recent tour of new Constitution Center in Philadelphia, Bulletin reporter Marshall Kandell asked a couple of the signers of the famous document if there were any good trails in the area. At first, all he got were stony stares from cold steely eyes. Finally one of the strangely clad fellows told him to "Take a hike!"

get him home. As usual, our community responded generously, including a local doctor offering to fly 15,000 miles in just three days to go there and bring the boy home, caring for his needs enroute. That doctor was Obsidian Larry Dunlap. So, give Larry a pat on the back the next time you share a trail with him.

ANOTHER RECENT feature in the Register-Guard had a more somber ending. It told the story of Lucile Adamson, 78, who chose death with dignity over the alternative agony of a futile battle with cancer. Club historian Lenore McManigal recognized the name and searched through a set of books holding activity sheets of those no longer paying their Obsidian dues.

Lucile moved to Eugene five years ago – in part because of our area's fine hiking trails – and wasted little time finding the Obsidians. She joined in 2001, paid her dues in 2002 and then, after doing only five hikes, she dropped out. Now, perhaps, we know why.

Sorry to see you go, Lucile. We hardly knew you.

EUGENE RESIDENTS recently received a copy of "Eugene Outdoors," a

publication of the city's Parks and Open Space Division. A good deal of the space in the publication dealt with the tremendous amount of work required to maintain the community's parks and trails. Included was the following:

"If you hiked the Ridgeline Trail in the past year, you probably noticed numerous improvements. Most of this work has been accomplished through the tireless volunteer efforts of the Obsidians, a local outdoor recreation club, in an ongoing effort to help the City improve the trail and protect fragile habitat. Since October, over 100 feet of retainer wall has been installed and over six miles of trail has been cleared. Thank you!"

Aw, shucks...you ain't seen nothin' yet!

AMONG THE LOCAL members of the Oregon Disaster Medical Team reported by the Register-Guard as going to the Gulf Coast to provide emergency care in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina was Obsidian Gisele Garrity, a registered nurse.

TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Hikes

Tahkenitch Dunes

June 18, 2005

Leader: Mary Croson

6.5 miles, 650 ft. ("B")

OUR SMALL GROUP enjoyed a pleasant day at the coast. The weather cooperated and provided us with a sunny warm day. With very little wind we were able to sit on the beach and enjoy our lunch along with the view of several pelicans swooping into the waves. Members were Mary Croson, Jim Pierce and Barb and Tom Revere.

The Hellhole (Crack-in-the-Ground)

June 19, 2005

Leader: Bob Huntley

4.4 miles? ("A-B-C?")



The lunch spot at viewpoint rock. From left: Rob (in blue), Walt, Elizabeth & Stewart.

EIGHT OF US left Eugene and its threatening cloud cover at 9 a.m. By Lookout Point Reservoir we were in sunshine. The hike to the north rim is easy enough, only about ¼ mile on a faint unmaintained trail which can be followed fairly easily. From there the trail fades away and the going gets much harder. We climbed, slid, scrambled and tripped our way around the east end and down into the chasm. Lunch was at the viewpoint rock. On the way back we decided that the Hellhole is so named because you have to go through hell to see it (*EDITOR'S NOTE: Amen!*). By mileage and elevation this is an "A" hike, but because much of it is off trail, it feels more like a

long "B" hike. Participants in this adventure were soon-to-be-member Elizabeth Chandler and members Brian Hoyland, Marshall Kandell, John Jacobsen, Stuart Hoag, Walt Dolliver, Rob Castleberry and Bob Huntley.

Tamolitch Pool-Sahalie Falls

June 19, 2005

Leader: Becky Lipton

7 miles, 800 ft. ("B")

SIX HAPPY hikers thoroughly enjoyed the McKenzie River Trail, starting about two miles below the very blue Tamolitch pool, hiking past and through old lava flows, past a small reservoir and then on to the spectacular three waterfalls, ending at Sahalie Falls. The water is roaring this time of year and the forest is lush with new growth. Four were first time hikers with the Obsidians: Paul Humphreys, Tim Nevin, Shawn Phelps and Carolyn Swearingin. Members were John Lee and Becky Lipton.

Lillian Falls/Joe Goddard Old Growth

June 23, 2005

Leader: Ray Jensen

4 miles ("A")

THE BLACK CREEK Trail to Lillian (aka Lithan) Falls goes through old growth forest with several species of conifers, flowers, underbrush, downed trees all in a canyon carved by a roaring mountain stream. The falls drop about 150 feet in a series of cascades. Then to the nearby Joe Goddard Old Growth Grove for lunch on a log table with five rounds for seats. Being surrounded by western red cedar and Douglas fir -- nearly 10 feet in diameter -- was a cathedral-like setting.

Then to the Willamette Fish Hatchery -- sturgeon, rainbow trout & salmon viewing over a creek; birds of prey and a small museum. A great stop anytime. We set a leisurely pace on a mild, calm, bug-free day and not a person or vehicle was seen from Oakridge to the falls. Enjoying a perfect day were Barb Revere, Marshall Kandell, Margit Hollerud, Ray Jensen and nonmember Julie Dorland (now a member!).

Tire Mountain

June 24, 2005

Leader: Sandra Larsen

7.6 miles, 800 ft. ("B")

THIS EASY HIKE, near Westfir, has several things to offer: many wildflowers; sunny meadows; views of Diamond Peak, Mt. Bachelor, two of the Three Sisters; old-growth forest; and Hills Creek Reservoir. At the top there isn't much of a view since trees block most of it. Be sure to take a change of shoes as this trail can be very muddy, especially since it is shared with mountain bikers. Our week-day hike included Margaret Prentice, Sandra Larsen and nonmembers Pat Bean, Julie Dorland, Karen Rayle, Lucy Rayle, Bella Shaver, Ben Shaver and Eleanor Wilkerson.

Cone Peak-Iron Mountain

June 25, 2005

Leader: Allan Coons

8 miles, 1,800 ft. ("B")

EIGHT OF US MET at SEHS. The weather was partly cloudy and temperate. We drove to Tombstone Pass parking area -- up the McKenzie to the Clear Lake cut-off to Santiam Highway and turned west. The wild flowers were too numerous to mention. The ridge and openings along the saddle between Cone Peak and Iron Mountain were carpeted with wildflowers ranging from baby blue, purple, yellow, white, red, pink, cream and a few multi-colored. We hiked the loop in a counter-clockwise direction and found ourselves on Iron Mountain for lunch just before 1 p.m. Billowy cumulus clouds passed over us and, above them, scattered stratus clouds. The west side of Iron Mountain had not burst into bloom yet, so there is still a beautiful display awaiting hikers for another few weeks. Hikers were Josh Emmons, Chris Gordon, Lynn Frost, Gail Harris, Mary Croson, Anne McLucas, Nancy Lynchild and Allan Coons.

Eugene Wetlands

June 29, 2005

Leader: Kathy Riddle

5 miles ("A")

FIRST AND FOREMOST, I want to thank Rick Ahrens for being our guide. Our morning started off cool with a slight

breeze. Around 9 a.m. the warm, sunny weather set in. Rick, our knowledgeable expert, did an outstanding job identifying birds and plants. Due to our rainy spring, the wetlands had more moisture than usual for this time of year. We saw numerous birds and a wide variety of plant life. I must say seeing a heron take off in flight was a spectacular sight. Once again, thanks Rick for making our walk so enjoyable and informative. Hikers were: Rick Ahrens, Pat Bitner, Jean Coberly, Julie Dorland, Margot Fetz, Sandra Larsen, Barbara Morgan, Margaret Prentice, Barb Revere, Kathy Riddle and nonmember Eleanor Wilkerson.

McKenzie Waterfalls/Clear Lake

July 2, 2005

Leader: Ed Lichtenstein
7 miles, 600 ft. ("B")

A **SUNNY**, but not too warm, day. Six nonmembers (Barb McCall, Kitty Johnson, Carol Stout, Steve and Michelle Carson, Diane Kurz) and four members (Julie Dorland, Jim Fritz, Mel Zavodsky and Ed Lichtenstein) started from the Sahalie Falls parking lot. We did the falls loop clockwise, continuing east and across the highway to pick up the Clear Lake trail. This, too, we hiked clockwise stopping at the store for lunch (and goodies); and then completing the falls loop and returning to our cars. This is not a hike for those seeking solitude -- many other hikers, especially on the falls loop, but the views are great and varied.

Cone Peak-Iron Mountain

July 3, 2005

Leader: John Jacobsen
7.5 miles, 1,580 ft. ("C")

WHAT A GREAT TRIP! Clear blue skies, mild temperatures and about a zillion, maybe a zillion and half wild flowers in prime bloom, offered a spectacular day for us. This trail lived up to its reputation once again as a premier wildflower hike. Departing the lower trailhead off of FS Road 15 about 10 a.m. we hiked counterclockwise, climbing east to the Tombstone parking area first, so that we could avoid that uphill at the end of our trip, on through Tombstone Prairie and up the Cone Peak Trail, enjoying forest flowers all along the way. We soon entered the first of the many clearings and open ridges, where we were treated to our first grand, sunny floral display of the day. It

was like traveling from garden to garden to garden, endlessly coming into more spectacular gardens.

A twist on this popular Iron Mountain hike was a side trip to the top of Cone Peak. Despite the warnings on the signpost about this off trail, steep side trip, we had several people bail out of the ascent when they saw the steep route to the top that the leader pointed out from the trail below. So with three people taking a long lunch, the remaining five intrepid hikers headed up. The strenuous climb was rewarded with a great view (almost 200 feet higher than Iron Mountain), more wildflowers (who'd have thought) and the serenity of enjoying a place where few come even though it is within half-mile of one of the most popular hikes in the area.



