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### Dates to Remember

June 16	Potluck - PCT
June 26 - July 6	Summer Camp
July 12	Board Meeting

Detailed trip schedules at:

[www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org) or Register-Guard - Sports - Tuesday

#### Potluck Back Home

The June 16 potluck will be **back where it belongs**, in the Lodge, at 6:30. This is a real potluck, so bring your delicious food offerings.

See Potluck Preview - Page 3

#### Summer Schedule

There is no potluck in July or August, the July Board Meeting is delayed one week, no Board meeting in August, and the combo July/August Bulletin will be published in late July. It's all back to a normal schedule in September.



**A** THUMBS UP from the city inspector, a massive last work party of volunteers, and just like that, it's over. But what a journey it was, and what a transformation we have seen. It was 21 months ago that we put a "Danger—Do Not Enter" sign on the door to the Obsidian Lodge entryway because dry rot had imperiled the struc-

*(Continued on page 5)*

## The (*itch*) Best Cure (*itch*) for Poison (*itch*) Oak is Prevention (*itch*)

*By Barb Revere*

**Y**OU FIRST NOTICE just a few pimply places on your wrist and rub. The itch won't go away. The pimples grow into a colony and then you notice your other wrist is breaking out, as well as your knees, shins and ankles. You remember taking that shortcut down Pisgah the day before, trying to connect to the Arboretum's Upper Bowl Road. There were some Humvee-sized clumps that you now realize may have been poison oak. You weren't paying attention.

The next day your four extremities are covered in a rough leathery rash that blisters, weeps, crusts and itches like mad. Every breeze and brush of clothing or bed-covers gives you a case of extreme itchiness that you can't ignore. The urge to scratch and the knowledge that you shouldn't mingle together causing an exquisite agony. You can't sleep. You can't go out in public because wearing anything but a robe is impossible and clothing sticks to your weeping skin.

You throw on an old robe and call in sick, expecting sympathy, but your boss sneers at your sniveling excuses. Your spouse, who "talks sympathy," shrinks away as you come near. Your 10-year old wants "to see." but then runs away screaming,

*(Continued on page 8)*

# Club Raises Dues, Fees; Recognizes Generous Donors

**F**OR THE FIRST TIME in 13 years, the board of directors has raised club dues and fees, bringing anticipated revenues more in line with expenses. A tiered donor recognition program has also been approved in an effort to replenish a contingency fund depleted by the drain of lodge renovation expenses.

As reported by Treasurer Sheila Ward in the January Bulletin, the annual cost of operating the club per dues paying member was \$29.67. With dues at \$20, it doesn't take a math whiz to realize it is a losing proposition. Nonmember trip fees are helpful, but don't come close to filling the gap. In 1994, when the \$20 figure was set, club expenses totaled \$7,466. By 2005, expenses had reached \$14,509.

Compounding the organization's financial situation is the fact that lodge remodeling has eliminated all contingency funds and will require borrowing, and subsequent pay-back, from the endowment fund. The cost of repaying the endowment fund at 5% interest over a 10-year period is estimated to be approximately \$3,000 per year given current estimates of the \$20,000-25,000 that will need to be borrowed to pay the balance of construction costs.

**FACED WITH THIS SCENARIO**, the Finance Committee met in March to discuss the adequacy and reasonableness of fees and dues. Their recommendations, presented by committee chair Stewart Hoeg at the May board meeting, were:

**1. Raise the annual dues to \$30.** This closely approximates actual costs per member and, while amounting to a 50% increase, actually reflects only a 3.17% average annual increase over the 13 years since the dues were last adjusted.

**2. Raise member reinstatement fees from \$3 to \$5.** Every year, the Membership Committee spends untold hours in correspondence and phone calls tracking down members who neglect to respect the renewal deadline. This increase isn't much, but might do a better job of getting everyone's attention.

**3. Raise nonmember trip fees from \$4 to \$5.** A modest adjustment that shouldn't deter potential Obsidians and should be welcomed by leaders not having to carry a load of singles for change.

Another change suggested by the committee and approved by the board involved a little known and never observed "initiation fee." This language was eliminated. The board supported moving language concerning life membership fees from the constitution to the bylaws, a change requiring additional discussion before being presented for approval by the members at the annual meeting in October.

For many years, Obsidian membership dues have been the best bargain in Oregon. A check with other outdoor organizations in the state shows that our new dues structure will still be a *great* deal.

In addition to the above, several other recommendations were made for changes in the annual renewal form:

- A section will be added where indi-

*(Continued on page 21)*

## OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322

Eugene, OR 97440

Website: [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

### Board of Directors

President - Wayne Deeter

Vice President - John Pegg

Secretary - Laurie Funkhouser

Treasurer - Sheila Ward

Marianne Camp Jim Duncan

Brian Hamilton Stewart Hoeg

Anne Dhu McLucas Sandra Larsen

*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 .....Doug Nelson

Concessions .....Laurie Funkhouser

Conservation.....Judy Newman

Entertainment ..... Kathy Hoeg

Extended Trips ..... Lana Lindstrom

Finance .....Stewart Hoeg

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 .....John Jacobsen

Summer Camp .....Jim Duncan

Summer Trips ..... Margaret Prentice

Trail Maintenance..... Peter Asai

Winter Trips .....Bill Johnson

Youth..... Andy Jobanek

## Welcome!

### New Members

**BOYLAN, BARBARA** (Active)

2685 Oak St., Apt. 5, Eugene, OR 97405

744-2373 [barboylan@yahoo.com](mailto:barboylan@yahoo.com)

**FITZPATRICK, CHANCE** (Active)

2510 Jefferson St., Eugene, OR 97405

343-1671 [chancefitzpatrick@hotmail.com](mailto:chancefitzpatrick@hotmail.com)

**GILMAN-GARRICK, LYN** (Active)

1610 Washington St., Eugene, OR 97401

345-5236 [lyngg@efn.org](mailto:lyngg@efn.org)

**MCCORMICK, ROY** (Active)

169 Marion Lane, Eugene, OR 97404

461-8565 [romick1@comcast.net](mailto:romick1@comcast.net)

**RADCHENKO, VALENTYNA** (Assoc)

1124 Woodside Dr., Eugene, OR 97401

New  
434-2313 [bobfr@earthlink.net](mailto:bobfr@earthlink.net)

**SATHER, ELLEN** (Active)

P.O. Box 305, Blue River, OR 97413 New

822-0311 [flapperbeads@efn.org](mailto:flapperbeads@efn.org)

### Directory Changes

**CALDWELL, MAUDE**

[maudercaldwell@hotmail.com](mailto:maudercaldwell@hotmail.com)

**DESHETLER, LIZ** - Name Correction

**HIGGINS, HOLLY**

[holly.higgins@hughes.net](mailto:holly.higgins@hughes.net)

**MARSHAL, JANICE** - Name Correction

[jmarshal@uoregon.edu](mailto:jmarshal@uoregon.edu)

**PIERCE, JIM**

[jim.pierce@jimsarsjars.com](mailto:jim.pierce@jimsarsjars.com)

## The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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[bulletin@obsidians.org](mailto: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 July/August Bulletin  
Saturday, July 15, 2006**

### Editorial Team

Marshall Kandell, Barb Revere,

Janet and John Jacobsen

### Assembly/Mailing Team

**For May Bulletin**

Yuan Hopkins, Ray Jensen,

Marshall Kandell, John and Lenore

McManigal, Tom Revere, Vera Woolley

and Crew Chief Barb Revere

**COMING JUNE 16th:**

## *Rob Rathmann Conquers The Pacific Crest Trail*

*By Chris Cunningham*

**R**OB RATHMANN WILL LONG REMEMBER what he was doing at 5:49 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 6, 2005: 146 days after leaving Campos (Mexico) on foot, he had at last reached Manning Park (Canada), the northerly bookend of the Pacific Crest Trail.

Rathmann's journal entry on that remarkable day reflects his discordant state: "I was cold, hungry, soaking wet, and alone in a freezing rain. (But) even under these terrible conditions, the smile on my face was visible from space, and my shout of joy heard 'round the world."

Of his perilous journey, Rathmann says: "I loved every minute, yet contemplated quitting every day. I desired an escape from society, yet loved the social experience and sense of community. This is the life of a through-hiker, a life of extremes and apparent contradic-

tions. And blisters. Lots of blisters...."



*Rob Rathmann - Day 113 - S. Sister Summit*

You can click on his journal at: <http://www.bearcant.org/146.htm> and see the blisters — as well as utterly spectacular scenery. Or you can enjoy the real thing and come hear his presentation on Friday, June 16, following the potluck, in our newly renovated lodge. The potluck begins at 6:30 p.m., and the program commences promptly at 7:30.

Roughly 60 percent of the 300 or so hikers who annually begin the PCT ever reach their final destination, according to the Pacific Crest Trail Asso-

ciation. No wonder. Simultaneously a hazardous and spectacular landscape, the PCT is a 2,674-mile-long foot trail that winds its way up from the Mexico-California border through Oregon and Washington to British Columbia. What's more, PCT traverses 24 national forests, 7 national parks and 33 wildernesses.

The PCT ranges in extremes from blistering desert valleys in Southern California to chilly rain forests in the Pacific Northwest. The trail, which hugs the Sierra Nevada and Cascade ranges, touts the greatest elevation changes of any of the eight national scenic trails. It weaves through six of the seven North American ecozones, across high and low deserts, old-growth forests and arctic-alpine terrain.

Some of Rathmann's favorite photos:

[http://www.pbase.com/carcinomad/pct\\_favs](http://www.pbase.com/carcinomad/pct_favs)

## Potlucks

### **MAY REVIEW:** *Building Green: The Rose House*

*By Ann-Marie Askew*

**T**HE RETIREMENT COTTAGE of Eldon Haines and Linda Rose operates as a mini-power plant. At the May 19th gathering, Haines and Rose described the "green" construction of Rose House and how on an annual basis their two-year-old dwelling generates more electricity than it uses.

Haines and Rose attribute a serendipitous convergence of disciplines to the success of their zero net energy use retirement home: energy design, architecture, green building and family needs. SERA Architects collaborated with the Oregon Dept. of Energy and the project attracted grant money to help achieve their energy use goals. The couple chose to build on their daughter's property, so as an *accessory dwelling unit* they were limited to 800 square feet. The design incorporates wheelchair accessibility with three-

foot-wide doors and a floor-level shower stall -- amenities included because Rose had noted her late mother's difficulty bathing at a poorly designed retirement facility.

**ENERGY IS PROVIDED** by photovoltaic panels on the south-facing roof that turn sunlight into electricity. When the system produces more power than needed, the extra power flows back into the utility grid to be "sold" to the nearest neighbor -- the homeowners' daughter. The sun also provides hot water, through a Copper Cricket solar water system.

The roof overhang is designed to let the sun shine inside only during the cold weather months. Although the north side has but a single small window in the bathroom, the south-facing clerestory windows let in year-round, abundant, natural light that bounces off the white walls. Haines described how

the clerestory windows can be opened at the start of the warm weather season to draw hot air up and out, eliminating the need for air conditioning. The super-insulated roof, made from Structural Insulated Panels, helps keep unwanted heat out of the home, as well.

Haines described how the eight-inch thick walls are constructed of "chewed-up newspapers fireproofed with some kind of sticky stuff" and how their staggered wall studs prevent heat from escaping. The slab floors of the bathroom and what he refers to as the "not-so-great-room" are laid with heat-absorbing Mexican tile; the floors of the bedroom and study are bamboo. The only problem detected so far is with the heat pump, which apparently was designed for warmer climates.

For further detail about Rose House, readers can refer to the "potluck" preview in the May Bulletin.

# Lodge Volunteers Rock!

By Joella Ewing and Lana Lindstrom

**WE STARTED BY MOVING ROCKS** at the lodge in mid-July, 2005, and ended by moving them back nine months later. And we couldn't have done it without the help of approximately 100 volunteers. At \$20 an hour (we know painters earn at least double that amount!), we figure we saved \$30,000-35,000, almost 20% of the total renovation costs! In addition to demolishing and then re-building the retaining wall, volunteers paved the disabled parking lot, power washed the building, dug a trench for the propane line, and painted...and stained...and

painted...and much more. Then came the cleaning crew, who really spiffed up the building and contents, including cleaning the interior cedar wall paneling and the floor.

The chief volunteer was John Jacobsen; as someone put it, he is the "heart and soul" of the lodge remodel. Not only did he shepherd the project through the permit process and was the point person with the contractors, but he also invested a lot of sweat equity, donating approximately 500 hours. Janet supported the volunteers by preparing delicious lunches and snacks.

Another person who deserves special recognition is Bea Fontana. She spent many hours researching, designing and supervising the installation of the beautiful glass etching on the garage door room divider.

Many, many thanks to all of the individuals who gave their time so generously, particularly those folks who have full time paid jobs and then worked at the lodge on weekends. If we've inadvertently omitted your name, please let us know and we'll recognize you in the next Bulletin.

