

The **OBSIDIAN** Bulletin

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NUMBER 3

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Dates to Remember

March 17	GameNight!
March 22	Trip Leader Meeting
March 27	Potluck
March 27	<i>Bulletin</i> Deadline
April 1	Board Meeting

Summer Camp Dates

March 27	Summer Camp Rally
April 4	Member Registration
April 6	Nonmember Registration
April 24 & May 29	Pick Up Camp Booklet at Potluck
August 23-29	Camp Ruzicka

Current event schedules at:

www.obsidians.org

[Bulletin Submission Policy](#)

To submit articles
for publication,
please send directly to:

[obsidians-
bulletin@googlegroups.com](mailto:obsidians-bulletin@googlegroups.com)

Summer Camp 2026—Camp Ruzicka

Sunday, August 23—Saturday, August 29, 2026

Strawberry Mountains

Lake Creek Youth Camp, Prairie City, OR

Karen Yoerger (Camp Boss) and Angie Ruzicka (Summer Camp Committee Chair)

THIS YEAR'S SUMMER CAMP will be held in Oregon's Strawberry Mountains in the Malheur National Forest. Our home for six nights will be the Lake Creek Youth Camp, located about 30 miles south and east from John Day, Oregon, at 5,200 feet, in the beautiful Logan Valley. The camp is a nonprofit organization operating in the Malheur National Forest by special permit from the US Forest Service. Some of you will recall enjoying the Obsidians summer camp there in 2014.

Lodging choices include tent camping, bunkhouse cabins, or staying in your RV or camper. The area for tents is spacious: large, grassy, shaded, and pleasant. The bunkhouse cabins are new, and we will post pictures of them on the website as soon as they are available. Each contains sets of bunkbeds as well as single beds. We anticipate filling only the lower bunks and single beds in each bunkhouse. On your registration form, you will have the opportunity to list the names of those with whom you would like to share a bunkhouse. We will do our best to accommodate your preferences. Everyone will share bathroom and shower facilities located in two bath houses. Note that there are no RV hookups in camp and generator use is discouraged. There is no wifi or telephone service available, but the camp maintains a satellite phone for use in an emergency.



Tent area for Summer Camp. Photo by Holger Krentz.

The lodge building includes space for visiting, a fireplace, a ping pong table, a piano, and board games. Outdoor spaces include a nice fire pit area for our nightly campfires, basketball hoops, a volleyball net, and plenty of space for other active games.

The camp has a full commercial kitchen, and camp staff will prepare dinner and breakfast for us starting with Sunday dinner, August 23, and ending with breakfast on Saturday, August 29. We recently had a great conversation with the camp cook and director, and we are confident that the menu will be tasty and plentiful. Like previous

(Continued on page 3)

Curious about what it takes to be a trip leader? Want to brush up on your leadership skills? Want to find or share new places to explore?

Trip Leader Summer Kickoff and Orientation

ON SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 1–4 PM, there will be a gathering at the Lodge for trip leaders and anyone interested in being a leader. This gathering will cover getting started leading, safety, using the website, and best practices. We will use small groups to do some actual trip planning with maps and lots of trail books available. This gathering will be user-driven as we will try to answer the concerns and questions of leaders and potential leaders. Even experienced leaders should plan on attending. Your input is invaluable.

DEADLINE EXTENDED UNTIL MARCH 31



Malheur Great Bird Migration Adventure Tour

April 24–26, 2026

Clem Ogilby, Paul Winther, and Ken Burton, Trip Leaders

SPRING MIGRATION WILL BE IN FULL SWING COME APRIL, and this is your opportunity to experience one of the premier birding destinations in the western United States. Sign up now for Best Oregon Tours' three-day adventure to Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, arriving at the optimal time to witness maximum species diversity in the Harney Basin. With over 340 species visiting annually, this exceptional oasis is a must for bird watchers, wildlife enthusiasts, and photographers alike.

We depart Eugene at 8:00 AM on April 24, with lodging in Burns for two nights. Day one features an optional bird tour after arrival.

Day two brings the highlight of the trip, beginning with a 6:30 AM breakfast in Burns, followed by a 7:30 departure for Malheur National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters, which opens at 8:00. The day includes a dawn-to-dusk exploration of the refuge, where we expect to see trumpeter swan, cinnamon teal, redhead, sandhill crane, and Franklin's gull in stunning breeding plumage. White-faced ibis are common throughout the area. Potential raptor sightings include Swainson's hawk, great horned owl, and burrowing owl. Great Basin songbirds—including sage thrasher, sagebrush sparrow, and yellow-headed blackbird—add to the incredible diversity. The refuge also features a variety of mammals, including pronghorn, coyote, badger, and porcupine.

Day three offers two options: an early dawn return to the wildlife refuge before heading home, or a relaxed return journey with scenic stops that may include Sahalie and Koosah Falls, McKenzie River covered bridges, and the Historic Fish Lake Remount Depot.

Cost is \$1,375 double occupancy (includes lodging, three breakfasts, and three lunches). Obsidian members receive a \$100 discount. Single supplement is \$300. Daily healthy snacks and complimentary bottled water are provided. A \$500 deposit is due by **March 31, 2026**. Make checks payable to Best Oregon Tours. All major credit cards accepted, including Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, and Discover.

Don't miss this exceptional birding opportunity at the peak of spring migration. Visit www.bestoregontours.com/malheur-birding-tour for complete details and to reserve your spot today.

OBSIDIANS

P.O. Box 51510, Eugene, OR 97405

Website: obsidians.org

Officers & Board of Directors

Angie Ruzicka, President
 Lisa Van Liefde, Vice President
 Jean Harris, Secretary
 Sue Zeni, Treasurer
 Dave Cooper, Steve Davis
 Mark Hougardy, Sandra Sigrist,
 Nancy Whitfield

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 Jim Northrop
 Climbs Wim Aarts/Steve Davis
 Concessions..... Carla Cooper
 Conservation/SciEd..... Angie Ruzicka
 Entertainment Ane McKee
 Extended Trips Lana Lindstrom
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 Stewardship..... Darko Sojak
 Summer Camp Angie Ruzicka
 Trips Dave Cooper

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The Obsidian Bulletin

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**Deadline
for April Bulletin
Friday, March 27**

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Graphics Design & Desktop Publishing:

Carla Cooper, Bea Fontana

Assembly/Mailing Team

Managers: Lou Maenz, Nancy Raymond

Team: Tom Adamcyk, Don Baldwin,
 Barbara Gunther, Jane Hackett,
 Anne Hollander, Yuan Hopkins,
 Judy Newman

(Summer Camp, Continued from page 1)

campers, you will assemble your own sack lunch from offerings in the dining hall after breakfast. We will also provide light snacks and beverages in the late afternoon.

