

THE VOLUNTEER

oice



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

Winter 2007/2008

Park partners re-discover forgotten wayside

**Efforts restore oasis for weary
travelers, bring satisfaction and
vitality to volunteers**

*Written by Tom Peterson,
Deschutes State Recreation Area ranger*



In the summer of 1997, Lloyd and Darlene Alexander drove from Condon to their hometown of Fossil via Highway 19. Under the looming basalt of the canyon walls, they spied an overgrown weed patch with rotting picnic tables. They had no idea that they would soon be breathing new life into this park or that it would still be under their care 11 years later.

“It was just overgrown the way a vacant lot would be,” said Lloyd Alexander while his wife Darlene picked up fallen branches at the park. “The trees were overgrown; the grass was overgrown with weeds and brush; there were no toilets, and we thought, ‘what a shame.’”

Continued on page 12.

Collier Memorial State Park played host to the 2007 Co-Op Conference

Learning, showing off, visiting with friends and having fun describes the 2007 Co-Op Conference held last fall. More than 117 Friends and OPRD folks met Oct. 6-8, 2007 at Collier Memorial State Park.

Building on the theme Oxen to Engines: Power, Progress, Partnership, the conference program took a look at the power of private/public partnerships, our progress as partners and how our partnerships can shape the future.

Collier Park staff and Barbara Beauchemin, wife of Park Manager Jim, did a wonderful job highlighting the park’s fall colors. On day one, Kyleen Stone, assistant director of Recreation Programs and Planning, shared her witty expressions when she talked about the serious business of having fun. She reminded us that what we do matters and creates meaningful experiences for all our customers. OPRD Planner Mark Davison followed with an introduction to OPRD’s Centennial Horizon planning. We all “revved our engines” in group discussions that explored how we can deliver the Centennial Horizon message.

The traditional First Timer’s event focused on sustainability. Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission Chair Bill Gregory (now retired) and Volunteer Coordinator Tammy Baumann joined other first timers in thinning a tongue depressor forest and using the timber to fill in a train and an ox outline. Tryon Creek Park Manager MG Devereux and Volunteer Coordinator Jill Nishball planned the event.

The Logging Museum was a perfect backdrop as volunteers demonstrated the Robin Danielson Drag Saws and the historic saw mill. Many jumped on the Altman Taylor steam engine pulled wagon for a museum tour. Jim Beauchemin and numerous volunteers did a great job!



Continued on page 2.



Co-Op Conference . . . continued from page 1.

The day ended with the chow bell. Norm and his crew from Yummy’s Catering served authentic cowboy cuisine from a real chuck wagon! The sounds of Laurie Jo Brain and the Brainstorm Band filled the night and drew the evening to a close. Folks then headed to the comforts of the Running Y Ranch Resort in Klamath Falls.

Day two began with emcee Richard Walkoski, Recreation Programs manager.

Throughout the day, each Co-Op gave a two-minute presentation that answered the question, “In the two years spanning 2005–2007, our greatest accomplishment has been . . .” Props, stories, and statistics peppered the outstanding sessions. In addition to the stage time, each group showed off materials, told stories and highlighted projects on display tables. Thank you for your time and talents—the tables looked fantastic!

A special thank you goes to Shirley Nelson, Friends of Cape Blanco, for her living history presentation as Jane Hughes. Shirley took folks back to the 1800s portraying Jane’s life in the historic Hughes House.

Participants also attended general and breakout sessions on Sunday. Thank you to the presenters—private busi-

nesses, Friends and OPRD staff—for the thought-provoking and informative ideas.

The general sessions included presentations on Partnering with OPRD: Paths for Successful Interpretive Projects and Programs, and Outdoor Recreation in Oregon: The Changing Face of the Future. Breakout sessions were grouped into four tracks that included:

Partnership Proficiency

Partnership Fun-de-mentals

Communication Essentials

Partnering for Oregon 150

Community Engagement

Staying Relevant:

Board and Volunteer Recruitment

Staying Relevant:

Ethnic Diversity & Aging

Stay Relevant in Engaging Youth

Program Excellence

Discovering Best Practices in Developing Interpretive Panels

Effective Interpretive Presentations

Preparing Interpretive Plans (101)

Operational Sustainability

Grant Writing Success

Fundraising for Friends

Guidelines for Interpretive Stores and OPRD’s Branding Plan



Co-Op Conference . . . *continued from page 2.*

To view the session materials, visit www.oregon.gov/OPRD/VOL/Co_OP_Conference_Sessions.shtml.