Adams, Pat Agnew, John Ahrens, Rick Anselmo, Jan Anselmo, Rich Askew, Ann-Marie Barr, Marsha Beckley, LaRee Berge, Gayle Bonine, Anne Bradley, Joan Brown, Max Callahan, Nancy Cameron, Shirley Castleberry, Rob Christensen, Dan Clarkson, Jim Clarkson, Melody Coons, Allan Dark, Pat Deeter, Wayne Degulis, Garry	Devine, Leona Duncan, Jim Duncan, Sharon Dunlap, Larry Ewing, Joella Fontana, Bea Froyd, Shirley Funkhouser, Laurie Gillette, Jim Gordon, Glenn Graham, Kitson Graham, Peter Gunnari, Brian Gunnari, Lynne Hackett, Brennen Hackett, Jane Hackett, Michael Hall, Janet Hamilton, Brian Higgins, Cork Hoeg, Kathy Hoeg, Stewart	Hollander, Anne Houston, Sam Hovis, Scott Hughes, Richard Jacobsen, Janet Jacobsen, John Jeffcott, Diane Jeffcott, George Jefferies, Sherwood Jobanek, George Johnson, Bill Johnson, Kitty Kodama, Beth Kodama, Ken Kompanik, Carol Landis, Michael Larsen, Sandra Ledet, Joanne Lichtenstein, Ed Lindstrom, Lana Lockyear, Norma Martz, Helen	Mason, Bob McBee, Darrell McBee, Nancy McLucas, Anne Dhu McManigal, John McManigal, Lenore Milliman, Greg Moffitt, Rose Marie Montgomery, Bill Mowat, John Musselwhite, Tom Nelson, Doug Nelson, Nola Neth, Effie Newman, Judy O'Donnell, Jack Peel, Mary Pegg, John Pierce, Jim Predeek, Dave Prentice, Bill Prentice, Margaret	Renkert, Craig Revere, Barb Richman, Bonnie Riddle, Kathy Ritchie, Sharon Schomaker, Barbara Speelman, Dick Speelman, Janet Steussy, Suzanne Strahon, Guy Sullivan, Sue Svendsen, Glen Tracer, Sam Tucker, Clare Vandeberg, Ivan Ward, Sheila Whitfield, Nancy Wilken, Lyndell Woxell, Tom  <i>Thank You All!</i>
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## Spring Climb School Success

By Doug Nelson, Climbs Chair

**CLIMB SCHOOL** was a bit different this year. The Climbs Committee had several changes to contend with. First, several of our most knowledgeable and dependable "stalwarts" were absent. (*It is hard for me to imagine anyone not helping with the class just for a chance to climb and trek in Nepal!*) Second, our classroom in the lodge was not available. And, third, the Riverhouse staff was not available to help with registration and fees collection.

We decided, however, to carry on with the class despite these challenges. And I am pleased to say it went very well. Our great group of Obsidian and Eugene Mountain Rescue volunteers put on a fine class. George Baitinger took care of fees and registration. Maryanne Reiter and Wayne Anderson

(EMR) took the primary roles in instruction, with help from a great group of assistant volunteers.

**WE FILLED THE CLASS** to capacity and gave 22 students two days of useful and enjoyable instruction in basic mountaineering techniques. We got lucky with the weather, which made our time on snow (roped travel, self arrest, etc.) and rock (belays, climbing, rappelling) all the more pleasant. I hope all our students enjoyed the class as much as I did.

I want to give special thanks to the Riverhouse for the use of the climbing gear and to Weyerhaeuser Co. for providing a fine meeting space. And, as always, I was very impressed with our volunteers. We had all the cheerful and capable help we needed. Thanks everyone!

# Finished

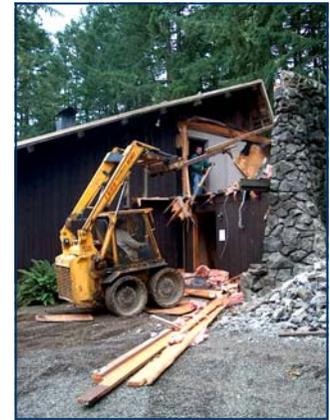
(Continued from page 1)

ture and with that sign, the trip started. So, hundreds of decisions later, scores of Construction Committee meetings later, thousands of volunteer hours later, dozens of disappointments later, and let's not forget the \$\$\$\$ later, we are finished. Below in pictures, is the journey and where we are, at last.

Story & Photos by John Jacobsen



Sep. 04 - Oh-oh!  
Trouble in River City



Dec. 04 - Demolition of old  
Lodge entry.



Jan. 05 - Planning and design .



Dec 05 - Digging begins - Finally!



Feb. 06 - The big beam goes in.

## June 06



An attractive,  
functional new entry.



Disabled parking  
and rest rooms to  
ADA requirements.



Rob Castleberry surveying  
the finished product.



Greatly improved heating  
and lighting in the  
main hall.



A comfortable reception  
in the new entry area.

# Just Getting There

Several Obsidians were among a group of adventurous mountain climbers on a trip to Nepal this spring. Group members included Sue Sullivan, John Mowat, John Pegg and Deb Carver, representing both the Obsidians and Eugene Mountain Rescue; and Obsidians John and Lisa Manotti. They were joined by six more EMR members and four other climbers. The following is the first installment of a fascinating report on their experiences. Space limits the number of photos we can reproduce in the Bulletin, but watch for announcement of a "don't miss" potluck presentation later in the year.

## Story and Photos by Sue Sullivan

**WE HAVE JUST RETURNED** from our Nepal trip, are mostly done with unpacking and laundry and are more or less back on our normal time zone (except now I have to work night shift the rest of this week, so I am trying to switch back!).

Years ago, when my stepson Bill Frederick was in high school, he remarked that he and I have entirely different concepts of what a vacation should be like. "My idea of a vacation," he said, "is to sit by a pool with a good book and a glass of iced tea. Your idea of a vacation is something you have to train for!!"

So in keeping with my reputation and tradition, John (hubby John Mowat) and I joined up with 14 of our friends to travel to Nepal, trek into the mountains and try to climb a 20,400 ft. peak in the Everest region of the Himalayas. Five of the group also got a climbing permit for Pumori, which is more technical and over 23,000 ft.

Of course, the story starts with a lot of preparation: getting together the gear it takes to trek and climb, food prep for



*Three smiles - John, Sue and friend.*

climbing food for both climbs, visas, hiring an outfitter to get our gear there -- and orchestrating time off work for such an endeavor.

**JUST BEFORE WE LEFT**, our mountain rescue tribe threw a going-away party. During the party the hair clippers came out and most of the men in our group got haircuts to prepare for the long stretch in the mountains (John chose to forego this saying he wanted to keep what hair he has left for insulation value). It was a good send-off. Watching the progress of people's hair growing out during the course of the trip provided added entertainment to the journey.

Our flights to Nepal were uneventful, but long. We drove to Portland with a van full of gear and flew to Vancouver BC, Hong Kong and Bangkok, where we overnighted before our flight into Kathmandu.

**KATHMANDU IS DIFFICULT** to describe or capture in pictures. "Chaotic" is the best descriptor. John Manotti described the ride from the airport as, "like a bad video game" with pedestrians, animals, bicycles, cars and motorcycles taking whatever available space there is on the road, regardless of lane designations. The sights and smells assault the senses. We checked into the Hotel Norbu Linka and walked around the Thamel district, changed money and took in the sights. While we were eating dinner at a nearby restaurant, the power went out. Blackouts are frequent, due to the infrastructure problems and the restaurant staff was not at all bothered or surprised; they broke out the candles and dinner arrived without incident.

We also were watching for news of any problems that tourists were encountering with the political instability in the country. A newspaper story about two Polish tourists abducted near Jiri, not far from our intended route, got our attention. But things appeared to be OK in the Everest region, and Kathmandu was operating fairly normally.



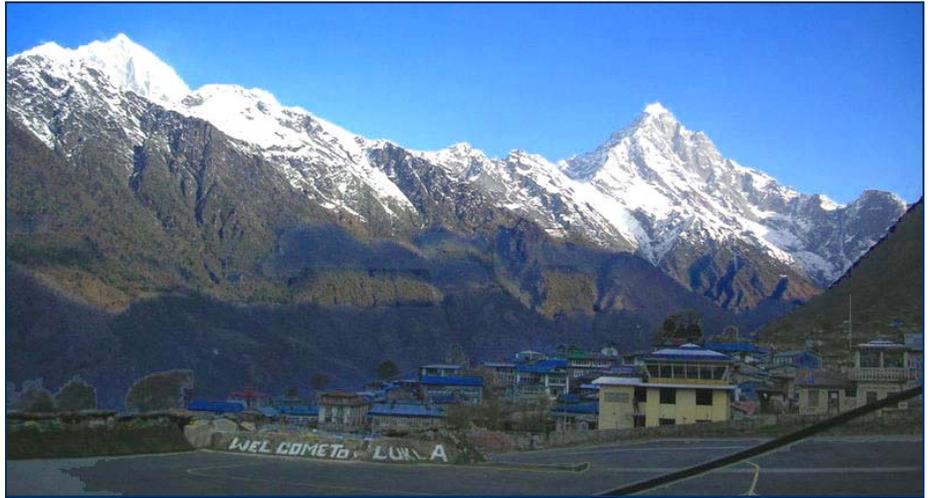
*John Pegg, holding the glass, looks slightly mortified while Brian Roddy gets his hair "trimmed." John's turn is about to come up.*

# Is an Adventure

We had one full day in Kathmandu before heading to the mountains. It was largely consumed with gear organization. We had managed to get all our gear over to Nepal without paying extra luggage charges by maxing out the luggage weight on each piece (most airlines allow any individual bag to weigh up to 70 lbs, though some allow just 50 lbs). Now we had to reorganize the bags into "porter loads" that were at most 15 kilograms (33 lbs). We went out and bought a bunch of extra duffles, did a sort for what items we could leave behind at the hotel and repacked pretty much every single thing we had brought along. We had a scale to verify bag weights, and also we had numbered luggage tags to attach to each bag so we could keep track of what was where. Some bags would go directly to Pumori, some would come along with us to Island Peak. Each had to be tough enough to be carried by porters or yaks and thrown around for a month.

**WE ENDED UP WITH 45 BAGS** to transport, and over 1,000 lbs of total gear. We were a bit appalled at how much stuff this amounted to, but the outfitters we hired to get us into the mountains seemed to take it all in stride. I guess compared with some of the Everest climbers we were traveling pretty light! After our day in Kathmandu, we were ready to fly into the mountains.

To get to the Everest region in the Himalayas, you have basically two choices: drive to the end of the road to a town called Jiri and begin walking; or fly into a little village called Lukla, which is about a five-day walk past Jiri. Lukla is at about 9,200 ft. elevation in a valley surrounded by peaks that are 20,000 ft. or higher. You get there in a plane that has a maximum flying elevation of about 14,000 ft., and you go across a 13,000 ft. mountain pass to get into the valley. Once you are in the valley, you head up the valley and land on a runway that slopes uphill into the side of the mountain. This is a "one shot" landing -- the runway looks impossibly short from the air and there is a big wall at the end of the runway; if you have trouble coming



*Welcome to Lukla*

in, there's no way to touch and go and take off again. The flights only go up in the morning, when the air is colder and denser (which gives better lift) and before the clouds build around the mountains, as they do nearly every afternoon.

The plane holds only 14 people, so we had to go in two loads, including our support staff. We all got up around 5 a.m. to get our huge mound of luggage to the lobby, then five folks left for the early flight. The rest of us ate breakfast and accumulated a bunch of nervous energy as we awaited our turn. At 6:30 we piled into the van and headed to the airport.

The scenery on the flight in is awe-inspiring: countless snow-covered peaks, many with famous profiles. Small villages perched in impossible spots on ridgelines. Terraced fields. Then we are over the pass and into the valley of the Dudh Kosi River. There is a sharp drop onto the runway ("Quick, hit the brakes before we hit the wall!") and we're there. The flight in is worth the price of the trip all by itself. We cheered as we touched down.

So, we left motorized transportation behind and began walking. We would walk every day for four weeks. The lower valleys were very smoky, especially in the afternoons, due to forest fires below Lukla. We walked through villages, past fields being tilled and planted and past chortens of Mani stones, engraved with the Buddhist prayers. It is not a wilderness experience; there are villages as high as 16,000 ft. Since there are no roads, all the traffic between villages is on the trails.

**ALL GOODS TRANSPORTED** between villages travel either on a person's back or on the back of a horse, yak or dzo (dzos are a cross between yaks and lowland cattle). There are lots of people who make their livings transporting goods on their backs. You learn to think of them sort of like short haul truckers. We saw people carrying loads of plywood that we

*(Continued on page 9)*



*John and part of the 45 bags of gear.*

# Itch, itch, itch, itch, itch

(Continued from page 1)

“Oooh, Oh, yuk! I’m gonna throw up!” You hear your teenage daughter asking your husband to, “like, pleeeze, keep Mom out of sight when... (her date) comes to the door.” The dog still loves you, but rubs up against your shins and the itch is **baaaack!** (Editor’s Note: our apologies to Bonnie Bettman.) If only the medical community would ditch their ethics for a day, you’d willingly undergo quadruple amputation.

**YOU HIDE OUT** in the den and go online to try to keep your mind off the rash. Googling “poison oak” brings up almost five million sites. The first tells you approximately 50,000 hapless fools and other blunderers get a rash from poison oak, poison ivy or poison sumac each year in the US. A large percentage of the work-related accidents that cause absenteeism in the US Forest Service are caused by these shrubs. Too late, you learn this caused the FS to help develop IvyBlock, a product that goes on before you go into the woods and dries into a skin barrier that blocks urushiol. Urushiol, you learn, lurks in all parts of the poison oak plant and this oily resin bonds with skin proteins and causes an allergic reaction with its own special brand of human misery. You also discover there are several cleansers on the market: Tecnu, Zanfel, Sumactin. All claim they will, if used within 20 to 30 minutes of exposure, remove the resin and eliminate, or lessen, the reaction. Apparently, washing with vodka, rubbing alcohol, kerosene, white gas and plain soap and hot water might work, too. That’s the trouble with preventions – they often come all too late.



