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Dates to Remember

Nov 14	SciEd — Club History
Nov 17	Potluck — Wild West
Dec 6	Board Meeting

Detailed trip schedules at:
www.obsidians.org or Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

Winter Trips
Announced

See Page 19

Membership Dues
Are WAY Overdue.

Delinquents
To Be Dropped
December 1!

See Page 2

Obsidians Receive Awards At Annual Meeting



Photo & patch scan by John Jacobsen

AT THE 2006 **OBSIDIAN** annual meeting Sharon Ritchie (shown left) received the prestigious combination of the 300 Trips Award along with the 100 Trips Leader Award., the second Obsidian to achieve this worthy milestone. See Page 11 for a complete list of award recipients and additional pictures. The minutes of the annual meeting are available on Page 9.



Welcome New Board Members and Officers

THREE NEW **OBSIDIAN** board members were elected at the October annual meeting to serve for a three year term from 2007 - 2009. Jim Duncan was reelected for his second three year stint. Barb Revere and Laurie Funkhouser filled out the slate. Leaving the board at the end of the year will be Sandra Larsen and Wayne Deeter.

Obsidian board of directors officers for the 2007 year were elected at the November 1 board meeting. John Pegg was elected president; Stewart Hoeg, vice president; Laurie Funkhouser, secretary; and Sheila Ward, treasurer.



Cell phone photo by John Jacobsen
 President Wayne passes gavel to President-elect John

Welcome!

New Members

BARNES, JENNIFER (Active)
704 Blue Jay Loop, Creswell, OR 97426
845-3704 jlbarnes@centurytel.net

BELL, AMBER (Active)
90 Knoop, Eugene, OR 97404
267/614-1287

EYERS, CHUCK (Active)
1510 Olive St., Eugene, OR 87401
343-9411

GILLETTE, JIM (Active)
86340 Needham Rd., Eugene, OR 97405
953-2500

MAENZ, LOU (Active), 398 S. 72nd St.,
Springfield, OR 97478
741-6863 slmaenz@aol.com

SOUSSAN, PAT (Active)
1500 Crest Dr., Eugene, OR 97405
345-3046 pdsoussan@aol.com

WARD, BONNIE (Associate)
1647 Oak View Terc., Bonita, CA 91902
1-619-216-3537 bonnie.p.ward@kp.org

Reinstated Members

BROOKER, JOYCE (Active), 75 Hayden
Bridge Way, Springfield, OR 97477
747-3070

CONANT, EATON (Active), 43 West-
brook Way, Eugene, OR 97405
344-0097

SCHERER, ROBERT (Active), 825
McKenzie Crest Dr, Springfield, 97477
726-8238 robert@springfieldbuick.com

Letters....

Thanks so much for sending the program from the renovation dedication. I'm sorry I couldn't make it but am glad some of the other family members could. I was only nine when the first dedication took place but I remember the excitement and pride the Obsidians had at the time. Your article in the recent Bulletin captured that feeling very well and made me feel like I was there. Thank you for that. Summer camp near West Yellowstone sounds great and we are all excited about the possibility of going....

-- Carol Scherer

Ahrens at Mt. Pisgah

"Sacred Seasons" Presentation by Rick Ahrens: Thurs., Dec. 14, 7-9 p.m. A look at the connection between the earth's seasons and our human celebrations.

Explore the essence of holidays – as times when we reconnect to ourselves, our community and our planet. Go beyond cultural spin and re-imagine the deeper and older threads of this "time out of time." Slideshow & lecture. Suggested donation: \$2-10.

For more information call 747-1504.

OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 322, Eugene, OR 97440
Website: 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 Jim Pierce
Youth Andy Jobanek

Is Your Obsidian Membership in Peril? Send Dues by December 1st or Get Dropped!

IF YOU ARE AMONG the more than 150 members who have not yet sent in your Obsidian membership dues for the coming year, *you are very late* and time is running out for you.

It costs the Membership Committee a considerable amount of time and money trying to contact delinquent dues payers. If you haven't renewed your membership, please take care of it now...or you will be dropped from the membership roll on December 1st!

Annual dues -- \$30 per person Checks payable to: **Obsidians, Inc.**

Send to:

Obsidian Membership Chair
P.O. Box 51424, Eugene, OR 97405

Be sure to include your address, phone and email. Also, please consider renewing at one of the premium membership levels to help meet the \$5,000 challenge to help replenish the Endowment Fund. Finally, please tell us if you would like to lead hikes, winter trips, climbs or other activities...or volunteer for any committees or in any other capacity.

-- Sharon Ritchie, Membership Chair

The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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

bulletin@obsidians.org

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

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

Deadline
for December Bulletin
Saturday, December 2, 2006

Assembly/Mailing Team
For October Bulletin

Tom Adamcyk, Zella Andreski, Ann-Marie Askew, Marc Hansen, Yuan Hopkins, Vi Johnson and Crew Chief Barb Revere.

Editorial Team
Writing & Editorial Staff Janet & John Jacobsen, Marshall Kandell, Barb Revere
Copy Editor Marshall Kandell
Graphics, Design & Desktop
Publishing Manager John Jacobsen
Assembly & Mail Manager Barb Revere

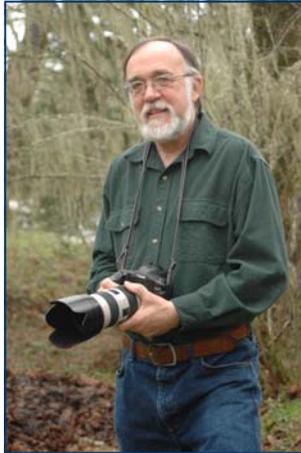
November Potluck Preview

Photographer Tours Unseen "Wild West"

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHER David Stone claims to have bear fever, "as in, 'The bear went over the mountain to see what he could see'."

Stone says this pleasant affliction has taken him down many an unknown road in the West. He passes this affliction to others through his company, Wildland Photo Tours, when he teaches fellow travelers how to explore and "celebrate the natural world" through photography. Stone has been leading nature photography tours around the Western U.S. since 1997.

At our November 17th Potluck, we Obsidians can join Stone at the lodge as armchair travelers during his multimedia "Wild West" presentation. We'll view spectacular landscape and wildlife images from Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah and Arizona. We'll see Stone's microscopic detail of rare moss and lichen, too.



A PROFESSIONAL photographer since 1988, Stone has published his work throughout Oregon and in National Geographic and National Audubon Society publications. For the past 10 years, he has been teaching nature photography classes at Lane Community College. He also conducts workshops at Mount Pisgah Arboretum on nature, travel and garden photography.

Be prepared for a rich, sensory experience in the natural world, without leaving the lodge.

Potluck

Friday, November 17, 2006

Obsidian Lodge

Potluck, 6:30 p.m.

Program, 7:30 p.m.

Bring your favorite potluck dish to share...along with your own plates, utensils and cups...

***and** \$1 to help cover club expenses*

Potlucks

By Chris Cunningham

October Potluck Review

A Walking History of Lane County

IN LESS THAN an hour, we walked with Whitey Lueck around the perimeter of Lane County and even peeked into some of its interior. Our guest speaker for the October 27 potluck, Lueck shared some lesser-known facts about Lane County, past and present.

At 4,600+ square miles, Lane County is about the size of Connecticut. It's a fraction of the size it once was. Although Lane County didn't stretch to the coastline (the coastal county was called Umpqua), it was still enormous, stretching to Eastern Oregon, Idaho and clear to Wyoming until Oregon became a state in 1859.

Lueck's deep appreciation for the truly remarkable and not-so-remarkable aspects of Lane County was apparent. He led us to the northwestern corner just south of Cape Perpetua, where we scanned the majestic coastline and then east through a coastal range of Sitka spruce and Douglas fir. We landed in Junction City, passing radish seed fields thriving on rich river loam.

We continued toward McKenzie Pass in the northeastern part of the county and then headed down to Summit Lake in the southeast. We completed our fence-line walk by climbing through the Douglas fir-covered Cougar Mountain range east of Cottage Grove and finished at Siltcoos Lake in the southwestern corner.

WE SAW HARBOR seals and sea lions and found tidal pools with sea stars and native mussels; looked at dunes that

have crept inland over the past 40 years; saw a few remaining grasslands; and noted that Heceta Head, which had been treeless since the 1930s, has been taken over by Sitka spruce. We saw verdant pastures and coastal streams abundant with Chinook salmon and crawdads.

In the southern Willamette Valley, we reflected on ash woodlands that have replaced treeless prairies, such as those at Willow Creek Nature Reserve. In north Eugene, we noted that fields of grass seed, long a center of controversy, still dominate the landscape.

NEAR GILLESPIE BUTTE and at Mount Pisgah, we found remnants of oak savannah. The absence of fire, grazing or mowing has allowed Douglas fir naturally to take over most of our grassland habitats and oak savannahs. On the other hand, BLM-managed land in Coburg Hills is preserved because it is one of the few remaining Douglas fir and western hemlock stands that exist in low elevations.

Lueck encourages the truly curious to explore what lies deep inside Lane County, which we can access along thousands of linear miles of forest roads, often gravel-paved and always well-groomed. He says hundreds of square miles of intact forest, dominated by Douglas fir for more than 10,000 years, are designated to remain uncut.

There it is, right here in our own backyard.

Are We Heading Toward a Second Ending of Nature?

By Judy Newman, Conservation Chair

I RECENTLY ATTENDED a lecture by Bill McKibben, author of *The End of Nature*, in which he contends: "We have already, pretty much by accident, altered the atmosphere so badly that nature as we know it is over". He goes on to say that, with our foray into "biotechnology, genetic engineering," which "promises total domination," we are heading toward a second ending of nature. This second ending "won't be by accident – this will be on purpose." Written in 1989, this was the first book to address the enormous scale of this issue.

His talk centered on the issue of global warming. McKibben said our situation now is a civilization-scale problem. It brought to mind Paul Williams' words from 1973: "Man, that creature who believes his purpose is to control and conquer Nature, is just now beginning to remember the obvious -- that he is a part of Nature himself. He has fought his way to the top of the planetary spinal cord, inflicting damage every step of the way. Now, bewildered, he looks around: What am I doing here? Assuming responsibility, answers a still, small voice all around him."

McKibben mentioned a walk across Vermont he initiated with a small group that ended with 1,000 participants. He lamented that was the biggest demonstration for climate change concerns that has been held and said there is an immediate need

for greater, more visible action. He holds that we no longer have the time to make changes only from the bottom up -- that we need to place the priorities of our shared world community above what he calls the "hyper-individualism" that is so rampant in the west and at the core of our over-consumption of the world's resources. McKibben said all of us are going to have to get outside of our comfort zones and federal regulations will need to be passed if we are going to meet a deadline of 10 years to get things turned around (a deadline set last year by the "calm and sober scientist, James Hansen").

Can we really continue to stick our heads in the sand and leave this mess to our kids? May we all pay attention to the still, small voice all around us.

