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Dates to Remember

Sept 15	SciEd Tuesday
Sept 25	Welcome Potluck
Oct 9	2009 Annual Meeting
Oct 14	October Board Meeting

Complete current schedules at:

www.obsidians.org or

Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

Membership Dues

Are Due October 1

See Page 2 &

Membership Renewal Form
inserted in this issue or online
in Members Only

Annual Meeting

Friday, October 9
6:30pm, at the Lodge
See Page 3

Sunsational Camp!

By Wendy Dame, Don Doerr, and Lana Lindstrom



Pat Esch and Joella Ewing on Manzanita Lake at sunset

“**CAMP ISHI WAS A SMASHING SUCCESS,**” say the proud co-leaders...and we heard that comment from a number of attendees, too! We won’t bore you with all of the details, but here are a few of the highlights of the 2009 Summer Camp at Lassen Volcanic National Park.

Loading and unloading the truck went exceedingly well, thanks to a big volunteer turnout that included several individuals who didn’t even attend Camp this year. What teamwork! It’s amazing how much “stuff” gets transported in the 24’ Penske truck.

Setting up Summer Camp involves assembling tables, the kitchen area and the showers, creating tinker-toy structures to support the canopies, organizing the food in the truck, and generally figuring out how things are going to work. Several of us had been part of “Setup” before, but none of us had ever been in charge. The “Magnificent 13,” as we called ourselves, did an outstanding job of working cooperatively, and we had the camp ready in the usual 1.5 days. We were quite proud of ourselves!

Composition of campers: Sixty-nine people, including cooks Scott and Mandy, attended Camp this year. One-sixth of the campers were first timers, one-sixth were non-members and one-sixth were vegetarians – all of which are high percentages. Moreover, there weren’t any children, which was really unusual. Most of us were in our 50s and 60s, but there was a 26-year old and several octogenarians, the oldest of whom was 83.

Hikes and Climbs: The drives to most of the hikes were short - the distance from one end of the park to the other was only 24 miles. Moreover, the lay of the land lent itself to setting up shuttles for one-way hikes. What a treat! And the hikes were quite varied: some were around alpine mountain lakes with beautiful wildflowers; others, like Bumpass Hell, included mud pots with pyrite and hissing fumaroles.

(Continued on page 5)

Welcome!

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OBSIDIANS, INC

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Board of Directors

President - Jim Duncan
Vice President - Jim Pierce
Secretary - Laurie Funkhouser
Treasurer - Stewart Hoeg
Wayne Deeter Larry Huff
Marshall Kandell Verna Kocken
Barb Revere

Board meetings are held 6pm the first Wednesday of each month, except October when it is first Wednesday after Annual Meeting. No Board Meeting in August.

Committee Chairpersons

Byways-By-Bus.....Liz Reanier
Climbs Larry Huff
Concessions Kathleen Floyd
Conservation..... Pat Bitner
Entertainment Laurie Funkhouser
Extended Trips..... Jim Duncan
FinanceStewart Hoeg
Lodge Building..... Doug Nelson
Lodge Grounds John Jacobsen
Librarian/Historian Lenore McManigal
Membership.....Barb Revere
OnlineWayne Deeter
PublicationsBarb Revere
Publicity.....Elle Weaver
Safety.....Sue Sullivan
Science & Education.....Joella Ewing
Summer Camp Lana Lindstrom
Summer TripsJim Pierce
Trail Maintenance.....Peter Green
Winter Trips..... Paul Flashenberg
Youth.....

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The Obsidian Bulletin

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For reprint rights, contact above.

Deadline

for October 2009 Bulletin

Saturday, October 3, 2009

Assembly/Mailing Team

For July Bulletin

Assembly & Mail Manager ... Barb Revere
Assembly Team ... Don Baldwin, Barbara Flanders, Yuan Hopkins, Don & Barbara Payne

Editorial Team

Writing & Editorial Staff Jean Coberly, Bea Fontana, Janet & John Jacobsen, Joanne Ledet, Barb Revere, Beth Roy
Copy Editors.... Jean Coberly & Beth Roy
Graphics, Design & Desktop PublishingStewart Hoeg & John Jacobsen

Membership Renewal Drive 2009

IT'S SEPTEMBER: LEAVES GO SCARLET, the air turns cooler, Duck fans sport pennants from car antennas and renewal forms are slipped into the *Bulletin* by Lou Maenz and her intrepid mailing crew.

Your renewal form is contained in this paper *Bulletin*, in 'autumn gold', no less, or check online at www.obsidians.org in the "Members Only/Documents" pages. **Be sure to renew early and avoid the \$5 late fee; the deadline is only a couple of weeks away, on Oct. 1.**

While filling out the form, please pause and reflect on the many wonderful benefits of membership in Obsidians: lovely trips all year, great monthly potluck programs, interesting SciEd speakers, and new and lasting friendships. Consider renewing at one of the premium rates: Platinum, Gold, or Silver, by including donations of \$170, \$70 or \$20, added to your Basic Membership fee of \$30. All amounts are accepted. In the January *Bulletin*, all donations are acknowledged -- or not, if you request anonymity.

Be sure to look over the renewal form carefully and make corrections to your email, phone number, address, or even name. Remember that Junior Members, although no dues are due, still need to renew their membership annually. Consider going paperless, as all the very cool people do, and check that box under your email address. This saves those wonderful trees that shade us on summer trips. Also consider volunteering. We know the most fun to be had as an Obsidian is on trips, but a close second is volunteering. You meet more people, get a fresh perspective, have fun doing an important job together and you're guaranteed satisfaction.



Obsidian Board Nominees - 2009



Lyn Gilman-Garrick

LIKE MANY OF YOU, I was recruited to join the Obsidians by Sharon Ritchie, my good friend and biking buddy. That was a couple of years ago and I haven't looked back. Since that time, I have participated in many bike trips (even led a few) and a handful of hikes. I have also served on the Entertainment Committee.

I was an attorney for many years, specializing in juvenile law. Later I managed a local holistic veterinary practice. My other passion is dogs. Last winter my husband Paul and I adopted a beautiful Portuguese water dog puppy named Maisie.

I am honored to be asked to serve on the Board of Directors. My goal is to represent you to the best of my ability over the next three years.



Kathy Hoeg

MY FIRST OBSIDIANS HIKE was in January 2002, and while slogging along the muddy Ridgeline Trail, Yuan Hopkins told me about the Potluck later that week and urged me to attend. I had a great time on the hike, loved the potluck, and knew I'd found a wonderful organization! Since then, my membership in the Obsidians has been totally rewarding! In addition to all the fun trips, I've enjoyed being on the Entertainment Committee and the Lodge Rebuilding Committee.

It would be an honor to serve on the Board of Directors.



Elle Weaver

SINCE BECOMING THE PUBLICITY Chair for 2009, I've been attending the monthly Board meetings. What has impressed me most is the thoroughness and dedication that each Board member brings to the table. Of course there is laughter, thank goodness, but there is a true desire by everyone to reach an agreement that will be in the best interest for the Obsidians.

After being on the Winter and Summer Trips Committees, I've seen how determined we are to plan trips that make the most of each season. My past two years with the Obsidians have been filled with wonderful adventures.

I sincerely appreciate being asked to be a nominee. It would be a privilege to serve on the Board and to contribute in whatever way I can.

Let Them Eat Cake! (& Ice Cream!) ...At the 2009 Obsidian Annual Meeting

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE OBSIDIANS will be held on Friday, October 9th at the Lodge. Join us for ice cream and cake starting at 6:30, followed by a short business meeting at 7:00, at which time we'll elect new members of the Board. All club members are welcome. Guests who would like to find out about our club are also welcome.

AWARDS

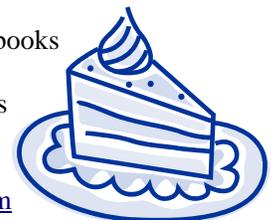
CLIMB, TRIP, AND LEADER AWARDS will be presented at the October 9th annual meeting. To find your 2008 activity

totals, check the trip log and leader logs posted on our website in the members' only section. If you think you have earned an award and have not been notified, contact one of these people:

Lenore McManigal, Historian, log books
345-2036 johnmcmnigal@q.com

Sharon Ritchie, Trip Leader Awards
342-8435 trehugr@comcast.net

Larry Huff, Climb Awards
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Camp Ishi

Success the Result of Hard Work & Many Volunteers

Lana Lindstrom, Don Doerr, and Wendy Dame, Co-Chairs, 2009 Summer Camp

CAMP ISHI, WHICH WAS HELD IN LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK in Northern California during the third week of July, was a great success as a result of the tremendous volunteer efforts by so many wonderful Obsidians.

Summer Camp Committee

Planning for the 2009 Summer Camp began about a year ago with a combined scouting/Extended Trip to the Park. The Lost Creek Campground was selected due to its proximity to interesting hikes such as Mt. Lassen and Cinder Cone, the many hydrothermal features found at Bumpass Hell, and the numerous lakes for kayaking and swimming. Members of the Camp Committee were: Melody Clarkson, Wendy Dame, Don Doerr, Laurie Funkhouser, Scott Hovis, Lana Lindstrom, Jim Pierce, and Nancy Whitfield.

Operational Volunteers

Once the campsite was selected, volunteers were recruited to fill the numerous positions required for the Camp. Lana Lindstrom, Don Doerr and Wendy Dame volunteered to be Co-Chairs for the 2009 Obsidian Summer Camp, each having chaired previous summer camps. They also assumed responsibility for the truck loading, camp setup and take-down, job allocations, and camp utilities. In addition, the following people formed the first core group of volunteers:

Sharon Ritchie – Treasurer and Registration
Ann-Marie Askew – Camp booklet
Nancy Whitfield – Food procurement
Jim Clarkson – Equipment planning and repair
Melody Clarkson – Camp Food Operations Manager

Responsible People

As the months progressed, additional volunteers were recruited as “Responsible People”:

Charlie Ashmore – Lunch Cleanup
Jen Barnes – Recycling Coordinator
Dan Christensen – Propane, toilets and trash
Lynda Christiansen – Safety, table setup & servers AM
Pat Esch – Table setup & servers PM
Joella Ewing – Coffee AM
Laurie Funkhouser – Concessions
Brian Hamilton – Dishwashing
Scott Hovis – Dishwashing
Richard Hughes – Table setup, servers AM & Coffee PM
Steve Johnson – Lunch setup
Joanne Ledet – Lunch setup
Ed Lichtenstein – Lunch setup
Valerie Metcalfe – Map board
Tom Musselwhite – Dishwashing
Effie Neth – Lunch prep
Jim Pierce – Dishwashing
Chris Stockdale – Recycling coordinator and Coffee PM

Sue Wolling – Lunch setup

And, thanks to Renee Klein, Ellen Sather, and Elle Weaver, who filled in one morning as lunch setup RPs.

The Setup Crew

Setting up the camp, usually handled by approximately 16 persons, was successfully accomplished this year by thirteen individuals. Although none of us had ever taken the lead before, we banded together, read the directions, and made it work – something we are all very proud of! It was successfully and efficiently completed within 1 ½ days thanks to the hard, cooperative work of the following: Dan Christensen, Jim Clarkson, Melody Clarkson, Wendy Dame, Don Doerr, Bea Fontana, Scott Hovis, Richard Hughes, Renee Klein, Lana Lindstrom, Darlene Mancuso, Effie Neth, and Charlie Thomas.

Loading and Unloading the Penske

We are so very appreciative of those who helped with the efficient loading and unloading of the Penske truck at the Obsidian Lodge. Those who helped with the loading and/or unloading: Jen Barnes, Dan Christensen, Jim Clarkson, Melody Clarkson, Wayne Cleall, Jackie Cornell, Wendy Dame, Don Doerr, Jim Duncan, Sharon Duncan, Joella Ewing, Bea Fontana, Scott Hovis, Richard Hughes, Leah Klein, Renee Klein, Ken Kodama, Lana Lindstrom, Norma Lockyear, Darlene Mancuso, Valerie Metcalfe, Helen Martz, Tom Musselwhite, Effie Neth, John Pegg, Pat Soussan, Charles Thomas, Charlie Van Deusen, Elle Weaver, and Nancy Whitfield. In addition, a warm thanks go out to all of you who delayed your departure from Camp on Sunday to help us load the truck, so that we could all get out of the campground before 11:30AM and head home.

