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Dates to Remember

June 30	Bulletin Deadline
June 15	GameNight!
July 5	Board Meeting
July 8	Get Acquainted Hike
July 11	GameNight!
August 6–12	Summer Camp

Current event schedules at:
www.obsidians.org

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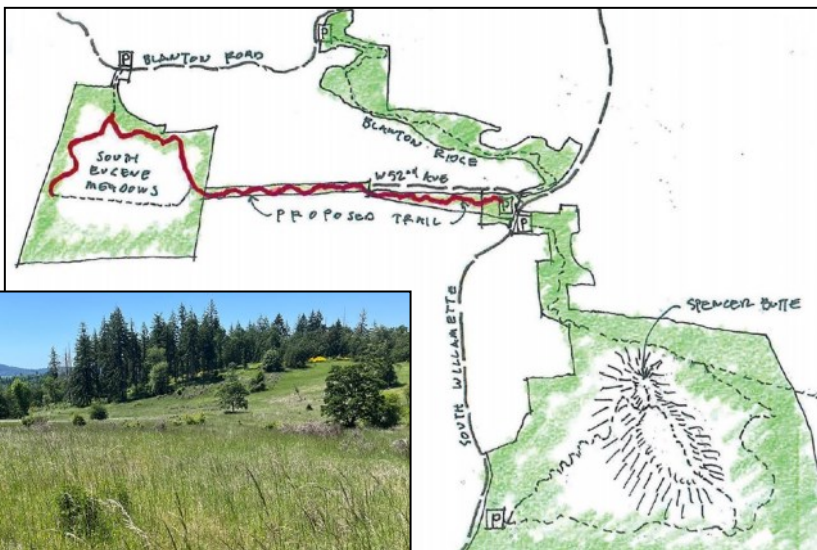
Proposed new 3-mile trail to SOUTH EUGENE MEADOWS

Back in 2007, the Obsidians Board of Directors approved President John Pegg's letter in support of the City of Eugene's efforts to expand the Ridgeline Trail with the development of South Eugene Meadows Park. Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom and Dave Predeek remember going on those early park tours. Fast forward: Obsidians attending Bill Sullivan's "Parks Talk at The Shedd" this past month heard enthusiastic applause when Eugene Parks Foundation (EPF) Executive Director Ariel Lissman thanked the community for voting "Yes" on the recent parks levy. There was more applause when he announced that their Board has committed \$120,000 toward the new 3-mile trail \$500,000 project. The EPF Board hopes hikers, mountain bikers and runners will rally behind this trail project, which is the first among four planned new trails.

*From Andy McIvor,
EPF Board Member and Obsidian:*

OFF OF SOUTHEAST EUGENE'S BLANTON ROAD, THERE ARE NEARLY 200 ACRES SITTING LIKE AN UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY, covered in old oak and wildflowers, waiting to be explored. This area, called South Eugene Meadows, was purchased by the city in 2006, and is on current maps of the Ridgeline Trail System. Currently, there is a tiny parking lot on Blanton Road, and a few trails. What if this new park could be connected to the well-used Ridgeline trailheads at 52nd and Willamette Street?

Map of proposed new trail to South Eugene Meadows.



A view across South Eugene Meadows.
Photo by Kevin Shanley
EPF member.

It turns out it may be possible by leveraging property along dead-end 52nd Ave, thanks to some intrepid exploration by Eugene Parks Foundation members John Winquist and Kevin Shanley. City park plans are being formulated to construct a larger parking lot across the street from the existing Willamette Street trailhead, establish a trail parallel to 52nd Ave, and follow the tree line to South Eugene Meadows. Then one could park on Willamette and hike east to Spencer Butte, or west to the Meadows. To

(Continued on next page)

IN MEMORIAM

BARBARA BRUNS

JANUARY 26, 1936–MAY 16, 2023

AN ENTHUSIASTIC HIKER, SKIER, AND BICYCLIST, BARBARA JOINED THE OBSIDIANS IN MARCH 1996 and received her 200-trip award in 2014, having led fourteen trips. From 2015–2020 Barbara went on fifteen bus trips where she made many more friends. For years Barbara attended Board meetings to present her reviews and recommendations of the Club's insurance policies. After her knee surgery in 2005, she wrote an article, *New Knees is Good News* for the **June 2005 Bulletin** concluding, *I'm so happy now to be back hiking and biking with my friends, even if it is the easier options. I feel confident I'll be doing even more as the summer progresses.*

In recent years on the Pisgah trails, Obsidians easily recognized Barbara with a welcome *There's Barbara*. One always stopped to visit and hear her thankful words that she was still hiking. When needed, she figured out an easier route so that she could continue hiking. Margaret Essenberg said, *It seems to me that every single time we encountered her on the trail at Mt. Pisgah, Barbara would at some point in our conversation say, "Aren't we lucky that we get to hike in this beautiful place!"*

A few days before her death, Jorry Rolfe wrote about her meeting with Barbara: *Randy and I were heading up the trail at Pisgah from the north parking lot. We ran into Barbara who was coming down the trail. We have run into her before on Pisgah trails, and we always say "Hi!" and speak to her briefly. This day, she told us "there are beautiful spiderwebs to see ahead near the bench." Sure enough, we saw them, thanks to her mentioning their stunning beauty to us earlier. Who knows if we would have noticed them, being focused on our footsteps, and getting on with our hike and achieving the summit that morning?*



Photo by Randy Sinnott.

She was always buoyant, friendly. It was a pleasure to see someone who loved Pisgah as much as I do! She inspired me!

She is survived by her sister Lois, sons Robert, Wayland, David, and Michael, and grandchildren Mariah, Sam, and James. Gifts in Barbara's memory may be offered to Obsidians, Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah—or to your favorite conservation organization.

Editor's Note: A complete obituary was in the Register-Guard May 28, 2023. To share tributes or for details about her Celebration of Life at Dorris Ranch on June 11, visit www.forevermissed.com/barbara-bruns.

(Proposed new trail to South Eugene Meadows continued from page 1)

make a western loop, one could walk Blanton Road north to Blanton Ridge Park and return on the Blanton Trail.

It sounds complicated, but it is all part of a long-range plan to link South Eugene's nature parks by an extended Ridgeline Trail. The Eugene Parks Foundation, which helps extend and improve Eugene parks, is leading the effort and fundraising. Please visit the website at eugeneparksfoundation.org. Next up: how to link South Eugene Meadows with Wild Iris Ridge Park.

EPF Board Member John Winquist adds:

THIS PROJECT IS CURRENTLY PLANNED FOR 2024. The city has funded and will be constructing the new parking lot at 52nd and South Willamette. If the Eugene Parks Foundation can raise the funds for trail construction, it can be completed at the same time. The Foundation has already received \$120,000 in commitments for construction. An additional \$380,000 will secure the complete trail construction.

For additional information or to arrange a visit, contact:

John Winquist at trails@eugeneparksfoundation.org or at 541-239-3451 or Janet Jacobsen at jbjacobsen@comcast.net if interested in an Obsidian tour with John Winquist.

OBSIDIANS

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Website: www.obsidians.org

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The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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

bulletin@obsidians.org

For reprint rights, contact:

The Obsidian Bulletin

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

Deadline

for July Bulletin

Friday, June 30

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RADIOSONDES

—Weather Balloons—

Are Landing in Oregon

Jan Anselmo *

OBSIDIANS USUALLY CHECK THE WEATHER FORECAST BEFORE HIKING. But how are those weather reports made? Radiosondes are a key part of the answer.