Conservation Events

- *The Great Turning*, David C. Korten – Nov. 18 at 7 p.m., First Christian Church, 1166 Oak Street.

- Cascadia Wildlands Project Annual Holiday Auction in the UofO's Agate Hall, from 6-10 p.m. on Saturday, Dec.2. Call CWP at 434-1463 for info.

Conservation Tip from Margot Fetz

You can choose to have all or part of your electric power provided by wind power. See www.eweb.org/home/windpower.

FWOC Convention Explores "Wildfire in the West"

By Shirley Cameron

CALIFORNIA'S Calaveras Big Trees State Park dazzled folks at the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs convention in September! Giant sequoias, dominating pines, incense cedars and white fir -- plus the profuse understory of Pacific dogwood -- made one want to return in the spring.

This 74th Convention of the FWOC was hosted by the Mother Lode Chapter of the Sierra Club and included several interesting speakers representing Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center, Calaveras Big Tree State Park and Sierra Nevada Forest Protection Campaign. The presentations underscored the complex issues involved in managing the Sierra Nevada ecosystem. The *Framework Plan* covers 11.5 million acres in 11 forests, including 4.2 acres of old growth. We learned the regional forester relies on University of California science.

FIRE IS A NATURAL PART of forest ecology, but was demonized in the early

1900s and the effects still linger. Large amounts of fuel from tree limbs and undergrowth have gone unchecked, providing hot fires as well as crown fires. Hot fires release carbon dioxide into the ground and leave scorched earth where life does not return soon. Logging increases fire risk by opening up the canopy and encouraging fuels.

Calaveras Big Trees State Park uses prescribed fire to protect against catastrophic forest fire. The park ecologist led a walking tour to observe results of the prescribed fire program. The first year of the burns in the Sequoia was in 1968, after an extensive study which urged management of the whole system.

Sometimes, mechanical thinning is needed before fire can be utilized. Prescribed fire relies on weather reports and wind analysis. Forest officials put their jobs on the line when they agree to a controlled burn. One speaker brought a small tree slab to show the growth rings

of an old tree. After fire events, the tree grew slower and had tighter rings. If there is more rain, the space between rings is wider.

HAVE YOU SEEN the rare Pacific fisher? A small powerful animal adapted to leaping from tree to tree in the conifer forest in search of food. The fisher, martens and other wildlife, such as the red-legged frog thought to be Mark Twain's jumping frog are in crisis due to logging and fuel reduction practices. We are urged not to set up dichotomies in the natural world. Everything is important. For instance, the great purple hairstreak feeds on mistletoe.

On the final day of the convention, delegates passed 15 resolutions. When the final versions are ready, the resolutions will be distributed to member clubs. Three new clubs were welcomed: Greater Yellowstone Coalition, Idaho Conservation League and Winter Wildlands Alliance.

Letters, Notes, Recollections, Research Help Recover History of Obsidian Lodge

Compiled by Janet Jacobsen

TOM TAYLOR, the original architect for the 1963 Obsidian Lodge, sent a letter reflecting on how the lodge was built. He wrote that early members thought it would be great to have a “clubhouse.” (*Board notes indicate a lot was purchased for \$525 at the corner of 17th and High in April, 1944. Zoning problems, building costs and lack of parking space halted building on the in-town site.*)

Tom said members were tired of meeting and storing outdoor gear in their homes; and posting sign-up sheets at various businesses and the YMCA. They decided to re-start the building program. He wrote that the club had \$4,500 in savings, was able to sell the city lot for around \$12,000 and led a trip to view likely sites for the clubhouse.

In June 1959, the club voted to purchase 4.53 acres for \$6,500 on the Brentlinger property east of Laurelwood Golf

Course. “... it was remote and in the Oregon woods -- perfect for an outdoor club,” says Tom. “At the time, 30th Avenue had not been built and the northwest corner of the property had access only by a dirt road. No utilities were onsite -- a daunting venture with a real piece of adventure and hard work ahead. A rough road, the building site and parking lot were hand cleared.”

AFTER OUR OPEN HOUSE in October, Ray Cavagnaro also sent me a note recalling his memories of hand clearing of the rough road: “**Back** work is a more apt description!”

Tom was chosen to design the structure and site. “It was decided we needed a room for about 50, a small meeting room, a kitchen, restroom, and storage for outdoor gear. Several volunteers came through to help in the construction, so

(Continued on page 7)

Art & History Notes

Focus on Norm Benton

By Janet Jacobsen

EACH MONTH, we plan to feature a bit of history on the artists/photographers who have masterpieces displayed in the Obsidian Lodge. This month, the focus is on Norm Benton whose photograph, *Waterfall near trail to Grey Glacier, Los Glaciares National Park, Chilean Patagonia*, is in the new Scherer Room.

For many years, Norm’s vibrant photographs of his travels have graced the walls of the lodge. He changed them each year so that we were able to view close up scenes of mountains and cultures. In September, I drove down to Norm’s home in Creswell to pick up his photograph to be displayed in the Scherer Room. Apple trees, a garden, grape arbor and flowers surround his home purchased in 1948. Climbing photographs hang on his wall and one room is filled with slides, many that he showed at Obsidian potlucks.

Norm, now 83 years old, was in the process of pasteurizing 24 gallons of apple juice he had pressed the previous day. He showed me several books which featured some of his photographs, as well as photos of himself on expeditions.

A retired rural mail carrier, Norm has written four volumes about his adventures. His first trek to another continent

was to Kashmir in 1970. Until 2003, he went on at least one trek, mountaineering expedition or tour almost every year – about 84 trips, 47 to other continents. Trekking destinations included Nepal, Bhutan, Everest Base Camp, Romania and Pakistan. He participated in 22 mountaineering expeditions in places like Peru, Bolivia, Soviet Union, Argentina, Nepal, Ecuador and Africa.

HE REMINDED ME that he also climbed in Alaska and the Yukon Territory. He has climbed above 20,000 feet altitude 15 times. His conquests include the highest mountains in South and North America, Africa, Europe and Australia. What a feat! In 1986, his mountaineering came to a halt when he fell and broke his pelvis while picking apples.

I left his home carrying *The Adventures of Norm Benton*, Volumes I and IV. What a memory! In October, I drove back to Creswell to return Volume 1 and purchased Volume IV, since it contained 11 descriptions of Obsidian summer camps between 1960–1992.

Norm gave me a tour of his grape arbor, where 10 varieties of grapes were so abundant and enticing. He hopes to can 90 quarts of grape juice. I left this time with a bag of sweet grapes, tomatoes and apples. I thought about the headline in the Creswell paper in March 1992: “Benton Gets High on Mountains.” I

wondered if grape juice has anything to do with one’s ability to get to the top of those mountains.



Norm on Mt. St. Helens, 1969

Gold Butte Fire Lookout Dedicated in September

By Curtis Irish

THE DEDICATION of the rebuilt Gold Butte Fire Lookout, located five miles northeast of Detroit, OR, was held on September 9th. It was the culmination of a seven-year volunteer project led by The Sand Mountain Society.

It was originally estimated that it would take three to four years to repair, but dry rot and carpenter ant infestation required that it be torn down and the salvageable parts numbered so they could be correctly replaced...and it had to be reframed and rebuilt from the foundation up.

Some matching lumber was obtained from Sisi Butte Lookout, which was being torn down, and some lumber had to be custom milled to match the original. Boards and windows were packed out by manpower down the long moderately steep trail and refinished; then packed back to the construction site.

OBSIDIAN JOHN CECIL spent many days with mattock and

lopping shears, single handedly restoring the lookout trail to top condition. He also helped with the dismantling and numbering of the boards and the reframing. During the ceremonies, several For-

est Service men and Don Allen, project lead for the Sand Mountain Society, spoke. Boy Scouts raised the American flag, saluted and said the scout pledge.

The lookout was constructed in 1934 and was last used in 1970. The Obsidians hiked to Gold Butte in 1937 and a picture of that date in the Obsidian archives shows Helen Smith (*in photo at left, sitting on porch center*), a long time Obsidian and forest service volunteer sitting on the front porch of the lookout.



The road to the lookout has speed bumps (washboard, about two feet apart) and many protruding rocks to dodge. The best speed on certain sections is five miles per hour; and anyone doing 15 mph is speeding!

BOOK REVIEW:

Solving the Mysteries of Survival

By Chris Shuraleff

Deep Survival: Who Lives, Who Dies and Why
by Laurence Gonzales

IN “DEEP SURVIVAL,” Laurence Gonzales pulls readers to the boundary region between life and death, where they peer into hearts, minds and souls of those who have survived seemingly impossible situations and those who have given in to death. Through careful dissection of case studies, he illuminates the essence of the true survivor—the internal battles waged between fear and hope, reason and emotion, despair and correct action.

He shows how all survivors go through the same psychological transformation and make the same spiritual journey; and he explains the mysterious events and surprising outcomes that occur when humans are pushed into a territory that, until now, only survivors could comprehend.

THIS GRIPPING NARRATIVE is the first book to describe the science of survival, revealing through new psychological and neurological research the workings of the brain that motivate our actions. Unconscious responses to everything from events in daily life to dire emergencies are driven by primal regions of the brain: those that support the survival of the species, but not always the individual.

Applying the science of chaos theory and self-organizing

systems, Gonzales, a veteran adventure writer, shows how accidents are not random acts of God, but highly organized outcomes of complex systems, repeated with inevitable frequency. You can't stop them from happening, but this book can help you prevent them from happening to you.

“DEEP SURVIVAL” is not going to teach you how to build a fire or find water, but you will be far better prepared to survive any challenge you face. The principles Gonzales uncovers are universal, applying not only to survival in the wild but also to survival in relationships, in the death of a loved one, in running a business during uncertain times, even in war. The book changes the way we understand ourselves and experience the world.

Random Notes:

Survivors...

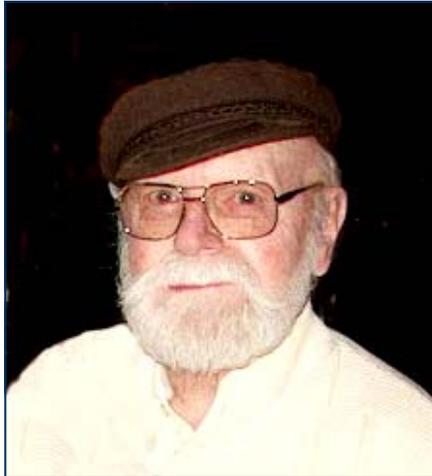
- Have a sense of purpose.
- Have plans with small manageable goals, but are willing to let go of a plan to make a new one as the world changes.
- Accept the world they are in. It is the key to survival. Calm down.
- Stay alert, keep calm, think clearly, act decisively.
- Survival starts before the accident. Has to be a core inside to carry the person through. Rambo types are the first to go.
- Pray, even when they don't believe in a god.
- Facing down horror, finding beauty, feeling certain. Every survivor describes the same pattern; the stages of dying. It is acceptance in survival; total commitment.
- Positive mental attitude.
- Leadership, order and routine. Eat life or life will eat you!