Hike and Climb Leaders

We also want to thank the 25 individuals who assumed leadership roles and led the approximately 36 hikes and climbs at the Camp. They are: Jen Barnes, Dan Christensen, Jim Clarkson, Melody Clarkson, Wendy Dame, Don Doerr, Joella Ewing, Brian Hamilton, Scott Hovis, Richard Hughes, Daphne James, Ellen Johnson, Carolyn Kompanik, Ed Lichtenstein, Lana Lindstrom, Becky Lipton, Valerie Metcalfe, Effie Neth, Jim Pierce, Rich Romm, Beth Roy, Chris Shuraleff, Ron Swisher, Elle Weaver, and Nancy Whitfield. Special recognition goes to Brian Hamilton and Jim Pierce; each led 2 hikes and 1 climb.

We want to thank all of you, who have not been named, but who attended Summer Camp and were assigned 2, 3 or 4 tasks, and performed these duties well and with a smile on your faces. And, for anyone else whose name was not included on these pages and should have been, we apologize for the omission.

Sunsational Camp!

(Continued from page 1)

Cinder Cone, a cone within a cone, offered views of the Painted Dunes and Emigrant Trail. Kings Creek Falls followed a steep, bubbling creek to a waterfall. The two official climbs were Lassen Peak at 10,457' (almost 2,000' elevation gain) and Brokeoff Mountain at 9,235' (2,600' elevation gain). An amazing 43 people, almost 2/3 of the group, ascended Lassen Peak; fourteen campers climbed Brokeoff. Needless to say, there were some very proud hikers – “I did it” was accompanied by a huge grin!

Water Sports: A number of folks took advantage of the numerous lakes to take dips; Summit Lake and Butte Lake were the most popular areas. Several folks brought kayaks and paddled around Butte and Manzanita Lakes. The evening glow on the Crags and Lassen Peak was spectacular from Manzanita Lake. It was also fun to watch the waterfowl (ducks, geese, baby coots, and osprey) and muskrats.

Companionship and getting to know other campers is an important part of Summer Camp. Comments we heard frequently included “what a congenial group,” “it’s easy to meet and get to know people,” “I like the relaxed pace.” Trip reports were shared informally over meals or cold beverages. Financial tips were also exchanged, including when to apply for Social Security and the Cash for Clunkers program.

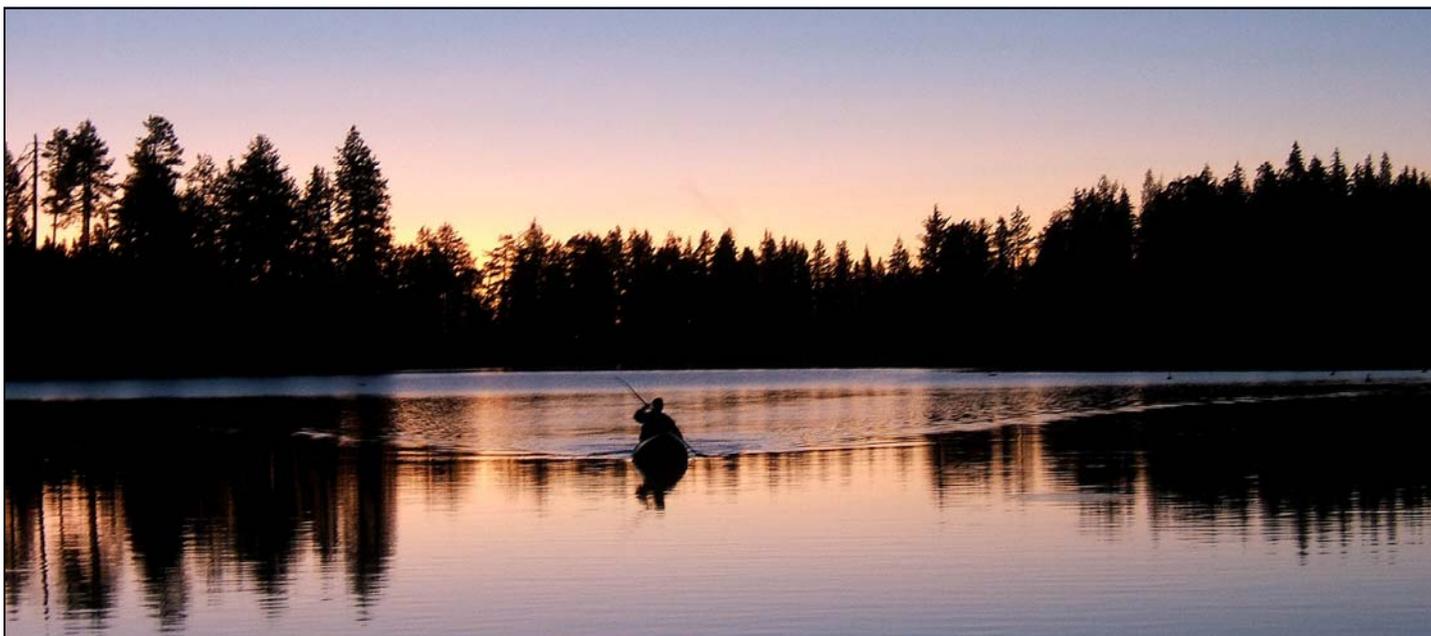
The **weather** was perfect – high in the mid-80s and low in the low 60s. There were few clouds, few mosquitoes, and mild breezes. It was great waking up and not having to wear gloves and layers of fleece in the early morning to keep warm. In fact, the wonderfully consistent warm weather guaranteed hot post-hike showers every day that had us “oohing and aahing” in delight.

Reduce, re-use, recycle: We used so few plastic and paper bags this year that we have a 10-year supply. And we recycled lots of #10 cans, glass and cardboard too.



Darlene Mancuso raising the flag

Kudos to all of us, particularly the Responsible People (RPs), who assumed leadership roles and ensured that all the chores got done efficiently. We are so lucky to have a group of folks who love the outdoors and are willing to give time and energy in order to run a successful camp. Thank you all very much!





Conservation Corner:

A Partnership: Ten Mile Creek Basin & Cape Perpetua/Heceta Head Marine Reserve

By Pat Bitner

ON A BEAUTIFUL JUNE SATURDAY on the Oregon Coast the views from Cape Perpetua were endless. Out to sea there was a truly blue Pacific, and vertically were the black basalt-defined tide pools hundreds of feet below. Our group gathered for Paul Engelmeyer's explanation of the importance of that view. At our feet lay the riches of the proposed Heceta Head and Cape Perpetua marine reserve. The mix of nutrients and tiny marine inhabitants of the near shore provide food for larger fish and a place for the young to develop and move on out to sea - it resembles a murky brown soup from above.

This proposed marine protected area and reserve would provide an important land-sea connection linking the coastal uplands to the outer continental shelf. The landscape between Cape Perpetua and the Heceta Head encompasses two major basalt headlands and includes two wildernesses. It is a forest of great ecological importance. It is the largest intact stand of coastal temperate rain forest of Sitka spruce and western hemlock in the lower 48 states.

THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY purchased Ten Mile Sanctuary in 1990 and later the Pine Tree property. Both are managed for conservation by Paul Engelmeyer. They encompass a range of habitat from the historic meadows of early 1900's homesteaders to a dense canopy of Sitka spruce, western hemlock, Douglas fir and western red cedar. The Audubon sanctuary protects the watershed of Ten Mile Creek, whose clear waters provide spawning grounds for Coho and Chinook salmon, cutthroat and steelhead trout.

A partnership of 18 years has developed with Oregon Fish & Wildlife, National Audubon, the U. S. Forest Service, the BLM and local landowners to work on conservation of a mostly pristine forested landscape and the offshore ocean environment. In 2007, the McKenzie River Trust brokered conservation easements and purchases totaling 479 acres adjoining Ten Mile Creek. This ensures that most of the water-

shed is protected with permanent easements agreed upon by both private owners and entities such as the Oregon Water Enhancement Board.

Our group, led by Paul and Joe Moll, McKenzie River Trust's Executive Director, happily tramped through a mix of meadow filled with foxgloves in full flower and along a rough trail where we avoided the residue of resident elk and a large hole marking the entry to the underground dwelling of a mountain beaver. As we lunched on the bank of Ten Mile Creek, Paul described how in the early days of the sanctuary

the Forest Service transported large Douglas fir trunks down the mountain by helicopter and dropped them in the creek to provide habitat for young salmon and steelhead. A stream which had been degraded has been restored to perfect marine habitat once more.

The old meadows cleared by early settlers are gradually being restored to their original state by selective planting of young trees. Conifers, maples

and alders have been planted by school children and Youth Corps members. Paul has learned that the trees do way better when protected by fencing from hungry elk.

GREAT BIG LEAF MAPLES ARE COVERED inches deep in green moss, making both a picturesque sight and a proper site for the nest of the marbled murrelet. The small seabird may fly up to 50 miles in from the ocean to its nest site. After the female lays its one egg on the moss covered shelf of a huge limb, the pair take turns tending the nest and flying back to the sea to find food. At dawn and at dusk, the small torpedo shaped bird flies at a speed of 60 to 98 miles per hour to the ocean, actually flying through the depths to find small fish and invertebrates. Because of the decrease in old growth forest, so necessary for its procreation, it is considered endangered.

Protecting old growth has so many benefits - to the murrelet as well as the many other critters that depend on it - and to the human population as well.



Tire Angels

By Ann-Marie Askew

BY MY FOURTH DAY AT CAMP ISHI, I needed some time alone, so I decided to auto-tour the twenty-nine-mile park road. After visiting the southern visitor center, I parked at Summit Lake to swim as it was such a peaceful, relaxing afternoon.

However, as I drove back onto the main park road, a dreaded bah-rump, bah-rump emanated from the rear of my ten-year-old Honda Civic. The road didn't have much of a shoulder, so I turned into the nearby northern entrance to the lake and parked next to an SUV. Something was seriously wrong with my car, and my cell phone was out of range. What to do? Deciding to find a park ranger, I walked around to the rear of my car, then exclaimed loudly, "Oh-my-god, I've got a flat!" as a man emerged from the lake, heading to his vehicle parked next to mine.

"Do you have a spare?" he said.

"Well, yeah...I guess. But I've never changed a tire in my life."

"No problem," the middle-aged man in swim trunks said. "Just give me a few minutes and I'll take care of it." Before I could say anything else, he left to get dressed. In all my fifty-three years of driving there'd always been a man around when I got a flat, and once again one was coming to my rescue. So I transferred the dirty clothes, books, trekking poles, and snow-chains out of my trunk onto the back seat of my car in order to get at my tiny spare.

AS THE MAN JACKED UP THE REAR OF MY CAR, he told me he was camping near the Obsidians with his four kids and three of their friends—seven teenagers. They visit Lassen every year, and his kids have been summiting the peak since they were seven years old. In addition to being an outdoorsman and devoted father, he was knowledgeable about vehicles in general, reciting a history of the many cars he had brought back to life, so I figured he was an auto mechanic. He also told me he didn't let his kids—three of them girls—drive until they demonstrated they could not only change tires, but also change the oil and provide general auto maintenance. His college-aged daughter helped rehabilitate her aging Honda, and I was standing next to one of his younger twin daughters who assured me she already knows a lot about cars even though she's not old enough for a license. After pulling the spare "donut" tire from my trunk, he had one of the kids find his air gauge, then determined that my spare was very low—no surprise since it had been stored in my trunk for almost a decade. So he asked a member of his adolescent entourage to find his electric air pump, which we plugged

into my car's cigarette lighter. Ta-da! Now I had a functional spare that he assured me would get my car down the mountains to Redding if I drove slowly.

As he replaced my flat with the little donut, I asked if he's employed as an auto mechanic. Nope. My tire angel is a physicist who'd worked on the linear accelerator as a Stanford graduate student. He was obviously a brilliant man of many talents.

After thanking him, I drove back to camp where, as I parked, his SUV pulled up behind me...teenagers intact.

"I was distracted while we were talking and neglected to perform a final tightening of the lug nuts," he said, wrench in hand, obviously enjoying this final act of kindness.