Radiosondes are instruments carried aloft that measure temperature, humidity, and pressure. The transmitters are launched by weather balloons. Ground-based receivers monitor their movement, which yields upper wind direction and speed. This data is then transmitted to computerized weather models which form the basis for modern day weather forecasting. Radiosondes are manufactured in Finland and can cost as little as \$5. When you look up your favorite weather website, much of that information is the result of radiosonde data that was used by computerized weather models.

Twice a day, worldwide, at the same time, about 1,600 radiosondes are sent aloft by balloon, transmitting weather data as they ascend to over 100,000 feet! The balloon expands to over 30 feet and pops. Then a small parachute opens and lowers the array back to earth. Amateur radio operators track their movement. Trackers show when and where the launches are taking place, flight direction, and eventual GPS coordinates where it is resting on the ground. The tracker receives audible pulsating sounds.

In the 48 contiguous states, there are 69 stations sending up balloons daily. Three stations are in Oregon: Salem, Medford, and Pendleton. Local ham radio operators track the Salem launches. Depending on the upper-level winds, the Salem radiosondes often land in the Cascades. Some land as far as Redmond, Prineville, Cottage Grove, and of course, Eugene. With a GPS device one can come within 1,000 feet of finding a radiosonde. But the instrument may be in a tree, in tall grass, on a rooftop, or in dense forest. Using a small ham receiver, tuned on or around 404 MHz, one has a few hours to home in on its exact location before its battery dies.

In late May, Rich Anselmo, meteorologist, and John Hegg, ham operator KC7OTY, tracked a morning launch from Salem. Reports showed it landing just west of Brownsville. After searching in tall grass for about an hour, they found it. The GPS reading was 350 feet off but using a small receiver, John located the radiosonde with ease.

The online data showed RS41 from Salem departed at 0504 PDT, reached an altitude of 111,893 feet, and landed at 0614 PDT. It had reached a maximum speed of 83 mph. The parachute was not found, but a partial balloon remained attached to the radiosonde.

* Jan Anselmo interviewed Rich Anselmo and John Hegg for this article.



John finds Radiosonde.



Radiosonde compared to size of cell phone.



Info & instructions printed on Radiosonde RS41.

Here is a link that shows all the weather balloons that are tracked worldwide: <https://s1.radiosondy.info/index.php?>

Under the SELECT RADIOSONDE link, scroll down to find SALEM, OR, and then select GET DATA. Additionally, there are numerous YouTube videos showing radiosondes landing, being tracked, being refurbished, and also reused.

Dozens of radiosondes have landed in the Three Sisters, Waldo and Diamond Peak areas during the past few months. I found a radiosonde in the Fuji Mountain area. The radiosondes are white and about the size of a cell phone. So, keep an eye out while hiking and you also might just find one!

Let Bill Sullivan Help You Explore and Lead a Hike in the Santiam, McKenzie or Willamette Foothills

Janet Jacobsen

AN HONORARY OBSIDIAN MEMBER SINCE 2007, Bill Sullivan had presented his first Obsidian potluck program three years earlier on his hiking book, *Oregon Trips and Trails*. Since then his programs, guidebooks, and website have encouraged Obsidians to explore and lead trips on Oregon's trails.

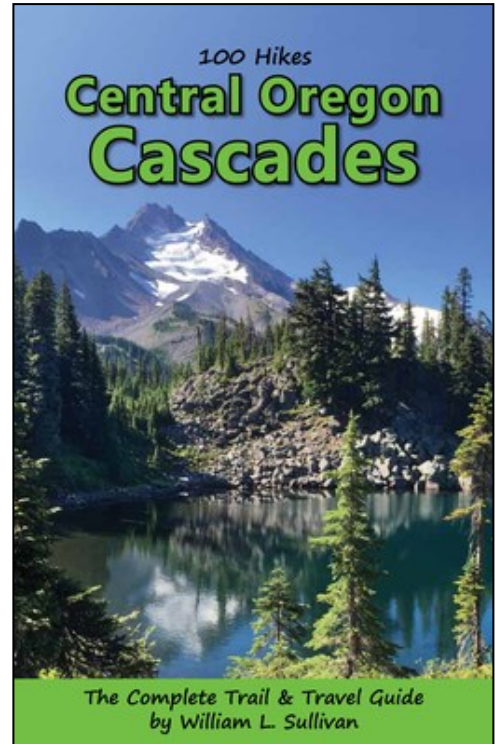
Have you thought about leading? The McKenzie, Santiam, and Willamette foothill hikes are an easy way to start and they don't need permits. The Table of Contents in Sullivan's new *100 Hikes Central Oregon Cascades* (2023) is a convenient motivator to explore these lower elevation foothill hikes. His symbols for wildflowers, NW Forest Pass, advance permits, rough road, parking fees, along with a trail difficulty rating and accessibility information encourage one to turn to those pages for a map and description of each hike. Fire closures and alternatives trails are current. Alas, there are no symbols for mosquitoes!

At the back of the book there are an additional 104 hikes. I turned to the last page and hike #201, Windy Lakes was the first Obsidian hike I led in 1976. I still have the 1964 Diamond Peak Wilderness map that perhaps was my guide. I asked Bill about this and he emailed back: *I published the first edition in 1991. You wouldn't have found the Windy Lakes in Jerold Williams' books, which only covered Lane County, but that hike was featured in Don and Roberta Lowe's "100 Oregon Hiking Trails" published in 1969. Keep on hiking!*

Those were the days when an Obsidian would telephone asking you to lead a hike and it was hard to say no. Then I would drive to the Y to post my poorly handwritten signup sheet on the bulletin board. Now there are so many resources to make leading easier.

If you don't have Sullivan's latest edition, stop by REI or a local bookstore. Read the past trip reports on the Obsidian website: Trip Activities/History. Don't wait to be asked to lead. Just find a favorite hike you want to share. Talk with Dave Cooper, Summer Trips Chair. Try it! You will like it. *And Keep Hiking.*

With Sullivan's help, I might consider leading Windy Lakes again.



If you shop online, make sure that you're getting the 2023 edition, as there are several older versions still being sold, dating back more than 30 years.



OBSIDIANS CAN FEEL ENCOURAGED THAT THEY ARE IN GOOD HANDS AT OUR ACTIVITIES AFTER MEMBERS RECEIVED TRAINING IN CPR AND AED TECHNIQUES from instructors Laurie Monico and Hannah Shallice. The class was well received, as we had 30 people wanting to participate. Unfortunately,

the instructors had placed the limit at 16 participants, which was in line with the number of manikins they had for the training. We will plan on having another class next fall or winter. Adult CPR techniques were learned by watching the American Heart Association videos followed by hands on practice with the manikins. Laurie Monico gave a good overview of how to operate the AED located in the Obsidian Lodge.

Lyndell Wilken
Safety Committee



Hands-on practice. Photo by Lyndell Wilken. Read trip report on page 9.



Graze Anatomy: Basque History in Southern Idaho

Sue Wolling

WITH RUGGED MOUNTAIN PEAKS AND FEW TOWNS IN THE AREA, THE SAWTOOTHs ARE A WILD AND WOOLLY AREA. We Obsidians are old hands at exploring the ‘wild’, but how much do we know about the ‘woolly’ part of the equation?

The Sawtooths are a very woolly area. In fact, by 1918, sheep outnumbered humans six to one, and it wasn’t until the 1970 census that humans finally outnumbered sheep in Idaho (though the numbers are suspect, since some of those sheep might actually have been outlaws ‘on the lamb’).