You also read about Columbia, a small town in California that celebrates its most abundant crop, poison oak, with a fest each September. *Itchfest?* No wonder the right-wingers try to regulate the Internet; these people are really sick!

**BORED AND MISERABLE**, you bring up a couple of poison oak jokes. One is about a hunting trip, a boy, his dad, a squirrel and nuts, but it isn’t really very funny. The next is a dumb riddle: What do you get when you cross poison oak and a four-leaf clover? A rash of good luck.

A rash of *bad* luck is more like it, you grumble, pulling up the next few dozen websites. You read for an hour and become thoroughly confused.

The remedies are many and conflicting. One site advises cold compresses, cold baths and cold showers to sooth the itch. Or put a fan in the refrigerator and blow cold air over your skin. Another site claims a scalding hot 20-minute shower will dull the itch. It advises that a hot bath will do the trick, too. A third online healer recommends a hot hair dryer, aimed at the affected area “until you feel the burn,” will eliminate the itchiness for several hours.

Many tout jewelweed, an herb that grows alongside poison oak and is supposedly nature’s antidote. Crush up the leaves and rub them over the rash and your troubles are over. Another says the same thing about mugwort. Other testimonials make claims for a variety of herbal tea soaks, herbal plasters and herbal compresses. Advertisements for old stand-bys are there too: hydrocortisone ointment, Cortaid Spray, Caladryl and Lanacaine. Grandma used Epsom salts in warm water. One testimonial states the use of facial mudpacks spread on your skin will dry the rash. A second says to rub the messy side of a banana peel on your skin, both to remove the resin and to sooth the rash.

**NONE OF THESE SOUND** appealing to you. You’d rather sulk. But what the heck, you jump into the shower, as hot as you can stand it, and stay for 30 minutes. As you first stand in the hot water the itch intensifies, but then it eases. The jets of water act a bit like scratching. You carefully blot yourself dry and realize you do feel a just a slight bit better. You take a snooze, then wake up two hours later with your skin crawling again.

Realizing these cures and soothers are at best inadequate, you decide you better learn to identify the plant. Back online, you read that poison oak is a “woody” plant, has bright green shiny leaves, always grouped in three. *Except* in spring, when the leaves are tinged with purple. *Except* in summer, when the leaves darken and dull. *Except* in fall, when the leaves account for some of the best reds and apricot colors to be had. *Except* in winter, when the leaves fall off leaving tan twigs. It grows everywhere below 5,000 ft. in the American west, from Baja to B.C.

You don’t want to move to Alaska, so it would be better to wear long sleeves and pant legs and avoid off-trail routes. Then you read you can get the rash from the outer surface of your clothes, your boots, your gear *and your dog!* Oh no, Rover, the only one who still loves you.

**SUDDENLY, INSPIRATION STRIKES!** You remember the vodka wash. It may not be too late, after all. After five minutes of rummaging in the kitchen, with a satisfied sigh, you ease into your Lazyboy, click on the tube and sip from one icy cold, shaken not stirred, perfect vodka martini.

Some of the websites visited:  
<http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/vine/toxdiv/all.html>  
<http://wawnesword.palomar.edu/ww0802.htm>  
<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?sec=health&res=9A0DE1D71438F937A25755C0A96094826>  
<http://altnature.com/order.htm>  
[http://www.cbif.gc.ca/pls/pp/ppack.info?p\\_psn=86&p\\_type=all&p\\_sci=comm&p\\_x=px](http://www.cbif.gc.ca/pls/pp/ppack.info?p_psn=86&p_type=all&p_sci=comm&p_x=px)  
And, read about Columbia’s Poison Oak Festival at:  
<http://www.2camels.com/festival258.php3>

# Climbing the Himalayas

(Continued from page 7)

estimated at well over 100 lbs. Not many conventional backpacks are used, mostly baskets carried using tump lines across their foreheads. Even people who had backpacks generally carried them with tump lines instead of using the shoulder straps.

Our gear was carried by both porters and dzos. Some porters would take three of our 15 KG bags plus their own gear. It was humbling to watch them. Most days we tourists carried just daypacks and not much else.

Another fascinating thing to observe along the trail was the construction. The houses are nearly all made of stone. The stones are quarried from along the river or side streams, by people working with sledges and chisels, then carried in crude backpack frames one or two at a time to the building site. There, people chisel them by hand into nice square bricks that are laid into the walls. Most buildings of one or two stories have little or no mortar. All window and door-frames are planed and shaped with hand tools. The finished product is a work of art. On our first day of walking, we passed by a house under construction; they had completed the "daylight basement" and were chipping away, working on the top story. The sound of the "chink, chink" of the chisels was musical -- not what I think of as the typical noisy construction site scene. On the way out we passed the same house -- they had completed the second story and were ready for the roof. I was amazed. I figured it would take months to prep all those stones.

**WE SPENT OUR FIRST NIGHT** in the town of Phakding, at 8,900 ft. elevation. The next day we hiked from Phakding to Namche Bazar, at 11,300 ft. This was one of the hardest days on the trip. We crossed the Dudh Kosi several times, then switchbacked up the ridge into Namche. My memory of the trail from 16 years ago is dominated by those river crossings; at that time it was on tenuous, swinging, swaying bridges,

sometimes with boards missing, very frightening at times. There was a big project in 2002 to upgrade the bridges and they are all much better. There is chain link fence to protect travelers from falls and side cables that keep the bridges from swinging. Still, you don't want to be on a bridge at the same time as a yak. There's just not much passing room, and the yaks make the bridge bounce pretty bad.

Namche Bazar is a little bigger than it was 16 years ago. The biggest difference in the town is that it has electricity now. They were just installing a small-scale hydro plant when we were there in 1990. Now, nearly all homes and lodges have some electric lighting, and a few have electric stoves and heaters. It will help the effort to conserve forests in the region if electricity is used for cooking instead of firewood. The electricity in Namche is more dependable than it is in Kathmandu.

As a consequence of having electricity, the Internet has come to Namche Bazar. They have satellite dishes on the outskirts of town, and the Internet connection is faster than many of us have in Eugene. It was really strange to be a seven-day walk from the nearest road and be able to send and receive email.

The thing that makes Namche Bazar so enchanting is the surrounding scenery. Namche sits in a bowl overlooking the confluence of two rivers and is surrounded by mountains. After overnighting at a lodge in Namche, we got up at 5:30 a.m. and hiked to the top of the hill to get a view of the mountains at sunrise. It was totally calm and cloud free. We arrived just as the coral glow of sunlight was lighting the tops of the peaks

*(The real climbing begins in the July/August Bulletin)*

Members of the Nepal climbing trip were: Sue Sullivan, John Mowat, John Pegg, Deb Carver, John & Lisa Manotti, John Leavens, Scott Robbins, Tim & Michele McCall, Brian Roddy, Carrie Ward, David Knoll, Clay & Donna Szollosi and Adam Ward.



*"Nepalese U-Haul"*

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## Have a favorite poison oak story? Or, even better, a "guaranteed" remedy?

*By Marshall Jay Kandell*

**J**UST TALKING about poison oak makes me itch. Having had two bouts that wound up with my finally getting cortisone shots, I can verify Barb's account of the itching hell one suffers. And she didn't even touch on some of the body's more private parts!

I've tried the hot and cold showers and baths. Oatmeal baths, baking soda baths, Epsom salt baths. Ointments,

balms, creams, soaps. At the old Oasis Market, I was assured that taking poison oak tablets would do the trick (the hair of the dog that bit you concept).

If you have a great remedy for poison oak, a sure fire secret for cutting it off at the pass, so to speak, you owe it to your fellow Obsidians to share your knowledge. And, if you have a great tale of woe or horror concerning a dose

of the devil you experienced, let us know that also.

Whether we laugh or cry with you, the important thing is it just might take our mind off this damned itch for a minute.

Send your remedies and recollections to:

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

Or mail to Obsidian Bulletin, P.O. Box 51424, Eugene, OR 97405.

# BOARD NOTES

**June 7, 2006**

Board present: President Wayne Deeter, VP John Pegg, Treasurer Sheila Ward, Secretary Laurie Funkhouser, Jim Duncan, Sandra Larsen, Brian Hamilton, Stewart Hoeg, and Anne Dhu McLucas. Others: Doug Nelson, Judy Newman, Barbara Revere, Sharon Ritchie, Kathy Hoeg, John & Janet Jacobsen, Rob Castleberry, Peter Asai, Bob Huntley, Marshall Kandell, Margaret Prentice. May minutes approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Board approved payments: EWEB \$166.03; publications (Postmaster \$115, Insta-Print \$527.60); Reynolds Electric (construction) \$3,000; Ferrellgas (utilities) \$157.52; Doug Nelson (climbs) \$200.30; Stewart Hoeg \$1,202.61 (construction) & \$6.10 (entertainment); Jim Duncan (construction) \$47.39; Lana Lindstrom (construction) \$51.79; Margaret Prentice (summer trips) \$28.26; Sharon Ritchie (membership) \$10.86; Janet Jacobsen (summer trips) \$39.98; Sharon Duncan (entertainment) \$39.73; Judy Newman (concessions) \$22.20.

## *Old Business*

**Construction** (John Jacobsen): Final inspection June 6; city signed off on lodge construction! On June 5th architects issued certificate of substantial completion. 2G has one punch list item to complete that did not affect any of the inspections. Last major work party on June 8 will finish interior and exterior cleanup. Final account of costs at July meeting.

**Fund Raising** (Sharon Ritchie): Donations of \$5,400 in June, including \$5,000 from anonymous donor. Donations to date: \$75,070.

**Nominating Committee** (Sharon Ritchie): Board nominees to be presented are Jim Duncan, Laurie Funkhouser and Barb Revere.

**Nonmember Trip Fee Increase:** Board approved Margaret Prentice's request that implementation of increase be moved to Nov. 1.

## *New Business*

**Account Signatories:** Stewart Hoeg requested and received approval to change the signatories for the Equity

Fund/Vanguard account to: Jim Duncan, Doug Nelson, John Jacobsen and Stewart Hoeg.

**Lodge Open House:** Stewart Hoeg suggested scheduling an open house for renovated lodge. Board warmly received the idea and set an Oct. 1 date for event. Members will be solicited to help.

**Trips Leader Manual:** Mazamas are seeking copies of trip leader manuals. Margaret Prentice will follow-up.

## *Committee Reports*

**Summer Trips** (Margaret Prentice): 24 trip reports (157 member, 28 nonmembers, \$266); 40 people attended first aid class presented by Larry Dunlap.

**Climbs** (Doug Nelson): 5 climbs scheduled for May, 3 cancelled due to weather or lack of interest and 2 climbs reached the summits (Mt. Hood, Diamond Peak); 17 participants (10 members, 7 nonmembers, \$56). The committee made some needed additions and upgrades to the climbing equipment at a cost of \$200.30. The first batch of leader's packets has been hand delivered or mailed

**Trail Maintenance** (Peter Asai): An outing took place in May at Spencer Butte Park with five Obsidians participating. Ideas for future projects were discussed with the city's Matt McRae, such as replacing a wooden walkway with stone/rock. Three Obsidians attended a weekend Forest Service/Pacific Crest Trail Association sponsored volunteer training at the McKenzie Ranger District. There will be a couple of opportunities for trail maintenance volunteers in June and later in the summer. It is hoped Obsidians will adopt a National Forest trail for ongoing maintenance.

**Summer Outing** (Jim Duncan): Peter Graham designed and built (with help of Rob Castleberry) spacious storage shelves for camp equipment in new storage room. Kitson Graham painted the shelves. A small work party organized by Lana Lindstrom partially inventoried and moved the camp equipment to the storage area.

**Conservation** (Judy Newman): Committee working on film series for the fall. Juli McGlinsky will lead a trip to Andrew's Experimental Forest with Jeff Long of Cascadia Wildlands.

**Publications** (Marshall Kandell): July/August Bulletin will be mailed on 7/26/06 with a deadline of 7/15/06; September Bulletin will be mailed on or about 9/13/06 with deadline 9/2/06.

**Entertainment** (Kathy Hoeg): 40 attended May potluck with \$35 collected.

**Membership** (Sharon Ritchie): Board approved six membership applications.

**Concessions** (Laurie Funkhouser): Judy Newman generated great sales at May potluck. New t-shirts and sweatshirts in a variety of colors have arrived and will be presented at June potluck.

**Online** (Wayne Deeter): Over 400 email addresses listed (about 80+% of membership) and over 100 trip reports submitted online.

**Library/Historian** (Janet Jacobsen for Lenore McManigal): All trip reports submitted are recorded. Princesses will be meeting at lodge. Lodge has been rented for an Eagle Scout ceremony and 2G has expressed an interest in using the lodge.

**Heritage Committee:** Janet Jacobsen reported that at last Peter Graham has been able to hang the 25 historical photos in the main room of the lodge. The frames were made by Wes Prouty. Framing was completed by Peter and the Princesses donated \$100 for matting and glass.

**Lodge Building** (Rob Castleberry): Tasks to be completed -- improve and reorganize firewood storage outside, organize storeroom and monitor for ant activity.

**Safety** (John Pegg): Incident report submitted by Summer Trips Committee concerning nonmember recorded and filed with the Safety Committee.

## *Announcements*

**Jim Duncan** received positive feedback regarding an Obsidian night at a **Eugene Ems** game (including pre-game barbecue) in August and will work on arrangements.

**John Jacobsen** announced the planting of a dogwood tree near the lodge's front entryway. The tree was purchased by **Janet Jacobson** in memory of Joan Morgan, her twin sister, also an Obsidian.