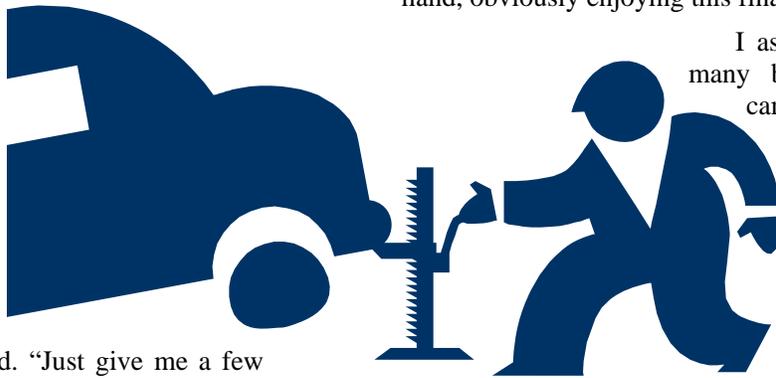
I assured him that he'd earned many brownie points, and tears came to my eyes as I thought about what he was giving his kids and their friends: the gift that it feels good to help others.

WANTING TO GET TO LES SCHWAB TIRES in Redding on a work day, I left summer camp two days

early. As soon as the sky lightened Friday morning, I squeezed my camping gear into my car's interior, leaving the trunk empty in order to exchange tires once again, and drove slowly out of the mountains, pulling over whenever the narrow road enabled me to let vehicles pass. I looked up Schwab's address at a Redding phone booth, and then settled into the waiting room for an hour-and-a-half. By eleven o'clock I headed north on I-5 with my brand new tire—replaced at no cost because I'd purchased my two-year-old tires from the Schwab store in Eugene. The mechanic said I'd apparently picked up a broken twig that worked itself into and damaged the interior of my tire.

Strangely, six days later I got another flat. Once again I was alone, about thirty miles east of Newport. When I heard the now-familiar bah-rump, bah-rump from the rear of my car, I wondered if my new tire had lasted less than a week. Alas, this time it was the other rear tire...flat as could be. I not only had a tire angel, but the tire devil was pursuing me!

But this time I had cell phone access, so I called AAA, who would send Bob's Towing in Corvallis to the rescue. During my two-hour wait, half a dozen tire angels offered their services. This time my flat was due to a broken air valve, and once again Schwab replaced the tire at no cost. Although bad things are supposed to come in threes, I haven't had another flat...yet. Actually, I think of my recent flat tires as blessings that reveal the kindness of strangers.



BOARD NOTES

By Laurie Funkhouser, Secretary Special Meeting August 31, 2009

President Jim Duncan called the meeting to order. Board members present: Laurie Funkhouser, Marshall Kandell, Barb Revere, Verna Kocken, Wayne Deeter, Larry Huff, and Stewart Hoeg.

After discussion, the Board approved Lana Lindstrom to fill the remaining one-year term of the Board position vacated by Marshall Kandell which will begin January 1, 2010.

September 2, 2009

President Jim Duncan called the meeting to order. Board members present: Laurie Funkhouser, Marshall Kandell, Barb Revere, Verna Kocken, Wayne Deeter, Larry Huff, and Stewart Hoeg. Other members present: Paul Flashenberg, John Jacobsen, Janet Jacobsen, Elle Weaver, Sue Sullivan, Doug Nelson, Joanne Ledet and Pat Bitner.

Treasurer's Report: Stewart Hoeg requested and received Board approval for payment of the bills. The financial status of the club is good. Both Administrative and Concession are over budget due to registration fees regarding FWOC and resupplying of concession items, respectively. A question regarding the Summer Camp balance will be investigated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summer Trips (Jim Pierce): There were 25 hikes, 3 bike trips and 1 baseball outing in July and August, with 176 members and 61 non-members participating. October has only 5 trips on the schedule and November none so far.

Winter Trips (Paul Flashenberg): In the preliminary planning stages for the 2009-2010 Winter Trips Season. Recruitment e-mails will be going out in mid-September, with the goal of having a schedule available by the 3rd week in October.

Climbs (Larry Huff): A total of ten climbs were completed from July 12th thru August 31st with 30 Members and 11 nonmembers participating.

Trail Maintenance (Peter Green): We had a very good turnout on August 26th for the final day of installing fencing along the West Trail on Spencer Butte.

Next work project is September 30th at 5:30.

By-Ways-By-Bus (Liz Reanier via Verna Kocken): The one trip planned for August was cancelled because of low numbers signing up. Our rider numbers have been low this year with several trips cancelled. The July 4th trip to the St. Paul Rodeo was changed from a bus trip to a car-pooled trip.

Conservation (Pat Bitner): Conservation and Sci-Ed are organizing Obsidian participation in the Fall 2009 Beach Cleanup, which is set for Sept. 19. Information will be distributed by e-mail, web and Sept. newsletter.

Publications (via Barb Revere): Publications will send out 350 paper *Bulletins* on Wed., Sept. 9th, by USPS, and 139 online subscription notices will be emailed, probably late on Sat., Sept. 5th. The 2010 Membership Renewal Form will be included as an insert in the paper copy. Clarified that donations are a contribution to the Contingency Fund at this time.

Membership (Barb Revere): We now have 14 new member applications for September, 2009. Climbs is responsible for 7 of these new applicants; Summer/Winter Trips, 4; and Summer Camp, 2. Current membership is 553.

Publicity (Elle Weaver): The long-awaited brochure has arrived in time for the Eugene Celebration and it had its debut at the Oregon State Fair. A new flyer as well as the brochure will be available at the booth at the Eugene Celebration.

Concessions (Kathleen Floyd): Revenue: July - \$374.00 (includes Summer Camp); August - \$6.00

Finance (Stewart Hoeg): A CD for \$19,133.26 was renewed at Umpqua Bank for 12 months at a rate of 2.05%.

Librarian/Historian (per Janet Jacobsen): Lenore is up to date with recording trips in the logs. Janet Jacobsen has the log books to confirm the members who will receive trip patches at the Annual Meeting. The log books will then go to Sharon Ritchie who will do the count for the leader patches. There will be a notice in the September *Bulletin* about the leader and trip patches.

Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen): We finally finished work on the rock steps to the back of the Lodge with work parties on July 3, 4 and 6. We had a work party to do a little summer cleanup in late July. We continue to sell some of the wood from the fir trees we are removing - collected \$200 for 1 5/8 cords.

Safety (Sue Sullivan): One incident report received from Brian Hoyland (via Jim Pierce) concerning an injury that occurred on an Obsidian hike July 25. Also had a verbal report of an injury that occurred on a Mt Washington climb and have had conversations with both the trip leader and the injured party concerning the incident. I expect a report soon.

OLD BUSINESS

Ribbon Trail Update: Janet Jacobsen stated that the trail has been carved but still needs graveling. Phillip Richardson is looking for feedback regarding the trail being available for use by bicycles. Individual members were encouraged to provide feedback. A neighborhood access trail is located near the Lodge.

Neighborhood Construction: John Jacobsen, Jim Duncan, Jim Pierce and several neighbors attended the meeting held mid-July to provide information regarding construction near the Lodge. A water main is being installed by EWEB in the area. A bike/access path is being considered which would connect from 30th Avenue to 29th near the Lodge.

Annual Meeting: The annual meeting is scheduled for **Friday, October 9, 2009** and will be an ice cream and cake social! The event is scheduled to begin at 6:30 with the meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. Committee chairs are to provide brief reports summarizing the activities of the year, patches will be awarded, new Board members will be voted upon.

NEW BUSINESS

Elle Weaver pointed out that the SEHS parking lot has placed new signs regarding parking and the "blue line." After discussion, it was felt that continuing to park in the SEHS parking lot on the weekends is okay.

Jim Duncan announced that the Board approved Lana Lindstrom to complete the one-year Board term to be vacated on January 1 by Marshall Kandell.

TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



Hikes

McKenzie Trail: Sahalie/Koosah Falls

June 19, 2009

Leader: Chris Cunningham Photo: Margaret Prentice
4.7 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)



A GROUP OF OBSIDIANS including Margaret Prentice, Barbara Sutherland, Eleanor Wilkerson, Pete Peterson, and Chris Cunningham walked the McKenzie River Trail that passes the 100-foot Sahalie Falls and junior Koosah Falls. The day threatened rain, but as luck would have it, a 15-minute drizzle was just enough to keep the dust under control. We probably should have paused a little longer to marvel at these breathtaking falls, but we did stop to admire the aquamarine blue pools, which are so vivid against the mossy green banks. We wended our way through Douglas fir and cedar forests to Carmen Reservoir, continued on the opposite river bank, and crossed the highway to Clear Lake. A wide space on the bank of the lake was the perfect spot for some R&R. Members: Chris Cunningham, Pete Peterson, Margaret Prentice, Barbara Sutherland and Eleanor Wilkerson.

Clear Lake/Waterfall Loop

June 20, 2009

Leaders: Sandra Larsen and Elle Weaver
6.2 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)

THE ROSARY LAKES TRIP became Clear Lake/Waterfall Loop due to the fact that trees hadn't been cleared from the Rosary Lakes trail. The substitute trip was about the same hiking distance and we had cool, perfect hiking temperatures with a little threat of rain. Our group of 13 started from Clear Lake Resort and hiked right to the waterfalls, stopping for lunch opposite Sahalie Falls. There was lots of water coming over the falls this time of year and, of course, the spectacular blue/green colors of the water are always awesome. There was only one tree down on the trail which we had to duck under. We met several bikers and

hikers. On this trip we had a group of the Downtown Athletic Club scheduled to join us. Since I had anticipated eight DAC members, Elle Weaver co-led with me. Our total group of 20 ended up being 13 due to no shows and cancellations. Members: Joan Abel, Daniele Delaby, Brenda Kameenui, Sandra Larsen, Sue Meyers, Judy Ness, Barb Revere and Elle Weaver; non-members: David Kolb, Mike Lewis, Meta Maxwell, Martha McRitchy and Janice Zagoria.

Dog Mountain

June 21, 2009

Leader: Becky Lipton
6 miles, 3,000 ft. (Difficult)

THREE HAPPY HIKERS enjoyed this workout hike with wonderful views of the Columbia Gorge from the summit. Often a spectacular wildflower hike at this time of year, the meadow was a bit past its prime due to the very early long stretch of heat this spring. Members: Dave Compton, Becky Lipton and Nola Nelson.

Roads End Beach Walk

June 24, 2009

Leader: Barbara Beard
3 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)

UNDER A CLEAR CALM BLUE SKY, 11 hikers began a glorious walk on beautiful white sand to the Roads End and Cascade Head headlands. Unusually low tides uncovered many species of sea-life that can be observed only a few days a year. June 24 was a minus 3.0-foot tide as recorded by the Oregon Marine Science Service. A tide of this low depth is only recorded every 10 to 20 years. The group headed north, one hiker with a clam digging shovel in the hopes of finding some great razor clams. Our group was on the beach by 6:30am at the Roads End State Park and by 7:30 we noticed a large amount of people following. The advertising in the Portland, Salem and Eugene papers about the minus tides brought out many interested beach walkers. Our hikers had the privilege of visiting with some people from Kentucky, New York, California and Washington, along with many neighbors from Lincoln City. The starfish, sea slugs, sea anemones, kelp and many creatures running to get back into the surf were abundant for viewers. A bald eagle hovered over us in flight and then perched itself on one of the snags atop the cliffs and kept an eagle eye on us the rest of the trip. The large caves that are usually blocked by water were explored by many, especially the younger ones who didn't mind crawling. After the 3-mile round-trip trek, we enjoyed a brunch, prepared by the Beard family, at picnic tables along the beach front in the state park. Members: Barbara Beard, Paul Beard and Paula Beard; nonmembers: Mark Barrett, Soledad Cortes, Denise Irving, Mark Irving, Amber Knudsen, Kevin Maxiniso, Sam Shell and Pam Young.

Clear Lake

June 25, 2009

Leader: Daniele Delaby
7.5 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)

THE GLOOMY WEATHER FORECAST proved to be wrong and we enjoyed ideal hiking conditions, sunny and breezy but warm

enough to be comfortable. We started our hike at the eastern end of the McKenzie River Trail, followed the dry bed of Fish Creek and started the loop clockwise in order to go through the lava flow while it was still cool. We stopped for lunch by the bridge at the west end of the lake and took another break at the Lodge to enjoy the sun on the dock and, yes, some ice cream treats. Even for some of us who have been hiking Clear Lake for years, the beauty of it never fails to make us feel privileged. Members: Daniele Delaby, Walt Dolliver, Julie Dorland, Yuan Hopkins, Barbara Schomaker and Michelle Tambellini; nonmembers: David Compton and Pamela McClure Johnston.

