

Inside This Issue

New Member Welcome	2
Summer Camp	3
Board Notes	4
Annual Meeting Notes	6
Trip Awards	8
Book Review	13
Trip Reports	14 - 16
Upcoming	18 - 19
Winter Trip Schedule	19

Features by Members

Accidental Pilgrim	3
Swiss Alpine Glimpse	10
Problem: Water	12

Dates to Remember

Dec 7 Board Meeting

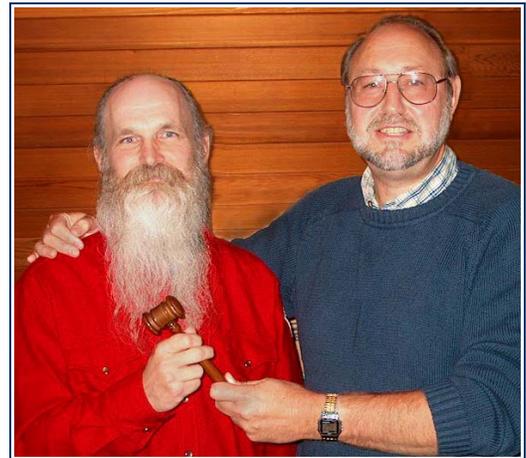
Detailed trip schedules at:
www.observians.org or
 Register-Guard - Sports - Thursday

Membership Dues
 Are Overdue
 See Page 18

November Member Stats

Active	486
Associate	36
Honorary	3
Junior	18
Life	<u>23</u>
Total	566

DEETER LEADER --
John Jacobsen, right, explains how to use a gavel to Wayne Deeter, who will take over as club president in January. Also elected at the November board meeting were John Pegg, VP; Sheila Ward, treasurer; and Laurie Funkhouser, secretary.



Jane Hackett Sweeps Trip Award Ceremonies

Obsidian Jane Hackett not only garnered her 300 trip award at the club's annual meeting in October, but also walked off with the first ever awarded "100 Trip Leader" gold embroidered patch. Impressive totals made even more amazing when one realizes she led a third of all the trips she ever went on!

Others reaching trip milestones and receiving awards presented by Janet Jacobsen were: Ray Jensen (200 trips), Margaret Wiese (200 trips), Dora Harris and Suzanne Steussy (100 trips). Barb Revere, a relatively new member, was recognized for completing the most hikes so far this

Continued on Page 8

Optimistic Winter Trip Schedule Announced

Looking forward to a much snowier winter than we had last year, the Winter Trips Committee, chaired by Bill Johnson, has announced an optimistic schedule that includes more than 50 snowshoe, cross country ski and hiking events.

And it is expected that additional trips will be added as the season progresses, especially if the weather proves promising. In addition, the Byways-By-Bus team is already busily planning their 2006 schedule.

You will find the winter trip schedule on the Bulletin's inside back cover and on our website at www.observians.org. Anyone wishing to lead extra trips should contact Johnson at 746-1513 or wintertrips@observians.org.

Welcome!

New Members (October)

ELIZABETH CHANDLER (Active)
895 E. 43rd Avenue
Eugene, OR 97405
484-1456 eliz4sophia@yahoo.com

PATRICIA ESCH (Active)
1997 Shiloh
Springfield, OR 97401
338-8280 mustard63@hotmail.com

LYNN FROST (Active)
1215 Fir Lane
Eugene, OR 97405
345-8409 lfrost@ci.junction-city.or.us

BETSY HALPERN (Active)
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Eugene, OR 97405
344-5148 betsyhalpern@comcast.net

TOM HAPPY (Active/Reinstated)
1546 Charnelton
Eugene, OR 97401
344-8968

DEBRA HIGBEE (Active)
2846 Kincaid Street
Eugene, OR 97405
554-6879 debra-higbee@excite.com

SAM HOUSTON (Active)
2112 W. 29th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97405
684-0588 houstonlaw@comcast.net

KITTY JOHNSON (Active)
1815 Kingsley Road, #10
Eugene, OR 97401
485-7355 mskitty@peak.org

WENDY MITCHELL (Active)
263 Spyglass
Eugene, OR 97401
343-4984 wendy.mitchell@comcast.com

New Members (November)

LES BROD (Active)
1780 Cameo Dr.
Eugene, OR 97405
465-3806 lesbrod@comcast.net

MARIAN BROD (Active)
1780 Cameo Dr.
Eugene, OR 97405
465-3806 marianbrod@hotmail.com

PAUL FLASHENBERG (Active)
1781 Hemlock St., Eugene, OR 97404
461-1977 paulflash@copper.net

ELIZABETH LAMB (Active)
2050 Bedford Way
Eugene, OR 97401
343-6845 lambe@onid.orst.edu

JOYCE SANDERS (Active)
2932 Matt Dr., Eugene, OR 97408
485-2944

PAULA SIEVERS (Active)
1919 Bailey Hill Rd., #127
Eugene, OR 97405 681-3127

Directory Changes

PAT ADAMS & ETHEL WELTMAN
P.O. Box 896
Springfield, OR 97477-0144

BARBARA & PAUL BEARD 994-2337
MARIANNE CAMP (prev Mary Croson)

EMELINE CHAMBERS (Dale)
2620 Ridgewood Trail
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

STEVE GUNN
740 Almaden
Eugene, OR 97402

KRISTIN HIGGINS
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Eugene, OR 97404

CATHERINE JONES
65 W. 30th, #3718
Eugene, OR 97405 434-4152

SAT NAM KHALSA
1927 Van Buren
St., Eugene, OR 97405

DODY LEPPMANN
76 W. 29th Ave., Apt. #2205
Eugene, OR 97405-3293

DARRELL & NANCY McBEE
520-5205

MARY FRASER (prev. Mary Wade)
1161 Lorella Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401-7823

PATRICIA MACAFEE 1-808-565-6526
RICH PEEVERS 520-4071

JONATHON RUSSELL & JODI BRENSIKE
156 Union St., Unit D
Ashland, OR 97520

MARK SLIPP
2581 Concord St.
Woodburn, OR 97071

JAN TRUE
1501 N. Arcadia Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85712-4010

MARGARET WIESE
65 W. 30th Avenue, #3710
Eugene, OR 97405 435-4124

ROD WOOD
48492 Hiland Ranch Dr.
Oakridge, OR 97463 954-3406 (cell)

OBSIDIANS, INC

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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 Bus.....Liz 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
Membership.....Sharon Ritchie
Online.....Wayne Deeter
Publications.....Marshall Kandell
Publicity.....Marianne Camp
Safety.....John Pegg
Science & Education.....Rick Ahrens
Summer Camp.....Jim Duncan
Summer Trips.....Sandra Larsen
Trail Maintenance.....Peter Asai
Winter Trips.....Bill Johnson
Youth.....Andy Jobanek

The OBSIDIAN *Bulletin*

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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 December Bulletin
Saturday, December 3rd

Editorial Team
Marshall Kandell, Barb Revere, Janet and John Jacobsen

Assembly/Mailing Team
For October Bulletin
Don Baldwin, Anne Hollander, Yuan Hopkins, Ray Jensen, Marshall Kandell, Barb Revere, Vera Wooley and Rose Marie Moffitt (crew chief)

The Accidental Pilgrim

By Tyler Burgess

After leading a walking tour in Tuscany, Italy, this summer, I explored trails for future tours in the Italian Dolomites and French Alps. The stunning, yet stark mountains, make me yearn for the charm of rolling farmland. One of my Dutch dinner companions said he didn't see how someone who spoke no French and had never been to France could, by herself, walk through the French countryside. *Just watch me!*, I thought.

Buying a French guide for the GR65 trail, I took a train to the start in Geneva, Switzerland. From the station, I walked south. In a medieval suburb, a man in a three-piece suit on a scooter hails me... "Bonjour! Bonjour! *El Camino?*" I nodded agreeably to whatever.

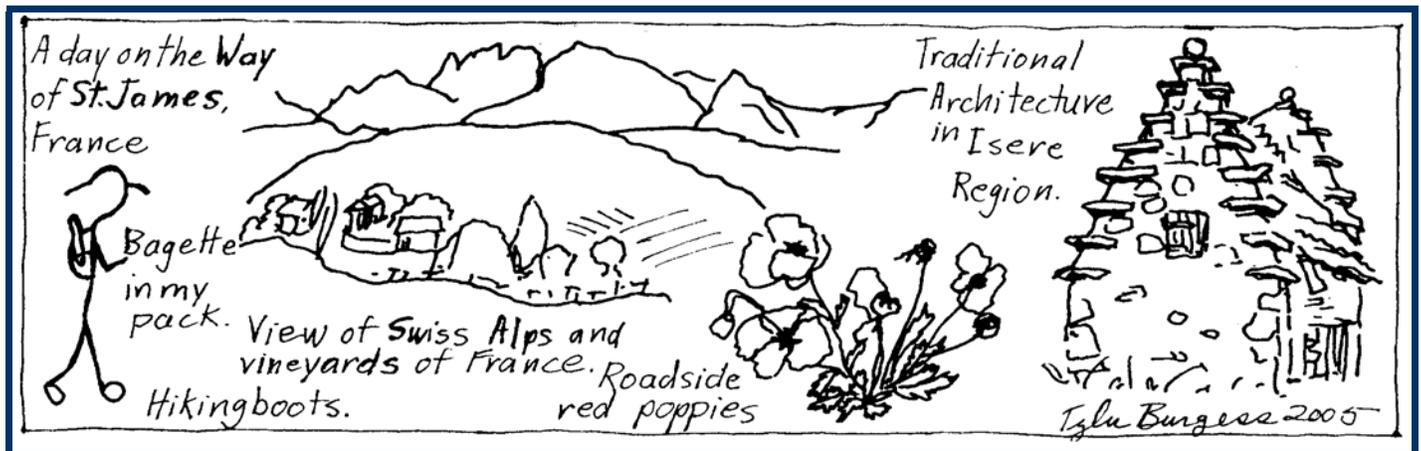
THE TRAIL SIGNS READ, "European Cultural Itinerary."

My German dinner companion solves the mystery. She is a pilgrim on the Way of St. James El Camino route thousands have walked, mostly from 830 AD to about 1300 AD. It starts in Germany, crosses Switzerland, France and the top of Spain to Santiago. My GR65 trail is this same pilgrim route!