Barb, Steve and Larry on top of Cone Peak

After a leisurely lunch, some relaxation and enjoying the view, too soon we were off again; down Cone Peak, pick up the long lunchers and on around the north side of Iron Mountain and up to its lookout where we enjoyed even more wildflower shows and great views. Can there ever be too many wild flowers or great views? On the eve of the Fourth of July it was appropriate to find some patriotic red, white and blue meadows of paint brush, larkspur and cat's ear. What a photo opportunity. A little top time and then downward we go, back to the cars at about 4:30. It was a treat not to have to hike up the last half mile to the Tombstone parking lot. On this hike were members Mari Baldwin, Larry Dunlap, Carol Houde, Bob Moffitt, Barb Revere, Nancy Whitfield and John Jacobsen and nonmember Steve Gunn. .

Rock Creek Wilderness

July 7, 2005

Leader: J. Scott Hovis ("B")

WE **CROSSED** the creek 13 times and jumped over 21 logs. Good thing we didn't count the scratches on our arms.

The trail has grown over with salmon berries. If you can stand the bushwhacking you will enjoy the solitude. You are supposed to park on Hwy. 101. The camp host said it would be OK to park in the campground during the week when it isn't busy. Hikers were: Walt Dolliver, J. Scott Hovis and Janet Jacobsen.

Rosary Lakes

July 9, 2005

Leader: Daniele Delaby
8+ miles, 800+ ft. ("B")

ELEVEN **HIKERS** left Eugene under gray skies and with light showers on and off, the weather did not look very promising up to Willamette Pass. It was dry when we started hiking and we ended up with a partly sunny sky and a light breeze, perfect weather for a moderately brisk pace. We were a well-matched group and we all decided to extend the hike to Maiden Peak Saddle, where we had lunch and more extended views to Odell and Crescent Lakes. The mosquitoes were out, but we managed fairly well, thanks to sprays and gels! We saw a lot of wild flowers, mostly by the lakes; and we exercised our vocal cords, getting echoes from Pulpit Rock. Hikers were LaRee Beckley, Daniele Delaby, Julie Dorland, Yuan Hopkins, Marshall Kandell, Margaret Prentice, Barbara Shomaker, Michelle Tambellini, nonmembers Marti Berger, Carolyn Eckel and Sherwood Jefferies.

Cowhorn Mountain

July 9, 2005

Leader: John Jacobsen
9.5 miles, 1,850 ft. "C"

THE **WEATHER** looked dismal as 13 of us headed out at 7 a.m. on our way to Cowhorn Mountain. But, as often happens when crossing Willamette Pass, the weather improved significantly as we descended the east side. On arrival at the trailhead at Windigo Pass, the sun was popping through occasionally and spots of blue sky could be seen. By 10:45, we were on our way up a dust free PCT (for a change.) Conditions continued to improve as we hiked the ridge, with views of Cowhorn improving as we rounded each ridge-top switchback. Before long we could see our ridge route to the summit in its entirety.

The cool, comfortable morning provided the venue for a brisk pace, placing us at the base of Cowhorn in a couple of hours. It was obvious the fun was about

to begin (if your definition of fun includes a lot of “up”), as we stared at the steep, exposed ridge that was our route. So, up we went -- through scree, past nature’s own bonsai trees, over a volcanic dike and on to the rock scramble to the summit that is always the highlight of this trip. After one party member chose to remain at the dike, my only concern was how we would find room for 12 summiteers on a six-seat summit. Luckily, the pleasant hike had insured a friendly group and we managed to squeeze together with hardly any fuss. While the weather was much more pleasant than we had hoped for, there was a brisk breeze blowing across the top of Cowhorn, so lunch was a bit abbreviated. *Note to file (and Wayne):* chinstraps are helpful in keeping hats on heads in the wind, thus avoiding cap retrieval heroics.



Inline from lower left: Keri, Sue, Chris and Janet descending.

The descent went quickly and we reached the cars about 3:30. A stop at Crescent Junction for refreshments topped a great day on Cowhorn Mountain. Hikers were Jim and Melody Clarkson, Wayne Deeter, Chris Gordon, Jane Hackett, Bob Huntley, Kristen Higgins, John and Janet Jacobsen, Craig Renkert, Nancy Whitfield, Sue Wolling and non-member Keri Sadler.

Opal Creek Loop

July 10, 2005

Leader: Martha Welches
7.1 miles, 200ft. (“B”)

ON A RAINY DAY, seven hikers carpooled along I-5 to the Little North Fork of the Santiam River, viewing awesome scenery on their way to Opal Creek Wilderness Area, a lush old-growth ancient rain forest with 1,000-year-old cedar trees. After displaying our wilderness passes, we headed along the river trail to Opal Pool, the jewel of perfection, then across the 52-foot long sturdy wooden bridge to Jawbone Flats, an old mining town,

where we had lunch. Jawbone is now used for ecology classes and rental cabins. We followed the gravel road along the other side of the river back to the cars. Happy hikers included Guy Strahon, Judy Terry, Carol Waddell, Pat Wood, Martha Welches and nonmembers Sheila Carter and Laurie Reed.

Blair Lake

July 13, 2005

Leader: Melody Clarkson
6 miles, 800 ft. (“B”)

BLAIR LAKE, northeast of Oakridge, is reached via 9+ miles of gravel roads off Salmon Creek Road. The trail begins just west of the lake and wends its way first through lovely wild flower meadows, then climbs gently into the forests. Halfway to the top our small group stopped on a rocky outcrop to look down on the lake, a really lovely sight. After enjoying this view we returned to the trail and hiked through acres of bear grass dotted with tiger lilies. Reaching the top with minimal huffing (approximately 800 feet above the lake), we lunched, surrounded by the Cascade peaks from Jefferson to Diamond, and a smidgen of Hood.

There’s a shelter at the top -- built to provide protection from weather and sometimes a destination for Obsidian cross-country skiers. After lunch, we scouted out the Mule Mountain Trail which offers the possibility of a pass-key adventure. At the completion of our hike we rendezvoused at the lake camping area for homemade chocolate chip cookies and observing puddling blues (butterflies). Blair Lake offers great picnicking, swimming and huckleberry picking in late summer. Hikers included guest Barry Taub and members Sandra Larsen, Marshall Kandell, Julie Dorland and Melody Clarkson.

Battle Ax

July 16, 2005

Leader: Bob Huntley
8.4 miles, 1,650 ft. (“B”)

SEVEN OF US went up to the Bull of the Woods Wilderness to see what the hike to Battle Ax Mountain was like. The road in is so bad we parked our cars 1.4 miles from the trailhead and walked the rest of the way. This made it an 8.4 mile hike with about 1,650 feet of elevation gain. There were many wildflowers to enjoy going up the drier south side and coming back the wetter, more densely forested,

east side. Battle Ax used to have a fire lookout on top, so it isn’t surprising that the view from the top is excellent. We could see from Mt. Hood to the Sisters, with Mt. Jefferson dominating the nearer vistas. We all agreed this hike is well worth the long drive. Non-members Matt Bell and David Li joined members Janet Jacobsen, Richard Sundt, Barbara Schomaker, Ruth Romoser and Bob Huntley on a trip the Obsidians have rarely done.

Erma Bell Lakes

July 17, 2005

Leader: Barb Revere
4.5 miles, 300 ft. (“A”)

SIX HIKERS set out on the well-maintained trail to Lower and Middle Erma Bell Lakes in the Waldo Wilderness. We spotted about 20 other hikers -- many carrying, floating in or fishing from smallish rubber rafts. Nobody seemed to be having any luck; even an osprey, seen on the scouting trip, was fishing elsewhere. Our pace was leisurely in the lovely sunny weather. We were surprised by the variety of flowers seen on this mostly forested walk. After lunch at Middle Erma Bell, one hiker, nonmember John Lapeyre, decided it was too soon to return to the trailhead and chose to leave the group and hike the long loop back, via Williams and Otter Lakes. *(John Jacobson says it is okay to lose 10% of your group -- but I am an inexperienced leader, so I hope they excuse the extra 7%. Seriously, he was advised that the club no longer felt any responsibility for him. He was agreeable to this.)* Staying to the hike’s happy end were Obsidians Julie Dorland, Mary Hamilton (on her third and qualifying hike), Sherwood Jeffries, Marshall Kandell and Barb Revere.

Rooster Rock

July 17, 2005

Leader: Mel Zavodsky
6.6 miles, 2,300 ft. (“B”)

IT WAS A BLUE SKY DAY. Ten of us hiked to the top. Great view of Iron Mt. and Three Sisters. Thank you to Jennifer, Lynn and Ann for driving. Participants were Jennifer Baer, Mari Baldwin, Peter Graham, Chris Gordon, Ann McLucas, Royal Murdock, Mel Zavodsky and nonmembers Steve Gunn and Lynn Frost.

Mt. Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise

July 20, 2005

Leader: Royal Murdock

3 miles, 1,000 ft. ("A")

ON A BEAUTIFUL summer evening in the glow of a sunset we hiked up Mt. Pisgah. On top, we were rewarded by a cool breeze, a full moon emerging from behind Diamond Peak and a congenial group to appreciate and share the experience.



Sunset on Pisgah

It was dark coming down as we were in the moon shadow cast by Mt. Pisgah. Flashlights helped on the slippery gravel. Driving home took about 15 minutes. It doesn't get much better than this. Enjoying the night were: Royal Murdock, Laurie Reed, Barb Revere, Anne McLucas, Sherwood Jefferies, Janet Jacobsen, Walt Dolliver, Jennifer Boer, Bonnie Richman, Peter Newman and Steve Gunn.