The vast majority of people herding all of those sheep were Basques, who originated in northern Spain/southern France. Basques migrated into the American West during the Gold Rush days, but with so many other ‘Rush-ans’ snatching up all the gold, the Basques found more success raising sheep to feed and clothe the miners. For single men who felt a little sheepish about their lack of English proficiency, but had a ranching background, herding sheep provided a solid income—and they were good at it. So good, in fact, that after World War II, Congress expanded immigration quotas specifically for Basque sheepherders, who had proved essential to the Western economy. Lamb-entably, their population has declined in recent years, but there are still around 16,000 Basques in the Boise area. In fact, the Jacobsens and other Obsidians encountered a Basque sheepherder, complete with his dog, wagon and 2,200 sheep, when they arrived to set up the 1994 Summer Camp!

The best way to learn more about the Basque people would undoubtedly be to attend the *Trailing of the Sheep Festival* in Ketchum, when thousands of sheep parade down Main Street, and Basques come from around the world for the music, dancing, sheep dog competitions, folk life displays, and more ways to cook lamb than you can shake a hiking pole at. Unfortunately, the Festival isn’t until October. The next best thing would be to visit the *Basque Museum and Cultural Center* in Boise which features lots of displays and information, and is located in the Basque Block, home to lots of Basque restaurants, bars, and even a boarding house.

Or you could seek Basque history and culture in the great outdoors. The sheepherders had lots of time to ‘basque’ in the sun, but months of hanging out with a few thousand sheep and one dog could get old. One way sheepherders passed the time was to create arborglyphs—messages, dates, or images carved into the bark of aspen trees. (Apparently bark was less ‘aspensive’ than paper.) Or maybe the sheepherders were trying to teach some of their cleverest sheep to read and write, so they could sell ‘Smart Wool’ at a premium!

Many of these arborglyphs have been lost as the trees die, grow too big to discern the writing, or are vandalized, but it is still possible to find them anyplace that sheep were grazed and there was enough shade and water for a sheepherder to hang out for a while. So keep your eyes open as you hike in the Sawtooths!



Basque arborglyph.

Summer Camp Cancellation Policy:

THE SUMMER CAMP COMMITTEE RECOGNIZES THAT SOMETIMES CANCELLATIONS ARE UNAVOIDABLE; however, due to fixed costs, and in fairness to those who may be on the Wait List, the policy is as follows:

- ▶ \$40 of the total camp fee is nonrefundable for all cancellations.
- ▶ Registrants who cancel online by June 30 will receive a full refund, less the \$40.
- ▶ Registrants who cancel online on or after July 1 will not receive a refund unless the vacancy is filled, in which case you will receive a full refund less \$40.

DOUGLAS' SQUIRREL (*Tamiasciurus douglasii*)

Eva Mogart

Though only a few inches long, so intense is his fiery vigor and restlessness, he stirs every grove with wild life, and makes himself more important than even the huge bears that shuffle through the tangled underbrush beneath him.

—John Muir

SIERRA CLUB FOUNDER JOHN MUIR WAS SO ENCHANTED BY DOUGLAS' SQUIRREL that he dedicated an entire chapter of his book *The Mountains of California* to this “master forester” of the West. I think it’s easy to see why, if you take a moment to appreciate one of our most vocal and energetic native squirrels.

It is possible to spot Douglas’ squirrels on our Spencer Butte hikes here in Eugene, and in old growth forests throughout the Pacific Northwest, west of the Cascades. Its range stretches from British Columbia, through Washington and Oregon, and down into the Sierra Mountains of California. It inhabits mature conifer forests, where its food sources include tree cone seeds, berries, flowers, leaf buds, bird eggs, and fungi. Douglas’ squirrels cache large quantities of conifer cones in underground middens or in tree cavities. They play an important role in spreading fungal spores and tree seeds through the forest.

A smallish squirrel, 10 to 14 inches long including the tail, it has a greyish-brown coat with a paler orange underbelly, a distinctive dark stripe along its sides, and a tawny-white eye-ring. Their busy chirping, chattering and sometimes harsh scolding, rings through the forest year-round as they have a lot to talk about in regards to territory, courtship, and potential danger of intruders.

In winter months the Douglas’ squirrel is often found scurrying about between cone caches and high tree branches. They usually avoid eating on the ground because it leaves them vulnerable to predators, such as foxes, weasels, coyotes, bobcats, domestic cats, and owls. In summer, the squirrels are busy high above our heads in the tree canopy, harvesting conifer cones and raising their young, called kits. You may find traces of their industry if you see intact, not-quite-ripe cones raining down in autumn or scattered on the ground awaiting collection. Another sign you might see are the soft piles of deseeded cone scales at tree bases below favorite eating perches. Next time you find yourself in the forest, you might keep an eye, or ear, out for our little Douglas’ squirrel.



A Douglas’ squirrel seated on the ground, munching on hazel catkins—the freshly fallen caused the hazel branches to droop low to the ground, making the catkins accessible and allowing me to photograph this rare moment.



Climate and Environment

Mt. Tabor Named First Urban Quiet Park

Jorry Rolfe, Co-chair CSE Committee

ON MAY 26, MT. TABOR IN SE PORTLAND WAS NAMED THE FIRST URBAN QUIET PARK IN THE U.S. by the non-profit Quiet Parks International. Yes, it is true, even though some Portlanders have been drawn there for noisy activities such as the annual Soapbox Derby, active long-boarder classes (a type of skateboard), summer concerts, and other less quiet events. Even reports of criminal activity abound, unfortunately.

Nevertheless this 191-acre park is being recognized by Quiet Parks International, a volunteer-run organization based in Indiana, with the mission—*committed to saving quiet for the benefit of all life*. This distinctive award makes sense, though, when you read what its Executive Director wrote

(Continued on next page)

(First Urban Quiet Park continued from page 6)

about Mt. Tabor, “To be within Portland’s urban sprawl is very important for Quiet Parks International’s mission to save quiet and create awareness of how important silence and stillness are not only for human health and well-being but for all living creatures.”

In Eugene and Springfield, we have many such environments where we can escape the clamor of everyday life, where noise doesn’t steal the show from a singing bird, the wind, or rustling leaves. These are our city parks, our own spaces of peace and quiet.

SKY

Mike Smith

I T LOOKED LIKE A CONTRAIL, I THOUGHT, ONLY IT DISAPPEARED. There it is again, and whoops, it’s gone again. Now there are two small ones, and wait! They just disappeared.

Doing trail work, at lunch time I often lie on the ground, looking up at the sky, admittedly not helping my reflux issues, but it helps my spirit, seeing different clouds, the Moon, a soaring bird, a plane, or just getting visually lost in the deep blue. This day at Fall Creek, I was trying to figure out what was going on with a disappearing and recurring white light, which looked like a contrail, through a gap between two trees high above me. I could almost talk myself into pretending I was seeing a bright meteor shower in daytime, enjoying such a fantasy even after I realized that high overhead I was

actually seeing spider webs on branches reflecting the sunlight to me. I love watching the sky. Half our environment is above us, free to those who look. Cloud movement tells us the flow of air in the upper atmosphere, is often different from what we feel at the surface.

At the top of Spencer Butte I once saw a smattering of clouds, clearly at different heights, recalling a night from childhood when I discovered that clouds covered the stars, showing me that sky is three-dimensional. I later learned that the sky starts right above ground; fog is cloud at ground level. This particular day, I saw smoke from Springfield rise to a fixed height a little above where I was, stop rising, flatten, and become visible as a long thin grayish-white ribbon approaching me from the northeast before turning west, a river of air, flowing against what was clearly a ceiling, which prevented the smoke’s rising further. Indeed, aviators refer to the lowest cloud level as the ceiling. Air is a fluid, and this was one of the best examples I had seen of natural air flow. We were in an inversion where cold air was at the bottom, and above the ceiling, temperatures were warmer, opposite to the usual cooling we experience as we ascend. The warm smoke cooled to the temperature of the inversion and no longer could rise after it reached the ceiling.