In seven days, and for 100 miles, I walked past ancient farms, gardens, barnyards, springs, monasteries, vineyards, war memorials, churches, chateaux, the Rhone River and many barking dogs of all shapes and sizes.

PEOPLE WAVE, honk and greet me as a pilgrim. Every night, I find a bed and food. Some hotels host their first USA guest. It is a thrill to be a pilgrim, not a tourist.

Only 1,070 miles to go to Santiago, Spain. I will return for every step of my unexpected pilgrimage.



What is Summer Camp?

By Lana Lindstrom

It occurred to me a number of you -- particularly newbies who joined within the last year or two -- may not know very much about Obsidian Summer Camp. When I was a new member, I didn't pay any attention to the Bulletin articles about camp.

Sleeping on the ground for a week (particularly climbing out of a tent in the middle of the night to pee) definitely did not appeal to me. But, then, a friend came back from camp

raving about the wonderful experience he had, even though it had rained almost every day! "Hmmm," I thought, "maybe I should consider going next year." So off I went...and have been returning almost every year since. I believe in summer camp so strongly I agreed to be next year's camp leader.

Yes, there is the part about sleeping in a tent, although next year you'll also have a choice of staying in a cabin or three-sided shelter in bunk beds (you'll still have to go outside to pee). But that's all mitigated by having very few responsibilities and mostly just playing the entire time.



For example:

- Someone prepares your food (there are always vegetarian options), serves it to you and cleans up. The food is yummy and there's plenty of it.
- Every day, there are several hikes to choose from; some days, there are also bike rides or boat trips. You

Continued on Page 11

Board Notes

October 19, 2005

Board members present were John Jacobsen (president), Wayne Deeter (vice-president), Sue Sullivan and Sheila Ward (treasurer). Also present were Kathy and Stewart Hoeg, Bill Johnson, Marshall Kandell, Lenore McManigal, Brian Hamilton, Liz Reanier, Sharon Ritchie, Lana Lindstrom, Rob Castleberry, Peter Asai, Laurie Funkhouser, Anne Dhu McLucas, Bea Fontana and Gene Thaxton. The minutes of the September board meeting were reviewed; however, without a quorum they could not be officially approved.

Treasurer's Report: The September report was distributed; the following bills were reviewed and checks were signed: EWEB, \$33.82; Postmaster, \$100 and \$125 for publications bulk mail account and \$50 for a "postage due" account for returned mail; Insta-Print (Sept. & Oct. Bulletins), \$576 and \$448; Sharon Duncan (entertainment), \$31.76; Wayne Deeter (on-line), \$24.95; Sheila Ward (treasurer), \$16.61 reimbursement for postage and copies.

Old Business

Lodge Door Etching Project: Bea Fontana presented two enhanced sketches showing the Three Sisters with additional foreground landscaping detail and the group enthusiastically endorsed her efforts.

Lodge Construction Committee: Due to an error on EWEB's flow report, sprinklers are no longer required. However, we will probably still need to install a fire hydrant. In addition, we are required to drain new impervious surfaces to a dry well. The committee will meet to discuss finishes on new walls, floor slab insulation, lighting for entry area, new wall unit heaters and gas fireplace.

October Annual Meeting Debrief: There was general consensus the meeting was "not boring." Committee reports were interesting and the awards were heartwarming.

New Business

Welcome New Board Members: John extended a warm welcome to the newly elected Brian Hamilton, Stewart Hoeg and Anne Dhu McLucas who will participate in the new officer elections at the November meeting, but otherwise not vote on any other issues until they take office officially in January. At the December meeting, the newly elected president will present nominations for committee chairs.

Acting Secretaries: Jim Duncan is out of town. Lana Lindstrom is acting secretary for this meeting and Anne Dhu McLucas agreed to take the minutes at the November meeting.

Commercial Ads in Bulletin: In the past, we have not accepted ads from businesses, although there isn't an official policy prohibiting them. Recently, we were approached by "Beyond Fleece" and, therefore, John and Marshall raised the issue for board consideration. There are many questions associated with commercial ads. Should we accept ads? If so, should there be any restrictions on the types of businesses? What would the ad structure be? How would the organizational structure change? Should we solicit ads (and, if so, who would do it)? Who would

handle billing, collections and accounting? After some interesting discussion, the matter was held over until the next meeting.

Holiday Party: It was generally agreed that the only activity will be the usual dinner following the December meeting.

Committee Reports

Summer Trips (Sandra Larsen): In September -- 30 trip reports received (168 members, 51 nonmembers, \$372 in fees). For October -- 17 reports received to date (102 members, 29 nonmembers, \$218 fees).

Winter Trips (Bill Johnson): The committee has started compiling the winter schedule.

Trails (Peter Asai): Trail maintenance outing on Spencer Butte started up again October 8; there were seven participants and a significant project was completed. The next outing is November 5th, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

By-Ways by Bus (Liz Reanier): A successful trip was made to Mt. St. Helens. A fall color trip was canceled due to low enrollment. Planning has started for 2006. The **Finance Committee** completed an audit of the Bus Committee's books. Stewart Hoeg reported that he and Sheila Ward met with Ben and Pat Jeffries and found no problems. However, the procedures used by the bus committee are completely manual, making them both time-consuming and somewhat difficult to review. Stewart took the data for 2005 and put it into a Quicken file for their review. In addition, he offered to assist the Jeffries' record-keeping in the future by putting the committee's data into Quicken and providing them with monthly reports. The Jeffries reviewed the Quicken reports and decided not to make any changes for this year. However, they indicated that they would give the matter further consideration for 2006.

Entertainment (Kathy Hoeg): Due to the delayed construction, the January potluck featuring Bill Sullivan may also have to be cancelled or moved. Kathy will investigate using the EWEB conference room.

Membership (Sharon Ritchie): Due to the lack of a quorum, the nine prospective members could not officially be approved, but will be mailed their packets. Total membership is 562.

Concessions (Laurie Funkhouser): Recent sales totaled \$43.

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

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): All trip reports are current except for one missing climb report.

November 2, 2005

Board members present: President John Jacobsen, VP Wayne Deeter, Marianne Camp (Mary Croson), Sandra Larsen, Sue Sullivan; members Max Brown, Laurie Funkhouser, Brian Hamilton, Kathy and Stewart Hoeg, Janet Jacobsen, Bill Johnson, Marshall Kandell, Ken Kodama, Anne Dhu McLucas (acting secretary), Lenore McManigal, Doug Nelson, Liz Reanier.

Minutes of September board meeting and annual meeting approved. Minutes of October meeting approved with correction.

Treasurer's Report: Payment of October bills approved, as were the following -- Lane County Property Tax, \$2349.03; EWEB, \$33.82; Sharon Ritchie (membership posters), \$50; Lenore McManigal (binder), \$6.99.

Old Business

Construction Committee Update (Brian Hamilton): Committee met and made a variety of decisions regarding interior utilities, skylight, wallboard finish, etc. The major hang-up with the city permit process involves storm water drainage issues. K&A Engineering determined that a dry well is not feasible due to the shallow depth of cap rock. They wrote a letter suggesting dispersed drainage into the existing gravel paving. Public Works was going to require calculations to verify that such an approach will work and has since indicated that they may allow us to use an existing trench design out of the storm water manual. A detailed drawing would still be required.

Fund Raising Update (Sharon Ritchie): Lodge Fund Drive, \$61,701; Construction, \$5,408; Contingency, \$1,120.

Commercial Ads in Bulletin: Marshall Kandell continued previous month's discussion. There was no desire expressed for such advertising; nor did anyone indicate a willingness to take on the responsibilities of being an "ad manager." The issue was therefore tabled into dormancy.

New Business

Board Officer Election: With all nominees expressing interest in serving and running unopposed, Wayne Deeter was elected president; John Pegg, vice president; Sheila Ward, treasurer; and Laurie Funkhouser (not a board member), secretary.

Chairing of Committees: Wayne will be corralling chairs for the following year. Current committees should offer the president guidance as to the best people for the jobs. Wayne will contact current committee heads to determine if they will continue and, if not, get recommendations for replacements.

Budget Process: (Ken Kodama): Ken is starting the budget process for 2006 and committee chairs have been notified, with budget request forms due by Nov. 15 (by email, if possible). In mid-November, a small finance committee group will draft a budget for discussion at the December meeting. Final approval

will be at the January meeting.

Forest Legacy Support: Parks Dept. has a grant available for buying and preserving forest lands (with 26 acres available in West Eugene). Via an email vote, the board approved submitting a letter of support drafted by John Jacobsen.

Committee Reports

Summer Trips (Sandra Larsen): 10 trips reported since Oct. board meeting; 90 members, 20 nonmembers; \$161. Janet Jacobsen, Lenore McManigal, Sandra Larsen and Margaret Prentiss have been collaborating on making trip reports easier for leaders, encouraging sending in reports via email. No hard copy of the report would need to be sent in, but the signatures and the check would still have to be sent via mail. A sample copy of such a report was circulated. Discussion involved format, contents, dealing with members who are not computer literate or don't have computers and the possibility of developing a simple click and send form in the Members Only area of our web page.

Winter Trips (Bill Johnson): See schedule, Page 19. Also available online.

By-Ways by Bus (Liz Reanier): Committee busy starting up the 2006 trip schedule. Leaders meeting, Dec. 14. The three remaining trips this year have been finalized.

Entertainment (Kathy Hoeg): No potlucks in November or December due to lodge construction. Bill Sullivan will speak on "New Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades" on January 24th in the same room at EWEB where we held the annual meeting. Meet at 7, with program at 7:30. See December Bulletin for further details.

Membership (Sharon Ritchie): Members put forth at October meeting were approved, as were Les and Marian Brod, Paul Flashenburg, Elizabeth Lamb, Joyce Saunders and Paula Sievers.

Publicity (Marianne Camp): See Eugene Celebration, Page 17.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): Activity sheets made for all new members added in October. All climb and summer trip reports recorded.