Eagles Rest

July 21, 2005

Leader: Marc Hansen

5 miles, 1,422 ft. ("B")

THE EAGLES REST destination offers a lot of bang for the buck. The trailhead, located out and off Hwy. 58, is only 30 or so miles from town. The forested trail is gradual -- yet gains 1,422 feet in 2 1/2 miles to provide a decent workout. Eagles Rest summit provides a spectacular view of nearby mountains and valleys. Wildflowers in season were columbine, Indian paintbrush, oxeye daisies and tiger lilies. The four experienced, amiable hikers taking full advantage of this were Dan Christensen, Marc Hansen, Dick Hildreth and Barb Revere.

Lowder Mountain

July 23, 2005

Leader: Diane Jeffcott

5.6 miles, 900 ft. ("B")

ON A BEAUTIFUL, warm Saturday we headed to Lowder Mt. Because our group was big, we divided into two

groups with Ann-Marie's co-leading expertise. The trail is not being maintained so it was very overgrown and often obscure from view; however, we persevered and made it to the top. The views were spectacular! The wildflowers in full bloom included: tiger lilies, gentian, cone flowers, columbine, cat's paws, cat's ear, larkspur, coral root, sedum, spiria, lupine, paintbrush yarrow, wild roses and rhodies. There were no mosquitoes but the flies were annoying. One person fell on the trail (just a few scratches) so we were able to use our first aid supplies. We all learned to replace our antiseptic wipes before they dry out when carried around in packs for years. So, check out your personal kits and make them useful. We were back in Eugene by 4:30 and all had a great time. Hikers were Ann-Marie Askew, Dan Bates, Daniele Delaby, Yuan Hopkins, Marshall Kandell, Nola Nelson, Barb Revere, Barbara Schomaker, Guy Strahon, Judy Terry, Diane Jeffcott and nonmembers Winnie Kerner and Barry Taub.

Pacific Crest Trail

Santiam-McKenzie Passes

July 23, 2005

Leader: Buzz Blumm

13 miles, 2,000 ft. ("C")

AS USUAL, we split into two groups -- four starting at Santiam Pass (near Big Lake) and the others at McKenzie Pass just west of the Dee Wright Observatory. We all started hiking just after 10 on a beautiful cloudless morning, met near the halfway point for lunch and exchange of keys about 1 p.m., then continued on. Beautiful views of the Belknaps, Sisters and Mt. Washington. After changing a flat tire on Sue Wolling's car, we met up at the bottom, switched cars back to their rightful owners, and headed back to Eugene. Hikers were Andrew Blumm, Buzz Blumm, Dan Christensen, Jim Fritz, Sue Wolling and nonmembers Nathan Duke, Mike Falsgraph and Karen Rayle.

Three Pyramids (Middle)

July 24, 2005

Leader: Jane Hackett

Report by: Janet Jacobsen

4 miles, 1,800 ft. ("B")

IT WAS A PERFECT day for our hike up the Middle Pyramid. The flowers on the ridge were spectacular, especially the

Washington Lilly. The view from the former lookout tower top stretched from Mt. Adams to Broken Top and the Three Sisters. For many, the close-up view of Mt. Jefferson was the dramatic payoff. The two miles up with an 1,800 ft. elevation gain was filled with varied terrain of forest, creek, ripe salmonberries, meadows, cliffs, rock gardens and views.

The trail is in excellent condition, with signs of recent maintenance. It is a particularly satisfying hike because of the length, the terrain and the views. As always, one wonders what it would be like to hike up the South or North Pyramid. One also wonders why a stretch Hummer limo was stopped at the snowpark on Road 2067.

Thanks to Becky Hansen and Ron Wood for driving. John Lapeyre of Iowa followed the two cars on his motorcycle. Hikers were Jennifer Baer, LaRee Beckley, Sheryl Brown, Steve Gunn, Jane Hackett, Becky Hansen, Janet Jacobsen, Daphne James, Barbara Revere, Ron Wood and nonmembers Lapeyre and Michael Graney.

Hart's Cove

July 26, 2005

Leader: Anne Dhu McLucas

5.7 miles ("B")

AFTER A BIT OF wandering around looking for the trailhead (future hikers, take the lower road when it forks), we found ourselves under blue skies and cool temperatures, heading down the trail to Hart's Cove through lovely old-growth forest, with occasional glimpses of the ocean.

When we came to the headland, the view was spectacular and we chose a lunch spot overlooking the cove itself. After lunch we wandered a bit to catch sight of the waterfall and then headed up the trail to the car, with just a bit of moaning and groaning. Given the time and mood, we decided to skip the short side-trip to Cascade Head, and headed on down 101, stopping for an ice cream break before heading home to sweltering Eugene.

A great, if small, group of four women (all could fit in the leader's convertible), including Julie Dorland, Sandra Larsen, Anne Dhu McLucas and Bonnie Richman.

George Lake

July 30, 2005

Leader: Brian Hoyland

12.5 miles, 2,900 ft. ("C")

GEORGE LAKE is located at 5,700' on the southeast flank of Mount Washington. The Pacific Crest Trail passes within 3/4 mile of the lake, but there are no maintained trails to the lake. Our group began hiking north on the PCT from the Hwy. 242 trailhead on McKenzie Pass at 5,200'. Despite our early start, the Belknap lava flows were already warming under sunny skies. We took our first water and snack in the big lava vent on the west side of Little Belknap, where we found one of the few shady spots in the area. We continued northward, crossing our high point of the day between Belknap Crater and Little Belknap at 6,100' for an up-close view of these two centers of recent volcanic activity.

The PCT follows an older lava flow that is thinly forested as it descends into a shallow valley between Mt. Washington and Belknap Crater. Near a point south of the lake, we left the PCT at 5,400' and started hiking and climbing cross country up and over the 5,800' ridge that stands between the lake and the trail. My map and compass navigation skills were somewhat off and I cheated a little bit too far east as we bushwhacked through significant amounts of blown down trees. On our first attempt, we missed the lake, probably by a couple hundred meters to the east, and never even saw it as we dropped into dense forest to the northeast of the lake. I realized our mistake; we regrouped and started back uphill to southwest, where we quickly found the shore of the emerald green colored lake.

Interestingly, while we were thrashing around in the woods to the northeast of the lake, we encountered a faint trail leading northeast from the lake, complete with sawed logs. This trail doesn't show on modern maps, but may be one of the rumored horse packer trails that lead to the lake basin. Everybody but the leader went for a swim and gave the lake high marks for swimability. Erik pulled an old soda pop can from the bottom, only to find it had been home to a gray salamander. With Rob's binoculars we spotted two rock climbers roped and climbing high on Mt. Washington's fractured southeast buttress. The summit of the mountain is less than a mile from the lake and the view of the southeast face is



George Lake, Mt. Washington in background

spectacular. After a leisurely lunch and many photographs, we located a faint use trail that provided a relatively easy route back to the PCT from the south shore of the lake. Some large afternoon thunderstorms had brewed over the south Cascades and provided a photogenic backdrop to the Three Sisters as we hiked back south on the PCT and over the Belknap flows to the trailhead. Thanks to Erik for driving us in his van. Hikers were guest Erik Muller and Obsidians Rob Castleberry, Rich Romm, Richard Sundt and Brian Hoyland.

Chucksney Mountain

July 30, 2005

Leader: Allan H. Coons

10.25 miles, 2,000 ft. ("C")

DAN CHRISTENSEN, Becky Lipton, Danny Baihuber and Allan Coons left for Chucksney Mtn. at 8 a.m. The sky was clear and promised to be so by mid-afternoon and it was. We stopped at Westfir on the way and turned on Aufderheide Scenic Drive. The divide between the Willamette and the McKenzie drainages is about 75 miles from Eugene whether one goes up Hwy. 58 and turns north or up Hwy. 126 and turns south. We arrived at 10 a.m.

This can be a loop hike, which we did, going counter-clockwise. (It's 4.75 miles to the ridge top, where we had lunch, and 5.50 miles back to the trail head.) The hike climbs through old growth forests, gaining about 2,000 feet, with a few ups and downs. The ridge top affords wonderful views of the Three Sisters, Bachelor, Broken Top and Mt. Washington. There are some meadows on the east side of the ridge which earlier in the season would have had wildflowers and butterflies. There were hardly any this year.

After lunch, the trail goes through meadows on the west-facing ridge, which offers views of the ridges and valleys of the Old Cascades; eventually, the trail

works its way down the Box Canyon watershed. Near the end of the hike, the trail crosses the creek where we soaked our feet for a few minutes in the cool air on the banks of the stream. In fact, we had a nice cooling mountain breeze for most of the hike, particularly during the afternoon. We got back to the vehicle around 4 p.m. We completed the scenic route continuing north on Aufderheide Drive.

McKenzie River/Tamolitch Pool

July 31 2005

Leader: Martha Welches

4.2 miles ("A")

TWELVE EAGER hikers left at 9 a.m. enroute to Trail Bridge exit along the McKenzie River. On the hiking trail we passed old growth Douglas fir and cedars. Then through moss-covered lava to overlook the awesome sight of the turquoise Tamolitch Pool. After some searching we found some rocks to sit on overlooking the pool and ate our lunch. We wanted to be closer to the water but didn't know the way. The weather was wonderful and we enjoyed the scenery and company. Hikers were members Julie Dorland, Joanne Ledet, Carol Waddell, Martha Welches, Ron Wood, Courtney Abbott, Sheila Carter, Jane Dods, Holly Higgins, Sherwood Jefferies, Bonnie Richman, and Jackie Worth.