Another day, I looked at a contrail fragment high over Marys Peak to the northwest, the high spot above Highway 99, from the top, then turned to the southwest to see if I could find it again. A quarter turn, I saw another fragment, and above it was the waning crescent Moon, about five days before new. I hadn’t expected that, which I admit shamefully, because my observing skills have atrophied.

I’m not out at night much any more, but the night sky is fabulous. Deep in the Grand Canyon one night, I estimated the exact time to about 15 minutes using the Big Dipper, the way cowboys once did it. The Big Dipper is a 24-hour clock moving counter-clockwise. The sky is a calendar: in early May the star Vega rose over the Santa Catalina mountains in Tucson, where I was, a sudden appearance that recurred just shy of four minutes earlier on successive nights. I could look at the same spot three minutes and 50 seconds earlier the next night and count down 5-4-3-2-1 rise! And the star would suddenly appear, like magic! The sky is a historical record of billions of years, a treasure trove of celestial jewels, hundreds of ‘Deep Sky’ objects like planetary nebulae, star clusters, or galaxies, thousands of multiple star systems. I remember fondly the words of one of my favorite North Country authors, Peter Leschak, who related showing Andromeda Galaxy to an individual by saying it was “not something you see every day.”

“But,” he continued, “it is something you can see every night, under a clear, dark sky.”

See you on the trail. Don’t trip because you are too busy looking up.



Contrail is making a secant through a 22-degree halo around the Sun, caused by ice crystals refracting or bending the light. The Sun is to the right, and just a little more than two fists from the Sun with the arm extended will lead to the arc.

Why not Camas?

DEAR BULLETIN: Could you please tell me how Oregon grape was chosen to be our state flower? Sincerely,

CONSIDERING A MILLION ALTERNATIVE SELECTIONS

DEAR CAMAS: Oregon's state flower has a complicated history, as probably do the other 27 state symbols. In 1890, the Oregon Horticultural Society formed a committee to select a state flower but a consensus could not be reached. Other flowers considered were bearded gaillardia, Washington



Oregon grape blooms in the spring. Photo by Carla Cooper.

lily, wake-robin, and madrone. In 1893, in Hood River at

their annual convention, the Society moved to adopt the Oregon grape. The Women's Club of Portland, Oregon, the Oregon Historical Society, and probably other groups, lobbied the Legislature for this choice. In 1899, the Legislature voted and declared Oregon grape to be the official state flower.

Oregon grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*, aka *Berberis aquifolium*) is a native evergreen shrub that is distributed widely across the western states and provinces of North America. One source said that Native Americans have used it for its medicinal properties. The root can be used to make yellow dye and the berries to make wine or tart jam.



Oregon Grape produces dusky blue berries in late summer.

Photo: © Gerald D. Carr, courtesy of OregonFlora.

One of the last state symbols to be selected (2017) was the Oregon State Pie—marionberry. The Obsidians of 1931 would have voted for the *real wild blackberry pie* that was devoured on June 28 after a nine-mile steep hike to Macduff Mountain to place a plaque in memory of Nelson Macduff. Later this month, Steve Johnson will lead the annual Macduff memorial hike. Is a berry treat in the offing? But the *Bulletin* digresses. Fortunately, dear CAMAS, you do not need the Legislature to choose your own personal symbols. What will be your official flower?

Looking forward to the 49th Annual Butte to Butte?

EUGENE'S FAVORITE COMMUNITY ROAD RACE is scheduled for Tuesday, July 4, 2023.

Sign up and join Team Obsidians for a 4-mile Mayor's Fitness Walk.

Questions...contact leader Darko Sojak,
darchey@comcast.net

Butte to Butte 2022 Obsidians team poses with Sasquatch. Photo submitted by Darko Sojak.



TRIP REPORTS

Class

CPR and AED class

May 31, 2023

Leader & Photographer: Lyndell Wilken

SIXTEEN OBSIDIANS TOOK PART IN THE CPR AND AED TRAINING that was offered at the Obsidian Lodge. Instructors Laurie Monico and Hannah Shalice guided the group through the CPR skills and a good demonstration was given on how to use the lodge AED. Skills were practiced on manikins and videos gave clear demonstrations on how each skill



Hands-on practice.



Buzz Bloom lining up for CPR training.

should be performed. This class helped the club acquire more expertise with these life-saving techniques. Our activities are safer knowing we have people with training that can assist with a cardiac emergency. Members: Joanna Alexander, Heidi Anderson, Buzz Blumm, Kathie Carpenter, Michael Heidelberg, Joseph Lee, Ane McKee, Eva Mogart, Annette Pfautz, Maryanne Reiter, Trina Reiter, Jorry Rolfe, Riccie Shipley, Sandra Sigrist, Lyndell Wilken, Karen Yoerger.



Hikes

Kalapuya Talking Stones Walk

April 29, 2023

Leader: Mark Hougardy

Photographers: Kathie Carpenter & Sandra Sigrist

Hike: 7 miles, (Easy)

OUR 2.5-HOUR WALK WAS SUNNY AND THE TEMPERATURES WERE PERFECT for a springtime walk. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Annie Chan, Mark Hougardy, Hally McCabe, Ane McKee, Jorry Rolfe, Sandra Sigrist, Marie Stringer.



Wha-Lik "Place by the Water." Photo by Kathie Carpenter.



"Near A Camas Field." Photo by Sandra Sigrist.

Thurston Hills Vista Loop

April 29, 2023

Leader: Denise Bean

Hike: 7 miles, 830 ft. (Moderate)

AFTER A RAINY SPRING, THE WEATHER WAS PERFECT FOR OUR HIKE—sunny and in the mid-70s. We parked three cars at the end of the trail at Quartz Park. We drove in one car to the trailhead off of Hwy 126 to meet up with the other hikers. This is a beautiful local hike with much variety. All shared that they enjoyed the hike and, of course, visiting with each other. Members: Denise Bean, Whitney Gould, Jean Harris, Gwyneth Iredale, Steven Johnson, Holger Krentz, Vern Marsonette, Lynn Meacham, Evelyn Nagy, Janet Otterstedt, Karla Rusow.

Watch Colleen Run Hike

May 7, 2023

Leader: David Cooper

Photographer: Carla Cooper

Hike: 3.2 miles, 50 ft. (Easy)

COLLEEN MILLIMAN DID NOT DISAPPOINT US TODAY! She was competing at the Hayward Classic in the women's 800m race in the 95–99-year-old age group. She was attempting to set her fourth world track record, but missed it by just six



Pre-race. Colleen looks ready, but first she has to greet all her fans.



Colleen smashed the American record in the 800m for the 95–99 year old age group by shaving off over two minutes time!

seconds. Colleen did set a new American record, however, and did it by taking off over two minutes from the old record time! We also noted that Colleen seemed to have the biggest fan group. Deservedly so! Members: Jennifer Baer, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Janet Jacobsen, Jim Northrop, Nancy Whitfield, Signe Wright.

Evening Hike to Hendricks

May 11, 2023

Leader: Lisa Van Liefde

Hike: 2.8 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)

A BEAUTIFUL, WARM EVENING GREETED FIVE OF US. We meandered through the lush canopy of trees and the colorful spring flowers that we found in Hendricks Park. Members: David Cooper, Robert Eriksen, Lisa Van Liefde, Maureen Whalen. Nonmembers: Janell Cottam.