## Hikes

### **Mt. Baldy/Coburg Hills**

**April 22, 2006**

**Leader: Gary Kirk**

**6 miles, 1,500 ft. ("B")**

**Photo by Gary Kirk**



*Viewing Eugene-Springfield from Baldy*

**T**HE ANNUAL Mt Baldy/Coburg Hills hike was again a success -- excellent hiking weather, excellent hikers, no problems at all. We went from SEHS out to McKenzie View Road and the gate leading to the Buck Pasture where we parked our cars. After intros, I explained the special permission we have to visit the area; and also, since it's a six-mile circle trip, we can't leave anyone along the trail to pickup on our return. In other words, go the distance. Back down to the road and east to the trail gate; then up toward the east caves via the Kirk Memorial Trail. We visited the cave and viewed the many rock climbing routes on the vertical rock faces above the trail. When we got above the caves we walked over to the overlook, which gives an excellent view of Springfield/Eugene, including views of the ever expanding homes, shopping centers, hospitals, etc. From there, we headed toward Baldy using the cow/deer/raccoon/turkey/people trail, which is basic cross-country walking through pastures and forest.

Max Brown did his normal wonderful duties as sweep, keeping things together. We slowly went up the "steep" section to the top of Baldy and then we were there, with views of the lower Willamette Val-

ley, Mt. Pisgah, Spencer Butte, Diamond Peak and The Three Sisters. Lunch was served out of packs and people visited and enjoyed the views. But all too soon it was time to head on down, which we did via a different trail. I could hear mutterings about, "I hope he knows where he's going." Things worked out and we found our way back to the parking area.

Members: Jane Allen, LaRee Beckley, Max Brown, Jean Coberly, Paul Flashenberg, Bob Foster, Kitson Graham, Gary Kirk, Penny McAvoy, Sue Meyers, Julia Richardson and Rich Romm. Nonmembers: Bill Nelson and Carol Stern.

### **Heceta Head/Hobbit Trail**

**April 28, 2006**

**Leader: Sandra Larsen**

**5 miles, 400 ft. ("A")**

**Photo by Zella Andreski**

**FOUR MEMBERS** met me at Carl Washburne Park for our varied hike of beach, rainforest and lighthouse tour. We started our loop on the beach with the wind at our backs. The trail to the lighthouse was in excellent condition, with only a few muddy spots. We saw a few wild iris and some rhododendrons in bloom on our trip under cloudy skies. The sun broke through about a quarter mile before the parking lot, so we missed some of the best views on this spectacular hike. Hikers were Joan Abel, Zella Andreski, Sherwood Jefferies, Sandra Larsen and Norma Lockyear.



*On the beach*

### **Skinner & Gillespie Buttes**

**May 6, 2006**

**Leader: Jane Hackett**

**Reporter: Janet Jacobsen**

**6 miles, 300 ft. ("B")**

**FIVE OF US** enjoyed a leisurely walk up the gravel trail to Skinner Butte, where

we had a panoramic view of downtown Eugene. It was too cloudy to see the mountains. Yuan pointed out the various apartment/condo buildings. We then walked down to the columns and over to the marker for Eugene Skinner. None of us could answer Sue's questions about Skinner. I later found out that in 1846, Eugene Skinner arrived in the valley and erected a cabin on the hill on the advice of the Kalapuya, who warned him against the floods on the Willamette. The marker commemorates the site of the cabin. From there, we followed the bike path to Valley River, across the overpass and up Clinton St. to Gillespie Butte and the cemetery. From Gillespie Butte (605 ft.), one has a clear shot of Skinner (682 ft.) and Spencer Butte (2,052 ft.). On our way back, we stopped at Starbucks for coffee and conversation. We continued on the North Bank Bike Trail to Alton Baker Park, over the Peter DeFazio Bridge and back to our cars. It was fun to point out all of the local sights to Sue who moved to Eugene last year. All of us appreciated the low cost "fuel-less" 3 1/2 hour hike. Nonmember Ebony Null joined members Jane Hackett, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen and Sue Meyers.

### **Fall Creek Trail**

**April 29, 2006**

**Leader: Effie Neth**

**9 miles, 700 ft. ("B")**

**Photo by Zella Andreski**

**DAZZLING SUNSHINE** and shirtsleeve temperature enhanced our hike. Using a car shuttle, we hiked one way (east to west) on the forested trail skirting gurgling, musical Fall Creek. Trillium, bleeding hearts and fairy bells were profuse along the entire length. Some of the forest is dotted with old growth and the shadier, moister portions were carpeted with multi shades and textures of green forest-floor flora. A burn area in the mid-section doesn't seem to detract much from the hike. We lunched at rushing Slick Creek near a cliff overhang where Native Americans once camped. This hike doesn't offer expansive views, but it is indeed very pleasant and an easy, close-in drive. We all enjoyed the day and the hiking camaraderie. Thanks to Bob for taking the lead in the first half

and Claudia the second while I swept. And mucho thanks to Sherwood and his BIG truck for making the shuttle a snap. Obsidians John Agnew, Jane Allen, Zella Andreski, Claudia Arias, LaRee Beckley, Bob Huntley, Sherwood Jefferies, Sue Meyers and Effie Neth.



*The Fall Creek crew.*

## Sweet/Beaver Creek Falls

**April 30, 2006**

**Leader: Carol Petty**

**5 miles, 650 ft. ("A")**

**Photo by Margaret Prentice**



*Heading home (and down)*

**BEAUTIFUL SUNSHINE** warmed our spirits as we carpoled to Sweet Creek Falls outside of Mapleton in the Coast Range. The first part of our hike along Sweet Creek offered continuous punchbowl-shaped waterfalls. After 1.1 miles we arrived at the base of 20-foot high Sweet Creek Falls, enjoying its beauty from two viewpoints. Retracing our steps we then drove 1.3 miles and hiked .8 of a mile for a full view of the falls. Finally, we hiked a third .6 mile trail to Beaver Falls, which meets Sweet Creek. We enjoyed a variety of wildflowers, including bleeding heart, fairy bells, yellow violets, pink fawn lily, trilliums and corydalis. Participants were Members :Zella Andreski, Julie Dorland,

Sherwood Jefferies, Marshall Kandell, Barbara Morgan, Carol Petty, Margaret Prentice, Nola Shurtleff and Jessica Westin; and nonmembers Lyn Dahlstrom and Robbie Shelton.

## North Shasta Loop

**May 3, 2006**

**Leader: John Agnew**

**City Walk 5 miles, 250 ft. ("A")**

**MEMBERS** John Agnew, LaRee Beckley, Dick Hildreth, Marshall Kandell, Sherwood Jefferies, Bob Moffit, Ruth Romoser, Sharon Thomas, Marian West and nonmembers Jack Lindstrom and Joe Neal walked the streets of Eugene.

## Masonic Cemetery, Hendricks Park & Obsidian Lodge

**May 7, 2006**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**6 miles, 400 ft. ("B")**

**IN A LIGHT RAIN**, seven of us walked through the Masonic Cemetery (1859) and then on city streets to 75-acre Hendricks Park (1906). After a brief walk in the flower gardens, we followed a trail through the park up to Capital Street. From there it was downhill to the Obsidian Lodge (1960, 2006). Since it was Sue and Patrice's first visit to the lodge, we gave them a quick historical overview and a tour of the outside. We concluded the 3 1/2 hour trip back at the Masonic Cemetery with a quick good-bye to Eugene Skinner. Participating Obsidians were Max Brown, Jane Hackett, Yuan Hopkins, Janet Jacobsen, Patrice McCaffrey, Sue Meyers and Sheila Ward.

## Sweet Creek/Beaver Creek Falls

**May 7, 2006**

**Leader: Barbara Bruns**

**Co-Leader: Judy Terry**

**5 miles, 650 ft. ("A")**

**JUDY AND I HAD** originally planned a hike at Patterson Mountain, but the Forest Service advised us the road was not open because of snow. So, plan B. We decided on Sweet Creek Falls and it turned out to be a fun decision for 11 of us. New member Jane Allen and our other Obsidians enjoyed talking with prospective members Kathleen and Jim Floyd from California, Fran Nearing from Tennessee and traveler Margene Kethcart. The day was somewhat inclem-

ent, with only slight mist while we were hiking. We enjoyed the walk to the base of Sweet Creek Falls, followed by a picnic lunch along the river. There were many wildflowers: bleeding heart, late trillium and others unnamed by the group. We continued to the Wagon Road trailhead and hiked for a view of the top of Sweet Creek Falls; then to Beaver Creek Falls. We concluded with soup, cocoa and goodies at Alpha-Bit in Mapleton. The rain began in earnest for our drive back to Eugene.

Members Jane Allen, Barb Bruns, Jim Fritz, Sherwood Jefferies, Laurie Reed, Guy Strahon and Judy Terry were joined by nonmembers Jim and Kathleen Floyd, Margene Kethcart and Fran Nearing.

## Mt. Tom Loop

**May 9, 2006**

**Leaders: Cork & Carolyn Higgins**

**4 miles, 1,100 ft. ("B")**

**IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL** Tuesday for the first (hopefully annual) Mt. Tom hike. Located approximately 10 miles NE of Coburg, Mt. Tom is one of the highest (3,166') mountains in the Coburg Hills. Nine hikers joined us at our house on Mt. Tom Road to start the hike. The first short jaunt through the trees demonstrated clearly why we recommended waterproof footwear! Taking our time, we climbed 1,000 feet over the next mile while enjoying great views of the Coast Range and the valley floor. When the logging road ended, we turned SE along a ridge that runs below the peak of Mt. Tom. Using game trails that follow long abandoned logging roads, we took a break in a meadow beneath some large oak trees. A special place. Continuing south, we found a good-sized bear track, wild iris and plenty of poison oak. Presently, we came to a grassy knoll (complete with plastic chairs!), a nice space to spend some time and enjoy the conversation and the sunshine. We completed the loop by continuing south, then west, to Mt. Tom Road and back to our house, where we saw a deer and some wild turkeys (rolled corn does wonders for wildlife viewing). Many thanks to Carl Witzig and Wallace Kaufman, the property owners who allowed us access through their land. On the hike were Obsidians Jan Jacobsen, Jane Hackett, Sue Meyers, Sherwood Jefferies, Tom Happy, Bob Foster, Jim Fritz, Ruth Romoser, Carolyn and Cork Higgins; and nonmember Carol Stern.

## Ridgeline Trail

May 10, 2006

Leader: Diane Jeffcott

5 miles, 500 ft. ("B")

**SIX OF US MET** at 9 a.m., parked two cars at the hike's end at Blanton Road; then drove to Dillard Road, where we began hiking at 9:20. The weather was great. We met just a few runners and hikers on the nearly dry trail. Flowers, as well as poison oak were in bloom. Since most of the hike is in the trees it is a great walk on a hot day. Hikers were four retired teachers, a retired ballerina and a non-member I don't know about. We finished our hike by 11:15. Members Zella Andreski, Anne Bonine, Janet Hall, Diane Jeffcott and Jack O'Donnell were joined by nonmember Anita Belt.

## Tahkenitch Dunes Loop

May 12, 2006

Leader: Sheila Ward

6 miles, 650 ft. ("B")

Photo by Stewart Hoeg



**A PERFECT DAY** for a coastal hike -- sunshine, mild temperatures and a light breeze. This is my favorite hike and I am never disappointed. Many wildflowers were in bloom and the green of the skunk cabbage and new ferns was brilliant. Even the sanderlings were out in force enjoying the incoming tide. Hikers included members Dan Bates, Sharon Duncan, Kathy and Stewart Hoeg, Marshall Kandell, Sherwood Jefferies, Ed Lichtenstein and Sheila Ward.

## Mt. Pisgah Sunrise/Moonset

May 12, 2006

Leader: Royal Murdock

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

Photo by Barb Revere

**THE SUN WENT DOWN** minutes before the rising of the full moon. The few clouds were more tantalizing than obstructing. The coordination of the full moon with the setting sun was especially appreciated from the top of Mt. Pisgah by

members Marsha Cutler, Betty Macy, Royal Murdock, Barb Revere and Kathy Riddle; and nonmembers Dennis Dalgugge and Ellen Sather. Our thanks to the sun, moon and clouds for their cooperation.



*Sunrise over Pisgah*

## Animal Tracks & Signs

May 13, 2006

Leader: Lana Lindstrom

Field Trip 2 miles, 100 ft. ("A")

Photo by Lana Lindstrom



*Claw marks in tree*

**HAVE YOU NOTICED** some brown, dead trees along Highway 58 between Lowell and Willamette Pass and wondered if the bark beetles have spread to the west side of the Cascades? They haven't. That's bear damage! Black bears in western Oregon have an unusual appetite for the cambium of fir trees, just as the trees are starting to "bud." The cambium and surrounding tissues provide the nourishment to the trees; when the bark is ripped off, the trees die. Who "wood" have thunk it! Dave Walp showed us many recent examples of damaged trees, including some very prominent claw marks. Enjoying the excursion were nonmember Lou Marenz and Obsidians Nola Nelson, Richard Hughes and Lana Lindstrom.

## Fall Creek

May 13, 2006

Leader: Martha Welches

6 miles, 200 ft. ("B")

**WE CAR POOLED** to Fall Creek via Hwy. 58, taking the Lowell exit to the Unity Bridge, right on Big Fall Creek Road, then on to the trailhead at Dolly Varden Campground. The trail this sunny day was in shade provided by a canopy of northern hemlock, red cedar and Douglas fir. Fall Creek rushed along as we walked along the trail framed by dogwood, alder and vine maple. Wildflowers -- including bleeding hearts with carpets of shamrock-like oxalis -- were all around us. In quiet, deep spaces pools formed making the creek appear blue-green. Hiking the trail was an up and down experience, with a need to watch out for ruts and roots. Several sturdy log bridges gave us chances to rest a bit while looking at the scenery. Participants included members Ann-Marie Askew, Sheila Carter, Linda Godell, Mary Hamilton, Margaret Prentice, Karla Rusow, Glen Svendsen and Martha Welches; and nonmember Robbie Shelton.

