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### Dates to Remember

September 18	Pisgah ExploraTalk
September 28	Potluck
September 29	Bulletin Deadline
October 12	Annual Meeting
October 17	Board Meeting

Complete current schedules at:  
[www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org) or  
 Register-Guard – Outdoors – Tuesday

**Membership  
 Renewal Form  
 Inside!**

**Annual Meeting**  
**Place: Lodge**  
**Date: Fri, Oct. 12**  
**Time: 6:30**  
**Awards & Desserts!**

## Memories of Camp Elle

*Lana Lindstrom, CEO (Chief Experience Officer)*

*Wilderness is not only a haven for native plants and animals but it is also a refuge from society. It's a place to go to hear the wind and little else, see the stars and the galaxies, smell the pine trees, feel the cold water, touch the sky and the ground at the same time, listen to coyotes, eat the fresh snow, walk across the desert sands, and realize why it's good to go outside of the city and the suburbs. Fortunately, there is wilderness just outside the limits of the cities and the suburbs in most of the United States, especially in the West. John Muir*

**F**OR THE FIRST TIME IN A VERY LONG TIME, I didn't check my email or phone calls for 11 days—and I didn't miss it at all! That's the value of Obsidian Summer Camp: it forces us to be in the now, to physically and mentally connect to wilderness, and to have our basic needs met in a safe, beautiful, convivial environment. We are so lucky to live in the Northwest!



It's a been a few days since camp ended, but I'm still glowing—by all accounts, this was a very successful, fun camp! Eighty-eight campers, about a quarter of whom attended for the first time, had a wonderful experience. The site was next to a small, glacier fed river—many of us fell asleep listening to the babbling brook. The beautiful, permanent shelters enabled us to not set up the dining canopy and to eat in a pleasant environment. Most of the hikes were less than a 40 mile round trip drive on fairly decent, albeit dusty, roads. The hikes were “wow”. One Obsidian commented that the English language did not contain enough superlatives to describe the snow covered peaks, especially Mt. Baker and Mt. Shuksan, glaciated

*(Continued on page 5)*

# Obituaries

## Ben Jeffries 1928-2012

**B**EN JEFFRIES PASSED AWAY ON AUGUST 4, surrounded by his wife Pat and their four children. Ben had been in failing health for the last few years but until that point he had been very active with the Obsidians. He joined the club in 1990, became a board member and was president in 1997. He participated in 85 activities, led 23 trips, and also attended three summer camps. Ben was especially active with the bus group and led several multi-day trips, one to Canada in 2007 and another to Lake Chelan in 2008. His love of dogs prompted him to lead several bus trips to the Guide Dogs for the Blind east of Portland. His last trip with the Obsidians was to the Butterfly Pavilion.

Ben was a graduate of Iowa State University where he met his wife Pat, also an Obsidian member. He worked for several corporations before coming to Oregon, where he worked for many years in the Placement Office of the University of Oregon.

*Editor's Note: A complete obituary was published in the Register-Guard on Aug. 14, 2012.*

## Jack Cole 1925-2012

**J**ACK COLE, AN OBSIDIAN MEMBER UNTIL RECENTLY, passed away at his residence in Lake Oswego. Jack joined the club in 1981 and participated in 58 activities, leading 17 of those trips. His last trip with the club was in 2004 when the group hiked around Clear Lake. Jack was instrumental in organizing a Thanksgiving dinner at the Lodge for interested members. Over thirty hungry members attended the 1985 dinner in spite of icy roads.

Jack is survived by two of his three sons and his wife Dallas. She is a member, and the creator of the *Obsidian Spirit* mural at the Lodge.

A memorial service will be held in the near future at the Mary's Woods Retirement Center in Lake Oswego and will feature some of his many musical compositions.

## Ken Lodewick 1921-2012

**K**EN WAS BORN IN MAINE but moved to Portland, Oregon with his parents as a young boy and lived in Oregon the remainder of his life. Ken contracted polio when young but the resulting limp did not slow his activities or his passion for a variety of interests. He was knowledgeable about all things nautical and had published several books on the subject. He was also passionate about American folk songs, hosting a radio program in the 1950's devoted to the subject. Another passion was wildflowers, particularly penstemons. While on a bus trip in 1961 with the Obsidians he met a young lady, Robin Brant, with a similar interest in penstemons and that shared interest led to 50 years of marriage. Ken was a founding member of the Emerald Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon and received a founding member award of the North American Penstemon Society. Ken was an Obsidian member for decades until declining health forced him to curtail his activities. In 2002 he received awards for going on over 200 trips and leading 75 trips.

Ken is survived by his wife Robin, an Obsidian member.

*Editor's Note: A complete obituary may be found in the Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> issue of the Register-Guard.*

## OBSIDIANS, INC

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

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

### Board of Directors

Elle Weaver, President  
Matt Bell, Vice President  
Kathy Hoeg, Secretary  
Stewart Hoeg, Treasurer

Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Lyn Gilman-Garrick, John Jacobsen & Nancy Whitfield

*Board meetings are held at 6 PM the first Wednesday of each month, except October when it is the Wednesday after the Annual Meeting, and no meeting in August.*

### Committee Chairpersons

Byways By Bus	Liz Reanier
Climbs	Sue Sullivan
Concessions	Lyn Gilman-Garrick
Conservation/SciEd	Joella Ewing
Entertainment	Susan Wanser
Extended Trips	Chris Stockdale
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Publicity	Jan Jacobsen
Safety	Pat Esch
Summer Camp	Lana Lindstrom
Summer Trips	Tom Musselwhite
Trail Maintenance	Matt Bell
Winter Trips	Anne Bonine

## The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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**Deadline  
for October 2012 Bulletin  
Saturday, September 29, 2012**

### Assembly/Mailing Team

For July/August Bulletin

Assembly & Mail Manager - Lou Maenz  
Assembly Team - Tom Adamczyk, Don Baldwin, Clara Emlen, Yuan Hopkins, Violet Johns, John & Lenore McManigal and Margaret Prentice

### Editorial Team

Writing & Editorial Staff - Bea Fontana, Joanne Ledet, Nola Nelson, Beth Roy, and Ethel Weltman

Copy Editors - Beth Roy & Ethel Weltman  
Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing - Stewart Hoeg

# Board Nominees

## Susan Wanser



**I HAD HEARD OF THE OBSIDIANS FOR SEVERAL YEARS** before formally checking out the club at the Eugene Celebration booth about five years ago. I had thought the club was for ‘older folks’, i.e. folks older than me, but quickly learned that many of those folks were in much better shape than I was. They could out-hike me in terms of speed and endurance, and since I was at a transition time in my life and had just rekindled my love of hiking it was a nice match. I have participated in hiking, skiing and snowshoeing trips with the Obsidians, and hope to someday give bicycling a try. I did several long distance bike trips in the past, but it’s been many years. I just went to my first summer camp and absolutely loved it! It was fun to finally be able to match faces with names. It was a wonderful opportunity to deepen some friendships and develop others. What can be better than getting to hike all day with great people and be fed three fantastic meals a day!

Because I live 20 miles west of town, I don’t go on as many hikes with the club as I’d like, but I expect this to change some as I head into retirement and don’t have to drive in for work as often. I have always enjoyed food, so the potlucks have been a draw for me. I have begun some great friendships there and have enjoyed the variety

of topics presented. When Laurie Funkhouser stepped down as the Chair of the Entertainment Committee a few years ago I agreed to chair the committee. It is true what they say about *the more you put into something, the greater your return*. I have truly benefitted from my increased involvement and look forward to this next level of commitment.

## Elle Weaver



**IN 2007 I SIGNED UP FOR MY FIRST OBSIDIAN HIKE** to a place I had never heard about. Colorful fields of flowers were in bloom and the Columbia River was spectacular from the trail up Dog Mountain. What impressed me most was that someone would lead a hike so far away. Since then, I have met so many Obsidians who are willing to share their time and expertise purely for our enjoyment. As a Board member this past term and as President this year, I am constantly amazed at the dedicated involvement of our volunteers.

Previously as Publicity Chair and currently as Membership Chair I have had the privilege of sharing my excitement when in contact with guests and new members. Serving on the Winter Trips and Summer Trips committees has taught me what it takes to provide a fun schedule of trips that we all look forward to each season. I appreciate being nominated to serve another term on the board. As always, I will strive to support what is in the best interest of our outdoor club.

## Tom Musselwhite



**LONG TIME OBSIDIAN JOELLA EWING** first introduced me to the club in 2004. I became an Obsidian in 2006. The Lodge renovation was nearing completion at that time and I got to help out with a few finishing touches, mostly painting. I have attended two Obsidian Summer Camps: Camp Pegg at West Yellowstone in 2007 and Mt. Lassen in 2008. I also attended the Sequim (not quite summer camp) Camp of 2010.

After working with Brian Hamilton, past Summer Trips Chair, and the Summer Trips Committee in 2010 by making calls and leader contacts, I was asked to Chair Winter Trips in 2011 by then President Jim Pierce. As the season approached, the new president, John Jacobsen, adopted me as a guinea pig to help usher in Online Signup.

*(Continued on page 5)*

# Camp Elle—Fabulous Experience

**Lana Lindstrom, CEO**

**C**AMP ELLE, which was held in the Mt. Baker area during the third week of August, was a smashing success as a result of the tremendous volunteer efforts by so many dedicated campers.

## Summer Camp Committee

Planning for the 2012 Summer Camp began last October with a ‘cold call’ to the Mt. Baker Ranger District—“per chance, had water been installed at the Excelsior Group Campground”? It had been a very popular camp in 2004, but did not have potable water at the time. Much to my surprise, the answer was “yes”—there was a new solar pump and two new shelters! Time to recruit Summer Camp Committee members, formally approve the site and prepare the budget! Members of the Camp Committee were: Rob Castleberry, Dan Christensen, John Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, and Nancy Whitfield. Don Doerr agreed to be the Treasurer, and Pat Sousson to edit the Camp Booklet.

## Responsible People

As the months progressed, additional volunteers were recruited as Responsible People (lead workers) to help out in important areas of the Camp: Jan and Rich Anselmo: Lunch setup, Charlie Ashmore: Food and utilities assistant, Jen Barnes: Recycling PM, Anne Bonine: Lunch prep, Lynda Christiansen: Table setup & servers PM, Melody Clarkson: Food Operations Manager, Wayne Cleall: Dishwashing AM, Kitson Graham: Map board, Richard Hughes: Equipment & Dishwashing Operations Manager, John Jacobsen: Set-up and take down and loading/unloading the truck, Steve Johnson: Coffee AM, Patty MacAfee: Concessions, Helen Martz: Coffee PM, Steve McManigal: Dishwashing AM, Carol Petty: Recycling AM, Jim Pierce and Guy Strahon: Dishwashing PM, Chris Stockdale: Table setup and servers AM, Pam and Ron Swisher: Lunch cleanup, Jim Whitfield: Propane and trash, Nancy Whitfield: Food Manager and Sue Wolling: Lunch setup.

## The Setup Crew

The set-up tasks included: assembling the kitchen, dining tables, canopy structures, dishwashing stations, lunch prep area, and coffee serving area; organizing the food and supplies in the truck; erecting the showers; harnessing the nonpotable water from the stream; and much more. It was successfully and efficiently completed thanks to the hard, cooperative work of the following persons: Charlie Ashmore, Anne Bonine, Bea Fontana, Richard Hughes, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Ellen Johnson, Steve Johnson, Lana Lindstrom, Lynn Meacham, Effie Neth, Nancy Whitfield and Jim Whitfield.

## Loading and Unloading the Penske Truck

*Danke* to those who helped load and/or unload the Penske (the big yellow truck) at the Obsidian Lodge under the direction of John Jacobsen. Many hands make light work! Charlie Ashmore, Jen Barnes, Pat Bean, Anne Bonine, Rob Castleberry, Dan Christensen, Jim Clarkson, Melody Clarkson, Wayne Cleall, Joyce Davis, Walt Davis, Clara Emlen, Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, Joella Ewing, Bea Fontana, Richard Hughes, Kitson Graham, Peter Graham, Janet Jacobsen, John Jacobsen, Steve Johnson, Brenda Kameenui, Joanne Ledet, Mary Livingston, Patty MacAfee, Lou Maenz, Helen Martz, Valerie Metcalfe, Helen Martz, Coleen Milliman, Jack O’Donnell, Carol Petty, Jim Pierce, Chris Shuraleff, Pat Soussan, Guy Strahon, Sam Tracer, Judy Terry, Charles Thomas, Elle Weaver, Marian West, Nancy Whitfield, Jim Whitfield, Sue Wolling, and Jim Woods.