Gene Thaxton

A MEMORIAL SERVICE will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 13, at the Obsidian Lodge for Gene Ray Thaxton, who died Sept. 30 of pneumonia and heart failure. He was 80.

Gene was born June 30, 1926, in Long Beach, CA., to Raymond and Vivian Thaxton. He married Beatrice (Bea) Fontana on Jan. 7, 1989, in Eugene. Thaxton served in the navy on submarine duty during World War II and worked as a construction supervisor and project manager. Survivors include his wife; two daughters, Linda Saunders of Portland and Tamara Ruland of Aurora, CO; and four grandchildren. His first wife, Dolores, died November 30, 1986 after 41 years of marriage.

Gene's first Obsidian activity was in May 1966, when he attended rock climbing school at the Coburg caves. Shortly after that, he did snow school at Jeff Park. He climbed his first mountain (Middle Sister) in July 1966. In all, he participated in 253 Obsidian activities --including 169 hikes, 74 climbs and 10 summer camps. He earned his 3-peak and 10-peak awards; was climb chair for several years; and served as club president in 1982. Gene was awarded honorary membership at the 2000 annual meeting for his services to the club.



SIX YEARS AGO, Gene had a stroke, but that did not stop him from going on bus trips and attending summer camps. He attended the 2006 camp at Sequim, where he celebrated his 80th birthday and was recognized for leading a climb on Mt. Olympus in 1980.

Gene was a "steady stand by" during the building of the McLaughlin-Clark Memorial Wall in 1974. He provided a saw and helped with the layout and cutting stock. He was all smiles when he saw the results of the lodge remodeling project.

Anyone who is fortunate enough to have Gene's signature on a summit certificate knows that "steady" is an appropriate word to describe his leadership. He was a mentor who offered encouragement and support with a smile

Remembrances to the Obsidians, First Congregational Church, Habitat for Humanity or the Nature Conservancy.

**Memorial Service Monday, November 13
2:30 p.m. - Obsidian Lodge**
Parking at Laurelwood Golf Course
with shuttle provided to the Obsidian Lodge.

History of Obsidian Lodge

(Continued from page 5)

plans were drawn to do excavation, framing, concrete, roofing, windows and doors and a large block fireplace." Bailey Costello and Mike Stahl volunteered to do the electrical work. Don Chase of Chase Company did the plumbing and heating. Gene Sebring and others did the finish work. There were lots of volunteers for painting, brush removal, and other jobs.

Rex Stevens also sent a note after the open house with one of his stories about the construction of the climbing wall: "Clarence Landes had a very non-obtrusive way of getting me to bring equipment to the lodge. I used the same technique on my business partner for 'demonstrating' equipment like it was a potential sale. Helping Clarence with the stone handling for the retaining and climbing wall (oh, excuse me, Memorial Wall) was great fun knowing it was in memory of my climbing partners."

IT HAS BEEN A LONG JOURNEY for the clubhouse from 1959 to 2006. Volunteers who worked so hard on the renovation project will have sympathy for the energy needed to implement the original construction.

Tom, who has not seen the building since 1973, concluded his letter with, "I wish I could be there with you for this cele-

bration of the completed addition. I am sure there will be many there I have climbed with between 1952 and 1973. I have missed all of you. I am also sorry if some of my numbers and names are not included. It has been a long time and many miles on the trails and peaks since."

The following are some interesting excerpts from board meetings from that era. A complete history of the lodge is being researched by Rick Ahrens.

October, 1960: Accepted bid by contractor Vern A. Harding to build the clubhouse for \$12,025.

May 4, 1961: First official board meeting in new clubhouse.

May 20, 1961: First potluck in new lodge (picture night and kickoff for summer camp).

September 1961: Budget for clubhouse in newsletter. Total cost, \$21,445.04; donations received to date, \$17,559.05.

November 11-12, 1961: Chiefs held their first reunion at new lodge, 45 attend.

December 17, 1961: Princesses put on Christmas dinner for over 70 people.

May 19, 1963: Formal Clubhouse Dedication...public open house, Princesses hostesses, Chiefs guides. Sunday Potluck Supper for members and their friends and special guests only. Dedication ceremonies to follow dinner, Clarence Scherer presiding. President Margaret Markley and Clarence Scherer, christened lodge from rostrum with water from the summit of South Sister. Some of those too nearby also got christened, several times.

Board Notes

October 18, 2006

By Laurie Funkhouser, Secretary

Board members present: President Wayne Deeter, VP John Pegg, Treasurer Sheila Ward, Brian Hamilton, Marianne Camp and Anne Dhu McLucas. Also present: Secretary Laurie Funkhouser, Doug Nelson, Barb Revere, Kathy & Stewart Hoeg, John &, Janet Jacobsen, Jim Pierce, Lenore McManigal, Sharon Ritchie, Peter Asai, Liz Reanier and Margaret Prentice. September minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Board approved payment of the following bills: Publications (Insta-Print), \$ 538.00, Barb Revere (bulk mail) \$115.47; Janet Jacobsen (publicity) \$97.63, historian \$51.47) \$149.10; Sheila Ward (administration) \$47.64; Laurie Funkhouser (concessions) \$42.05; EWEB \$ 36.05; Jim Pierce (winter trips) \$39; Kathy Hoeg (lodge) \$11.20, entertainment \$5.48) \$16.68; Sharon Ritchie (membership) \$14.36; Stewart Hoeg (entertainment) \$6.38; Lenore McManigal (historian) \$3.78.

Old Business

\$5000 Matching Donations (John Jacobsen): As always, the members have stepped to the challenge and the club should be able to take full advantage of the matching donation offer.

Lodge Open House (Janet Jacobsen): A success! Approximately 20 nonmembers and 6 members attended the serendipity open house on Saturday and 74+ nonmembers and 90+ members attended the official open house on Sunday. The success was due to the number of volunteers and donations of members.

Annual Meeting (Wayne): Attended by 30+ members, annual reports provided by committee chairs, awards disbursed and no concerns/issues arose.

Lodge Procedures: Tabled.

New Business

New Board Members/Administration Transition (Wayne): New board members are Jim Duncan, Laurie Funkhouser and Barbara Revere. Outgoing board members are Wayne, Jim Duncan and Sandra Larsen. At November meeting the six remaining board members, plus the three new members, will elect officers. The president-elect will announce committee chairs at December meeting and Finance Committee will present the

2007 budget. The budget will be voted upon and committee chairs approved at January meeting.

Lodge Rental Review: Due to recent requests for rental of and maintenance concerns relating to the lodge, a review of the rental procedure/policy was deemed appropriate. Ann Dhu McLucas, Laurie Funkhouser, Janet Jacobsen and Stewart Hoeg volunteered to review the current procedure/policy.

Committee Reports

Summer Trips (Margaret Prentice): 43 trip reports, including 231 members and 46 nonmembers, \$431. A proposal to change the bylaws for fees was tabled until the next meeting.

Winter Trips (Jim Pierce): Last season wrapped up with reports of six canceled and two trip reports submitted (10 members, \$12. Board approved f committee members Les Brod, Laurie Funkhouser, Scott Hovis, John Pegg and Chris Stockdale. A procedure manual being prepared and website/electronic concerns being addressed. Rating winter and summer hikes was discussed.

Climbs (Doug Nelson): Seven climbs scheduled: 3 canceled, 4 successful. Five reports received (15 members, 5 nonmembers, \$80). Thanks to the support and help of the committee members for another successful climb season.

Trail Maintenance (Peter Asai): Spencer Butte Park trips begin Oct. 29 and will continue for seven months. City of Eugene developing a plan to build a permanent trail from the tree line to the summit. There will be a Dec. 5th public workshop re. Ridgeline Trail.

By-Ways-By-Bus (Liz Reanier): A 3-day and two 1-day bus trips reported, with 113 riders. Committee meeting Oct. 24 to start planning 2007 schedule.

Entertainment (Kathy Hoeg): 64 participated in Sept. potluck, with 69 for presentation, with \$65 collected. Recruiting of new committee members.

Science & Education (John Jacobsen): Pema Chhopheryl presented a program on his native Bhutan on Oct. 10 (25 attendees). Nov. 14, Rick Ahrens program on history of Obsidians and lodge. Janet Jacobsen will contact new members, encouraging them to attend.

Membership (Sharon Ritchie): 4 mem-

bership applications and 3 reinstatements approved by board (plus those reported in Oct. Bulletin). Total members to date: 586. The Board approved purchase of patches (\$675).

Publicity (Marianne Camp): Successful promotions at the Eugene Celebration and through television and newspaper coverage of the open house.

Concessions (Laurie Funkhouser): Sales = \$100.50. A new item for sale will be organic soap which a recent member is making and donating to the club.

Finance (Stewart Hoeg): Committee met Sept. 28 and decided to transfer \$30,000 from Endowment Fund to Contingency Fund giving the Contingency Fund positive balance of \$5,000 and avoiding any future negative balance. Due to the matching donation offer, it was decided to accrue interest on the borrowing from the Endowment Fund as well as reduce the borrowing by the matching donations and then implement a 10 year repayment schedule. The committee also audited the Summer Camp on 10/9/06 and will be auditing the General Fund on 10/26/06.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): Receipt of \$75 for lodge rental for a Boy Scout eagle scout ceremony. All trip reports double-checked against website and Bulletin.

Lodge Building (Rob Castleberry): Two work parties took place in September which involved improvements to the south side of the lodge: new firewood shed away from the building, improved screening, removal and capping of rotten beam ends. After talking with an EWEB representative, it was determined they would install a closer pole to reduce damage due to tree falls on the line.

November 1, 2006

By Laurie Funkhouser, Secretary

Board members present: President Wayne Deeter, VP John Pegg, Jim Duncan, Treasurer Sheila Ward, Brian Hamilton, Stewart Hoeg and Marianne Camp. Also present: Secretary Laurie Funkhouser, Doug Nelson, Jim Pierce, Liz Reanier, Rick Ahrens, Barb Revere, Kathy Hoeg, John Jacobsen, Janet Jacobsen, Lenore McManigal, Margaret Prentice and Max Brown. October minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Board approved payments: EWEB, \$72.75; Lane Co. Property Tax, \$2,635.30; Sharon Duncan (Entertainment), \$7.89; Laurie Funkhouser (Concessions) \$72.15.

Old Business

Safety Manual Update for Summer

Trips (John Pegg): With efforts of Margaret Prentice, the manual has been updated and the new version will be available online.

Lodge Rental Review (Janet Jacobsen): Committee continuing the review and is open to additional input.

Bylaws Changes

Fees for Multi-Day Trips (Margaret Prentice): Approved: (1) Fees for trips involving more than one day changed to a flat rate of \$2 for members, \$10 for nonmembers; and (2) Persons 17 and under will not be charged a trip fee.

Responsibility for Winter Hikes (Jim Pierce): Changes to define winter trips responsibility and give summer trips a respite, will be reviewed and addressed at the next board meeting.

