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**Dates to Remember**

March 29	Potluck
March 29	Bulletin Deadline
April 3	Board Meeting

Current event schedules at:  
[www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

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**Website Progress—Slow but Steady**

*Diane Schechter*

**W**ORK IS CONTINUING ON MANY DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE NEW WEBSITE. We are scheduled to transfer data from our current website sometime in the coming weeks. We will be testing the new website and identifying any issues that need to be addressed before we finalize the transition. During this time, our current site will be used for all signups.

Our priority is to be sure everyone is comfortable using the new website!

We will be scheduling several sessions at the Lodge for members who need a little extra help or are experiencing difficulties. We will also have members available to help via telephone. There will be special training sessions for leaders and committee chairs.

We will be sending emails to our members with training dates and other information. Please keep an eye out for these! We will also post updates on the website.

We recognize that this changeover will be very challenging. However, there will be many aspects which will be easier and which will better serve the needs of our membership. By the time of our next renewal period, members will be able to renew and pay online. Members will also have the option to sign up for notifications about upcoming hikes, climbs, overnights, and more. Finally, we look forward to better engaging the community about the Obsidians so we can continue to grow and thrive.



*Sneak peek at the new website.*

**Obsidians Mission:**

Connecting our community to the mountains, waters, and trails of the great outdoors through exploration, education, and stewardship.

# Splash

Mike Smith

**A** GRAY OCTOBER MORNING, THIRD DAY OUT WITHOUT SEEING ANYBODY, AND I WAS TRYING TO MAKE UP TIME. I had been tent bound the prior day because of a cold, hard rain, and needed to make decent miles before the early sunset. I hoped the weather would hold, although cloudy skies showed little promise. I had traveled perhaps five of the eighteen miles I needed to go, and was paddling up Spoon Creek in the eastern Boundary Waters, when I suddenly sensed something ahead.

Right around the corner were a moose and calf. Right *there*. Fortunately, unlike four months earlier, when I passed a moose and newborn calf on a lake and needed to out-paddle a swimming angry cow, this calf was larger and the cow just stared at me. I had my paddle in the water, using it to brake, but I had no room to either back up or move sideways if she charged me. She didn't, and the two quietly left. I was on schedule later that afternoon. The following day, I paddled in dense fog, the day after in a blizzard, and before I finished would see three more moose, one more day of snow, and no people.

On the canoe trips my wife and I took, we had a joke that I was *expected* to find a moose, and nature often delivered. I never go into the wild expecting to see something. I try to put myself in the right place and hope I get lucky. I certainly have been. Showing up in the wilderness and showing up in life are important parts of success.

On one trip, our moose sighting was a bull seen by a back road on our way to the jumping off point to Lac La Croix in the western Quetico Provincial Park. We encountered one on a portage coming into Basswood Lake, where I kept the canoe on my head longer than planned so my wife could join me and see it 10 yards away. There was the last day out on a moose-less trip, when I went down to the lake to get water, looked down the shore, and saw a cow standing in the lake 50 yards away. I got my wife's attention and motioned her to come down. The country had delivered its annual moose sighting.

We saw our 1996 moose at the end of the first of what would be a 15-portage day from the Frost River to Cherokee Lake in the Boundary Waters. Eight years later, we saw one swimming across a lake towards us, initially impossible to identify because there were so many branches stuck in his antlers that he looked like a motorized tree.

In 2010, we were at our favorite campsite on Lake Insula, which would be our last time there, a year before the Pagami Creek fire. The site was at the head of a small bay, and few ever left the main travel channel through the lake to go there. It was quiet with great views, lovely ledge rock that the Canadian Shield is known for. After dinner, I went to look out over the bay and at the sunset. I carried binoculars just in case I saw something; if I stayed out past dark, I could check out the Double Cluster in Perseus or Andromeda Galaxy.

It was calm and well into nautical twilight, where light is too dim to read by, and the first stars are visible, when I heard a distant, odd sound with two components. I looked with my binoculars then quickly ran to get my wife. There was a bull moose on the far shore, walking right at water's edge—clop, splash, clop, splash. Water carries sound well. We listened to the distant clop, splash for another minute in deepening darkness until he turned into the woods and both he and the sound disappeared.

See you on the trail. Any wildlife sighting is a gift.



## OBSIDIANS

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405  
Website: [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)

### Officers & Board of Directors

Dave Hawkins, President  
Denise Rubenstein, Vice President  
Angie Ruzicka, Secretary  
Laura Osinga, Treasurer  
Dave Cooper, Russ Davies, Jean Harris,  
Maryanne Reiter, Denise Rubenstein,  
Lisa Van Liefde, Sue Zeni

*Board meetings are held at 6:00 PM the first Wednesday of each month, except October when it is the Wednesday after the Annual Meeting. There is no August meeting.*

### Committee Chairpersons

Bus (Interim)..... Jim Northrop  
Climbs ..... Maryanne Reiter  
Concessions..... Carla Cooper  
Conservation/SciEd..... Angie Ruzicka  
Entertainment..... Ane McKee  
Extended Trips ..... Lana Lindstrom  
Finance..... Susan Zeni  
Lodge Building ..... Dave Cooper  
Lodge Grounds (Interim) ..... Jim Northrop  
Librarian/Historian..... Bea Fontana  
Membership ..... Diane Schechter  
Online (Interim) ..... Bob Eriksen  
Publications..... Lou Maenz  
Publicity .... D. Rubenstein & L. Van Liefde  
Safety ..... Lyndell Wilken & John Miller  
Stewardship..... Darko Sojak  
Summer Camp..... Lana Lindstrom  
Trips ..... Dave Cooper

## The OBSIDIAN Bulletin

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

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**The Obsidian Bulletin**

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

### Deadline

for April Bulletin  
Friday, March 29

### Editorial Team

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Janet Jacobsen, Lou Maenz

*Copy Editors:*

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*Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing:*

Carla Cooper, Bea Fontana, Stewart Hoeg

### Assembly/Mailing Team

*Manager:* Lou Maenz

*Assistant Manager:* Nancy Raymond

*Team:* Tom Adamcyk, Kristen Anderson,  
Don Baldwin, Barbara Gunther,  
Yuan Hopkins, Judy Newman

# Obsidian Honorary Members 1930–2023

**P**ERSONS WHO HAVE RENDERED DISTINGUISHED SERVICES TO THE CLUB or are eminent for achievements in exploration, science, or art shall be eligible for Honorary Membership.

Those who have received the honor would agree with these words from an acceptance speech: *I am humbled by this honor. I never saw myself joining the previous honorary members who were a driving force in the club. I had no idea when I joined what adventures awaited me. I have made the best of friends and have shared so much with all of you.*

## Chronology of Honorary Members

The bio excerpts are from archival Memory Books and logbooks, *Bulletin* articles, obituaries, and the online accounts.