In addition, *merci* to those of you who delayed your departure from Camp on Saturday to help us load the truck, so that we could all leave the campground before 11:00 AM.

## Hike and Bike Leaders

A big thank you to the 30 individuals who assumed leadership roles and led 47 hikes and bike rides at the Camp, especially those folks who led more than once! The single trip leaders were Dan Christensen, Clara Emlen, Joella Ewing, Ellen Johnson, Lynn Meacham, Nola Nelson, Diane Schechter, Judy Terry, Crystal Warsop and Nancy Whitfield. Leaders of multiple trips were Rob Castleberry, Jim Clarkson, Melody Clarkson, Joyce Davis, Walt Davis, Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, Peter Graham, Betsy Halpern, Richard Hughes, Janet Jacobsen, Diane Jeffcott, Steve Johnson, Joanne Ledet, Ed Lichtenstein, Effie Neth, Charlene Pierce, Jim Pierce, Chris Shuraleff and Pat Soussan.

And extra special appreciation for the drivers, many of whom drove four or five days on dusty roads—\$.09/mile wasn’t adequate!

## General Appreciation

During camp, several folks pitched in when asked to help out—prepping for Ross and Kate (cooks), keeping a watchful eye on the camp as hosts, buying supplies, filling water containers, volunteering as extra servers, being a camp buddy to a ‘newbie’, decorating the cart for the President Tea, and the list goes on. *Muchas Gracias!*

I want to thank all of you who have not been named, but who attended Camp and were assigned two or three tasks, and performed these duties well and with a smile on your faces.

And finally, if you’d like to get involved in planning next year’s camp, please let me know. The Obsidians will applaud you!

*(Memories of Camp Elle continued from page 1)*

valleys, and profusions of multi-colored flowers. Several of the extra-special hikes were repeated during the week: Heliotrope Ridge, Skyline Divide, Yellow Aster Butte, Chain Lakes, Winchester Mountain, Hannegan Peak, and Lake Ann. Unfortunately, several others were still snowed in. The food was varied and tasty—some standards like enchiladas and lasagna, and some new items like cioppino and chicken korma. Our cooks, Ross and Kate, poured their hearts into planning and preparing the meals. And the weather generally cooperated—a bit on the cool and cloudy side for several days, but it didn't rain.



**Ptarmigan Ridge—Photo by Jim Pierce**

*(Musselwhite continued from page 3)*

This year I chaired the Summer Trips Committee. I've been a member of the Science & Education Committee (now combined with the Conservation Committee) for six years.

One of the things I like best about the Obsidians is the club's history and organizational emphasis on safety, planning, and training.

I was born in rural south Georgia. Some people think of south Georgia as the east coast. According to one docent at a historic site down there, "there is no place else on earth further from the Mason-Dixon line." Or so it was in the 1960s. In the summer I turned 12, my family moved to West Palm Beach, Florida where I begrudgingly traded plowing peanuts and cleaning out pig pens for skin diving and spear fishing.

I developed an interest in diving because I could buy equipment one piece at a time. After a stint in the US Navy, I moved west, ending up in Boulder, Colorado where I met a fifth generation younger woman from Oregon. That's how I ended up in Eugene in September of 1978, and a grandfather.

Over the past 32 years in Lane County, I've operated heavy equipment, created professional graphics off of napkins for customers around the globe, and briefly operated several small businesses including one as an outdoor guide and photographer. I also operated a 501c3 nonprofit for six years, something only a rich person should do. Other than that I've raised kids, gone to school some, and enjoyed a bounty of outdoor activities with friends and family, most here in Lane County. Today, I enjoy gardening, my work-

There's heaps of behind the scenes work, before, during, and after, which ensures that a camp is successful. I would like to recognize a few individuals who put in a lot of hours quietly preparing for camp by checking all the equipment, including fixing items and hauling it downstairs; hiring the cooks, planning the meals, and finding the grocery store; addressing mice and water issues during camp, and will continue to mop-up in the next few weeks. Extra special thanks go to Bea Fontana, John Jacobsen, Jim Whitfield, and Nancy Whitfield. And thank you all for appreciating my efforts to plan a fun, inclusive camp. I had a very good time because everyone pitched in...and I love my red CEO hat!

shop, and doing things around the house, woodworking and such.

Oregon became a destination for me many years before I got here. My interest in all things forest, rivers, and the outdoors goes back to childhood in south Georgia. I was introduced to Smokey Bear at a young age—my cousin was the district Forest Ranger, and my grandmother was the fire watch. I spent a fair amount of time hanging out on the fire tower looking for smoke, and down in the Ranger Station checking out resin encapsulated insects and other Dept. of Forestry show-and-tells. More recently (back in the 90s), I accumulated a few credits at the UO, mostly in the area of basic environmental studies and research on ecological restoration projects in Oregon.

While at the UO, I had the privilege of meeting Mel Jackson. I suspect a number of long term Obsidians may remember Mel. Among other courses, Mel taught a course titled *Risk and Liability for the Outdoor Professional*, which I took along with several of his other great environmental appreciation courses.

Other interests include: my grandchildren and their parents, my Neighborhood Association—mostly around safety and quality of life issues—and an occasional fishing trip. I've recently taken up learning html and web design. If you want to know more about me you could check out my experimental website <http://tmusselwhite.com/> and let me know what you think. You are almost guaranteed to get lost the first time, but don't give up.

# BOARD NOTES

September 5, 2012

By Kathy Hoeg

President Elle Weaver called the meeting to order. Other Board members present: Matt Bell, Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Esch, Kathy Hoeg, Stewart Hoeg, and Nancy Whitfield. Also present were: Anne Bonine, Wayne Deeter, Joella Ewing, Laurie Funkhouser, Lana Lindstrom, Tom Musselwhite, Doug Nelson, Jim Pierce, Shellie Robertson, and Sue Sullivan.

The Board approved the minutes of the July 2012 meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Stewart Hoeg reviewed the Budget-vs-Actual Report and the Balance Sheet. The Board approved payment of the bills.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Summer Trips (Tom Musselwhite):** For the Summer Trips season through August 31, 423 members and 211 nonmembers have paid a total of \$929.00 in trip fees from 73 approved trips. Five more trips have been completed but have not yet completed the final approval process. Leaders! Email or call in your late season summer trips.

**Climbs (Sue Sullivan):** For the year to date, 17 climbs have been completed. There were 11 climbs that were cancelled or rescheduled, and there are three left on the schedule for this year. There have been two safety incidents reported on climbs this year.

**Trail Maintenance (Matthew Bell):** In both July and August there was one outing on the trails in Spencer Butte park. In July, we continued to cut back brush hanging over and encroaching on the Tie Trail.

**Highways and Byways By Bus (Liz Reanier):** July and August bus trips were successfully completed. There is room for more riders on all remaining trips. Representatives from the Bus Trip Committee will be available to help at September 9 Open House and September Potluck.

**Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom):** By all accounts, Camp Elle was a very successful adventure. There are still a few outstanding financial transactions, but suffice it to say that the Camp was also fiscally sound. A full financial accounting will be given to the Board prior to the October meeting.

**Extended Trips (Chris Stockdale):** The Opal Creek trip still has space.

**Conservation, Science, & Education (Joella Ewing):** The Conservation and SciEd Committee will sponsor a slide presentation by metal sculptor Peter Helzer on Tuesday, September 18, describing the symbolism on the Mt. Pisgah pedestal and the process for creating it.

**Publication (Nola Nelson):** Our contact at the Post Office is working on a sheet of changes planned for January, which will probably affect how the Bulletin is handled after the first of the year.

**Membership (Elle Weaver):** Membership Renewal forms will be mailed in the September Bulletin. Currently we have 483 members including the applicants presented at the Board meeting and 2 reinstatements. There are 432 Active members,

23 Associate members, 4 Honorary members, 8 Junior members, and 16 Life members.

**Publicity (Janet Jacobsen):** Report of the Eugene Celebration Booth, August 25 and 26<sup>th</sup>: 102 people stopped by the booth on Saturday and 125 on Sunday.

**Concessions (Lyn Gilman-Garrick):** Camp Elle was the only August event for the Concessions Committee. Sales totaled \$379. Two short-sleeved T-shirts were given to the camp cooks, Ross and Kate, in appreciation for their hard work.

**Online (Wayne Deeter):** Members may now sign in the Members Only area of the web site (to obtain Obsidian documents, etc.) using their own username and password. The old, group username and password will be removed in about a year. We are working on enabling members to manage their subscriptions to the general interest email lists, and enabling committee chairs to manage their committee's email lists. The trip count routines have been updated to make it easier to get counts for awards. We plan to add the summary data to the trip reports tab for folks in online access.

As of Tuesday we have 59 fans or people following our FB page. Of those 59, 30 of them are Obsidians members and 29 are not.

**Lodge Building (Doug Nelson):** One lodge rental on August 30 by Looking Glass Youth and Family Services. Thanks to the Summer Camp 'put away' crew for getting the lodge ready for use in record time and leaving everything looking good. We have a rental scheduled for the afternoon of September 16.

**Lodge Grounds (John Jacobsen):** There was minimal grounds maintenance over summer, mostly just mowing. Work party on August 28 caught up on things – thank you to Clara Emlen, Rob Castleberry, Dave Predeek, and Gary Kirk.

**Safety (Pat Esch):** Expired meds have been replaced in all but one First Aid Kit at the YMCA (6), the Summer Camp kits (4) and the truck kit. Sue Sullivan described two incidents that happened this summer during climbs. She said that they showed that climb leaders should not hesitate to question participants' skills, equipment, and fitness ahead of the trip nor to disallow a person's participation in a climb if necessary. The Safety Committee will discuss the incidents at its next meeting.

## NEW BUSINESS

Elle Weaver announced that Jim Pierce is resigning as Winter Trips chair and that Anne Bonine has agreed to take his place.

Jim Pierce announced that the Safety Committee has completed an initial draft of a total revision of the Safety Manual, a project that the committee has been working on for 4 years. The group at the meeting discussed the wording in the manual about children participating on trips. Neither the Constitution nor the Bylaws mention this issue. Are there any actual laws that the club needs to be aware of regarding liability when children are involved?

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board Meeting will be October 17.

The meeting adjourned for food at La Oficina.

## TRIP REPORTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES



### Climbs

#### **Mt. Thielsen**

**July 4, 2012**

**Leader: Wayne Deeter**

**Climb: 6 miles, 3,800 ft.**

**F**INALLY! The weather cooperated with plans for a Graduation Climb of Thielsen. Unfortunately, only two



could join me. (Another trip is scheduled for the end of the month.) We camped at the PCT trailhead, near Crater Lake Nat'l Park, to avoid the mosquitoes. Umm, it's a nicer spot than the Mt. Thielsen trailhead, but the little blood suckers are everywhere! In the morning we drove to the Thielsen trailhead and started hiking under the full moon at about 5:00 AM (half an hour before sunrise.) We were on top by 10:00, enjoying clear views from Mt. Jefferson to Mt. Shasta. After an extended stay on top we reversed the route and returned to the lowlands where we met other parties headed up the mountain, including a through-hiker: low snowfall in the Sierras has allowed them to get to our area several weeks earlier than normal. Members: Frank Chemotti and Wayne Deeter. Nonmembers: Jessica Kieras.