Get Acquainted / Ribbon Trail

May 13, 2023

Leader: Dorothy van Winkle

Hike: 2.5 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)

FOUR GUESTS JOINED TWO MEMBERS FOR A LIVELY WALK TO AND THROUGH THE PARK. On the Ribbon Trail, the scent from the false Solomon's seal hit us before we saw the hillsides covered with it. Then, at Hendricks Park, we encountered large swaths of false lily-of-the-valley, the scent enticing us on. This was a very enjoyable outing for everyone and I expect to see most, if not all, of the guests again. Members: Whitney Gould, Dorothy van Winkle. Nonmembers: Geraldine Poizat-Newcomb, Diane Lang, Sarah Kaufman, Jan Nash.

Controlled Burns at Willow Creek

May 13, 2023

Leader: Becky Lipton

Hike: 5 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)

OBSIDIANS JOINED JEFF ROSIER, STEWARD OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY'S WILLOW CREEK PRESERVE, to learn how controlled burns are being used to help restore native prairie ecosystems, and to increase habitat for the Fender's blue butterfly. Once thought to be extinct, this butterfly is endemic to the Willamette Valley and found nowhere else in the world. It was listed as endangered in 2000. We learned how Willow Creek Preserve has assisted this butterfly, its host plant, and other native prairie species. After an initial talk and lots of questions from our group, we walked to various places in the preserve to see areas treated with fire last fall. We were rewarded with views of meadows overflowing with wildflowers, and a peek at a sparrow's nest full of eggs that was hidden at the base of a robust prairie plant. After our Willow Creek Preserve adventure, several of us enjoyed the optional hike at nearby Iris Ridge. Members: Steve Adey, David Clinger, Eamon Happy, Tom Happy, Nancy Hoecker, Gwyneth Iredale, Becky Lipton, Hally McCabe, Evelyn Nagy, Barbara Orsi, Jorry Rolfe, Karla Rusow.

Vickery Park Explora Hike

May 19, 2023

Leader & Photographer: Karen Yoerger

Hike: 2.5 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)

A PERFECT DAY FOR A WALK IN THE WOODS. Dorothy C. Vickery Riverside Park is a hard-to-find, undeveloped gem in the Lane County Parks system. We followed one semi-established trail to the summit of the butte and then made a



Mossy trees above the McKenzie.

loop on overgrown footpaths/deer trails. On the way we enjoyed a variety of wildflowers, understory plants, shrubs, and trees. We found the brass dedication plaque and a mysteriously recent-looking message from Dorothy Vickery (1891-1961) that advised us to be careful not to damage the moss on the boulders. Two nice views of the McKenzie River were our reward for traipsing through the tall grass and blackberry vines. Thanks to all for your willingness to explore! Members: Jorry Rolfe, Karen Yoerger, Tommy Young, Sue Zeni. Nonmembers: Mark Steinberg.

Suzanne Arlie Park

May 22, 2023

Leader: David Cooper

Photographer: Carla Cooper

Hike: 4 miles, 500 ft. (Easy)

WHEN THE LEADER SCHEDULED THIS TRIP, HE HAD MORE OF A NOTION THAN A PLAN. Thanks to flexible participants, we all enjoyed a make-it-up-as-you-go morning. Some had been



Ane going for a spin.

to Arlie Park when parts of it were a forest of blackberries and poison oak. Things have certainly changed. More evidence of progress was our chat with a man hired by the city to flag new trails for mountain bikers and hikers. He was verify-

ing routes, slopes, and distances against LiDAR images of the park. It will be fun to make return visits to Eugene's largest park property to watch it be developed. Members: Joanna Alexander, Mari Baldwin, Carla Cooper, David Cooper, Lorraine Cuevas, Joseph Lee, Hally McCabe, Ane McKee, Nola Nelson.

Fitton Green

May 25, 2023

Leader: Lyndell Wilken

Photographer: Ane McKee

Hike: 6 miles, 900 ft. (Moderate)

TWELVE OBSIDIANS HAD A BEAUTIFUL DAY TO TAKE IN THE VIEWS on the Fitton Green hike. Marys Peak and the surrounding area was green with new vegetation and an



A sweet meeting place in the woods. Diane Longcore, Evelyn Nagy, Lynda Christiansen, Ane McKee, Karla Rusow, Lyndell Wilken.



One of several Shovel Stations for people to move cowpies left by cattle that graze the land.



A bat house.

abundance of wildflowers. The Marys River was running full and provided a cool respite. The gazebo offered shade and a mid-morning snack break, all the while gazing at Marys Peak in the distance. The carved tree stumps offered an artistic touch and would be a good place for meditation and solitude for those planning to return. Due to hazy skies to the east, lunch at the top did not yield a view of the snow-covered Cascades as we had hoped. However, eating under a giant

Douglas fir tree with lush grass, wildflowers, and views of the coastal range to the west was consolation. A group picture by one of the biggest oak trees that many of us had seen in Oregon finished the trip in style. Members: Annie Chan, Lynda Christiansen, Robert Eriksen, Sharon Friedland, John Hegg, Diane Longcore, Ane McKee, Evelyn Nagy, Barbara Orsi, Karla Rusow, Maureen Whalen, Lyndell Wilken.

Evening Hike: Wild Iris Ridge

May 25, 2023

Leader: Lisa Van Liefde

Hike: 4.3 miles, 800 ft. (Moderate)

A LOVELY, WARM, EVENING HIKE WITH OBSIDIAN FRIENDS! The extra loop trail was accessible, so we gained the additional mileage. Members: Whitney Gould, Gwyneth Iredale, Lana Lindstrom, Lis Sorrell, Lisa Van Liefde.

Marys Peak North Trail

May 27, 2023

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Photographer: Karen Yoerger

Hike: 10 miles, 2,100 ft. (Moderate)

THE WOODS CREEK TRAILHEAD PARKING LOT IS ALSO AN INTERSECTION FOR THE 62-MILE CORVALLIS TO THE SEA TRAIL (C2C). It was interesting to visit with a youthful backpacker who said that she left Corvallis the day before and



Janet and Nancy climb over one of the smaller logs.

hoped to reach the coast on Monday. From my scouting trip to Conners Camp the week before, I knew that the upper part of the North Ridge trail had four large trees to flounder over. Fortunately, the lower section had only a few bunny hop step-overs and one squeeze-by log. The green oxalis with its white blooms carpeted the hillsides along with intermittent yellow violets. Stealing the show from the cloudy and misty no-views at the summit meadows were the glacier, avalanche and fawn lilies, yellow violets, and a few purple violets. Our hike—including many stops to identify flowers—took six hours. A note for a 2024 leader: Some of us were dismayed that the bathrooms at the upper parking lot were closed until

May 30. Thanks to Karen for driving and for identifying flowers. Another thanks to the considerate bicyclists and especially the one who explained a bunny hop over a log. Members: Nancy Hoecker, Janet Jacobsen, Karen Yoerger.

Eagles Rest

May 28, 2023

Leader: Lisa Van Liefde

Photographer: Ane McKee

Hike: 5.6 miles, 1,329 ft. (Moderate)

NINE OF US MADE OUR WAY TO THE EAGLES REST TRAILHEAD, three miles from Highway 58. The road had some pot-holes; clearly the weather from this past winter left an impression. But the beauty of the lush, dense forest all the way



The gang at Ash Swale Shelter.

to the view point quickly transported us to that special place that we look forward to on every hike—Nature, in all her glory. Thank you to our photographer, Ane McKee! Members: Heidi Anderson, Kathie Carpenter, Jean Harris, Elizabeth Koch, Ane McKee, Cindy Rice, Denise Rubenstein, Lisa Van Liefde, Maureen Whalen.