- 1930 John Straub (1853–1932)** He left the first registry summit book on Middle Sister in 1892. A University of Oregon faculty member for 52 years, Lit. D., Emeritus Dean of Men, he was called “Grand Old Man of Oregon.” He initiated the campus beautification project when there were only two trees on campus and was known for taking students up Spencer Butte. Straub Hall on campus was named in his honor. He is buried at the Pioneer Cemetery.
- 1932 Louis F. Henderson (1853–1942)** Became curator of the U of O Herbarium in 1925, he was a research professor in plant biology. He spent summers collecting to curate a rich and useful northwest plant collection. Sixteen species have his name. At the 1933 Green Lakes Summer camp, he and three others made a collection of botanical specimens for campers to enjoy. [\*Oregon Encyclopedia - Henderson, Louis F. \(1853-1942\)\*](#)
- 1942 John F. Bovard (1881–1966)** Charter Member, First President 1928 and 1929. Three Peak Award. First Dean of Physical Education at the University of Oregon. Wrote the *Obsidian History 1927–1933*. Speaker at the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1957.
- 1943 J. Dorr Hamlin (1871–1955)** President 1935. Three Peak Award. After his death there were 200 contributions for the Lodge memorial fireplace in his honor. [\*Obsidian Bulletin February 2018 \(page 4\)\*](#)
- 1947 David Faville (1899–1970)** Three Peak Award. While attending the second summer camp, he wrote the *Obsidian Song*. He was Dean, School of Business Admin. U of O before moving on to Stanford.
- 1952 Dr. Omar Gullion (1878–1959)** President 1941. Three Peak Award. He promoted weekly folk dances, *Obsidian Songbooks*, *Obsidian Bulletin*, and work parties for the *Obsidian Belknap Cabin*.
- 1968 Ruth Onthank (1894–1978)** Prominent conservationist along with her husband Karl. They were the “initiators and early spirit of the Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness Organization” as described in the book *Saving Wilderness in the Oregon Cascades*, 1999. Ruth and Karl Lakes named in their honor can be viewed from Lowder Mountain.
- 1970 Stewart P. McLaughlin (1913–1979)** Donated Memorial Climbing Wall for his son Mark McLaughlin who died on Mt. McKinley July 1967 along with member Jerry Clark.
- 1978 Florence Ogden Sims (1892–1990)** President 1943. Charter member (Mrs. Glenn Sims) First woman to receive the Three Peak award. Her alpenstock is hanging at the Lodge. She was on the 1931 MacDuff hike to place the memorial plaque. [\*Obsidian Bulletin February 2007\*](#)
- 1979 Mark Bailey Castelloe (1891–1984)** President 1936, Ten Peak Award, 462 trips. After 50 years, he was awarded honorary membership. He donated time and materials to help build the Lodge. Loved skiing. He wrote: “I compliment you all on 52 happy and successful *Obsidian* years and am confident the next 50 will be even better.”
- 1980 Ray Sims (1901–1980)** Charter Member. President 1958. Ten Peak Award. He was the club’s historian and photographer. He liked skiing, hiking, and climbing. Made 30 ascents of North Sister taking photographs annually of the shrinking Collier Glacier. A Cy Fulton painting of his Mt. Jefferson climb is at the Lodge.
- 1981 Clifford Stalsberg (1904–1984)** President in 1934 and 1942. Ten Peak Award. Longtime leader and climber.
- 1985 Clarence Landes (1900–1988)** Lodge and Ground Chair, trips and climbs chair. Ten Peak Award. Led many climbs and liked to hike Spencer Butte in all kinds of weather. [\*Obsidian Bulletin October 1985\*](#)
- 1999 Bob Dark (1926–2010)** President 1964. Ten Peak Award. Longtime leader of trips and climbs, essential part of many summer camps, [\*Obsidian Bulletin March 2008 \(page 3\)\*](#)
- 2000 Gene Thaxton (1926–2006)** President 1982. Ten Peak Award. He mentored many climbers to have successful climbing experiences, quietly active in the maintenance of the Lodge and other committee activities. [\*Obsidian Bulletin April 2006 \(page 4\)\*](#)
- 2001 Lloyd Plaisted (1926–2002)** President 1956. Ten Peak Award. Longtime leader of trips and climbs, chaired five summer camps.
- 2002 Wes Prouty (1930–)** President 1973. Ten Peak Award. Longtime leader of trips and climbs, chaired five summer camps, built the Lodge dining tables, the fireplace mantel, the storage vault, the boardroom cabinets, the twenty-six heritage juniper frames, the bookcases, magazine stand, summer camp tables. [\*Obsidian Bulletin November 2013\*](#)
- 2007 William Sullivan (1953–)** Author of numerous Oregon trail guides and presented programs for January potlucks. [\*Obsidian Bulletin July 2007\*](#)
- 2010 Ray Jensen (1925–2021)** A stalwart of the Bus Committee for years, he led many successful trips. [\*Obsidian Bulletin September 2010 \(page 3\)\*](#)
- 2011 Lenore McManigal (1926–2023)** Ten Peak Award. She and her husband attended their first summer camp with their young sons in 1964 at Table Lake. The 2002 Summer Camp was named after them for continued Summer Camp involvement. She was Librarian/Historian for 30 years. [\*Obsidian Bulletin September 2011 \(page 5\)\*](#)

*(Continued on page 4)*



(Honorary Members, continued from page 3)

- 2012 Janet Jacobsen (1941–)** President 1993. Ten Peak Award. Compleat Obsidian Award. Led many trips, started the Wednesday hikes, chaired Entertainment, Publicity, Trips, and 90<sup>th</sup> celebration committees. Initiated the Trip Awards. Wrote many summer camp skits. [Obsidian Bulletin June 2012](#)
- 2013 John Jacobsen (1947–)** President 1988, 2001, 2005, 2011. Three Peak Award. Chaired Climbs, Lodge Grounds, Membership, Science and Education, Online committees, and six summer camps. Led Lodge expansion and renovation project. Developed the Obsidian website in 2000 and the online signup system in 2010. [Obsidian Bulletin July 2013](#)
- 2023 Lana Lindstrom (1948–)** Compleat Obsidian Award. Served on the Board and multiple committees, chaired and led Extended Trips, served on the Summer Camp Committee for many years chairing seven of them. Led hikes, snow trips, paddle trips, and bike trips, and was a frequent potluck presenter. [Obsidian Bulletin September 2023](#) (page 3)

Compiled by the Librarian/Historian Committee 2024  
(Based on a list originally compiled by Rick Ahrens)



## FROM THE OBSIDIAN ARCHIVES Obsidians Laugh Librarian/Historian Committee

**F**ROM THE EARLIEST DAYS OF THE OBSIDIANS CLUB, MEMBERS HAVE BEEN A CREATIVE AND FUN-LOVING LOT. As the Library/Historian Committee digs through documents and photos in the Obsidian Archives, we often stumble upon archeological evidence of this. Some of it is just too good to keep to ourselves. We found these gems gathering dust.

The committee hopes to continue sharing our finds in upcoming *Bulletins*.

### First—a bit of Obsidians history provides context:

Member and architect Tom Taylor offered these Lodge history memories for the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary:

*We had some \$4,500 of savings available and a city lot. It seemed a small city lot worth \$12,000 and \$4,500 building budget was askew. We decided to buy a larger, cheaper piece of property and sell the city lot. Some time was spent on the search with about a half dozen properties considered. The present piece was decided on because it was about 4.5 acres for about our \$4,500. Besides, it was remote and in the Oregon woods—perfect for an outdoor club. At the time, 30<sup>th</sup> Ave had not been built and the N.W. corner of the property had access only by a dirt road. No utilities were on-site—a daunting venture with a real piece of adventure and hard work ahead. A rough road was hand-cleared, the building site and parking hand-cleared...*

The 4½ acres were purchased in 1959 for \$6,500 and Lodge construction began the following year.