#### **Mt. Jefferson**

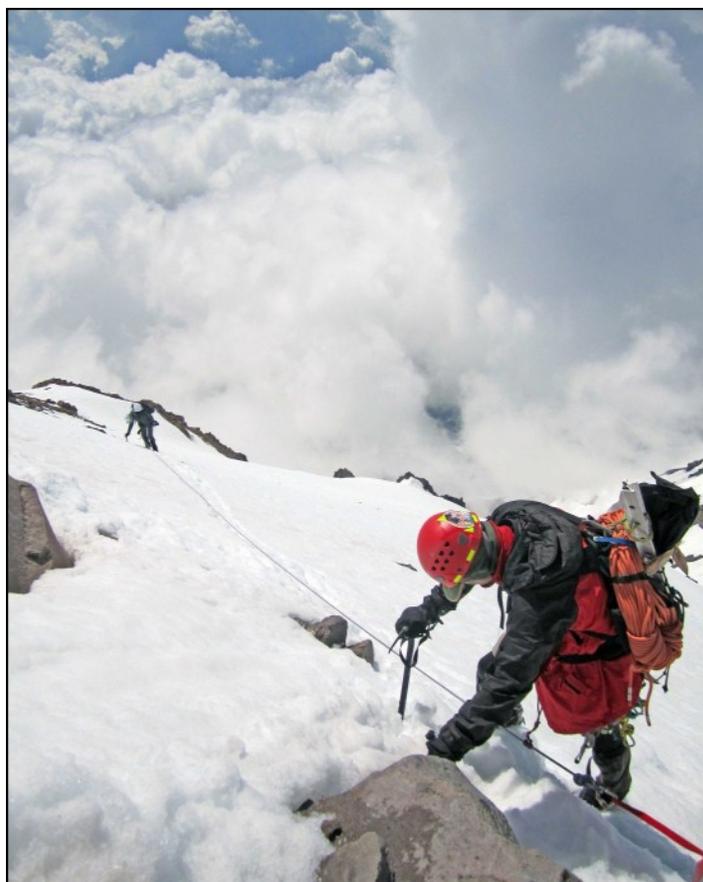
**July 13, 2012**

**Leader & Photographer: Brian Hamilton**

**Climb: 12 miles, 6,060 ft. (Difficult)**

**ON FRIDAY, WE HIKED TO THE SITE OF OUR BASE CAMP**

on a ridge overlooking our route up the West Rib. We started climbing at 1:20 AM Saturday morning. Knowing there was a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms after 11:00 AM, we planned to climb quickly and be descending before that time. Plans don't always work out. In the darkness, we ran into a rock wall about midway up the West Rib. Fixing a rope to a few rock anchors and climbing the wall expended an hour of our time. When we hit snow again, crampons went on, and we were on our way up the steep slope. Richard's crampons were malfunctioning, so he waited for the rest of the group near the top of the West Rib. Our time was running out as I anchored a rope to within 10 feet of the summit at 12:00 noon, just as thunderheads started forming around the upper reaches of the mountain. Except for a cloud layer below us, the skies had been completely clear up to this point. As I waited for a second rope to be brought up, it began to hail, followed by a humming sound coming from the fixed rope. The rest of the team was just reaching the upper end of the rope when I yelled down that we needed to get off the mountain. A few of the climbers were uncomfortable with descending the steep snow field, so we buried a picket as a 'dead man' anchor and descent was made while tied with a prusik to the rope. We repeated this process several times until we reached Richard, and then used one more 70-meter length of rope to get to a less-dangerous slope. At times, we were pelted with hail and rain, visibility would drop to less than 100 feet, and our aluminum pickets were making hiss-



ing noises from the electricity in the air. Nearby lightning strikes encouraged us not to waste any time on our descent. As we neared the bottom of the snow slope, near where we would cross the frozen north fork of Milk Creek and ascend to our camp on the ridge, one climber lost his footing and slid into a bank of rocks at the edge of a 15-foot cliff. He was stunned, bruised, and slightly battered but it appeared that he would be able to proceed. However, as he was being helped into an upright position, a large rock bounced down the snow from out of the mist above and hit our injured climber in the head. His helmet undoubtedly saved his life, but he sustained a gash in his forehead among other injuries. He appeared to be in shock and needed assistance negotiating the steep, rock- and snow-covered terrain. Back at our base camp, our injured climber was fed, hydrated, and kept warm and dry until midnight when he appeared to be recovering. After a night's rest, we packed up and hiked out to the Pacific Crest Trail, and then on to the trailhead. The hike took longer than expected because our injured climber, although feeling much better than after the previous day's episode, still needed assistance on rough and steep terrain. After getting medical treatment, including several stitches, he has assured us that he is fine, but says he is through with mountaineering. Thanks to the entire team for helping to get our injured climber out and special thanks goes to Bob who used his Eugene Mountain Rescue skills to provide critical medical assessment and first aid treatment. Members: Brian Hamilton, Marci Hansen, Kevin Jones, Bob Kaminski, Richard Lemon, and Doug Orwick.

### **Mt. Shasta**

**July 13, 2012**

**Leader: Maryanne Reiter**

**Photographer: Wayne Deeter**

**Climb: 11 miles, 7,300 ft.**

**THIS TRIP WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR MOUNT BAKER**, but the weather in the North Cascades was not forecasted to be good. I offered to lead an alternate trip to climb a northside route on Mount Shasta (Hotlum Bolam Ridge) since the weather was forecast to be sunny. We left town Friday evening and drove down and camped at the trailhead. Saturday morning we woke, packed and headed up the trail. Along the way a participant felt ill and eventually decided not to go higher and hiked out with a companion. The remaining five went to high camp. We woke up at 2:00 AM to a clear sky. When we got higher on the mountain we could actually see the Aurora Borealis. At the time we did not know what it was and were impressed by the streaks of light in the sky. One person turned around shortly after we started climbing, leaving four of us for the summit bid. We reached the summit mid-morning. On the descent a participant twisted an ankle and a shoulder but was able to hike out. We arrived back in Eugene late Sunday evening. Members: Wayne Deeter, Beth Machamer, Maryanne Reiter, and Shellie Robertson. Nonmembers: Steve Kuhn, Laurie Monico, and Liam Beckman.



### **Mt. McLoughlin**

**July 20, 2012**

**Leader & Photographer: Bob Kaminski**

**Climb: 10.5 miles, 4,000 ft. (Moderate)**

**AN OBSIDIAN BAND OF THREE** left Eugene at 5:00. To avoid possible mosquitoes at the trailhead, we pulled off of Lake of the Woods Highway at Yankee Creek Road to enjoy our brown bag dinner at twilight. We arrived at the Mt. McLoughlin trailhead for a quiet evening of slumber with very few mosquitoes and hit the trail at 6:00 AM. At around 10:30 we were on the summit. It was warm and mostly clear, although there was a bit of haze as a result of regional fires. Roy McCormick searched for the long-missing summit register to no avail. Dave Beardsley scoured the summit for fulgurites and found all sizes and shapes. I joined in the festivities as we soaked up the sun. On the return trip to the car we passed 113 people with dreams of summiting. Thirty-eight of the trekkers were members of the National Guard from Klamath Falls out on a training exercise. All in all a



fine climb to the 9,495-foot summit. Members: Bob Kamin-ski and Roy McCormick. Nonmembers: Dave Beardsley.

## **North Sister**

**July 21, 2012**

**Leader: Wayne Deeter**

**Climb: 16 miles, 4,800 ft.**

**WE HIKE IN FROM POLE CREEK** to the usual campsite below the southeast spur. I had to punch a hole through snow to gain access to the spring at the base of the Thayer moraine. Jupiter and Venus shone bright in the east at our early start time. The climbers trail up the spur was harder to follow this year—we had to climb up a loose, nasty gully to regain the ridge. The traverse to the west side before the Camels Hump had eroded and is now even sketchier than it used to be (we strung a rope across it on the way back). Snow was about 20 feet into the gully before the Dinner Plate. We used a 60m rope to gain access to the moat on top of the snowfield, and a 70m to get the rest of the way to the entrance to the Bowling Alley. We ran out of time, so only Rick, Allana and I were able to top out (Marcie got to the base of the pinnacle.) High winds made it scary! (A group of 11 Mazamas continued climbing from the north side after we started our retreat, having come up the NW ridge; hope they made it back to their camp ok!) The wind blew the rope upwards when I was pulling it after rappelling and it jammed, so I had to climb back up to recover it. The descent down the southeast spur was as difficult as the climb as the winds did not let up. Two tents were damaged by the winds while we were climbing. (Note: Weighting a tent on the inside is not a good idea. Best to tie it to a tree.) We were back to the trailhead and our cars after midnight. Many thanks to Doug for assisting me on this very difficult climb. Members: Wayne Deeter, Marcie Hansen, Rick Harris, Kevin Jones, Doug Nelson, and Shellie Robertson. Nonmembers: Allana Morrison.

## **Mt. Thielsen**

**July 28, 2012**

**Leader: Wayne Deeter; Ass't: Shellie Robertson**

**Climb: 10 miles, 3,800 ft.**

**AFTER RESCHEDULING UNCOUNTABLE TIMES** due to weather, and doing a small group on July 4th, we finally had a big group able to participate. We camped Friday night at the North Crater (PCT) trailhead. This is nicer than the Mt. Thielsen trailhead as it's further off the highway. A 4:00 AM wakeup call had us starting our hike as 5:15. We were all on the summit by 10:00. Hazy air limited our views to Mt. McLoughlin (barely) in the south and the Sisters in the north. We rounded out our trip with a stop for dinner at the brew pub in Oakridge. Members: Wayne Deeter, Bob Kamin-ski, Todd Larsen, Juli McGlinsky, and Shellie Robertson. Nonmembers: Liz Hurkes and Dana Porter.

## **Mt. Shasta**

**July 30, 2012**

**Leader: Brian Hamilton**

**Climb: 8 miles, 6,850 ft. (Difficult)**

**FOUR OF US LEFT EUGENE EARLY MONDAY MORNING** and met former Obsidian Rich Peevers for breakfast in McCloud. We then drove to Brewer Creek trailhead and hiked 3.3 miles to our campsite at 9,800 feet. Our climb began the next morning at 2:20 AM. We started out with crampons as we ascended the snowfield above our camp. When we reached the lower end of the Hotlum-Wintun Ridge, we put crampons away and began scrambling over larger rocks with a few sections of scree. The weather was very nice. It had dropped down to the low 40s, but warmed up considerably. The sky was clear and there was no wind on the east side of the mountain. As we hit the higher elevations, some of us experienced nausea resulting from altitude exposure, but we pressed on and reached the summit at 10:30. A stiff west wind was blowing in from the other side, so we huddled below the summit ridge, signed the summit register, and enjoyed the views for the next hour. We had the entire summit to ourselves and saw no other climbers, except for what looked to be a guided group of about 15 near the 13,000-foot level on the south edge of the Wintun Glacier. Our descent took us down the steep slopes of the Wintun Glacier. At lower elevations, the snow was just soft enough to ball up on our crampons, giving us self-arrest practice whenever we slipped. We removed our crampons and traversed the rock ridge to complete our descent on the snowfield above our camp. Total time for the descent was about three hours. After packing up tents and sleeping bags, we hiked out, bid Rich goodbye, and stopped in the city of Mt. Shasta for dinner before the long drive home. We reached Eugene very early the next morning. Thanks to Randy for sharing the driving. Members: Brian Hamilton, Danneille Harris, and Randall Sinnott. Nonmembers: Rich Peevers and Allana Morrison.

## **Three Fingred Jack**

**August 4, 2012**

**Leader: Brian Hamilton**

**Climb: 11 miles, 3,000 ft. (Difficult)**

**IT WAS A VERY WARM EVENING** when we pulled into the parking lot at Santiam Pass PCT trailhead on Friday. We slept at the trailhead, but other climbers driving into the parking area and a bright, almost-full moon made sleep hard to come by for some of us. We awoke in time to see two other groups of climbers hit the trail before us and we were on our way at 4:20 AM. The first group ahead of us was slow to cross the 'Crawl' and we had to wait for the second group to cross before we roped up. We left one rope at the 'Crawl' and both of the other groups took advantage of it and tied into it with prusiks for their descent. We anchored our second rope from the base of the chimney to the south end of the summit promontory. Each of our climbers was belayed out to the actual summit before returning and rappelling back down the chimney. There were strong winds all morning, but they died down in time for us to enjoy views from the summit. Lack of winds also brought out mosquitoes that attacked us as we crossed snow banks still covering the PCT for a quarter-mile south of the climbers' trail. A hot, dusty

trek down the trail got us back to the trailhead by 4:15. Members: Frank Chemotti, Brian Hamilton, and Dalen Willhite. Nonmembers: Liz Hurkes, Jessica Kieras, and Jonathan Marshall.

### **Three Fingered Jack**

**August 11, 2012**

**Leader: Wayne Deeter; Ass't Leader: Rick Harris**

**Climb: 11 miles, 3,000 ft. (Difficult)**

**THIS WAS THE FIRST CLIMB** of the annual Three Fingered Jack–Mt. Washington double weekend. We had excellent weather for it. We started hiking around 4:00 AM and were at the ridge above Martin Lake at about 5:30, where we enjoyed the view of the crescent moon, and Jupiter and Venus to the east. We were the first party to the ‘Crawl.’ David decided to wait there (he had carried one of the 70m ropes most of the way) while the rest of us went on to the summit. After spending a minute on the summit I sat on the false summit and belayed the rest to the true summit, one at a time. We then reversed the route and hiked out on the hot, dusty PCT. After a quick dip in Suttle Lake, Danni, Rick and I then went into Sisters for dinner to refuel in preparation for climbing Mt. Washington on Sunday. Members: Wayne Deeter, Danneille Harris, Rick Harris, and David Morris. Nonmembers: Julie Polhemus.