## Hobbit Trail/Heceta Head

May 14, 2006

Leader: Anne Dhu McLucas

5 miles, 400 ft. ("A")

**THE ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY** Hike had a small population, but big rewards: Two hikers set out on a sunny Sunday, arriving at the trailhead at Washburne day park for a beautiful walk down the beach to the Hobbit Trail; and, from there, on up to Heceta Head, where one of us toured the lighthouse while the other watched for whales. The watch was rewarded! A small pod of grey whales (probably three) approached and two of them came closer and closer as an excited crowd gathered to view them. They came just below the lighthouse cliff, for a marvelous view as they cavorted, with their spotted backs often in view. They entertained us for about 10 minutes and then went on their way down the coast. We finished lunch, still feeling awed, and then went down the trail and across the road to finish the loop through Washburne camping area and back to the car. The two happy hikers were Anne Dhu McLucas and Julie Dorland.

## Hendricks Park

May 17, 2006

Leader: Marshall Kandell

Exploratory, 4 (?) miles, 200 ft. ("A")

Photo by Zella Andreski

**LEADING AN EXPLORATORY"** trip means getting lost is a possibility. But in the middle of Eugene!?! Everyone knows about Hendricks Park's Rhododendron Garden, but few explore the other 60 acres of the park, all undeveloped forest (except for a few walking trails). That was our mission. Starting from the picnic area and guided by map downloaded from the park's website, we embarked on what I later learned was the West Trail. It should be pointed out that the new kiosk trail map, the web map and a brochure (available on the *backside* of the kiosk) all display slightly different trail alignments. It's easy, however, to come upon many side trails and forks in trails not shown on the maps.



*Rhody in prime*

With everyone in the exploratory spirit, we went off in all directions, hoping to see everything. The trails quickly plunge you into deep forest where the sounds of the city fade and the birds take over. Wildflowers and tall trees with lush undergrowth prevail. We met other Obsidians, consulted with a park employee leading a trail maintenance crew and still managed to find ourselves a bit lost. As far as I can figure, we hiked the Old Road Trail, the Oak Knoll Trail, the Highland Trail and the Floral Hill Trail. We may or may not have covered the Wildflower or Pileated Trails. Floral Hill Trail dumped us out on Floral Hill Drive. After exploring downhill to see if we could find another trail back into the park, we turned around and followed the road to the rhody gardens (getting a good view of Moon Mountain's west side).

After taking a restroom break (running into more Obsidians), we walked down to Pre's Rock on Skyline Drive. There we joined a busload of

Asian visitors on a Nike tour, getting a presentation by Steve Bence, one of Steve Prefontaine's teammates. How's that for a hike bonus!

We wrapped things up back in the rhody gardens, enjoying our lunches surrounded by serene beauty. Did we hike three miles? Four? Not sure.

The good sports willing to get lost with me were members Zella Andreski, Max Brown and Margaret Prentice; and nonmembers Lynne and Brian Gunnari. (Note: Although this was the Gunnaris' first Obsidian hike, they had already attended a potluck presentation and volunteered their labors on the lodge renovation!)

## Little North Santiam

May 20, 2006

Leader: Dan Christensen

9 miles, 900 ft. ("B")

Photo by Photo by Zella Andreski

**SIX OBSIDIANS** set out on a cloudy, but warm, Saturday morning for the 100-mile drive to the North Santiam trail entry point. This underutilized trailhead is in the picturesque Elkhorn Valley, north of the Santiam Highway, just 1/4 mile off Elkhorn Valley Road, which continues a few more miles to the better known Opal Creek Trailhead. The trail begins above and away from the river; but one quickly hikes through a forest plantation and drops down to the river level. The remainder of the hike is in old growth forest of Douglas fir and hemlock, with some cedar and madrone. The trail alternates between being alongside or high above the river...and out of sight of the river in some sections. A ridge bisects the trail prior to the midpoint, requiring a 500' climb up one side and 400' rather steeply down the far side. The trail is well maintained with solidly constructed bridges over all side streams. Hiking time for this in and out hike is about five hours.

The beautiful North Santiam River, coupled with Henline Falls, is the reason for taking this hike. Since the river is running high in the spring, numerous waterfalls are in full force. Henline Falls, cascading off the side of Henline Mountain is especially beautiful. In addition to the falls, the river offers rapids, small canyons and beautiful, clear, green water pools found only in the North Santiam/Opal Creek drainage in the western Cascades. It is simply a spectacularly scenic

river, especially during spring run-off season.



*The inviting Little North Santiam*

The cloud cover persisted throughout the day, but it never rained. The temperature, close to 70 in the late afternoon, was ideal for hiking. Members: Zella Andreski, Dan Christensen, Debra Higbee, Sherwood Jefferies, Sue Meyers and Jessica Westin.

## Green Island

May 20, 2006

Leader: Margot Fetz

4 miles, 0 ft. ("A")

**AFTER THE OLD** "leader-gets-lost-on-the-way-to-the-trailhead" trick, we set out from Coburg School for Green Island with Joe Moll, executive director of the McKenzie River Trust. We felt fortunate to have warm sunny weather, following the night's fairly heavy rain. Joe guided us along the north perimeter of the island, showing historical structures (ferry station), channels and projects. He introduced us to some of the complex issues involved in restoration and reclamation.

We saw deer tracks, nutria-trimmed lawn, lush grass and blackberry plants, and some wildflowers. Above were turkey vultures, a red-tailed hawk and a kestrel. An osprey head popped out of one of the three nests we saw, but the parents must have been away collecting food. The views of the river and its many channels were satisfying, especially when we saw pond turtles sunning.

Anyone who missed the trip and would like to see Green Island, usually closed to the public, can phone the trust at 345-2799 or contact [jneff@mckensieriver.org](mailto:jneff@mckensieriver.org). Members along were Suzanne Clark, Walt Dolliver, Margot Fetz, Maggie Gontrum, Kitson and Peter Graham, Bob Huntley, Effie Neth, Judy Newman, Ginny Reich, Leila Snow and Sheila Ward.

Nonmembers were Karen Irmseher and Ray Lisi.

## Sahalie Falls/Clear Lake

May 20, 2006

Leader: Daniele Delaby

8 miles, 600 ft. ("B")

WE LEFT EUGENE in uncertain weather, but we did not get a single drop of rain and enjoyed some sun breaks in the course of the day. The waterfalls were very impressive and we all admired the views. We started the hike around Clear Lake counter-clockwise and stopped for lunch at Great Spring. On the way back we enjoyed a little rest (and a little snack) at the lodge. Except for a few puddles of water going down from Sahalie to Koosah Falls, the trail was in good shape. We met a few mountain bikers, but not many hikers. Hikers were members Jane Allen, Daniele Delaby, Mary Peel and Michelle Tambellini; and nonmember Suzanne Algara.

## Koosah/Sahalie Loop

May 21, 2006

Leader: John Cooper

4 miles, 500 ft. ("A")

PARKING AT KOOSAH, we immediately heard the roar of the falls signaling we were, indeed, there at peak time. The water burst over the falls with a show of aquamarine -- a color that reappeared numerous times not only in the falls, but in the cascading river. Heading upriver, we were taken with views large and small. Wildflowers were also appreciated. At the upriver bridge a light rain began to fall. Lunchtime found us sitting under trees for shelter just above Sahalie Falls. We finished our short lunch as the sun came out enough to shine on Sahalie Falls. Carefully, we looked over the edge to the pool below. Turning around at Carmen Reservoir towards our start we continued to have stunning views of the river. We completed this leisurely walk in just over two hours. On the hike were members John Cooper, Julie Dorland, Bob Freed, Sherwood Jefferies, John Lee, Becky Lipton and Barb Revere; and nonmembers Kathleen Cooper, Jim and Kathleen Floyd and Valentina Radchenko.

## Devils Den

May 29, 2006

Leader: Wayne Deeter

5 miles, 700 ft ("C")

Photo by Wayne Deeter

THE DEN is getting far too easy to access. There's now a gravel quarry a few hundred feet away for which the road has

been greatly "improved." The ruts big enough to swallow a jeep are gone; you can now drive all the way to the den. When I delayed the trip a couple days (it's no fun trying to scramble around on wet rock) a number of signees had to cancel. So, on the rescheduled date Larry Huff met the seven other den novices and led the group down to Cottage Grove to pick me up. From there, we drove to Roseburg, then on west and up to the top of the Callahan Road.

We parked at the usual spot and started hiking up the new, improved road. I miss the good old mud and ruts. Apparently so do the motorized two and four wheelers -- they're tearing up the trail sections now. Gargh!



*Entering the den*

I was pleased to see the balancing rock was still there, in spite of the new, working quarry just below it. And when we got to the den entrance, all looked pretty normal. We took Gary's way in, squeezing between poison oak and stepping over the big crack. I set up the hand-line and we were soon all down in the foyer of the den. We found out why Valentina was so quiet; she doesn't understand English, only Russian!

All were soon making their way through Chockstone Alley. After that ordeal, everyone was ready for lunch, which we had on Bathtub Rock. But the den beckoned, so we soon continued around the outside wall and found the gully containing the Rabbit Hole. One by one, face down in the dirt to squeeze through a tiny opening. Then, once

there's enough room to stand, it's up and over the hill-in-the-crack; and slither sideways back out into the light and the Big Room. Here we dropped our packs.

We worked our way through the lush vegetation which grows inside the den, then dropped down past the entrance to the Bat Cave and stopped at the hole which leads into the Knife Room. Here the language barrier proved to be Bob's undoing; his Russian isn't much better than Valentina's English. As he couldn't convince her that the Knife Room was optional, he was forced to follow. Once through the jumble of rock in there and back out into the light most availed themselves of the traditional romp around the Blarney Madrone -- the devil knows who didn't!

We returned to the den via the back door, then started to retrace our way back to the Big Room. It was here that Valentina decided she had had enough of this "nonsense," so Doug helped her and Bob find an easier way back to the den entrance. The rest of us found our way back to the foyer by an alternate route. Along the way, we found someone had dumped a bunch of old tires into the den from the road above, further evidence it's now too easy to get to the den. Larry promises to take over this trip next year. We'll see.

Members daring to do the den were Wayne Deeter, Bob Freed, Larry Huff and Doug Nelson; nonmembers were Suzanne Algara, Matt Bell, Larry Cotton, Valentina Radchenko and Hollis Terhune.

## Dorris Ranch

June 2, 2006

Leader: Margot Fetz

5 miles, 0 ft. ("A")

ACCOMPANIED BY a half-tailed cat the whole way, we walked most of the perimeter of the ranch. Rick Ahrens gave us plenty of information about the plants and birds we encountered. At the beginning of the hike, just past the parking lot, a red-tailed hawk posed for us. We also saw and/or heard song sparrows, a pileated woodpecker, stellar jays, western tanagers, turkey vultures and ospreys on two different nests. Plants in bloom included cow parsnip, checker mallow, larkspur, fringecup and bleeding heart. It was a pleasant walk on a humid morning. Nonmember Gail Wahl joined members Ahrens, Fetz, Judy Newman, Marriner Orum, Margaret Prentice and Barb Revere.



## Bike Trips

### **Willamette River**

**April 25, 2006**

**Leader: Anne Montgomery**

**Bike/Birds 14 miles, 80 ft. ("A")**

**W**HAT A WONDERFUL GROUP of people showed up on this cloudy, cool morning to join me for this birding trip by bicycle! It was a great pleasure for me to bike with them along Delta Ponds and the Willamette River to view birds and wildflowers. Among the birds we observed were nesting great blue herons and osprey, green-winged teals, cinnamon teals, song sparrows, bushtits, turkey vultures, double crested cormorants, Canada geese, red-winged blackbirds, Chinese pheasants, crows and ever present mallards. Contributing to the enjoyment of the trip were Obsidians Joan Bradley, Judy Clemens, Pat Esch, Sam Houston, Darrell and Nancy McBee, Anne Montgomery and Marian West.

### **Fairgrounds to Crow**

**May 6, 2006**

**Leader: Chuck Wagar**

**32 miles, 250 ft. ("B")**

**ALL RIDERS ARRIVED** on bikes at the meeting site, making the outing a gasoline free adventure. The weather was fairly cloudy with the temperature in the 60s. Riders cruised along at a pace higher than the advertised pace. Stewart and Darrell enjoyed climbing the steep hills faster than the leader! I do a lot of leisurely touring and keeping up with them was a worthwhile challenge.

Members: Stewart Hoeg, Darrell McBee and Chuck Wagar.

### **Junction City - Bellfountain**

**May 13, 2006**

**Leader: Joyce Sanders**

**40 miles, 400 ft. ("B")**

**Photo by Stewart Hoeg**

**WE BICYCLED** through fertile, flat farmlands heading north from Junction City. The south way back was the "dotted line" picturesque route through hilly tree farm areas into Monroe and then back to the flatlands. Bellfountain Park, where we ate lunch, is a gem of a park. We had wonderful sunshine and temperatures. It was a new route for several riders, but it

was re-visiting boyhood haunts for Darrell McBee. We had a good challenge with the "big hill" on Coon Rd. Many thanks to experienced riders and leaders who helped on my first time leading an Obsidian ride: Members Barb Bruns, Jim Duncan, Stewart Hoeg, Darrell McBee, Sam Miller, Joyce Sanders and Judy Terry; and nonmembers Paul Garrick and Lyn Gilman-Garrick.