Participants hovered around the Silent Auction tables when not in a session. Thanks to the fundraising talents of the Oregon State Parks Trust and the generous donations of the Friends and sponsors, the auction raised \$2,873 for the Co-Op Conference Scholarship Fund!

An evening of dining and stargazing aboard The Klamath Belle Paddlewheel on Upper Klamath Lake brought the day to an end. The Friends of Collier generously covered the cost of the dinner and cruise for the conference participants. OPRD Director Tim Wood offered words of encouragement and thanks as the sun set. Folks enjoyed the stories and local interpretation of Howard Jones, Friends of Collier. Dave, David and Jill from the Oregon State Parks Trust offered items for sale at an oral auction.

On the final day, a number of folks attended an early morning session discussing and reviewing our legal framework.

The conference ended with the Stewart Awards Banquet honoring outstanding volunteers. Tim Wood and Bill Gregory recognized the 2007 Stewart Award

nominees. Dick and Freddie Graves, Friends of Cape Meares, were honored with the Inspiration award. Carol Vanderwall, Friends of Silver Falls, and Greg Leo, Friends of Historic Champoeg, each received the Rising Star award. Virginia "Gini" Lang, Friends of Historic Champoeg, received the Life Service award and Marie VanPatten, Friends of Historic Champoeg, earned the Park Staff Leadership award.

Award nominees included Andy LaTomme, Friends of Shore Acres; Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, Friends of Shore Acres; Merrill Johnson, Friends of Historic Champoeg; Patty Logan, Friends of Silver Falls; Sandy Schoenke, Friends of Tryon Creek; and Steve Beck, Friends of Yaquina Lighthouse.

Kyleen Stone ended the conference with Land to Legacy: The OPRD Story video presentation. Some folks took advantage of the beautiful day and took a bicycle tour of the OC&E Woods Line Trail.

The Co-Op Conference is a biennial celebration, recognition and educational event. Look for a "save the date" announcement for the 2009 conference in the coming months. Start thinking now about what you would like to see at the next conference! ●

Thank You CONFERENCE SPONSORS

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More information about the sponsors including contact e-mails and telephone numbers is available at www.oregon.gov/OPRD/VOL/Co_OP_Conference_sponsor.shtml



Capitol grounds now in the park system

OPRD added a new state park to the system Jan. 1, 2008. It came already developed with monuments, memorials, fountains, works of art, a gazebo, courtyard plantings and blocks of sidewalks. The Oregon Legislature named the property the State Capitol State Park in a law passed last session. Assistant Director Dave Wright said OPRD's new role in taking care of the Capitol grounds is "not a new concept. Other state park systems, including California, take care of their state capitol grounds. It gives us a chance to show our stuff in a pretty visible spot."

Long-time OPRD employee Jim Bader heads a new unit that maintains the park. Duties include irrigation, outdoor lighting not associated with the main buildings, snow and ice removal, and the removal of waste and debris. OPRD also agreed to help maintain the landscaping around the governor's residence in return for the Department of Administrative Services' continued coordination of Capitol Mall events.

Bader leads a crew of former DAS employees—Bruce Degerstedt, Tim Pierce and Michael Hoffmann—who have a combined 37 years of experience working on the Capitol grounds. "All three volunteered to become park employees," said Willamette Valley District Manager Dennis Wiley. "Their experience and proven dedication will be invaluable in meeting the expectations of those who proposed establishing the park."



The new park includes Salem's historic Willson Park between the Capitol's west wing and Cottage Street; the landscape between the Capitol's east wing and Waverly Street; and the Capitol Mall grounds bordered by Winter Street on the west, Capitol Street on the east and Center Street on the north.



(From left) Jim Bader, Bruce Degerstedt, Michael Hoffmann and Tim Pierce.

DAS manages the buildings, including the Capitol, the underground parking structure and the infrastructure within the park's boundaries. The Oregon State Police provide security.

OPRD is using \$863,000 in Lottery funds to maintain the park this biennium. ●



Kam Wah Chung after the restoration

When the historic Kam Wah Chung and Company building opens for the season in May, visitors might not notice a change. That's good, because a 10-month restoration project included keeping the historic feel of the building.