Although we will not have assigned chores this year, everyone will pitch in on the last day to complete bunkhouse checkout and grounds duties. Volunteers may occasionally be requested to help with small tasks.



Dining Hall. Photo by Darko Sojak.



*Nightly gathering around the campfire.
Photo by Lana Lindstrom.*

We are sure you've noticed that everything costs more this year than it did last year, and Summer Camp is no different. One reason is that we have added an additional day of camping and meals (6 nights, 5 full days). Since meals are the main determinant of this year's cost, we have a single tier of pricing for all lodging options. Member cost is \$420; Nonmembers is \$470.

Please join us at the March 27 Potluck and Summer Camp Rally at the Lodge. The potluck begins at 6:30 PM, and the Rally presentation begins at 7:30 PM. This is your opportunity to enjoy a slide show of the area, get more information, and ask questions. See you there!



The picnic area. Photo by Holger Krentz.

See page one sidebar for important Summer Camp dates.

Why Didn't They Build the Obsidian Lodge at Deer Butte?

compiled by the Librarian/Historian Committee

WHEN THE CLUB WAS JUST OVER A YEAR OLD, THEY LEASED THE LEWIS CABINS, RAISED \$275 FOR RENOVATIONS, AND HELD THE 1929 NEW YEAR'S PARTY FOR FIFTY PLUS MEMBERS. With a winter headquarters now near McKenzie Highway, they could "stage" the February winter outing with ski and snowshoe races at Lost Creek Ranch.



The Lewis Cabins, located below Deer Butte, were leased by the Club in 1928, and served as the club's winter headquarters until 1939.

This 1929 pic from the Obsidian archives, was labeled THE OBSIDIAN LODGE, by photographer Ray Sims.

OLD LEWIS CABIN
won 1st prize for
Ray Sims in the club's
1932 photo contest.

Cy Fulton based his
Old Lewis Cabin
oil painting
on Ray's photo.

*The painting is hanging
in the foyer of the
Obsidian Lodge*



Deer Butte soon became a popular destination for their winter sports!

February 21–22, 1931, the fourth Annual Winter Outing was attended by nearly one hundred persons and was declared one of the most successful "trips" of the club's history. Saturday evening there were stunts, songs, and old-time dancing at the cabins, and early Sunday morning the stage was set at the foot of Dead Horse Grade on McKenzie Highway for the ski races. The twelve-mile race from Upper Alder Springs to the top of Deer Butte, via Scott Lake was won by Bryan Ryan who crossed the finish line on the summit of Deer Butte in just two hours, two minutes and 40 seconds—with eighty people cheering. Weary, but still on his feet, Ryan attired only in knickers, foot gear and his skis slid over finish line at 1:30 in the afternoon, a full 31 minutes ahead of other racers. Going uphill most of the time in snow was grueling. Olive Young won the shorter race for women with Elsie McHoes (Dotson) in second place. First prize for Ryan was electric headlamp and first prize for Olive was an alligator coat. (a *waterproof rainwear manufactured by the Alligator Oil Clothing Company of St. Louis*) (Sims history and/or Register-Guard February 1931 article)



Skiers at the foot of Deer Butte in May 1931 with Ray's Model T. Photo by Ray Sims, second from right. (Ray used a self-timer.)

NEW LODGE FOR 1937 was the headline in the first issue of the [Obsidian Bulletin December 21, 1936](#).

The board members have approved the [five-acre] site at the base of Deer Butte for the new Obsidian Lodge. The rocky ledge, about three hundred yards above the Ski trail is an ideal location, having full benefit of the sun and a perfect view of the Sisters and surrounding country. The natural rock garden makes a beautiful front yard, with lovely evergreens in the background. All members are requested to view the site, for the opinions of all are welcomed by the committee. Forest service officials assure the lease of property when plans of construction are submitted. Members are asked to submit any plans or suggestions directly to Bailey Castellor, chairman on "Construction". ...A special meeting for all members will be called when final plans are ready.

[January 1937 Bulletin](#) [p. 2]: **NEW LODGE** by Robert Lemon (President)

Plans for the new lodge are going forward, the Forest Service having given word the site is available. ...The lodge will probably be built in units, the main room and kitchen first, with temporary sleeping quarters upstairs. Later, when the club feels flush, wings can be added for sleeping quarters....

April 1937 Bulletin [p. 4]: **Deer Butte trip report by Tony Vogel**

A party of 16 had a grand ski trip to the new cabin site and Deer Butte. Twelve of the 16 went to top of the butte and were well rewarded for their efforts. The snow was a little soft and wet, but after side-stepping a run we had some very thrilling rides. We left the cars two miles above the turnout to White Branch and were at the top in a little over two hours.

None of the party could have been very tired the way they went to work on the runs. We started down the switch back trail about 3 o'clock—a ride almost as full of thrills as the run down from Lucky Boy mines—a wonderful place to make the "jump turns" and the other things we have been learning. Everyone had a great time and expressed desire to go up there again.



Deer Butte.

June 1937 Bulletin: **All Plans for Obsidian Lodge rejected by Membership.**

A special meeting of the membership was called in June 1937 to vote their approval of the site, the general plans, and the authorization of bonds to be issued...

Paul Lafferty was wholeheartedly enthusiastic over a location...where the snow conditions are, and in the future would rival anything to be found near Rainier or Mt. Hood. He also pointed out that this would be closer to the Three Sisters for summer climbs.



View of the Three Sisters from Deer Butte. Photo by Ray Sims.

Dorr Hamlin, who had been our Obsidian Club representative to meet the State Highway Commission in Portland this winter, gave the report that the [commission] members were favorable to doing what they could toward keeping the road open to Frog Camp for recreational areas only, but as to an all year 'round through road it was out of the question.

In marked contrast to Paul's proposal for a Lodge site in High country came the suggestion that it would be best to locate the Lodge within a short distance from Eugene up the McKenzie close to the river where members could go with families and have frequent picnics and weekend parties, making general social affairs more popular.

Ed Johnson felt from the uncertainty of development of trans-mountain roads, plus the question of what really is desired in a Lodge, that would be best to delay for a time.

Marian Hayes felt it economically unsound to invest in a location which we might not be able to use in winter and unfair to expect The Highway Commission to keep the road open just for this vicinity.