Lodge Grounds (Max Brown): A sick Douglas fir fell over. Safety—John Pegg

Welcome New Board Officers Elected at the November Board Meeting



Wayne Deeter
President



John Pegg
Vice President



Sheila Ward
Treasurer



Laurie Funkhouser
Secretary

Annual Meeting Notes

October 14, 2005

John Jacobsen called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and welcomed the 48 members in attendance. He introduced the board members and asked the audience to introduce themselves.

Treasurer's Report

Sheila Ward thanked Pat and Ben Jeffries for excellent management of the bus trips fund and Sharon Ritchie for overseeing all details of the summer camp fund. She displayed a chart showing how money from the annual dues is spent.

Although dues are \$20, it costs \$27.64 per member to operate the club, which depends on trip fees for almost one-third of its operating expenses. (*A complete breakdown on costs will be presented in the Bulletin in January.*)

State of the Club Report

John noted the Club is in good shape, continuing to provide a wide array of outdoor activities for members and the community, while grappling with the ups and downs of lodge renovation and construction. While the latter issue has been dominant, it has been gratifying to see the outstanding contributions of time and money made by so many members. He noted the work of the Lodge Construction Committee, the Funding Committee and the Volunteer Coordination Committee in these efforts.

Several committees received special recognition. A new Publications Committee took over from John Cecil, who had served for 17 years as Bulletin editor. The Bulletin is now edited in Eugene and has become electronic. The reorganized Summer Camp Committee is now an ongoing, year-round management committee that should provide better continuity. The ad hoc Heritage Committee completed its collection and mounting of historic Obsidians photographs for display in the lodge. The Conservation Committee hosted a multi-week discussion course and the Trails Committee continued to cooperate with the City of Eugene in repairing trails on Spencer Butte. John thanked all who have contributed to a successful year for the Obsidians.

Committee Reports

• **Summer Trips** (Sandra Larsen): Co-chair Margaret Prentice thanked the committee and noted the work of the core group (Joanne Ledet, Claire Tucker, Margaret Prentice, Sandra Larson) in attending to media contacts. As of this date, 140 trip reports have been received, a new record over the past 30 years. Special mention to Margot Fetz for urban nature hikes, Royal Murdoch for his morning and evening Mt. Pisgah hikes and Lana Lindstrom for the most unusual trip (to the Short Mountain Landfill).

• **Winter Trips** (Bill Johnson): Because of a poor snow year, the number of winter trips was down: 48 trips scheduled, 19 took place (107 members, 30 nonmembers, \$236 in fees). Many winter trips turned out to be hikes.

• **Climbs** (Sue Sullivan): Twenty climbs and a successful climb school were completed. Climbs participation-- 93 members and 20 nonmembers (\$360 fees). In addition, \$500 in fees was

collected from the climb school.

• **By-Ways-by-Bus** (Liz Reanier): Ray Jensen thanked the 25 members of the Bus Committee, many of whom were new to the committee this year. At least 105 riders made their first bus trip this year. In 2005, trips were scheduled every month except January and the destination and topics covered were broad and varied. There have been four multi-day trips this year, and seven one-day trips with three remaining on the schedule. Advanced registration for extended trips was instituted this year.

• **Summer Camp** (Jim Duncan): The reorganized committee became a true standing committee, which plans summer camps on a continuing basis by recruiting camp leaders several years in advance, programs changes in format and makes improvements in equipment. Summer camp leaders will be Lana Lindstrom in 2006, John Jacobsen in 2007 and Bill Montgomery in 2008. The committee scouted potential new sites in Montana, Idaho, Washington and California. We will run two-week camps, allowing participation by more members. Thanks to the enthusiastic members of the committee for their efforts.

• **Extended Trips** (Lana Lindstrom): On behalf of Lana, Sharon Ritchie thanked everyone on the committee, which also included Rick Ahrens and Leila Snow. Nine members enjoyed an extended trip in April to Sunriver. It included hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, and hot tubbing. The committee is looking for leaders for additional extended trips next year and will assist leaders in planning and executing these trips.

• **Youth** (Andy Jobanek): John Jacobsen noted the newly reorganized committee had carried out several trips this year.

• **Conservation** (Doug Nelson): In May, Vi Johnson and Jane Hackett attended a wilderness workshop that was part of a USFS wilderness study. In August, John and Janet Jacobsen joined Shirley Cameron as delegates to the annual Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs Convention in the Columbia Gorge (*see October Bulletin*). A highlight of the year's activities was a discussion group that met for eight weeks, with the Northwest Earth Institute providing "*Discovering a Sense of Place.*"

• **Publications** (Marshall Kandell): When the new Bulletin editorial team (with Marshall doing the editing and John Jacobsen handling the computer production end of things) took over they made a number of changes -- including email submission of reports and articles, the use of desktop publishing and placing the Bulletin, in color, on our website. Recently, Janet Jacobsen and Barb Revere have become valuable additions to the committee. Special thanks to Rose Marie Moffit and her mailing crew and to all members who have contributed articles.

• **Entertainment** (Kathy Hoeg): Sharon Duncan reported that six potluck dinners were held, but because of lodge reconstruction no potlucks have been held since the summer break. Attendance averaged 46 for dinner, 56 for the presentations; with receipts averaging \$50. Thanks to committee members Sharon Duncan, Beth Kodama, LaRee Beckley, Lana Lindstrom and Chuck Wagar. Bulletin reports were written by Beth, LaRee, Lana, Anne Hollander and Marshall Kandell.

Continued on Next Page

Annual Meeting Notes

Continued from Previous Page

Special thanks to Rob Castleberry and Max Brown for preparing the lodge.

- **Science/Education** (Rick Ahrens): Ray Jensen noted the close collaboration between the bus trips and the Science/Education chair (Rick). Rick has been a first-rate tour guide, providing educational (and humorous) information for birding, zoo, Wildlife Safari and salmon bake bus trips.

- **Membership** (Sharon Ritchie): As of September 30, membership was 554 (470 active, 38 associate, 3 honorary, 19 junior, 24 life) - a decrease of 15 from last year.

- **Concessions** (Laurie Funkhouser): Total merchandise sold this year is approximately \$100. There have been no additions to the merchandise inventory.

- **Online** (Wayne Deeter): Online copies of current Bulletins have been available since February, as well as non-searchable images of Bulletin issues from 1974-1981. Trip reports are available online from 1974 to present. The website moved to a different provider for more reliable service. SPAM-blocking strategies have proved to be effective.

- **Finance** (Ken Kodama): John Jacobsen reported the club was in good financial condition and there will be no cash flow issues as lodge reconstruction begins. Stewart Hoeg reported that audits had been successfully completed for the general fund and for bus trips.

- **Library/Historian** (Lenore McManigal): John McManigal said 172 trip reports have been processed so far this year and the activities of each Obsidian have been recorded. Activity sheets for 35 new members have been prepared. Trip leaders were urged to turn in their reports promptly on the forms provided.

- **Lodge Building** (Rob Castleberry): Some maintenance work has been postponed due to the reconstruction and demolition projects. It is hoped the many volunteers who contributed to the reconstruction workday will also make themselves available for future lodge maintenance opportunities.

- **Lodge Grounds** (Max Brown): With no damaging wind or snowstorms, it has been a good year for grounds maintenance. The usual battles with poison oak and blackberries along the perimeter of the grounds were fought with good results. The biggest change was the removal of the rock wall and seven trees for the proposed handicapped parking area. Thanks to all the volunteers who participated in these activities.

- **Safety** (John Pegg): With the exception of an accident on a bicycle trip, it has been a safe year. In the one incident, the trip leader and participants were complimented for their rapid and professional response. The committee now maintains a short "Restricted List" of individuals whose activities are restricted in some way for the safety and convenience of other club members. There was no discussion this year of potential additions to the list. Thanks to committee members Jan Jacobsen, Sandra Larsen, Bill Johnson, Sue Sullivan and Liz Reanier.

- **Ad Hoc Construction Committee** (John Jacobsen): John reviewed the chronology of events in the lodge construction process, from entryway demolition in December, selection of WGBS Architects in January, development of a master plan study in February, board approval for phase one of reconstruction in March, fundraising appeal in March, selection of 2G Construction Co. in April, etc. A very expensive hurdle, the in-

stallation of fire sprinklers, has been obviated by new water pressure data from the Fire Marshal. Seismic soils testing was completed in September. The club is currently waiting for the building permit to be issued. One smaller hurdle may be the necessity of installing a dry well for water run-off. Last week, negotiations with 2G Construction on a "not-to-exceed" agreement began and a contract is being drawn up at this time. John thanked everyone who had contributed time to this lengthy and ongoing process.

- **Ad Hoc Heritage Committee** (Rick Ahrens): Janet Jacobsen reported the committee had completed the job of framing historic photographs to be hung in the lodge after renovation is completed. Rick reviewed and selected old photos, Curtis Irish printed them, Wes Prouty made frames and Peter Graham matted and assembled the final product. Approximately 20 historic photographs will be displayed.

New Business

Anne Dhu McLucas, Brian Hamilton and Stewart Hoeg were unanimously elected to serve three-year positions on the board of directors beginning January 2006.

Old Business

- **Deceased Members** (Lenore McManigal): The passing of the following members so far in 2005 was noted: Doris Allen, Mary Gillespie, Mary Millman, Paula Vehrs, Doris Jones, Gilbert Sprague, Ted Stern, Barbara Hasek and Vera Heidenrieck.

- **Memories and Thanks**: Doug Nelson described the extraordinary work of John Jacobsen in pushing forward on lodge construction. John's energy, commitment and optimistic outlook have been instrumental in moving the project forward and the new addition and upgrades will be a real testament to his leadership. The membership joined in sustained applause in recognition of John's superb efforts.

Awards

- **Trips** (Janet Jacobsen): Janet presented trip participation awards to: Jane Hackett (300 trips), Ray Jensen (200 trips), Margaret Wiese (200 trips), Dora Harris and Suzanne Steussy (100 trips). Barb Revere, a relatively new member, was recognized for completing the most hikes so far this year.

- **Trip Leaders** (Sharon Ritchie): Sharon presented new trip leader awards to leaders of 25, 50, 75 and 100 trips (see separate story). Thanks to committee members Kathy Hoeg, Sheila Ward, Lenore McManigal, Sandra Larsen and chair, Sharon Ritchie.