Happenings AT OPRD

Sustain the Spirit!

Join us in preparing for Oregon's 150th anniversary

The 150th anniversary of Oregon statehood is only a year away. Event planning is under way in many communities and OPRD.

Oregon 150, a nonprofit group, is charged with planning the overall sesquicentennial and promoting a handful of statewide events. Most activities though will be created at the grassroots level; local events sponsored by communities across the state. Some events will focus on the state's history since 1859. Others activities will look toward the future. Most events are scheduled to be held from February through September 2009.

We encourage our friends, partners and volunteers to join our planning efforts. Events will focus on a park or community, although some activities will be part of existing programs. As an example, the 2009 Oregon State Fair will have a sesquicentennial theme and host the final statewide Oregon 150 event.

The north room now looks like it did in 1910. The floors and ceiling were replaced with historically appropriate materials. The walls have new plaster and the damaged wallpaper was replaced with a replica featuring the original design. The building and artifacts are now protected by a high-fog fire suppression system and fire detection, security and lighting systems. An invitation only event is planned for May 3 to celebrate the restoration.

Restoring the building wasn't the only activity at Kam Wah Chung State Heritage Site. Researchers began an ongoing inventory of all the objects and archives; the last count of individual items neared 30,000. Volunteer hosts also helped



SUSTAIN THE SPIRIT

WWW.OREGON150.ORG

Some of the Oregon 150 projects are great opportunities for us to develop our own activities. On Take Care of Oregon Day, Oregonians will roll up their sleeves to give back to their state. For instance, volunteers might clear trails, paint a school, clean a pioneer cemetery or a park. The Oregon 150 board hopes this day will be the largest volunteer event in Oregon's history. Take Care of Oregon Day is tentatively scheduled for May 16, 2009. Watch the OPRD event calendar at www.oregonstateparks.org for additional park activities.

For more information about Oregon 150 and ways you can help celebrate the state anniversary, visit www.oregon150.org ●

organize and move parts of the archives into archival safe folders and sleeves. The 2008 hosts will continue the archive project this summer.

Host volunteers also worked in the Interpretive Center, talking with visitors and arranging and organizing the hourly tours of the Kam Wah Chung building. The Friends of Kam Wah Chung Museum helped at the Interpretive Center and expanded their bookstore. The Friends also are transcribing the oral history interviews of local residents who remember when Kam Wah Chung was open for business.

Kam Wah Chung State Heritage Site is open May 1 to October 31, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. ●

Host Rendezvous 2008!

From Acorns to Oak Trees: Planting Seeds for Growth



*New to park hosting?
Done it for years? No matter.*

If you have signed up for park host assignments this year, you are welcome to join us for the 2008 Park Host Rendezvous! Join us at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem, April 20-25.

For New Hosts

- Learn about the program and expectations and attend a new host orientation.
- Network with others with years and years of hosting experience!

For All

- Meet new friends and greet old acquaintances at the opening night potluck dinner!
- Attend workshop sessions and learn about current programs.
- Discover new parks and meet park staff at the Host Opportunities Fair.
- Clap for outstanding host award nominees and recipients!
- Learn helpful communication tactics for voluntary compliance.
- Watch a wonderful interpretive program led by a Silver Falls park naturalist.
- Receive 10 safety training modules, so you'll be ready to go!

- Enjoy delicious meals, social activities and health and wellness workshops.
- Be recognized for all your hard work as hosts—our largest group of volunteers!

Optional Activities

- Dinner cruise on the Willamette Queen riverboat.
- Oregon Symphony Pops Concert with Norman Leyden.
- Evening trip to a local musical, *Dorian: The Remarkable Mr. Gray*.
- RV Round-Up. Check out the backing and hitching stations and take the pre-flight inspection and knowledge/perception tests!
- Your choice of four half-day field trips to local area state parks.

Go to www.oregonstateparks.org and click on the VOLUNTEERS link to find Rendezvous registration materials. ●

Congratulations to the newest NorthWest Ambassadors!



Forty park hosts from Oregon, Idaho and Washington met at Washington's Brooks Memorial State Park for an action-packed day of learning, networking and polishing their skills to serve as new North West Ambassadors!