New Business

Election of Officers for 2007: The Board elected the following officers – President, John Pegg; VP, Stewart Hoeg; Secretary, Laurie

Funkhouser; Treasurer, Sheila Ward.

Chairing Committees (Wayne): John Pegg will be making contact regarding committee chairs, to be in place by next board meeting.

Budget Process (Stewart Hoeg): Deadline to submit committee budgets is Nov. 15.

December Meeting: Dinner at Mekala's, including new committee heads, to follow December board meeting.

Preservation of Scrapbooks (Rick Ahrens): Board approved having a UofO archivist inspect our archived materials and suggest how to best preserve those materials.

Committee Reports

Summer Trips (Margaret Prentice): Eight trip reports received, with 36 members and 14 nonmembers for revenues of \$94. Eight reports outstanding.

Winter Trips (Jim Pierce): 41 trips lined up so far. Leader training class Nov. 29 at lodge. Discussion re: a trip rating system, resulted in asking Winter Trips to propose definitions of "Easy, Moderate and Difficult" which would be posted on the YMCA bulletin board.

By-Ways-By-Bus (Liz Reanier): There will be a 6-day trip to Canada (6/24-29/07) led by Ben Jeffries and Don Payne. Approximate cost \$711, for which a \$100 deposit will be required. Trips for 2007 have been selected; now working

on responses from leaders. There will be several 2-3 day trips and 10+ day trips. Two trips took place in October and one trip is scheduled for Dec. 1.

Entertainment (Kathy Hoeg): 85 attended the October potluck and 95 attended the presentation, with receipts of \$79.65. Thanks to Max Brown for setting the tables.

Science & Education (John Jacobsen): Next program Nov.14. Rick Ahrens: "History of Obsidians."

Membership (Sharon Ritchie): Board approved addition of 3 applicants. Total members to date: 589(509 active, 36 associate, 3 honorary, 20 junior, 21 life).

Publicity (Marianne Camp): Due to reduction of trips, the YMCA board is being supplemented with historical photographs and other upcoming club events.

Concessions (Laurie Funkhouser): Sales of \$173 in October (\$64.50 coffee and \$108.50 in caps, sweatshirts, soap).

Online (Wayne Deeter): Services continue; some tweaking for trip reports made.

Finance (Stewart Hoeg): Liz Reanier, Stewart and Sheila Ward met to audit the General Fund. Audit was successful. Thanks to Sheila for excellent records!

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): All trips submitted are recorded.

Annual Meeting Notes

October 13, 2006

By Laurie Funkhouser, Secretary

Introduction of Board Members

Wayne Deeter (president), John Pegg (VP), Sheila Ward (treasurer), Stewart Hoeg, Brian Hamilton, Sandra Larsen, Jim Duncan, Anne Dhu McLucas and Marianne Camp; and Laurie Funkhouser (secretary).

Treasurer's Report

Finances are divided into six funds: Bus, Contingency, Endowment, Extended Trips, General and Summer Camp. The Bus Fund began the year with \$7,500 and, as of September, was \$10,731. The Contingency Fund went from \$93,000 in January to a low of -\$25 and is currently at \$5,219 after borrowing \$30,000 from the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund started at \$67,259, increased to \$74,020 due to market improvements and donations, reduced by the borrowed funds of \$30,000. The Extended Trips Fund, without much activity this year,

started at \$878 and is now \$458. The General Fund started at \$31,313, of which \$27,765 was transferred to the Contingency Fund to boost funds to cover lodge construction and other normal expenses; as of September, with the dues being paid, the fund is at \$10,765. The Summer Camp Fund began the year at \$6,288 and after a good summer camp is at \$16,219.

State of the Club Report

Wayne noted the accomplishments of the year: (1) Successful fundraising for lodge construction; (2) the number of volunteers who assisted in lodge improvements; and (3) the valuable service of the ad hoc Lodge Construction Committee. Wayne noted the increase of membership to a high of 580 and the work of several committees, including: Conservation, with Judy Newman; Science & Education, with John Jacobsen; Trail Maintenance, with Peter Asai; Pub-

lications, with Marshall Kandell; and Winter Trips, with Jim Pierce; and a special mention for the vitalization of Summer Camp, with Jim Duncan.

Committee Reports

Ad Hoc Construction (John Jacobsen): Lodge repair, renovation and expansion cost \$174,300. Volunteer labor was valued at \$35,000. Costs were covered by: preliminary funds from board (\$7,500); Contingency Fund (\$71,000); fundraising (goal, \$50,000; above goal, \$18,751); donations with 2006 member renewal (\$6,319)...for a total of \$153.57. \$21,000 was borrowed from the Endowment Fund to cover the difference. The original estimate was \$128,500. The additional expense is primarily due to: (1) Unanticipated climbing wall costs; (2) A six month delay in the permit process; and (3) higher than estimated design costs. Detailed accounting is available

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upon request. The committee was dissolved in September.

Ad Hoc Olympic Trials 2008 (Marshall Kandell): Committee's goal is to provide hiking and other activities for attendees to the Olympic Trials in 2008; an opportunity to promote the club. Dan Christiansen is co-chair.

Summer Trips (Margaret Prentice): The successful year is due to the hard work of the core committee of Janet Jacobsen, Sandra Larsen, Barb Revere and Joanne Ledet. The online trip reporting has been a huge success. To date, there have been 162 trips reported (a new record), including a canoe/kayak, two backpacks, a bike/bird, a bike/hike, 15 bike trips, several conservation and naturalist led hikes and two hike/trail maintenance trips. There were 85 leaders, 1,004 member participants, 206 nonmembers (many now members) and \$1,850 fees collected.

Winter Trips (Jim Pierce): There were 41 trips made last year: 19 cross country, 10 snowshoe, 11 hikes and 1 downhill; with 345 participants (271 members, 74 nonmembers) and revenues of \$530, with expenses under \$200. The 2006-2007 winter trip season is well on its way with committee members working on the upcoming schedule and the leader's training class scheduled for November 29.

Climbs (Doug Nelson): Thanks to committee members Larry Huff, Andy Jobanek, George Jobanek, John Pegg and Sue Sullivan. The 2006 schedule included 2 classes and 29 climbs. The classes -- the annual Spring Climb School and Crevasse Rescue -- presented challenges this year due to a variety of factors. Thanks to Wayne Deeter, Maryanne Reiter, Sue Sullivan and George Baitinger (as well as Eugene Mountain Rescue members Wayne Anderson, Tim McCall and Michelle McCall) for taking a lead in organizing and/or presenting these classes. Of the 29 climbs, 10 were canceled and 17 reports have been received. Kim Sawyer earned his "Ten Peaks" patch.

By-Ways-By-Bus (Liz Reanier): The 2006 season still has two trips to go. Eleven trips have been completed. The 22 committee members take their tasks seriously and still have fun. The financial report will follow after December 5. A fuel surcharge, as well as some last minute low ridership, have limited profits. The 2007 season is already in the planning stages with the committee meeting on Oct. 24th.

Summer Camp (Jim Duncan): It has been a good year. After a year hiatus, summer camp returned with a two-session, 10-day camp at Sequim Bay State Park in Washington, with approximately 140 members and guests attending. The camp was a financial success and allowed the committee to establish a capital expense account that will be used to purchase equipment and supplies, without charging such items to a given year's camp budget. The capital fund has allowed the beginning of the replacement of the old kitchen with the initial purchase of portable burners and ovens that may be loaded directly onto the truck. Next year's camp will be led by John Jacobsen with Carolyn Higgins assisting. It will be another two-session camp, in Montana near the West Yellowstone entrance. Thanks to committee members Rick Ahrens, Marianne Camp, Wayne Deeter, Kitson and Peter Graham, Ken Kodama, Lana Lindstrom and Sharon Ritchie; and new members Carolyn and Cork Higgins, John Jacobsen and Bill Montgomery.

Extended Trips (Lana Lindstrom): No trips for 2006, but two are scheduled for 2007 -- to the Wallawas for cross country skiing and snowshoeing; and Crater Lake for more of the same. A possible trip to Malheur is in the works.

Conservation (Judy Newman): The committee (also including Juli McGlinsky, Margot Fetz and Anne Hollander) arranged hikes with expert guest leaders from local environmental and conservation groups. We also participated in the Great Oregon Beach Clean-up. At the potlucks, materials were made available on local conservation and environmental events; tips for eco-friendly cleaners, buying organic, etc.; pamphlets on where to find locally grown produce; and other conservation topics. Organic, shade-grown coffee was made available for purchase (see Concessions). Two discussion courses: "Choices for Sustainable Living" and "Voluntary Simplicity" were offered. Plans are in the works for a monthly film series.

Publications (Marshall Kandell): This committee's report comes to the membership in monthly installments, ranging from a low of 16 pages to a recent standard of 24 pages. The Bulletin has been published on time, 11 times a year, and provides the club with reliable news, information, entertaining feature materials and great photography. The small editorial staff (which also includes Barb Re-

vere and John and Janet Jacobsen) thanks everyone who contributes to the Bulletin with ideas, articles, photos and art; with special thanks to those who meet the Bulletin's deadlines. Many hours are logged by the editorial staff and additional team members would be welcomed.

Entertainment (Kathy Hoeg): Challenged by the lack of the lodge due to reconstruction, five of the seven programs were at alternative facilities and, for those presentations, the potluck portions were eliminated. Attendance was larger than last year, with an average of 72 people at potlucks and 76 at the programs. Monthly receipts averaged \$65. The hardworking, dedicated volunteers were Sharon Duncan, Beth Kodama and Lana Lindstrom. In addition, Chris Cunningham led a team who wrote previews and reports for the Bulletin.

Science and Education (John Jacobsen): The first program was held on October 10, with plans to present a program on the second Tuesday of every month. Any input would be appreciated.

Membership (Sharon Ritchie): Also on the committee are Shirley Froyd, Chris Shuraleff, Shirley Cameron, Anne Bonine, Martha Welches and John Jacobsen. As of September 30th, total number of members is 580: 503 active, 34 associate, 3 honorary, 19 junior and 21 life. The membership has been rising steadily the past few years, from 538 members in September 2002. A financial report will be given at the end of the year.

Publicity (Marianne Camp): The club was in the news for trail maintenance, members quoted regarding trekking poles (pro and con), the open house and lots of interest was generated at the Eugene Celebration booth.

Concessions (Laurie Funkhouser): Coffee took the sales lead this year. Total sales to date are \$812.80 -- \$521 from merchandise and \$291.80 from coffee. Based upon the coffee sales, approximately \$124 will be contributed to Entertainment toward the purchase of the projector.

Online (Wayne Deeter): The Obsidian website has up-to-date information on coming events and trips, provides a historical archive and serves as a planning tool for other committees. John Jacobsen is also on the committee. The new online system for entering trip reports has been a huge success, with 253 reports submitted to date. Online reporting simplifies getting the reports into the Bulletin and onto the web.