Vivian Lake

August 6, 2005

Leaders: Joanne Ledet, LaRee Beckley

8 miles, 1,600 ft. ("B")

ON A HOT AUGUST day, 10 hardy hikers, equipped with great attitudes and lots of water, left SEHS at 8 a.m. and, after parking at Salt Creek Falls, we set off at about 10 a.m. The first third of the hike is fairly easy and wanders through a pleasant wooded area. After getting to the wilderness area the incline increases noticeably, so we slowed our pace to avoid overheating and also to enjoy Fall Creek waterfall and a short break before resuming our hike to the lake. While the bear grass was bloomed out, the huckleberries were ripe and we enjoyed plucking a few along the way.

When leading this hike in previous years we have had to stop short of the lake, either because of the snow pack or because the path to the lake was too wet to continue. Not this year. Conditions were perfect. We stopped at the lake for

lunch, enjoying the lovely view with Mt. Yoran in the background. A few people came prepared and took a swim while others opted for wading in the clear water. After lunch we reluctantly left for the return trip, detouring to Diamond Creek Falls on the way. Even in a dry year there was still a great deal of water coming over the falls, providing ample photo opportunities. We got back to our cars around 2:30 and most of us stopped in Oakridge for a cool treat at the Dairy Queen. Non-Obsidian hikers were Jamie Gorbet and Ken Rosenstein. Obsidians included Max Brown, Daniele Delaby, Dick Hildreth, Yuan Hopkins, Sherwood Jefferies, Rod Wood, Joanne Ledet and LaRee Beckley.

Phantom Bridge

August 7, 2005

Leader: Danny Baihuber

5.4 miles, 1,400 ft. ("B")

MEETING IN SALEM on a hot day, the four of us headed out on Hwy. 22 East towards Detroit Lake and up the French Creek Rd. drainage on rough Forest Rd. 2207 for several miles to the trail head. Wendy's SUV overheated at the trailhead, but we were confident it would cool down once we got back from the hike. Though the overall hike is five miles roundtrip it is not easy, with numerous ups and downs with several steep sections on loose gravel. The trail followed a ridgeline to Phantom Bridge and we were relieved to reach it. The natural rock arch provided a great lunch spot, with views of Mts. Jefferson and Hood. On the way back we encountered a work party setting up camp for trail maintenance. Joining me (Danny Baihuber) were nonmembers Wendy Mitchell, Alice Parman and Numa LaPenyl, who all provided great company. All three nonmembers came a long way from Eugene for this hike and will make the Obsidians proud to have them as members. Wendy's SUV was fine for the rough few miles back to the pavement. We all enjoyed a treat of root beer floats for \$2 at KC's in Detroit. A nice way to end the hike.

DeFazio-Autzen Bridges

August 11, 2005

Leader: Margo Fetz ("A")

PHIL CARROLL of Eugene Tree Foundation and an ad hoc group discussing the future of the EWEB property and Joe Moll, executive director of the McKenzie River Trust, joined us to discuss the river

and the demands our growing community is placing on it. Joe showed us the type of property a land use trust would consider and told us how a trust would go about conservation. Phil told us some of the concerns of his group and mentioned a City Club presentation on Sept. 30th. Both gave us much to think about. Participants were members Rick Ahrens, Jean Coberly, Margo Fetz, Zola Miller, Ruth Romoser and soon to be member Eileen Kugel.

Mary's Peak

August 13, 2005

Leader: Doug Nelson

5 miles, 1,250 ft. ("B")

THE EAST RIDGE Trail on Mary's Peak turned out to be a good choice for a hike on a hot August morning. The trail climbs gently up the ridge through fine old growth woods, making for a cool, enjoyable walk. We traversed across to the North Ridge Trail via the Tie Trail (reversing the loop described by Sullivan) and proceeded up the final gravel road to the top of the highest peak in the Coast Range. The summit was breezy and pleasant, though we knew the valley below was no doubt beginning to swelter. We had to use our imagination to enjoy the far vista as we ate lunch. The air all around was filled with a thick haze of smoke and dust. The valley floor was murky and obscured; not a single Cascade peak was visible. That was a bit of a disappointment, but we were glad to be above the worst of the haze.

We followed the East Ridge Trail back down to the car and were glad for air conditioning on the ride back. A note to those who have read Sullivan's description or not hiked this area for a while: The trail junctions are now clearly signed and well marked. Though none of us had done this exact hike before we had no trouble figuring out where we were or needed to go. Thanks to those who joined me and helped make this a most enjoyable outing. Hikers were: members Dan Bates, Max Brown and Doug Nelson; nonmembers Les and Marian Brod.

Maxwell Butte

August 13, 2005

Leaders: Melody & Jim Clarkson

9.6 miles, 2,500 ft. ("C")

ALTHOUGH THE VALLEY was very hot this day, the trail temperature was exceedingly pleasant. At the top of the butte

(6,225 feet), the breeze caused some to want a long-sleeved shirt. In a few places the trail was a bit dusty due to the time of year; regardless, guest Sabine Dutoit said the trail was her favorite because of the gradual yet steady climb to the top. One of our lucky hikers, Claudia Arias, surprised a young black bear eating huckleberries along the trail. The rest of us heard it crashing through the woods, fleeing in fright...or was that Claudia? Hikers Chris Stockdale, Sabine Dutoit, Claudia Arias, Peter Graham and Melody and Jim Clarkson enjoyed lunch viewing the peaks from Hood to Diamond.

Lillian Falls/Klov Dahl Bay

August 13, 2005

Leaders: Stewart Hoeg/Jim Duncan

7.6 miles ("B")

EIGHT HIKERS met at 8 a.m. and headed for the trailhead hoping to avoid the forecast of 90+ heat. Less than a minute before the first car arrived at the trailhead a large bear was seen leaving the gravel road ahead and disappearing into the foliage. The temperature was a cool 59 under sunny skies at about 9:45 as we started up the trail. We almost immediately found ourselves hiking through old growth Douglas fir and western hemlock. Lillian Falls was deemed worthy of an extended break. Up the path, Jim and Stewart were pleased to find that an area blocked by very large trees last month was now clear. The hikers' diet was supplemented along the way with blackberries, blueberries and huckleberries.

We arrived at Klov Dahl Bay on Waldo Lake right before noon and spent a leisurely lunch enjoying the sunshine, stiff breeze, cool temperatures (about 70) and no mosquitoes! Everyone was impressed by Dick Hildreth's willingness to take a brief dip in the lake, solo. The hike back down was highlighted by another long break at Lillian Falls. The hike required four somewhat challenging stream crossings, but with the help of several walking sticks and great teamwork, 63 1/2 out of 64 feet avoided dipping into the streams. The shaded route and natural air conditioning of Black Creek and Lillian Falls kept the group cool and comfortable until we arrived back at the cars.

A side trip to A&W in Oakridge was added to complete a beautiful and satisfying day in the woods. Participating: Dan Christensen, Jim Duncan, Dick Hildreth, Stewart Hoeg, Barb Revere, Sheila Ward, nonmembers Debra Higbee and Shawn Phelps.

Canyon Creek Meadows

August 14, 2005

Leader: Laurie Funkhouser

7.5 miles ("B")

REACHING THE TRAILHEAD was half the trip due to the long drive and slightly bumpy ending. However, the clean air, clear skies and slight coolness to the gentle breezes was worth it. The crew of six hikers cheerfully reached the meadows to find the marsh marigolds blooming. Then we headed up to the moraine to peer down on the slightly muddy lake at the base of Three Fingered Jack. With encouragement from Julie, some of the hikers took on the additional 1.5 mile hike/climb for the awesome view of the Three Sisters, Husband, Mt. Bachelor and Mt. Washington. After taking the time to enjoy the view, the crew headed down to complete the loop and return to the cars. The section of the trail that winds through the burned area has begun to regenerate; noticeably by the presence of fireweed. The cheerful crew consisted of: Julie Dorland, Laurie Funkhouser, Martin Holland-Bak, Barb Revere, Nancy Whitfield and nonmember Jean Murphy.

Four in One Cone

August 14, 2005

Leader: Lynda Christiansen

8.5 miles, 1,500 ft. ("B")

TEMPERATURES in the 90's were forecast, but our hike was pleasant...first shaded by lodgepole pine, then mountain hemlock. About the last mile we reached the lava flows and the cinder scree to the crater rim, where a stiff breeze kept us comfortable. We explored the four contiguous cones, and enjoyed the views: North Sister, Hood, Washington and Jefferson being among the most prominent. Hikers were nonmembers Courtney Abbott, Sue Myers and Wendy Mitchell; members Ann-Marie Askew, Suzanne Steussy, Michelle Tambellini, Carol Waddell and Lynda Christiansen.

Mt. Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise

August 18, 2005

Leader: Royal Murdock

2.8 miles ("A")

ON A BEAUTIFUL summer evening, we 10 hiked up Mt. Pisgah to see the setting sun and welcome the rising full moon. All participants summited: John Agnew, Rick Ahrens, LaRee Beckley, Walt

Dolliver, Julie Dorland, Royal Murdock, Mariner Orum, Barb Revere and nonmembers Marcia Cutler and Peter Newman.