*Jim Duncan—heading to Bellfountain*

### **"Our Daily Bread" -- Veneta**

**May 20, 2006**

**Leader: Sharon Ritchie**

**38 miles, 100 ft. ("B")**

**WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY** for a bike ride! We went west on the bike path, on to Crow Road and Petzhold. The traffic was light, the scenery was incredibly beautiful, the weather both warm and cool and the lunch at Our Daily Bread was fantastic. Thai wraps, spinach salad and a burger and fries...*a burger and fries! Good heavens!* Kathy Hoeg was unable to join us on the ride, but drove to Veneta to have lunch with us. The ride back was easy, the conversation was great. It was just a very nice day with very nice people: Stewart Hoeg, Norma Lockyear, Lana Lindstrom, Richard Hughes, Kathy Hoeg (for a bit) and Sharon Ritchie.

### **Camp Creek**

**June 3, 2006**

**Leader: Sharon Ritchie**

**35 miles, 100 ft. (Moderate)**

**Photo by Sharon Ritchie**

**THE DAY WAS OVERCAST**, cool with occasional sunshine and the promise of rain later. The ride was wonderful. This is one of my favorites. Little traffic, beautiful vistas, a wonderful creek and lunch overlooking the McKenzie River. What more could you ask for? Again, we had a really great group of riders and I thank them for sharing this lovely day

with me. They were nonmember George Greenwald and Obsidians Stewart Hoeg, Darrell McBee, Jim Duncan, Gayle Berge, Bud Proctor, Kathy Riddle and Sam Miller.



*Lunch overlooking the McKenzie*



## Byways By Bus

### **Thompson's Grist Mill & Other Brownsville Treasures**

**May 2, 2006**

**Leader: Mary Ellen West**

**O**UR TRIP TOURED the countryside on the back roads of Lane and Linn Counties. First stop was Shedd Museum, a step back in rural Willamette Valley history. The little museum is located in an old bank building and beautifully displays Shedd and other local family items. Doreen Eagy, Ross Sprenger and Bob McCormick, longtime residents, were our expert guides. A special treat was a visit to the local Methodist church, built in 1873. Ross, who has been a church member since he was three months old, welcomed us and rang the old church bell.

Our next stop was the Thompson mill, built in 1858 as the Boston mill. The historic site has been purchased by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, and should be open to the public in 2007. The Thompson mill gives people a view of how early Willamette Valley agriculture developed. It is a water-powered mill that produced flour until several decades ago, when it changed to producing livestock feed. Doug Crispin, the park ranger in charge of the mill, led the tour with the assistance of Martin Thompson, grandson of the Martin Thompson who bought the mill in 1897.

Lunch was at the Corner Cafe, in the

oldest commercial building in Brownsville. Guides from the Brownsville museum took us on a historical tour of the town. You could almost imagine a horse-drawn carriage traveling around town. The Linn County Historical Museum in Brownsville and the elegant Moyer house, built in 1881, were our last stops. History from 1850 abounds. For Rosemary Etter and Norma Lockyear, former Linn County residents, our trip was nostalgic. Norma had gone to the Shedd Methodist church as a child, and swam in the waterway by the Thompson mill. Everyone in Linn County knew Rosemary.

We returned to Eugene on the old territorial road (Gap Road). Members onboard were: Ewart Baldwin, Barbara, Paul and Paula Beard; Louise Behnke, Mary Lee Cheadle, Barbara Chinn, Kent Christoferson, Sharon Cutsforth, Jim and Sharon Duncan, Rosemary Etter, Rachele Fiszman, Bette Hack, Dora Harris, Ben and Pat Jeffries, Ray Jensen, Rosella Jones, Norma Lockyear, John and Lenore McManigal, Natalie Newlove, Joyce Norman, Barbara and Don Payne, Liz Reanier, Edna Robertson, Pauline Sievers, Julia Snell, Janet and Richard Speelman, Mary Ellen West and Vera Wooley. Nonmembers were Jean Blankenship, Bob Hart and Pat Peterson.

## Finding the Lost County of Umpqua 1851-1862

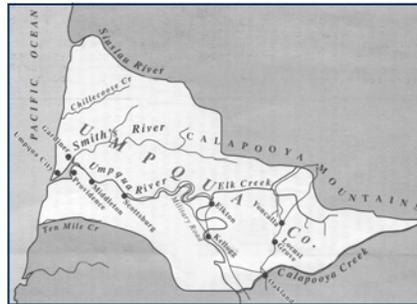
May 23, 2006

Leader: Verna Kocken

UMPQUA COUNTY was located roughly in what is now western Douglas County. Our goal was to study the history of the Lower Umpqua Basin, focusing on the short lived County of Umpqua.

Verna Kocken guided us over scenic back roads through Oakland, Sutherlin, Melrose and Cleveland Rapids for our coffee break at the "Old Fort McKay" at the confluence of the Calapooya Creek and the Umpqua, now the Henry Estate Winery.

We then drove along Tyee Road to Elkton with Ewart Baldwin explaining the geology. We stopped at Scottsburg County Park for lunch during a window of dry mild weather. Our next stop was at the Umpqua Discovery Center, the highlight being their new exhibit, "Pathways to Discovery -- Exploring Tidewater Country." We completed our Umpqua tour at the lighthouse viewpoint overlooking the mouth of the river. There is lots of history: about the natives, the



Lost County of Umpqua

Hudson Bay Co., Jedediah Smith, Levi Scott, the Applegates and more.

Driver Larry Edwards returned all 42 riders (including 3 nonmembers) at 5:45, via Florence and Route "F." Participants were Obsidians Ethel Allen, Don Baldwin, Ewart Baldwin, Barbara & Paul & Paula Beard, Louise Behnke, Mary Lee Cheadle, Marge Crueger, Rosemary Etter, Rachele Fiszman, Jeannette Forsman, Bette Hack, Dora Harris, Evelyn Hile, Kess Hottle, Ben & Pat Jeffries, Ray Jensen, Vi Johnson, Rosella Jones, Verna Kocken, John & Lenore McManigal, Natalie Newlove, Maude Nilsen, Joyce Norman, Barbara & Don Payne, Virginia Prouty, Liz Reanier, Edith Rode, Paula Sievers, Julie Snell, Dick & Janet Speelman, Mary Ellen West, Christy White and Vera Woolley. Nonmembers were Barbara Hottle, Dotty Sullivan and Ed Sullivan.



**Ski  
Trips**

## Fuji Mountain

May 20, 2006

Leader: Wayne Deeter

X-Ski 8 miles, 2,000 ft. (Intermediate)

**I**MET VAN LIKES and Tom Happy at SEHS at 8:30. Tom had skinny skis (which he had carried about a mile on his bike from home), nonmember Van had Randonee skis with skins and I had my old standard metal edged backcountry skis -- a rather odd assortment of gear. This trip had originally been planned for The Twins, but there was still too much snow on Waldo Road to get near that trailhead. So we headed for the Fuji Creek Road (across from Salt Creek Falls) instead. We were able to drive within ¾ mile of the Fuji Shelter.

We skied up the road, around the

bend where it crosses Fuji Creek, then had to walk a few hundred feet where the road was bare. Back on skis at the junction, we were soon to the Fuji Shelter for a quick, look-see. While it was cloudy and threatened to sprinkle a bit on us, we did get a fair view from the shelter of Diamond Peak, Lakeview Mountain, Cowhorn and Thielsen.

When I had scouted out the trip a couple days before, I had soon lost the blue diamonds on the Fuji Creek Trail, so we took the Birthday Lake Trail instead, which I was more familiar with. The snow under the trees was rather bumpy and littered with fir needles and twigs. By the time we reached the junction with the Fuji Mountain Trail we were all quite warm in spite of the cool weather. After a brief break at Verde Lake we continued to the next junction and took the right branch. After traveling about a mile we decided we had taken the wrong branch; we were on the Island Lakes Trail and headed for Waldo! So out came the compass and we headed cross-country due west. Soon we swung just a bit to the north and climbed up the east ridge of Fuji. This led us directly to the summit.

After a late lunch viewing the bases of the Sisters and Broken Top -- and the peaks of Bachelor Butte, The Twins, Mt. Ray, Maiden Peak, Waldo Lake and Wickiup Reservoir, in addition to the peaks to the south that were visible from the shelter -- we headed back down the east side, this time taking a bearing directly back to the shelter. Van locked down his heels and showed us his downhill technique, getting in a few turns on the limited open slopes and using a mix of turns and side-slips to negotiate the densely wooded areas. Tom and I chose to post-hole down to slightly gentler terrain. We joined the Fuji Mountain Trail for a short ways and checked out the junction that we had missed earlier -- only a few hundred feet from the wrong turn we had taken. We continued on our compass bearing from the junction, visiting numerous small lakes along the way.

After a short hike down a steep, snow-bare slope we were back on skis, but in a tangle of springs that are the source of Fuji Creek. We twisted our way through dense stands of small trees and across small snow bridges and soon found the main trunk of the creek, which we followed down another steep slope directly to the road, thus avoiding having to walk the bare stretch again.



## Climbs

### **Mt. Hood**

**May 6, 2006**

**Leader: Wayne Deeter**

**7 miles, 5,200 ft. ("I-1")**

**Photo by Juli McGlinsky**

**P**LANNING FOR THIS TRIP began about a year in advance. Once word got out I was leading Hood, requests to be included started coming in. By the time the climbs schedule came out in March the trip was full. Additional requests to participate were put on the wait-list. About a month before the climb, participants were informed via email as to equipment needed; e.g., ice ax, crampons, climbing harness, 'biner, prusik loops and hard-hat. A couple of cancellations allowed two nonmembers to join in. In the final week, the weather-watch began. Ropes and snow-pickets were picked up from the lodge and checked for climb-worthiness. By Tuesday, the forecast for Sunday was not looking good. Plans were started to climb Saturday morning instead.

Doug and I drove to Timberline Friday evening, arriving about 9 p.m. We met a few of the other climbers and settled in for a couple hours of sleep. We

got up at 11:30. Why do otherwise sane people start hiking at midnight? Well, there are a number of reasons. By that time it's been cool enough long enough so that the snow is firm and you can walk on it without sinking in too far. By the time you get to the summit it's light, but still cool enough that there's a minimum of rock and ice fall. When descending the steep part high on the mountain the snow is still hard enough to use crampons. And should something unexpected happen there's plenty of daylight left to work things out.

All nine of us were hiking up the mountain before 12:30 a.m., after filling out the Obsidian sign-up sheet, wilderness permit and the climbers' registration sheet. It was cold and it stayed cold for the entire climb. Everyone had problems with their drinking water freezing, both those with "bladders" and those who were using bottles. Wind sharpened the bite of the cold, though the gusts were not as strong as they were earlier when we were trying to sleep. We kept our breaks short, as we needed to stay moving to keep from getting too cold. A little light from the first-quarter moon allowed us to see our goal.

**WE REACHED THE TOP** of the Palmer lift (two miles, 2,500 ft.) after about two hours. There we joined a couple dozen other climbers, who were somewhat sheltered by a building. Doug decided to crampon up. After a short break we con-

tinued on and the rest of us soon found out that Doug was right: crampons were in order. We also rediscovered the importance of checking out crampon-boot fit before leaving home when several people had problems getting on their crampons. We were able to proceed only after a bit of ingenious improvisation.

You know you're getting near Crater Rock when you can smell it. Whew! There's nothing quite like that rotten egg stench from the fumaroles to wake you up! The brightening sky of dawn allowed us to switch off our headlamps. As we reached the ridge of the Hogsback we could see a bit of the rim above us lit up by the early morning rays. We took an extended break, waiting for the group ahead of us to ascend up the Hogsback, over the 'schrund, and on to the summit. We put on harnesses, stretched out our three ropes and tied in. As the 'schrund was fairly open on both sides, but less than a foot wide in the center, we went straight on up, stepping right over it. Most of the traffic was going up the left Pearly Gate and we followed. Our second and third teams waited for a descending group before following on up the chute.

On top -- highest point in Oregon -- we could see glistening in the sun Jeff, the Sisters and Broken Top to the south; Rainier, Adams and a bit of St. Helens in Washington to the north. Everything under about 5,000' was hidden under a blanket of clouds. After a short stay on the summit, Juli, Roy and I (first team) dropped down a bit to get out of the wind and waited for our other two teams to get to the top and have their short stays. We descended through the climber's right Pearly Gate to avoid the traffic in the left chute, and clipped through some protection left by an ascending party. Once to the low point of the Hogsback ridge we unroped and removed our harnesses. Doug, leading our last team off the summit, reported seeing an ascending rope team, upon reaching the 'schrund, carefully reel each member in so they could all view the "big crack in the snow" together. One has to wonder why they took the bother of hauling that rope all the way up the mountain!

As is often the case, the group fell apart a bit on the descent. First one, then another, tried their hands (or seats, rather) at glissading (crampons off first!). When we "assembled" back at the top of the ski area, three were already gone, not to be seen again until we got back to the



*Coming through the Pearly Gates—Mt Hood.*

parking lot. Reassembled at the cars we sorted out gear, passed out summit certificates and signed the club's Mt. Hood summit book. And then, the most dangerous part of the climb: the drive home...

Next morning at 7:30, a check of the Government Camp webcam revealed rain: glad we weren't on the mountain then! With the gear rechecked and dried and the report written, all that remains to be done is to return the gear to the lodge and mail in the sign-up sheet and trip fees.