...The proposed site, seventy miles from Eugene, is 2.55 miles from the top of Deadhorse grade and 3.4 miles from Frog Camp. This, the Board felt, was sufficient... to satisfy the "high country" addicts. For those wanted a location for the family type of outing or for lazy Sunday, the site was advocated as being only seventy-mile drive from Eugene on an exposed southern slope allowing plenty of sun and with a view equal to any on the McKenzie highway. Here, just off the extensive summit area, hence sheltered from the worst storms, looking down the valley with cliffs of Deer Butte silhouetted against golden sunsets and looking east and south to the Three Sisters glistening in the changing light, the Board felt they had the ideal spot. But the Board was wrong.

Expense was not the major point of contention. The issue, and not for the last time, was location.

(See: Karen Seidel's *Obsidian Lodge History: The First 30 Years* reprinted in the **October 2017 Bulletin** [p. 11])

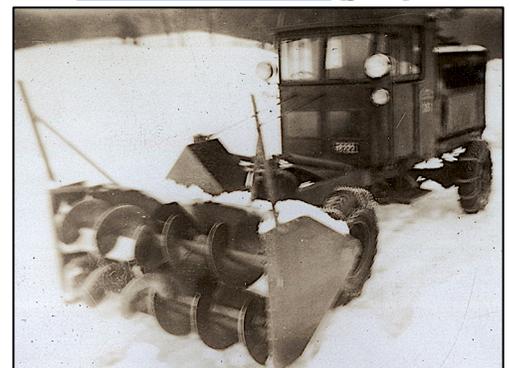
The Obsidians were still determined to make McKenzie Pass a ski area—at Hand Lake. But the fruits of those efforts too were short-lived. The State Highway Department quit plowing Hwy 242, in 1941, making it inaccessible for winter use. (See the Hand Lake Shelter History article in the **April 2021 Bulletin** (p.11))

In 1958 a quote from President Ray Sims: *After 30 years, we still need a place to store our equipment, hold board meetings...all of our entertainments, potluck dinners, and above all for our annual meetings.*

The Board finally authorized purchase of the land for our present location in April 1959, and the formal dedication of the "new Club House", was held in May 1963. But that's a whole other story...

(See the Obsidian Lodge Story parts 1 & 2 in the 1999 *Bulletins*:

March (p.9) and **April** (p. 8)



The snowplow at Upper Alder Springs, March 1929. Photo by Ray Sims

NORTH

Mike Smith

I STUMBLED OUT OF THE TENT ONTO THE GRASS for my middle of the night nature break. Our group was camped next to the Aichilik River, a beautiful, wild, braided flow that emptied into the Arctic Ocean, 30 miles to the north. Above the river was the full disk of the sun, a finger breadth or so at the end of an extended arm, about two degrees from the northern horizon, its light shimmering on the water. Two weeks from the solstice, the midnight sun was right where it should be at 69 N.: two degrees north of the Arctic Circle, two degrees above the northern horizon. Above the Arctic Circle in June, it's daylight all night, and the sun circles the sky.

I'm Up North. For me, north is my favorite direction, along with upstream, uphill, and beyond the wilderness boundary. There is north, and there is Up North, a special construct in my world, sometimes referred to as "God's country." Minnesota outdoor writer Sam Cook wrote, "Up North is a map on the wall, a dream in the making, a tugging at one's soul." Sig Olson referred to it as "beyond steel, and roads and towns, where they will find release." I define "they" below.

My Up North is coming around a corner of the Obsidian Trail in the volcanic area and having Middle Sister suddenly fill my vision. It is big water of Agnes Lake in the Quetico, stretching as far as I can see, open horizons that Olson wrote about, remembering head winds, rain, snow and the beautiful campsites on the Canadian Shield. Up North is seeing Mt. Adams from Timberline Trail; behind Upper Trestle Falls in the Umpqua; the tors, granite poking through the ground, in Serpentine Hot Springs on the Seward Peninsula. It's standing hanging on to a tree at the top of Lowder Mountain, looking down at Karl and Ruth Lakes. It's the vastness of Drain Creek Valley in the Refuge; the incredible view of the high Cascades from Collier Cone. It's a hermit thrush in camp or being so high one can look down upon a golden eagle in flight. It's autumn where the trees have more colors than just yellow, first seeing the lake ahead from under the canoe when the portage is almost done, the primal feeling when you hear rumbling of thunder at night when camped in the wilderness. It's Virginia Falls on the Nahanni, Obsidian Falls in the Three Sisters Wilderness, an unnamed falls in an unnamed place.

All was well. It was normal nighttime cold, which always struck me odd with the sun out. We would hike on afeis later that morning, frozen water that expanded out of the riverbed, providing a decent highway for hiking on the North Slope in June. We'd likely cross the river a few times. Wet feet are a given up here. If you were lucky, that's all that got wet. That's part of Up North. Wetness. It can be difficult, but it wouldn't be Up North without it.

Up North is paddling the Yukon River into the vastness of Lake Laberge that Robert Service memorialized in *The Cremation of Sam McGee*. It's understanding that "sweat and toil, hunger and thirst, and the fierce satisfaction that comes only with hardship" are why some of us—they—go. Olson didn't add soaking wet, which I would be in two days, when we hiked in pouring rain, seven of us piling into a small cook tent for lunch where we had hot soup and briefly forgot how wet we were. The sun came out that afternoon, and Up North was the feel of that warm sun on our soaking wet selves, watching everything dry while we drank something hot. Up North is a solitary, haunting loon call down the lake.

See you on the trail. May you find your own Up North.



Aichilik River, looking into the Brooks Range, Alaska.

TRIP REPORTS



HIKES

Dorris Ranch & Mill Race Loop

February 8, 2026

Leader: Steve Adey

Hike: 7.0 miles (Moderate)

THE ACTUAL MILEAGE WAS ALMOST 6.5 MILES and the walk took a bit less than 2 1/4 hours. We walked clockwise to complete the street/sidewalk portion first. Next time, research the history of the mill, millrace, and habitat restoration prior to departure. Participants: Steve Adey, Mari Baldwin, Marguerite Cooney, Whitney Gould, Holger Krentz, Vern Marsonette.

Trail 3666

February 6, 2026

Leader: Darko Sojak

Hike: 10.5 miles, 850 ft. (Moderate)

A PLEASANT 10.5 MILES along the North Fork of the Middle Fork of the Willamette River. Friends and good conversations are like a flowing river. Try to enjoy every season from every perspective (even in an unseasonable 64°F). Participants: Kristen Anderson, Teresa Bowen, Mandy Lund, Valerie Metcalfe, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak.