Little Brother

August 19, 2005

Leader: Jim Fritz

13 miles, 3,060 ft. ("C")

AFTER STOPPING at McKenzie Ranger Station to pick up a limited access permit, we continued up Old McKenzie Hwy. to Frog Camp and its excellent, ample, individually shaded parking circle at Obsidian Trailhead. After a dull 3 1/2-mile gradual ascent through the forest, the path climbs over a lava wall for a great first view of Obsidian Cliffs and the Sisters. Crossing a stream and going up a lava flow the way winds left at Minnie Scott Springs junction to Glacier Way. Along White Branch Creek, through Sunshine Meadows, we passed a trail junction where the stream flows widely down a slope from the south where Arrowhead Lake waits for a different trip. A quarter-mile up a smaller trail heading toward Middle Sister, we began bushwhacking off the trail to the left. Traversing up steep, loose scree for two miles to a view of Little Brother's steep, sandy, south shoulder, we ascended that for a view now 3,060 ft. higher than the trailhead and lunched atop the 7,810 ft. narrow ridge of sharp rocks, with a vast chasm separating us from North Sister. It was a hot day. Thanks to drivers Rich Romm and Lynn Frost. Participants were nonmembers John Andriola and Lynn Frost; members LaRee Beckley, Jim Fritz, Chris Gordon, Daphne James and Rich Romm.

Kentucky Falls

August 19, 2005

Leader: Sandra Larsen

4.4 miles, 800 ft. ("A")

NINE HIKERS left Eugene on what promised to be a hot day. The drive to the trailhead after leaving Hwy. 126 is twisty and dusty (especially this time of year). Many of the hikers hadn't done this trail, a good one on a hot day since it is in the trees and near water most of the way. This time of year there is less water coming over the falls, but it is still an easy, pleasant hike. After lunch, the return trip is all uphill. Hikers were nonmembers Jessica Bandstra, Suzanne Clark, Ben

Shaver, Bella Shaver (about to become a member) and Ruth Wisner; along with members Sandra Larsen, Margaret Prentice, Laurie Reed and Ginny Reich.

Canyon Creek Meadows

August 20, 2005

Leader: Barb Bruns (for Anne McLucas)

7.5 miles, 1,400 ft. ("B")

IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL DAY for an absolutely splendid hike. Although none of the nine of us had hiked this trail before, including this last minute substitute for Anne McLucas, we found our way to the Jack Lake trailhead. Armed with Sullivan's book and a map, we found our way. The trail was not crowded. Hikers are urged to travel clockwise to have the "wilderness experience." Many wildflowers were still apparent though the peak season had passed. The entire group made it to the glacial cirque lake, with wonderful views of Three Fingered Jack and the surrounding mountains. Three of the group scrambled further for an even more spectacular view. A short part of the trail took us through the burned area, which gave an eerie feeling; but, already, new growth and flowers had appeared. Wading and splashing in the water at Jack Lake made a refreshing end to the hike. Participants were members Barbara Bruns, John Lee, Becky Lipton, David McClurg, Eric McClurg, Nola Nelson, Marian West and nonmembers Les and Marian Brad.

Washburne/China Creek

Sunday, August 21, 2005

Leader: Marshall Kandell

5 miles 400 feet plus ("A")

SPECTACULAR weather made it difficult for us to stop beachcombing and go inland.

Up the Hobbit Trail we went, however. There's a fork in the trail where one has to decide whether to take the easy path or the more interesting and difficult one. For the



Time out for tidepooling!

second time, I missed the fork and we found ourselves on the easy trail. It's easy to see the trail from the highway entrance, but it seems hidden from below (or, perhaps, my eyes aren't what they used to be). Strange for this time of year, but the beaver pond overflowed the little lookout, making our stop there shorter than usual. There were still some purple foxglove greeting us at the meadow, where we had lunch, before continuing on the China Creek Loop. Also unusual during such a hot, dry summer, we saw lots of mushrooms, including a couple we dubbed "Black Death." The ride back included a stop at Darlingtonia Botanical Gardens to see the cobra lilies and BJs to reward ourselves with ice cream treats. Hikers were: nonmembers Pat Esch and Sam Houston; and Obsidians Julie Dorland, Marshall Kandell, Barb and Tom Revere and Nancy Whitfield.

Snow Creek Meadows **August 21, 2005** **Leader: Jane Hackett** **7 miles ("B")**

WE FOLLOWED the Park Meadow Trail signs on Hwy. 16 south out of Sisters and parked along the road close to Snow Creek Ditch. For around an hour we walked on a very dusty trail on and below the ditch until we came to the culvert with a headgate on one side. From there we crossed the creek and followed the trail to the meadow. After walking through the meadow, we caught a trail going up past the waterfalls. We ate lunch near the creek with a view of the meadow and northeast Oregon. From there, we hiked up to where Snow Creek bubbled out of the shale. A few of us filled our water bottles with the cold water. It was a short scramble up to the ridge where there were spectacular views of Broken Top, The Three Sisters, Three Fingered Jack and Mt. Jefferson. A bit of cross country hiking on the rim with the views brought us to another connecting trail to the meadow and back to the cars. Where one parks a car to begin this hike is important in order to spend the least amount of time hiking on the ditch. We saw no other hikers. For backpacking, this meadow offers a variety of hiking alternatives in the Three Sisters Wilderness. Hikers were: Jim Fritz, Jane Hackett, Janet Jacobson, Richard Sundt and nonmembers Michael Graney and Betsy Halprin (her third trip -- welcome to the club!).

DeFazio-Greenway Bridges **August 25, 2005** **Leader: Margot Fetz** **"A"**

LOCAL HISTORIAN Doug Card told us about early river and Eugene history -- from native people whose population had already been drastically reduced by 1770 because of diseases brought by European ships and explorers. He showed us the remnants of the first Ferry Street Bridge and where it is thought Eugene Skinner's cabin really stood and where his farms and orchards were. Because of time constraints, we didn't even cross the river. Participants were Max Brown, Jean Coberly, Marcia Cutler, Jim and Sharon Duncan, Margo Fetz, Milly Houghton, Lana Lindstrom, Barb Revere and Marian West.

Ridgeline Trail/Spencer Butte **September 1, 2005** **Leader: Janet Jacobsen** **6 miles, 1,500 ft. ("B")**

WE BEGAN OUR HIKE at 8:30 from the gate at the end of West Amazon & Martin Street. We walked up an old road, turned east, and eventually intersected the power line road. After a short downhill stretch, we found the new Amazon Headwaters Trail on our right. To the north, on our left, was a barrier blocking the trail back to Canyon Road and Martin Street. Until a bridge is built over Amazon Creek, one has to access the trail from the power line road. The new trail was about a mile long with a 430-foot elevation gain to the Fox Hollow parking lot. It is a beautiful forested trail with several new bridges. We crossed Fox Hollow Road and continued on the Ridgeline Trail to the intersection with the sign indicating it was one mile to the top of Spencer's Butte. At the next intersection, another sign indicated it was still one mile to the top. That did not discourage our group from reaching the top for snacks. By the time we retraced our steps back to our cars, we were ready for lunch. If you want to hike on this new trail, consider starting at the Fox Hollow parking lot and hiking downhill! Hikes were: members LaRee Beckley, Dan Christensen, Walt Dolliver, Anne Hollander, Janet and John Jacobsen, Marshall Kandell; and nonmember Marcia Cutler, completing her third trip and sending in her membership application. Welcome to the club!



Climbs

Diamond Peak **April 23, 2005** **Leader: Steve Still**

EIGHT CLIMBERS MET at 5:45 a.m. The weather forecast was not promising: chance of showers and thunderstorms. There was only a slim chance the weather would allow a summit; a better chance we'd get up a ways and have to turn around. Since we were all there and ready to go, the group took a chance. Off we went. We drove up Pioneer Gulch to find the road clear of snow right up to the trailhead and began hiking at about 8:30. About a mile in, the ground had enough soft snow to require snowshoes, which stayed on for the rest of the climb. After about one hour of climbing, it started to snow and this, too, continued for the rest of the climb -- sometimes light flakes, sometimes larger wetter ones and, as we gained altitude, relentless little pellets.

Climbing was slow going. We took turns leading with the hard work of cutting kick steps with snowshoes. Despite gaining altitude, the soft snow condition persisted. Our steps would commonly blow out from under us (causing unintentional short glissades) and everyone was occasionally post-holing -- even with snowshoes on. The peak was never visible and as we gained altitude on the SE ridge, we began to lose more and more visibility due to the falling snow. We relied on a very nice GPS unit (thanks to Roy McCormick) to keep us on route toward the south summit. With the decreasing visibility -- and one climber struggling unexpectedly with altitude -- keeping the group together required increasingly slow going and frequent stops. Finally, after a number of group decisions to press onward, and over six hours of climbing, we cleared the last trees below the south summit at 8,000 feet. Visibility was down to about 20 feet and the majority of the group decided it was unsafe to attempt to summit. So, begrudgingly and gratefully, we turned back.

Although still snowing, we were able to follow our own tracks down. The struggling climber felt better as we descended and, after about another 2 1/2 hours, we all safely returned to the cars.

The consensus was that although we did not summit this was a true mountain experience for which we were all glad. The brave and hearty climbers were: Jacob Shaw, Martin Holland-Bak, Jenny Hehnke, Ryan Smith, Larry Huff, Todd Harbin, Roy McCormick and Steve Still. Many thanks to all for a positive group experience.

Middle Sister Hayden Glacier Route July 2-3, 2005 Leader: Mark Slipp

EIGHT OF US left Pole Creek Trailhead about 11:30 and hiked in to a flat spot at 7,200 feet at the base of Hayden Glacier, where we camped. We left camp Sunday morning at about 3:40, roped up on the glacier and were climbing by 4:30. The sun came up at 5:30 and cast a red glow across the glacier. We had no unexpected difficulties and reached the summit by 7:20.