### **Mt. Washington**

**August 12, 2012**

**Leader: Wayne Deeter; Ass't: Danneille Harris**

**Climb: 10.5 miles, 3,000 ft.**

**THERE WERE ONLY THREE OF US** for the second day of the annual double, so the climb up to the saddle went fairly quickly. But carrying the rope after climbing the previous day was too much for Rick, so he decided to make the saddle his summit. Danni and I roped up for the first pitch, and were soon on the summit. It was another windless day, but visibility was rather poor due to forest fires. This day was even hotter than the previous, so we all had to resort to collecting snow to replenish our drinking water. On the way back to town we stopped in Vida for dinner to celebrate our successful climb of two peaks. Members: Wayne Deeter, Danneille Harris, and Rick Harris.



## Hikes

### **Dog Mountain**

**June 9, 2012**

**Leader: Becky Lipton**

**Hike: 6 miles, 3,000 ft. (Difficult)**

**T**HREE BRAVE SOULS BRAVED THE WEATHER REPORT and arrived at Dog Mountain only to find that we were the last car to squeeze into the totally packed parking lot at

Dog Mountain trailhead. Joining the many who were already trekking up the mountain, we came across another wayward Obsidian who decided to join us for the remainder of the hike. So the four of us arrived at the vast meadow to enjoy the tail end of the balsam root bloom and views of the Columbia Gorge. We even were lucky enough to see chocolate fritilaria in bloom and avoid the rain until we reached the parking lot on the return. Members: Don Cross, Becky Lipton, and Cindy Rust. Nonmembers: Mei-Yueh Crowell.

### **Chi Gong & Meditation**

**June 16, 2012**

**Leader: Becky Lipton**

**Photographer: Joti Naik**

**Hike: 6.7 miles, 1,400 ft. (Moderate)**

**THIRTEEN HIKERS, INTERESTED IN A NEW ADVENTURE,** joined this second annual Obsidian Chi Gong and Meditation hike. This hike was along the gorgeous and energizing Brice Creek east of Cottage Grove and included hiking up to and behind Trestle Creek Falls. This unique experience involved learning and practicing various walking and standing meditation, and Chi Gong (energizing) techniques to bring greater consciousness and awareness to one's personal relaxation and inner rejuvenation process, while hiking and enjoying nature. All participants were willing to hike in silence for periods of time to practice their meditation and Chi Gong lessons. The group participated in several group sharings and further lessons at several points along the route. Chi Gong techniques were taught by Don Cross, Chi Gong and martial arts instructor for over 40 years. Meditation was taught by Becky Lipton, who has studied meditation and healing arts for over 25 years. Members: Norma Bengiat, Don Cross, Harriet Kelly, Becky Lipton, Jyoti Naik, Jorry Rolfe, and Sam Tracer. Nonmembers: Patty Morrow, Mei-



Yueh Crowell, Ayla Kiser, David Newman, Christina Newman, and Alex Fiori.

### **Three Mile Lake**

**June 24, 2012**

**Leader: Scott Hovis**

**Hike: 8 miles, 650 ft. (Moderate)**

**THE DRIVE IN ON SPARROW PARK ROAD** had a few more

potholes to navigate. It was unusually still for the coast; no wind made the bugs testy at times. We walked on the dunes a bit and made it to Three Mile Lake's shore line through the 'Hobbit' trail. We soon headed for the beach where there were no bugs. There were a pair of eagles sitting on drift wood by Tahkenitch Creek. Don't forget you can still drive on the beach in this area. Many people were fishing. Members: Karen Chalmers, and Scott Hovis. Nonmembers: Mel Duncan, Mei-Yueh Crowell, Jennifer Haynes, and Heather Petko.

## **Walk, Wine and Dine**

**June 28, 2012**

**Leader: Joanne Ledet**

**Hike: 4.5 miles, 650 ft. (Easy)**

**AFTER DAYS OF RAIN** that soaked not only gardens but the Olympic Trials, we were fortunate to have only a few sprinkles as we walked the hills of Southwest Eugene. We met at 5:30 PM at the Churchill Plaza parking lot and proceeded up city streets until we reached the wooded areas. We climbed through the woods on a paved path and kept a steady pace up the steep incline. Back on city streets we continued to climb at a gentler rate until we reached the ridge that overlooks Fern Ridge Reservoir and the Coast Range. After wading through hip-high weeds and white asters, we started our walk downhill, stopping to take in views of the city and the Coburg Hills. Even though the skies were slightly overcast, we still had some decent views onto the valley floor and could pick out some familiar sights below. One advantage of the rain from the previous week was to find the creek full of water and we enjoyed the tumbling noise it made as we walked downhill. When back on city streets we picked up our pace in order to make our dinner reservation time at the Koho Bistro. All but one of the walkers stayed for dinner and we had a delicious meal with pleasant conversation among the seven diners. Those hiking were members Sandra Larsen, Joanne Ledet, Kathy Lindstrom, and Jyoti Naik. Nonmembers: Alison Hennes, Tiffany Boehland, Judy Parker, and Tami Hall.

## **Iron Mountain**

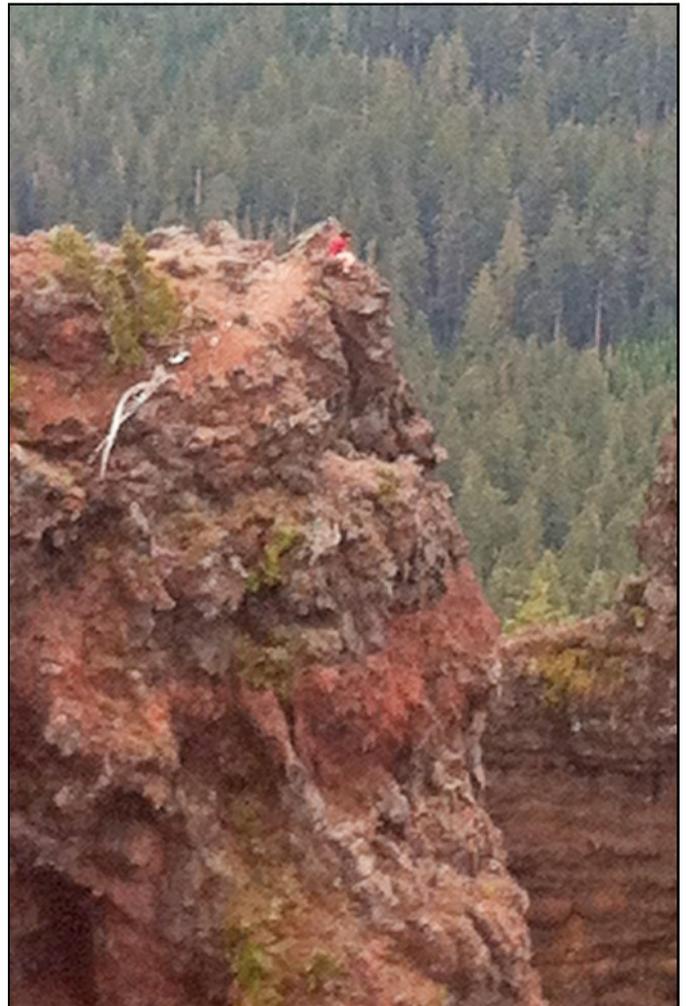
**June 30, 2012**

**Leader: Becky Lipton**

**Photographer: Joti Naik**

**Hike: 6.7 miles, 1,900 ft. (Moderate)**

**A LONG LIST OF EAGER HIKERS** quickly shortened to the final five who braved the weather report and were not deterred by stories that the flower bloom had still barely begun due to the heavy and late spring snow. Flowers were scarce, but varied, and heavy clouds hung overhead. A few meadows did reward us with bountiful color, so everyone vowed to return in a couple of weeks to catch the peak bloom. A congenial time was enjoyed by all and the rain held off until the last mile. Members: Becky Lipton, Jyoti Naik, and Jim Woodard. Nonmembers: Hannah Fleischmann and Jim Woods.



## **Mt. Pisgah - Sunset / Moonrise**

**July 3, 2012**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Hike: 3 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)**

**WE STARTED WATCHING FOR THE MOON** as soon as the sun set at 8:59. Aha! We spotted the first gleam of light above the low clouds in the east. The moon rose above a thin black line of clouds that slowly undressed the moon for those of us with creative imaginations. Guest Pam McLellan, suggested that we needed Kate Smith to belt out "When the Moon Comes Over the Mountain." Congratulations to guests Elena Rae and Bill Russell for their first hike to the top of Mt. Pisgah. Members: Marianne Camp, Betty Grant, Janet Jacobsen, Michael Quigley, Susan Sanazaro, Charles Thomas, Elle Weaver, and Jim Whitfield. Nonmembers: Tashi Choden, Elena Rae, Pam McLellan, Tiffany Boehland, Robert Nordahl, and Bill Russell.

## **Tire Mountain**

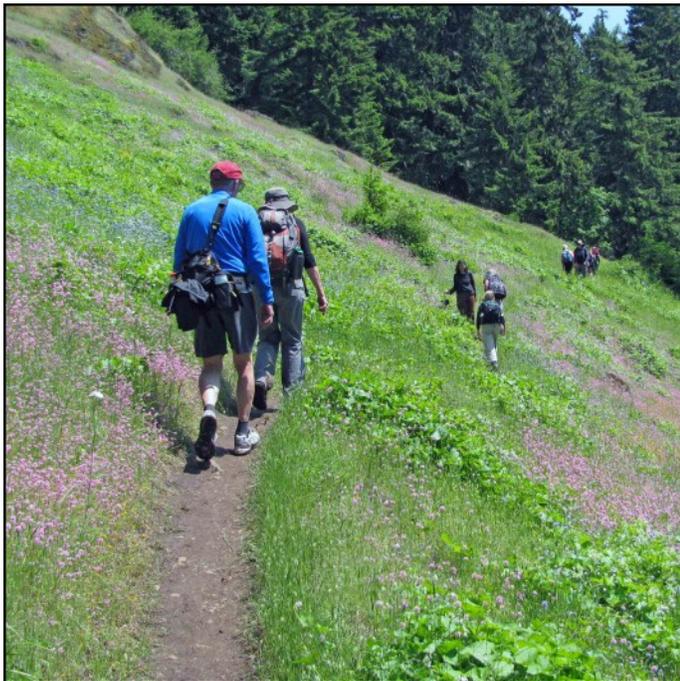
**July 4, 2012**

**Leader: Lana Lindstrom**

**Photographer: Brad Bennett**

**Hike: 7.6 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)**

**RECENT RAINS AND HEAVY USE** by mountain bikers made



the first segment of this trail fairly muddy. However, about a mile in, the trail splits and there were no more bike tracks. This is a wildflower hike - we saw at least 25 different species, with the dominant ones being carpets of rosy plectritis (I just love the sound of this flower), interspersed with deep purple larkspur, yellow monkeyflower and camas. It was a feast for the eyes, especially on the steep open meadows with rock outcroppings. In the woodland areas, we saw pale yellow irises, white queen cup, inside-out flowers, and stalks of coralroot. And in the distance were the Cascade Mountains with plenty of snow on them. Even though there's no view at the top, we lingered, enjoying the perfect weather, swapping stories and sharing chocolates. Thanks very much to Brad and Melody for driving and Tom for navigating. This particularly convivial group consisted of members Brad Bennett, Anne Bonine, Melody Clarkson, Richard Hughes, Lana Lindstrom, Sue Meyers, Jyoti Naik, Chris Stockdale, and Janet Winter, and nonmembers Tom Giesen and Jim Woods.

### **Blair Lake/Mule Mountain**

**July 6, 2012**

**Leader & Photographer: Chris Stockdale**

**Hike: 10 miles, 670 ft. (Moderate)**

**A BEAUTIFUL DAY, PLENTIFUL WILDFLOWERS, GLORIOUS VIEWS** and a compatible group of women made the Blair Lake to Mule Mountain hike a day to remember. And the day was capped with a pleasant soak in Warm Springs on the way home. We began with a quick look at Blair Lake and the delightful campground (with clean bathrooms) before heading up the trail. It begins by going through a somewhat boggy meadow where we saw a myriad of wildflowers, including shooting stars, white bog orchids, elephants' heads and many others that we couldn't identify. The trail then climbs through the forest and across grassy meadows with views of Diamond Peak and other Cascade peaks stretching from Bachelor to



Jefferson. We had a quick stop at the Spring Prairie shelter and a photo op on top of Spring Prairie before we headed up to the old lookout site on Mule Mountain for lunch with a view of the Sisters. After returning to the car on the same trail, we drove to the Warm Springs trailhead and hiked along a gorgeous creek to find we had the pool to ourselves. Members: Jan Anselmo, Chris Stockdale, and Elle Weaver. Nonmembers: Jane Engert and Jade Isa.