- **Climbs** (Sue Sullivan): Sue presented 10-Peak awards to Jim Pierce and Greg Milliman. She acknowledged the efforts of Mark Slipp in leading a successful Mt. Hood climb (after several reschedules); and presented new 10-Peak Leader patches to Doug Nelson and John Pegg.

- **Special Awards** (Jan Jacobson): Wayne Deeter received a red Superman Poncho Award for his help in summer trips scheduling. Marshall Kandell was awarded an honorary Obsidians Press Pass for his efforts in taking over editorship of the Bulletin. The pass will allow free access to any Obsidian meeting (*it is not clear if that includes meetings of the Obsidian Princesses*).

John Jacobsen reminded members that annual dues are now due and thanked everyone whose volunteer efforts continue to make the club successful.

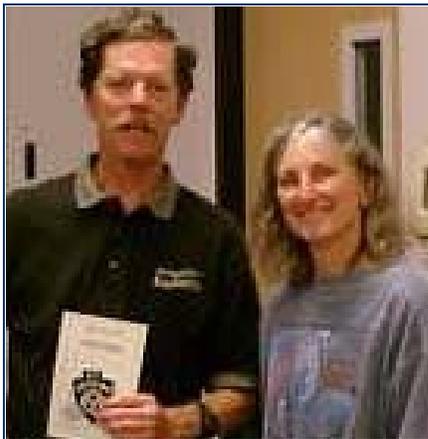
Trip Award Ceremonies



Margaret Wiese receives 200 Trip Award, as does Ray Jensen



Dora Harris - 100 Trip Award, all for bus trips.



Greg Milliman - 10 Peak Award

Continued from Page 1

year – 30 and still counting as of Sept. 30th.

Sue Sullivan presented 10-Peak climbing awards to Jim Pierce and Greg Milliman; and new 10-Peak Leader patches to Doug Nelson and John Pegg.

This was the first year trip leader awards were presented and, while Jane was the only one to reach the century mark, 8 members reached the 75 trips led plateau;

10 got patches for leading at least 50 trips; and 41 Obsidians will be sporting new leader patches with “25”.

Qualifying for the trip leader awards presented by Sharon Ritchie were (listed in descending order of number of trips led):

75 Trips – John Cecil (who is only three trips short of 100), Sharon Ritchie, Mary Ellen West, Ray Jensen, Wes Prouty, Dot Leland, Dave Predeek and Ken Lodewick.

50 Trips – Frank Moore, Bette Hack, Ewart Baldwin, Mary Bridgeman, Diane Jeffcott, Marriner Orum, Helmut Plant, Jan Jacobsen, Norm Benton and Velma Shirk. 10 got patches for leading at least 50 trips; and 41 Obsidians will be sporting new leader patches with “25” on them.

25 Trips – Ed Lovegren, Glenn Meares, Shirley Froyd, Bill Montgomery, Joe Lowry, Liz Reanier, John Jacobsen, Ed Lichtenstein, Robert Ewing, Betty Macy,

Continued on Next Page



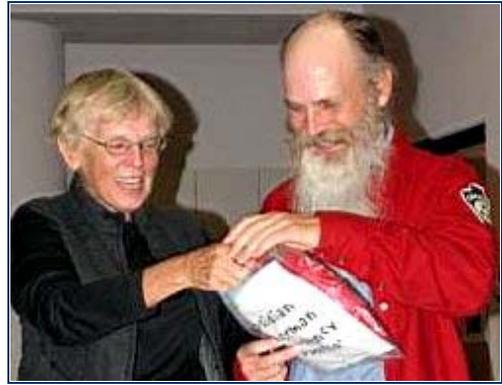
Dave Predeek, Ray Jensen, Ken Lodewick, and Sharon Ritchie with their 75 Trip Leader Awards



Diane Jeffcott, Jan Jacobsen and Marriner Orum - 50 Trip Leader Awards

Royal Murdock, John McManigal, Emeline Chambers, Wayne Deeter, Sandra Larsen, Gene Thaxton, Bob Dark, Robin Lodewick, Margaret Wiese, Leona Devine, George Baitinger, Richard Heinzkill, Vi Johnson, John Pegg, Rick Ahrens, Ken Ball, Sylvia Harvey, Brian Hoyland, Catherine Jones, Doug Nelson, Sam Miller, Birgitte Williams, Buzz Blumm, Scott Hovis, Anne Montgomery, Rebecca Hansen, Joel McClure, Jean Ridone, Allan Coons, Gary Kirk and Gerry Roe.

Many members came up just a bit short and should get patches next year...especially at the 25 and 50 trip levels. Those who feel they should have an award coming should get in touch with Sharon Ritchie.



Wayne Deeter is presented a "special" award – the Obsidian Superman Emergency Poncho, for his super help given to the Summer Trips Committee.



25 Trip Leader Award Recipients

Several club leaders said that trips form the backbone of the organization, the structure upon which everything else is built...and without leaders there wouldn't be any trips. Leaders always get thanked by trip participants at the end of their activities. Now, they're being thanked by the entire organization.



Jane's Welcome Back Surprise

Traveling in Bhutan at the time of the annual meeting, Jane Hackett will be surprised and pleased to see her two new Obsidian "100 Leader" and "300 Trip" patches.

Jane joined the Obsidians in 1978. She and her young son, Mike, became active in hiking, climbing and summer camps. She was on the summer camp committee for many years, chairing several camps. A dental hygienist for many years, Jane enrolled in the nursing program when her son graduated from high school. Now a nurse at Peace Health, she has four grandchildren.



Jane Hackett

Anyone who has attended summer camp knows two of those grandchildren, Brennen and Madison, who are now junior members. She acknowledges the importance of the club in her life and the positive influence on children.

Jane will be leading one of the last hikes of the season -- to Eel Creek on November 13th. One of her Obsidian mentors, Lee Hatch, led it for many years. When he died, Jane took over the tradition.

Personal Glimpses of Swiss Alpine Life Filtered Through Clouds, Rain and Fog

By Janet Jacobsen

Unfortunately, clouds, rain and fog dampened our three-week hiking trip to Switzerland. With only nine days of somewhat sunny weather and, after touring 11 museums, we knew we made a mistake by not purchasing a Swiss Museum Pass.

Fortunately, after a train ride from Grendelwald to Kleine Scheidegg in heavy fog, the sun appeared. Everyone on the train cheered. We took off immediately to hike up closer to the Eiger and Jungfrau. We had almost two hours of views before clouds blew over the mountains.

In Zermatt, John woke me up at 6 a.m. announcing there were stars in the sky. We quickly dressed and ran to the edge of town and were able to watch a dramatic sunrise on the Matterhorn. By 8:30, we were on a cable car with 125 skiers plus driver up to Klein Matterhorn -- where, at 12,736 ft., on the observation deck, we had the Swiss Alps to ourselves. By 10, the clouds were drifting back and we felt so smug as we headed down meeting cable carloads of advancing tourists.

In Samedan, when we visited our friend Morrin Acheson, we had our best weather and were able to hike every day. Samedan is a small village at 6,000 ft. in the Engadine Valley near St. Moritz. It is known for its examples of Engadine culture and architecture: houses with slate shingles, thick walls and graffito ornamentation. These are decorations where one scratches through a white layer of paint to show the design in the underneath dark layer. Morrin had the first floor flat in a house built in 1606. He and his late wife Greti purchased and remodeled the flat in 1976. The kitchen was previously a cattle stall. Greti was born in Switzerland and as a child spent her holidays in Samedan with her grandparents.

Morrin was a chemistry professor at Oxford and had several sabbaticals at the U of O. He showed his slides of a 1952 Himalayan climbing expedition at an Obsidian potluck in the 1970s. He is now a Swiss citizen and speaks the Swiss German of this region. My college German was not helpful. We quickly learned to greet

people with *Gruezi*. It sounds like *grits-see*.

John and I felt like slugs while Morrin, who is 80, was up early exercising, visiting a health club in St. Moritz and leading ballroom dancing classes two nights a week. He had just returned from Canada, where he had been sea kayaking with his daughter. When I got up in the morning, my priority was to walk to the nearby bakery and buy croissants for our breakfast and bread for lunch. I loved shopping at the meat market for cheese and *bundnerfleisch*, a paper-thin sliced air dried beef.



Sunrise on the Matterhorn

Morrin led us on a “private” trail from Samedan up to Mut Alp near Muottas Murag, where we stopped for lunch. We had an excellent view of the Engadine valley and mountains. On two other days, Morrin dropped us off at lift stations to Muotas Muragl and Diavolezza. We enjoyed the hikes, views and the Segantini Hut where we had *Bundner Gerstensuppe*, a creamy barley and vegetable soup. We visited the Segantini art museum the day before in St. Moritz so we welcomed the artistic

connection. At the end of each day, we caught a train that was, of course, on time, back to Samedan.

One evening, Morrin invited his friends, Bruno and Laurence, (Herrin und Frau Dr. Bruno Badilatti) for a traditional Swiss meal of *raclette*, a melted cheese one eats with potatoes, gherkins and pickled onions. Bruno and his wife are avid naturalists. He is a dentist and during the course of the day speaks up to five languages with his various patients. He told us he wanted Laurence to have a special honeymoon, so he took her to Alaska and Canada for six weeks to view wildlife. They offered to meet us the next day at the Swiss National Park, a 30-minute drive from Samedan.

The following day, Morrin squeezed his car into a space in an overflowing parking area at the Swiss National Park. We walked several miles up the road to the park entrance where we were told to keep on the trail as it followed the river up to the three designated viewing areas. We met hordes of people coming down the trail and I wondered where one went for a bathroom break if

everyone stayed on the trail. Perhaps there would be a toilet at the viewing areas. We began to hear the rutting sounds of the red deer, which reminded us of sea lions. Bruno laughed about how deep these sounds were for such a small deer in comparison with the shrill rutting sounds of the large elk he heard in Alaska. The sounds increased as we approached the viewing areas.

As we came around the bend to the first viewing area, I was stunned. A very small area, about the size of a basketball court, was enclosed with yellow tape and filled with people. It was like a crowded beach except everyone had bulky binocs, scopes and cameras and gazed intently at the steep mountainside on the other side of the river. We headed for the second viewing area, which was just as crowded. Bruno knew exactly where to go and set up his scope. At first, the sun was in our eyes, but gradually as it began to fall behind the mountains, we had amazing views of the animals.