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Annual Meeting Awards

Patches were awarded to the following Obsidians for their total number of completed trips and for the number of trips they led:

Ten Peaks Award

Kim Sawyer

Trip Leader Award

Sharon Ritchie – 100 Led
 Shirley Froyd – 50 Led
 Ed Lichtenstein – 50 Led
 Royal Murdock – 50 Led
 Wayne Deeter – 50 Led
 Mark Hansen – 25 Led
 Bill Johnson – 25 Led
 Kevin McManigal – 25 Led

Trips Completed Award

Sharon Ritchie – 300 Trips
 Max Brown – 300 Trips
 Ewart Baldwin – 200 Trips
 Sandra Larsen – 200 Trips
 Lenore McManigal – 200 Trips
 Royal Murdock – 200 Trips
 Ann Montgomery – 200 Trips
 Jim Duncan – 100 Trips
 George Jobanek – 100 Trips
 Margaret Prentice – 100 Trips
 Mary Lee Cheadle – 100 Trips
 Sharon Duncan – 100 Trips
 Chris Shuraleff – 100 Trips
 Barb Revere – 100 Trips



Jim & Saron Duncan - 100 trips



Shirley Froyd - 50 trips led



Barb Revere - 100 trips



Lenore McManigal - 200 trips



Ewart Baldwin - 200 trips

(Continued from page 10)

Finance (Stewart Hoeg): During the past year, the committee has: (1) Developed the 2006 budget; (2) Analyzed the club's finances; (3) Developed a plan for financing the lodge reconstruction; (4) Recommended a dues increase to more accurately reflect the actual costs per member; (5) Developed a plan for repaying the Endowment Fund; and (6) Scheduled audits of General Fund and Summer Camp. Thanks to fellow committee members Dan Christiansen, Liz Reanier, Lana Lindstrom, Sheila Ward and John Jacobsen.

Library/Historian (Lenore McManigal): During the past year, 26 new members joined the club and 233 trips (climbs, bike trips, bus, etc.) have been recorded in members' activity.

Lodge Building (Rob Castleberry): Due to lodge construction, the committee was not as active this year. Work parties focused on tasks that substituted for contractor's work and translated into savings for the club. With the fall season and the "green light" for the return of lodge activities, the committee has returned to the usual concerns –repair needs, preventative maintenance, etc. The committee is looking to clarify lodge maintenance ex-

pectations, organize information for event organizers, and monitor lodge conditions before and after events.

Lodge Grounds (Max Brown): Grounds maintenance was also limited this year because of the reconstruction and equipment in the area. The committee and volunteers get credit for tree removal, realigning the rock retaining wall, installation of the handicap parking and gravel overlay in the parking area. Thanks to Jan Jacobsen for the white dogwood tree planted near the lodge entrance.

Safety (John Pegg): We're pleased to report there were no major incidents or injuries to participants on hikes and climbs during 2006; however, there were some minor incident reports. There were two incident reports from Climbs: One involving a participant punching through soft snow covering rocks and hurting his knee (participant had a full recovery); and one involving a participant who fell, was held by the rope and received minor cuts and bruised knee (also recovered full). Three incident reports came from Summer Trips. All involved minor problems with hike participants. Two reports were dealt with by the committee with no resulting action. A third report resulted

in a nonmember being placed on the restricted list. In addition, Summer Trips has revised and updated its guide in the Obsidian Safety Manual. This has been an exemplary year for safety. Thanks to fellow committee members Jan Jacobsen, George Baitinger, Sandra Larsen, Bill Johnson, Sue Sullivan and Liz Reanier.

Election of New Board Members

The terms of Wayne Deeter, Jim Duncan and Sandra Larsen have ended. Three new board members were presented by the Nominating Committee – Jim Duncan, Barb Revere and Laurie Funkhouser. The nominees were unanimously approved by attending members.

Memories and Thanks

Doug Nelson expressed his thanks to the continued inspiration of the club. Anne Dhu McLucas thanked the Jacobsens for their hard work and dedication to the club and lodge reconstruction project. In addition, she thanked Marshall Kandell for the quality of the Bulletin. Jim Duncan expressed thanks to Janet Jacobsen's hard work in presenting a successful open house. John Pegg noted the dedication of members by stepping up to the challenge of the lodge reconstruction project.



Hikes

Little Brother
September 1, 2006
Leader: Douglas Quirk
11 miles, 3,010 ft. ("C")

THE WEATHER was fabulous for the "Eighth Annual Late-Season Little Brother Trip." As is usually the case on this trip, we had a small group that was well-matched to the task. Three of us were first-timers (Megan, Don, and Charles) – who, it seemed, will be back for more next year. Brian once again took fabulous photos and posted them on his website:

www.efn.org/~alpenglo/littlebrother06.htm. Members Charles Durham, Brian Hoyland and Douglas Quirk; nonmembers Megan Kemple and Don Suva.

Collier Cone—
Ahalapam Cinder Field
September 9, 2006
Leader: Larry Huff
14 miles, 2,200 ft. ("C")

I MET UP WITH nonmember Fernando Cascano at 7 a.m. in Springfield and proceeded up Hwy. 126 under gray skies. We made a brief stop at the Dee Wright Observatory. Although no mountains could be seen through the observatory windows, the lava field is always a treat to gaze upon. We then went down to Lava Camp trailhead, put our packs together and headed south on the PCT. We proceeded past the junction of PCT and North Matthieu and, for the first time, I visited the lake. It is a bit steep hiking up to the South Matthieu from the north, but it just revved up our aerobic motors for the hike to our destination.

The skies broke and gave us views of Mts. Jefferson, Washington and Jack as we hiked along the north shoulder of Yapoah Crater. We reached the intersection of the Scott Trail and PCT. We spent a few minutes at this picturesque junction going over some basic map and compass navigation skills and then hiked south towards Opie Dilldock Pass. We veered off the trail and proceeded up to the Col-



Photo by Brian Hoyland
Doug Quirk near summit of Little Brother with Collier Glacier in the background

lier Glacier overlook. We completely enjoyed the view of fire and ice volcanism that is so physically evident here at the northwest foot of the black beast known as the North Sister.

We were snapping pictures like crazy as we walked the rim of Collier Cone. At the top of the rim we found a wind block and had some lunch. We marveled over the black expanse of the Ahalapam Cinder Field. I believe Fernando found the cinder field to be the most visually pleasing site of the smorgasbord of sights we gazed upon this day. Fernando found the wind-scoured Krumholz pines most interesting and spent some time setting up the right shots for his camera. We hiked back along the crest of the cinder field, orienting towards Yapoah Crater two miles north. I am learning how to use my G.P.S. We had set a waypoint at the Yapoah Crater and walked the cinder field on a heading indicated by my little G.P.S. We eventually found our way back to the PCT and headed north towards the trailhead.

We drove back to Dee Wright and could actually see the mountains framed within its windows. It was a great trip with a great hiking companion. I thank Fernando for his willingness to follow me wherever I roamed.

Divide Lake –
Mt. Yoran South
September 22, 2006
Leader: Melody Clarkson
10 miles, 1,800 ft. ("B")

LARRY HUFF described this trip well in his Aug. 26 account. From his report, our group learned that the second craggy peak next to Mt. Yoran is simply part of Mt. Yoran, the part more easily scrambled. We, too, had sunny, but slightly chilly, weather; with a small, but lovely, introduction to winter. The night before, the forests in this part of the Diamond Creek Wilderness received a dusting of snow, just enough to make a beautiful picture. The trail winds mostly through stately woods and by the picturesque Notch Lake. There's a gradual elevation gain after leaving the Vivian Lakes' Trail; then a small downhill to Divide Lake, mirroring images of Mt. Yoran's craggy peaks. After lunch, we continued on the trail to a point offering views of the enormous north and eastern slopes of Diamond Peak; then began the scramble up to the top. There's only a narrow bit of rock on which to find a seat and it might have to be shared with a rather large spider; regardless, the 360° view rewards any hardships. Ed Lichtenstein, guest Don Suva and I enjoyed the late huckleberries before the final stretch to the car.

Masonic Cemetery /Obsidian Lodge

October 1, 2006

Leader: Jane Hackett

4 miles, 260 ft. ("A")

NINE PEOPLE opted to leave their cars at the Amazon parking lot and hike on back roads to the Obsidian Open House. We started at 12:30 and took time to amble through the Masonic Cemetery. We didn't linger, since all of us were excited to see the lodge and visit with friends. We stayed for the program and then walked back down to our cars. We were pleased our cars didn't have to be squeezed into the parking lot with 66 other cars. Members Jane Allen, Joan Bradley, Danielle Delaby, Jane Hackett, Yuan Hopkins, George Jobanek, Barb Schomaker and Chris Shuraleff; nonmember Barb Sutherland.

Mt. Pisgah

October 1, 2006

Leader: Marc Hansen

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

FROM THE PARKING LOT we hiked 45 minutes on level ground around the south toe of Mt. Pisgah, viewing a rock quarry and the ongoing 200 acre flood plain restoration. Then we hiked alongside Buckbrush Creek (dry now, of course) to the BPA power line road. Next, the long steep mile to the summit, then down the summit trail to the parking lot. The weather was cool and fall is rapidly descending on the parched landscape. Stalwart hikers were nonmember Dave Compton and members Marc Hansen, Sachiko Iwasaki and Carol Petty. The hike took three hours.

Black Meadow/Waldo Area

October 1, 2006

Leader: Scott Hovis

10 miles 1,000 ft. ("B")

BE CAREFUL north of Black Meadow. The trail grows faint, but if you are careful anyone with basic trail awareness will do fine. The "Bingham" tree is showing some weathering! I'm still noticing broken glass at the parking lot. Don't leave valuables in the car. My bad luck to have the hike during the open house! I think that is why I had so few sign-ups. Daphne James was the only one to join me on the hike.

Amazon Headwaters Trail

October 5, 2006

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Photo: Lou Maenz

3 miles, 450 ft ("A")

A BIG DIG to fix/divert/ Amazon Creek is taking place on Martin Street and the adjoining open space in Amazon Parkway.



The Big Dig

It meant that we took a slight detour in the parkway to get to Canyon Drive. We watched several front end loaders digging away before we started our walk on the Amazon Headwaters Trail. Lou Maenz and I enjoyed the wooded trail and our conversation. This was her second trip and she has already signed up for the Volunteer Simplicity discussion group sponsored by the Conservation Committee. We even had time for coffee at the Hideaway Bakery in back of Mazzi's. Janet Jacobsen, leader.

Erma Bell, Otter & Williams Lakes Loop

October 7, 2006

Leader & Photo: Barb Revere

8 miles, 800 ft. ("B")



Lunch at Williams Lake

WE WERE IN A QUANDARY as to how to approach this loop hike after Joanne Ledet reported she had difficulty crossing high water at Otter Creek in August. Should we go clockwise or counterclockwise? If counterclockwise, turning back

at Otter Cr. would not be a pleasant option. We chose clockwise and found Otter Creek a tricky, but doable obstacle. Eight of us used walking sticks to teeter and creep along spindly logs and tippy rocks; three others, protecting their boots with plastic bags secured by rubber bands, slogged through 20 feet of mud and ankle-deep water.