Gordon Lakes

June 27, 2009

Leader: Elle Weaver

14 miles, 1,100 ft. (Difficult)

YES, GORDON LAKES REALLY EXIST. Thanks to another Obsidian member who previously wanted to scout a section of the trail, our group pressed on with the goal of finding the lakes or stopping for lunch at a designated time - whichever came first. The lakes came into view with two minutes to spare! Daphne and Dick found seating for five on a sunny, log bridge over a creek connecting the two lakes. Two of us dipped our dusty feet in the icy water as salamanders swam by. The lakes can also be reached from a different trailhead just .25 miles past the bridge. What were we thinking! The longer route, though, offers a meandering up and down trail with wildflowers beside the initial switchbacks. Falls Creek is heard more often than seen as it follows the trail to Gordon Meadows, a beautiful expanse of lush greenery. Our final treat was a view of snowy Mt. Jefferson as we descended the switchbacks on our return in the afternoon. Guests Karen Rayle, a previous member, and her mother, Lucy Rayle, joined members Dick Hildreth, Daphne James, and Elle Weaver, leader.

Ten Mile Creek

June 27, 2009

Leader: Pat Bitner

1.2 miles, 30 ft. (Easy)

THIS WALK WAS A GUIDED TOUR of Portland Audubon's Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary near Yachats led by Paul Engelmeyer, Sanctuary Manager. We also heard a Cape Perpetua Lookout talk by Paul on the proposed marine reserves off the coast from shoreline to the three-mile limit. Joe Molle, Executive Director of the McKenzie River Trust, explained the Trust's 400 acres of adjacent protected forests on either side of the Audubon Sanctuary. Members: Joan Able, Pat Bitner, Margot Fetz and Donna Hacker; nonmembers: Linn Crooks.

Mary's Peak - East Ridge Trail

June 27, 2009

Leader: Bob Smythe

6 miles, 1,500 ft. (Moderate)

WEATHER CONDITIONS WERE IDEAL for a hike in the Coast Range. We ascended in the cool, lush forest, admiring columbine, wild iris, and other wildflowers which became a profusion of penstemon and paintbrush in the summit meadows. Despite some clouds, Cascade peaks from Mount Hood to Diamond Peak were visible from the 4000-foot summit lunch site. We descended the summit loop to the parking lot and rejoined the trail for a quick trip back to the car, arriving about 1:30pm.

Happy hikers included members Sue Meyers, Carla Rusow, and Bob Smythe, and nonmember Paul Rohde.

Iron Mountain/Cone Peak Meadows

June 28, 2009

Leader: Becky Lipton

6.8 miles, 1,700 ft. (Moderate)

TEN HAPPY HIKERS completed this hike and experienced one of the greatest wildflower blooms in Cone Peak Meadows in years, accompanied by beautiful weather. Quite a different experience from exactly one year ago when heavy late snow pack still covered most of the this area. Members: Paul Flashenberg, Chris Gordon, Becky Lipton, Royal Murdock and Nola Nelson; nonmembers: Leslie Gaymer, Howard Kopp, Diane Kunz, Nathan Thompson and Kerry Whalen.

Ridgeline Trail

June 30, 2009

Leader: Janet Jacobsen Photo: Tashi Choden

6.2 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)



IT WAS A LOVELY DAY in the south hills of Eugene. A crew was spreading gravel on the upper section of the Amazon Headwaters Trail. The west section of the Fox Hollow to Dillard trail has been moved higher on the ridge and graveled. We appreciate all of the hard work to keep these trails in shape for year-round usage. We were shocked to see that the trail marker at the intersection between Willamette and Fox Hollow had been ripped out, concrete and all, and thrown over the side of the trail. It was the third trip for Tashi Choden, a UO grad student from Bhutan, and her membership form was signed and ready to send in. Thanks to those that helped with the car shuttle. Members: Jean Coberly, Janet Jacobsen, Norma Lockyear, Jim Pierce, Ginny Reich and Ruth Romoser; nonmembers: Marci Bushnell, Tashi Choden and Jan Wulling.

Cape Mountain

July 1, 2009

Leader: Paul Flashenberg

7.6 miles, 1,400 ft. (Moderate)

AN ALL-MALE FOURSOME headed out to the coast for a beautiful day of hiking, picture taking, berry eating and an all round very enjoyable trip complete with multiple ocean views. The creeks had a little more water in them this year, so there were a few wet feet. The trail was in good condition as usual and with a

very compatible group we made good time on the trail and enjoyed a leisurely lunch. On the way home, we stopped at Alpha-Bit in Mapleton and my compatriots enjoyed a dish of ice cream as I settled for some iced coffee. Members: Paul Flashenberg and Lamonte Smith; nonmembers: Ernst Schwintzer and Jim Sellers.

Walk, Wine and Dine

July 2, 2009

Leader: Joanne Ledet

4 miles, 400 ft. (Easy)

EVEN THOUGH THE TEMPERATURE was right at 90 degrees, nine die-hard hikers met at Churchill Plaza for a late afternoon hike through the hills of southwest Eugene. After introductions, we set off for our four-mile hike, first navigating the detours encountered by road construction along Bailey Hill Road. We sought out any possible shade along Warren Street, and were relieved when we finally cut into the shady, wooded area for a steep uphill climb. The temperature dropped dramatically in the shade, but we still took our time on the path, enjoying the many ferns in the area. At the top of the hill, we were treated to two lovely bucks crossing our path, proud to show off their antlers which were in the velvet stage. We again walked along the residential streets for a short distance before beginning our descent into another wooded area. There was still a small amount of water in the creek which was surprising considering how dry it has been. When we reached Wilshire Street, we chose to take a path which added a little distance to our hike and required another steep, but shorter, hill climb. Finishing up our hike we walked along Brittany Street, cutting through the playground at McCornack School and back to Churchill Plaza. The goal was in sight, and that was a delicious dinner at Koho Bistro. Fabulous food and good company—a perfect ending to the day. The nine hikers, all members, were: Daniele Delaby, Walt Dolliver, Pat Esch, Yuan Hopkins, Norma Lockyear, Evelyn Nagy, Ruth Romoser, Barbara Schomaker, and leader Joanne Ledet.

Sculpture Hike

July 3, 2009

Leader: Janet Jacobsen Photo: Tashi Choden

2 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)



TWELVE PEOPLE GATHERED AT THE EUGENE PUBLIC LIBRARY for the sculpture walk. The good news was that there was free parking since the City of Eugene had an official holiday. The bad news was that it was 90-plus degrees. Highlights of the

day were sculptures of Eugene Skinner, Rosa Parks, Ken Kesey, Wayne Morse, Small Girl Waiting for Train, and the Bronze Geologic Features (fossils) in the Riverplay Discovery Village. We found the chess piece sculpted into the bottom of one of Kesey's grandchild's right shoe. The Marker of Origin at the Amtrak train station created a lively discussion about the origin of departure or the origin of the city. Most of us ended up at the Fifth Street Market for lunch. If anyone would like a copy of the handout with details about the sculptures, contact me at jbjacobsen@comcast.net. Members: Rick Ahrens, Tashi Choden, Jane Hackett, Janet Jacobsen, Jim Pierce, Dave Predeek, Margaret Prentice and Bonnie Richman. Nonmembers: Joanne Gulsvig, Sharon Luchs, Dana Magliari and Dorothy Quirk.

Horsepasture Mountain

July 5, 2009

Leader & Photographer: Barb Revere

3 miles, 900 ft. (Easy)



AFTER THE HEAT WAVE the Willamette Valley has been experiencing, the cooler weather was welcome. We had 72-degree temperatures all day on the mountain and a cooling breeze whenever we needed it. Just a few mosquitoes to let us know it was July in Oregon. The beargrass was stellar and we saw many other beautiful flowers like orange paintbrush, lavender phlox and Cascade lilies. On view during lunch were the Cascades from Mt. Hood south to Diamond Peak -- what a show! The road report for Road #1993 was iffy, but crews had cleared enough that we breezed in with no problems. Thanks to my three companions for coming along; a great time was had by all. Members: Joan Abel, Walt Dolliver, Sandor Lau and Barb Revere.

McKenzie River Trail, Ranger Station to Belknap Springs

July 7, 2009

Leader: Barb Revere Photos: Jim Pierce

8 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)

THE DAY WAS GLORIOUS, the group was in high spirits and we had a ball. Only half of us went into the pool, but we had a great walk and lots of conversation. One surprise: the grill on the patio was closed! They are open only Wednesday through Sunday. We had to buy what we could at the little convenience store in the resort, but no one went hungry. Jim P. found huckleberries and many other things to photograph on the trip in and took sev-

eral group shots. The leader had a challenge with different walking paces within the group and ran back and forth between groups on the up-river leg of the hike. Everyone kept together better on the way back (whew!).



We crowded out the regular riders on the bus ride back to town -- standing room only for many miles. The trail, as always, is in great shape: no mosquitoes and all the mountain bikers were courteous and careful. Thanks to all my companions—you made the day and the hike a pleasure. Members: Barb Bakke, LaRee Beckley, Julie Dorland, Mary Holbert, Kathy Lindstrom, Jim Pierce, Ginny Reich, Barb Revere, Ruth Romoser, Karla Rusow and Susan Sanazarro; nonmembers: Jim Gillings, Susan Waites, and Jan Wulling.

Olallie Mountain

July 11, 2009

Leader: Sam Miller

7.2 miles, 1,200 ft. (Moderate)

BEARGRASS, INDIAN PAINTBRUSH, COLUMBINE and numerous other wildflowers adorned the trail to the Olallie Mountain lookout. From the summit our group of 12 hikers was treated to a 360-degree view of the western Cascades where we enjoyed a mosquito-free lunch under sunny skies. Our group for this outing consisted of members Chris Stockdale, Lamonte Smith, Maggie Gontrum, Paul Flashenberg, David Kolb, Yuan Hopkins, Barb Revere, Pat Soussan, Sue Meyers and Sam Miller (leader); nonmembers included Karen Meyers and Ernst Schwintzer.

Tamolitch Pool

July 12, 2009

Leader: Barb Revere

4.2 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)

THUNDER STORMS WERE PREDICTED for the central Cascades, so instead of our intended Three Pyramids hike, we opted for the similar-distanced Tamolitch Pool from Trail

Bridge Reservoir. (We were all disappointed not to do the climb up Three Pyramids, but caution prevailed. We doubted we would see much of the view anyway.) We encountered many mountain bikers, many hikers, but few wildflowers. The river was captivating and the sun broke through for a few moments while we were enjoying lunch at the pool --- beautiful and blue, as advertised. The leader was the sole Obsidian on the hike. I was joined by nonmembers Molly England, Richard Reed, Sofia McManus, Pat McManus, Chuck Harpham and Gary Dura. All hikers seemed to enjoy the trip and all took home membership forms.

Bunchgrass Ridge

July 12, 2009

Leader & Photo: Chris Stockdale

8 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

THE FORECASTED THREAT OF THUNDERSTORMS didn't deter the group of hikers that ventured to explore the Bunchgrass Ridge section of the Eugene to Pacific Crest Trail. Although the weather up there remained misty, cool and damp, neither a rumble of thunder nor a flash of lightning was witnessed to prevent completion of this mission. Instead, the nine of us encountered a profusion of bear grass in full bloom, with several meadows carpeted with these tall spikes that have white topknots of minute flowers. In fact, appearing as they did in the mist, the flowers took on a rather surreal look of legions of ghost soldiers. The bear grass bloomed throughout the woods and in the old Warner Creek burn area, where they were mixed with pink rhododendrons. Although the mist prevented us from enjoying the usual views from this ridge that runs parallel to Highway 58 above Oakridge, everybody agreed that the bear grass made the trip worthwhile. We cut the hike short since we were getting very damp and chilly from forging through the wet overgrown under-



Ghost soldiers in the mist on Bunchgrass Ridge

brush along much of this under-used trail. One of the group, John Hegg, decided to tackle the so-called "challenge" of the trail, which is a fairly short but steep climb that normally would reward you with a great view of Diamond Peak. The rest of us stayed low to eat lunch before heading back. Imagine our surprise when, upon returning to Eugene, we heard about the major thunderstorm that had occurred during the day. Members: John Hegg, Daphne James, Judy Ness, Chris Stockdale and Lyndell Wilken; nonmembers: Lisa Logsdon, Sharon McCarroll, Jeanne Palzinksi and Randy Sinnott.