Wild Iris Upper Loops

February 9, 2026

Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak

Hike: 3.2 miles, 620 ft. (Easy)

SUNSHINE, A PLEASANT BREEZE, AND THREE EASY LOOPS through the hilly oak savanna. Vicky's mini mocha muffins were delicious. Participants: Kathie Carpenter, Marguerite Cooney, David Cooper, Whitney Gould, Vicky Hanson, Gwyneth Iredale, Andrew McIvor, Darko Sojak.



Three easy loops through the hilly oak savanna.

Ash Swale / Eagles Rest

February 11, 2026

Leader: Jean Harris

Hike: 5.5 miles, 1,600 ft. (Difficult)

WHEN THE VALLEY HAS FOG and the hike is above the fog, that's a win! Strolling to Ash Swale was pleasant, peaceful, and quiet. The shelter sits next to a swamp that will soon have croaking frogs. We continued up the slightly muddy trail to ascend Eagles Rest at 3,022 feet. The view was clear, and fog in upper Lost Creek lifted as we ate lunch. The return was fast, down the same trail to the cars. Driving up and down Goodman Creek Road does involve slowly dodging major potholes. This is a great little hike close to town. Participants: Donna Ellickson, Jean Harris, David Morris, Patty Morrow, Roy Nelson.

Silver Falls State Park

February 12, 2026

Leader & Photographer: Whitney Gould

Hike: 5.3 miles, 550 ft. (Moderate)

A LOVELY DAY. Five Obsidians took a foggy drive up I-5 to exit 238, then wound our way through backroads to Silver Falls State Park in Silverton. From the South Falls Day Use Area, we walked clockwise approximately 5.2 miles on the Trail of Ten Falls. Each waterfall was beautiful and unique, and we were awed by the sights and sounds of this magnificent park. The north section of the trail was closed due to weather damage, but the trail signage was clear and we returned to the Day Use Area via the Rim Trail. A park host informed us the north section should reopen in the spring, so a return trip is definitely in order. Following the hike, we relaxed by the fireplace in the park's cafe and wandered in the gift shops. Participants: Steve Adey, Sam Arnold-Boyd, Kathie Carpenter, Whitney Gould, Adriana Sorrell.



Kathie and Sam.

A St. Vinnie's Tour

February 13, 2026

Leader: Jorry Rolfe

Hike: 1.0 miles (Easy)

WE HAD A WONDERFUL ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (SVdP) OF LANE COUNTY TOUR with staff members, Darrel and Ralph. All of us

piled into a van at their administrative office on Chad Drive for the three-hour activity. We first visited their Dawn to Dawn site on Hwy 99N, which offers transitional emergency shelter. Most of the unhoused individuals here live in large heated tents that accommodate many beds. We next saw the Schlies Resource Center, adjacent to the Eugene Service Station, followed by a visit to the nearby Zone, their new Egan Warming Center facility that they purchased last summer. These three programs are all a five-minute walk from the Dawn to Dawn site. Excellent services are provided and experienced staff serve with dignity and compassion. Next, we viewed the two facilities on Garfield Street that are Safe Sleep Sites: '410' is an indoor site that offers secure, managed sleeping tents, while '310' is an outdoor space for those living in their trailers or RVs. All the sites are low-barrier shelters for those aged 18+ that eliminate typical requirements like sobriety, identification, income, or background checks, that welcome individuals with emotional support animals, and that are designed to be a starting point for moving out of homelessness. Our final stop was on W. Amazon to see the First Place Family Center, where a newly-hired manager proudly showed us the new childcare center, the only licensed one in Lane County for children experiencing homelessness. Families come for the day for meals, showers, and laundry. Part of this building provides about 20 dorm rooms for families who can stay up to six months. We learned much on this field trip about the ways we can support (with money and donations) and get involved (by volunteering at the warming centers) with the mission of SVdP. Operating in Lane County since 1953, SVdP is "In the business of good for our community," and the tour showed how innovative and caring they continue to be. Participants: Joanna Alexander, Kristen Anderson, Linda Anson, David Clinger, Anna Maria Hundseder-Aarts, Vicky Hanson, Jane Leng, Andrew McIvor, Evelyn Nagy, Jorry Rolfe, David Schwieger.

Get Acquainted / Ribbon Trail
February 14, 2026
Leader: Dorothy van Winkle
Hike: 2.5 miles, 300 ft. (Easy)

A BIT OF RAIN DID NOT DETER US from a lively walk and talk. The flowering shrubs in the park were at their peak fragrance "...attractive to the eye and soothing to the smell..." (What movie is that line from?) Thank you, members, for your continued participation. Participants: Mari Baldwin, Ben Converse, David Cooper, Vicky Hanson, Doug Russell, Marci Stoner, Dorothy van Winkle.

South Hills Loop
February 19, 2026
Leader: Steve Adey
Hike: 7.5 miles, 700 ft. (Moderate)

THE WALK WAS MORE LIKE SEVEN MILES. All went well. Participants: Steve Adey, Mari Baldwin, Whitney Gould, Holger Krentz, Guy Pritchett.

Amazon Headwaters / Ridgeline Trail / Spencer Butte Hikes
Hikes: 6.2 miles, 1,530 ft. (Moderate)
Various Leaders

Janet Jacobsen: 2/11 16 Participants
Karen Yoerger: 2/18 11 Participants
Mike Smith: 2/25 13 Participants
Darko Sojak: 2/27 8 Participants

Blanton Ridge Hikes
Hike: 8.5 miles, 1,740 ft. (Moderate)
Various Leaders

Jorry Rolfe: 2/3 10 Participants
Wim Aarts Rolfe: 2/10 7 Participants
Lynn Stearney: 2/24 3 Participants

Mt. Pisgah Hikes
Hike: 3.0–4.0 miles, 1,040–1,300 (Moderate)

Jeff Orendorff: 1/28 2 Participants **1/30** 5 Participants
2/4 3 Participants **2/11** 2 Participants **2/13** 3 Participants
Heidi Anderson: 2/1 11 Participants



SCIENCE/ED

Eugene Natural History Society Talk
February 20, 2026
Leader: Angie Ruzicka
Photographer: Darko Sojak
Conservation, Science, & Education: 0.5 miles (Easy)

OUR GROUP OF 13 OBSIDIANS enjoyed a Friday evening on the UO campus. We met at the Unthank Hall food court to visit and have dinner. There was a wide variety of food choices and everyone found something they liked. After dinner we walked a short distance to hear the Eugene Natural History Society's monthly speaker, Dr. Dave Wagner, who gave an informative presentation entitled the "Sex Life of Plants." We learned about how the flowers of willows, larkspur, fireweed, and hazelnut have structures and timing to facilitate pollination by bees. Participants: Joanna Alexander, Charles Ashmore, Marguerite Cooney, Lana Lindstrom, Andrew McIvor, Evelyn Nagy, Angie Ruzicka, Darko Sojak, Dorothy van Winkle, Nancy Whitfield, Lyndell Wilken, Sue Wolling, Sue Zeni.