### **Clear Lake Waterfall Loop**

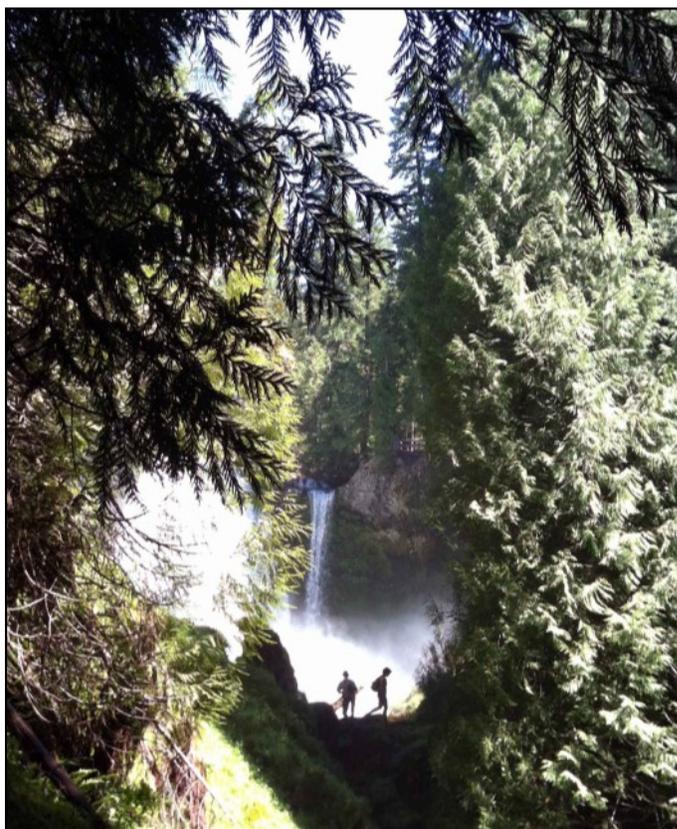
**July 7, 2012**

**Leader: Joe Sanders**

**Photographer: Joti Naik**

**Hike: 9 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)**

**THIS YEAR'S HIKE WAS A REVERSAL** of last year's event attendance at this location: this time, Obsidian participants



on a hike, not originally ours, outnumbered those of our accompanying group (Trail's Club Oregon - Portland based) eight to five! (Last year's ratio was 8 to 16.) Many of the participants from the Trails Club have camped at Belknap Hot springs as an annual event for years and have done this hike before. Some nice conversational mixing of hikers between the two clubs appeared to occur. Those of us who participated had to deal with some heat, especially on the open sections in full sun around Clear Lake. Don Cross soldiered on over sometimes harsh and bumpy Karst rocks with an arthritic knee, giving him some grief on the Clear Lake loop section, but otherwise, no negative drama. Given the durability of this season's wet weather, no one was about to complain about some heat. A brilliant sunny day rewarded us with sparkling clarity of both the two waterfalls and Clear Lake's exotic color. Members: Jyoti Naik, Sarah Praskiewicz, Don Cross, and Joe Sanders. Nonmembers: Hannah Fleischmann, Kelley Wilson, Charmaine Rehg, and Jason Rydquist.

### **Lillian Falls/Joe Goddard Nature Trail**

**July 8, 2012**

**Leader: Guy Strahon**

**Hike: 5 miles, 600 ft. (Easy)**

**TEN HIKERS MET ON A BEAUTIFUL SUNDAY MORNING** and drove to the Lillian Falls trailhead. There were a few mosquitoes awaiting our arrival, but their numbers were few (side note: "Researchers estimate that mosquitoes have been responsible for half the deaths in human history." July 2012 *New Yorker*, p. 40). We saw a few flowers but not as many as in past years. The falls were quite spectacular (good water volume) and everyone enjoyed the view. We returned to our starting point without incident (on our scout hike a week earlier we saw very fresh bear scat). Then we drove down the road a couple of miles to the Joe Goddard Nature Trail to look at some really OLD and large trees, 8-10 feet in diameter and 226 feet tall). Some of these giants are 700-1,000 years old. For lunch we stopped in Oakridge to boost their local economy, and to have root beer floats and hamburgers at the A&W Root Beer stand. YUM! Members: Norma Bengiat, Anne Bonine, Barbara Bruns, Joanne Ledet, Karla Rusow, Pat Soussan, Guy Strahon, and Judy Terry. Nonmembers: Susan Whetstone and Robert Whetstone.

### **Castle Rock**

**July 10, 2012**

**Leader: Ellen Sather**

**Hike: 2 miles, 630 ft. (Easy)**

**ONE OF THE MANY BENEFITS OF BEING AN OBSIDIAN** is the chance to make new friends such as Bill Russell and Steve Hennes, who were delightful hiking companions. It was a beautiful sunny day as we headed up the Castle Rock Trail, stopping to admire the wildflowers, 500-year old cedars, a stunning madrone, and a spot-on view of the Sisters. We also got a peek at Mt. Washington. We had a relaxing lunch and reluctantly headed back down to my car. We went

to the Ranger Station to get topographical maps and our bible, 'a Bill Sullivan' (Central Cascades). We were tempted to stop at Mom's Pies (Rustic Skillet); next time for sure. This was the third hike for both Bill and Steve; they are joining Obsidians. Members: Ellen Sather. Nonmembers: Steve Hennes and Bill Russell.

### **Iron Mountain**

**July 11, 2012**

**Leader: Marianne Camp**

**Hike: 8 miles, 1,800 ft. (Moderate)**

**WE SET OUT ON A BEAUTIFUL DAY** in anticipation of a great hike. It surpassed our expectations. The wildflowers were at their best and the weather was warm and pleasant. The group was very appreciative and enjoyed a special treat, as it was the first time for some. We ate lunch at the top and had a vista view of all the mountains from St. Helens to the Sisters. Diamond Peak was covered with smoke from the fires to the south. This is always a favorite hike of mine and even better when shared with friends. A special thanks to such a wonderful group of hikers. Members: Barbara Aten, Brad Bennett, Marianne Camp, Don Colgan, and Michael Quigley. Nonmembers: Jennifer Haynes, Monica Ozwoeld, and Jeanine Taylor.

### **Craig Lake**

**July 12, 2012**

**Leader: Jim Whitfield**

**Photographer: Brad Bennett**

**Hike: 6.5 miles, 1,000 ft. (Moderate)**

**EIGHT HIKERS HIT THE TRAIL** under a sunny sky with a nice breeze blowing. The breeze stayed with us making for good hiking and helping to keep the mosquitoes at a bearable level. From the parking lot to the PCT connector, the



trail is not maintained and in poor shape. With lots of blow-downs from the fire, there was no freeway hiking here. We made the lake for lunch with a few excursions through thick brush when the leader was unable to find the small connect-or trails. The views were great with Three Fingered Jack nearly in your face. A couple of hardy hikers went for a short swim. Brrrrr! The trip to the trailhead and home was uneventful. Members: Brad Bennett, Janet Jacobsen, Lamonte Smith, Chris Stockdale, and Jim Whitfield. Non-members: Linda Eaton, Pat Boleyn, and David Reinhard.

## Crescent Mountain

July 14, 2012

Leader: Jim Woodard; Ass't: Guy Strahon

Hike: 8.6 miles, 2,200 ft. (Moderate)

WE ARRIVED AT THE TRAILHEAD AT 10:30 AM; the weather was overcast and about 56 degrees. The first mile was a pleasant, cool hike to Maude Creek. The next mile and a half the forested trail took a steep incline and the hikers' layers started coming off as the cloud cover also began to break up. The forest floor was covered most notably with bunchberry in full bloom. As we entered the meadows at 2.5 miles into the hike we were met as promised with bracken fern and blue lupine. The group was surprised with pink lupine as well, along with larkspur, columbine, sky-rocket gilia, Indian paintbrush and beargrass. After a mile or so of gentle incline through the meadows, we entered a stand of mountain hemlock and subalpine fir. The last half



mile or so was a steep incline up the ridge crest trail, and we arrived at the summit at just after 1:00 PM. We stayed for a leisurely lunch and hoped for the cloud cover to lift and reveal the full scope of the Cascade Mountains from Hood to Three Sisters, but a distant thunderstorm to the north mostly obscured Mt. Jefferson and the view to Mt. Hood. Three Fingered Jack and Mt. Washington were in full view and all but the peaks of the Three Sisters. Just as we left the summit about 2:15, Mt. Jefferson came into view. As we began the descent to the trailhead, a moderate breeze kept us pleasantly cool and we even had a sprinkle or two of rain. We arrived at the trailhead at 4:15, finishing

at a pleasant 73 degrees with mostly sunny skies. Members: Jennifer Baer, Laurie Funkhouser, Diana Masarie, Jyoti Naik, Guy Strahon, Judy Terry, and Jim Woodard. Non-members: Tom Giesen, Judy Parker, Jim Woods, Tom Bornstein, and Eva Bornstein.

## Ridgeline Trail

July 15, 2012

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 6.2 miles, 900 ft. (Easy)

OVERCAST SKIES WITH OCCASIONAL FINE MIST made for a comfortable morning hike from Blanton to the top of Baldy. Joanne Ledet and I signed three membership applications, and hope to see our five guests on future hikes. Members: Norma Bengiat, Anne Bonine, Janet Jacobsen and Joanne Ledet. Nonmembers: Trent Sullivan, David Newman, Christina Newman, Veronica Karpiak, and Allison Sullivan.

## Canyon Creek Meadows

July 22, 2012

Leader: Randall Sinnott

Hike: 7.5 miles, 1,400 ft. (Moderate)

SANTIAM PASS TEMPERATURES were forecast for the high 50s, and Eugene was overcast and drizzling when ten of us left South Eugene for Canyon Creek Meadows. What a surprise to crest the pass to sunshine and temperatures already in the 60s. The east slope of the Cascade crest was nearly cloud free. The number of cars at the trailhead attested to the popularity of this hike. The group kept together most of the hike. For the majority, it was the first visit to this uniquely east slope valley. The first mile is through the B & B burn with many small but healthy looking conifers establishing themselves among the silvery poles of fire-killed trees. A few small pothole lakes were passed before reaching the meadow. From the leader's reconnoiter the previous week, two major changes were noted: there were more flowers in bloom and less snow. Our timing for the peak floral bloom was premature by a week or two and hindsight suggests perhaps the first week of August would guarantee more flowers. At least this year plenty of color remained to be enjoyed, however. Canyon Creek itself was running silty, carrying rock flour from Three Fingered Jack's relic glacier. A spur trail from here led up through the meadows to the divide above the moraine lake created by this eastside glacier. We continued up, crossing patches of summer snow until a menacing snow field gave us pause. Seven of us elected to lunch here, while three went fifteen minutes farther along to gain the rim of the moraine lake before turning back. The return hike was down Canyon Creek (which appeared to be carrying more and more snowmelt as the day progressed), through forest with evidence of beaver work on several dead trees, and a long marsh that probably also owes its existence to beavers. The last mile was dusty, with good views of Mt.

Jefferson and Green Ridge, and arriving back at the trailhead, the proposal to stop at Harbick's for ice cream and rehydration was heartily agreed upon. Members: Jorry Rolfe, Randall Sinnott, and Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Martin Baskett, Tom Giesen, Tiffany Boehland, Jim Woods, Howard Loewinger, Arjun Menon, and Katie Geiser.

### **Crescent Mountain**

**July 25, 2012**

**Leader: Robert Smythe**

**Hike: 8.6 miles, 2,200 ft. (Moderate)**

CONDITIONS WERE PERFECT for a walk up Crescent Mountain. Wildflowers were still abundant - vanilla leaf and bunchberry bloomed in the lower forest, the meadows featured columbine, scarlet gilia, owl clover, cascade lily, and even some remaining beargrass, and penstemon occupied cracks in the rock near the top. We shared the summit with one other hiker, the only one seen all day. All the peaks were in view, from Mt. Hood south to Diamond Peak. The descent went quickly, and we were back at our Sweet Home rendezvous by 4:00. Members: Brad Bennett, Robert Smythe, and Chris Stockdale.