More and more people departed while Bruno kept discovering wildlife that everyone else missed. We saw red deer, gemse (chamois), steinbock (ibex), marmot, bearded vultures, golden eagles, snow finches, alpine chough and magpies. Through it all echoed the rutting

sounds of the red deer. One man came from Belgium just to see the red deer. (*Fortunately, Laurence showed me a private place for a potty break.*)

Around 7 p.m., we started back down the trail. Leaving the park, Bruno took a side trail so we could see their old renovated farmhouse nestled in the hillside near the park boundary. It was so peaceful, with the sound of cowbells in the distance. The house provides them with a variety of opportunities to view wildlife in summer and winter. He felt fortunate he was able to own this farmhouse since no one is allowed to build a new dwelling in the countryside. To have such a personal introduction to a Swiss treasure was the highlight of our trip. Now, when I think of Switzerland, I hear cowbells, church bells and those deep rutting sounds.

We enjoyed our trip -- even though whenever we saw a fire hydrant in an unusual place, we were reminded of the Obsidian lodge construction problems.



*Looking for the "big ones"
Swiss National Park*

"Now, when I think of Switzerland, I hear cowbells, church bells and those deep rutting sounds."

What is Summer Camp?

Continued from Page 3

don't have to go looking for something to do or someone to do it with.

- There are no phones or e-mail to answer.
- And it's cheap -- \$185 for five full days of fun!

OH, YEAH, there is one more thing. Everyone does one or two chores during camp -- like setting tables, serving food, dishwashing, etc. A computer assigns the tasks, but you can trade off with others. You only do a chore once or twice, a

one or two-hour commitment during the entire time, so it's not an onerous responsibility.

As a first timer, you'll be assigned a "buddy," someone to call with questions as you're packing, show you the ropes and introduce you to others when you arrive. Children are welcome.

We think next year's camp will be the best ever! Summer Camp Committee members are: Jim Duncan (chair), Lana Lindstrom (2006 camp leader), Rick Ahrens, Marianne Camp, Bob Dark, Wayne Deeter, Kitson and Peter Graham, Janet

Jacobsen, Ken Kodama and Sharon Ritchie. If you have any questions, feel free to give any of us a call.

Summer Camp 2006
Sequim Bay State Park,
Olympic Peninsula,
Washington

Session 1: Monday, June 26-
Saturday, July 1

Session 2: Saturday, July 1-
Thursday, July 6

Problem:

It's the Water!

By Pat Bitner

The following personal opinion column has been reprinted with permission from the November issue of "The Quail," the Lane County Audubon Society's newsletter. Pat is the society's conservation chair.

Have you noticed the massive increase in interest in global warming we are seeing recently? Seems Hurricanes Katrina and Rita have been the catalyst for bringing the most important issue to come before us in our lifetimes to the forefront. I don't even hear the usual denials from the usual sources. Maybe our government is finally ready to confront the probability, many say certainty, that our climate is changing. The warming of the oceans may influence the increasing severity of storms. No one can deny the shrinking of the glaciers in the arctic and antarctic, causing the rising of ocean water levels. And to us in the Northwest, water will increasingly be the issue.

Threats to the Willamette

Water flow in the Willamette this year has been the lowest in a number of years. Rainfall in the Pacific Northwest during the past three years has been two feet below usual water patterns. Declining depth of snow pack which provides water for summer flows will fail to provide adequate water given demands placed upon it. Oregon water law, which was established in the late 19th century, is based on "prior appropriation." This simply means that the first owner of water right allocation is forever first in line for available water. No provision exists

for appropriation for highest and best use.

"By 1998, 40% of the Willamette Basin's water rights were allocated for agriculture and hydro-electric power. Water rights established to keep water in streams, about 40% of the remaining water, are largely at the end of the queue. And, this is used water; that is the quality of the water has been compromised...often contains biological, chemical or thermal pollutants." -- League of Women Voters Report Nov. 2005.

"Most biologists believe that no life form is possible without water. We do know this: the world can survive without oil. The world will not survive without water"-- League of Women Voters, Lane County World Water Committee Report, Nov. 2005

Although almost all water is owned by the State of Oregon, the state lacks the authority to require lower discharges of "used" water into the river during periods of below normal water flows. Presumably, lower water flows would become more of the norm, as precipitation declines with global warming.

The Clean Water Problem

The Clean Water Act of 1972 has stopped billions of pounds of pollution from fouling U.S. Waters. At this time, our government's general policy has been and continues

to be work to relax standards for most if not all the environmental protection laws which were in place. By underfunding the Environmental Protection Agency, a federal agency, federal support for Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality has shrunk, forcing layoffs in staff. The backlog of work for the DEQ is the highest in its history. This is the state agency charged with assessing the quality of Oregon's water.

The Governor's Pledge

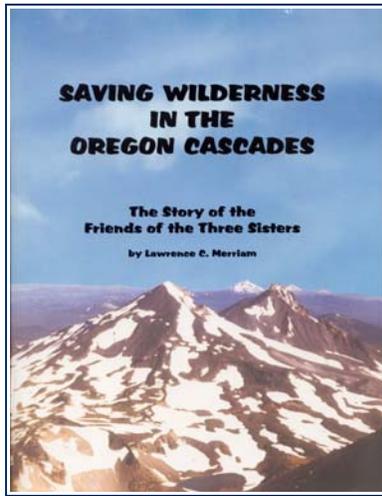
In March, 2004, Gov. Kulongoski stated his "top environmental policy over the next three years is to clean up the crown jewel of Oregon's river system -- the Willamette River...from the headwaters east of Eugene all the way to the Columbia." At least 1,400 miles of the Willamette River Basin's 16,000 miles of tributary streams do not meet water quality standards.

These 1,400 miles are adjacent to the most populated areas (70% of Oregon's population live in the basin). It is estimated that 97-99% of prairie habitat has been lost; at least 80% of the riparian forests and over half of the original wetlands are gone. Twenty species of plants and wildlife are listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The North American Water Quality Assoc.'s study way back in 1995 concluded that the portion which flows through Lane County was among the poorest 25% of streams (nationally) sampled in habitat conditions for fish. Cited were poor riparian quality and degradation of banks and channel modification.

Gov. Kulongoski, you have your work cut out for you.

The Obsidian Role in Saving Three Sisters Wilderness

Saving Wilderness in the Oregon Cascades: The Story of the Three Sisters, by Lawrence C. Merriam; Published by Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness, Eugene, 1999; 52 pages; available in Eugene and Springfield Public Libraries.



Have you ever hiked up Lowder Mountain and cautiously leaned over the ledge to view the beautiful Karl and Ruth Lakes hundreds of feet below and wondered, “Who were Karl and Ruth?” If so, this is the book for you. Karl and Ruth Onthank were among the founding members of the Friends of the Three Sisters, the organization most responsible for preserving the wilderness we hike today. In May 1954, the U. S. Forest Service regional office in Portland recommended the Three Sisters Primitive Area be reclassified as an area with lesser protection. In addition, there was a proposed reduction of about 50,000 acres. The area west of Horse Creek and east of Ollallie Ridge would be excluded and opened to logging, mining and road building.

Though many conservation groups expressed dissatisfaction with this decision, the Obsidians responded by convening a committee to fight the action. They organized the Friends of the Three Sisters with the goal of preserving the wilderness intact. The original Friends

members were all Obsidians, but soon began to draw on other outdoor and conservation groups like the Sierra Club, the Wilderness Society, the Eugene Natural History Society and the Mazamas. They received help from sympathetic politicians like U.S. Senator Wayne Morse.

The book includes a list of 39 hikes and pack trips taken each July into the Three Sisters area to publicize the fight beyond conservation circles. More than 60 photos, many historic, fill the book; as well as five maps. The official first statement of the Friends is also included.

Merriam begins with a brief history of the Three Sisters area from inclusion in the Cascade National Reserve in 1893 to designation as a national forest in 1933 to the creation of the Three Sisters Primitive Area in 1937. The book then launches into the more than 24-year battle to get the highest wilderness status established and to restore the Horse Creek and French Pete “exclusion” area.

The chronology of events is told in a rather dry outline style, but gives the reader a strong sense of the dedication, perseverance and sheer bull-doggedness needed when average citizens fight wealthy, powerful lobbies and bureaucratic lethargy and self-interest. Each new blow dealt by the Forest Service and timber lobby meant a new letter campaign and new scientific studies, as well as countless phone calls and petitions. Appendix III, which contains personal remembrances by 14 former Friends, tells the story best; these were busy people with families and careers, yet they found the time and dedication to fight for the wilderness we enjoy today. They were environmentalists before environmentalism was mainstream.

-- Barb Revere

Obsidian Treasurer Sheila Ward will have an exhibit of her landscape paintings in the members' gallery at the Downtown Initiative for the Arts (DIVA) on West Broadway during the month of December, with an opening reception the evening of December 2nd. Among the landscapes on display will be “Towards the Steens,” shown right.



TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Climbs

Mt. Whitney
August 25-26, 2005
Leader: Buzz Blum

My son Andrew got altitude sick on this climb; so, unfortunately, I had to turn back with him. The rest of the group had a great hike; they went in 6.5 miles from the trailhead at 8,300' to the trail camp at 12,100' with full packs. They stayed overnight there, then hit the trail early and made the 14,497' summit at about 10:45 a.m. They hiked out that afternoon. Participants were Buzz and Andy Blum; and successful summiters George and Andy Jobanek, Chris Stockdale, nonmembers Heidi and Eric Farry.



Trail Maintenance

Spencer Butte Park
October 8, 2005

Trail maintenance activity at Spencer Butte Park was restarted on Saturday, Oct. 8th, when Obsidians Jim and Sharon Duncan, Rick Ahrens, Sue Wolling, Peter Asai and non-member Scott Youngblood met Matt McRae from the Parks Dept. and worked on replacing a wooden foot bridge. Pry bars, hammers, chisels and saws were put to use as the group removed the wooden platform and prepared the foundation logs for reuse as the border of a new gravel pathway. Thanks to power wheel barrels it was a simple matter to transport gravel to fill between the logs and create a porous but solid

new surface that will require a minimum of maintenance.