Climbers were Wayne Deeter (first time Mt. Hood leader), Mark Slipp (assistant leader), Doug Nelson (2nd and 3rd assistants), Larry Huff, Juli McGlinsky, Craig Renkert, Kim Sawyer (10th peak -- congratulations!) and nonmembers Roy McCormick and Chance Fitzpatrick

## Diamond Peak-SW Ridge

May 13, 2006

Leader: Brian Hamilton

Asst. Leader: Rich Peevers

Graduation Climb, 6 miles, 4,098 ft.

Photo by Chance Fitzpatrick

**OUR TEAM OF EIGHT** left SEHS at 5:15 a.m. and started out on the Pioneer Gulch trail at 7:15 under a cloudless sky. Within a half-mile, at about 5,200 ft., we were in snow. Based on conditions of the previous weekend, the leader had recommended climbers bring snowshoes, however the temperature had dropped enough overnight to produce a thick frozen crust. At about 6,500 ft., the slope began increasing and we wished we were wearing crampons. Ice axes were out and we were finding it hard to kick steps into the snow. In one particularly steep section about 150 feet above a patch of timber, we had to cut a few steps with our axes.

Just before noon, the temperature hit 80 degrees and we took a 20-minute lunch break on the southwest ridge at about 8,000 ft. We reached the summit at 12:45 and spent 45 minutes relaxing, signing the summit register and enjoying the views. We shared the summit with two pairs of skiers and watched them take off down the slopes. We were also treated with the sight of about 10 large white birds high above us and towards the west, swooping and circling in a tight group. One of our group speculated that the birds were either snow geese or swans playing in the thermal currents.

The descent was marked with lots of post-holing in the softening snow and some nice glissades. Several of us tried



*On the summit ridge—Diamond Peak*

snowshoes on the descent, but they too frequently behaved like skis and became unmanageable. We were glad to reach bare ground under the dense tree canopy. We made it back to the trailhead at 4 p.m. Enjoying a great climb on a beautiful

spring day were nonmembers Clay and Mike Irving; Mazama member Barry Smith; pending Obsidians Barbara Boylan and Chance Fitzpatrick; and Obsidians Chris Stockdale, Rich Peevers and Brian Hamilton.

## Diamond Peak

*By Barbara Boylan*

**Climbing the mountain,  
I pretend I am an old woman with a cane,  
concentrating on each step to keep my balance.**

**Use my ice ax, one step,  
place the ax, second step,  
stop and breathe,  
one more step...**

**Slow and steady to reach the peak,  
despite my aching muscles.**

**Around me, the sunlight sparkles on the snow  
like diamonds.**

**A light wind refreshes me.  
I hear and feel each satisfying crunch of snow  
as I step, and breathe.**

**When I am an old woman,  
walking down the corridor with my cane,  
I will remember that I climbed mountains.**

Editor's Note: Barbara Boylan is a graduate of this year's climb school and says her membership application is in the mail "I have been doing hikes with the group. I hope to be a member come June. I took the climb class to meet people to go rock climbing with. I learned to rock climb at the mountaineering club at University of Cincinnati, Ohio. I think everyone should climb a mountain at least once. I'm glad this club is here to give people a chance to get together and get outdoors."

# Let's Give a Little Back

By Chris Stockdale

I'M SURE THERE ISN'T an Obsidian who hasn't spent time hiking at least once on one of the trails of the Willamette National Forest. And I'm sure most of those hikers have noticed where fallen trees have been sawn to clear that trail; where bridges have been repaired so they can cross creeks and rivers; and where new trail signs have been installed.

These repairs don't happen by themselves but are the work of not only National Forest workers, but also of many volunteers. Without the dedication of these people, I can guarantee you wouldn't get very far hiking along your favorite trails unless you were prepared to scramble over or under trees, wade those rivers or try to figure which trail you're on.

Well, now the WNF is asking for our help with keeping our trail system in good shape. The first annual weekend training session for potential and current volunteers took place up at the McKenzie Bridge Ranger Station in mid-May. Close to 100 people took part and were able to choose from the various workshops offered. These were First Aid/CPR geared for the wilderness; Basic Trail Maintenance to teach what requirements need to be followed when clearing trails; Wilderness Stewardship/public outreach/site clean ups that gave information on trail surveying in early season, cleaning up camp sites around wilderness lakes, and trail head hosting; the last session was Saw Recertification for those who want to use a power saw or x-cut saw to help clear

trails (this was for those who had been previously certified and just wanted to renew their cards).

My interest and attention were immediately grabbed by the Wilderness Stewardship session. I realized that here were wonderful opportunities for Obsidian members to give back a little for the privilege of hiking in our forests. All of the opportunities in this section can be tailored for as much or as little time as you want to give.

**Trail Surveying** – This requires is hiking a trail early in the season to see how many trees are down, what condition any bridges are in and other factors requiring some kind of maintenance. Once a report has been sent in, a volunteer crew will head in to take care of these problems.

**Adopt a Lake** – Pick a wilderness lake and visit it at least twice in a season to perform clean up of illegal fire rings, garbage collection, etc. This would be a great project for a family or a group. The forest service has a list of lakes that really need this TLC.

**Trailhead Hosting** – Greet visitors and give them information on wilderness hiking and camping.

Also attending were Peter Asai, Rob Castleberry and Lyndell Wilken. I'm interested in getting a core group of Obsidians together to talk about participating in some of these activities. (I've already done a trail surveying day and will do more. I will post these hikes at the Y.) Contact me: 767-3668 or [chrisveryan@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisveryan@yahoo.com) if you would like more information.

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## Dr. Dunlap Presents Practical First Aid

By Barb Revere

WITHOUT FANFARE, the first club meeting in the newly renovated, almost completed lodge, was held on May 22nd. Amid saw horses, table saws, paint cans and drop cloths, the neat rows of folding chairs held a rapt audience of about 40 listening to Obsidian Dr. Larry Dunlap's practical advice on dealing with accidents that occur in the backcountry.

Through much of his talk, Larry discussed minor problems like abrasions, cuts and blisters: get 'em clean, keep 'em clean and watch for developing signs of infection. Larry mentioned ruefully that his own children never brought their abrasions to him because they knew he would really get them clean! He also discussed dislocations – fingers, elbows and shoulders. Lots of pain for your victim, but a few twists and a pop and you're a miracle worker. Yeah, simple.

Dehydration vs. over-hydration, heart attack vs. heartburn, asthma vs. anaphylaxis vs. breathing obstructions, altitude sickness and diarrhea were other subjects touched on.

**IN HIS OWN PACK**, Larry carries medicines most of us wouldn't be competent using, but he suggested acetaminofen, naproxen, antacids and possibly aspirin are good for most problems. He finds lots of uses for duct tape: with it you can "buddy-tape" a broken finger (to the next one over as a splint), protectively tape over developing a blister and repair or jerry-rig useful gear. Larry never leaves home with out it

Note, too, special products are not necessary to wash poison oak resin from the skin. Larry runs the Ridgeline often and showers soon after returning home and this is enough. When he has gotten a rash, very hot showers work to quell the intense itch. *See related article, p. 1.*

**IN SERIOUS EMERGENCIES**, such as falls, breathing and heart ailments, the single most important thing to do *is to assess the entire situation*. "Use all of the people you have with you..." and come up with a plan "with at least 75% agreement within the group." Some important questions to ask are: Is everyone safe? Is it safe to rescue the victim? Can the victim walk out? Who is best suited to go for help? Do you really need outside help? Where exactly, on the map, are you located? Once you have a plan, put it into action. Larry also stressed the importance of considering the *entire* body of the injured – an arm is broken but how are the legs, the pelvis, the other arm? Is the victim coherent?

Larry's casual delivery and understated sense of humor were reassuring. We were given common sense advice and much to ponder about our own responses to past and future emergencies.

## Camp Deetour Update...



By Lana Lindstrom

**B**Y NOW, YOU SHOULD HAVE read through the camp booklet and be thinking about which activities/hikes you might want to lead. Remember, the success of camp depends on lots of volunteers being willing to explore areas that will be generally unfamiliar to them; camp activity leaders are primarily organizers, not experts, on the specific trails.

If you're a first timer to summer camp, you and your camp buddy should have

connected at least once. If that hasn't happened, please pick up the phone and call.

After you arrive at camp and set up your tent or get settled in one of the shelters, please check the bulletin board for your assigned tasks. Some folks will have tasks to do on Day 1.

As the summer camp leader, I will be onsite for the first session. Jim Duncan, assistant leader, will be onsite for the second.

*See you at camp!*

## Upcoming Byways-By-Bus Trips

### Yaquina Head Lighthouse, Birds & Oregon Coast Aquarium

**Tuesday June 20**

**Leader: Rick Ahrens**

**Cost: \$40 (\$42 nonmembers)**

Reservations and checks to: Verna Kocken, 736-5180, 2263 37th St., Springfield 97477

### Wildlife Images Rehabilitation & Education Center

**Wednesday July 19**

**Leader: Ray Jensen**

**Cost: \$34 (\$36 nonmembers)**

Reservations and checks to: Barbara Payne, 746-1964, 39478 Walterville Ln., Springfield 97478

### Great Oregon Steam Up

**Saturday, August 5**

**Leader: John McManigal**

**Co-Leader: Ray Jensen**

**Cost: \$29 (\$31 nonmembers)**

Reservations and checks to Lenore McManigal, 345-2036, 741 East 38th Ave., Eugene 97405

### Oregon Zoo with Rick Ahrens

**Tuesday August 15**

**Leader: Rick Ahrens**

**Cost: \$30 (\$32 nonmembers)**

Reservations and checks to Janet Speelman, 344-3019, 1496 W. 28th Ave, Eugene 97405

### Southwest Oregon, Rogue River & Coast Redwoods

**Mon-Wed, September 11-13**

**Leaders: Barbara and Paul Beard, Ewart Baldwin**

**Cost: \$300 (\$306 nonmembers)**

Reservations and checks to Liz Renanier, 687-1925, 853 Ascot Drive, Eugene 97401

We'll board at Shopko at 7:15 a.m. for a 7:30 departure; then take I-5 to Hwy. 42 to reach the Rogue River. Bring sack lunch. After lunch, we'll board the jet boat for an exciting ride up the Rogue. We will have dinner (included) at the historic Lucas Lodge, arriving at Gold beach by dusk. **Day 2:** After breakfast (included), we'll travel south along the coast. After lunch, we'll enter California, arriving in the heart of the redwoods for a tour and gondola ride at Trees of Mystery. Lodging will be at The Trees of Mystery (dinner not included). **Day 3:** After breakfast (included), we will board the bus for our trip north through the redwoods, coming into Oregon on Hwy 199, stopping at the historic Wolf Creek Inn for lunch (provided). Then I-5 back to Eugene by 6:30 p.m.

## Donor Recognition

(Continued from page 2)

vidual members can opt to "save a tree" and reduce club expenses by receiving their copies of the Bulletin exclusively online.

- Instead of merely having a line on which to indicate donations to specific

funds, special donor levels will be created for members opting to exceed their \$30 basic membership dues with significant donations. These donations will help repay the borrowing from the endowment fund and begin rebuilding a contingency fund. The following categories will be established, with donors recognized in the January Bulletin.

- A. Silver \$50
- B. Gold \$100
- C. Platinum \$200

Of course, there's no need to wait for membership renewal time...additional donations can be made at any time – like right now, for instance -- and will be tremendously appreciated.

*-- Marshall Jay Kandell*

# Barb's June-July Trip Sampler

**B**ARB REVERE has looked over upcoming trips and selected an attractive sampling for special mention. If you are leading a trip and would like us to know why you think it will offer something special, email us:

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

**Sunday, June 18 – Battle Ax** – As the tallest peak in the Bull of the Woods Wilderness, Battle Ax offers views of the northern Cascades, nearby Elk Lake and the fine mature old growth forest that surrounds it. Led by Bob Huntley

**Wednesday, June 21 – Bohemia Mountain** – Three short hikes in and around the Bohemia mining country east of Cottage Grove. Join leader Wayne Deeter for history, wildflowers and more. The hike up Bohemia Mt. is steep and rocky so boots are recommended.

**Thursday, June 22 – UO Campus** – A friendly and fond look campus buildings with history and storytelling thrown in. Last year, we walked with a little ‘Oregon mist’ coming down, and no one even noticed – we were that enthralled! Richard Heinzkill, a knowledgeable retired UO librarian leads this popular trip.

**Saturday, June 24 – Cone Peak and Iron Mountain** – Iron Mountain is often touted as the premier wildflower hike of the Cascades. Hikers line up cheek-to-cheek on the Iron Mt. Trail while equally lovely Cone Peak is often very nearly vacant. Over 300 species of plants bloom here for just a few weeks each summer. This is a strenuous “C” hike, nine miles and 1,900 ft. gain, led by Alan Coons.

**Same Day (June 24) – Rebel Rock Loop** – Hikers used to race each other on this hike, trying to set records for the shortest time, but leader Ed Lovegren thinks the pace will be more leisurely this year. Even so, this “C” loop hike will put you to the test with its 3,000 ft. of elevation gain and 14-mile length. In the western part of the Three Sisters Wilderness, this trail hugs Rebel Creek before visiting Rebel Rock and Rebel Lookout and returns via Trail Creek. The rock formations are beautiful and unusual; the views breathtaking.

**Sunday, June 25 –Duffy Lake** – A lovely place for a swim, Duffy Lake was spared when the B&B fire roared through in 2002, but the surrounding

area was extensively damaged. Your trail will be a study in the regeneration and re-growth of burned-over forest. Join co-leaders Judy Terry and Karla Rusow on what will prove to be an interesting and enjoyable “B” trip.