The rest of the trail was dry and the many creek fords were dry or mere trickles. We encountered no other hikers in this usually heavily traveled area -- even on the cool-crisp perfect autumn day that nature gave us. We scared up lots of birds and stepped over one green tree frog and a couple of slugs, but otherwise spotted no wildlife. This trail loops through meadows, second growth and old growth, constantly providing new interest and several hikers remarked how the hike and the day sped by.

My thanks to my pleasant companions on this, my 100th Obsidian hike! Many thanks to drivers John Lee, Becky Lipton and Daniele Delaby; and to Norma Lockyear and Marshall Kandell, who ferried hikers to or from the Thurston meet.

Members Daniele Delaby, Chuck Eyers, Paul Flashenberg, Marshall Kandell, John Lee, Becky Lipton, Norma Lockyear, Barbara Morgan, Barb Revere and Michelle Tambellini; nonmember Andrew Watson.

Bunchgrass Ridge

October 8, 2006

Leader & Photo: Chris Stockdale

12 miles, 1,000 ft. ("C")

APPARENTLY, NO OBSIDIAN has led a hike along the Bunchgrass Ridge trail since 1992, somewhat surprising since it is within a reasonably short driving distance from Eugene, is a relatively easy hike and offers great views. Two carloads of Obsidians were blessed with perfect weather for this hike, which was billed as "12 miles plus." We were a colorful group. It was hunting season and we wore bright colors. Fortunately, we did not see or hear any hunters until late in the day when a couple of shots were heard in the distance. We had the trail completely to ourselves.

The somewhat rough route crosses several meadows that, at this time of year, were filled with the dried stalks of thousands of bear grass blooms (what a sight this must be earlier in the year!). It also wends through the woods along the ridgeline, offering filtered views both to

the north (with the Sisters, Broken Top and Bachelor in sight) and to the south over the Hwy. 58 valley and beyond. Quite a long stretch of the trail goes through the old Warner Creek burn area, which is regenerating well, before climbing the one challenging hill to our lunch spot with a great view of Diamond Peak.



From here on, it was an exploratory hike, as the leader had not ventured further. We were all glad we did continue, as we encountered beautiful, sweeping meadows with views towards Waldo Lake (though we couldn't see it). In the middle of one meadow we found a sign indicating the area was the site of the old Sheep Camp, dating to the mid-1800s. Unfortunately, hike photographer Jim Pierce had a nasty fall, twisting a knee and spraining an ankle, giving him a painful six-mile hike out. This accident, along with the leader getting "sucker punched" in the chest by a protruding branch (that's what happens when you're watching where you put your feet and not looking at other hazards), made the hike even more memorable. Enjoying the day's solitude were members Daphne James, George Jobanek, Sam Miller, Jim Pierce, Chris Stockdale and nonmember Mary Rieger.

Umpqua Dunes

October 8, 2006

Leader: Bob Huntley
8 miles, 100 ft. ("B")

MEMBERS Jane Allen, Julie Dorland, Bob Huntley, Zella Andreski and nonmember Bill Roger enjoyed a beautiful, sunny day at the coast. We crossed the 2 1/2 miles of dunes to the beach, where we saw some sea lions in the surf. We walked south on the beach to the mouth of Ten Mile Creek, then cut back across the dunes to our starting point, making a rough triangle out of the hike. We stopped frequently to admire nature's artistry in sculpting the slightly moist sand. There were quite a few animal



tracks, too. We couldn't identify the small tracks, but the biggest ones were made by a bear.

Tahkenitch Dunes

October 12, 2006

Leader: Sheila Ward
6 miles, 650 ft. ("B")

PERFECT COASTAL DAY for a hike... sunshine, warm temperatures, no wind. Pleasant walk through the woods, up and down dunes and along the beach. Although we saw lots of animal tracks not much wildlife was seen; only sea gulls, two deer and a dead sea lion on the beach. Some claimed to see seals out in the water, but the leader cannot verify this. Hikers enjoying the day together were members Max Brown, Jim and Sharon Duncan, Stewart Hoeg, Yuan Hopkins, Marshall Kandell, Sheila Ward and nonmember Lou Maenz.

Aubrey Mountain Loop

October 13, 2006

Leader: Peggy Lee Mathes
5 miles, 1,500 ft. ("B")

THE TRIP this year was very enjoyable, with five of us in one car. The weather was beautiful fall crisp, warming on the bluffs over Hwy. 58. This trip was to include a side trip to Heckletooth, but the trail has been used by mountain bikes so much that the steep sections were hazardous with loose rock and dust. There are some steep sections on the Aubrey Loop and we felt well exercised by the end of the hike! The total hiking time was 3 1/2 hours. Enjoying the hike with me were Obsidians Dick Hildreth and Chuck Eyers; and nonmembers Sabine Dutoit and Bill Buskirk.

Mt. Fuji

October 15, 2006

Leader: Janet Jacobsen
3 miles, 950 ft. ("A")

ALTHOUGH I HAD SAID we wouldn't go on this trip if rain was in the forecast, we decided to make a run for it and hope we would get some cloudy views of Waldo Lake. That hope dimmed as we began putting on rain gear near the top. Wind and mist and no view at all made for a speedy descent to a drier and warmer spot for a quick lunch. Light rain on the way back to the cars didn't dampen our

spirits. It was a perfect trip to appreciate fall colors and check out our rain gear. Stopping at the Dairy Queen for hot chocolate, everyone was glad we made the trip. Barb Revere was the supportive sweep. Nonmembers Steve and Michelle Cordon, on their third trip, volunteered to drive and plan to send in their applications. Lou Maenz and Beth Roy will become members at the October board meeting. It was rewarding to welcome new members on our hike.

Hikers were Barb Bruns, Janet Jacobsen, Lou Maenz, Barb Revere, Beth Roy, Joyce Saunders and Michelle & Steve Cordon.

Fall Creek

October 21, 2006

Leader: Ed Lichtenstein
9 miles, 700 ft. ("B")

WE SET UP A SHUTTLE and hiked downstream from Road 1828 to Dolly Varden (beginning of trail). Lunch, as usual, on the rocks at Bedrock campground, overlooking the creek. A cool morning, becoming warm and sunny; the sun filtering through the colorful maples and other trees along the creek. A great fall hiking day enjoyed by 12 members and one nonmember. The trail is in good shape with several new or rebuilt bridges. There are a few places where large branches or small downed trees must be climbed over or moved aside. The hikers were nonmember Jason Weinstein and Obsidians Yuan Hopkins, Barb Revere, Joanne Ledet, Nola Nelson, Julie Dorland, Sharon Ritchie, Carol Petty, Max Brown, Sheila Ward, Jan Jacobsen, John Lee and Ed Lichtenstein. Max and Sharon wore their new 300 trips awards on their packs.

McKenzie River Trail

Clear Lake to Trailbridge

October 22, 2006

Leader: Barb Revere
10 miles, 800 ft. ("B")

WHY IS IT that crisp fall days put a little spring in everyone's step? Clear Lake is crowded with cars and campers. The air is cold...about 28 degrees, our breath comes out in white puffs. Water vapor rises off the lake and swirls in white eddies on the shore. We envy a group huddled by a fire in the CCC shelter as we begin our walk; but, before long, we are stuffing jackets, hats and gloves into packs. Several times, someone remarks on our good sense to leave chores behind for another week. With a canopy over-

head of red vine maple and damp trail dust underfoot, we make our way from Clear Lake to Trailbridge, about 9 1/2 miles of mostly downhill walking. We ooh and ah at the two big falls and wonder if there are names for the smaller cascades in between. Lunch is luscious and lazy on a sun-warmed beach at Carmen Reservoir. Below the dam, the river runs silently underground as we pass through an alder bog and then ancient cedar, fir and maple forests. Dogwoods are lavender. We have very little company on the trail until we arrive at the hiker-mountainbiker-and-doggy convention at Tamolitch Pool. The dogs are well behaved and everyone is friendly and happy to be "in the moment." From Tamolitch to Trailbridge, we pass more and more wise souls who have left the garage cleaning, leaf raking and paperwork behind to get out on this possibly last glorious day of fall. Members Lou Maenz, Nola Nelson, Barb Revere and Pat Sossan; nonmembers Pat Bogan, Bill Buskirk, Chris Maenz, Matt McBride and Kathy Wilkowski.

Fuji Mountain

October 22, 2006

Leader: Chris Stockdale

11 miles, 2,200 ft. ("C")

ANYBODY who wasn't in the great outdoors on this day was missing a spectacular experience of glorious weather combined with jaw-dropping fall colors. The six hikers on this trip to the Waldo Lake area were treated to an avenue of fall colors along Highway 58, especially from Oakridge to the turnoff at Waldo Lake Road. The trail winds upward through the forest, passing several lakes, including Birthday Lake and Verde Lake. To our surprise, we encountered a fair amount of snow on the trail, even at lower altitudes; but rather than hinder our progress it added to the beauty of the scenery when we saw the brightly colored huckleberry leaves amongst the snow drifts.

The view from the summit didn't disappoint. We could see as far as Mt. Hood. Waldo Lake looked an incredibly vivid blue (and a small sailboat could be spotted in the distance) and the line of Cascade peaks with their new light coating of snow was dramatic. For the couple of people who weren't too sure which peak was which, Sam Miller and Dick Hildreth were able to be accurate guides. We finally had to drag ourselves away

from the view after a leisurely lunch and head back down. Two hunters materialized, which prompted those of us with bright colors to don our hats, vests, etc., to make sure we weren't mistaken for deer or elk. Thanks for the great company to Obsidians John Cooper, Dick Hildreth and Sam Miller; and nonmembers Ed Stuart and Janet Winter.



Ski Trips

Late Reports from the Deep Freeze

Square Lake - Jack Meadows

January 14, 2006

Leader: Mark Slipp

X-Ski 12 miles, 1,000 ft. ("Difficult")

GREAT WEATHER...great skiers. Had a great time! Members Jan & Richard Anselmo, George Baitinger, John Hegg, Dick Hildreth, Mark Slipp, Charlie Van Deusen and Lyndell Wilken; nonmember Ian Ives.

Three Sisters Traverse

May 27, 2006

Leader: Kevin McManigal

X-Ski 35 miles, 500 ft. ("Difficult")

LONG SOLO ski trip. Maybe some will join me next time.



Bike Trips

Lorane to Drain

September 30, 2006

Leader: Lyndell Wilken

50 miles ("C")

THE RIDE BEGAN in cool overcast conditions and ended in sunshine. The three climbs included lush green coastal forest, the beginnings of fall colors and no traffic. Lunch at the cafe in Drain provided the pause that refreshes and the remaining 15 miles back to Lorane in the fall sunshine seemed the perfect ending for the trip. Everyone enjoyed the ride and some felt like taking a side trip (by car) to Chateau Lorane and King Estates after an ice cream cone at the Lorane store. Sue Wolling joined us for part of the ride. Members John Hegg, Darrell McBee, Lyndell Wilken and Sue Wolling; nonmember Doug Jordan.