“Thanks to the efforts of this incredibly hardworking group, the project was amazingly completed within 4 1/2 hours. The group can take pride in accomplishing something of lasting value for park hikers,” says Peter Asai, trail maintenance chairperson. Another Spencer Butte work date was scheduled for November 5th.



Hikes

S. Waldo/Black Meadow
September 11, 2005
Leader: Scott Hovis
10 miles, 1,000 feet (“B”)

There are still plenty of huckleberries at the higher elevations in early September. If you get away from Waldo Lake, like on the trail we used, you’ll notice few people. It was nice to find the “C Y Bingham” tree and the blue and white trail markers for the Eugene- to-PCT. The temperature was in the 30s when we arrived. Hikers: Jim Duncan, J. Scott Hovis and Bob Huntley.

Vivian Lake
September 24, 2005
Leader: Walt Dolliver
7.4 miles, 1,000 ft. (“B”)

On a cool September morning, eight hikers embarked to Vivian Lake via Highway 58 to Oakridge. Just east of town we took the turn off to Hills Creek Dam and proceeded on Road 23 for about 20 miles to the trailhead. Upon arrival, we were greeted by a fabulous view of Diamond Peak, which had just been covered with a skiff of new fallen snow, first of the season. The trail proceeded up a gradual grade, passing Notch Lake and, approximately three miles from the trailhead, reached the top of the ridge. From there,

it was about a mile downhill to Vivian Lake, where we had lunch. After a short break, we proceeded back to the trailhead by the way we came. This route is not the usual way Obsidians hike to Vivian Lake; it is not as steep as the Salt Creek trail and not as scenic, but makes for an excellent hike. Participants were Marcia Cutler, Walt Dolliver, Stewart Hoeg, Carol Houde, Sam Houston, Becky Lipton, Bob Moffitt and nonmember Chris Lloyd.

Triangulation Peak
October 1, 2005
Leader: Norm Benton
5 miles, 700 feet (“A”)

With two cancellations and one “no-show” on a day with dim weather prospects, only two of us took this trip. Up the McKenzie and down North Santiam Highway it sprinkled lightly, so we donned rain gear before starting our hike. At the site of the former lookout, one normally has views at least from Mount Hood to the Three Sisters, but not on this wet day. It was sprinkling again so we descended to the Boca Cave before eating lunch. After a heavy shower, then hail, we started up. After a time, snowflakes were in the air. The very heavy rains came on our drive home with near cloudbursts at times, making driving difficult, especially when also driving into the sun. Wet hikers were Pat Esch and Norm Benton.

The Twins
October 2, 2005
Leader: John Mowat
7 miles, 1,600 ft. (“B”)

We were going to scramble up Mt. Ray, but changed the destination to The Twins because we thought bushwacking and scrambling on wet rocks was not a good idea. We had sunshine as we hiked up through the fresh snow on the trail and made it through lunch on the lower summit before fresh snow flurries resumed. After lunch, we hiked to the higher summit, then headed down. Participants were Sherwood Jefferies, Bob Moffitt, John Mowat and Susan Sullivan. Nice trip.

North Bank Deer Preserve

October 9, 2005

Leader: Chris Stockdale

10 miles, 1,300 ft. ("C")

After an anxious week of weather watching, we were blessed by an almost perfect day for a hike that should be done only in good weather. Nine of us gathered at the Cottage Grove Wal-Mart for the quick and easy trip down I-5 to Wilbur and a few miles up the North Bank Road to the trailhead. We were on the trail by 9:45, heading up through the trees. The first mile of this hike is a good pipe opener and your legs feel the grade. We were a little dismayed to see that large areas of the meadows had obviously been subjected to controlled burning; but, fortunately, we left the brown smoke-smelling area as we headed up to the ridge. After an unplanned detour by the hike leader who missed an overgrown turn-off, the group climbed up through wide open meadows to the ridge trail.

Parts of the trail are steep and your legs will ache and your lungs will get a work out. But the views all the way up are worth every step; and you can stop many times to look around at the valley below, with the North Umpqua River curving through it. You also get great views of ranges of hills stretching to the horizon. Don't think that when you get to the boundary ridge the hills will stop! The trail continues going up and down and up and down but this time offering views to the north as well (you can see Sutherlin).

We stopped for lunch on a rocky outcrop and basked in intermittent sunshine before continuing along the ridge. A couple of deer were spotted bounding down the hill. A short while later, two more deer (definitely white tail) disappeared into the woods. The trail then headed downhill, passing three magnificent and ancient madrone trees (one of which has been defaced by some incredibly insensitive clods who have carved initials into the trunk). The route finally joins up with the trail along Chasm Creek and heads back to the parking lot. **Warning:** This trail has a luxuriant crop of poison oak and at this time of year the foliage is harder to spot. It grows not only on the sides of the wide trail, but is popping up underfoot. Long pants are highly recommended for susceptible hikers.

Hikers were Obsidians John Hegg,

Dick Hildreth, Daphne James, Joanne Ledet, Nola Nelson, Lyndell Wilken and Chris Stockdale; nonmembers Jennifer and Doug Jordan.

Tahkenitch Dunes Loop

October 15, 2005

Leader: Sheila Ward

6.5 miles, 400ft. ("B")

Rain never deters serious hikers and nine Obsidians and one potential member proved this to be true. We had light rain in Eugene and some heavy rain at the trailhead in Florence, but for most of the trek it held off to fog and mist. For the first time, I encountered high tide at the beach portion of the trip and there was also a high surf warning. This did add a bit of excitement, but no mishaps. After lunch near Threemile Lake, we continued up through the woods, encountering local fauna in the form of many, many newts on the trail back to the cars.



Hikers included members Dave Becker, Pat Esch, Stewart Hoeg, Sam Houston, Marshall Kandell, Anne McLucas, Barbara Morgan, Barb Revere and Sheila Ward; and nonmember Paul Brown.

Belknap Crater

October 16, 2005

Leader: Wayne Deeter

Asst. Leader: Janet Jacobsen

8.5 miles, 1,672 ft. ("B")

Three people canceled and another three were under the weather, including the leader, John Jacobsen. Fortunately, John asked Wayne to lead so that seven of us could drive out of the clouds and light rain to hike under a bright blue sky. The steep trail on the cinder cone was damp, making it easier for us to push upward. There were spots of snow near the top. First timers on Belknap enjoyed the diversity of terrain, the lava fields and the views of Mt. Washington and The Sis-

ters. Since it rained the previous day, we thank John for selecting the perfect day for the trip and thanks to Wayne for leading. We all agreed this is a better fall than summer hike. Lynda Christiansen, Wayne Deeter, Janet Jacobsen, Daphne James, Sherwood Jefferies, Craig Renkert and Chris Stockdale.

Mt. Pisgah Sunrise/Moonset

October 17, 2005

Leader: Royal Murdock

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

Since the dawn of creation, the sunrise and setting of the full moon on this day has to be on the top 10 list of "Beautiful Mornings." The show began with a partial eclipse of the moon. Then, driving over the 30th Avenue hill, we descended into a heavy lake of fog and we remained fogbound until we climbed above the fog bank, about 10 minutes up Mt. Pisgah. There, the mist provided a halo for the moonlight guiding our way. The climax was the bright edge of sun peering like a diamond in the colored sky over the Cascades at 7:37 a.m. (seven minutes later than the time predicted by the local paper.) In honesty in reporting, Anne Montgomery, Barb Revere and I all viewed the eclipse *before* we gathered for the climb.



Moonset at Mt. Pisgah



Sunrise on Mt. Pisgah

N/S Shasta Loops + Woodson

October 20, 2005

Leader: Marshall Kandell

4.5 miles ("A")

Don't know if it was the planetary alignment or getting a plug in "Janet's Sampler," but a record 20 people signed up for this urban hike. Under heavy skies we did the loops counter-clockwise to fool the rain gods and it worked! The final portion of the trek was illuminated by bright sunshine. Dick Hildreth signed on and paid his buck, but then decided he didn't have time for the trip and did his own hike back to campus. His place was taken by Janet Jacobsen, who greeted us with trays of delicious grapes as we passed her house and then joined our happy "mob" of Obsidians and guests.

The variety of homes and architecture, combined with the backwoods portions of the hike, spurred lots of commentary and conversations. The promised peacocks were shyly hiding in the distance, so all we got were glimpses of them. Deer and birds, usually plentiful, were also in absentia (could we have been making a bit of noise?). We did see two caterpillars, however, and discussed several theories of how fat or long they had to be to foretell a bad winter. Unfortunately, none of us knew how fat or long they were last year, so there was no definite forecast.

Going down North Shasta Loop is easier than going up, but there's no escaping the fact that everything that goes down has to come up again and going counterclockwise offered hills enough for a good workout. Enjoying the large group outing were nonmembers Stephen Brander, Paul Flashenberg, Patrice McCaffrey and Joyce Sanders; and Obsidians Max Brown, Barbara Bruns, David and Shelly Call, Pat Esch, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen, Marshall Kandell, Sandra Larsen, Dick and Rose Marie Moffitt, Margaret Prentice, Barb and Tom Revere and Sheila Ward.

Fall Creek

October 22, 2005

Leader: Ed Lichtenstein

9 miles, 700 ft. ("B")

A perfect day for a fall hike, sunny, cool in the morning and warming, but not hot. We left at 8:30, established a shuttle and

began hiking downstream from road #1828 by 9:50. The trail is recovering nicely from the fire three years ago. Bridges have been repaired or rebuilt, including the one at Slick Creek. There is a fair amount of minor debris on the trail that requires sliding around or pushing through, but nothing serious. We lunched, as usual, on the rocks overlooking deep pools at Bedrock campground. The vegetation was often lush and hikers several times remarked upon "*picture post card views*" as the sunlight filtered through the trees and reflected off the water. Enjoying the day were nonmembers Lucy and Dick Rayle, Paul Seeman and Keith Christensen; and members Nola Nelson, Barb Revere, Anne Hollander, Sandra Larsen, Sherwood Jefferies, Barbara Morgan and Ed Lichtenstein.