### An article in the April 1963 *Bulletin*— a vision of the property's future:

#### DREAMS OF THE FUTURE

Picture in your mind the Obsidian Lodge a few years hence. Our four acres will be a park in the midst of homes and perhaps some business's. Streets will run in both directions all over those hill sides. Our place will be as an oasis and will be as much in demand as an oasis in the sands of the Sahara. An idle dream? No! This is going to happen. The area around our property is going to become the most desirable home section in the Eugene area.

APRIL 1963  
THE OBSIDIAN

Jump forward to April 2007 to read in the *Bulletin*  
another Obsidian vision of the future:

## Obsidian Trip Report Generator

By Janet Jacobsen

**ON AN EXTENDED TRIP TO CRATER LAKE IN LATE MARCH 2007**, Obsidians gathered for breakfast at the Prospect Hotel on the last morning and heard Janet Jacobsen announce the release of her husband John's new Trip Report Generator.

*A few members said they would lead if they didn't have to write that darn trip report. I'd like to announce that we now have an Obsidian Report Generator. I'm not going to let John talk about it because it will be too technical. Just let me tell you how easy it works—and you don't need a password. When our leader Sharon Ritchie goes home tonight and starts to write her trip report about Crater Lake, she will just type in her name and the name of the trip. The Obsidian Report Generator will compile all of her 100 trip reports (she has led over 100 trips) and trip reports on Crater Lake for the last 50 years. When the report pops up, Sharon can make changes. For example, if the report says that we are a congenial group, she can click on congenial and pick a more appropriate word for our behavior. Unfortunately, the one thing it won't do is tell the world that Sharon is a fantastic and totally awesome leader. Everyone at the breakfast table cheered and added other adjectives. At this point, a suspicious Keith Newsom looked at his watch and then asked, "What day is this?" I replied, "April Fools."*

Everyone started laughing but many were disappointed that the Obsidian Report Generator was not yet invented. (Seventeen years later, even with AI, they are still waiting.)

# Revisiting the New Carissa

*Jim Pierce*

**T**WENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, THE NEW CARISSA FREIGHTER SHIP RAN AGROUND DURING AN OREGON WINTER STORM. Its resting place was an isolated sand beach north of Coos Bay. The vessel held 400,000 gallons of bunker fuel that was leaking into the ocean. State (and Federal) agencies made the problem far worse by exploding the shipwreck, which released about 70,000 gallons of bunker C oil, all at once. The ship broke into two halves. The bow section was soon towed out to sea and sunk. The stern section remained stranded on the beach.

Fast forward nine years to 2008. The State of Oregon compounded their blundering. They decided to spend about \$20,000,000 to dismantle the remaining half of the shipwreck instead of leaving it as a tourist attraction like the Peter Iredale at Fort Stevens State Park.

Well, that only gave us Obsidians a few months to visit the iconic shipwreck. The New Carissa wreck location and access pathways were surprisingly obscure, considering the barrage of publicity. I led two interesting, but unsuccessful Obsidian outing attempts to find the New Carissa. However, the third time was the charm for the twenty-one Obsidians and friends on our March 9, 2008 outing titled *New Carissa (finally)*. We had wonderful weather and hiked a mile across the sand spit to the ocean. Then we turned south and walked another mile on the sandy beach to the New Carissa. The remaining wreckage was about 50 yards offshore with waves crashing up its sides.

The outing provided a ‘two for’ since a much older shipwreck, the Olson, had been partly uncovered during another set of storms. About half of our group hiked another four miles (round trip) on the sandy beach to the exposed wooden shipwreck from 1944. It was a long, but beautiful hike in the sand. The ocean had long since removed the pollution and left the remaining hulk of the wooden ship to deteriorate with the winter storms.

For more information: Jim’s 2008 trip report

[www.obsidians.org/bulletin/Issues/2008\\_Bulletins/2008\\_04\\_Bulletin.pdf](http://www.obsidians.org/bulletin/Issues/2008_Bulletins/2008_04_Bulletin.pdf)

*The New Carissa disaster, 25 years later. The Register-Guard, February 7, 2024*

<https://www.registerguard.com/story/news/2024/02/07/mv-new-carissa-environmental-disaster-history/72484297007/>

*Editor’s Note: Jim Pierce was President in 2010, awarded the Ten Peak Patch and 75 Leader Patch. He now lives in Gresham but has stayed in touch by attending summer camps.*



*The stern of the New Carissa. Photo by Jim Pierce.*

# FEBRUARY BOARD NOTES

February 7, 2024

From minutes by Angie Ruzicka

Dave Hawkins called the meeting to order. Board members present: Dave Cooper, Jean Harris, Maryanne Reiter, Denise Rubenstein, Angie Ruzicka, Lisa Van Liefde, Sue Zeni. Others present: Carla Cooper, Bob Eriksen, Lana Lindstrom, John Miller, Jim Northrop, Lyndell Wilken.

The Board approved the minutes for the December 6 Board Meeting.

**Treasurer's Report (Laura Osinga):** Sue Zeni presented the year-to-date income and expenses as well as the balance sheet. 990 non-profit tax return is nearly complete; Vanguard investments gained \$3,300. The bills were approved.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Bus Trips (Jim Northrop - interim):** The Bus Trips Committee will hold a meeting at the Lodge on March 7 at noon to plan bus trips for 2024. All are welcome to attend.

**Climbs (Maryanne Reiter):** The Climbs Committee kicked off the 2024 climbing season with a Zoom meeting on Jan. 18. We started organizing Climb School 2024 as well as addressing other climbs topics. The Chair of the Climbs Committee also worked on having the Obsidians sponsor a wilderness first aid class. It will be held June 1–2.

**Concessions (Carla Cooper):** We have a new supply of long and short sleeve T-shirts in performance fabric as well as cotton and cotton blends. We also are taking orders for fleece vests with zippered pockets. Our January sales totaled \$96.

**Entertainment (Ane McKee):** We were happy to have Bill Sullivan continue as our regular January Potluck & Presentation speaker. He entertained about 85 folks with stories from some of his non-hiking books. Thank you, Evelyn Nagy, for emceeding the evening. We held another fun GameNight! evening at the Lodge on January 9.

**Extended Trips (Lana Lindstrom):** Lisa Van Liefde jumped at an unexpected opportunity to reserve two units at Shelter Cove over a weekend for an Obsidian extended trip. Thank you, Lisa and Assistant Leader Emily Rice, for leading this trip for 14 persons February 23–25.

**Librarian/Historian (Bea Fontana):** Janet provided information for Karen Seidel's *In Memoriam* in the February *Bulletin* and also to Charley Wright for his tribute to Karen in their Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association e-newsletter. For the third year, John Jacobsen provided trip and leader summary labels for members' activity log sheets, calculated from the online database as of December 31, 2023. Janet added the labels to members' log sheets. Bert has completed scanning the logbooks, which were closed on December 31. (There will be no further entries made onto members' log sheets.) The committee will be reevaluating the space available for secure storage of the logbooks and other archived materials at the Lodge.

**Publicity (Denise Rubenstein & Lisa Van Liefde):** The Committee met on January 22 and reviewed and discussed the committee action plan.

**Safety (Lyndell Wilken):** Plans were made for our first in-person safety committee meeting since COVID. AED was checked. First aid kit inventory started.

**Science Education (Angie Ruzicka):** We sponsored one event in January, a film screening of the movie *Land Trust*, at the UO Museum of Natural and Cultural History.

**Stewardship (Darko Sojak):** A total of twenty-nine volunteers worked on three trail maintenance outings, cleaning local trails littered by mid-January ice storm.