### **Williams Lake**

**July 28, 2012**

**Leader: Joanne Ledet**

**Hike: 8.5 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)**

SOMETIMES YOU NEED A LITTLE HELP FROM YOUR FRIENDS, and fortunately I had 11 friends with me when I led a hike to Williams Lake. As soon as we turned off Highway 126 it became obvious that I had not led this hike in about three years, as there was some confusion about the route to the trailhead and the trail itself. But my alert hiking friends kept us going in the right direction and we successfully made it to our destination: Williams Lake. Along the trail we stopped for views of Erma Bell Lakes but did not linger long as the mosquitoes quickly found us when we rested. There were no mosquitoes at Williams Lake and we had a pleasant lunch stop there, enjoying easy conversation with our hiking companions. After lunch we headed downhill, passing some over-the-hill beargrass and columbine that were at their peak. I had been warning the hikers of the potential for a wet path at Otter Lake, and when we got there we discovered the path was more than wet, it was a mini-pond. Jyoti fashioned a bridge of sorts from branches and limbs, and all but one person - the leader - crossed the pond successfully. Thanks to Jim for fishing me out of the pond and getting me back on my feet. In spite of the mis-cues and the unexpected all the hikers had a good time based on the laughter and the amount of chatter along the way. One car load stopped for treats in Oakridge on the way home, while the other cars went straight back to Eugene. Thanks to Pat and Veronica for driving. Members: Mei-Yueh Crowell, Joanne Ledet, Patricia Mac Afee, Valerie

Metcalfé, Sue Meyers, Jyoti Naik, Brian Popowsky, Susan Sanazaro, Lamonte Smith, and Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Jim Woods and Veronica Karpiak.

### **Maxwell Butte**

**July 31, 2012**

**Leader: Mary Holbert; Ass't: Janet Jacobsen**

**Photographer: Brad Bennett**

**Hike: 9 miles, 2,500 ft. (Difficult)**

IT WAS SUNNY AND HOT AT MAXWELL BUTTE, and also dusty and littered with windfall in the lower section. Cascade lilies were abundant at the start, phlox and lupine



everywhere else. Near the top we saw snow and columbine. Fortunately the views were crisp despite some far off smoke. The perspective on Three Fingered Jack was especially wonderful. Did I mention that it was hot and dusty? The shady sections felt air-conditioned; a great contrast. It was a fun day with great company, flowers and vistas. Ice cream on the way back made for a perfect day. Members: Brad Bennett, Mary Holbert, Janet Jacobsen, Ernst Schwintzer, Chris Stockdale, and Nancy Whitfield. Nonmembers: Jim Woods.

### **Four-In-One Cone**

**August 12, 2012**

**Leader: Clare Tucker**

**Hike: 8.6 miles, 1,500 ft. (Moderate)**

THIS WAS A GREAT GROUP OF HIKERS! Most were experiencing Four-In-One Cone for the first time, and they all thought they got their money's worth. It was certainly hot enough, and that lava field on the way back seemed more active than dormant with its hot rocks! The sky was blue but hazy, so we didn't get to see Mt. Hood, but all the other peaks were still in place. Members: Jennifer Baer, Betty Grant, Chuck Harpham, Dick Hildreth, Clare Tucker, and Tom Woxell. Nonmembers: Jeff Jones and Jennifer Haynes.



## Byways By Bus

### For the Birds at Yaquina Head

July 10, 2012

Leader: Mary Ellen West

Photographer: Rick Ahrens

**B**IRDS WERE THE FEATURE of the July 10 Obsidian Bus Trip to the Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area



north of Newport.

We were treated to views of peregrine falcons on the cliffs surrounding the Visitor Center. A visible nest is the home to a family of four peregrine chicks. A short walk away we viewed the offshore islands, home to thousands of nesting common murres and some cormorants. Eagles were not present during our visit, but the effect of their predation was evident in the smaller number of birds able to sustain nesting. We observed several marauding turkey vultures lift the murres off the rocks. Biologists from OSU are monitoring nesting success, estimated at 20%. Many seals were visible lounging on the beach and rocks below.

Visible from the Yaquina Head road was a great view of the dock which arrived on Agate Beach after the tsunami of 2011 in Japan.

Lunch was at Yaquina Bay State Park, site of the original lighthouse built in 1871, and open to visitors.

Our final stop was at Beaver Creek State Natural Area, opened in 2010. This beautiful area is seven miles south of Newport and several miles inland from Ona Beach State Park.

Rick Ahrens was our extraordinary naturalist

Twenty club members and four nonmembers were on the trip. Members included: Rick Ahrens, Ethel Allen, Alice Anderson, Bill Arthur, Mary Lee Cheadle, Sharon Cutsforth, Clara Emlen, Barbara Flanders, Dennis Flanders, Marjorie Jackson, Ray Jensen, John McManigal, Lenore

McManigal, Barbara Payne, Don Payne, Margaret Prentice, Elizabeth Reanier, Susan Sanazaro, Julie Snell, Mary Ellen West. Nonmembers: Christa Emerson, Elizabeth Grubb, Geri Nelson, and Charley Thomas.

### Douglas County Safari and Wine Tour

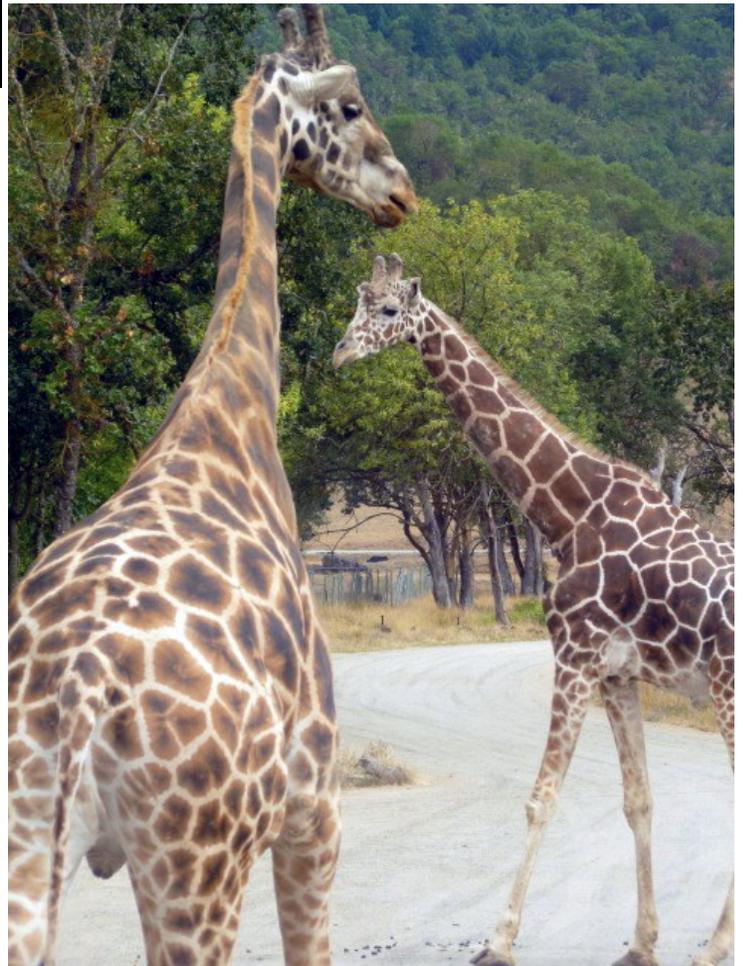
August 7, 2012

Leader, Photographer & Honorary Winemaker:

Verna Kocken

**BOTTLED ON AUGUST 7, 2012**, the Obsidiane Reserve is in the oak barrels of memories to age. Granted the Best of Show award for Best Wildlife Safari Tour Ever, by ingredient Janet Jacobson, who vowed never to tour the premises without a docent again. Our guide, Barbara, mixing well with the other Barbaras in the group, added the flavor of personal experience with the multitudinous species represented at Safari. Her technique added a particular warmth to the spicy and fragrant finish.

The green flavor of Abacela presented a deep toned, though fast-paced experience, and on to the earthy flavor of the Melrose Winery tasting room where a roast beef luncheon with a hint of watermelon left the group 'full bodied'. The exciting and breathtaking arrival at Reustle's Prayer Rock Winery broadened with the scent and flavor of laven-



der and roses. Cool cellars gave an old world ambiance and refreshing energy to all. Thirty four ingredients: Ethel Allen, Alice Anderson, Bill Arthur, Don Baldwin, Barbara, Paul and Paula Beard, Shirley Cameron, Marylee Cheadle, Sharon Cutsforth, Pat Dark, Barbara and Dennis Flanders, Shirley Froyd, Donna Halker, Janet Jacobsen, Verna Kocken, John and Lenore McManigal, Barbara and Don Payne, Virginia Prouty, Liz Reanier, Susan Sanazaro, Julie Snell, Dick and Janet Speelman and Mary Ellen West were the main ingredients (members) with spices added (nonmembers): Marcia Bell, Marjorie Hislop, Doug and Maxine Hughes, Edith Pattee and Grace Swanson; driver: Terry.



## Bike Trips

### **Lorane to Siuslaw Falls**

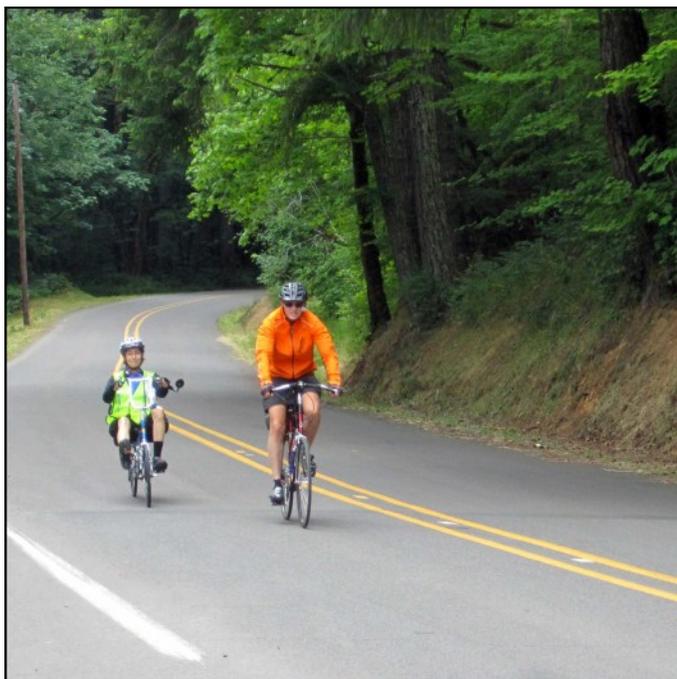
**July 29, 2012**

**Leader: Kathy Hoeg**

**Photographer: Darko Sojak**

**Bike: 20 miles, 200 ft. (Easy)**

**O**N A COOL, CLOUDY JULY MORNING, three Obsidians enjoyed a peaceful bike ride on Siuslaw River Road from downtown Lorane to the pretty waterfalls. The road has gently rolling terrain, nice views, and, on an early Sunday morning, little traffic. Additional note: the little deli / grocery next to the Lorane Post Office has good food and friendly servers. Members: Kathy Hoeg, Stewart Hoeg, and Darko Sojak.



### **Orchard Point**

**August 3, 2012**

**Leader: Patricia Esch**

**Bike: 25 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)**

**THE RIDE STARTED OUT ON THE COOL SIDE**, but the expectation was that it would get hot. Ten riders rode out the Fern Ridge Bike Path, enjoying the newest revamp of the path shortly after our start. The designers made the path curvy instead of straight, which is very pleasant. We didn't see much wildlife along the way, but stopped and picked some wild blackberries. We ate lunch by the Fern Ridge Reservoir, some in the shade and some in the sun because the northerly breeze was cool. The strange object floating on the lake turned out to be an outhouse for the boaters so they wouldn't have to boat all the way back to the marina. Clever and practical! It definitely was getting hot on the ride back, so we were happy to arrive at our cars. Members: Barbara Bruns, Patricia Esch, Kathy Hoeg, Don Kindt, Lana Lindstrom, Moshe Rapaport, Joe Sanders, Eric Swegles, Judy Terry and Peggy Windle.