Masonic Cemetery / Ribbon Trail

May 29, 2023

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 6 miles, 800 ft. (Easy)

ESTABLISHED IN 1859, THE NATURAL SETTING OF EUGENE MASONIC CEMETERY IS A WELCOMING PLACE to start our hike. At the top of Agate Street, we took the hidden trail to The Bog where Hugh Prichard gave us a brief history of how he started his project. From there, we walked through Laurelwood Golf Course taking an obscure trail to Central Boulevard and the Ribbon Trail. We stopped at the new bench on the Ribbon Trail east of the Lodge for a group photo. The bathroom at Hendricks Park was our last break before heading back to the cemetery. At the Abbey Mausoleum, the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association members greeted us and served cake and coffee. We gathered at the Public Square at 12:15 to listen to the melodic, sorrowful Taps played by trumpeter Barry Barreau. What fun to linger and visit with other Obsidians attending the service—several that we had not seen for some time. It was a leisurely morning to share and reflect. Members: Margaret Essenberg, Richard Essenberg, Sheridan Gates, Whitney Gould, Yuan Hopkins, Gwyneth Iredale, Janet Jacobsen, Elizabeth Koch, Helen Martz, Annette Pfautz, Sandra Sigrist, Lis Sorrell, Pat Soussan. Nonmembers: Blue Wesley.

Eula Ridge – Hardesty Loop

May 30, 2023

Leader & photographer: Jean Harris

Hike: 11 miles, 3,200 ft. (Difficult)

EULA RIDGE IS STEEP AND HARD WORK. We prevailed and reached the top of Hardesty to dine and enjoy a view of part of the Three Sisters. Traveling down the Hardesty Trail was



Steve Davis, Lynn Meacham on Hardesty Mountain.

easier. A few bikes and a runner were enjoying the trail. Flowers at higher elevation included rhodies, trillium, calypso orchids, and fawn lilies. The three of us greatly enjoyed the fresh air, gentle breeze, and filtered sunlight. Members: Steve Davis, Jean Harris, Lynn Meacham.

Amazon Headwaters / Ridgeline Trail / Spencer Butte Hikes

Hikes: 6.2 miles, 1,530 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

Darian Morray: 5/3 14 Members

Janet Jacobsen: 5/10 12 Members

June Miller: 5/17 12 Members, 1 Nonmember

John Miller: 5/24 11 Members, 1 Nonmember

Mike Smith: 5/31 20 Members, 1 Nonmember

Blanton Ridge Hikes

Hike: 8.5 miles, 1,740 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

Tommy Young: 5/2 7 Members, **5/16** 6 Members, **5/23** 4 Members

Jorry Rolfe: 5/9 4 Members, 1 Nonmember, **5/30** 3 Members, 1 Nonmember

Mt. Pisgah Hikes

Hike: 3.5–9.4 miles, 1,000–1,400 ft. (Moderate)

Various Leaders

Karen Yoerger, Sandra Sigrist: 4/30 12 Members

Janet Jacobsen: 5/4 8 Members, 3 Nonmembers

Heidi Anderson: 5/5 10 Members

Janet Jacobsen, Lynn Meacham: 5/21 12 Members, 1 Nonmember

David Hawkins: 5/26 10 Members



Extended Trip

Columbia Gorge Hiking, Waterfalls and Wildflowers

May 2–4, 2023

Leader: Chris Shuraleff

Assistant Leader: Jane Hackett

Extended Trip: (Moderate)

EIGHTEEN OBSIDIANS STAYED AT THE MENUCHA RETREAT AND CONFERENCE CENTER, which sits on a bluff overlooking the Columbia River in Corbett. We took in a small sample of the 77 waterfalls on the Oregon side; many wildflowers greeted our hikes. The weather gods were in our favor two out of the three days, giving us blue skies and sunshine on the first two days, and liquid sun on our last day. The food served was plentiful and very tasty. Each of us had our own bed and late-night chats were the norm. Some of the various hikes completed—all of which got rave reviews—were: Latourell Falls, Angels Rest, Oneonta and Horsetail Falls, Eagle Creek, Tom McCall Preserve, and Dog Mountain. All wished the trip was four days instead of three. GREAT group!!!!!! Thank you. Members: Pat Bentley, Annie Chan, Lorraine Cuevas, Jane Hackett, Scott Hovis, Brenda Kameenui, Sandra Larsen, Diane Longcore, Rachelle Masin, Evelyn Nagy, Patty Neis, Ginny Reich, Jorry Rolfe, Chris Shuraleff, Joan Skarda, John Skarda, Nancy Whitfield, Sue Wolling.



Backpacks

Mack's Canyon, Deschutes River

May 5, 2023

Leader: Russ Davies

Photographers: Russ Davies & Brad Bennett

Backpack: 24 miles, 150 ft. (Difficult)

THIS IS AN UNMAINTAINED TRAIL ON BLM LAND ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE DESCHUTES RIVER. The 3-day trip started from the trailhead near Mack's Canyon Campground, and we followed the river downstream. The trail still has evidence of a past railroad—ties in the trail and other steel pieces scattered about. The trail has minimal elevation change until you arrive where a trestle should be, then the trail is very steep down and back up. In 1909, two railroad companies started from the Columbia River, with James Hill's railroad on the west side and the Deschutes Railroad on the east. This started a railroad war. Both sides vied to claim strategic points along the canyon, and the rival construction crews did all they could to impede the other's progress. Day 1: we hiked about 8.5 miles along the railbed and around trestle side canyons with intermittent light rain. We found a nice place to call camp on a flat between the river and the trail. Day 2: waking in the morning, the sky was blue with a warm sun.



Russ hiking along the old railroad tracks. Photo by Brad Bennett.



Freshly caught lunch. Photo by Russ Davies.

After breakfast, we headed downriver four miles to an old homestead and walked underneath a bald eagle nest. The osprey were fishing for a meal in the river and the Canada geese were gathered in the fields. We watched some drift boats on the river and talked to a few rail-bikers that rode 12 miles from the Columbia River. Day 3: we awoke to partly cloudy skies and packed up. We donned our packs, then it rained for the next three hours. When our cars became visible, the rain stopped and the sky cleared, letting the sun shine down upon us—a great way to end the trip. Members: Brad Bennett, Russ Davies.

Road and the Mill Slough is what I like to call *Obsidians Corner*. Although our work is just a drop in the ocean, we always feel great satisfaction in getting rid of these tough invasive berries. We dug blackberry crowns, cut new young brambles, and pulled thorns from our palms. Friendship, cheerfulness, and a warm sunny day were on our side. Thank you, volunteers! Members: Lynda Christiansen, David Cooper, Annette Pfautz, Darko Sojak.



Native to Europe and Asia, cinnabar moth has been introduced to North America to control ragwort, on which its larvae feed.



Removing the blackberries around freshly planted Nootka rose.



Stewardship

**McKenzie River Trust Stewardship
May 20, 2023**

**Leader & photographer: Darko Sojak
Work Party: 1.5 miles, 20 ft. (Easy)**

TODAY, AS SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE, OBSIDIAN VOLUNTEERS WORKED ON BLACKBERRY REMOVAL on a 2.5-acre plot at Green Island. This meadow between Green Island

Oak Knoll, Hendricks Park

May 27, 2023

**Leader & photographer: Darko Sojak
Work Party: 1 mile, 100 ft. (Easy)**

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE OAK KNOLL IS? Positioned between Eugene's groovy Laurelwood neighborhood and nearby Hendricks Park, this savannah grassland is in constant need of some real attention. There are some invasive grasses, vinca vine, and poison hemlock encroaching on the oaks. The Obsidians Stewardship Committee led a work party project ideal for restoration-savvy volunteers as well as beginners. Today we worked under the watchful eye of Cait Wisbeski, City of Eugene, Hendricks Park Volunteer Coordinator. In addition to our contribution to the community, we had fun working together. A first-time trail maintenance participant



Delaney and Dylan removing invasive wild cucumber.