Our Daily Bread (Veneta)

October 7, 2006

Leader: Sharon Ritchie

42 miles, 100 ft. ("B")

WE TOOK LORANE HWY., Spencer Creek Rd., Pine Grove, Erickson, Petzold, Central, Perkins and Territorial into



Photo by Chris Stockdale

Sam and Dick on top of Fuji Mountain, with Waldo Lake and the Sisters in the background.

Veneta on a beautiful fall day. All back-country roads with a minimum of traffic. Sunshine, blue skies and a nip in the air. Perfect for biking or doing anything outside! We arrived before noon and, so, had to order breakfast, which was *noooooo problema!* The food there is just great. My thanks to nonmember Anna Houpt and members Walt Davis, George Jobanek, Evelyn Nagy and Darrell McBee for sharing a perfect day with me.

Elijah Bristow Park

October 7, 2006

Leader: Doug Nelson
25 miles ("B")

THE MORNING was cool and partly cloudy, perfect for bicycling. Our group met in the heart of the east Springfield corridor, where the old Weyerhaeuser haul road crosses Main St. at 48th St. This paved, privately owned road -- paralleling Jasper Road, but located higher on the hills north of the river -- was once used to bring logs down from the Middle Fork drainage to the mills of Springfield. I had not previously ridden the road, now gated and closed to vehicular use, but had been told that it was a fine way to reach Jasper while avoiding heavily trafficked Jasper Road.

We certainly enjoyed this look at the backyards of the growing Springfield suburbs and the segue into the lovely rural area of homes and small farms in this long settled area of river valley. After climbing a bit, we enjoyed an easy one-mile coast down Wallace Creek Rd. into Jasper. There, we crossed the river and accessed the level, lightly trafficked roads that took us to our destination at Elijah Bristow.

After a break for snacks, conversation and shared laughter, we reversed our route and made the trip back to the cars. The total trip time, with a relaxed pace and time for a couple of breaks, was just over four hours. The mileage turned out to be a bit less than the 30 miles I had guesstimated, maybe 25 or 26 miles would be more accurate. I'm still not sure exactly, as I don't have an odometer on my bike and I forgot to ask others to watch it closely. It would be easy to add considerable mileage to a ride using some of the more lightly traveled roads in this area. I would certainly recommend the old haul road as a great starting point to access the roads in the area without the

dangers and distractions of high traffic. If I had to use one word to describe our outing it would be "pleasant." The route and pace were relaxed, the weather fine, the countryside bucolic and the company congenial. I want to thank everyone who joined me on this exploratory ride. I hope they all enjoyed it as much as I did. Members Pat Esch, Laurie Funkhouser, Larry Huff and Doug Nelson; nonmembers Sue Carey, Darlene Mancuso and Kathy Sullivan.



Bus Trips

Mt. Hood, Timberline Lodge

October 3, 2006

Leader: Barbara Payne

WE LEFT AT 8 A.M. with John Bunker as our driver, heading for Timberline Lodge. Our first stop was at Silverton for our coffee break at their nice park. Our next stop was the Jonsrud wayside park in Sandy, where we had a little mishap with the bus and the drive-through. With the help of Don Payne bending a steel pole and John's good driving, we made it. The bus does have a little dent, though. We made it to Timberline Lodge, where they were waiting for us and served us a very nice lunch. We couldn't see the top of Mt. Hood, but it did not rain. In Warm Springs, we stopped at their museum, which was very interesting. We took the road from Terrebonne to Sisters, where we had our last coffee break. The fall colors along the McKenzie, coming home, were supreme. It was a good day.

Members: Ethel Allen, Ewart Baldwin, Louise Behnke, Mary Lee Cheadle, Kent Christoferson, Sharon Cutsforth, Daniele Delaby, Rachele Fiszman, Jeanette Forsman, Bette Hack, Dora Harris, Yuan Hopkins, Pat Jeffries, Rosella Jones, Verna Kocken, Bhavani Manheim, John & Lenore McManigal, Cleora Mersdorf, Natalie Newlove, Joyce Norman, Barbara & Don Payne, Sharon Peel, Virginia Prouty, Liz Reanier, Edith Rode, Barbara Schomaker, Nola Shurtleff, Dorothy Sstrom, Janet Speelman, Michelle Tambellini, Ethel Weltman and Vera Woolley. Nonmembers: Pat Bay-

liss, Dave & Sharon Gadamiski, Jackie Giustina, Jenniffer Jeffries, Ellen Shurtleff and Barbara Sutherland.

Fall Colors

October 17, 2006

Leaders: Bette Hack (reporter),
Liz Reanier, Sherry Lawrence

WE LEFT AT 8 A.M., drove north on Coburg Road heading for McKenzie View Drive and traveled that road to the Mohawk Store, with lots of yellow and red color and a good view of the McKenzie River. Returning this same route, we stopped at Armitage Park for our morning break, where we celebrated Barbara Beard's birthday with cake and lots of goodies. We then headed south, past Spencer Butte Park to Fox Hollow Road and finally to Lorane Highway, which had lots of color and very little traffic. Arriving at Lorane, a left turn took us into Cottage Grove, where we headed for Stacy's Covered Bridge Restaurant and had a delicious lunch. After lunch, most of the group explored the Centennial Covered Bridge across the street. We left with our guide Sherry Lawrence, who lives in Cottage Grove, and spent the afternoon exploring the Dorena, Stewart, Mosby Creek and Currier covered bridges. Everyone had a chance to walk on or take pictures of the bridges. We drove around Dorena Lake along Shoreline Drive and returned via Row River Road, with good views of the lake on this warm and sunny fall day.

We stopped for a short time at a park which is the take-off point for Row River and Mosby Creek trails. It is also the location of the Mosby Creek Bridge, the only one open to traffic. Returning to town, we explored the Railroad Bridge and the swimming bridge open to foot traffic. We drove down to Rice Hill for ice cream and returned home by 5 p.m. Enjoying this fall day were: Ethel Allen, Judith Aufderheide, Barbara & Paul Beard, Louise Behnke, Ingrid Carmichael, Mary Lee Cheadle, Sharon Clarke, Rita Collins, Roine Dillingham, Rachele Fiszman, Jeanette Forsman, Virginia Gilbreath, Jackie Giustina, Bette Hack, Dora Harris, Rosella Jones, Sherry Lawrence, Cleora Mersdorf, Natalie Newlove, Barbara & Don Payne, Heidi Pauly, Liz Reanier, Edith Rode, Paula Sievers, Dorothy Sstrom, June Smith, Nadine Smith, Dick & Janet Speelman, and Vera Woolley.

Mt. Hubris
September 29-30, 2006
Leader: Maryanne Reiter
Background Photo: John Pegg
6 miles, 3,000 ft. (Rating 5.6)

Climbs



THE CASTLE CRAGS Wilderness area in Northern California was named for the swarm of lovely glacier polished granite peaks (plutons) located there. We started our climb early Saturday morning with a brisk hike up the three miles to the base of Mt. Hubris. Doug Nelson captured the feeling of the early morning with his haiku:

*Four thirty wake up!
You have got to be joking.
Can I make coffee?*

To get to the base of Hubris we had to do the hardest part of the climb, which was to make it through the manzanita maze of constant sorrow. No one escaped unscratched. Peter Green was so moved by this part of the climb that he, too, composed a haiku:

*Ascend cosmic wall
must pass the manzanita
truly crux of climb*

Doug likewise found an inspiration there:

*Dense manzanita
Slow, blood trickles down my shin
At dawn granite looms*

The climbing was outstanding. We had two teams of three. The first team, Peter, Maryanne and April, had a grand time. April found religion when she led the final knife-edge pitch with certain death on either side. She looked back and composed a quick poem:

*Cosmic Mount Hubris
Look over the edge and sigh
Oh my God, said I*

Wayne, John and Doug had many fine moments

on their climb, though Wayne felt some trepidation on his first multi-pitch climb:

*A crack in the rock
I sure hope this pro will hold
don't want to go splat!*

When we were all back at the trailhead, John Pegg expressed his feelings in this fine haiku:

*My cloths are sweaty
So quickly the shadows grew
Time for a brewski*

Of course, even though it was time for a brewski, we didn't drink until the official Obsidian portion of the climb ended. John Pegg's truck was having trouble with the thermostat and we were worried it wouldn't make it. Peter Green once more captured the feelings of the group:

*Try to keep it cool
as we go over Siskiyou
John thanks for driving*

Wayne Deeter, not happy with the challenge of a simple haiku, made his an acrostic. I'll leave that to you to figure out:

*Climbing over stones
Maryanne's into control
While April laughs last*

And If you are wondering about the silly verse, well I was just entertaining myself and they were all kind enough to go along:

*Climbers and poets
weave ropes and words together
turning stones to poems*

Participants: Members Wayne Deeter, Peter Green, Doug Nelson, John Pegg and Maryanne Reiter; and nonmember April Anderson.

UPCOMING

Barb Revere's December Trip Sampler

If you are leading a trip and would like us to highlight it, email us:

bulletin@obsidians.org

Sat., Nov. 18 –Skinner Butte to Gillespie Butte -- Just a little north of downtown, you'll walk an 8-mile loop along the Willamette River bike path and climb two buttes, one named for our city's founding father and one the site of a pioneer cemetery, where many of the town's early residents are buried. Join leader Janet Jacobsen for a little local history, a lot of exercise and meet old friends and new. Under 200 ft. elevation gain.

Sun., Nov. 19 – North Fork of the Middle Fork of Willamette River – Leader Chris Stockdale describes this as a "beautiful riverside trail" and she isn't exaggerating. Riffles and rapids provide a lovely soundtrack for this ferny walk beneath beautiful old growth trees. Starting at the covered bridge in Westfir, the trail traces the riverbed closely. You'll cover 10

miles on a gentle grade.

Sun., Dec. 10 – Threemile Lake-Tahkenitch State Park --Anyone who wonders why this lovely hike is led so often probably isn't paying attention! Accessible all year long, the trail tunnels through hobbit forest, crosses dunes, traces the mouth of Tahkenitch Creek, turns south for a short stretch of beach and skims the shore of Threemile Lake before heading into a deep dark rain forest to return you to your car. To appreciate the trail's appeal, hike it in all four seasons, starting with this trip, led by Becky Lipton (6 miles, 650 ft. gain).

Same Day (Dec. 10) -- Elijah Bristow State Park – Named for the first settler in Lane County, this park has over 10 miles of paths and connects Eugene to Pacific Crest Trail. Near the town of Pleasant Hill, the park contains grassland, riverside woods and forest that are home to many interesting flora and fauna, in-

cluding the threatened western pond turtle and Oregon chub. Led by Chris Stockdale, you'll hike a little over 8 miles with little elevation change.