STEWARDSHIP

Think Globally, Act Locally (WINTER 2026)

February 13, 2026

Leader: Darko Sojak

Stewardship: 2.2 miles, 10 ft. (Mixed)

WE DID IT AGAIN! Thank you, volunteers, for your attitude and the invaluable work that you do for the community. Participants: Teresa Bowen, Bill Campbell, BJ Campbell, Donna Ellickson, Clara Emlen, Peter Graham, Elizabeth Grant, Margot McDonnell, John Ostrom, Angie Ruzicka, Gwynn Sawyer, Darko Sojak.

Lodge / Grounds Workday

February 20, 2026

Leader & Photographer: Nancy Whitfield

Stewardship

RATHER THAN SNOW, our work crew experienced a cold, but mostly sunny day. Many leaves were raked. Many leaves remain. A combination shrub (? hawthorn and hazelnut) was expertly pruned. One large stump was prepped for eventual removal. Beds were tidied and spruced up. The fence area continued to be cleared. Two new signs were installed to help the flow of traffic. Sprinkler switch boxes were cleared out. Many thanks to all the volunteers. Participants: Charles Ashmore, David Cooper, Clara Emlen, Brenda Kameenui, Doug Nelson, John Ostrom, Gwynn Sawyer, Mike Smith, Pat Soussan, Nancy Whitfield.



Dave and Charlie installed new signs.

Willow Creek Preserve, The Nature Conservancy

February 20, 2026

Leader: Darko Sojak

Stewardship: 1.0 miles, 10 ft. (Mixed)

THE WEATHER COOPERATED AGAIN. Our crew of seven roamed through the poison oak-loaded Willow Creek Preserve, part of the West Eugene Wetlands. We removed pesky invasive English ivy and conifer saplings in the native oak prairie. Thank you, Obsidians, for your help with The Nature Conservancy project, and for making a difference. Participants: Denny Ellis, Holger Krentz, Darko Sojak.

Habitat Work Party

February 21, 2026

Leader & Photographer: Darko Sojak

Stewardship: 1.5 miles, 20 ft. (Mixed)

TODAY'S WORK DAY ON THE UNFORGIVING, ROCKY TERRAIN of Turtle Flats was well attended. We planted 510 trees and shrubs at various points on a 62-acre plot near the confluence of the Coast Fork and the Middle Fork of the Willamette River. Thank you, all! Participants: Diana Dinn, James Dinn, Clara Emlen, Elizabeth Grant, Brenda Kameenui, Jorry Rolfe, Angie Ruzicka, David Schwieger, Mike Smith, Darko Sojak, Jean Stover, Shelley Tinkham.



Turtle Flats.



Mike Smith at work.

FEBRUARY BOARD NOTES

February 4, 2026

From minutes by Jean Harris

Angie Ruzicka called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Board members present: Dave Cooper, Steve Davis, Jean Harris, Angie Ruzicka, Sandra Sigrist, Lisa Van Liefde, Nancy Whitfield. Others present: Carla Cooper, Jim Northrop.

AGENDA ITEMS

Kudos to: Steve Davis for REI grand opening connections, to Nancy Whitfield for a productive Lodge/Grounds committee meeting, to Janet Jacobsen for inspiration on her 85th birthday and a special hike, to the Safety and Trips committees for improved leaders guide changes.

Minutes: The Board approved the January Board meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report (Sue Zeni): Moved \$8,000 from the US Bank Checking account to Vanguard Money Market to generate more income from interest. Additions to Capital/Contingency: transferred all the 2025 donations, (\$31,209.50) from the General Fund to Capital/Contingency, donations in January were \$2,961. Revenue was \$2,078 and Expenses were \$1,261 in January for a total net revenue of \$817. The Board approved the January expenditures.

NEW BUSINESS

Team Building (Angie): Nice activity discussing length of time we have been Obsidians and goals for the future.

Entertainment Committee Member Addition (Angie): Marian Sparks was approved.

Inviting Committee Chairs to Give Updates (Angie): Discussion—Shall we invite chairs to attend Board meetings and share information? With annual reports and green and yellow dots, we prioritized our choices. Sandra and Jim will organize, possibly a committee of the month in the *Bulletin*. Angie will tally.

Protect Oregon Recreation (Dave C.): Discussion—We have been partners since February 2024 and will continue to endorse this. The two topics are liability waivers and immunity between public and private lands. It's a short session for the Oregon legislature. If passed, insurance costs should drop. Still good to endorse these bills.

OLD BUSINESS

Update for 100-year Celebration (Angie): We participated in a card sort - one time, ongoing or other, who is the audience, who does what, etc. Meaningful time in groups of three. Cards can be used at the February 18 committee meeting.

Summer Camp Update (Angie): Going well, food planning, booklet progress and regular meetings are in place. Online payments via Stripe will be an option.

Update on Archiving (Angie): Sue is working through this and will continue later.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bus Trips (Jim Northrop): The Bus Trips Committee is partnering with Best Oregon Tours to offer to our members the *Malheur Great Bird Migration Adventure Tour* on April 24

through 26. The committee will publicize the trip in the *Bulletin* and on the Obsidian website.

Climbs (Wim Aarts & Steve Davis): The 2026 Climb School was added to the activity calendar and applications have passed the halfway mark with 13 out of 24 spots applied for. Dates are March 10, 12 and 14 for the snow module. April 6, 7 and 11 are the rock portion dates of Climb School. Dalen Willhite and Steve Davis are leading and co-leading the 2026 climb school. A dozen volunteers have signed up to assist. Flyers were posted at climbing gyms and outdoor stores, REI and Gear Traders. Ane McKee managed to move GameNight! to free up the Lodge for Climbs, thank you for that effort, Ane. Climbs are being added to the calendar on an ongoing basis as well as other classes such as the NOLS Wilderness First Aid class on April 25.

Concessions (Carla Cooper): January sales totaled \$76. Thanks to Nancy Whitfield and new committee members Lynn Meacham and Marguerite Cooney for working the potluck.

Entertainment (Ane McKee): Bill Sullivan spoke at our January Potluck & Presentation, offering a brief overview of his hiking books before sharing ten of what he considers the best snow adventures in the area. Photographs from his many winter excursions complemented his descriptions and gave us a little insight into what he experienced. 68 diners enjoyed the potluck, and 81 folks joined us for Bill's presentation. We collected \$19.01 in donations. In addition to scheduling speakers for our P&Ps, we are working on a Meet-the-Author event in March for an exciting new book written by a past Obsidian.