Pre's Trail

July 14, 2009

Leader: Margaret Prentice

4 miles, 0 ft. (Easy)

IT WAS A SURPRISINGLY COOL AND OVERCAST DAY for mid-July as we seven Obsidians (Sharon and Jim Duncan, Marshall Kandell, Mary Morrison, Barb and Tom Revere and I) set off counter-clockwise along Pre's Trail. We identified a few trees and noticed some of this season's hazelnuts and walnuts. Walking along the canal we saw ducks and geese in the water but the most interesting find was an unusual looking duck, black and white with a distinctive red beak, standing by the path, not in the least bothered by our presence. As we later confirmed, it was a domestic muscovy duck. Near the end of the trail we detoured to cross the footbridge to explore the Hays Memorial Tree Garden. Following our hike we adjourned to Oakway Deli for a favorite beverage and more conversation.

Browder Ridge Thru-Hike

July 18, 2009

Leader: Brian Hamilton

8 miles, 1,560 ft. (Moderate)

AFTER LEAVING EUGENE AT 8:00AM, we arrived at the Gate Creek Trailhead at the east end of Browder Ridge shortly after 10:00. The hikers waited at Gate Creek for three vehicles to be driven to the west trailhead on Forest Road 080 and for the three drivers to return to Gate Creek in one vehicle. Although the two trailheads are only about 15 miles apart, the round trip between the two took about 45 minutes, so that our hike didn't begin until 11:00am. Because of the late start, we skipped the side trip to the ridge summit and hiked straight through along the ridge. The weather was perfect and the wildflowers were spectacular! Trilliums, false hellebore, and beargrass were past their prime for the season, but we were right on time for so many more, including great displays of Cascade lilies, penstemon, columbine, and many others. Each meadow we encountered had its own "personality;" some were mostly one color of bloom, while others were mixes. Some meadows were mostly dry rock flowers and others were filled with tall ferns.

Recent work on the final section of trail has made major changes. Previously, the trail from the west trailhead gained 850 feet in elevation in less than a mile. The trail was recently rebuilt with several switchbacks, reducing the steepness, but increasing the length of trail to the ridgeline. Hikers were Obsidians Barb Revere, Bill Rodgers, Daphne James, Paul Flashenberg, Brian and Mary Hamilton, Peter and Kitson Graham, and Rob Castleberry. Nonmembers included Tina Dixon, David Kolb, and Barry Taub.

Alton Baker Park

July 23, 2009

Leader: Ruth Romoser

8 miles, 250 ft. (Moderate)

WE MET AT ALTON BAKER POND and walked up Skinner's Butte and tried to see the eagles' nest. Then, we walked along the river to the Owasso Bridge, crossed, and walked back to our vehicles. It was a nice foggy morning, great for walking, and the sun came out about 11am. This is my favorite hike/walk and I always enjoy walking with Walt. He has such great stories! Members: Walt Dolliver and Ruth Romoser.

Waldo Mountain Lookout

July 25, 2009

Leader & Photo: Brian Hoyland

8.5 miles, 2,000 ft. (Difficult)



OUR GROUP OF TEN HIKERS made quick work of the 3-mile, 1900-foot climb to the historic Waldo Mountain Lookout located at 6,357 feet in the Waldo Lake Wilderness. We enjoyed a lunch in the shade of the lookout porch. After a brief rest and photos, we headed down hill on the 5.5-mile loop trail back to the cars. The trail passes through the very scenic Waldo Meadows, a narrow meadow of ferns, hellebore, and cone flowers tucked between old growth groves of noble fir and hemlock. Obsidian members were Carol Armstrong, Brad Bennet, Paul Flashenberg, Lamont Smith, and Leader Brian Hoyland. Nonmembers included Margaret Bayless, Mariche de Greef, Lisa Logsdon, Ernst Schwintzer, and Karen Rayle.

Mt. Pisgah

July 30, 2009

Leader: Dan Christensen

8 miles, 2,000 ft. (Moderate)

THIS PISGAH HIKE was designed as an extension of the typical "up the ridge and down" event most Pisgah hikers experience. The hike commenced in the Arboretum parking lot. From there we walked to the north trailhead, went around the outside of the north trail, then toward Pisgah, intercepting the main trail at the north/main trail junction. We proceeded to the top and down the far side to a junction about 0.4 miles from the east trailhead. At this junction we followed the #2 trail east and back up to the top. We then doubled back down the main trail to the north trail junc-

tion. We continued down the north trail until we reached the junction with the Theodore trail. We then took the "shortcut" Theodore trail back to the parking lot, probably cutting 1/2 mile or so off the hiking distance if we had proceeded back to the north trailhead. The weather was excellent with blue sky and a few clouds. A morning hike proved to be best time as it was a bit warm. Members: Dan Christensen, Dick Hildreth, Charlie Thomas and Elle Weaver.

Cowhorn Mountain

August 1, 2009

Leader: John Jacobsen Photo: Maria Gibson
9.5 miles, 1,850 ft. (Difficult)



HOT, HOT, HOT – having just come out of 100+ temperatures in the valley during the week, the question on everyone's mind was: would this be a hot one too? It was a bit warm and we had a few mosquitoes, but nothing that our hardy and enthusiastic group couldn't deal with. The early 7:00am departure from Eugene turned out to be a good idea on two fronts in that we beat the heat starting out and we beat the thunderstorms at the end of the day. We headed up the PCT at about 9:20am, reaching the summit of Cowhorn about noon. It was very pleasant on top with reasonable views since little of the smoke from the Glide fire was obscuring the surroundings. As we left the summit after an hour on top, the clouds began to mass for what had occurred for several days previously: a daily thunderstorm. As we approached the trailhead (and our cars) a couple hours later the thunder was rumbling all around. Our timing was about perfect. A stop for refreshments on the way home completed a great day on Cowhorn Mountain with a very congenial group. Members: Dick Hildreth, John Jacobsen, Chris Stockdale and Elle Weaver; nonmembers: Jane Brolsma and Maria Gibson.

Lowder Mountain

August 11, 2009

Leader: Jim and Sharon Duncan
5.6 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)

THE TRAIL TO LOWDER MOUNTAIN is always a bit of a challenge because of the waist-high plants overgrowing and obscuring the trail, and this year we also contended with damage to the trail from horses. Nevertheless, our group of seven made it without incident to the top where we enjoyed lunch in a spectacular setting. The mountains from Mt. Jefferson to Mt. Bachelor were

visible, although smoke from forest fires to the south made the views hazy, especially to the east. The visibility improved even during the short time we were there. Perfect temperatures, no mosquitoes, no sprained ankles – Lowder Mountain is always a good trip. Enjoying the outing were members Brad Bennett, Walt Dolliver, Sharon and Jim Duncan, new member Jim Gillings, Susan Sanazaro, and nonmember Ron Allen (completing his 3rd Obsidian hike).

Tam McArthur Rim

August 15, 2009

Leader: Doug Nelson
5 miles, 1,200 ft. (Moderate)

TEN EAGER HIKERS, three willing drivers and a sunny but cool morning made for a great start for a hike on Tam McArthur Rim. Unfortunately, car problems caught us short of the trailhead. Nonmember Margaret Bayless, who had been kind enough to volunteer to drive, was stopped by a breakdown just west of Sisters. Not really a disaster, but certainly a pain in the neck! Margaret was prevented from joining us on the hike as she had to deal with her car. Fortunately, we still had room enough in the two cars still running to get our nine remaining hikers on up to the trail head. All this was accomplished with a minimum of time or trouble. What did we do before we all had cell phones? I had not hiked this trail before. It proved to be a deservedly popular place, and we could not have asked for a nicer day. Sunshine, clear skies and a cool breeze combined to make this short, moderate hike well worth the long drive. We shared the trail with many other hikers and took plenty of time to enjoy the great views and take numerous photos while climbing to the marvelous overlook for a leisurely lunch. We could have explored farther up the ridge but opted to keep the hike short in deference to those who had evening plans. Thanks to the group for joining me and helping to make this a very pleasant outing. Members: Buzz Blumm, Maddie Blumm, Sachiko Iwasaki, Doug Nelson, Lamonte Smith, Suzanne Twight-Alexander and Nancy Whitfield; nonmembers: Chuck Harpham and Ernst Schwintzer.

The Twins

August 16, 2009

Leader: Judith Terry Photo: Darko Sojak
6.6 miles, 1,600 ft. (Moderate)



I HAD CALLED EVERYONE on the full signup list to warn about the pesky mosquito problem I had encountered the prior weekend. Fortunately, with everyone prepared we had very few mosquitoes, if any. What we did have was splendid weather and wonderful views of The Sisters, Mt. Jefferson, and Diamond Peak. We took the path up to the north peak of the Twins and those wanting to stretch their legs more went on to the southern peak for lunch and more viewing. Mosquito-free hikers included members Kitson Graham, Peter Graham, Dick Hildreth, Nola Nelson, Darko Sojak, Guy Strahon, Judith Terry (leader) and nonmembers Diane Kurz, Paul Rohder, Carolyn Sojak, and Sandra Wheeler.

Rosary Lakes/Maiden Peak Saddle

August 22, 2009

Leader: Daniele Delaby

8.6 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)

THE WEATHER FULLY COOPERATED, sunny and breezy, to make this hike a very pleasant experience. In our group of twelve hikers, six were enthusiastic nonmembers who seemed eager to become Obsidians. After taking our time enjoying the lakes, we decided to get to our destination before lunch while the temperature was still rather pleasant. On the way up to the pass we had views of Odell and Crescent lakes. There was a race organized in the area and we encountered some runners on the trail. Our group of hikers was very cohesive and we enjoyed each other's company and conversation. Members: Daniele Delaby, Yuan Hopkins, Richard Hughes, Lana Lindstrom, Barbara Schomaker and Nancy Whitfield; nonmembers: Margaret Bayless, Anya Dobrandski, Jolynn Fabiano, Heather Home, Art Kearney and Pam Tennant.

Chambers Lakes

August 22, 2009

Leader: Becky Lipton

14.2 miles, 1,800 ft. (Difficult)

FOUR EAGER SOULS made the trek to Camp Lake, the first of the Chambers Lakes. The day was perfect. The trail was only mildly dusty and there were still a number of snow fields on the Sisters' peaks. Members: Rob Castleberry, Dan Christiansen, Becky Lipton and Charlie Thomas.



Climbs

Middle Sister via Hayden Glacier

June 27-28, 2009

Leader: Wayne Deeter

15 miles, 5,000 ft. (I-1)

WE HAD GREAT WEATHER. The usual campsite, normally quite private, was a tent city, so we camped on a ridge to the south.

We ended up behind numerous larger groups going up the mountain Sunday morning. Much of the snow had already melted off the north ridge. Due to rockfall from the other parties, and softening snow conditions, we chose to turn back several hundred feet below the summit. Instead, we took a different route back to camp, descending to the top of the Collier Glacier, then down the gully where we were able to examine the exposed ice of the Hayden Glacier. In spite of not summiting, it was an enjoyable trip with wonderful companions. This trip should be scheduled a few weeks earlier--late May or very early in June. Members: Wayne Deeter and Andrew Jensen; nonmembers: Lauren Herbert and Lili Weldon.

Mt. Jefferson

July 12-13, 2009

Leader: Wayne Deeter

12 miles, 4,200 ft. (I-2)

WE HIKE INTO JEFF PARK IN FOG, and as we ascended to "The Beach" it began to rain. We hurriedly set up tents and spent the night. By daylight the rain and snow had stopped, but the fog didn't clear until about 9, too late for us to start out across the Whitewater Glacier. So instead, we returned to our cars in fabulous weather, getting those glorious views of the mountain that we missed on the way in. Members: Amber Bell, Wayne Deeter, Steve Kuhn, Juli McGlinsky and Ron Unger; nonmembers: Dylan Farque and Lili Weldon.