Thurs., Dec. 14 --Willamette Pass – What could be more thrilling than a day downhill skiing on the slopes of Willamette Pass? Chris Shuraleff says the degree of difficulty is variable, but you are sure to find runs that fit your skill level. Though the lifts will carry you to the top, you'll earn that hot chocolate at the end of the day.

Fri., Dec. 15 – Fawn Lake – X-Ski, moderate. Led by Diane Jeffcott, this loop in the Diamond Peak wilderness gains about 800 feet. The route takes you into the shadows of beautiful Red Top and Lakeview mountains and skirts the shores of Pretty Lake. Snowshoe guide author Shea Anderson says this trail is an alternative to the busy trails of the Willamette Pass area.

Final 2006 Bus Trip Features Sunset Shore Acres Stroll

By Lenore McManigal

THE FINAL BUS TRIP of the year – on Friday, December 1st, will take riders to see Shore Acres lights, sea lions and seals. Leaders will be Rick Ahrens and Liz Reanier.

We will leave SHOPKO (Coburg Rd.) parking lot at *noon* (note later departure time). We'll go down I-5 through Drain and Elkton to Reedsport; and then follow Hwy. 101 south to North Bend, where we'll turn off to Shore Acres.

Weather permitting, we will go just beyond Shore Acres to Simpson Reef Overlook to view the California sea lions and harbor seals which have hauled out on an offshore island. Rick will also talk about the northern elephant seals who haul out to have their pups there early in January. We will arrive at Shore Acres by 4 p.m. when the lights go on.

Everyone will enjoy strolling around, enjoying the sights and, hopefully, a beautiful sunset. We will re-board the bus at 6 p.m. for a sit-down dinner, at a good restaurant (at your cost). After dinner, we will return to Eugene by about 10:30.

Cost for the trip is \$30 for Obsidians and \$32 for non-members. Again, dinner will be at your expense. To reserve your space, send your checks to:

Janet Speelman

1496 W 28th Ave., Eugene, OR 97405 (344-3019)

Ridgeline Area Action Plan Workshop

By Peter Asai, Trail Maintenance Chair

THE RIDGELINE AREA Open Space Vision & Action Plan Public Workshop will be held from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 5th, in the Bascom/Tykeson Room in the Eugene Public Library (100 W.10th Ave.).

This is the beginning of an effort to develop a long term ridgeline area open space vision. The ridgeline area is a 20-mile corridor that follows the major ridgeline spanning the area between Fern Ridge Reservoir to the west and Mount Pisgah to the east. The area forms a scenic backdrop visible from much of Eugene and the Spencer Creek Valley and contains recreational trails; prominent area landmarks such as Spence Butte; unique oak savanna and prairie habitats; headwater streams; and picturesque farm and forest lands.

This workshop will provide background about the history and current conditions of the ridgeline area and information about the planning process. Workshop participants will be asked to provide input on topics such as recreational use, habitat management, visual quality, farm and forest uses and other issues related to the ridgeline area.

The presentation will be from 6 to 6:30, followed by questions and answers and opportunities to provide input.

Winter Trips Schedule 2006-2007

E = Easy M = Moderate D = Difficult

November 2006

18 Sat - **Skinner Bt - Gilles. Bt**, Hike M, Jacobsen (343-8030)
19 Sun - **N Fk of M Fk Willamette, M**, Stockdale (767-3668)
23 Thu - **Turkey Stuffer** walk 3.2m 30' E, ... Jacobsen (343-8030)
29 Wed - **Leader Training class**, Workshop, Hovis (345-7788)
29 Wed - **McKenzie River Tr**, Hike 6m M, .. Prentice (687-5850)
30 Thu - **N & S Shasta Lp** Hike 4m 300' E, .. Kandell (345-8095)

December

1 Fri - **Mount Pisgah**, Hike 3m 1000' E, .L.Lindstrom (683-1409)
3 Sun - **Sweet Creek Falls**, Hike 2.5m 150' E, J.Pierce (344-1775)
10 Sun - **Elijah Bristow**, Hike 8m 30' D, . C.Stockdale (767-3668)
10 Sun - **Gold Lake**, X-Ski 4m 50' E, ... L.Funkhouser (206-2303)
13 Wed - **TBA**, Hike, J.Agnew (484-5725)
14 Thu - **Willamette Pass D'Hill**, C.Shuraleff (726-8416)
15 Fri - **Fawn Lake**, X-Ski 7m M, D.Jeffcott (344-6447)
22 Fri - **Big Lake**, X-Ski 5m 50' M, L.Lindstrom (683-1409)
28 Thu - **Mystery**, X-Ski 8m 2000' D, W.Deeter (942-0824)
30 Sat - **Gold Lk**, X-Ski 4.5m 200' E, Hamilton (343-6550)
30 Sat - **Ray Benson**, X-Ski M, S.Larsen (687-2589)

January 2007

1 Mon - **Cape Mtn**, Hike 8m 1200' M, R.Romoser (726-8154)
6 Sat - **Gold Lake**, S'Shoe 5m 100' E, ... L.Funkhouser (206-2303)
7 Sun - **Ikenick**, X-Ski 6m M, B.Johnson (746-1513)
7 Sun - **Square Lake**, X-Ski 8m 1000' D, J.Pegg (343-0909)
14 Sun - **Rosary Lk**, X-Ski 12m 1000' D, . McWhorter (345-8099)
14 Sun - **Rosary Lk**, X-Ski 7m 800' M, R.Peevers (688-0882)
14 Sun - **Sand Mtn Lp**, X-Ski 9.5m 1000' M, S.Miller (484-4586)
14 Sun - **Square Lake**, X-Ski 8m D, M.Slipp (1-503-582-1100)
20 Sat - **Mystery Ski Trip**, X-Ski, J. & L.Manotti (342-5357)
20 Sat - **REI Winterfest**
27 Sat - **Fawn Lake**, X-Ski 7m 800' M, B.Huntley (687-1823)
27 Sat - **Gold Lake**, S'Shoe 5m 350' M, M.Camp (221-1866)
27 Sat - **Rosary Lk**, X-Ski 6m 800' M, . L.Funkhouser (206-2303)

February

1 Thu - **Gold Lake**, X-Ski 5.4m 50' E, A.McLucas (485-5608)

1 Thu - **Heceta Head Lp**, Hike 6m 800' M, . A.Askew (687-1659)
3 Sat - **Yoran Lake**, X-Ski D, L.Wilken(343-3080)
4 Sun - **Midnight Lk**, X-Ski 6m 300' M, .. Funkhouser (206-2303)
4 Sun - **Rosary Lakes**, X-Ski D, D.McCarty (342-6962)
10 Sat - **Gold Bt**, X-Ski 8m D, McManigal (1-503-635-9973)
10 Sat - **Midnight Lake**, S'Shoe M, G.Svendsen (342-6497)
10 Sat - **Ray Benson**, X-Ski 10m D, B.Johnson (746-1513)
10 Sat - **Salt Creek Falls**, S'Shoe 3.5m 250' E, . Bruns (485-7285)
10 Sat - **Three Finger Jack**, X-Ski D, S.Goins (484-1018)
10 Sat - **Wildlife Refuge**, Hike 4.5m 30' E, J.Ledet (683-2603)
16 Fri - **Eugene Wetlands**, Hike 5m E, ..Cunningham (344-0486)
17 Sat - **Rosary Lakes**, X-Ski 6m 600' M, ..B.Huntley (687-1823)
17 Sat - **S Eugene Nature Walk**, 4m 500' E, ... J.Ledet (683-2603)
18 Sun - **Fawn Lk** X-Ski 7m 1000' M, Hamilton (343-6550)
18 Sun - **Red Top**, X-Ski D, G.Sayre
18 Sun - **Trestle Creek Falls**, Hike 3.5m M, Askew (687-1659)
21 Wed - **Amazon Cr - Fern Rdg**, Hike E, Clarkson (334-6883)
22 Thu - **China Creek Loops**, Hike E, M.Kandell (345-8095)
27 Tue - **McKenzie River Tr**, Hike 7.8m 300' M, B.Revere

March

3 Sat - **Arrowhead Lk**, X-Ski 10m 1000' D, Funkhouser (206-2303)
7 Wed - **N Shasta Lp Hk**, Hike 5m 500' E, ... Romoser (726-8154)
10 Sat - **Diamond Cr Falls**, S'Shoe 3m 250' E, . Pierce (344-1775)
17 Sat - **Coast Hike** 8m 1000' M, B.Montgomery (736-8955)
17 Sat - **Sand Mtn Bushwack**, X-Ski 10m D, Johnson (746-1513)
24 Sat - **Indian Ridge** X-Ski 12m 2000' D, ... Hoyland (338-9881)
31-Apr 1 **Snow camp SS/Xski** 2m 100', W.Deeter (942-0824)

April

21 Sat - **Tumalo Mtn**, X-Ski D, McManigal (1-503-635-9973)
29 Sun - **Diamond Peak**, X-Ski D, B.McWhorter (345-8099)

May

1 Tue - **3 Creeks Lk**, X-Ski 12m 1440' D, A.McLucas (485-5608)
20 Sun - **The Twins**, X-Ski 8m 1700' D, W.Deeter (942-0824)

Bulletin Classifieds

For Sale



TERRY SYMMETRY LADIES ROAD BIKE

21.5" frame, 26" wheel. Includes Profile Aerobar, Shimano clip-less pedals, Zefal hpX3 frame pump, and Trek sensor meter. Excellent for touring, training, or tri-athletes. \$400.00. Call Susan at 338-7552

Wanted

OUTDATED (TO YOU) DVD/VCR player or laptop computer with DVD capability for use with digital projector for showing conservation films at Obsidian Lodge.

Contact Judy Newman, Conservation Chair

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

Winter Web Sightings

<http://www.tripcheck.com>

THE OREGON Department of Transportation offers this handy website, which provides up-to-the-moment road conditions on the state's major highways, including construction reports, weather conditions, alternate routes and even a trip mileage calculator. A particularly fascinating feature is the use of 130 strategically placed web cams that allow you to see the road conditions for yourself. A great tool for those planning to head for the hills for snow play or travel. You can also get road condition information on the phone by dialing 511 in Oregon and (503) 588-2941 if you're outside the state.

<http://www.cot.net/~n6mrx/ares/road.html>

YOU WANT road conditions and web cams? This site will give you a huge selection of sources for Oregon and California, along with occasional siren sound effects. The Northern California Road Cams link will offer dozens of current highway views.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic>

GOING NORTH? Here's the website of the Washington State Department of Transportation, also offering lots of web cams.

Oregon Ski/Snow Information Links

<http://web.pdx.edu/~cyjh/orresorts.html>

<http://www.onthesnow.com/OR/skireport.html>

<http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/maps/>

oregon_sitemap.html

<http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/snotel/snooreg.html>

Have a safe trip!



Across the dunes, on to the ocean. Umpqua Dunes hike. See report on Page 14. - Photo by Zella Andreski



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