**Summer Camp (Lana Lindstrom):** Denise Rubenstein volunteered to find and hire a caterer and after lots of searching, found a great one! Crave Catering has stellar reviews. The committee will be setting the fees shortly. The Rally will be at the Lodge on March 29.

**Trips (Dave Cooper):** In January we completed 15 trips and didn't take in any fees. On a positive note there are more stewardship activities.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Creating New Education Income and Expenditure Categories (Sue Zeni):** The Board was in consensus to create these new categories to facilitate sponsoring the National Outdoor Leadership Wilderness First Aid class June 1–2.

**2023 Asset Investment Policy Compliance Review (Sue Zeni):** At the end of December, we had the following investments: 11% Money Market, 46% short term, and 43% Stock Market which are currently within the desired ranges. Sue recommends that we leave things the way they are for now. When we need cash to complete the website design process, we will decide where to take the funds from.

**Recreational Immunity (Dave Cooper):** Dave requested the Board endorse adding the Obsidians to the list of organizations supporting the Oregon Trails Coalition. The coalition is working to re-establish Recreational Immunity in Oregon. Motion passed.

**Practices and Policies Amendment Proposal for Stewardship (Darko Sojak/Angie Ruzicka):** Matt Bell contacted Stewardship chair Darko Sojak to request granting of trail maintenance badges to participants for volunteering 15 times. Angie will check the language in the Policies and Practices about requirements for earning patches and bring a proposal to the board if needed.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Report on Website and Data Project (Dave Cooper):** Several people have been testing the new website. Carla has been creating how-to directions for leaders and chairs along with videos that are helpful for folks learning the new system. There have been two trainings for leaders to learn the process to both schedule and complete trips (including trip report). There will be additional trainings for leaders and then committee chairs. There will be an article in the March *Bulletin* with an update.

## OPEN AGENDA ITEMS

Laura Osinga will be resigning as treasurer due to time commitments. She is willing to continue for 3–5 months until we find a replacement.

## ADJOURNMENT





# Summer Camp Rally, March 29

**I**F YOU'VE EVER BEEN TO THE NORTH CASCADES, you know that it is an incredibly beautiful place. Everyone at Camp Fontana will be in for a real treat!

The Summer Camp Rally and potluck at the Obsidians Lodge will kick things off with a presentation about the great things to come—fantastic trips, lots of familiar faces, good food, and plenty of excitement.

Camp Fontana will be based at Silver Lake Campground, which features a lake (of course), proximity to great trails, a variety of other possible activities, and nearby Canada—for those inclined to plan a pre- or post-trip extension. The trails vary in difficulty from easy to hard, and feature wildflower and heather meadows, alpine lakes, stunning mountains, cirques, steep cliffs, deep valleys, and possible sightings of mountain goats, marmots, and ptarmigan. A drive along the wild North Fork of the Nooksack River reveals roaring rapids, deep chasms, and a cross-section of North Cascades geology.

The Obsidians are happy to announce that the cost of the 2024 Summer Camp will be the same as last year: \$270 for members and \$310 for nonmembers. Once everyone at the Rally sees the gorgeous photos of the wildflower meadows, glaciated peaks, and old growth forests around Mount Baker, there will be considerable interest in attending, so please note the following important dates:

• **March 29:** The Day of Membrance (or Re-membrance) This is the last day to join or renew your membership in the Obsidians so you can register for Summer Camp as a member. You can bring a check and membership form to the Rally.

- **March 29:** Summer Camp Rally/Potluck at the Obsidian Lodge. Come see photos of the Mount Baker area, get important information about camp, and feel the excitement start to build as you plan a week in spectacular country with your hiking friends, old and new.
- **April 20, 7 AM:** Summer Camp registration opens for Obsidian members (as of March 29) only. Sign up early to secure one of the coveted 90 slots!
- **April 22, 7 AM:** Summer Camp registration opens for non-members. There's likely already to be a Wait List at this point, but don't give up. Historically, most people on the Wait List end up being able to attend Camp.
- **August 12–18:** Summer Camp.



*Photo by Lana Lindstrom.*

## Treasurer Recruitment

*Dave Hawkins, President*

**O**UR PRESENT ORGANIZATION TREASURER, LAURA OSINGA, has found it necessary to resign and has indicated she will be stepping aside in the next few months. We are in need of someone willing and able to take on this responsibility. If you, or someone you know, may be interested, please contact Dave Hawkins ([drhawk1@aol.com](mailto:drhawk1@aol.com) or 541-505-0119), and he can share in some detail the time and work involved.

## Welcome New Members!

**Fletcher Bell**  
Eugene, OR 97401

**Mustapha Elshwahyk**  
Veneta, OR 97487

**Sheri Gabert**  
Eugene, OR 97405

**Sam Hillmann**  
Eugene, OR 97401

**Cici Mclay**  
Eugene OR 97404

**Karen Pleasant**  
Eugene, OR 97405

**Gretchen Sotomayor**  
Eugene, OR 97401

**Jamie Sullivan**  
Springfield, OR 97478

## TRIP REPORTS



### Bike Trips

#### Harlow-Coburg-Harlow

February 3, 2024

Leader: Darko Sojak

Photographer: Wim Aarts

Bike: 15 miles, 100 ft. (Easy)

**A** SUNNY FEBRUARY SATURDAY WITH FRIENDS OLD AND NEW, and some good road cycling. Members: Wim Aarts, David Clinger, Anna Maria Hundseder-Aarts, Gwyneth Iredale, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak.



*At Norma Pfeiffer Park, Coburg.*



### Extended Trips

#### Shelter Cove

February 23, 2024

Leader: Lisa Van Liefde

Assistant Leader: Emily Rice

Photographer: Darko Sojak

Extended Trip: (Moderate)

**B**EAUTIFUL SUNSETS, SUNRISES, AND A FULL MOON, comfortable lodging with a great view of the lake and mountains to the north, delicious dinners, and friendly, flexible people made for a great three-day adventure. On Friday we all drove up to Gold Lake Sno-Park. As the area hadn't had significant new snow for a week, the snow conditions were ok for snowshoers, but very icy for the skiers. Nine snowshoers and three skiers chose to venture to Midnight Lake, the two other skiers had fun on the roads just out of the Sno-Park. Friday night dinner was Mediterranean appetizers, veggie and turkey lasagna, greens and pear salad, French bread, and cookies. Very tasty. Several people chose to cap off the day with a walk under the full moon. Saturday was a bluebird day.

Nine people chose to snowshoe up stunning Trapper Creek in the Diamond Peak Wilderness. Route-finding without blue diamonds was a little tricky at times. Snowshoeing close to a creek as beautiful as Trapper Creek is just a special experience in the winter! The other participants checked out Odell Lake Lodge and the Maklaks trails just north of the lodge. Route-finding there was also a challenge for the skiers as the roads/trails on the ground did not match those on older maps and current apps. Saturday evening dinner was a taco bar with more cookies for dessert! It was followed by a rousing game of UNO. Most people left for Eugene by noon the next day as the snow conditions and options for other adventures were not that good. Three people chose to ski to Gold Lake. Knowing that the snow conditions in the Willamette Pass area are unpredictable, we had a great time in spite of a lack of fresh snow! Members: David Clinger, Sandra Larsen, Evelyn Nagy, Emily Rice, Denise Rubenstein, Angie Ruzicka, Diane Schechter, Sandra Sigris, Darko Sojak, Lisa Van Liefde, Maureen Whalen, Sue Wolling, Sue Zeni. Nonmembers: Kirk Hendrickson.