**Saturday, July 8 – Diamond View Lake** –Walt Dolliver will lead the hike through a deep wilderness forest full of early wildflowers to reach this alpine jewel on the east flank of Diamond Peak. The 11-mile length makes this a tougher “B” hike.

**Sunday, July 9 –Youngs Rock and Moon Point** – This hike might be a new experience for many of you. Usually a cross-country ski destination in January, Moon Point is west of Diamond Peak and deep in the Umpqua National Forest overlooking the entire Middle Fork valley. One leader’s report described Youngs Rock as a “mighty prow, thrusting up out of the forest” beckoning his hikers onward. Join Dave McClurg for this 5-mile, 1,500 ft. gain “B” hike.

**Thursday, July 13 –Eagle’s Rest** – South of Lookout Point Reservoir, this close-in hike climbs to an overlook of Lost Valley and a pastoral view of farms, homes and back roads. Led by Marc Hansen, this is a 5-mile “B” hike with 1,400 ft. gain.

**Saturday (July 15) – Scio Covered Bridges** – Ride the back roads through gently rolling farmland touring some of the most beautiful covered bridges in the Willamette Valley. Sharon Ritchie leads this bike trip northeast of Albany.

**Sunday, July 16 – Browder Ridge** – This relatively uncrowded trail snakes through magnificent old growth forests, alpine rock gardens and steep wildflower meadows in the “Old Cascades.” Brian Hamilton leads this hike, south of the Old Santiam Wagon Road.

**Same Day (July 16) – Cowhorn Mountain** – A tough trip with a huge reward -- John Jacobsen leads this 9.4-mile “C” hike with a 1,900 ft. gain. He says from Windigo Pass to Cowhorn summit, “We will be on a ridge almost the entire way with good views. The last quarter mile is an exciting rock scramble to the top, with a bit of exposure, but not too bad.” The view from the summit sweeps the Oregon Cascades north to

south and Diamond Peak and Sawtooth Mountain loom nearby.

**Same Day (July 16) – Fuji Mountain** – An easier trip with a 360-degree view as reward. Rod Wood leads this “A” hike through dense forest with views of the Cascades. The area is known for hemlock trees and diversity of plant species. Three miles and 950’ elevation gain, makes this a ‘one Pisgah equivalent’ hike.

**Wednesday, July 19 – Lowder Mountain** – If there are more spectacular wildflower meadows to be had for less effort than this perennial favorite, write and tell me about them. Leaders Jim and Sharon Duncan will tell you that the view of the Three Sisters at the top of this “B” hike isn’t bad either.

**Saturday and Sunday, July 22 to 23 – Brice Creek** – This extended trip is along a beautiful little stream full of falls, cascades, massive rocks, mosses, ferns and bounteous shade trees – everything we expect in an northwest trail experience. Contact leader Sue Wolling for details of this 90-mile *biking and camping* trek.

**Saturday, July 22 – Metolious River** – This river springs at full flow from the north flank of Black Butte and runs north along banks filled with wildflowers in June and July. This “A” hike, led by Sharon Thomas, is what you need to pick you up out of your summer doldrums.

**Same Day (July 22) – Obsidian Falls** – A trip that includes wildflower meadows and glittering obsidian fragments all over the landscape, leader Steve Schriver plans a partial loop route with spectacular views of Collier Glacier and the Sisters wilderness.

**Same Day (July 22) –Rooster Rock** – The highest spire in the Menagerie Wilderness, Rooster Rock was formed when softer rock eroded leaving behind the harder volcanic spires that gave the wilderness its name. Your trail winds through second growth Douglas fir forest. Led by Steve Gunn, this is a harder “B” hike, 6.6 miles with 2,300 ft. gain.

**Sunday, July 23 – Santiam Pass to McKenzie Pass**—Walk a bit of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail with leader Buzz Blumm on this 13-mile,

*(Continued on page 23)*

# Opportunity to Work on PCT With AmeriCorps Trail Crews

By Peter Asai

**T**HE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL Association -- in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service -- is sponsoring several splendid opportunities to join AmeriCorps trail crews for multi-day work projects on the Pacific Crest Trail this summer. For four weekends in July and August, volunteers will join AmeriCorps teams of seven college-age volunteers each to cut brush, clean and construct water bars and improve trail treads.

AmeriCorps provides all meals, tools and work instruction. You only need to provide your tent, sleeping bag, personal gear and the means to get to the work sites. Two of the projects involve car camping and the others backpacking into the work area. Individuals or groups are welcome. Even if you can only spend the day with no overnight, please consider it. I did this last summer in the Three Sisters area and had a great time in beautiful surroundings with some extraordinary young people working to keep the PCT a first-rate trail system. It is a great way to practice good stewardship of our trail systems and do it with an inspiring group of young folks.

## TRAIL PROJECT DATES and locations:

July 21-24, near Charleton Lake (Waldo Lake area) -- car camp

July 27-30, Irish/Taylor Lakes (Waldo Lake area) -- car camp

August 12-20, Reserve Meadow -- back pack

August 26-Sept 3, Jefferson Park (Jefferson Wilderness) - - back pack

If you are interested, contact: Garry Hanley (509) 395-3463 or email: [garry.hanley@esd112.org](mailto:garry.hanley@esd112.org). I would be happy to share my experience, as well. Call me at 933-3927 or email: [igneousrok@msn.com](mailto:igneousrok@msn.com).

## Barb's Sampler

(Continued from page 22)

2,500 ft. gain "C" hike. Your route winds between Big Lake and Belknap Crater as it makes its way through the forests, wildflower meadows and the volcanic formations between Hws. 126 and 242. Large exposed areas will keep hikers moving fast to finish in good time.

**Wednesday, July 26 – Cascade Head** –Anne McLucas leads this lovely coast hike that includes views of Hart's Cove and its beautiful waterfall. *Note: Anne has been invited by author, Bill Sullivan, to bring the group to visit his cabin in the Cascade Head area. This cabin is the subject of Bill's 2004 book, "Cabin Fever: Notes From a Part-Time Pioneer."*

**Saturday, July 29 – Chucksney Mountain** –This trail climbs through dense forest and over rocky ridges on its way to the alpine meadows at the top of loop. Views of the Three Sisters, beargrass, phlox and other wildflowers abound on this "C" hike led by Alan Coons.

**Sunday, July 30 –Tidbits Mountain** – Old Growth Douglas firs, wildflower rock gardens and gnarled rocky summit spires, will keep your interest along this "B" hike led by Stewart Hoeg.

# Obsidian Calendar

## June

- 16 Fri – **Hiking the Pacific Crest Trail--Rob Rathmann** Potluck
- 17 Sat – **Hinman Vineyards**, Bike 38m **B**, L.Dunlap ... (686-6745)
- 17-18 Sat-Sun - **S Sister via Prouty**, Climb, Slipp (503-582-1100)
- 17 Sat – **Sweet Creek Falls**, 5m 650' **A**, Cunningham ..(344-0486)
- 17 Sat – **Tire Mountain**, 8m 800' **B**, A.Coons .....(687-9741)
- 18 Sun – **Battle Ax**, 5.6m 1600' **B**, B.Huntley .....(687-1823)
- 20 Tue – **Opal Creek**, 7.1m 200' **B**, J.Dorland .....(484-0280)
- 20 Tue – **Yaquina Head, Aquarium**, Bus, V.Kocken ..(736-5180)
- 21 Wed – **Bohemia Mountain**, 3m 800' **A**, W.Deeter ..(942-0824)
- 22 Thu – **Crevasse Rescue, field June 24-25**, Sullivan (342-6546)
- 22 Thu – **U of O Campus**, 3m **A**, R.Heinzkill .....(343-8367)
- 24 Sat – **Cone Pk-Iron Mtn**, 8m 1900' **B**, A.Coons .....(687-9741)
- 24 Sat – **Rebel Rock Lp**, 14m 3000' **C**, E.Lovegren .....(343-1432)
- 25 Sun – **Canyon Cr Meadows**, 7m 1400' **B**, McLucas (485-5608)
- 25 Sun – **Deception Butte**, 8m 2600' **C**, L.Christiansen (687-8379)
- 25 Sun – **Duffy Lake**, 6.6m 800' **B**, K.Rusow .....(744-7990)
- 25 Sun – **Goodman Creek**, Trail Maint, P.Asai .....(933-3927)
- 26-Jul 6 Mon-Thu – **Camp Deetour - Sequim Bay, WA**.....  
Summer Camp, L.Lindstrom .....(683-1409)
- 27 Tue – **Clear Lake**, 5m 200' **A**, ..... M.Prentice (687-5850)
- 28 Wed – **Tidbits Mountain**, 4m 1100' **B**, .....S.Miller (484-4586)

## July

- 1-3 Sat-Mon – **Mt. Jefferson**, Climb, K.Ball .....(895-3626)
- 1 Sat – **South Sister**, Climb, B.Hamilton .....(343-6550)
- 8 Sat – **Cone Peak-South Peak**, 12m 2500' **C**, S.Hunt ..(912-2201)
- 8 Sat – **Diamond View Lk**, 10m 1000' **B**, W.Dolliver ..(345-2975)
- 8 Sat – **Larison Creek**, 6m 200' **B**, M.Welches .....(345-2056)
- 9 Sun – **Santiam Lake**, 11m 717' **C**, J.Terry .....(345-0720)
- 9 Sun – **Youngs Rk/Moon Pt**, 5m 1500' **B**, McClurg ... (746-9478)
- 10 Mon - **Mt. Pisgah sun/mn**, 3m 1000' **A**, Murdock ..(345-8305)
- 11-13 Tue-Thu – **Blacklock Point**, Backpack, S.Hovis (345-7788)
- 12 Wed – **Wildlife Images/Rehab**, Bus, Payne .....(746-1964)
- 13 Thu – **Eagles Rest**, 5m 1422' **B**, M.Hansen .....(343-5114)
- 15 Sat – **Lowder Mountain**, 5.6m 900' **B**, D.Jeffcott ... (344-6447)
- 15 Sat – **McKenzie/Clear Lk**, 7m 600' **B**, Lichtenstein (683-0688)
- 15-16 Sat-Sun – **Mt. Thielsen**, Climb, V.Lamb .....(343-6845)
- 15 Sat – **Salt Creek Falls**, 3.4m 400' **A**, C.Durham .....(687-0885)
- 15 Sat – **Scio Covered Bridges**, Bike 45m **B**, Ritchie ..(342-8435)
- 16 Sun – **Browder Ridge**, 6.2m 1550' **B**, B.Hamilton ..(343-6550)
- 16 Sun – **Cowhorn Mtn**, 9.4m 1900' **C**, J.Jacobsen .....(343-8030)
- 16 Sun – **Fuji Mountain**, 3m 950' **A**, R.Wood .....(954-3406)
- 16 Sun – **Marcola**, Bike 15.4m **A**, G.Strahon .....(434-1911)
- 17 Mon – **Duffy Lake**, 7m 800' **B**, B.Revere .....(726-4989)
- 19 Wed – **Lowder Mtn**, 5.6m 900' **B**, Duncan .....(343-8079)
- 21-23 Fri-Sun – **Mt. Shasta**, Climb, D.Snyder .....(688-0602)
- 22-23 S/S - **Brice Cr**, Bike/cmp 90m, Wolling .....(345-2110)
- 22 Sat – **Obsidian F**, 15m 1800' **C**, S.Schrivier .....(345-9573)
- 22 Sat – **Rooster Rock**, 6.6m 2300' **B**, S.Gunn .....(686-2031)
- 22 Sat – **Up Cache Cr/Pk 6762**, 9m 2000' **B**, Hoyland (338-9881)
- 23 Sun – **Santiam/McKenzie P**, 13m 2500' **C**, Blumm (343-8830)
- 23 Sun – **Yoran Lake**, 10.8m 1300' **C**, L.Funkhouser ..(206-2303)
- 26 Wed – **Cascade Head**, 6m 1200' **B**, A.McLucas .....(485-5608)
- 26 Wed – **Metolius River**, 5.4m 100' **B**, S.Thomas .....(747-1623)
- 27 Thu – **Mt. Whitney**, Climb, B.Blumm .....(343-8830)
- 29 Sat – **Chucksney Mtn**, 10.3m 2000' **C**, A.Coons .....(687-9741)
- 29 Sat – **Larison Rock**, 7m 2300' **B**, R.Wood .....(954-3406)
- 29-30 Sat-Sun – **Mt. Adams**, Climb, L.Huff .....(915-9071)
- 29-30 Sat-Sun – **N Sister**, Climb, J.Pegg .....(343-0909)
- 29 Sat – **S Sister (youth)**, Climb, A. & G.Jobanek .....(343-8547)
- 29 Sat – **Brothel, Cottage Gr**, Bike 42m **B**, S.Ritchie ..(342-8435)
- 30 Sun – **Scott Mountain**, 10m 1200' **B**, G.Baitinger ... (344-9345)
- 30 Sun – **Tidbits Mountain**, 4m 1100' **B**, S.Hoeg .....(484-6196)



*Nature's own black and white. At Heceta Head. See trip report Page 11. Photo by Zella Andreski*

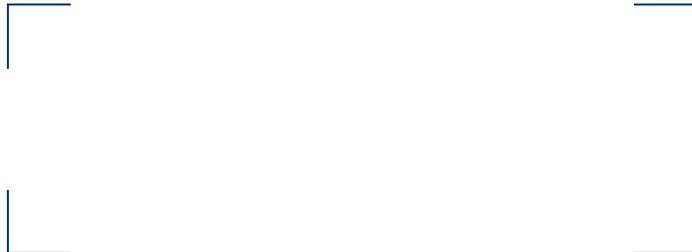


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