Three Fingered Jack

August 1, 2009

Leader: Wayne Deeter

11 miles, 3,000 ft. (I-3)

FRIDAY EVENING, THANKS TO SUE CAREY'S SUGGESTION, we had an excellent potluck dinner at the Fish Hatchery across the Leaburg Dam. We then car camped at the PCT trailhead at Santiam Pass. A before-dawn start got us to "The Crawl" at about 9am, with first summit before 10:30. We were headed back across "The Crawl" by noon, and were well off the mountain by the time the weather started moving in. Congratulations are due to Bud, who first climbed this mountain in 1950, and to the two Sues - this was their first climb of it. Members: April Anderson, Sue Carey, Wayne Deeter, Doug Nelson, Bud Proctor and Sue Zeni.

Mt. McLoughlin

August 8, 2009

Leader: Mark Slipp

11 miles, 3,915 ft. (Difficult)

SIX OF US LEFT THE TRAILHEAD at 5:41am. It was a cool morning, and we all could feel the sting of the cold in our fingers as we hiked. The sun came up at 6:27 but we were still in the trees and didn't get a good view of it. At 8:09 Bistra found a great place for a break and we had a good view of Fourmile Lake as the sun shone through the smoke from the forest fires. Shortly after our break we hit the treeline and then the east ridge, and we had a clear view of the summit. We were at 8,200 feet, only 1,200 feet to go. We went at a leisurely pace, getting to the summit by 10:10. The view was very smoky, but we could see Mt. Shasta to the south and Crater Lake rim to the north. The winds were light and the sun was warm; it was a very pleasant summit. We spent 1:15 min on top, departed the summit at 11:20, and

arrived at the cars at 2:50pm. Climbers were members Bistra Hristova and Mark Slipp, and nonmembers Maria Gibson, Bob Kaminski, Mike Lowden, Charles Preppernau.

Mt. Thielsen

August 15-16, 2009

Leader: Larry Huff

10 miles, 4,000 ft. (I-2)

WE CAME TOGETHER AS A GROUP Saturday afternoon at South Eugene High School and drove to Broken Arrow Campground on Diamond Lake. We began our approach to the peak on a cool, clear Sunday morning a little after 6:00am. We covered the four miles of groomed trail in about two hours. We proceeded upward on the climbers trail into a cool wind. The going was a bit tiring because of loose scree and elevation. We stopped at a point about 200 feet above a prominent feature known as Thielsen's Hand. At this point I was reaching into my pack for water. The pack slipped from my hand and it rolled down the mountain. I made a precarious descent into a gully to retrieve the pack and we scrambled up to Chicken Point. We set a fixed line to the summit and we all enjoyed the incredible view from this exposed summit. We congratulated Brian Hamilton for achieving the goal of reaching his tenth Oregon Cascade peak with the Obsidians. Members: Brian Hamilton, Larry Huff and Dave Jensen; nonmembers: Sean Breslin and Dallas Hemphill.

Broken Top

August 22, 2009

Leader: Brian Hamilton

14 miles, 4,800 ft. (I-2)



OUR CLIMB STARTED AT 5:00AM at the Green Lakes Trailhead. There was a cloudless sky and frost on the ground. We were able to turn off our headlamps by the time we hit the junction with the Moraine Lake trail. After reaching the lava flow on the opposite side of Fall Creek, we turned off the trail and headed cross country toward the saddle on Broken Top's northwest ridge. We intercepted the climbers' trail a few hundred yards below the saddle, then turned south along the ridge. At the crux, the leader secured a rope to webbing already in place at the rappel station and then we followed the ramps to the summit, reaching the final pinnacle by 11:00. We saw two solo climbers descending on our way up the ridge, but had the summit to ourselves. The weather



Three Musketeers, Doug, Sue & Wayne - Summit pose on Mt. Washington

was sunny but mild, with a light breeze and we enjoyed views from Mt. Scott to the south to Mt. Adams in the north. After a quick rappel down to retrieve our backpacks, we decided to descend the ridge instead of the scree slope. We followed the climbers' trail all the way to Green Lakes where we soaked our feet, swam, or simply rested before the final four-mile trek. We were back at the trailhead by 4:30. Climbers were nonmember Brian Dickerson who ascended as far as the crux and Obsidians Marianne Camp, Bistra Hristova, Tim Swallen, Andrew Jensen (asst. leader), and Brian Hamilton (leader).

Three Fingered Jack

August 22, 2009

Leader: Wayne Deeter

11 miles, 3,000 ft. (I-3)

THE WEATHER WAS GREAT for a "double weekend." We started from the trailhead at 4:20am, and were to the base of the chimney by nine. Two climbers came up after us--they were intending to climb Mt. Washington later the same day! All five of us went out to the "true" summit and stood on it. This was the first summit of Jack for LiLi, Roy and Bob--congratulations! We were back to the cars shortly after 3pm. After the "single mountaineers" left, LiLi and I headed down to Suttle Lake for a swim, then to Papa Andreas in Sisters to refuel for Sunday's climb of Mt. Washington. Members: Wayne Deeter, Roy McCormick, Mark Slipp and LiLi Weldon. Nonmember: Bob Kaminski.

Mt. Washington

August 23, 2009

Leader: Wayne Deeter

10 miles, 3,000 ft. (I-3)

THIS WAS THE SECOND CLIMB of a "double weekend." This morning was a little warmer than Saturday morning. Views were again great, with Thielsen just showing in the south, but haze prevented seeing anything north further than Jefferson. Congratulations go to Sue and LiLi for their first summits of Mt. Washington, and to Tim and Jen for their first summits ever. Jen also did her first rappel! An injury to one of the climber's hands in getting onto the scree trail brings into question the wisdom of using this descent route. Members: Sue Carey, Wayne Deeter,

Doug Nelson and LiLi Weldon; nonmembers: Jennifer Cea Galfin and Tim Galfin.



Byways By Bus

Remnants of the Aurora Colony

June 23, 2009

Leader: MaryEllen West

AURORA WAS THE DESTINATION for the June 23 bus trip. This was the site for the utopian society established by Dr. William Keil in 1856. By 1867, the settlement numbered 600 people. The pioneers built their own homes, shops and mills on the 18,000 acres of communal lands. While the colony lifestyle required a measure of isolation from the world, proximity to markets and outsiders benefited colonists. After Dr. Keil's death in 1877, the colony dissolved their organization and each member received a fair share of the holdings and property. Many businesses and industries became privately owned. Some of them were operated by former colony members and their descendants. Today, Aurora is a historic district with about 20 colony sites. On our way up I-5, we stopped at the Santiam River rest stop for coffee and goodies provided by the hospitality committee. Our Obsidian bird expert, Rick Ahrens, pointed out the different kinds of birds along the river. Then it was off to the 1860 farm in Hubbard owned by a colony member. Aurora Colony Museum curator, Patrick Harris, gave us a tour of all the buildings set among the hop farms (also there in colony times), and a superb view of Mt. Hood. This was a stunning view of life in the 1860's. At Aurora we visited the old Aurora Colony Museum. Patrick gave us a tour of the cabin, barn house, garden and the ox-barn, and we had lunch in the garden. It was a treat to see the old equipment and tools, many of which are still operable. Aurora is known as an antique center, including businesses in Old Colony buildings. Obsidians found gems in the shops. We also stopped at Vogets' Meats in Hubbard and the 1896 Baumen Farms in Gervais. The Bus Trippers helped the local economy! Members: Rick Ahrens, Don Baldwin, Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, MaryLee Cheadle, Barbara Flanders, Dennis Flanders, Donna Halker, Verna Kocken, Earline Kopriva, Tom Kopriva, Dot Leland, John McManigal, Lenore McManigal, Barbara Payne, Don Payne, Dick Speelman, Janet Speelman and MaryEllen West. Nonmembers: Gloria Roat and Janice White.

St. Paul Rodeo

July 4, 2009

Leader: Barbara Beard

CLEAR SKIES WELCOMED 13 Obsidian rodeo fans on July 4th to the St. Paul Rodeo. Festivities began at noon with booths of BBQ chicken, ribs, hamburgers, hot dogs, and the full assortment of carnival food from iced smoothie drinks to the colorful cotton candy. The rodeo began at 1:30pm with a festive parade, colorful flags, and the Rodeo Queen and her court of princesses riding the groomed and beautiful horses. This opened the 71st celebration in St. Paul for a most spectacular rodeo, which is one of the top ten in the Pacific Northwest Division. Prize money is always high at this rodeo and brings many of the nation's top

riders to this little town. It was a great celebration and a wonderful way to celebrate our nation's 225th birthday. The following members and guests car-pooled to the event, since the registered count was below the 30-minimum to obtain a bus for the day. Members: Barbara Beard, Paul Beard, Paula Beard, Mary Lee Cheadle, Donna Halker, John McManigal, Lenore McManigal, Barbara Payne, Don Payne, Julie Snell and Mary Ellen West; nonmembers: Virginia Cheadle and Gloria Rout.



Bike Trips

Pleasant Hill/Cottage Grove

June 27, 2009

Leader: Stewart Hoeg

36 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

SEVEN RIDERS GATHERED in the Pleasant Hill High School parking lot at 10am on a beautiful sunny day for a ride to Cottage Grove. Getting out of the parking lot proved to be a major challenge. Before we could leave, we were informed that an accident was going to be "staged" in the parking lot for rescue practice. We were asked to move our cars to another area of the school. We did, but it took us two tries to find the area that they wanted us in. Finally, about 10 minutes late, we got started. The weather was perfect - no clouds and warm temperatures. We made it to our lunch destination, the Cottage Restaurant, right at noon and had a delicious lunch on their patio. Despite an on/off head wind on our return, we enjoyed making our way back to Pleasant Hill. As we arrived at the high school, a helicopter was being loaded with a stretcher and took off, all part of the rescue training. There were a lot of people working the "accident." We were glad it wasn't real and that our cars were in the far parking lot. We detoured out to Highway 58 and made it safely to our cars and the short ride back to Eugene. Participants, all members, were Barb Bruns, Stewart Hoeg, Ed Lizewski, Darryl McBee, Pam Morris, Sharon Ritchie, and Charlie Van Deusen.

McKenzie View Loop

July 5, 2009

Leader: Doug Nelson

30 miles, 300 ft. (Moderate)

MAYBE SCHEDULING A MORNING BIKE RIDE ON THE 5TH OF JULY was bad strategy. Maybe folks had holiday plans or just wanted to sleep in after a night of fun and fireworks. Whatever the reason, I only had two riders join me on the McKenzie View loop bike ride but the three of us had a fine morning outing. When we met at Skinner's Butte Park at 9:00 the morning was bright and still cool. Everyone showed up on their bicycle, each of us having ridden from our homes, and we were ready to roll. The river bike path is always pleasant and the ride through Springfield was interesting as we observed construction progress on the new "EmX" line and rode the east-west trail along the EWEB right-of-way. We then enjoyed the very pretty heart of the ride—a rolling rural route along Old Mohawk Road and McKenzie View Drive. We took our short break at the old railroad bridge near Armitage Park. A quick bit on busier roads got us back to the river trail and a return to our starting point before the day began to really warm up. Thanks to George Jobanek and Sue Carey for sharing their congenial company with me on this



Obsidian bikers along the North Fork Siuslaw

very nice, relaxed ride. Members: Sue Carey, George Jobanek and Doug Nelson.

Cottage Grove/Lorane Bike Trip **July 11, 2009**

Leaders: Sharon Ritchie and Lyn Gilman-Garrick
43 miles, 2,140 ft. (Difficult)

MOTHER NATURE FAVORED US WITH LOTS OF CLOUDS, overcast skies and cool temps. We had two huge hills to go over on this loop and worried about the "85-degree day" called for in the weather reports. It was a perfect day for a perfect ride! All Obsidians and all good friends also made this a perfect day. We celebrated the completion of another "difficult" ride by enjoying ice cream at the soda fountain in Creswell at the end of the ride. Riders were Obsidians Lyn Gilman-Garrick (co-leader), Paul Garrick, Joyce Sanders, Barb Bruns, Walt Davis, Darrell McBee, and co-leader Sharon Ritchie.

Row River

August 15, 2009
Leader: Guy Strahon
30 miles, 100 ft. (Moderate)

EIGHT OBSIDIAN MEMBERS set out on a 30-mile bike ride on the Row River Trail near Cottage Grove. We stopped for lunch at Wildwood Falls and then rode against a stiff wind on the way back. The leader got a flat just before the final mile, but pumped up the tire to coast into the parking lot. Very pleasant day with watermelon served following the ride. Members Stewart and Kathy Hoeg, Barbara Bruns, Barb Revere, Martha Welches, Virginia Rice, Judy Terry, and leader Guy Strahon enjoyed this summer day.