Congratulations go to John and Sandee Acocella; Larry and Judy Perkins; Bill and Ellen Durham; Jim and Jan Wilber; Kenn and Betty Kennedy; Harold and Gloria Bartol; Alex and Nelda Alexander; Tom and Joan Langley; Jack Edwards and Sandy Edwards; Dennis and Fran Trettin; Fred Turner; Stanley and Darlene Edwards; Gene and Peggy Rinehart; John and Nancy Nielsen; Ken and Karen Bauer; Pete and Leslie Guldenzopf; Mimi Stieler; Betty Schiemer; Jack and Linda Howerton; Ron and Pat Taylor; Mitch Bergman; Elaine Goodner; and Barbara Clark.

The ambassador program uses volunteers to promote volunteering and camping within the state park systems of Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Interested volunteers are recruited nationwide and are asked to attend RV shows and conferences and to staff exhibits. The ambassadors also make presentations and answer questions about their state parks and the campground host program while hosting and traveling outside the Northwest.

OPRD's own Volunteer Services Coordinator Jill Nishball joined coun-



Shirley Mackey promotes Northwest Ambassadors.

terparts Pam McConkey, Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission, and Kathryn Hampton, Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation, in coordinating and presenting at the biennial event.

Jill shared the recently produced "Land to Legacy: The OPRD Story" video as an introduction to Oregon. Idaho and Washington introduced their park opportunities through video as well. Kathryn's lighthearted presentation of Give 'Em The Pickle! was a great refresher on customer service and skills. Look for an encore presentation at the April Host Rendezvous.

For more information regarding the NorthWest Amassadors Program, leave a message on the Volunteer Hotline: (877) 225-9803 or visit www.oregon.gov/OPRD/VOL ●



Devil's Lake volunteer in the news

The *Lincoln City News Guard* featured a story on park host Mike Gregory of Devil's Lake State Park. Gregory leads summer kayak tours on the lake. The news story says that Gregory "prides himself on leading a 'calm' kayak tour, one that doesn't require a lot of upper body strength nor experience with a kayak." ●

Program ANNOUNCEMENTS

Safety Corner

We want you to stay healthy



Our volunteers have taken on more roles through the years to support the OPRD mission. Although a tremendous benefit to the agency, the expanded duties have exposed park hosts and other volunteers to a variety of work hazards. Our volunteers are suffering more on the job injuries, some very serious.

The statewide Safety Review Board (SRB) says that the typical volunteer injuries reported and reviewed include:

- slips, trips and falls. They are the most common incidents and the source of our most serious injuries.
- muscle and other soft tissue strains and sprains, especially to the lower back, shoulder and knee.
- hand injuries such as cuts, scrapes and other minor injuries, but occasionally a serious finger or wrist fracture.

Most of these injuries are preventable. The SRB urges staff and volunteers to take specific actions to reduce the frequency and the severity of injuries. Reducing the number of injuries is well within our grasp, if we take the opportunity to work safely.

Avoiding slips, trips and falls

- Wear shoes with good tread and ankle support.
- Keep work areas clear of extension cords, liquid spills or materials stored in walkways.

- Make sure work areas are well lighted. Make sure you are awake and alert. One injury trend reveals that trips/falls seem to happen early in the morning, possibly because of low light or drowsiness.
- Report slick or icy walkways, stairs and ramps to park staff. They can apply de-icer, add traction strips or other safety measures.

Preventing back, shoulder and knee strains

- Evaluate the load that needs to be moved. If it's too heavy to lift and carry, get help or find a hand truck.
- Rather than attempt to move a large load, break the load into smaller units and make several trips.
- Avoid reaching for or lifting heavy objects above shoulder height. Get help or use a step stool or ladder.

- Watch out for uneven ground or hidden hazards such as gopher holes or sprinkler heads.

Preventing hand injuries

- Do not use hand or power tools unless you are properly trained.
- Use protective equipment such as machine guards and gloves.
- Work at a safe pace. Common factors that lead to hand injuries include rushing the job or becoming distracted.
- Make sure you have good light and an uncluttered work area.

The best weapons in our arsenal to prevent injuries are training and hazard assessment. Make sure you are prepared for the task and have assessed the hazards prior to starting the job. These steps will go a long way toward preventing incidents.

From Safety for Success by OPRD Safety & Risk Manager David Solomon

SOLV Down by the Riverside

May 17, 2008

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

“The Year of the Invasives”

Join others in conservation projects highlighting the dangers of invasive species to our state.

Check the SOLV volunteer calendar at SOLV.org for project locations.