Baker Beach

October 29, 2005

Leader: Sandra Larsen

7.3 miles ("B")

Nine of us left Eugene and picked up two more hikers before reaching our trailhead north of the C & M Stables, near Florence. We all discussed the chancy weather. Would it rain? Would we have sunshine? Wind? Well, we had all. We started out under cloudy skies, with blue sky peeking through, and in spite of assurances for glorious weather from the leader, we did have rain. After all, we live in Oregon, so everyone was good-natured. The promised sunshine didn't arrive until after lunch. The temperatures were ideal for hiking. We followed Sullivan's book and hiked down the beach to Sutton Creek, had lunch a bit inland and then returned via the estuary along the dunes. Snowy plovers nest here from mid-March to mid-September, so the dunes are off-limits during that time. This is a fairly short hike, so after doing it for about four years, I think next time I will add another short hike nearby. Hikers were Max Brown, Suzanne Clark (soon to be a member), Walt Dolliver, Sherwood Jefferies, Marshall Kandell, Sandra Larsen, Nola Nelson, Carol Petty, Ginny Reich, Nancy Whitfield and nonmember Keith Christensen.



Bike Trips

Fern Ridge Park

October 9, 2005

Leader: Sharon Ritchie

27 miles

Eight hardy souls gathered at the beginning of the bike path, with a mist fogging glasses, but with high hopes of the sun to shine as predicted. Royal got a flat within several blocks and changed the tire in a blink of an eye. We were all mightily impressed! As promised, blue skies and sunshine did happen. The ride to the park was lovely. We stopped at the "buffalo ranch" to admire those animals. Joyce said they bred the buffalo with beef (beefalo?). Sure enough, we soon saw a buffalo with the smooth white face of a cow. Really weird looking. At the park, Sam helped himself to an apple that had fallen off a tree. He said it was really good. After lunch he and Gayle threw apples at the ones still on the tree too high to reach. They had good luck and brought down quite a few. On the ride back, Sam dropped his bike on the bike path, ran into the Euphoria Chocolate store and brought out chocolate leaves wrapped in autumn-colored foil. What a nice treat. Sam can go on my rides any day! My thanks to this very nice group of people for sharing a wonderful fall bike ride with me. Those attending were nonmember Joyce Sanders and members Kitty Johnson, Pat Esch, Sam Houston, Stewart Hoeg, Royal Murdock, Gayle Berge and Sharon Ritchie.

Veneta City Park

October 16, 2005

Leader: Sharon Ritchie

35 miles ("B")

It was a grand day for a bike ride. After much wind and rain the day before, we ventured out to high white clouds, cool breezes and occasional sunshine. Perfect! The ride took us on the bike path west onto Crow Rd. and then several back country roads into Veneta, sadly passing the restaurant, Our Daily Bread, which closed several months ago, and on into the city park for lunch. After lunch,

Sam decided he needed more water and nothing would do but that he and Stewart had to venture to the Dairy Queen (for water?). I'm sure Stewart only went along to help Sam carry the heavy bottle back to the bike. Good man! The rest of us headed home. It was a slow easy, delightful ride back. My thanks to participants Kitty Johnson, Stewart Hoeg, Pat Esch, Sam Houston (yeah sure, water!) and Gayle Berge.

McKenzie View/Donna Store October 23, 2005 Leader: Sharon Ritchie 36 Miles

This was the last of three bike rides put on the schedule at the last minute. All were a great success! Yesterday was gorgeous, today was low clouds and fog, which made some of us wonder if we should change our minds. But we didn't, and the day was perfect for biking. On

the first two rides we had recumbent bikes. This time, we had a tandem. They really look nice going downhill. Weather: Good. Scenery: Beautiful. Company: Delightful. My thanks to all who helped make this a perfect day. My thanks to Lana for acting as sweep. Nonmembers were Gail and Mark Fischer (tandem riders) and Larry Wright. Members were Kitty Johnson, Stewart Hoeg, Sam Houston, Lana Lindstrom, Gayle Berge and Sharon Ritchie.

Celebration Booth

This year's Eugene Celebration booth was well attended, reports Marianne Camp (Mary Croson), publicity chairperson. A new feature was a drawing for a free year's club membership (upon completing the qualifying trips). Winners were Dave Jensen and James Yow.

"Thanks for the many pictures and great volunteers we were able to again show what a wonderful group we are," said Marianne. Volunteering at the booth were Walt Dolliver, Ed Lichtenstein, Rick Ahrens, Lana Lindstrom, Sharon Ritchie, Sheila Ward, Gayle Berge, George and Andy Jobanek, Tom Adamcyk, Brian Hamilton, Barb Revere, Jim and Sharon Duncan. Thanks to John McManigal and Rick Ahrens, who helped set up and take down the booth.

Members Need to Pay Overdue Dues

If you have not sent in your Obsidian membership dues in for the coming year, you are very late. Save the Membership Committee time and money by not having us try to contact delinquent dues payers. If you are one of the 175 people who have not gotten around to renewing your membership for next year, please take care of it right now...before you are dropped from the membership roll.

Annual dues - \$20 per person
Checks payable to: Obsidians, Inc.

Send to:
Sharon Ritchie, Membership Chairman
P.O. Box 50883
Eugene, OR 97405

Include your address, phone and email. Contributions to the Construction Fund or the Contingency Fund are welcomed as well. Just add any donation to your dues check and specify the fund(s) to which you wish to donate. And tell us if you would like to lead hikes, winter trips, climbs or other activities; or if you wish to volunteer for any committees or in any other capacity.

Please Send in Your Summer Trip Reports

Leader Alert! If you have not sent in all your summer trip reports for this year, please do so as soon as possible. During December, all trips will be totaled and completion credits awarded to hikers. Neither hikers nor leaders get credit for unreported trips. By the end of December, members will be able to check the Obsidian website for the updated totals. Several members should be close to 100, 200 and even 300 trip plateaus and will have an added incentive to get out and hike next season.

Summer trips chair Sandra Larsen and co-chair Margaret Prentice extend their appreciation to all who have led trips and for getting your reports turned in.

Bulletin Classifieds

FOR SALE:

Bike rack, fits on car trunk, excellent condition -- \$25;
Barresters ski rack, fits on car top, \$30. Contact
Sandra Larsen at 687-2589 or Lars480@aol.com.

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 of 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.

UPCOMING

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 trip 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 trips to the schedule. Anyone wishing to lead additional winter trips should contact Bill Johnson at 746-1513 or

wintertrips@obsidians.org.

Friday, Nov. 18 -- Pisgah X (or X Pisgah) ("B")-- Many folks who hike the face of Pisgah regularly haven't explored the backside. This hike, led by Lana Lindstrom, will make a giant X across Pisgah, starting at the horse parking lot, going to the top, dropping down the ridge to the east parking lot and coming up the back side to the vehicles. Miles: about 7.

Sunday, Dec. 4 -- Tahkenitch Dunes-Threemile Lake ("B") -- Head for the coast with leader Becky Lipton for a walk through a shore pine forest and dunes to a secluded beach. Even in blustery and rainy weather, this six-mile trail offers a welcome break from the Willamette Valley.

Wednesday, December 7 -- McKenzie River Trail ("A+") -- Margaret Prentice leads a hike along this scenic river trail. Those fortunate enough to be able to hike during the week may find this experience can overload one's audio and visual perceptions.

Saturday, Dec. 10 -- Amazon Headwaters Trail/Raptor Center (A) -- Join me for yet another hike on this great new trail (49 members and 18 nonmembers have hiked the new trail since Sept. 1st). Hopefully by hike day, all of the trail will be graveled. The Raptor Center is

always interesting, especially if the birds are shaking rainwater from their wings. Bring umbrellas!

Sunday, December 11 -- Gold and Marilyn Lakes (SS) (Advanced Beginner) -- The first snowshoe trip of the season will be to scenic lakes near Willamette Pass. Laurie Funkhouser will lead this 4.5 mile trip. This is *not* a trip for anyone who has just purchased new equipment and is trying it out for the first time.

Saturday, December 17 -- Gold Lake (SS) (Advanced Beginner) -- If, by now, you don't have your snowshoes ready to go, you might be called a slug. This three-mile trip is a perfect one for the first time out in the season. Scott Hovis is the leader.

If the trails are lacking snow we hope leaders will reschedule their trips. If the snow is wonderful, we hope leaders will step forward and add even more trips!

Cascadia Wildlands Holiday Auction - Dec 3

OBSIDIAN ANNE HOLLANDER reports the Cascadia Wildlands Project's Third Annual Holiday Auction will be held in Agate Hall (corner of Agate & 18th) on Saturday, Dec. 3, from 6 to 10 p.m. Live and silent auctions featuring romantic coastal getaways, rafting trips, art, etc. Food, drinks and live jazz and blues by the Orsinger-Crider Duo. \$10 advance (434-1463 or email info@cascwild.org), \$15/person or \$25/couple at door.

Rick Ahrens Gives

Antarctica Presentation - Dec 8

OBSIDIAN Rick Ahrens will present an "Exploring Antarctica" slide show, sponsored by Mount Pisgah Arboretum, at the Eugene Garden Club at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 8th.

For those who missed his Obsidian presentation earlier this year, here's a second chance to hear about Rick's trip last year through Drake Passage and into a world of penguins, albatross, petrels, whales, icebergs and the beauty of snowy landscapes on this unique continent.

Christmas Lights Bus Trip - Dec 13

THERE ARE STILL a few spaces left on the December 13th Byways-by-Bus Festival of Lights trip -- which will include a visit to Wildlife Safari and a holiday dinner. The bus will leave at 1 p.m., dinner will be at Wildlife Safari, followed by the tour of Roseburg's holiday lights. The group will return home around 10 p.m. Mary Lee Cheadle (689-1085) is taking reservations. Cost is \$43 for members; \$45 for no-members. For any other questions, contact trip leader Bette Hack (345-3650).