Rich P, Juli, Mark, Rich A, Jan, Larry, Wayne, and Brian on top

We had great weather, not a cloud in the sky, and we could see from Adams to Crater Lake. We started the descent just after 8 and were back to camp by 10:30. This was a very enjoyable climb on an interesting route. Climbers were Jan and Rich Anselmo, Wayne Deeter, Brian Hamilton, Larry Huff, Juli McGlinsky, Rich Peever and Mark Slipp.

North Sister July 17, 2005 Leader: John Pegg

A GREAT GROUP of Obsidians attempted the South Ridge of North Sister, but were unsuccessful. The weather looked great, the group was strong, but the conditions on the mountain finally turned the group back. It was 50 degrees when the group left Arrowhead Lake a little after 3 a.m.

and the forecast was for 90 in the valley. But there was little snow for cramponing up the slope until we almost reached the Collier Glacier. Strangely enough, the late spring storms had piled and drifted snow high on the ridge making the approach to the "dinner plate" a major problem. The group lost valuable time negotiating these conditions only to find that the large gully that leads to the dinner plate was steep snow and ice, very possibly as hazardous as the traverse itself. At this point, because of the size of the group, the quickly warming conditions and the time it would take to belay through these obstacles, the vote was to abandon the attempt.

Even getting back from this high point was tricky and involved several roped belays over obstacles and exposure not usually encountered this time of year. Climbers were Doug Nelson, assistant leader Larry Huff, Mark Slipp, Gordon Sayre, Brian Hamilton, Doug McCarty, Steven Stuckmeyer and John Pegg.

Mount Thielsen July 17, 2005 Leaders: Kim Sawyer/Virgil Lamb

ON OUR CLIMB of Mt. Thielsen we had perfect weather and an excellent group of climbers. To take advantage of the cool morning we hit the trail at 6:15. There were few other climbers on the Mountain, but as luck would have it, a party of two were at Chicken Ledge ahead of us when we got there. We paused for an extra 20 minutes or so and then decided running our rope would not interfere with them as they did not use the regular route. This was Virgil Lamb's first experience setting anchors for a group and he did a great job! Sue Sullivan, as the most experienced climber in the group, followed him up to affirm his skill.

All 11 climbers summited before noon and we were rewarded with a fantastic view...as far as Mt. Jefferson to the north and a shadow of Mt. Lassen to the south. We do love our Cascades! Perfect climb! Perfect weather!! Great group of people!!! Climbers were: Craig Renkert, Claudia Arias, Mary Croson, Ken Horton, Bob Bumett, Lauren Lamb, Justin Sawyer, Sue Sullivan, John Mowat, Kim Sawyer and Virgil Lamb.

Mt. Washington July 23, 2005 Leader: Wayne Deeter

THE GROUP WAS SMALL this year as John Cooper was the only other person signed up to go. We therefore simplified the trip a bit by meeting in Eugene at 4:15 a.m. instead of doing the usual car camp at the trailhead. We were hiking down the PCT by 6:30, only about an hour later than usual.

It turned out to be a wildflower hike, with the trail lined by blooming (slightly past its prime) bear grass, more of the big lilies than I've ever seen and numerous other flowers in much lesser quantities (yarrow, columbine, paintbrush, cat's ear, penstemon, etc.). The climb of the pinnacle went fairly quickly as there were only a few other small groups on the mountain -- there was only a slight delay at the saddle waiting for one group to ascend the first pitch, then another short delay at the rappel point on our descent. At the top we enjoyed the usual views of the Oregon Cascades and surrounding territory. After the tricky descent of the scree slope, the hike back to the trailhead went quickly, where we hobbled with the McKenzie Pass-to-Big Lake contingent of Buzz's Trip

Three Fingered Jack- Mt. Washington July 30-31, 2005 Leader: Andy Jobanek



Route up Three Fingered Jack

FOUR OF US SET OUT at 6 a.m. from PCT to try and summit Three Fingered Jack. A good pace got us to the crawl by 10. Along the ridge we ran into two climbers who had thought the crawl was 500 yards before it actually was. Due to their mistake we were able to pass on the clear trail to the left while they clung to a rock wall with over 2,000 feet of exposure.

We fixed a line across and past the crawl. All the time we were wondering where the woman who had died on the

mountain a week earlier had actually fallen, but we never found out. We got to the chimney at 11 and because we had a small group we were able to all reach the summit and descend the chimney in only 45 minutes. We then crossed the crawl again with great care and ran into a group of eight doctors from Salem. Luckily, they told us a group of 12 Chemeketans was leaving for Mt. Washington, tomorrow's destination, at 5:30 a.m.. After this meeting, we descended with little trouble and met Virgil and Kim in the parking lot exactly as they were pulling in.

Now six strong, we went to Papa Andrea's for dinner and then to the PCT trailhead for the night. We got going at 5 a.m. this time, in order to beat the Chemeketans. Unfortunately, half of our group had heard car doors slam and climbers start out at 3:30 a.m. These people weren't the Chemeketans starting earlier than expected, but rather they were a group of eight Mazamas spoiling our early start. Regardless, we made it to the saddle in good time and all summited by 11, with some of that time spent waiting for the Mazamas. After an hour lunch break on top we alternated with the ascending Chemeketans, so after one of their group came up, one of ours would come down. Descending to the belay ledge went well with only a tumble that gave me a large scrape on my shoulder preventing a perfect descent.

At the belay ledge, half of us rappelled and half down climbed. The real trouble came when we had to descend the scree field behind the Mazamas. Their group acted as if the scree was molten lava and they took what seemed like a lifetime to get down. On the hike out we passed the Mazamas even though they had left an hour and a half before us. The rest of the hike out was taken at an easy pace in order to not kill our feet. Climbers summiting just Mt. Washington were Virgil Lamb and Kim Sawyer. Climbers summiting both mountains were Wayne Deeter, Craig Renkert, George Jobanek (asst. leader) and Andy Jobanek.

Mt. Adams Mazama Glacier Route August 13-14, 2005 Leader: Mark Slipp Co-Leader: Craig Renkert

FOUR OF US LEFT Bird Creek Meadows trailhead and hiked the 3,000 vertical feet to camp in just less than four hours. We

had a nice camp spot right at the base of the Mazama glacier. It was a flat spot about 50x50 yards with a stream running through it.



Chris, Mark, Steve, and Craig

We got up at 3:30 a.m. to start the climb, but it was so dark we chose not to go out on the glacier because the crevasses were open and we needed more light. So we started at 5 instead. The first 1,000 feet of the climb were the most exciting. It went up a 25 degree slope that was heavily crevassed with a huge bergschrund running all the way across the glacier. We weaved in and out between the crevasses, some of which were as much as 100 feet deep. When we got to the bergschrund, we found a nice bridge to the right. We crossed it and from there the slope flattened out a little and there weren't as many crevasses.

At 10,000 feet, we took a break and had some food. From there, we had another 25-30 degree pitch for about another 1,500 feet. Then we ran into the standard south side route at the top of Piker's Peak, the false summit. From there we took the rope off and walked to the summit, arriving by 10 a.m.

The weather was beautiful. We could see Mts. St. Helens, Rainier, Hood and Jefferson. We didn't stay long, though, because the snow was softening fast. We descended to the top of the bergschrund. From here we had to use extreme caution because the snow was soft and we had huge, open crevasses below us. So we put in some pickets, kicked nice steps, took our time and returned safely back to camp by 2:30.

This was a very exciting route to climb, but I don't think I'll climb it this late in the year again. It would be outstanding in early July during a big snow year. We packed up camp, and descended to the cars by 5:30. Climbers were Craig Renkert, Mark Slipp, Chris Steele and Steve Stuckmeyer.

Three Fingered Jack August 13-14, 2005 Leader: Brian Hoyland 7,841 feet

OUR GROUP OF THREE had an early 6:40 a.m. start from the PCT trailhead at Santiam Pass. Car camping the night before at Lost Lake had provided nice flat tent sites and a 10 minute drive to the trailhead. We climbed steadily through the burned forests of standing dead trees on the lower southern slopes of Three Fingered Jack. There are many ground-cover plants recolonizing the burns -- like lupine, alpine aster, skyrocket gilia, bear grass and fireweed. In some areas, the trees are curled and twisted into arches by the intense heat; and in some places, it was obvious the soil had been burned sterile. We were relieved to find the forests higher on the mountain seemingly untouched by the fires. We made our way to the south ridge of Three Fingered Jack using one of the many climber trails leading upward from the PCT and scrambled up the ridge to the base of the Crawl.

We were the only group climbing, so we quickly passed the Crawl pitch. We left one of our two ropes fixed across the traverse, using slings hitched around large rock knobs to provide minimal anchors. A peregrine falcon circled the summit while we were scrambling up.



Mary Croson on Three Fingered Jack

The roped pitch up the summit pinnacle went quickly and we were on our way back down shortly after 1:15 p.m. The route-finding can be just as tricky on the way down as it is on the way up. Near the scree slope, we passed two climbers who were on their way up, the only other climbers we saw. We had a quick lunch break under a shady fir at the junction where the climbers' trail joins the PCT. The hike down to Santiam Pass was hot, dusty and dry and we arrived back at the car at 6:30 p.m. We were back in Eugene by 8:30, tired but satisfied with our accomplishment. Climbers were Obsidians Mary Croson, Scot Hunt and Brian Hoyland.