### **Row River**

**August 12, 2012**

**Leader: Guy Strahon**

**Bike: 30 miles, 300 ft. (Moderate)**

**SIX BICYCLE RIDERS ENJOYED A LEISURELY RIDE** on the Row River Trail to Wildwood Falls. We had a nice lunch and enjoyed the view. Five of the riders were Obsidian members, and a newly retired nonmember made his first trip with the Obsidians. It was a perfect day for riding, sunny with almost no wind. After pedaling 30 miles we returned to the Mosby Creek trailhead for cold watermelon, and a conversation with a Cottage Grove couple who shared their picnic table with our group. Members: Barbara Bruns, Patricia Esch, Virginia Rice, Guy Strahon and Judy Terry. Nonmembers: Joe Alsup.



## Backpacks

### **Battle Ax and Twin Lakes**

**July 28, 2012**

**Leader: Becky Lipton**

**Backpack: 6.2 miles, 1,100 ft. (Difficult)**

**T**HIS EXPLORATORY BACKPACK TRIP WAS A TRUE EXPLORATION...all the way from exploring the roads leading into the trailhead at Elk Lake because road signs were totally missing, to exploring the trails around Battle

Ax Mountain and Twin Lakes because trail signs were also nonexistent. In addition to the adventure of not knowing where we were or how we should get there, the road to Elk Lake is so rough that it took 60 full minutes for the Corolla to travel the five-mile distance (calculated minus several course corrections due to lack of signage, of course). The ranger did tell us that the road has actually been improved from years past, since it had to be smoothed out a bit to haul in a latrine a few years back. One would suspect that our exploration was in great solitude, given the difficulty in getting there. However, it was apparent that the hidden nature of our destination didn't stop others from also enjoying the trails or the campgrounds around Elk Lake. The plan was to backpack into Twin Lakes and camp there and ditch the packs to hike up Battle Ax Mountain on the way out. Well, seeing as how lost we were 'cause of no signs and all, we did see all of the landmarks intended, just not in the planned order. After backpacking up 1,700 feet to the top of Battle Ax Mountain, then back down 800 feet, we decided we had had enough of that and ditched our packs by a lovely stream. We hiked without a load down another 800 feet in elevation to Twin Lakes, where we were surprised to find several parties already camping. They, of course, had entered via other trailheads that did have signs along the route and had beat us to our goal. At any rate, it was a great adventure and our newest member, Hannah Fleischmann, not only had boundless energy, but she brought organic veggies and eggs from the farm to cook up a real treat at our campsite along the stream. Members: Hannah Fleischmann and Becky Lipton.

### **Mt. Hood**

**August 10, 2012**

**Leader: Bill Sullivan**

**Backpack: 16 miles, 5,000 ft. (Difficult)**

A NICELY MIXED GROUP OF SALEM CHEMEKETANS AND EUGENE OBSIDIANS backpacked through the 2011 Dollar Lake fire zone on Mt. Hood to help Bill Sullivan update *100 Hikes in NW Oregon*, which will be issued in a new fourth edition in April. We found that the Pinnacle Ridge Trailhead had been moved back 0.7 miles, so the trip was slightly longer than expected. The middle three miles of the Vista Ridge, Pinnacle Ridge, and Elk Cove trails are all severely burned, with black snags, ashy dust, new views of Mt. Hood, and millions of tiny volunteer hemlock seedlings. Interestingly, all of the trailheads are still green, and nearly all of the high country along the Timberline Trail is untouched by the fire. Despite the fire's name, Dollar Lake itself is not in the fire zone. We set up camp at Dollar Lake and spent Saturday exploring the high alpine country off-trail on Barrett Spur. We found moraines of melting glaciers, amazing fields of lupine, and views views views. We decided it's definitely worthwhile at Mt. Hood to hike through the burn. Members: Paul Brown, Bob Harrison, Scott Hovis, Bill Sullivan, and Sue Wolling. Nonmembers: Janell Sorensen, Tom Warner, Marissa Catlin, Linda Parker, and Roz Shirack.



## **Trail Maintenance**

### **Spencer Butte Litter Pick-Up Hike**

**May 2, 2012**

**Leader: Janet Jacobsen**

**Trl Mnt: 2.2 miles, 600 ft. (Easy)**

**F**OUR OF US ATTACKED LITTLE PIECES OF CANDY WRAPPERS, cigarette butts, broken glass, a few plastic bottles, orange peels (nature's plastic) and pistachio shells that must take a millennium to compost. Our weapons of destruction were spoons, gloved hands, keen eyesight and a four-tine rake. The ever present enemy, poison oak, blocked our advance in some cases but Rob Castleberry's rake ambushed the litter. We hope Jyoti's son, Ashish Naik, visiting from Florida, enjoyed the skirmish and the hike. Members: Rob Castleberry, Janet Jacobsen, and Jyoti Naik. Nonmembers: Ashish Naik.

### **2nd Annual Ridgeline Celebration**

**May 5, 2012**

**Leader: Matthew Bell**

**Trl Mnt: .5 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)**

**CLARA WAS THE HARDEST WORKER OF THE DAY:** she began cleaning the stairs at 9:00 and was still working on them at 1:30. She dug out all of the dirt, scraped the moss off, and swept the concrete steps until they looked polished. She had some other help (Joanne Ledet and Betty Grant) but Clara didn't give up until all of the steps were cleaned. Then we watched people coming down from their hike and scraping their muddy shoes on the steps. Jim, Dan, and Joanne worked to clear the drainage features and muck from the West Trail. Janet and Darko set up a wonderful booth and display of Obsidian photos related to Spencer Butte and the Ridgeline to attract people to learn more about what we do and our trail maintenance efforts. We even got eight people to sign up to be added to the trail maintenance mailing list. Members: Matthew Bell, Clara Emlen, Betty Grant, Janet Jacobsen, Joanne Ledet, Darko Sojak, and Jim Whitfield. Nonmembers: Dan Gilmore and Oliver Bell.

### **Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance**

**May 30, 2012**

**Leader: Matthew Bell**

**Trl Mnt: 1 miles, 100 ft. (Moderate)**

**THIS MONTH'S OUTING WAS UNIQUE** in that instead of removing invasive species we were removing rare native plants; specifically, tall bugbane plants. We met the City

staff and the Blanton adopters at a little-used neighborhood connector trailhead. After a group introduction everyone grabbed a shovel and three people started pushing wheelbarrows. We hiked into Blanton Heights Park and up over the high point to find a stretch of trail that the City is going to have a contractor work on that was lined with tall bugbane plants. We then dug out the plants and placed them into pots and began transporting them out to the trucks. Our large group made short work of the day's task, completing it in two hours. Members: Matthew Bell, Clara Emlen, Janet Jacobsen, Joanne Ledet, Jim Pierce, Susan Sanazaro, Pat Soussan, and Jim Whitfield. Nonmembers: Dana Furgerson, Dan Gilmore, David Hagen, Lois Hagen, Errin Creed, and Phil Hanna.

## **Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance June 27, 2012**

**Leader: Matthew Bell**

**Trl Mnt: 2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)**

**WE MET CHRISTER LABRECQUE** at the main Spencer Butte parking lot where he dropped off tools and snacks for us. We then hiked up the trail to the Junction Meadow where we split into two groups. Todd, Matt, and Oliver went up the main trail to cut back a couple of large vine maples overhanging the trail. The rest of the group worked to scatter fallen branches out of the meadow and under the trees. Afterwards we regrouped to head down the Tie Trail, again breaking into two groups. Jim, Dan, and Clara worked from a little distance beyond the meadow clearing the trail sides, primarily to clear the uphill side of overhanging plants. The rest of the group hiked down the Tie Trail and then began working back, cutting overhanging trees and shrubs from along the trail so that as they leaf out they don't come down into the trail corridor. We got a lot done but there is still more to do. It has been about five years since we've done this work along the Tie Trail and there is a lot of plant material to remove from overhanging the trail. Members: Matthew Bell, Clara Emlen, Dan Gilmore, Jane Hackett, Janet Jacobsen, Todd Larsen, Jyoti Naik, Susan Sanazaro, and Jim Whitfield. Nonmembers: Oliver Bell and Jessica Swartz.

## **Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance July 25, 2012**

**Leader: Matthew Bell**

**Trl Mnt: 2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)**

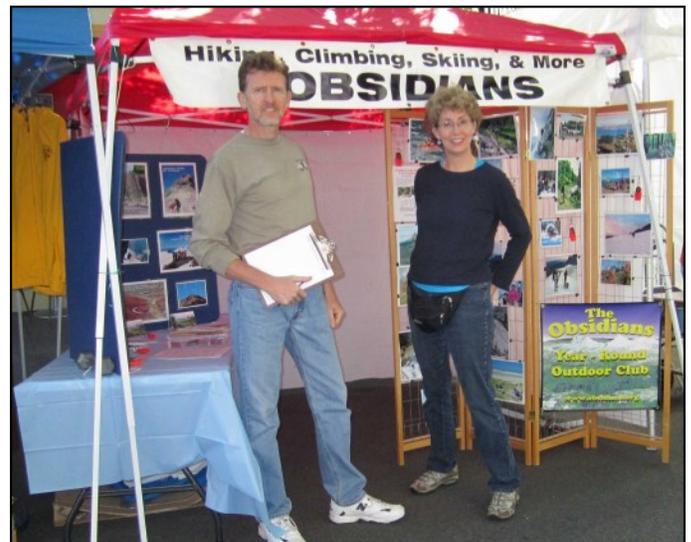
**WE MET CHRISTER LABRECQUE** of the City's Parks and Open Space division to get tools, snacks, and the tasks for the evenings work. We loaded up and hiked up to the Junction Meadow. Christer had packed in his chainsaw to cut up the trees that had fallen into the meadow during this winter's storms. Dan, Barbara, and Betty began working to drag away the remnants of the trees. They used some branches to cover a trail corner that people have been short-cutting. Barbara walked through some stinging nettles while wearing shorts and decided that joining those of us that were clear-

ing the sides of the Tie Trail would be less painful. The remainder of our group began working down the Tie Trail hacking back overhanging vegetation from the trail sides. It was amazing to see the regrowth in the areas we'd worked last month. We were able to connect all of the sections that we worked on last month. Having three weed cutters in addition to a machete really made the work go a lot faster. There were also some areas that had overhanging branches from vine maples and wild filberts and those in our group that had hand clippers and folding saws made very short work of them. A little before 7:30, Thomas joined our group having hiked through several parks to find us. Thanks to all the volunteers efforts the Tie Trail is now in much better shape. Members: Matthew Bell, Dan Gilmore, Betty Grant, Joanne Ledet, Jyoti Naik, Barbara Norregaard, Pat Soussan, and Jim Whitfield. Nonmembers: Oliver Bell and Thomas Kirkpatrick.

## **Eugene Celebration**

**ONCE AGAIN IT WAS IDEAL WEATHER** for the Eugene Celebration. Early Saturday morning, Kathy Hoeg and I set up the booth at the same location on Willamette Street between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Street.

A lot of people approached the Obsidians booth. Some of them already knew about our club. Within three hours



on Saturday, Kathy and I spoke with over 30 enthusiastic people of all ages. One hundred and two people stopped by the booth on Saturday and 125 on Sunday. We sold three whistles and distributed 150 event flyers. Nine people left their email addresses to be notified about trail maintenance activities. We look forward to seeing them on the trail.

Thanks to Kathy Hoeg, Smitty Smith, Sue Sullivan, Jim & Sharon Duncan, John & Janet Jacobsen, Susan Sanazaro, Jyoti Naik, Tom Woxell, Brian Hamilton, and Veronica Karpiak (soon to be a member) for staffing, setting up and taking down the booth. Once again, volunteering was fun and productive.

**Darko Sojak, Publicity Committee**

# John Bovard and Early Obsidian History

Janet Jacobsen

**L**ENORE MCMANIGAL, OBSIDIAN HISTORIAN, received this email from Linda Bovard:

Hello!

*My grandfather John F. Bovard was an early member of the Obsidians. I have two photo albums, one labeled Mazama and the other Obsidians, that I would like to donate to your organization. They appear to cover a period from 1926 to 1930. Some of the photos are not in good shape and most are not labeled, but I hope they will still be of use to you. There are a number of trip lists and programs as well. What would be the best way to get these to you? I live just outside of Eugene and am in town frequently.*

*Best regards,*

*Linda J. Bovard,*

**Who was John Bovard?** Dr. John Bovard was a charter member of the club and the first President of the Obsidians, serving two terms from 1928-1929. He was a member of the Mazamas from 1926-1929, if not longer. He was Dean of the School of Physical Education at the University of Oregon and then moved in 1937 to work at the University of California at Los Angeles.