Backdoor Century Ride

August 16, 2009
Leader: Douglas McCarty
60 miles, 2,000 ft. (Difficult)

IT WAS DIFFICULT TO RECRUIT RIDERS for an unsupported century ride even when offering free parking, no vehicle fee contributions, free coffee and a shuttle ride at the end. With no volunteers, I tried to convince a couple of locals (Paul and Bob) to do the 100, but no dice. They decided they would compromise and ride a (roughly) metric century with me, though. So in the cool morning air I rode out my backdoor and up through the first hills to Crest Drive and Lorane Highway. Following Spencer Creek Road eventually to Crow Road, we took a short break in front of the Church of the Nazarene, then up Territorial to

Warthen and then Sheffler. I somehow remembered Sheffler as a tougher climb, but I never shifted to the granny gear and we rode through the lush farming countryside that is Poodle Creek Road. The most beautiful part of the ride comes along Vaughn Road from Noti to Territorial--it never fails to delight. If you can ride this in late September, early October, please do. After a short break at the Lumber Mill on Vaughn, it was a straight push back along Crow, Erickson, Pine Tree, Spencer Creek and back up my favorite little hill on Crest Drive and home. Elapsed time: about 4 hours and 40 minutes. Members: Douglas McCarty; nonmembers Paul and Bob [no last names provided].

North Fork Siuslaw

August 22, 2009
Leader: Stewart Hoeg
Photo: Tom Revere
37 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)

THIRTEEN CYCLISTS, including four couples, met in Old Town Florence at 10am under sunny skies and mid 60's temperatures. It took a while to get everyone's bikes ready and to pose for a group picture, but eventually we headed up the hill past the Florence Events Center for a brief sojourn on Highway 126. Right after passing the entrance to the casino, we turned left, crossed the highway and began our journey up the North Fork of the Siuslaw. The tide was out as we cruised north past farmland and waterway until reaching the intersection with the Upper North Fork of the Siuslaw Road. We took the Upper North Fork Road and wound through verdant forests along the lazy river and past some impressive old growth before reaching our lunch point at the Pawn Wayside. The wayside was named after four homesteading families whose last names began with P, A, W and N. We sat and ate on the side of a concrete bridge spanning the river. After a leisurely lunch, we headed back the way we came—looking forward to pedaling downstream and expecting a continuation of the light breeze from the north that had prevailed before lunch. Unfortunately, the wind had come up and was blowing from the south--right into our faces. As a result, we worked a little harder than planned, but nobody was complaining about having to slow down on such a lovely ride. Most of the riders used the extra work as an excuse for a stop at BJ's Ice Cream after getting back to the parking lot. Riders, members all, were Darrell McBee, Jim Duncan, Darlene Mancuso, George Jobanek, Barb Revere, Anne Bonine, Jack O'Donnell, Judy Terry, Guy Strahon, Peter and Kitson Graham, and Kathy and Stewart Hoeg.



Deadfall Lakes in Northern California - July 24-26 backpack



Backpacks

Deadfall Lakes & Mt. Eddy Backpacking Trip

July 24-26, 2009

Leader: Bill Sullivan

12 miles, 2,500 ft. (Moderate)

TEN EXPERIENCED BACKPACKERS took it easy on this spectacular trip, cruising three nearly level miles on the PCT to a campsite overlooking Middle Deadfall Lake, swimming often, singing Dutch carols, and sauntering off-trail around this high valley in search of *Darlingtonia* pitcher plants, wildflowers, woodpeckers, and deer. On Saturday we climbed 9,005-ft. Mt. Eddy, but even this was not too tough, with well-graded switchbacks. Storms have reduced the summit lookout building to a pile of boards, warranting an update for the new edition of *100 Hikes in Southern Oregon* that the leader is researching, but the view of Mt. Shasta is as gigantic as ever. On this joint venture of Salem and Eugene outdoor clubs were Chemeketans Elly Collier, Matt Federspiel, Mary Coleman, and leader Bill Sullivan; Obsidians Chris Stockdale, Paul Brown, Scott Hovis, and leader Bill Sullivan; and guests Janell Sorensen, Dave Reuter, and Renee Klein.

We cemented in two more sections of fencing on the middle switchbacks of the west trail, and accomplished a lot of work in just two hours. Participants were Obsidian Matthew Bell, non-members Erin Hewett, Marie Dement, Victoria Montanez, and Katie Napier; and EPOS staff Christer LaBrecque.

Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance

August 26, 2009

Leader: Matthew Bell

1 mile, 200 ft. (Easy)

WE HAD A VERY GOOD TURNOUT for the final day of installing fencing along the West Trail on Spencer Butte. We began about 5:30 by packing up the tools and fence posts and rails that wouldn't fit in the power wheelbarrow. Then we broke up into very efficient small groups to tackle individual jobs. Some were digging post holes, gathering brush, and others moving and installing signs, cleaning steps along the trail, and mixing cement. By 7:15 we'd accomplished our day's objective of installing an additional post and section of rails to each of the middle two fences to help deter people from cutting the switchback. Participants: Rick Burn, Bob Cherney, and Marie Dement (nonmembers); members Dan Christensen, Janet Jacobsen, Jane Hackett, Matt Bell, and Rick Ahrens; and Jason Morrow and Christer LaBrecque (EPOS).



Baseball

Obsidians at Emerald's Baseball Game

August 6, 2009

Leader: Ed Lichtenstein

OBSIDIANS SAY GOOD-BYE TO CIVIC STADIUM, [but not to the ?] Thirty-three Obsidians and guests (no, I'm not gonna list you all, sue me!) turned out for our annual baseball night at Civic Stadium. The evening was cool with a threat of rain but this did not seem to affect attendance. Food and drink were good and plentiful and no one seemed to mind that they lost to the Tri-City Dust Devils. A highlight for the leader and several others was the presence of Don Doerr's dad, Bobby Doerr, a Hall-of-Fame second baseman for the Boston Red Sox. Mr. Doerr shared many observations from his playing days and still roots hard for the Red Sox. It is now official that the Ems will be playing at the new PK (NOT Phil Knight) Park next year, next to Autzen Stadium. Barbeques will continue. Will we want to be there?



Trail Maintenance

Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance

July 22, 2009

Leader: Matthew Bell

1 mile, 200 ft. (Easy)

WE MET AT THE MAIN SPENCER BUTTE PARKING LOT to begin this month's trail maintenance outing. We are continuing to install fencing along the west trail to keep people and other park goers from cutting through the switchbacks. Unfortunately, this trail maintenance date conflicted with this year's Summer Camp. Our turnout was four nonmembers, three of whom had never participated in trail maintenance or any other Obsidian activities before. They found out about trail maintenance through advertisements on the trail heads and in the paper!

UPCOMING



Upcoming Bus Trips

FALL COLOR TRIP TO SISTERS

Date: September 22, 2009 - Tuesday

Leader: Ray Jensen

Cost: \$28 members, \$30 Non

Reservations & checks to Mary Lee Cheadle 689-1085

ON THIS FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN, our traditional fall color trip will be to Sisters via the McKenzie Highway, with our coffee stop at the McKenzie River Ranger Station. There will also be stops at Sahalie Falls and Koosah. In Sisters there will be about 2 hours for shopping, browsing, and lunch (on your own). Many restaurants are available, or you can bring your own sack lunch. Our return will be back over the Santiam Pass to Sweet Home, with several stops to enjoy the color and the mountains - depending on the weather

and time. We will return to Eugene either by Brownsville, or the Mohawk Valley

EVERGREEN AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM

Date: October 29, 2009 - Tuesday

Leader: Ray Jensen

Cost: \$42 members, \$44 - non-members

Reservations & checks to Mary Lee Cheadle 689-1085

THERE ARE NOW THREE SEPARATE BUILDINGS in this world class complex: (1) A new IMAX Theater, where at 11am all of us will see "Magic of Flight", (2) The original air museum housing the Hughes Flying Boat, the SR-71, and many other aircraft, and (3) the new space museum that features the 114' Titan II missile and the Redstone rocket. Lunch will be following the IMAX film at their new COSMO Café, (your cost), located in the space museum. Following lunch, one group will have a guided tour of the space museum and the second group will go to the air museum with a guide. When you register please indicate which tour you prefer.

Great Oregon Beach Cleanup

By Joella Ewing

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT Oregon Fall Beach Cleanup will take place all along the Oregon coast on Saturday, Sept. 19 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sponsored in Oregon each spring and fall by SOLV, Obsidian volunteers will be organized jointly by our Conservation Committee and SciEd committee. This year we will scour the beach of the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area south of Reedsport. Please join us by adding your name to the sign-up sheet at the YMCA on Patterson Street.

We will meet at 8 a.m. at the South Eugene High School parking lot and will proceed via Hwy. 138 through Elkton to the Umpqua #2 parking lot, where a registration booth and materials will be located. Conservation Chair Pat Bitner will present our pre-registration forms at that time. We will provide written driving directions to the drivers.

Obsidians may want to buy lunch at one of the restaurants at the Winchester Bay boat basin, or picnic there or on the beach. We may want to take advantage of nearby hikes, beach combing or shopping and choose car partners accordingly. A free and very interesting butterfly sanctuary, located on the west end of Elkton, is an interesting rest stop on the way home.

For the previous 24 years that SOLV has sponsored the beach cleanup there have been no serious injuries. So this record can continue, we are urged to: watch for sneaker waves and use caution near rocks and cliffs, stay clear of logs in the surf, bring gloves and dress for coastal weather, which may be colder and wetter than inland weather, don't touch medical waste (instead, note the location and report it to

the Beach Captain when you return to the registration booth). Drinking water and hand sanitizer are advised, as well.

Last fall more than 3,700 volunteers scoured the entire Oregon coast, over 360 miles, and removed an estimated 40,000 pounds of trash from the coastline.

The first beach cleanup in the nation was held here in Oregon in 1984. Since then, annual beach cleanups have spread to every state in the union, all US territories and more than 100 countries around the world. In 2006, 358,617 volunteers picked up over 7,000,000,000 lbs of trash from 34,560 miles of coastline.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

WREN

Sept 26 - NATIVE AMERICAN WETLAND CULTURAL DAY

Oct 4 - PUBLIC LANDS DAY at Stewart Ponds

Oct 13 - WETLAND WANDER - Golden Gardens Park

Oct 21 - SPIDER TALK

Nearby Nature

LOVE NATURE? ENJOY KIDS? Learn all about leading school nature walks in Alton Baker Park this fall as well as other Nearby Nature volunteer opportunities. No experience needed--free training provided. Questions? Call Nearby Nature at 687-9699, email info@nearbynature.org, or see www.nearbynature.org.

See You in September... And October!

Sat., Sept. 19 -- Bellfountain Loop -- Bike. This is a nice rolling hills ride up toward Philomoth from Junction City.

The venue was recently changed and no mileage or rate of difficulty is listed, but you can obtain this and other information from either of the trip's leaders: Lyn Gilman-Garrick or Sharon Ritchie.

Sat., Sep. 19 – Carl Lake – Hike, difficult. Hiking from the eastside of the Cascades on the south shoulder of Mt. Jefferson, leader Becky Lipton begins at the site of a 2004 burn and then climbs steeply up trail to Carl Lake. The upper area is well forested and very beautiful. In the B & B burn area the burned trees contrast ghostly white against the new green of regenerating plants. 13.4 mi., 2200 ft.

Sat., Sep. 19 – Vivian Lake – Hike, moderate. Leader Charles Durham leads this hike past the waterfalls of tumbling Fall Creek to lovely Vivian Lake which sits on the northern edge of Diamond Peak Wilderness. The view from the lake is of rocky, flat-topped Mt. Yuran. 8 mi., 1600 ft.

Sun., Sep. 20 – Broken Top Traverse – Hike, difficult. Dramatic, red and craggy, Broken Top sits east of South Sister, its fragmented top the result of erosion of an old volcano. Rich Romm leads this hike, which, though arduous, will offer unparalleled views in all directions. 12 mi., 2000 ft

Sun., Sep. 20 – Clear Lake – Hike, easy. Views of the Sisters, Mt. Washington and an underwater forest are just three of the reasons Clear Lake is a perennial favorite. The flowers are gone now, but the Vine Maple is often brilliant this time of year. Beth Roy leads this easy walk around one of the clearest lakes in the world. 5.5 mi., 300 ft.