Backpacks

Mt. Adams

August 5-7, 2005

Leader: Bill Sullivan

15 miles, 3,000 ft. ("C")

ONE OF THE NORTHWEST'S best-kept secrets is that backpackers are allowed to venture onto the southeast side of Mt. Adams, even though it is in the Yakima Indian Reservation. The timberline meadows here match those at Mt. Rainier or the Three Sisters, but without the crowds. We set out from Cold Springs Campground on the South Climb Trail, a route popular with climbers, but after a mile headed east into Indian land on the Round-the-Mountain Trail. After another two miles, a short cross-country ramble took us to the headwaters of Crooked Creek, a wildflower basin with a giant, gushing spring. On the second day, some of the group stayed near camp while a subgroup climbed halfway up Mt. Adams to Sunrise Camp, spotting mountain goats, ptarmigans, iceberg lakes and glacial icefalls along the way. On the third day, most of the group hiked back to Cold Springs, while others took a shorter route down to a shuttle car at Bird Lake. Participants: Members Jim Fritz, J. Scott Hovis, Janet and John Jacobsen, Chris Stockdale, Sue Wolling and Bill Sullivan; and nonmembers Gwen Saenger, Janell Sorensen and Ian and Karen Sullivan.

traveled Boswell Road along Elk Creek, through Drain to the Oregon Butterfly Pavilion in Elkton. Many volunteers work each summer on this unique project, nurturing the stages of their life cycle.

The gardens, with many beautiful flowers, provided a nice outdoor setting for our coffee break. Next, on to the Big K Ranch on the Umpqua River for our buffet lunch in their large conference room, where Obsidian Paul Beard (a professional musician) entertained us on the Ranch's grand piano. Thank you, Paul. After lunch, we went to Lorane for a tour of the King Estate Winery. There are a fabulous building and grounds with building plans in progress for more -- including a restaurant. We returned via Hamm Road to Creswell, with veteran driver John Goddard bringing us home at 5:15 p.m.

Riders were: Ethel Allen, Helen Barnard, Barbara and Paul Beard, Pat Bitner, Louise Behnke, Dorothy Blumm, Ingrid Carmichael, Mary Lee Cheadle, Kent Christoferson, Marjorie Crueger, Connie Dooley, Jean Englund, Rachele Fiszman, Virginia Gilbreath, Betty Hack, Barbara Hagerman, Dora Harris, Margit Hollerud, Janet Jacobsen, Jean Jensen, Ray Jensen, Amy Maxwell, Barbara Payne, Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Edna Robertson, Nancy Schreiner, Dorothy Siström, Julie Snell, Janet Speelman, Marian Tentinger, Mary Ellen West, Vera Woolley and nonmembers Jacque Branford, Sharon Cutsworth, Mindy Hollenbeck, Natalie Newlove, Briana Payne, Cassie Payne, Julia Reifel, Kay Schmieding and John Schreiner.

large grassy area. On our return we spotted a lynx (*felis lynx*) crossing the road ahead of us. This was a very nice trip bonus. The blue sky, puffy white clouds and temperature in the mid seventies, made it a perfect day for biking. Bikers were Gayle Berg, Barb Bruns, Jim Duncan, Richard Hughes, Lana Lindstrom, Sharon Ritchie, Guy Strahon, Judith Terry and nonmembers Paul Garrick, Lyn Gilman Garrick and Sharon Munson.

Scio Covered Bridge

July 9, 2005

Leader: Sharon Ritchie

46 miles ("B")

THIS 46-MILE RIDE takes you through incredibly beautiful country -- ridgelines with views down into the valleys, valleys with rivers and creeks, large farms, beautiful farm homes complete with wrap-around porches and lots of flowers; and, best of all, five covered bridges! The weather was just perfect for biking -- high clouds and a cool breeze. Every time we stopped we noticed the heat and humidity; but while biking, the weather was perfect. The stop at Allan Bros. near the I-5 in Albany for pie and coffee just finished off a perfect day. My most sincere thanks to Lyn for taking the point, following the map and keeping us on the right roads and to a great group of riders: nonmembers Sharon Munson, Fran Reimer, Courtney Abbott and Lyn Gillman-Garrick; and members Sylvia Harvey and Mike BeBout.



Byways By Bus

Butterflies, Big K Ranch,

King Estate

July 15, 2005

Leaders: Ethel Allen, Ray Jensen

ETHEL ALLEN always plans great trips and this one was a winner. We went first to Wholesale Aquatics on Cox Road to see prized Koi in the fish ponds, plus many water plants for sale. Then we



Bike Trips

Aufderheide Drive

June 19, 2005

Leader: Richard Hughes

30 miles, 800 ft ("B")

ELEVEN CYCLISTS began their journey by crossing the Westfir Covered Bridge (180 feet, longest covered bridge in state), then along Aufderheide Drive. At milepost 15 we took nourishment in a

Trip Leader Awards

HAVE YOU LED at least 25, 50, 75 or 100 trips for the Obsidians? If so, please be sure to join us at the annual meeting on Friday, October 14. We plan to pay homage to you wonderful people and will present you with a very small token of our very great appreciation for all that you have done for the club. You can find the list with the number of hikes led on the Obsidian website. The list was prepared in April of this year and will be updated the middle of September. There are several of you who are within sneezing distance of a 100 trip leader award. We hope you go "over the top."

Janet's Sampler

JANET JACOBSEN has taken a glance at the upcoming month's trips and selected a few for special mention. If you are leading a hike and would like her to know why you think it will offer something special, call her or email her at

bulletin@obsidians.org.

It's not too late to add a hike to the schedule. If you email

summertrips@obsidians.org

by Monday morning, the trip will be listed in the Register-Guard on Thursday.

Saturday, Sept. 24 -- The Twins ("B") -- Tom Woxell is leading this popular 6.6 mile hike near Waldo Lake. A gap in the crater rim resulted in two summits, South Twin and North Twin. From the top of this volcano, one has views of Waldo Lake, mountain peaks and forests.

Saturday, Sept. 24 -- Vivian Lake ("B") -- This seven-mile waterfall hike led by Walt Dolliver begins at Salt Creek Falls, loops to Diamond Creek Falls, past Fall Creek Falls and to the lake. The tranquil settings offer impressive views.

Sunday, Sept. 25 -- Hand Lake-Scott Lake ("A") -- Mary Ellen West's five-mile hike from Hand Lake to Scott Lake provides a close up view of the Hand Lake Shelter. Rebuilt by Obsidians, the building and surrounding hills hold lots of Obsidian history. Scott Lake is a gem of a spot for lunch and perhaps a swim.

Saturday, Oct. 1 -- Triangulation Peak & Boca Cave ("A") -- Norm Benton leads this interesting five-mile hike every year. The lookout site has been on my list of hikes to try.

Sunday, Oct. 2 -- Mt. Ray ("B") -- John Mowat is the only one who leads this three-mile hike up Mt Ray in the Waldo Lake area. Some might say it is easier to hike the trail to Mt. Fuji for a similar view. However, John's trip is an adventure and well worth the effort.

Saturday, Oct. 8 -- Three Pyramids ("B") -- The two-mile hike up to Middle Pyramid only has an 1,800 foot elevation gain. The views from this former lookout tower stretch from Mt. Hood to Diamond Peak. Becky Hansen is leading this hike, located off North

Santiam Highway #22 on road #2067.

Sunday, Oct. 9 -- North Bank Deer Preserve ("C") -- For a change of scenery, join Chris Stockdale on this 10-mile hike on the rolling hills south of Roseburg.

Saturday, Oct. 15 -- Drift Creek ("B") -- It's time to head west to the coast for an eight-mile hike to Drift Creek with Becky Lipton.

Saturday, Oct. 15 -- Tahkenitch Dunes ("B") -- Sheila Ward is leading her annual 6.5 mile hike to the Tahkenitch Dunes. The scenery is varied with the contrasting moods of the dunes and the ocean.

Sunday, Oct. 16 -- Belknap Crater ("B") -- Fall should be a colorful and cooler time to hike on the lava beds and ash and to the top of Belknap Crater. The views are dramatic on this eight-mile hike led by John Jacobsen.

Monday, Oct. -- Mt. Pisgah sunrise/moonset ("A") -- Royal Murdock is switching from sunset to sunrise for his monthly Mt. Pisgah hike. Join the party and enjoy an event that begins your day with a smile.

Spencer Butte Trail Party, Oct. 8th

THE SPENCER BUTTE trail maintenance project will resume in October, reports committee chairperson Peter Asai. "Picking up where we left off in May, starting on Saturday, Oct. 8th, we will resume our monthly trail maintenance with the City of Eugene Parks at Spencer Butte. We will meet at the main parking area off Willamette Street at 9 a.m. and work until 1 p.m. Looking forward to the same great turnouts we had before. Remember to bring work gloves and water. The city will provide tools, direction and inspiration. The next date we will meet will be November 5th."

Help Staff Obsidian Booth At Eugene Celebration, Oct 1 & 2

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to staff the Obsidian information booth at this year's Eugene Celebration on Saturday and Sunday, October 1-2.

"We need a couple of people for each two-hour shift,"

says publicity committee chairperson Mary Croson, who can be called at 221-1866 for more information and to sign up for your selected shift.

"This is a great opportunity to let others know about the Obsidians and what we have to offer. Thanks for your help," adds Mary.

Springfield Museum Sept 14 - Oct 8

IN HONOR OF THE 100th birthday of the Forest Service, the Springfield Museum is presenting an exhibit from September 14-October 8 that includes models, information about fire towers, artifacts and photos.

During the exhibit, the museum will present Steve Coady as "Ranger McFarland," a first-person interpretation of Ranger C.B. McFarland based on his years with the Forest Service, 1909-1946.

The museum is at 590 Main Street in Springfield. For more information, call the museum at 726-3677 or 726-2300. Website is www.springfieldmuseum.com.

Byways-By-Bus Takes To Air November 10

THE BYWAYS-BY-BUS tours will go airborne, sort of, with a trip to Evergreen Aviation Museum in McMinnville on Thursday, Nov. 10th, with Ray Jensen and Ben Jeffries leading.