A SOLV Watershed Program

Volunteer SPOTLIGHT

Parks hosts retire after 27 years

Park Hosts Julius and Betty Sharpy announced their retirement after 27 years of service. Each contributed more than 12,000 hours to Oregon State Parks. Thank you, Julius and Betty. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Excerpted from their retirement e-mail:

Well, summer is almost over with and the park did not close because we were not there. We were there in spirit. I guess this is a hard letter for me to write as I know that an era has ended for us. First of all we want to thank you all for the opportunity to

serve the campers who come to the greatest parks in the country. Oregon beholds beauty and wonders that are special like no other state. Our camp hosting for 27 years was a highlight of our lives. Your kindness to us over the years has been an awesome experience. The staff of all the Oregon State Parks will always be held special in our hearts.

*Love and kisses
to all of you
Julius and Betty*



The Sharpys in the 1970s



The Sharpys in the 2000s

Good Morning America visits Shore Acres State Park

Shirley Bridgham was quite surprised to get a telephone call from New York City just after the 2007 Shore Acres Holiday Lights display opened. “This is Matt Frucci of ABC’s Good Morning America,” the caller said. “We would like to come and do a story on your lights display and your part of the Oregon coast.”

Producer Tracey Marx and camera man Scott Douglas visited Shore Acres on Nov. 30 to interview Shirley and videotape (in high definition) the lights display. David Bridgham took photos of the whole process.

The next morning Marx interviewed OPRD District Manager Larry Becker about the park, the coast and the Friends of Shore Acres. Douglas

and assistant Mike Dilley also shot footage of the coast and the sea lions at Simpson Reef. All went according to plan—it was the day before the big storm that shut down the park for several days—and they headed back to their studio to put the segment together.

On Sunday, Dec. 16, Shore Acres State Park received national exposure for about 3 minutes—two teaser scenes and the 2:39-minute interview on Good Morning America Weekend.

“They did a great job of promoting the coast and its natural beauty as a backdrop for the lights display,” said Shirley.



Shirley Bridgham and a crew from Good Morning America Weekend prepare for the Shore Acres Holiday Lights interview.

“Who knows how many new visitors we will get this year, next year and in the coming years?”

Shirley and David Bridgham are two of the founders of Friends of Shore Acres Inc. (1986) and have co-chaired the holiday lights event since it began in 1987. ●

Friends Group UPDATE

The rose and apple return to Thompson's Mills

by Martin Thompson, Boston Mill Society president

When the Boston Mill Society organized in 1994, we knew that restoring the grain silos' emblems would be the single most significant improvement to Thompson's Mills. The Valley Rose and Delicious Apple emblems represented flour brands marketed by owner, Otto Thompson. The colorful designs also were placed on the flour sacks to increase sales in general merchandise stores.

The project became a real possibility after the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department bought Thompson's Mills in 2004.

OPRD and the society signed a cooperative agreement that allowed the society to raise money for projects. Everyone

agreed the emblem project had great aesthetic value. A

rough estimate of the project cost was about \$9,000. Before the project began, engineers evaluated the structural integrity of the silos and contractors removed lead-based paint and patched concrete and filled cracks.

As the old paint was removed, shadow images of two earlier emblems were discovered, one over the other. The discovery confirmed the exact size and location of the emblems. The earliest image appeared to represent the emblems on existing flour sacks.

The discovery also presented a challenge. The process for restoring the emblems became more involved, which meant the contract price with muralist Lori Webb of Silver Stream Studio was low. Delays in other work at the site pushed the project start into the fall, much later than the August date agreed to in the contract. Painting started in the rainy season. Fewer daylight hours increased the lift rental time and the number of travel trips.

The rose design and colors were easy to replicate based on existing flour sacks in "mint condition." But the apple was another matter. Colors on the apple flour sack appeared to be in poor condition and did not match the typical red delicious apple found in today's grocery stores. Webb found the apple used on the sack was modeled after a variety called Hawkeye and it was striped with yellow. She had to carefully blend the paint for the yellow stripes.

The completed murals are vibrant in complementary colors against the brighter white of the silos, a real beacon for Oregon's newest state park. ●

The newly refurbished emblems are a special welcome to the park.



Muralist Lori Webb spent many hours in a lift painting the emblems.