Thurs., Sep. 24 – Mt. Fuji/Island Lake – Hike, difficult. The early summer mosquitoes are gone, the berries are waiting, and the trail goes through some spectacular country. Join leaders Jan Anselmo and Lyndell Wilken on this hike to the 360 degree viewpoint on the summit of Mt. Fuji. Note: This is the longer route from the Waldo Lake Rd. 15 mi., 2200 ft.

Sun., Sep. 27 – Maiden Peak – Hike, difficult. Doug McCarty's annual trip to the summit of Maiden Peak has a habit of falling on a good weather day. There are a few options leading to the summit and I don't know Doug's exact route, but the scenery is fabulous and views from the summit are incomparable. Note: This is the highest peak in the Waldo Lake area. 12 mi., 2900 ft.

Sun., Oct. 4 – Fall Creek – Bike, moderate. The air will be

crisp, the foliage bright and the road relatively flat, as you roll along the road beside the creek that fills Fall Creek Reservoir. Join leader Stewart Hoeg for this ride and a picnic creek side. 37 mi., 500 ft.

Thurs., Oct. 15 – Irish Mountain – Hike, difficult. North of Waldo Lake is this hike not led by the Obsidians for more than 10 years. The area is beautiful and full of views to the southern Cascades and the Three Sisters, and the long walk and climb are worth every step. Join leaders Jan Anselmo and Lyndell Wilken for a good workout and lovely day hiking. 15 mi., 2000 ft.

Sat., Oct. 17 – Monroe Restaurant – Bike, moderate. Monroe is northwest of Eugene and though I don't know the exact route, you'll be riding over gently rolling hills, through farmland and orchards. Lunch is on your own at a little café off Highway 99. 30 mi., flat.

Sat., Oct. 24 – Silver Falls State Park – Hike, moderate. Ten waterfalls in 8 miles and 600 ft. of elevation gain is a lot of eye-popping views for an easy day of hiking. This is one of the premier state parks in Oregon and relatively close to home. Leader Becky Lipton is hoping for a lot of rainfall through October to

pump up the falls for a big water thrill.

Sat., Oct. 31 – Fall Creek – Hike, moderate. Hike one-way along a beautiful tumbling creek in this close-to-home trip, led by Ed Lichtenstein. The trail crosses through a burn from 2003 and it is interesting to see how the plant life is recovering. Lunch will be a sunny (we hope) rock slab at creek side. 9 mi., 700 ft.

Sat., Dec. 19 – Tahkenitch Dunes – Hike, moderate. This loop hike is so varied that summing it up in a short blurb is impossible: overgrown hobbit trail, dunes, beach and surf, then back to dunes, and finally, deep green, tall forest. You have to hike it in all seasons to appreciate it, as each season brings a surprise. Becky Lipton leads this winning trip. 7 mi., 700 ft.

Many hikes get added to the schedule each fall, so be sure to stay updated by clicking on "Print Friendly Schedule" on our home page at www.obsidians.org.

And... if you would like to lead a hike or another trip please contact summertrips@obsidians.org and add it to the schedule. Fall is a great time to hike.

AT THE LODGE



Potluck September 25

Welcome Potluck

THE SEPTEMBER POTLUCK is a 'Welcome' event, welcoming back folks after the summer and welcoming new and prospective members to the Obsidians. An entertaining slide presentation of club and volunteer activities will be shown. Highlights of Summer Camp will let you relive or hear for the first time the wonders of Mt. Lassen and Camp Ishi.

Laurie Funkhouser, Entertainment Chair

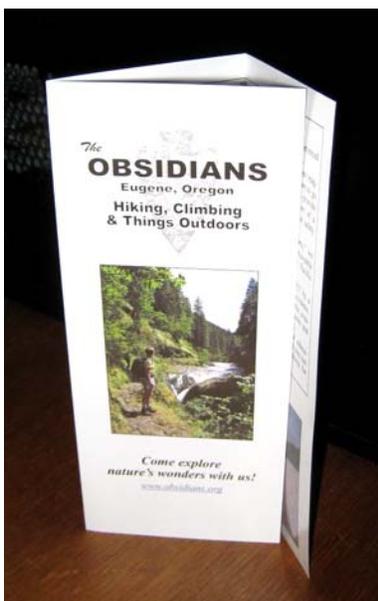
**September Potluck
Friday, September 25th, 2009
Obsidian Lodge
Potluck, 6:30 pm Program, 7:30**

Bring your favorite potluck dish to share...along with plates, utensils and cups... plus \$1 to help cover club expenses.

Obsidian Brochure

By Elle Weaver, Publicity Chair

THE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE is happy to present a brochure designed to showcase all the fun we have and the beautiful places we visit. It will be used to promote our organization and to encourage guests to join our trips and activities. The brochures were available at the Eugene Celebration. If you didn't get a chance to see one there, please take a look at the one posted on the Y Bulletin Board or at the lodge. They are also now displayed at REI and at Travel Lane County.



SciEd Tuesday September 15

Condon Chimney Swifts

SWIFTS RETURN TO THE OLD Condon School chimney on Agate Street each April and September during their migration. For about a month each spring and fall, at first a few, and then thousands of swifts circle the chimney for about a half hour at dusk before swirling into the chimney in an amazing whirlpool, providing dramatic tornado-like entertainment for spectators, who always wonder, "How do they all fit into such a small space?"



On Tuesday, September 15th Obsidian Rick Ahrens will answer questions about the swifts at the Lodge at 7 pm for a half hour. Then we'll proceed "before show time" to Condon School on Agate Street at the 18th Ave. intersection. As with all Obsidian outings, you are urged to dress appropriately for the weather. We hope you will join us for a truly amazing experience.

Upcoming SciEd programs:

Oct. 20 Owyhee slide show Lana Lindstrom

Nov. 17 Use of GPS Dale Schaper

Dec. 15 Old Growth Forest Chandra LeGue

Joella Ewing, SciEd Chair

Classifieds

For Sale

WOOD - Green/split at the Obsidian Lodge. You haul. \$120/cord fir and \$170/cord oak. Contact John Jacobsen, Grounds Chair at 343-8030 or johnwjacobsen@comcast.net

Media Notes

“HIKE FOR YOUR HEALTH WITH BILL SULLIVAN” was a feature article by Melissa Hart in the summer 2009 issue of *Eugene Magazine*. In the article Bill says he believes walking is the single best exercise known to man, and suggests adding hills to get enough aerobic exercise. The stunning photographs accompanying the article include: Bill hiking near the summit of Horsepasture Mountain, an Obsidian outing on the beach near Blacklock Point, the Oregon Trails Club on the Cherry Orchard Trail, and the Mozart Players fundraiser hike on the North Umpqua River. The combination of Bill’s advice and his photographs should persuade anyone to get out and do the hike.

Janet Jacobsen

Hot Outdoor Tips

ONE CAN RENT TITANIUM BEAR CANISTERS called Bearikades via the web site wild-ideas.net. I rented one for a backpack on the John Muir trail in the California Sierras and saved about a pound in weight! The customer service is excellent and folks are only charged for the actual number of days hiking... “boots on the ground.”

THERE IS NOW A TRAIL-SIDE SHUTTLE SERVICE for hikers and bikers out of Oakridge. Web site is oregon-adventures.com (541-968-5397). This is a great van service operated by Randy Dreiling for mountain bikers or hikers who want to experience a trail without shuttling a car!

Jan Anselmo

Ribbon Trail Update & Ridgeline Survey Input

JANE HACKETT AND I were invited to check out the Ribbon Trail on Friday, August 26. It was the last day of work for the enthusiastic six person crew- Audrey, Kate, Zoey, Matt, Nick, and Jared. They said it was hard but interesting work to build the trail through brush, poison oak, and trees. The boring part was hauling and spreading the gravel. For the next few weeks a new crew will finish up the gravel project and will put the finishing touches on the trail. It should be ready for an official Obsidian hike in early October. Jessie, one the supervisors, remarked that it was amazing how much they accomplished.

It has not been decided if mountain bikes will have access to the new trail. Since the Hendricks Park trails are not open to bikes, I hope this connecting trail into the park will have the same guidelines.

There is a Ridgeline Park Use survey online. Please take time to give your input about what you value most on the Ridgeline Trail. It is quick and easy to do.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=cd2_2bcNzgUyKoznOKcilasw_3d_3d

Janet Jacobsen

Obsidian Calendar

September

12-13 Sat-Sun	–Middle Sister, Climb, B. Hamilton	.....343-6550
12-13 Sat-Sun	- Mt. Washington, Climb, L. Huff	.....868-5391
13 Sun	–Green Lakes, 8.8 m 1100', M, D. James	.....683-7488
13 Sun	–Oregon Military Rd, 5m 400', M, J. Duncan	....343-8079
13 Sun	–Scott Mountain, 10m, D, S. Hovis	.....345-7788
14 Mon	–South Sister, Climb, B. Blumm	.....343-8830
15 Tue	–Swifts, R. Ahrens	.....Sci Ed
19 Sat	–Bellfountain Loop, Bike, D, Ritchie	.....342-8435
19 Sat	–Carl Lake, 13.4m 2200', D, B. Lipton	.....736-7498
19 Sat	–Vivian Lake, 8m 1600', M, C. Durham	.....687-1085
20 Sun	–Broken Top Traverse, 12m 2000' D, Romm	....484-5214
20 Sun	–Clear Lake, 5.5m M, B. Roy	.....687-0128
20 Sun	–Triangulation Pk, 4.2m 700' M, M. Bell	.. 503-884-8829
22 Tue	–Fall Color – Sisters, Bus, M. Cheadle	.....689-1085
23 Wed	–Pre's Trail, 4m E, M. Prentice	.....687-5850
24 Thu	–Fuji Mtn—Island Lake Loop, D, L. Wilken	....343-3080
25 Fri	–Welcome Back and Camp Reunion	.....Potluck
26 Sat	–Mt. Washington, Climb, W. Deeter	.....954-0924
27 Sun	–Maiden Peak, 11m 2900' D, D. McCarty	.....342-6962
30 Wed	–Spencer Butte, Trail Maintenance, P. Green	....510-1151
30-Oct 3 Wed-Sat	–Trinity Alps, Bus, M. Cheadle	.....689-1085

October

3 Sat	–Ribbon Trail, 2m 200' E, J. Jacobsen	..... 343-8030
4 Sun	–Fall Creek, Bike 37m 500' M, S. Hoeg	.....484-6196
15 Thu	–Irish Mountain, 12m 2000' D, J. Anselmo	.....782-2369
17 Sat	–Monroe Restaurant, Bike 30m M, G. Strahon	....505-9084
20 Tue	–Evergreen Air Museum, Bus, M. Cheadle	.....689-1085
20 Tue	–Owyhee—Lindstrom	.....SciEd
23 Fri	–Mt Pisgah—Curry	.....Potluck
24 Sat	–Silver Falls, 7m 1800' M, B. Lipton	.....736-7498
31 Sat	–Fall Creek, 9m 700' M, E. Lichtenstein	.....683-0688

November

17 Tue	–GPS—Schaper	.....SciEd
27 Fri	–Snow in the Wallows—Berg	.....Potluck

December

8 Tue	–Christmas Lights, Bus, B. Payne	.....746-1964
15 Tue	–Saving Oregon's Wild Places—LeGue	.....SciEd
18 Fri	–Baja Ha Ha—Becker	.....Potluck
19 Sat	–Tahkenitch State Park, 7m 1200' M, Lipton	....736-7498

Trip Leaders Wanted

CRISP, SUNNY FALL DAYS beg for Obsidian trips. It is not too late to add a trip to the fall schedule. As you can see in the schedule above the ‘pickn’s’ are pretty sparse in places - there are many open dates. Check your calendar. Then email

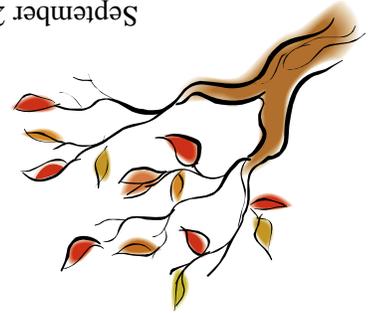
summertrips@obsidians.org.

Need suggestions: Go the website, Report Page, and search on September or October.



Bistra Hristova on Broken Top with South Sister in background - Photo by Brian Hamilton

September 2009



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