*The snowshoe group at Midnight Lake.*

*Photo by Darko Sojak.*



### Hikes

#### Groundhog Day

February 2, 2024

Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Hike: 6.2 miles, 400 ft. (Moderate)

**W**E HEARD PHYLLIS, THE MASONIC CEMETERY GROUNDHOG (*MARMOTA MONAX*), WHISTLE before Joanna spotted her peeking from behind a monument. It didn't seem to bother her that we took so many photos. We certainly did not eat any of the blooming flowers, making sure that she would have enough food. After visiting the Thomas Condon monument, we headed up to the golf course and the



Ribbon Trail to Hendricks Park. This was the first day that the park was open since the storm. It was a surprise to meet the Altairs on their Friday walk. After persimmon bread treats, we wended our way out of the park. Ginny then guided us on some obscure streets and eventually for a glimpse of the University of Oregon President's home. Ginny's parents lived there when her father, Robert Clark, was President. It was such pleasant weather for our three-hour hike that was filled with curious exchanges and an unbelievable tall tale. Members: Joanna Alexander, Kathie Carpenter, David Clinger, Marguerite Cooney, Gwyneth Iredale, Janet Jacobsen, Holger Krentz, Ginny Reich, Sandra Sigrist. Nonmembers: Jane Allen, Gretchen Sotomayor.

### Siltcoos Lake Loop

February 4, 2024

Leader: Jane Hackett

Hike: 6 miles, 600 ft. (Easy)

**GREAT DAY AT THE COAST.** Sunny and cool, good hiking temperature. The four-mile loop to Siltcoos Lake was beautiful. You could easily see the giant stumps from the original forest that are now surrounded by large second growth trees. You gain your elevation climbing over a couple of small ridges before you drop into the lake basin. Siltcoos Lake was flat. We came out at a site with 5–6 camp sites with picnic tables and fire rings. These sites are only reachable by water unless you backpack in from the trailhead. We found one bathroom to service these sites. There should be a second, but we spent no time looking for it. Upon returning to the cars, one member returned to Eugene. The rest of us drove across Hwy 101 to the Waxmyrtle Trailhead and hiked the mile-plus out to the beach. This makes a great combination hike. We did a little over seven miles and we all enjoyed the day. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Jane Hackett, Diane Repp, Sandra Sigrist, Lis Sorrell, Mitch Temple, Nancy Whitfield.

### Maude Kerns Art Center

February 9, 2024

Leader: Mark Hougardy

Photographer: Darko Sojak

Hike: 4 miles, 50 ft. (Easy)

**THIS WAS THE FINAL DAY TO SEE THE MAUDE KERNS ART CENTER'S 2024 SEASON OPENER,** "In the Realm of the Spirit: Work by Maude Kerns," an exhibit of her non-objective artwork (abstract art). We enjoyed a pleasant 4-mile walk to/from the center on side streets. Members: Joanna Alexander, Mari Baldwin, Kathie Carpenter, Mark Hougardy, Gwyneth Iredale, Angie Ruzicka, Sandra Sigrist, Darko Sojak, Lis Sorrell, Paul Winther. Nonmembers: Kirstin Jewell.



*Obsidians in the Henry Korn Gallery. In 1930, Henry Korn served as the third Obsidians President.*

### Trestle Creek Loop

February 9, 2024

Leader & Photographer: Jean Harris

Hike: 6 miles, 1,000 ft. (Difficult)

**TRESTLE FALLS LOOP IS JOYFUL ANY TIME OF YEAR.** We enjoyed a gentle mist, trees shrouded in fog, and visible snow not far above us. Even though I had scouted a week ago, we encountered a new, large windfall that required a scramble up and over. Everyone enjoyed the challenge. We encountered no other hikers while meandering along Trestle and Brice Creeks. Bird chirps and stream gurgles were the only sounds. Snow Queen was visible along the trail. Members: Steve Davis, Jean Harris, Sandra Sigrist, Lis Sorrell.



*Steve, Sandra, and Lis beside a huge windfall on Upper Trestle Loop.*

### Get Acquainted / Ribbon Trail

February 10, 2024

Leader: Marguerite Cooney

Hike: 2.5 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)

**WE HAD A LOVELY DAY FOR THIS GET ACQUAINTED ACTIVITY** and a very large turnout of enthusiastic individuals. Our four additional members, besides myself, were truly appreciated as they fielded the newcomers' many questions about the Obsidians. The walk went smoothly with lots of conversation and observations. We enjoyed the lovely scents of the early blossoming *Daphne* and *Viburnum* in the Rhododendron Garden. Everyone seemed to enjoy our time together outside on such a great day. Members: Joanna Alexander, Marguerite



Cooney, Whitney Gould, Vicky Hanson, Paul Winther. Nonmembers: Jayne Miller, Karen Pleasant, Kirstin Jewell, Krista Shultz, Judith Goglia, Kim Whitley, Bill Whitley, Wendy Fuller, Rebecca Barker, Heidi Leyba, Chad Shelton, Emily Shelton.

## Waxmyrtle Trail & Beach

February 11, 2024

Leader: Darko Sojak

Photographer: Holger Krentz

Hike: 5.1 miles, 150 ft. (Moderate)

**IT WAS CLOUDY, WINDY, AND DRIZZLY.** High tide, approaching sneaker waves, and a snowy plover habitat restoration project changed our plans, but we had a good Waxmyrtle Trail and beach hike. On the way back, we stopped at the BJ's in downtown Florence. See [www.aol.com/news/siuslaw-national-forest-restore-50-045900977.html](http://www.aol.com/news/siuslaw-national-forest-restore-50-045900977.html) for more information about the habitat project. Members: Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, Diana Dinn, James Dinn, Holger Krentz, Angie Ruzicka, Sandra Sigrist, Darko Sojak, Lis Sorrell, Nancy Whitfield.



*On the boardwalk of the Lagoon Trail, looking at newts.*

## Amanda Trail

February 20, 2024

Leader: Sandra Sigrist

Assistant Leader: Heidi Anderson

Hike: 7 miles, 1,280 ft. (Moderate)

**LOTS OF RAIN ON THE DRIVE OVER**, so the group opted to skip the open trail along Hwy. 101 and instead drove up to the Cape Perpetua Overlook to start the hike. We followed the trail across the ridge and down past early spring skunk cabbage to the Amanda statue for lunch. After hiking back up to Cape Perpetua, we drove to Florence for a stop at River Roasters before returning to Eugene. It was a beautiful day with alternating light rain and sun. Members: Heidi Anderson, Kathie Carpenter, Sandra Sigrist, Lis Sorrell.

## Eagle Creek to High Bridge

February 24, 2024

Leader & Photographer: Buzz Blumm

Hike: 6.6 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

**FIVE STEADFAST (BUT NOT REAL FAST) HIKERS** drove a few miles more than the norm to enjoy one of the finest trails in the Columbia River Gorge. The Eagle Creek Trail doesn't just meander gently up the grade, it quickly separates to several hundred feet above the creek via narrow sections of trail, with cliff edges on the right and rock walls and embedded cables

for stability on the left. On the 3.3 miles to High Bridge, there were about four major waterfalls and many small ones. We could walk behind some of them, reminding us of scenes from the movie *Last Of The Mohicans* (starring Daniel Day-Lewis). With the sun filtering through the trees and abundant water flowing, the scenery was lovely. The adventure ended with coffee and snacks at *THIRSTY*, a sweet little coffee house in Cascade Locks. Members: Buzz Blumm, Keiko Bryan, Paula Rich. Nonmembers: Rebecca Barker, Heidi Leyba.