Winter Trips Schedule 2005-2006

Including remaining summer schedule events

H = Hike SS = Snowshoe X/C = Cross Country Skiing D/Hill = Down Hill Skiing
Beginner = Beg Advanced Beginner = A Beg Intermediate = Int Advanced = Adv

November

Sun 13 (H) -- Eel Crk, 6m, 100 ft. ("B"), Jane Hackett 984-0049

Fri 18 (H) -- Mt. Pisgah, 7m ("B"), Lana Lindstrom 683-1409

December

Thur 1 (Byways-By-Bus) -- Oregon Historical Center/Lewis & Clark
Traveling Exhibit, Verna Kocken 736-5180

Sun 4 (H) -- Tahkenitch Dunes/Three-Mile Lake 6m, 400 ft. ("B"),
Becky Lipton 736-7498

Wed 7 (H) -- McKenzie River Trail, 6m ("A+"), Margaret Prentice
687-5850

Sat., Dec. 10 -- (H) -- Amazon Headwaters/Raptor Center, 3m ("A"),
Janet Jacobsen 343-8030

Sun 11 (SS) -- Gold & Marilyn Lakes, 4.5m (*Ad Beg*), Laurie
Funkhouser 206-2302

Tues 13 (Byways-By-Bus) -- Festival of Lights (Roseburg)/Wildlife
Safari/Holiday Dinner, Mary Lee Cheadle 689-1085

Sat 17 (SS) -- Gold Lake, 3m (*Advance Beg*), Scott Hovis 345-7788

Wed 28 (X/C) -- Mystery ski trip, 8m (*Int*), Wayne Deeter 942-0824

January

Sun 1 -- (X/C) -- Maiden Peak, 13m (*Adv*), Bob Burnett 753-1535

Sun 1 (H) -- Tahkenitch Dunes, 6.5m ("B"), Sheila Ward 686-5679

Mon 2 (X/C) -- Gold Lake shelter, 4m (*Beg*), Brian Hamilton 343-6550

Sat 7 (X/C) -- Redtop Mountain, 8m (*Adv*), Sue Sullivan 342-6546

Sat 7 (X/C) -- Midnight Lake, 6m (*Ad Beg*), Sandra Larsen 687-2589

Sun 8 (X/C) -- Midnight Lake, 6m (*Ad Beg*), Laurie Funkhouser
206-2302

Sun 8 (X/C) -- Redtop Mountain, 8m (*Adv*), Gordon Sayre 345-2370

Sat 14 (SS) -- Salt Creek Falls, 4m (*Beg*), Barbara Bruns 485-7285

Sat 14 (X/C), Square Lake/Jack Meadows, 12m (*Adv*), Mark Slipp
(503) 582-1100

Sun 15 (SS) -- Midnight Lake/Bechtel shelter, 6m (*Int*), Craig
Renkert 485-5217

Sun 15 (X/C) -- Sand Mt. Circuit, 9m (*Adv*), Sam Miller 484-4586

Wed 18 (H) -- Amazon Headwaters Trail, 4m ("A"), Margaret
Prentice 687-5850

Thurs 19 (D/Hill) -- Willamette Pass, Peggy Lee Mathes 485-1356

Sat 21 (X/C) -- Abernethy Road, 10m (*Adv*), Bill Johnson 746-1513

Sat 21 (X/C) -- To be announced, Sandra Larsen 687-2589

Sun 22 (X/C) -- Redtop Mountain, 8m (*Adv*), John Hegg 484-0619

Wed 25 (H) -- South Shasta Lp, 4m ("A"), Ruth Romoser 726-8154

Sat 28 (SS) -- Salt Creek Falls, 4m (*Beg*), Stewart Hoeg 484-6196

Sat 28 (SS) -- Marilyn Lake, 4m (*Ad Beg*), Scott Hovis 345-7788

Sun 29 (X/C) -- Midnight Lake, 6m (*Ad Beg*), Diane Jeffcott 344-6447

Sun 29 (X/C) -- Rosary Lakes, 7m (*Int*), Doug McCarty 342-6962

February

Sat 4 (SS) -- Bechtel Shelter, 4m (*Beg*), Marianne Camp 485-3753

Sat 4 (SS) -- Fuji Shelter, 11m (*Adv*), Scott Hovis 345-7788

Sun 5 (X/C) -- Fawn Lake, 7m (*Int*), Bob Huntley 687-1823

Sat 11 (SS) -- Salt Creek Falls, 4m (*Beg*), Stewart Hoeg 484-6196

Sat. Feb. 11 (H) -- Hobbit Trail/Heceta Head, 6m ("B"), Ann-Marie
Askew 687-1659

Sat 11 (X/C) -- Maxwell Butte, 11m (*Adv*), Mark Slipp (503) 582-1100

Sun 12 (X/C) -- Fawn Lake, 7m (*Int*), Diane Jeffcott 344-6447

Sat 18 (X/C) -- Maiden Peak, 12m (*Adv*), Harold Thompson 683-8942

Sat 18 (X/C) -- Square Lake, 5m (*Int*), John Pegg 343-0909

Sun 19 (X/C) -- Gold Butte Lookout, 8m (*Adv Int*), Kevin
McManigal (503) 635-9973

Tues 21 (SS) -- To be announced (*Int*), Gerry Roe (503) 316-5064

Wed 22 (H) -- Spirit/Moon Falls, 5m ("A"), Wayne Deeter 942-0824

Sat 25 (X/C) -- Sardine Butte, 8m (*Adv*), Brian Hoyland 338-9881

Sat 25 (H) -- West Eugene Wetlands, 6m ("B"), Chris Cunningham
344-0486

Sun 26 (X/C) -- Berley Lakes, 8m (*Int*), John Mowat 342-6546

March

Sun 5 (SS) -- Gold Lake area, 6m (*Int*), John Agnew 4845725

Sat 11 (H) -- Trestle Creek Falls, 4m ("A"), Ann-Marie Askew
687-1659

Sun 12 (SS) -- Fawn Lake, 7m (*Adv Int*), Craig Renkert 485-5217

Sat 18 (X/C) -- Sand Mountain bushwhack, 10m (*Adv*), Bill Johnson
746-1513

Sat 25 (X/C) -- Indian Ridge, 12m (*Adv*), Brian Hoyland 338-9881

April

Sat-Sun 1-2 (X/C) -- Maiden Peak Shelter, 12m (*Adv*), Bill Johnson
746-1513

Fri 7 (H) -- Siltcoos River/Carter Lake Dunes, 5.5m ("B"), Sheila
Ward 686-5679

Wed 12 (H) -- Alton Baker Tr, 4m ("A"), Ruth Romoser 726-8154

Sat 22 (H) -- Brice Cr Trail, 6m ("B"), Joanne Ledet 683-2603

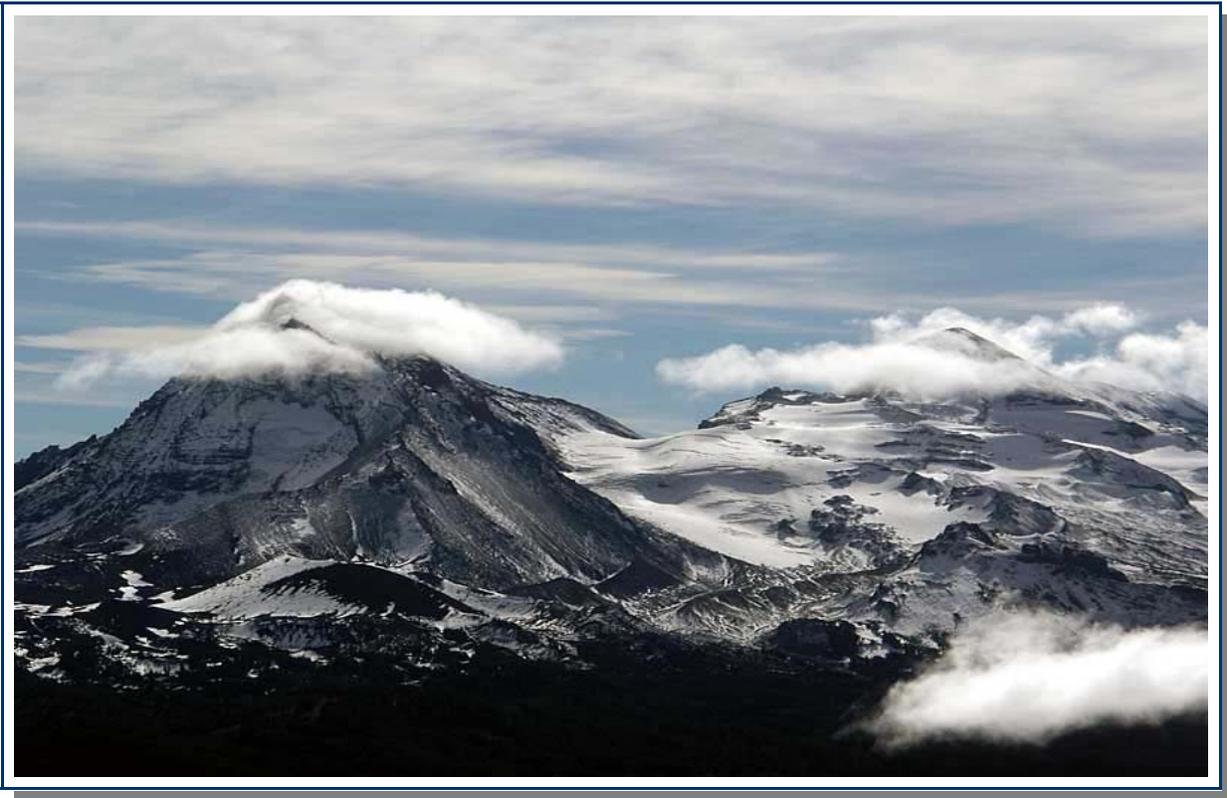
May

Sat 20 (X/C) -- The Twins, 8m (*Int*), Wayne Deeter 942-0824

Sat 27 (X/C) -- Three Sisters Traverse, long (*Adv*), Kevin McManigal
(503) 635-9973

June

Sat., June 3 (X/C) -- Broken Top Crater, 12m (*Adv*), Dick Hildreth
345-7520



North and Middle Sister with early fall snow.

Picture taken by Wayne Deeter on a recent Obsidian hike to Belknap Crater. See Page 15.

Pictures in this edition of the Bulletin were contributed by: Wayne Deeter, John Jacobsen, Barb and Tom Revere



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