Librarian/Historian (Bea Fontana): We researched and compiled an article to be published in the February 2026 *Bulletin* about the 1937 Obsidian seven-day winter outing in Bohemia mining country. The Honored Member list was updated and posted on the Obsidian website.

Lodge Building (Dave Cooper): In January we had two rentals, one of which the income was accounted for in 2025. We have five rentals on the schedule in addition to upcoming use with Climb School and NOLS classes. I must warn chairs who are seeking time to hold activities at the Lodge that the online calendar is less than perfect. I've found that I cannot effectively list and display multi-day events. If there is already a minor event scheduled on one of the days, for instance the *Bulletin* folders, then the multi-day event will not show on that day. A three day event must be listed as three separate entries. Work continues on the list of projects for the Lodge and the grounds.

Lodge Grounds (Nancy Whitfield): Even though the day was foggy and cold, 16 hardy Obsidians showed up and worked hard for the work party on January 15. Leaves were moved to clear the parking area, the fenceline continued to be cleared, debris was moved, a light was liberated from an encroaching bush, blackberries were vanquished AND a new path was created on the far side of the parking lot (loads of gravel moved!). Painted lines now define both paths to make them more visible at night. Highland Tree Service trimmed dead

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branches and cut the tree leaning on the fence. A small group removed debris from the parking lot. Planning and work continues on the 5-Year Plan. Eugene Parks and Open Spaces is working on defensible space along the Ribbon Trail. Their work comes within feet along much of our property line. Our property is now more visible and exposed.

Membership (Diane Schechter): February membership - 454 members.

Online/Webmaster (Lana Lindstrom & Carla Cooper): More and more Obsidians had issues trying to sign up for a trip in January. The developer finally disabled CleanTalk, the spam plugin. Problem solved.

Publicity (Denise Rubenstein & Lisa Van Liefde): The Publicity Committee met in January with members: Denise Rubenstein, Lisa Van Liefde, Darko Sojak, Scott Wilkenson, Steve Davis. Plans were discussed for tabling events, increasing social media, and connecting with sport retailers around town with the Obsidian flyer. Denise and Steve had a meeting with the Lookout online newspaper to discuss the possibility of future collaboration and advertising.

Safety (Maryanne Reiter): The Safety Committee met on January 22 and discussed sponsoring safety classes including leader training, first aid and emergency preparedness. The time frame for the classes would be in the spring. We also worked on updating the Safety Manual.

Science Education (Angie Ruzicka interim): The Science Education Committee has been in communication via email. We are excited about this year's activities including themed hikes/walks, organizing guest speakers, and collaborating with other organizations like WREN and the Eugene Natural History Society.

Stewardship (Darko Sojak): This January was a very productive month for Obsidian stewards; fifteen of us participated in the SOLVE Beach Cleanup, twenty-five in the Martin Luther King Day tree planting, and seven in Spencer Butte Trail maintenance. Thank you, all.

Summer Camp (Angie Ruzicka): Planning continues for Summer Camp 2026. The registration form is nearly finalized, the overview for the website is being updated, and work on the camp booklet is well underway. Kristen Anderson, food liaison, has scheduled a phone meeting with the camp director and cook to help plan our menu. After a meeting of the summer camp committee (Angie, Karen, Pam) along with Obsidian Treasurer, Sue Zeni, we are excited to be able to offer the option to pay online this year with a credit card.

Trips (Dave Cooper): January started off well with four hikes on New Years Day. We ended up with 32 total events and hardly left the urban area. Several snow trips ended up being canceled. Nonmember fees totaled \$26. The trips committee worked on updating the Trip Leaders Guide.

2025 ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bus Trips (Jim Northrop): The Bus Trips Committee held one bus trip in 2025: a one-day trip to Southeast Portland to visit the Mazama Mountaineering Center, the Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden, and the Leach Botanical Garden. Participants travelled in a fifteen-passenger minibus. The five-day Oregon Coast Trip had to be cancelled because not enough people signed up.

Climbs (Wim Aarts & Steve Davis): The Climbs Committee had a successful 2025, hosting 4 training classes and 13 climbs. The training events included crevasse rescue, gym-to-crag rock skills, a new class covering trad rock climbing skills and concepts, and an abbreviated basic climb school that focused on snow skills. Climbs included Mt. St. Helens and South Sister, neither offered since the C-19 pandemic, a new mountain (Daniels in WA), and a host of climbs that are regularly done. We continued to develop new leaders with one leading their first Obsidians climb (Thielsen), another assisting, but leading the steep snow pitches of the Obsidians Middle Sister climb, and one leading 4 Obsidians climbs. We also took advantage of year-end Black Friday sales on pro deals (i.e., very heavily discounted) to purchase new climbing equipment to replace equipment that had aged out and is no longer safe to use.

Concessions (Carla Cooper): In 2025, we were present at seven potlucks and Summer Camp. Preordered vests and hoodies continued to be popular items. We did expand our merchandise beyond clothing to offer more items such as lunch bags, tote bags, and sit-upons and will continue to do so in

2026. Many thanks to: Jen Barnes, Joyce Cedarlund, Michael King, Chris Shuraleff, and Nancy Whitfield.

Entertainment (Ane McKee): Monthly Potluck & Presentations were held throughout the year, except for our regular breaks in June, July, August, and December. We had a *Reserved for Event Speaker* sign put up in the gravel lot below the Lodge, so our presenters would have a convenient place to park. January's P&P had Bill Sullivan – Wallowas & Eastern Oregon; February had Ane McKee & Hally McCabe – hiking Japan's Tokaido Trail; March was the Summer Camp Rally in preparation for Camp Rubenstein in the Wallowas; April had Chip Coker with Cascade Volunteers; May had John Miller – Safety Preparedness; September had Brenda Kame'enui – From Trailhead to Heart's Home; October had Lana Lindstrom & Sue Zeni – Cycling the GAP and C&O Canal Trail; and November had Donald Lyon – Galapagos: Islands in Time. For the year, we averaged 64 diners at the potluck portion and 81 showing up for the presentations. In March, we began collecting optional donations during our P&Ps and collected \$97.50 for the year. We held GameNight! evenings at the Lodge each month except in February, June, August and September.

Extended Trips (Lana Lindstrom): Two Extended Trips occurred in 2025 - Columbia Gorge hiking based at Menucha Retreat Center led by Jean Harris and Assistant Leader Emily Rice and Redwoods hiking based at Elk Prairie State Park cabins led by Lisa Van Liefde and Assistant Leader Jean Harris. Both trips were very successful and the leaders received lots of

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kudos from the participants. Overnight trips are very popular; contact Lana if you want to lead and to be showered with gratitude!