Young prairie oak.



Western wild cucumber (Marah oregana).



Job well done Obsidians! Photo by Cait Wisbeski, City of Eugene, Hendricks Park Volunteer Coordinator.

joyfully expressed, 'This is really good for me.' Members: Holger Krentz, Jorry Rolfe, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak. Nonmembers: Wayne Parker, Dylan Pidek, Delaney Pidek.

Blanton Trailhead Improvements

April 29, 2023

Leader: Matt Bell

Photographer: Janet Jacobsen

Trail Maintenance: 2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

OUR GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS MET IVERY AND JOSH from the City of Eugene Parks and Open Space Division at the Blanton Trailhead on a sunny and warm spring morning. We circled



Angie liberating young prairie oaks from encroaching grasses.



Janet's snacks, two trucks, motorized wheelbarrows, weed eaters, water, and more tools were needed to get this job completed.



Josh dumps a load of gravel in front of the portable toilet. Matt, Nathaniel, and Fletcher prepare to rake.



After the gravel is spread, Matt shows Fletcher how to spread water before they use the compactor.

up as Ivery explained the tasks for the day: adding a rolling drain-dip, resurfacing the dip and trail, resurfacing the tread to the kiosk, resurfacing in front of the porta-potty, and general trailhead beautification (sign-cleaning and weed-eating). We broke into small groups with Dave and Janet working on trailhead beautification tasks, and the Bells working on the tread projects. Special thanks go to Janet for bringing homemade snacks. Members: Matt Bell, Nathaniel Bell, Oliver Bell, Janet Jacobsen, Dave Predeek. Nonmembers: Fletcher Bell.

Amazon Headwaters Brushing

May 31, 2023

Leader: Matt Bell

Photographer: Pat Soussan

Trail Maintenance: 2 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

FOR THE FIRST WEDNESDAY EVENING OUTING OF OUR SUMMER SCHEDULE, we were asked to cut back brush from the trail sides of the Amazon Headwaters trail. Our group of volunteers met up at the Fox Hollow trailhead before casually hiking down the trail, lightly brushing along the way. Our group mostly cut back hazelnut and blackberries from the sides of the trail. We talked about proper pruning cuts to encourage growth in directions away from the trail corridor.



Lovely late afternoon weather for trail maintenance.

While pruning, we did our best to avoid poison oak; hopefully no volunteers came into direct contact with it. The trail was in good condition and we enjoyed seeing blooming columbine and many tiger lilies that were nearly in bloom. We saw only one blooming tiger lily, so hikers in the coming weeks will be greeted by many more. We also were perplexed by the flour marks left along the trail by the Hash House Harriers, a drinking club with a running problem, wondering what they are meant to signify. Special thanks go to Janet for bringing her homemade energy balls, which made for a nice treat at Martin Street. Members: Matt Bell, Jennifer Crim, Janet Jacobsen, Pat Soussan, Maureen Whalen.

Welcome New Members!

Gail Apte

Eugene, OR 97405

Courtney Brost

Eugene, OR 97408

Gabriel Buchbinder

Eugene, OR 97401

Peter Eberhardt

Eugene, OR 97404

Lydia Fazio

Springfield, OR 97477

Linda Forrest

Eugene, OR 97405

Diane Lang

Eugene, OR 97405

Andy Nelson

Eugene, OR 97405

Geraldine

Poizat-Newcomb

Eugene, OR 97405

Diane Repp

Eugene, OR 97401

MAY BOARD NOTES

From Minutes by Angie Ruzicka May 3, 2023

President Dave Hawkins called the meeting to order. Board members present: Russ Davies, Jean Harris, Denise Bean, Laura Osinga, Jorry Rolfe, Maryanne Reiter, Denise Rubenstein, Angie Ruzicka. Others present: Dave Cooper, Lana Lindstrom, Jim Northrop.

The Board approved the minutes for April 5 and April 24.

Treasurer's Report (Laura Osinga): Laura reviewed the year-to-date income, expenses, and balance sheet. The Board approved the bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Climbs (Maryanne Reiter): The Climbs Committee sponsored a very successful Climb School this year. We had 28 eager students for 4 classroom and 2 field sessions. This year the weather cooperated perfectly for the rock and snow field sessions. After expenses, Climb School brought in \$3,611.86, which was split with Eugene Mountain Rescue. The committee is now focused on sponsoring conditioning hikes, climbs, and deciding on additional skills classes.

Conservation/SciEd (Jorry Rolfe and Angie Ruzicka): Sue Wolling led a tour of the Rexius Coburg Organics Production Facility. Read her trip report in the May *Bulletin* for more information and educational tips about recycling.

Finance (Susan Zeni): We reached out to several other insurance agencies and asked our own agent to look for a competing quote on our liability and lodge insurance. We were unable to find a second insurance quote for multiple reasons, including the lodge's location in the woods and the offsite risks our activities entail. We did receive an offer to renew our insurance with Liberty Mutual. The price rose \$576 to \$4,665 annually. The Finance Committee recommends the Obsidian Board approve the new insurance quote. We will receive a quote in May for the renewal of our accident insurance.

Publicity (Marci Hansen): Working with Maryanne and Scott Timms, we worked with Hop Valley to print leader shirts. I posted the shirts on Instagram and Facebook after approval from Hop Valley. Working with Maryanne, Carla, and Trina, the Obsidians shared a table with Crux and Eugene Mountain Rescue at the Banff Film Festival. I had Obsidian stickers made with a QR code. When you scan the QR code it takes you to the front page of the Obsidians site to see what activities are coming up. They seemed to be really well-received at the festival. I have another 80 or so of the stickers if anyone wants to hand them out at events, etc. Just let me know, I can get them to you. Carla and I put together raffle items with Obsidians and Hop Valley items. They were raffled off each of the two nights with the Obsidians being announced on stage in front of all the festival attendees. Hop Valley also gave stickers, free drink cards, and coasters to hand out at the table. I gave access to Facebook to Ane McKee so she can post directly about potlucks, GameNight! etc. The Obsidians Facebook and Instagram pages continue to be popular and active. The Obsidians Facebook page has about 1,300 followers and averages about 20 likes per post. The Obsidians Instagram page has 409 followers and averages about 35 likes per post. If anyone has an event they would

like posted on Facebook/Instagram, email me or text me (360) 852-2041 and I can post it for you. Actionable posts do MUCH better. An event that isn't full where people can sign up is great. Also, photos do much better, not created posters. It also is much less work for you. Just send me a photo or image and what you want the post to say, no need to create something.

Safety (Lyndell Wilken): Arrangements were made to distribute first aid supplies at the leaders training May 16. A CPR class for Obsidian leaders and members is scheduled for May 31. A document was created outlining the duties of the safety chair position. The AED was checked. The name of the Safety Policies and Procedures was changed to Safety Manual. All the current corrections to the Safety Manual were sent to John Jacobsen to update the online documents through 2023.

Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom): Summer Camp sign-ups set a new record—90 participants in 25 minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

Web Design Project (Dave Hawkins): A group of 12 who use the website heavily will meet May 12 to look at the prototype for functionality. Other folks have access and will be able to peruse the website. Dave will send out a feedback form for providing input.

Strategic Planning (Maryanne Reiter): Met on April 26. Discussed the website and archiving. They are looking at different programs for archiving because folks aren't happy with Google Docs. They also discussed liability insurance and WiFi to the Lodge. Another alternative is to purchase a hotspot for use. It is also possible to check out a hotspot from the Public Library for free.