Vintage aircraft at Evergreen include:

- The Hughes Flying Boat (Spruce Goose), with the public now allowed to go inside the monster.
- The SR-71 Blackbird -- super spy plane of the Cold War.
- The Titan II intercontinental ballistic missile.

Evergreen continues to bring new displays and upgrades to the entire facility. It is worth a repeat visit.

In the morning, depending on seasonal conditions, the bus group will stop at Camp Adair, Helmick State Park and Baskett Slough NWR. At 11 a.m., it will be Spirit Mountain Casino's Coyote Cafe for a lunch (included). Then at 1 p.m. it will be off to Evergreen until about 4, arriving back in Eugene about 6.

Cost is \$41 for members, \$43 for nonmembers. Reservations and payments should be made no later than Oct. 15th to: Verna Kocken (736-5180), 2263 37th Ave, Springfield, OR 97477.

Events at Mt. Pisgah

For information about and registration for the following events, call: 747-1504. References to member and nonmember fees refer to arboretum membership, not Obsidian membership.

SINGLES HIKE, Saturday, Sept. 17, 12:30-2:30 p.m. -- Site manager Tom LoCascio leads an exploration of seasonal changes for singles of all ages. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. Suggested donation: \$4. Meet at the visitor center, rain or shine.

FALL BIRD WALK, Saturday, Sept. 24, 8-10 a.m. -- Spot migrants on this walk with Dick Lamster and Maeve Sowles. Bring binoculars, field guide and snack. Visitor center, rain or shine. Donation: \$3.

MEDICINAL HERB WALK, Saturday, Sept. 24, 10 a.m.-noon -- Sherri Brown leads, focusing on medicinal properties, traditional uses and ecology of herbs of the Southern Willamette Valley. Meet at the Visitor Center, rain or shine. Call (541) 747-1504 for more information. Donation: \$3.

ANIMAL TRACKING & Nature Awareness, Saturday, Sept. 24, 1-4 p.m. -- Linda Redmon and Steve Kriegh teach the fundamentals of tracking: observation, identification techniques, track aging, animal movement patterns

and following the track. Fee: \$15 adults, \$5 kids aged 10-18, or \$20 per family. Register.

ELDER WALK: Tree Talk n' Walk (55+), Friday, Oct. 7, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. -- Explore various arboreal habitats of the arboretum. Experienced nature guide Harold Schyberg leads exploration of seasonal forest transitions. Refreshments served after walk. Suggested donation: \$4. Visitor center, rain or shine

Nearby Nature Guides

OBSIDIANS WHO LOVE hiking, working with kids and making a difference in our community might want to check out being a "Nearby Nature" guide this fall. Guides share the wonders of Alton Baker Park's "wild side" with small groups of K-5th graders using hands-on trail activities, nature games and storytelling. Walks are held weekday mornings late September through mid-November. No experience is necessary. For more info, attend the group's drop-in info session at the UO on Tuesday, Sept. 20, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (Coquille Room, EMU). Training will take place this month. Questions? Call Nearby Nature at 687-9699; email info@nearbynature.org; or see www.nearbynature.org.

Time to Renew Your Membership By Oct 1

THE TIME HAS COME once again to renew your Obsidian membership. With this month's Bulletin is your annual membership dues form, which needs to be returned no later than October 1st for you to be eligible to vote at the club's annual meeting...and by December 1st if you are not to be dropped from the membership.

Last year, more than 90% of our 550 members responded promptly. Unfortunately, countless volunteer hours were expended contacting the remaining 10% over the ensuing months trying to resolve their membership status.

This year, the Membership Committee will once again, follow our constitutional guidelines. Dues are due October 1. If dues are not paid by November 1, attempts will be made to contact delinquent members at their email addresses or the phone numbers of record. Members whose dues are not paid by December 1 will be dropped from membership. Renewals are not accepted after that. Ex-members wishing to rejoin may request to be reinstated (which requires a reinstatement fee of \$5 in addition to the annual dues of \$20). Only members as of January 1 of next year will make it into our Membership Directory, notes Sharon Ritchie, membership chairperson.

Amazon Headwaters Trail

THE NEW AMAZON Headwaters Trail, connecting Amazon Park and the Ridgeline Trail system, was due to be completed by the end of summer. The new trail begins at the trailhead off Fox Hollow Road and follows one of the Amazon Creek headwater branches to the end of Amazon Parkway near Frank Kinney Park.

According to Janet Jacobsen, the trail beginning (end of Canyon Drive off Amazon Pkwy. on Martin Rd.) is currently complicated by the closed Canyon Drive access until a bridge is built over a creek. Hikers should not cross the closure signs and erode the creek crossing. Until the bridge is built, it is recommended to access the trail from Dillard or from West Amazon and Martin St. near Pearl Buck School. Begin at the gate near the school and hike up the road, staying to the left until intersecting the power line road. Turn left and continue east down the hill until you intersect the trail.

“This might be *confusing* for anyone attempting to hike

the trail for the first time,” notes Janet. “There are many older and steeper trails on the hillside with lots of poison oak, so you will want to find and stay on the new trail. It might be easier to begin the hike at Fox Hollow and walk downhill on the trail to the starting point.”

Mountain bikes are allowed on the trail except for the last 500 feet, where they will be routed west and north to Martin Street. This is also the way hikers will access the trail until the bridge is built. The trail is about a mile long with 430 feet elevation gain. It winds through forested areas and over several new bridges.

The Ridgeline Trail offers a variety of hiking options in the forest. For those who want a longer and steady uphill hike to Spencer’s Butte with its elevation of 2,052 feet, this connecting trail is perfect, says Janet.

NOTE: See Sept. 1 trip report for first Obsidian hike on the new trail.

Email Address Changes

Check in our website’s (www.obsidians.org) Members Only section email directory to see if your email is current and correct. If not notify Sharon Ritchie, Membership Chairman – membership@obsidians.org. Also notify her whenever any of your address, phone or email changes.

Bulletin Classifieds

Help Wanted

Have desktop publishing expertise? Would you like to get some? No pay, but we’re an equal opportunity employer! Contact the Publications Committee at:

bulletin@obsidians.org.

Obsidian Goodies

T-shirts, \$10 (no matter design or size); sweatshirt, \$15; cap, \$15; mug or tumbler, \$10; whistle, \$3. Contact: Laurie at 206-2303 or

funkhouser@callatg.com

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

Calendar

September

- 15 Thu – **Rigdon -Wahanna Lk**, 12m 300' C, D.Christensen (343-8941)
- 17 Sat – **Four-In-One Cone**, 8m 1500' B, C.Tucker (344-8371)
- 17-18 S-S – **Mt. McLoughlin-Crater Lk**, Climb/Bike, Deeter (942-0824)
- 17-18 S-S – **Obsidian Falls**, BP 15m 1800' C, B.Burnett (753-1535)
- 17 Sat – **Salmon Bake-Depoe Bay**, Bus, M.Cheadle (689-1085)
- 17 Sat – **Tidbits Mountain**, 4m 1100' B, S.Hoeg (484-6196)
- 18 Sun – **Indigo Springs**, 6.3m 400' B, J. & S.Duncan (343-8079)
- 18 Sun – **Maiden Peak**, 12m 2900' C, D.McCarty (342-6962)
- 18 Sun – **Matthieu Lakes**, 6m 800' B, K.Riddle (684-4030)
- 21 Wed – **Mt. June - Hardesty Way**, 8m 3000' C, Deeter (942-0824)
- 23-25 Fri-Sun – **Diamond Pk Lp**, BP 36m C, R.Hansen (747-2529)
- 24 Sat – **The Twins**, 6.6m 1600' B, T.Woxell (485-7384)
- 24 Sat – **Vivian Lake**, 7m 1800' B, W.Dolliver (345-2975)
- 25 Sun – **Hand Lake-Scott Lake**, 5m A, M.West (343-5492)
- 25 Sun – **South Sister**, Climb, B.Blumm (343-8830)

October

- 1 Sat – **Triangulation Pk & Boca Cave**, 5m 700' B, Benton (895-4632)
- 2 Sun – **Mt. Ray**, 3m 1500' B, J.Mowat (342-6546)
- 4-5 Tue-Wed – **Mt. St. Helens & Area**, Bus, J.Speelman (344-3019)
- 6 Thu – **McKenzie River Trail**, 6m B, M.Prentice (687-5850)
- 8 Sat – **Three Pyramids**, 5m 1800' B, R.Hansen (747-2529)
- 9 Sun – **N Bank Deer Preserve**, 10m 1300' C, Stockdale (767-3668)
- 10 Mon – **Tire Mountain**, 7.5m 800' B, C.Cunningham (344-0486)
- 14 Fri – **Annual Meeting, Lodge 7PM**, admin
- 15 Sat – **Drift Creek**, 8m 1400' B, B.Lipton (736-7498)
- 15 Sat – **Tahkenitch Dunes**, 6.5m B, S.Ward (686-5679)
- 16 Sun – **Belknap Crater**, 8m 1672' B, J.Jacobsen (343-8030)
- 17 Mon – **Mt. Pisgah sunrise/moonset**, 3m 1000' A, Murdock (345-8305)
- 18 Tue – **Fall Color: Willamette Valley**, Bus, M.Cheadle (689-1085)
- 22 Sat – **Fall Creek**, 9m 700' B, E.Lichtenstein (683-0688)
- 23 Sun – **Eel Creek/Umpqua Dunes**, 6m B, B.Huntley (687-1823)



*Chris Stockdale and Scott Hovis returning from Sunrise Camp on Mt. Adams.
See full report on backpack - Page 20.*

Photo by Bill Sullivan



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