Finance (Susan Zeni): Obsidians' finances were better than expected in 2025. We won an appeal to Lane County to eliminate our property taxes (thanks to Jim Northrop for taking this on!) due to being a charitable organization. This led to a refund of our 2024 property taxes as well as not having to use our general budget to pay for 2025 property taxes. Our insurance rates were more reasonable in 2025, which added to our savings. In addition, the expenses to maintain our website were lower than our estimate.

We had a total of \$31,210 in donations in 2025. Some of the donations will be spent on getting ready for our 2027 100 Year Anniversary Celebration, and the rest will go to our Capital/Contingency Fund for major Obsidian projects. Those projects will mostly be Lodge and Grounds related. We reorganized our Endowment and Capital/Contingency Fund investments in 2025 to streamline the tracking of the two funds. All income from the Endowment Fund is reinvested in the Capital/Contingency Fund.

Librarian/Historian (Bea Fontana): The committee researched and composed six In Memoriams: Wes Prouty, Kitson Graham, Lindsay Pierce, Max Brown, Brian Hamilton, including Guy Strahon (for the January 2026 *Bulletin*). The committee did the research for and submitted six articles: (1) The Ridgeline Trail 2005–2009: Blanton to Spring Boulevard, (2) Car Clouting or Car prowling, (3) The First Wallowa Summer Camp in 1936, (4) Mosquitoes 'Tis the Season, (5) 1959 Rainier photo with Bob Lyon, Jim Hosmer, and Doris Sims—that included correcting the label, reframing, and the article. (6) Recognizing Bill Sullivan—30th potluck program. We assisted with the research for three additional articles: (1) Lost Oregon Ski Areas by Steve Stenkamp (2) Looking for the Tree Vole by George Jobanek, (3) Contemplating Mt. St. Helens and Change by Sam Miller. At the Lodge: Remounted the alpenstock and the ice ax—relocating them to the east wall above the historic photos. Framed the MacDuff Mountain plaque photo, including explanatory labels, and hung it at the Lodge. Reorganized the archived *Bulletins*, Applications books, and returned the Logbooks to the Board Room. We're still working on this project. Other Research: Eugene Parks Foundation Award (mostly for Denise Rubenstein, Andy McIver and Gwyneth Iredale). Macduff Mountain research for Steve Davis who was leading a hike to it. Provided information to Jean Harris for thank you notes to donors. Provided history/info to Sheri Clough Suiter about (her father) Art Clough's connections to our two Woodland Carvings by Lori Cross, which hang next to the front door at the Lodge. Updated the Self-Guided Art Tour—but it already needs to be updated again.

Lodge Building (Dave Cooper): 2025 was a busy year for upkeep on the Lodge. In January we had an updated repair to the drinking fountain. Then there was another "water" issue. Three times, after days of heavy rain, we had water on the floor near the SE corner of the main room. It wasn't from a roof leak.

We began a search and repair process of all things drainage. An in-ground gap between a downspout and its drain line was patched. Gutter downspout filters were put in place. These things did not solve the water on the floor issue. We found original building drawings from the 60s that show a French drain on the west side of the building. Given its age, it is likely clogged and collapsed allowing water to flow underneath the building slab. Replacing that drain system is a high priority for 2026. A major project was painting the Lodge exterior. This was a big job and contracted out. Part of the rustic look of the Lodge came from decades of gradual mildew buildup on the walls. Dealing with that problem required extra steps and expense. For safety and easier painting, the rotting back deck was removed. The building committee is researching having the deck replaced to give another point of egress. In keeping with the fire marshal's recommendations, we want the deck to use more fire-resistant decking and metal handrails. There is now another "building" on the grounds. We had been keeping firewood under the deck at the back of the Lodge. Both the fire marshal and our insurance carrier frowned on that to say the least. Hence, a small metal shed set apart from the other buildings was installed. We had 20 rentals this past year. Those rentals generated \$3,190 plus \$220 received for 2026 rentals. Thanks to all the members who show up to help maintain the Lodge and Grounds and to the donors whose support is so important for major undertakings.

Lodge Grounds (Nancy Whitfield): The Grounds Committee met jointly with the Lodge Committee early in the year. A defensible space project began after meeting with a Eugene Springfield deputy fire marshal for an assessment of our fire preparedness. A contractor was hired to grind up a 30 foot area surrounding the Lodge. Work parties continued working on details of this project. Vern Marsonette maintained power equipment. Six work parties maintained the grounds and Lodge. A 5-year planning process for funding maintenance and repairs began. Individual committee members put in many hours of work on self-initiated projects.

Membership (Diane Schechter): Membership has been steadily increasing. We currently have 452 members. Membership payments: Almost all the new memberships have paid by credit card. Every new person who joined in 2025 paid by credit card. Many members who renewed by check last year have renewed by credit card this year. Memberships Renewals: Renewals for many members will continue throughout the year as membership is for a full year from payment. Members receive an auto generated reminder 30 days before their expiration date. After memberships have expired, members receive an email from the membership committee with instructions on how to renew. Get Acquainted Hikes: The Get Acquainted hikes offered by Dorothy van Winkle have continued to be very successful. Total attendance this year was 92 people. Average attendance per hike was 11 people. The total number of guests attending was 31 although it is very likely there were more, as many guests attended without registering. 45% of the guests who registered became members—which is excellent. Greeters: Emily Rice has been

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coordinating the greeters and we have three greeters per potluck, We have continued to have some reserved seats for new people, to ensure that they are welcomed by members who are prepared to engage with them and share information about the Obsidians. Other: The new website, despite the challenges, is attractive and an excellent introduction to the Obsidians. The change to a 365-day membership, is more equitable for our members, who now get a full year's worth of dues. Get Acquainted hikes have been a very good way to encourage membership. The Climbs committee has been offering more classes which has attracted younger members.

Online/Webmaster (Lana Lindstrom & Carla Cooper): The new website continues to garner excellent reviews for its appearance and information. There were no glitches for Summer Camp signups in April when 90 people were all trying to sign up at the same time! However, starting in mid-June, folks started reporting that they received error messages when they attempted to sign up for a trip no matter which device they used and since then the number of complaints has increased; the developer is investigating. We had two major updates: one in July which addressed several issues, and one at the very end of September specifically affecting membership. Carla and Lana continue to work with the developer to address outstanding enhancement requests.

Publications/Bulletin (Lou Maenz): The *Bulletin* Committee published and mailed a total of 10 monthly issues of 200 copies each for a total of 2,000 annual copies.