Steadfast volunteers, the Hinds bring Champoeg history to life

by Kim Martin, Living History coordinator, Friends of Historic Champoeg

Volunteers Donna and Mark Hinds shared 1860s life with more than a thousand visitors during the 2007 Living History events at Champoeg State Heritage Area. The Donald Manson Farmstead teemed with activity as the Hinds encouraged visitors to turn wood on a spring-pole powered lathe, sew a quilt square with needle and thread, and turn the handle on an antique apple cider press.

Retired teachers and longtime volunteers, the Hinds have extensively researched life in the 19th century, particularly life at Champoeg and surrounding communities. A love of history and dedication to bringing it to life moves them to present Living History free programs at schools, civic meetings and retirement homes. "We just returned from touring Living History sites back east, and performed our revamped Plymouth pilgrim program twice last fall," said Mark. "It's hard to return to the present and not speak with thee and thou!"

Donna and Mark are involved in other Living History ventures around the area. Each fall the Hinds research and portray a person buried in the Oregon City cemetery. Their program gives a glimpse of the characters, some of whom were quite extraordinary. Mark has portrayed the steamboat captain who rescued 41 people during the

epic flood of 1861 that so dramatically changed the Champoeg landscape.

During the 2007 State Fair on the OPRD Stage, Donna and Mark brought to life "George and Martha Snipes of Rowena." Their portrayal of ordinary citizens' lives helped the audience understand the past in Eastern Oregon.

The Hinds also perform Champoeg campground programs. They have written and performed vignettes based on the lives of the Matheny family, who journeyed west in the first wagon train to arrive at Oregon City, and the life of a fictitious couple after the devastating flood of 1861 took away their home and livelihood.

"Donna and Mark watch other historical performers to learn as much as they can about this place and the people who lived here," said Champoeg seasonal park ranger Carol Worrall. "We invite them back because the audiences love their performances, and they just keep getting better!"

As part of the public programming committee of Friends of Historic Champoeg, the Hinds have been active in developing Living History programs during the past several years. Mark has recently joined the Board of Directors and taken on the responsibility of chairing the Public Programming Committee.

We will take that as a sign of their ongoing commitment to this special park, and we hope they will be part of the telling of our stories for years to come. ●



Park partners re-discover forgotten wayside . . . *continued from page 1.*

The couple decided to get involved.

“We decided to help clean it up and open it,” Lloyd said. Darlene, a 30-year volunteer with Fishes & Loaves in Estacada, and Lloyd, a former log truck driver, were no strangers to hard work. So they rolled up their sleeves and created an oasis for the weary traveler.

The Alexanders, who had recently moved to Fossil, met with locals Earl Enyart, “Bruin” Brunner, Bess and Clint Ray, Howard Dyer, Myrtle Potter, Phil and Sue McClure, Ray and Ruth Lantis, Frank Dyer, Bill and Sally Dyer, Lee Bouchard and Bob Luther and formed a partnership. They contacted the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and organized a work party, agreeing to adopt the park so it could be properly maintained.

With the help of former Park Manager Jeannette Bondsteel and Ranger Jim Anderson at Deschutes State Recreation Area, the group began the restoration. They cut back locust trees, mowed grass, built fences, repaired picnic tables, planted fruit trees and installed port-a-potties.

The wayside, given to the state in 1930 by homesteader J.W. Dyer, re-opened to the public shortly thereafter in 1997.

Through the years, Dyer Partners have averaged about 10 hours a week to maintain the park. Equally important, they have enlisted numerous volunteers to improve the park with the help of state, federal and local agencies.

In 1999, the Bureau of Land Management donated two surplus toilets set aside at the Wheeler County maintenance yard after Lloyd inquired about them. Wheeler County officials delivered the toilets to the site. OPRD installed two vaults so the toilets could be placed. Shamrock Contractors of Condon put new roofs on the toilets free of charge.

In 2000, OPRD installed a reservoir to capture spring water at the site to force feed the new irrigation lines to properly water the area.

Gilliam County road crews installed pathways in the park, and crews expanded the abutting parking lot with drainage and road debris.

Jim Anderson, now the Deschutes State Recreation Area manager tipped his hat to the Alexanders and Dyer Partners.

“They brought a dead park back to life and continue to improve it. It’s a beautiful spot for people coming down the road...”