*One of the waterfalls along the route.*

## Amazon Headwaters / Ridgeline Trail / Spencer Butte Hikes

Hikes: 2.2–6.2 miles, 714–1,530 ft. (Moderate)  
Various Leaders

Sandra Sigrist: 2/7 13 Members

Mike Smith: 2/14 9 Members

June Miller: 2/21 14 Members

Janet Jacobsen: 2/23 4 Members, 4 Nonmembers

John Miller: 2/26 5 Members, 2/28 14 Members

## Blanton Ridge Hikes

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

Various Leaders

Jonathan Jost: 2/6 4 Members

Sandra Sigrist: 2/13 5 Members, 2/27 4 Members

Denise Rubenstein: 2/20 5 Members



*Watching the sunset on top of Spencer Butte after seeing the moon rise. Another hiker took the photo.*





# Stewardship

## Tie Trail Brushing & Raking

February 3, 2024

Leader: Matt Bell

Trail Maintenance: 4 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

**E**LEVEN OBSIDIANS AND ONE PROSPECTIVE MEMBER met at the Fox Hollow Trailhead parking lot and enjoyed the sun on a brisk morning. We discussed safety and our tasks for the day, focusing on the proper way to carry tools and emphasizing making pruning cuts. We set off from the trailhead hiking up the Spencer Butte Tie Trail to begin raking and cutting back storm debris. The bulk of our work occurred up the trail from the large 52-inch log, as multiple trees had fallen together and left 6 to 8 inches of debris that we scooped, pitched, and raked off the trail to widen it to City standard. We were surprised to find that the debris had been insulating ice since the storm. We also removed three hanging branches from the trail corridor. While we made great progress, the Tie Trail will need another outing due to the amount of storm debris. The Tie Trail was the hardest hit section of the trail that we've been on so far. Special thanks go to Janet for bringing persimmon bread that made for a great mid-outing snack. Members: Matt Bell, Marguerite Cooney, Lorraine Cuevas, Steve Davis, Janet Jacobsen, Steven Johnson, Lynn Meacham, Jim Northrop, Dave Predeek, Pat Soussan, Karen Yoerger. Nonmembers: Gretchen Sotomayor.

## Ridgeline Raking & Brushing

February 8, 2024

Leader: Jim Northrop

Assistant Leader: Janet Jacobsen

Trail Maintenance: 2 miles, 50 ft. (Moderate)

**E**IGHT OBSIDIANS AND ONE SOON-TO-BE OBSIDIAN turned out on a cool and cloudy Thursday morning to rake and clear storm debris on the upper Ridgeline Trail between the Fox Hollow and Dillard West trailheads. Dan Gilmore remarked that meticulous rakers left some portions of the trail so clean that we could eat off of them. And eat is what we did, enjoying June Miller's macadamia nut cookies and Janet Jacobsen's persimmon bread. On our return hike on the lower trail, we were intrigued by a four-inch-deep patch of snow and ice that had survived from the mid-January ice storm. Could it be the start of a new glacier in Eugene's south hills? Members: Linda Anson, Steve Davis, Dan Gilmore, Janet Jacobsen, Lynn Meacham, June Miller, Jim Northrop, Diane Schechter. Nonmembers: Gretchen Sotomayor.

## Tie Trail Brushing & Raking

February 10, 2024

Leader: Matt Bell

Photographer: Denise Rubenstein

Trail Maintenance: 3 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

**OUR GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS MET ON A BRISK SATURDAY MORNING** at the Spencer Butte Main Trailhead, newly reopened after having heavy equipment remove all the downed logs from the ice storm. After a quick discussion of the day's tasks and safety, we hiked up the Main Trail to the Tie Trail junction. We then headed down the Tie Trail to the bench to start our work for the day. The Bells headed further down the

trail to clear an outflow that we'd missed the Saturday before, then returned to the group. Everyone raked or pitched storm debris from the trail, drainage ditches, and drainage outflows. We were impressed that a couple of the trees managed to land perfectly in the outflows. For obvious reasons, we were unable to clear those. We made great time working our way back to the Tie Trail junction in time for treats supplied by Janet. We took about the last half hour lightly clearing the Main Trail on our way back to the trailhead for juice and cookies. We were greatly amused by the youthful exuberance of the Bell boys as they retrieved a cup casually discarded in a very steep location. Members: Matt Bell, Nathaniel Bell, Buzz Blumm, Steve Davis, Larry Dunlap, Janet Jacobsen, Denise Rubenstein, Sandra Sigrist, Lisa Van Liefde, Karen Yoerger. Nonmembers: Fletcher Bell.



*Lots of hard work.*

## Blanton Raking & Brushing

February 17, 2024

Leader: Matt Bell

Trail Maintenance: 3 miles, 200 ft. (Moderate)

**OUR GROUP OF DEDICATED OBSIDIAN VOLUNTEERS** met up at the Willamette and 52<sup>nd</sup> trailhead parking lot to continue our work of storm debris raking and brushing. This time we focused on the Blanton Heights portion of the Ridgeline Trail. The plan was to hike towards Blanton Trailhead and then work our way back out. Little did we know that we were in for a casual hike carrying tools. The trail was in very good condition, in fact, it was the best-looking section we've encountered so far. Near Blanton trailhead we found a key fob and Lana was able to find the car at the trailhead and put it



inside. On our way back we raked, brushed, and cleared drainage. But this work was few and far between. Our work also included cutting off a small stump that was sticking up about two inches in almost the middle of the trail—it was a real tripping hazard that we couldn't believe had been there so long. As we hiked back to the Willamette and 52<sup>nd</sup> trailhead, it began to rain. This is only the second time I can recall it raining hard enough to warrant a rain jacket in all the years that I've been doing this. As we neared the end of our outing, we stopped at the picnic table and enjoyed energy balls provided by Janet. We flagged one hanging branch on the Willamette and 52<sup>nd</sup> side for the City to deal with before returning to the trailhead and ending our outing. Special thanks go to Tommy Young for sharing the energy ball recipe with Janet—they're delicious. Members: Matt Bell, Marguerite Cooney, Steve Davis, Janet Jacobsen, Lana Lindstrom, Lynn Meacham, Denise Rubenstein, Pat Soussan.



*Some of this month's dedicated volunteers at the West Ridgeline Trail, elevation 1,280 ft. Janet is holding a copy of the sign that used to be there.*

*Photo by Pat Soussan*

### **Finn Rock Reach Restoration Planting**

**February 17, 2024**

**Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak**

**Work Party: 2 miles, 50 ft. (Easy)**

**TODAY WE CONTRIBUTED AT A RESTORATION PLANTING PARTY** at Finn Rock Reach on the McKenzie riverfront. Finn Rock Reach is a 278-acre plot just downstream from the town of Blue River. The McKenzie River Trust (MRT) pur-

chased the property at a closed-bid auction. A low-interest loan helped pay for the purchase while grants and private funds were secured through the fantastic McKenzie Homewaters Campaign. Since 2020, numerous partners have worked together to achieve a large-scale floodplain restoration project at Finn Rock Reach. This project has great benefits for the native fish, wildlife, and people of western Oregon. We started with introductions and then learned about the property history and impressive restoration work that was already done. The MRT stewardship crew provided helpful guidance about planting. We planted around 400 native bare-root plants. The weather was cold but generally cooperated with the 30 busy volunteers. Thank you all! Members: Joanna Alexander, Mari Baldwin, Becky Lipton, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Lis Sorrell, Nancy Whitfield.