**The Scrapbooks** Linda met up with Janet Jacobsen to hand over the two scrapbooks. Linda said, "My grandfather liked to take pictures so he is not in many of them."

Most of the photos are small and have faded. Janet was able to match up some of labeled pages with the 24 activities listed in his trip log provided by Lenore. More interesting in the scrapbooks are the printed materials such as *Prospectus for the Third Annual Outing, August 3-17<sup>th</sup>, 1930*, at Mt. Jefferson. These suggestions for one's personal outfit should make one appreciate our sturdy charter members. "A waterproof sleeping bag of tantalite, balloon silk or canvas makes the most satisfactory bed. Many find a pair of double wool blankets with a square piece of waterproof canvas 8 x 10 feet very good." Perhaps someone will want to try this at the next Summer Camp.

Pasted in the scrapbook, yellowed with age, is a *Eugene Guard* article about the formation of the Eugene Outdoor Club, the original name of the Obsidians. "The Outdoor Club bids fair to become as valuable and as famous in time as the Mazamas of Portland. It will be of great help in times of emergency. But in the meantime, it is doing something even more important. It is promoting the development of the amazing and almost untouched recreational resources of this part of Oregon. The possibilities of winter sports in the

Three Sisters region were almost unappreciated until the Outdoor Club showed what could be done. We still can't help wishing the organization had just a bit more picturesque name."

## How did the name get changed to Obsidians?

Bovard wrote the *History of the Obsidians from 1927-1933*. Our club has his original 39-page typed copy complete with his typos and cross-outs. He explains how the original name, the Eugene Outdoor Club, was changed to Obsidians. The present name of the organization, Obsidians, Inc. was the result of an idea developed during this first summer outing (1928). On the climb of the South Sister, members of the party, in commenting on the great quantity of obsidian, or volcanic glass, to be found in that vicinity, suddenly conceived the idea of naming the club after this material.

Obsidian is a distinctive material, peculiar to this section and for which the Three Sisters area is noted. Since this club was planning to conduct the majority of its activities in this area, it seemed particularly appropriate that a name such as



First Winter Outing Bus

this would be selected.

*Facetiously, it was pointed out, obsidian meant a hard object and members of the club felt that they had qualified themselves for this nomenclature after having climbed three mountains in four days. "Hard as obsidian" became a popular metaphor among members of the club and it was decided to advocate the change in the name of the organization. However, this was not taken up officially till a later date. (History of the Obsidians, pp 11-12).*

The scrapbooks will be placed in the fire vault at the Lodge with the hope that in the future someone will want to take on the job of scanning the historical photos.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## **Byways By Bus** **Riders Needed!**

### **FALL COLOR**

**Tuesday October 19, 2012**

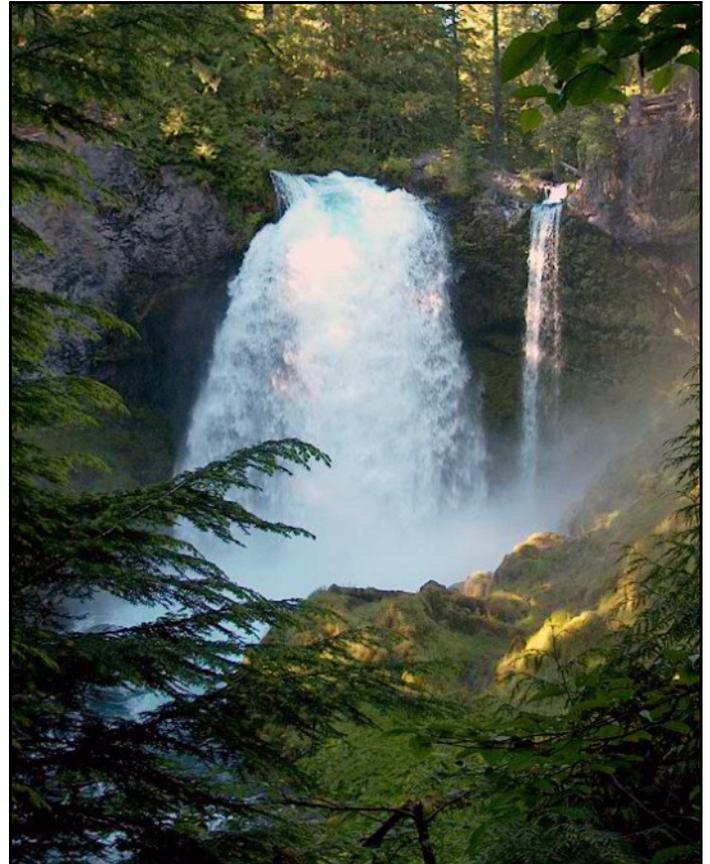
**Leaders: Ray Jensen and Liz Reanier**

**Cost: members \$36, nonmembers \$38**

**Reservations & checks: Mary Lee Cheadle 689-1085**

**A**NTICIPATING A GLORIOUS INDIAN SUMMER DAY with lots of autumn foliage, we will travel along the McKenzie River to the Ranger Station for a rest break and coffee. Then we will go on to Sahalie Falls, and perhaps another stop or two, going from Douglas fir to pine country. At Sisters we will have lunch (on your own) and shop, leaving about 1:30. We will return over the Santiam Pass, stopping at Hackelman Old Growth—a one-mile loop hike (optional). Then we will continue down the Santiam River to McDonald's in Sweet Home for ice cream. We will return to Eugene via the Mohawk Valley, arriving about 6:00 PM.

Gloomy Gus says if Mother Nature, ODOT, or forest fires close the central Cascades, an alternate is mid-Willamette Valley or the Oregon Coast.



### **Native Plant Society of Oregon**

**Monday, October 15, 2012 7:30 PM**

**EWEB Training Room, 500 E. 4th Avenue, Eugene**

**T**HE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON has invited a representative of the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) to give a talk on the work ONDA is doing to protect the Owyhee River watershed. Chris Hansen of ONDA speaks on the Owyhee Canyonlands—the largest stretch of unprotected desert wilderness left in the United States—right here in Oregon! Come learn about what the dry side of Oregon has to offer for those interested in the outdoors! The Oregon Natural Desert Association has been working to permanently protect the Owyhee, and we'll gather to show off some of the amazing images of this wild place. Learn about hiking opportunities you won't find in any SE Oregon guidebooks. We'll share stories about Wild and Scenic River trips, sage grouse counts, and inland red band trout; and we'll talk about how to fill the Oregon desert Wilderness gap. For more information call 345-5531. Also see

[www.onda.org](http://www.onda.org)

At 9:00 PM after the EWEB presentation, Chris Hansen will continue in a more informal manner at COZMIC at 199 W. 8th Ave. in Eugene. Why not join us for more discussions and more photos in an atmosphere of conviviality, with pizza and beverage?

***Dave Predeek***



## AT THE LODGE



# POTLUCK

Friday, September 28, 6 pm

### Obsidians in Action on Trails, Mountains, Roads & Water

**M**ARK YOUR CALENDARS for the September 28 potluck when there will be a media presentation of *A Year with the Obsidians*, featuring Obsidian activities of 2011/2012 including Summer Camp. Janet Jacobsen has compiled photos submitted to the *Bulletin* plus a few others and will narrate the program. Come see what you missed or see yourself in action. Social hour is at 6:00 PM.



### September Potluck

Friday, September 28, 2012

Social hour, 6 PM Potluck, 6:30 PM Program, 7:30 PM Obsidian Lodge

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

## THE OBSIDIANS NOW HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE at

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/theobsidians>.

Just click on the link and start using/viewing today!



## September ExploraTalk

Tuesday, September 18, 7 PM

## Mt. Pisgah Sighting Pedestal

**P**ETE HELZER, THE BRONZE SCULPTOR who created the Mt. Pisgah Sighting Pedestal, will give a slide presentation about construction of the pedestal at the September ExploraTalk.

The Pedestal was constructed and installed in 1990. Bas relief symbols which cover the pedestal depict 200 million years of Oregon's geologic history. The bronze relief map on top points out the 360 degree topography surrounding Mt. Pisgah.

Pete's well-known local sculptures also include the Ken Kesey statue on Broadway and Willamette, the statue of Rosa Parks at the Lane Transit District station, and the bronze dancers in the Hult Center for the Performing Arts.



## Membership Renewal Has Started!

**M**EMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORMS are included in this month's bulletin. Please take a moment to confirm your contact information. The membership directory will be updated at the end of the year. Email addresses are kept current throughout the year. Along with your dues, please consider donating to the Contingency or Endowment Funds. Please let us know if you are interested in leading trips and/or helping on a committee of interest to you. If you would like to get more involved but are unsure of a direction, please contact me. Volunteers are always appreciated! Space is included on the back of the form for any comments or suggestions you may have. Thanks for renewing!

*Elle Weaver, Membership Chair*

### Welcome

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242-3682  
[juliepolhemus@gmail.com](mailto:juliepolhemus@gmail.com)

## Obsidian Calendar

### September

11 Tue **Sculpture/Bldg Walk Hike** E Jacobsen .....343-8030  
12 Wed **Matthieu Lakes Hike** M Duncan .....343-8079  
15 Sat **Black Crater Hike** D Adkins.....344-4163  
15 Sep **The Husband** Climb Deeter .....954-0924  
16 Sun **Opal Creek** Extended Trip Martz .....345-6229  
16 Sun **Indigo & Chuckle Springs Hike** M Duncan.....343-8079  
18 Tue **Mt. Pisgah Pedestal**.....**ExploraTalk**  
19 Wed **Opie Dilldock Loop Hike** D..... Miller 484-4586  
21 Fri **Coyote Cr - Canoe/Kayak** M Musselwhite.....461-3296  
22 Sat **The Twins Hike** M Kameenui .....344-9506  
22 Sat **SOLV Beach Cleanup Hike** Ewing.....344-9197  
23 Sun **Fuji Mountain/Upper Island Hike** D Wilken.....343-3080  
23 Sun **Erma Bell Lakes Hike** M Ewing.....344-9197  
23 Sun **South Sister Climb** D Blumm.....343-8830  
28 Fri **Who are the Obsidians?** ..... **Potluck**  
28 Fri **Sahalie/Koosah Falls Loop Hike** E Cunningham.344-0486  
28 Fri **Row River Trail Bike** M Sanders .....255-2524  
28 Fri **Rock Pile Lake Backpack** D Hovis .....521-3663  
29 Sat **Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance** M ...Bell 503-884-8829  
29 Sat **Mt. Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike** M Jacobsen...343-8030  
29 Sat **Three Pyramids/Coffin Mtn.** Hike D Lipton.....736-7498  
30 Sun **Indigo Lake Hike** M Musselwhite.....461-3296  
30 Sun **Broken Top Climb** D Hamilton.....343-6550

### October

06 Sat **Detering Orchard Bike** M Esch.....338-8280  
06 Sat **Maiden Peak Hike** D Hubata-Vacek.....345-3060  
07 Sun **Grizzly Peak Hike** D Weaver .....852-6128  
12 Fri **Annual Meeting**..... **Lodge**  
12 Fri **Klamath Basin Overnight** ..... **ExploraTalk**  
13 Sat **Clear Lake Hike** E Ewing.....344-9197  
14 Sun **Tire Mountain Hike** M Colgan .....485-2787  
16 Tue **Fall Color** Bus Jensen .....345-5366  
21 Sun **Tamolitch Pool Hike** M Lipton .....736-7498  
26 Fri **Grand Teton NP** Crispin..... **Potluck**  
27 Sat **Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance** M ...Bell 503-884-8829

### November

06 Tue **Roseburg, Steamboat Inn** Bus Kocken.....736-5180  
16 Fri **Climbing in the Cascades** ..... **Potluck**  
24 Sat **Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance** M ...Bell 503-884-8829

### December

06 Thu **Lodge for the Holidays** Bus Reanier.....687-1925

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Need Rental

**LOOKING FOR PERIODIC ROOM RENTAL** or house sitting in Eugene or surrounding area over the next year. Between traveling for international volunteer work and time at my home in Maine, I am looking for a place to lay my head in Oregon. My initial interest is for a place from late Nov. through Dec. this year. At 61, I am retiring from physical therapy.

Obsidian member. Betty Grant 514-1176



Relaxing at Camp Elle - Photo by Lana Lindstrom (See articles on pages 1,4 & 5)

September 2012



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