Jim Anderson, Deschutes State Recreation Area Manager

“They brought a dead park back to life and continue to improve it. It’s a beautiful spot for people coming down the road,” he said. “Dyer Partners is what every manager hopes for—industrious people who find ways to make good things happen.”

Frank Dyer, 72, whose grandfather gave the land to the state, said it gave him great pride to be a part of the park’s stewardship.

The work does not go without notice.

Dozens of notes have been left at the park thanking volunteers for their efforts.

“Thank you for the wonderful rest stop in the sun,” wrote one recent visitor who left only an e-mail address. “You bring passers by much relief. NICE JOB.”

And that’s what keeps Dyer Partners motivated, partially.

“Most of the people are very good, really appreciative,” Lloyd said. “I get personal satisfaction in doing something. It’s better than sitting around and vegetating.”

Darlene saw it more as a matter of duty. “It has to be done,” she said after picking up broken glass near the park entrance. “Somebody has got to do it. I enjoy it. I really do.”

Lloyd, 78, however, is concerned about getting people involved with the park. Dyer Partner volunteer numbers have dwindled, and a recent letter to the editor failed to bring any new people into the fold.

“I know we have a core of senior citizens that are in good enough shape to do it,” Lloyd said. “They will feel better for it. I know I do.” ●

What's your favorite volunteer program?

Thousands of volunteers help us maintain a high level of customer service, offer a growing number of interpretive programs and help park staff. Volunteers are involved in activities such as answering visitor questions, leading historical tours, adopting trails and removing invasive plants.

We offer different types of volunteer opportunities to involve people of all ages and abilities while matching volunteer interests and park projects.

Adopt-a-Park

Individuals, families and community groups can sign up to “adopt” their favorite park, trail or waysides. The “adopters” take care of their location by picking up litter, clearing trails, restoring native plants, taking visitor counts and helping with special events. This program requires a one-year commitment.

Cooperative Associations

Commonly known as “Friends” groups, these volunteers provide activities to enhance the park visitor’s experience. They may operate small interpretive or museum stores, provide programming, restore historic buildings and lighthouses and help raise funds to improve the park’s educational programs.

Park Hosts

The park host program is the largest and most active volunteer segment. Individuals can select from three park host types, all with varied duties and assignments. Hosts greet visitors, answer questions, and give directions and advice on the attractions in the park and surrounding area. They present campground programs and lead trail and historic site tours.

Individuals and Groups

Opportunities for individuals and groups are unique and often arise out of a need at the park or a particular interest/ability of the individual or group. Some opportunities include:

Special Events

In cooperation with SOLV and other agencies, OPRD co-sponsors two annual beach cleanup events and one “Down-by-the-Riverside” cleanup event. Other cleanup events include the Lake Billy Chinook Celebration and clean up, Lake Owyhee’s cleanup and Smith Rock’s Spring Thing.

Special Projects

From coordinating events, recording oral histories to restoring trails and clearing storm damage, volunteers continue to support OPRD through special projects.

Whale Watching Spoken Here

Whale Watching Spoken Here® is currently the largest whale watching organization in the world. For 28 years, trained volunteers have helped visitors watch whales at sites in three states along the Pacific Northwest coast. As a volunteer, you can choose any of our 28 sites to spend a day, a few days or a week sharing what you have learned.

YOUTH VIPs (Volunteers in Parks Award Program)

OPRD introduced a Youth Service Award to encourage, recognize and reward voluntary youth service. The program is designed for youth ages 8-18. With parent or guardian permission, participating youth complete 25 hours of voluntary service, and are eligible to receive a Youth Service Award. ●

Need park host information?

Call 1-800-551-6949

The Parks Info Center can now answer new, potential and returning host questions via a Host Directory referral guide. Info Center staff can help with questions about park hosting seasons, descriptions of park host types available at host parks, site specifications and locations, amenities and much more.