*Planting bare root trees.*

### **West & Main Trails Raking & Brushing**

**February 24, 2024**

**Leader: Matt Bell**

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

**WE CONTINUED OUR WORK OF RAKING** and pitching storm debris from the trails. This time we focused on the Spencer Butte West and Main trails. Our large group of volunteers made short work of clearing sticks and small fir boughs from the drainage ditches, outflows, and sides of the West Trail. We then hiked up the Main Trail to the summit assessing the work ahead of us. We worked our way back to the Main Trailhead clearing berms from the trail sides, ditches, and outflows. We also cut back storm debris and woody vegetation. Upon our return to the trailhead, the parking lot was so full with people parking in non-parking spots that the most difficult task of the day was backing our cars out of parking spots and getting out of the parking lot. Special thanks go to Janet for bringing the cranberry bread and to Clara for clearing the handicap parking spots and trailhead steps. Members: Matt Bell, Marguerite Cooney, Jennifer Crim, Steve Davis, Clara Emlen, Janet Jacobsen, Lynn Meacham, John Miller, Jim Northrop, Wayne Parker, Dave Predeck, Pat Soussan, Karen Yoerger.





## Snowshoe Trips

### Ray Benson Sno-Park

February 10, 2024

Leader & Photographer: Steven Johnson

SShoe: 5.5 miles, 300 ft. (Moderate)

**A**FTER WAITING TWO MONTHS INTO THE SNOW SEASON, we finally had a good day to do a snowshoe trip. Our small group of three headed out from the Ray Benson Sno-Park surrounded by a plethora of loud and smelly snowmobiles. We quickly left the chaos behind and found that we had the trail to ourselves all the way to the North Blowout Shelter, where we sat in the sun to enjoy the blue skies and excellent views during our lunch. We took a bit of an alternate route off the northern loop trail to get back to the parking lot, and ended with a total of 5.5 miles for the day. Members: Jacquie Fern, Steven Johnson, Lynn Meacham.



*Jacquie and Lynn.*

### Salt Creek Falls

February 21, 2024

Leader: Scott Hovis

Assistant Leader: Ane McKee

Photographer: Diane Repp

SShoe: 5 miles, 500 ft. (Moderate)

**OUR PARTY OF FIVE HAD A GREAT TIME** on our snowshoe to Salt Creek Falls and timed the weather almost perfectly. We all piled into Scott's car. There was some light rain on the drive up but no snow on the roads or parking lot. Once we walked to the start of the trail, we put on our snowshoes and began our hike. The forest was blanketed with snow and rhodias popped up around the big, beautiful trees. There was a bridge out before we started the loop, but we took off our snowshoes and carefully crossed over the creek on a log. On our way back after the loop, some of us crossed on a different log about 20 feet upstream. We could cross the creek on that log while keeping our snowshoes on. If you do the trail before the bridge gets rebuilt, check out those two options. We stopped for lunch at the viewpoint and, even though it started raining and looked a little sleety, we stayed dry under

the tree canopy. The rain stopped just as we finished lunch (again, perfect timing!). Overall, we had a wonderful time on the snow and stayed dry. There were only about 20 yds. of soft, duffy dirt that we had to walk on. After an added bonus of a pitstop in Oakridge at the Dairy Queen, the rains came again on our drive home. We were treated to a beautiful double rainbow over Lookout Point Reservoir that seemed to follow our car for a while. We marveled at how Scott was able to time the weather so well! Members: Steve Davis, Scott Hovis, Ane McKee, Diane Repp, Lis Sorrell.



*Scott, Ane, Steve, and Lis taking in the view.*



## Cross Country Skiing

### Redtop Mountain

February 25, 2024

Leader: Gordon Sayre

Xski: 8 miles, 2,100 ft. (Difficult)

**T**HE SNOWPACK THIS WINTER IS NEARLY NORMAL, but no snow had fallen for several days before our trip. We found a rather hard crust around the Crescent Lake Sno-Park, which gradually softened as the day warmed up. Fortunately, there was little direct sun, and so we did not have snow sticking to our skis. Our group of six included new member Wim, who taught ski mountaineering courses for the Mazamas for many years but had never skied Redtop, as well as familiar nonmembers who have skied it perhaps a dozen times or more. Our group was missing steadfast leader Harold Thompson, who had a performance with the Eugene Concert Choir. We hope that he might lead a second trip later this winter. We spent about six hours skiing the thirteen kilometers out and back, and four of the six of us reached the windy summit. Members: Wim Aarts, Sam Miller, Gordon Sayre. Nonmembers: Chrissy Anderson, Larry Winiarski, Eric Anderson.

# Outdoor Emergency Preparedness Trainings

Lyndell Wilkins, Safety Committee Chair

**I**F YOU ARE INTERESTED IN IMPROVING YOUR ABILITY TO DEAL WITH EMERGENCIES IN A WILDERNESS SETTING, join Laurie Monico, formerly a paramedic for Springfield Fire and Life Safety and Eugene Mountain Rescue volunteer, for a training from 8:30–4:30 PM on Sunday, May 19, at the Obsidian Lodge. The goal of the class is to help prepare outdoor adventurers to handle emergencies that may happen when they are out enjoying these activities. The maximum class size is 18, and will be free to Obsidian members and \$5 for nonmembers. Sign up online on the Obsidians webpage.

The class will cover some basic first aid skills and how to handle the “everything else” emergency. This includes how to prepare for emergencies ahead of your adventure, contacting help, interacting with rescue teams, and taking care of the rest of your group. There will be some lecture, but the focus will be practical and scenario-based learning.



There is no certification being offered for this class. It is an overview of many different aspects of handling an emergency and is designed to give you confidence when dealing with an emergency in the outdoors.

If you are interested in a more in-depth, hands-on first aid class that does offer certification, a National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) Wilderness First Aid class is being offered June 1–2 at the Lodge. (See the online Trip Signup on the Obsidian webpage.) There is a cost of \$240 with this class. If you are a regular leader for the Obsidians or someone who otherwise ventures into the wilderness, this two-day class is more extensive. Both classes are excellent opportunities.



## Order Your Obsidians Vest!

**\$28**

Cozy fleece with front zippered pockets

Available in Ladies cut or Unisex  
Sizes XS–4XL

4 Colors to choose from (Ladies 6 colors)

Try on sizes S–XL and order at a potluck or contact:

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



# POTLUCK

**Friday, March 29, 2024, 6:30 PM**

## Summer Camp Rally

**Potluck**  
Friday, March 29, 2024

Obsidian Lodge

Social 6:05 PM

Potluck 6:30 PM, Program 7:30 PM

*Bring your favorite potluck dish to share along with your own plates, utensils, and cups to be washed at home.*



**I**F YOU PLAN ON GOING TO CAMP FONTANA near the Mt. Baker Wilderness area Aug 12–18, you'll want to attend this Potluck & Presentation. We'll show slides of the Silver Lake Campground near Mt Baker, the beautiful surrounding area, and some of the best hikes. We'll also share tips of what to bring, whet your appetite with meal descriptions, and discuss chore responsibilities. If you haven't gone camping with us before, this will be a great opportunity to learn how we do it. If you're an old hand, please come to share your stories and get inspired to join us on another great adventure.