Bylaws Update Committee (Dave Hawkins): The committee is almost ready to present to the Board. After reviewing, the Board will present the changes to the general membership at the annual meeting October 13.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee (Lana Lindstrom): The committee (Jim Northrop, Denise Rubenstein, Lana Lindstrom, Karen Yoerger, Dave Hawkins) met on Monday May 1. They will report back to the Board in June.

Eugene Mountain Rescue's (EMR) Involvement with Climb School (Maryanne Reiter): After 45 years, EMR, which is under the Lane County Sheriff's office, has decided not to partner with the Obsidians for Climb School due to liability concerns. It is not clear how this will impact Climb School in the future.

OPEN AGENDA ITEMS

Noted that Mazamas believe they will qualify for property tax relief. Denise Bean will investigate further and reach out to others for examples of our activities that would help us meet the criteria.

Discussed discontinuing Ferrell gas for the fireplace in the Lodge lobby.

Discussed the possibility of trail work at Mt. Pisgah or around the Lodge.

ADJOURNMENT

PHOTO DISPLAY IN THE SCHERER ROOM

DAVE PREDEEK'S EDUCATIONAL POSTER DISPLAY in the Scherer Room covers the flora of four mountainous regions of Oregon: The Willows, Steens Mountain, Spanish Peak in the Ochocos, and the Three Sisters Wilderness.



Silene acaulis, moss campion, is circumpolar species.



Castilleja sp. Indian paintbrush grows out of crevice



Wyethia helianthoides at Boeing Field, a flat open ridgetop in Ochoco



Pedicularis groenlandica, elephant's head

Dave has been taking pictures since the age of eight. He has used his photography skills in his 27 years with the U.S. Forest Service, in his 40 years as a member of the Native Plant Society of Oregon, and his 46 years as an Obsidian. Thank you, Dave, for sharing your beautiful and informative photographs.



Chief Joseph Mtn: *Dryas* in foreground.



Collomia larsenii grows from volcanic cinders near timberline on Tam McArthur Rim.

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Includes two sets of tires:
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OBSIDIAN CALENDAR

June

13 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M** Young 941-780-4156
 14 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Meacham 214-8827
 15 Thu **GameNight!** at the Lodge McKee 554-1364
 16 Fri Mt Jefferson Climb **D** Harris 521-5807
 17 Sat Cascade Head Hike **M** Blumm 228-0217
 18 Sun Mt June (via Lost Creek) Hike **M** Yoerger 510-2832
 18 Sun Yachats to Tillicum beach walk Hike **M** Sigrist 916-612-5517
 19 Mon Yachats overnigher/beach house CarCmp **M** .Hovis 731-3412
 20 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M** Young 941-780-4156
 21 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Smith 520-488-9569
 21 Wed Mt Pisgah Summer Solstice Hike **M** Jacobsen 206-1251
 23 Fri Pisgah East Side Loop Hike **M** Hawkins 505-0119
 24 Sat Mt Thielsen Climb **D** Reiter 521-8472
 25 Sun North Fork Trail (Segment 1) Hike **E** Hackett 953-7046
 27 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M** Young 941-780-4156
 27 Tue Cape Perpetua CarCmp **M** Hougardy 206-9532
 27 Tue 52nd to Blanton (Evening) Hike **E** ... Van Liefde 949-677-1379
 28 Wed Trail Maintenance TrlMnt **M** Bell 503-884-8829
 28 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Clifford 915-5434
 28 Wed Macduff Mountain Hike **M** Johnson 520-2470
 29 Thu Castle Rock via King Castle Hike **D** Yoerger 510-2832

July

1 Sat Middle Sister Climb **D** Reiter 525-1709
 1 Sat Mt Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike **M** Jacobsen 206-1251
 1 Sat Marion Mountain Hike **D** Johnson 520-2470
 2 Sun Patterson Mountain Hike **E** Hackett 953-7046
 4 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M** Young 941-780-4156
 4 Tue Obsidians Butte to Butte Hike **E** Sojak 799-9199
 5 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Jacobsen 206-1251
 5 Wed Tunnel Falls Hike **D** Johnson 520-2470
 5 Wed Evening hike: Pre's Trail Hike **E** ... Van Liefde 949-677-1379
 8 Sat Get Acquainted / Ribbon Trail Hike **E** TBA
 11 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M** Young 941-780-4156
 11 Tue **GameNight!** at the Lodge Anson 228-8722
 12 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Clifford 915-5434
 15 Sat Millican Crater Explora Hike **M** Sojak 799-9199
 16 Sun Black Crater Sunrise Hike **D** Sojak 799-9199

18Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M** Young 941-780-4156
 19Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Rubenstein 248-514-5092
 22 Sat Annual Beach Barefoot Hike **M** Sojak 799-9199
 22 Sat Mt Thielsen Climb **D** Marlow 925-899-6399
 25 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M** Young 941-780-4156
 26 Wed Trail Maintenance TrlMnt **M** Bell 503-884-8829
 26 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Sigrist 916-612-5517
 29 Sat Mt Washington Climb **D** Hansen 360-852-2041

August

2 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Morray 953-5679
 4 Fri Pisgah East Side Loop Hike **M** Anderson 805-798-1842
 6 Sun Sawtooth Mountains SmCmp **M** Johnson 520-2470
 9 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Smith 520-488-9569
 12 Sat Broken Top Climb **D** Timms 713-492-1547
 16 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Wright 919-225-8160
 19 Sat Mt McLoughlin Climb **D** Willhite 406-570-4514
 26 Sat Three Fingered Jack Climb **D** Memurdo 206-714-1655
 30 Wed Trail Maintenance TrlMnt **M** Bell 503-884-8829

September

6 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Anderson 805-798-1842
 7 Thu Love A Lake: Rosary Lakes WrkPrty **M** Wilken 343-3080
 11 Mon Paulina Lake Car Camp CarCmp **M** Metcalfe 221-5702
 12 Tue Fuji Mountain Hike **D** Wilken 343-3080
 13 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Jacobsen 206-1251
 23 Sat National Public Lands Day TrlMnt **M** Bell 503-884-8829
 29 Fri Birding in Colombia—Randy Sinnott Potluck

October

4 Wed Amazon Headwaters Hike **M** Rolfe 206-9501
 27 Fri Patagonia—Valerie Metcalfe **Potluck**
 28 Sat Trail Maintenance TrlMnt **M** Bell 503-884-8829

November

17 Fri Presentation by Marli Miller **Potluck**
 25 Sat Trail Maintenance TrlMnt **M** Bell 503-884-8829

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION about our activities, visit the Obsidians website: www.obsidians.org



Obsidian Trail Maintenance Schedule

Ridgeline Trail/Spencer Butte Trail

Wednesday June 28, 5:30–8 PM
 Wednesday July 26, 5:30–8 PM
 Wednesday August 30, 5:30–8 PM
 Saturday September 23, 9 AM–noon
National Public Lands Day

Sign up online when trip is posted.
 For details, email Matt Bell
 at trails@obsidians.org
 or stewardship@obsidians.org



AT THE LODGE

**Thursday, June 15
 & Tuesday, July 11
 4:30–7:30 PM
 Come join the fun!**



OBSIDIANS
P.O. BOX 51510
EUGENE, OR 97405

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June 2023



*View of the Columbia River from Menucha. Photo by Nancy Whitfield.
See the Columbia Gorge Hiking, Wildflowers and Waterfalls trip report on page 13.*

ENJOY the photos in color! ONLINE *Bulletin* at www.obsidians.org