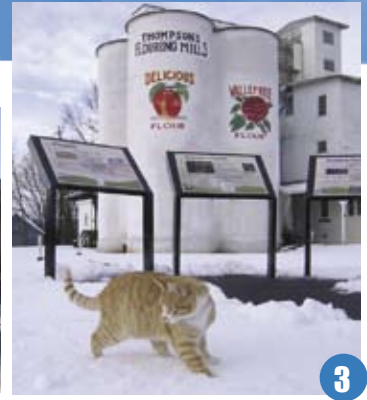
Snow in the parks



1



2



3



4



5



6

1. Silver Falls State Park
2. The Grande Ronde River at Red Bridge
3. Bucky at Thompson's Mills
4. Collier Memorial bunkhouse
5. Milo McIver
6. Detroit Lake
7. Prineville Reservoir
8. Stub Stewart State Park
9. Emigrant Springs



7



8



9



Junior Ranger Program and Interpretive CORE training set for June

Attend the Junior Ranger training scheduled June 16-17 at Canby Grove Camp near Canby. The training is set for 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday and 8-11 a.m., Tuesday. If you are new to working with the OPRD Junior Ranger Program, this program is for you. You will receive program materials, passports and JR Beaver mascot training and watch a sample presentation. Registration, food, and lodging fees for volunteers are funded through the Interpretive Services budget. Training approval and travel expenses are covered by each park as approved by the park manager.

Interpretive CORE training is set for 11 a.m. June 17 and runs through noon June 20 at Canby Grove Camp. The training is designed for new full-time interpretive

staff, seasonal interpretive staff, interns, Americorps members, interpretive staff working for Friends groups, and volunteers. Interpretive CORE training teaches participants the fundamentals of developing thematic interpretive programs.

Participants work in a classroom style setting and breakout group sessions with individual trainers. Watch sample programs and participate in optional morning and evening walks and talks. On the final day, each participant will present a 10-minute program using the theories and methods taught during the week. Registration, food, and lodging fees for volunteers are funded through the Interpretive Services budget. Training approval and travel expenses are covered by each park as approved by the park manager. ●

We asked and you answered!

We hope you enjoyed this edition of *Volunteer Voice*. In the Summer 2007 issue, we asked you a few questions about the newsletter. Thank you for your responses; we learned a great deal. Your insights will help us create a newsletter tailored to your interests.

The majority of you found the newsletter articles to be relevant and of personal interest. We will continue to make sure that the stories are always focused on volunteering in Oregon and of course, volunteering with OPRD. You indicated that we are doing an OK job of using *Volunteer Voice* to share overall direction and activities. We do, however, see an opportunity to improve how we promote all the opportunities we offer. We could include job descriptions, or information on how we engage in partnership relationships.

We recognize that we are missing an opportunity. In future issues, look for articles that highlight how we work

together, what volunteer opportunities are available and how we can shape our experiences together.

Thank you for considering our newsletter production costs! Many of you said that plain paper and no color would be just fine as long as we keep the pictures coming! Publishing a newsletter is not for the faint of heart, but together, we will continue to seek ways to make it even better! We will continue to send the newsletter by mail to all volunteers in our system. In addition, the publication can be downloaded from our website at www.oregon.gov/OPRD/Vol. If you prefer to download rather than receive a mailed copy, let us know and we will send you a postcard announcing the new editions.

Thank you for the great content ideas. Most of the suggestions emphasized that you want to hear more about special places and the special people—volunteers, staff and visitors—that

make Oregon State Parks an incredible place to volunteer and visit.

If you want to submit content for consideration, we are eager to hear from you! Please know that we may be unable to use everything that we receive, and we are unable to return materials. Send us copies, not originals.

Submissions will be accepted in most electronic formats and in hardcopy. Please send your electronic materials to tammy.baumann@state.or.us. Hardcopies can be sent to Tammy Baumann, Volunteer Services Coordinator, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, 725 Summer Street NE, Suite C, Salem, OR 97301. No materials under copyright will be accepted without a copyright release.

Thank you so much for your interest in making *Volunteer Voice* a publication that gets the job done! ●

Hosts' cards welcome yurt campers to Tumalo

Tumalo winter park hosts Gary and Theresa Anderson have begun a new welcoming approach, reports Park Manager Susan Skavlan.

The Andersons are making greeting cards that display photos of each of the park's seven yurts. They leave the cards, along with chocolates, in the yurts for incoming campers. "People really love it," says Susan, as exemplified by the thank-you note from a Portland couple recognizing the hosts' ingenuity.

Dear Hosts:

Thank you for the welcoming Yurt card and chocolates! That's a really neat souvenir of our great Thanksgiving weekend here.

We thoroughly enjoyed our experience in the yurt, and thanks for maintaining it and the Tumalo State Park campground. We are looking forward to coming back!



Photo by Rick Hyman of Los Altos, Calif., winner of the Seventh Annual Friends of Yaquina Lighthouses photo contest.



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