# OBSIDIAN CALENDAR

## March

12 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M**. Miller 808-282-5201  
 12 Tue Basic Climb School.....Reiter 521-8472  
 13 Wed Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer Butte Hike **M**....Meacham 214-8827  
 13 Wed Rosary Lakes Snowshoe **D**.....Harris 953-0268  
 15 Fri Mt Baldy from Martin St Hike **M**.....Miller 255-6254  
 17 Sun Mt Pisgah Long w/options Hike **D**.....Yoerger 510-2832  
 17 Sun Maxwell Shelter Snowshoe **M**..... Van Liefde 949-677-1379  
 18 Mon Mt Pisgah 6-Miler Hike **M**.....Miller255-6254  
 19 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M**.....Rolfe 206-9501  
 19 Tue GameNight!.....McKee 554-1364  
 20 Wed Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer Butte Hike **M**.....McKee 554-1364  
 22 Fri Pisgah East Side Loop Hike **M**..... Hawkins 505-0119  
 24 Sun Mt Pisgah Sunset/Moonrise Hike **M**..... Jacobsen 206-1251  
 26 Tue Blanton Ridge to Sp. Butte Hike **M**. Rubenstein 248-514-5092  
 27 Wed Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer Butte Hike **M**. Wright 919-225-8160  
 29 Fri Summer Camp Rally - Camp Fontana.....**Potluck**  
 30 Sat Trail Maintenance **M**.....Bell 503-884-8829

## April

2 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M**.... Jacobsen 206-1251  
 3 Wed Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer Butte Hike **M**.....Yoerger 510-2832  
 9 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M**.....Miller 255-6254  
 10 Wed Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer Butte Hike **M**.. Sigrist 916-612-5517  
 13 Sat Get Acquainted/Ribbon Trail Hike **E**  
 16 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M**. Sigrist 916-612-5517  
 17 Wed Amazon Hdwtrs/Spencer Butte Hike **M**.....Murray953-5679  
 18 Thu GameNight!.....McKee 554-1364  
 21 Sun Diamond Peak Climb **D**.....Reiter 521-8472  
 23 Tue Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Hike **M**.....Miller 255-6254  
 26 Fri Climbs around the world - Morgan Watson.....**Potluck**

26 Fri Pisgah East Side Loop Hike **M**..... Hawkins 505-0119  
 27 Sat Trail Maintenance TrlMnt **M**..... Bell 503-884-8829  
 30 Tue Silver Falls/Abiqua Falls Hike **M**..... Johnson 520-2470

## May

1 Wed Pisgah w/Pacific Source Hike **E**.....Cooper 868-5427  
 2 Thu Wild Iris Ridge Hike **M**..... Van Liefde 949-677-1379  
 3 Fri Smith Rock Climb .....Reiter 525-1709  
 4 Sat Grand Canyon Backpack BkPk **D**..... Adey 520-9285  
 11 Sat Green Island, MRT Stewardship WrkPrty **M**.. Sojak 799-9199  
 14 Tue GameNight! .....McKee 554-1364  
 19 Sun Emergency Preparedness -1st Aid Class Wilken ..... 343-3080  
 23 Th Foxhollow to Mt Baldy **E**..... Van Liefde 949-677-1379  
 25 Sat Middle Sister Climb **D**.....Reiter 521-8472  
 29 Wed Trail Maintenance TrlMnt **M**..... Bell 503-884-8829  
 31 Fri Protecting Old-Growth Forests & Wild Places..... **Potluck**

## June

1 Sat Wilderness First Aid Reiter ..... 521-8472  
 1 Sat National Trails Day TrlMnt **M**..... Bell 503-884-8829  
 6 Thu Alton Baker Park Hike **M**..... Van Liefde 949-677-1379  
 20 Thu 52<sup>nd</sup> to Blanton Ridge Hike **E**..... Van Liefde 949-677-1379  
 26 Wed Trail Maintenance TrlMnt **M**..... Bell 503-884-8829  
 28 Fri Macduff Mountain Hike **D**..... Johnson 520-2470

## July

4 Thu Obsidians Butte to Butte Hike **E**..... Sojak 799-9199  
 10 Wed North Umpqua Car Camp **M** ..... Metcalfe 221-5702  
 20 Sat Mt Thielsen Climb **D**.....Reiter 521-8472  
 31 Wed Trail Maintenance **M**..... Bell 503-884-8829

## August

12 Mon Camp Fontana-Mt Baker, WA SmCmp **M**.. Johnson 520-2470



**Thinking Parks with Kenny Helphand**  
 Hosted by the Eugene Parks Foundation  
 Tuesday, March 12, 5:30 –7:00 PM  
 The Shedd Institute, 868 High Street, Eugene  
 Cost: \$10 Small plates and beverages will be served

**J**OIN RENOWNED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT KENNY HELPHAND as he embarks on an exhilarating journey through some of the world's most innovative and creatively designed parks.

To reserve your seats: [www.eugeneparksfoundation.org/thinking-parks-event/](http://www.eugeneparksfoundation.org/thinking-parks-event/)

For information about Eugene Parks Foundation, see the article by Obsidian member Andy McIvor in the April 2022 Bulletin

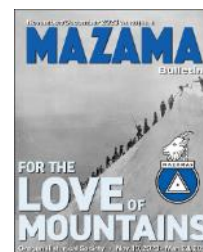
[www.obsidians.org/bulletin/Issues/2022\\_Bulletins/2022\\_04\\_Bulletin.pdf](http://www.obsidians.org/bulletin/Issues/2022_Bulletins/2022_04_Bulletin.pdf)



Upcoming GameNight! dates are:  
 Tuesday, March 19, Thursday, April 18,  
 Tuesday, May 14, Thursday, June 13  
 Questions? Contact: Ane McKee  
[entertainment@obsidians.org](mailto:entertainment@obsidians.org)

**The Mazamas:**  
**For the Love of Mountains Exhibit**  
 Oregon Historical Society  
 1200 SW Park Ave, Portland  
 November 10, 2023–March 24, 2024

**T**HERE IS STILL TIME TO VISIT THE MAZAMA EXHIBIT at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland. *The exhibition celebrates the history and community the Mazamas, an outdoor education, recreation, and conservation nonprofit, has cultivated since its inaugural climb of Mount Hood in 1894.* Obsidians who have viewed the exhibit give it high marks.



It might give you some ideas of how the Obsidians could celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2027.

The museum link will help you plan your visit:  
[www.ohs.org/museum/visit-the-museum.cfm](http://www.ohs.org/museum/visit-the-museum.cfm)

For a preview of the exhibits (especially if one can't see it in person), check out these links:  
[www.opb.org/article/2024/01/27/the-oregon-origins-of-the-mazamas/](http://www.opb.org/article/2024/01/27/the-oregon-origins-of-the-mazamas/)

[https://issuu.com/mazamas/docs/2023\\_11\\_novdec\\_bulletin\\_issue](https://issuu.com/mazamas/docs/2023_11_novdec_bulletin_issue)



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March 2024



*North Blowout Shelter with Three Fingered Jack. Photo by Lynn Meacham.  
See the Ray Benson Sno-Park trip report on page 13.*

ENJOY the photos in color! ONLINE *Bulletin* at [www.obsidians.org](http://www.obsidians.org)