Publicity (Denise Rubenstein & Lisa Van Liefde): This year, the Publicity Committee made significant strides in connecting with the community and growing our reach. Our team engaged residents through four key events: hosting tables at the South East Neighbor Association picnic, the Better Ways Block Party, and the Legacy Award presentation at the Shedd, as well as presenting at the Laurelwood Neighborhood Association breakfast. Thanks to Scott Wilkinson's excellent design work, we produced new flyers and secured city approval to display them on Ridgeline Trail kiosks. Our popular bookmarks remain a hit, displayed at supportive local businesses such as Title Nine and the River House. Scott and Denise created our first sticker and the committee will continue to edit in preparation for a larger printing/distribution. We also have a Powerpoint Presentation that can be used for introducing our organization to various audiences. Digitally, we have actively grown our social media platforms, highlighting monthly potlucks, historical *Look Backs*, and important public service updates. We are excited to build on this area of growth in the coming year.

Safety (Maryanne Reiter): In 2025 the Safety Committee researched and then purchased a new AED for the Lodge. The new AED is from Cardio Partners and cost \$1,350. It is under warranty until 2033. We also set up an Obsidian sponsorship of another NOLS Wilderness First Aid (WFA) class for 2026. Finally, the Committee started the discussion about safety topics for other committee activities such as bus trips, climbs, trips, stewardship and Lodge building and grounds.

Science Education (Angie Ruzicka interim): The Science Education Committee sponsored five events during 2025: three in conjunction with Wetland Wanders sponsored by WREN (Willamette Resources Education Network), one ramble at Green Island, and a Nature Ramble near our Lodge with Whitey Lueck. In addition to these events, Obsidians learned new things during hikes, stewardship activities, and potluck presentations.

Stewardship (Darko Sojak): Obsidian volunteers have completed another passionate year of giving of their time, effort, and positive energy. In 2025, Obsidian's stewards organized and participated in record breaking 41 projects such as: popular monthly *Be the Change* cleanups, local trail maintenance outings and community projects near and far. Thank you everyone.

Summer Camp (Angie Ruzicka): Obsidians had a successful 2025 Summer Camp at Wallowa Lake Camp! There were 98 participants who enjoyed the beautiful setting, stunning hikes, a variety of sightseeing adventures, time for in-camp socializing, and delicious food prepared by camp staff. Near the end of 2025 a study group was formed to explore options for Summer Camp 2026. The group chose Lake Creek Youth Camp (the site of Summer Camp in 2014); we look forward to hiking in the Strawberry Mountains and exploring the surrounding area. Two new leaders—Angie Ruzicka, Committee Chair and Karen Yoerger, Camp Boss—are excited to organize the six-night camp. Pam Caples returns as Treasurer/Registrar.

Trips (Dave Cooper): In 2025 the Trips Committee sponsored 328 events. The breakdown of activity types was: one backpack, seven bike rides, two classes, three paddles, seven snowshoes, two cross country skis, and 306 hikes. There is something very telling about the hikes. Of those 306 hikes, 228 were urban. We are very fortunate to have the Ridgeline, Mt. Pisgah, and more so close at hand but the focus of the club has changed over time for a variety of reasons. In 2026 there will be an effort to explore more of the state's dramatic and interesting areas. Most importantly, we all need to express our gratitude to the 46 leaders who made all these events happen.

OBSDIANS MISSION:

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

WANTED: Do you have a flower garden that needs to be thinned? Looking for a few transplants of rubekia, coreopsis, achillea, echinacea or hardy flowering plants that can take full sun. If you have some to share, please send info to ndwhitfield@gmail.com.





Friday, March 27, 2026

Summer Camp Rally

—*Angie Ruzicka and Karen Yoerger*

SUMMER CAMP 2026 WILL BE HELD AT LAKE CREEK CAMP, adjacent to the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness Area of the Malheur National Forest, about 30 miles south and east of John Day, Oregon. We will have a six-night camp starting Sunday afternoon, August 23, and ending Saturday morning, August 29. Angie Ruzicka, Committee Chair, and Karen Yoerger, Camp Boss, will present information about this year's camp.



Strawberry Mountain. Photo by Darko Sojak.

Potluck & Presentation

Friday, March 27, 2026

Obsidian Lodge

Social Time 6 PM

Potluck 6:30 PM Presentation 7:30 PM

Bring your favorite potluck dish to share along with your own plate, bowl, utensils, and cup that you'll take home to wash. A small donation will be gladly appreciated.



Strawberry Lake. Photo courtesy of US Forest Service—Pacific Northwest Region. Photographer: Matthew Tharp.

OBSIDIANS EVENTS

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE AND COMPLETE INFORMATION
ABOUT ALL OF OUR ACTIVITIES, SEE THE OBSIDIANS WEBSITE.

Regularly Scheduled Tuesday and Wednesday Hikes

Blanton Ridge to Spencer Butte Various Leaders

Distance: 8.5 mi. Elevation gain: 1,740 ft.

Tuesdays:

March 10, 17, 24, 31

April 7, 14, 21, 28

Amazon Headwaters to Spencer Butte Various Leaders

Distance: 6.2 mi. Elevation gain: 1,530 ft.

Wednesdays:

March 11, 18, 25

April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

CHECK FOR DETAILS & SIGN UP ONLINE

obsidians.org/events

STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Arboretum Care

Saturday, March 14
9 AM–12:15 PM

Spencer Butte Trail Maintenance

9:00 AM–NOON
Saturday, March 28
Saturday, April 25

5:30–8 PM
Wednesday, May 27

Have a question?

Contact obsidians-stewardship@googlegroups.com

Get Acquainted Hikes

Second Saturday of the Month:
March 14, April 11

Members and nonmembers, please join us!
Sign up online.

This is an easy and always enjoyable
romp through the woods.

Please contact Dorothy for the particulars.

dorothyvanwinkle@yahoo.com

(541) 485-7416, land line, no texting

Thank you!

Mt. Pisgah Sunset Full Moonrise

Distance: 3 miles round trip Elevation gain: 1,000 ft.

March 31
April 29

Guests welcome
CHECK FOR DETAILS
& SIGN UP ONLINE

obsidians.org/events



Upcoming GameNight! dates are:

Tuesday, March 17 (changed from 3/10)
Thursday, April 16
Tuesday, May 12

4:30 –7:30 PM at the Lodge

Be sure to check the Obsidians
calendar before you arrive in case of a change
in date or time.

For more information, go to the Entertainment
page on obsidians.org/entertainment



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March 2026



Into the mist—or waitin' on a sunny day? Photo by Darko Sojak on the February 27 Mt. Baldy Hike.

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