

THE VOLUNTEER

voice

Summer 2008



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

The 2008 Host Rendezvous: A "growing" event and smashing success!

By Jill Nishball, Volunteer Program Coordinator

Freezing temperatures and ice, snow, hail and sleet greeted the folks attending this year's Host Rendezvous, April 20-25. Driving their RVs or hauling their trailers and fifth-wheels from the coast, over snowy mountain passes and across the country from Florida, 175 volunteer park hosts convened at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem.

The theme "From Acorns to Oak Trees: Planting Seeds for Growth," touched on two important host facts. We have brand-new hosts, the acorns, who are

just learning about our park system. We also have many hosts who have served for thousands of hours and have become the sturdy backbone, or the oak trees, of our operations.

The acorns and oak trees joined 50 park staff and 11 guest speakers for a week of training and activities. The popular "Give 'Em The Pickle" presentation gave a fun-filled look at premier customer service. A half-day RV Rodeo, a full day of Verbal Judo, a successful Host Opportunities Fair, 10 safety training modules, and a series of

well-attended general and workshop sessions kept attendees busy. More than 60 new hosts attended an OPRD orientation designed specifically for them. The traditional meet and greet potluck featured LaPine State Park Manager Gary Cloughton playing his guitar.

The hosts appreciated the interpretive program, "Lions, Rangers, Hosts and Bears, Oh My," presented by Silver Falls interpretive ranger Dorothy Brown-Kwaiser. Rounding out the week was a hilarious but serious safety

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Who's who? The captain of the Willamette Queen shares his captaincy with Hugh "Skipper" Butler

Host Rendezvous . . . continued from page 1

wrap-up aptly named the Rendezvous Feud (patterned after the Family Feud game show) by Columbia Gorge park ranger Diane McClay. Four half-day field trips to Silver Falls, L.L. “Stub” Stewart, Thompson’s Mills and Champoeg state parks gave hosts an overview of hosting assignments. Optional evening activities included a dinner cruise on the Willamette Queen Paddlewheel, a trip to the Oregon Symphony of Salem, and a local Pentacle Theater musical production. The event ended with the annual “Gen” Angdahl Memorial Outstanding Host awards program (see related stories on pages 7-9).

Even with the long six-day format and full days of training, discussion and activities, all accounts suggested a successful Rendezvous. Many reported that this event was the best one yet—plenty of opportunities for talking to park rangers, learning more about hosting jobs, and good laughter and fun. Smiles were abundant, good conversations took place, and some tough questions answered! Our wonderful hosts were tired but happy at the end, and that’s a good sign!

Fifty OPRD staff and another 50 or more hosts exemplified the concept of teamwork. Because there were so many of you, it would take entirely too much space to thank each person via this article. You know who you are. Please know that your part in our set up and agenda is fully appreciated. You all made a real impact!

I must recognize the planning team, which spent seven months preparing for and executing the event. Without your attention to detail, leadership, organization and spirit of teamwork, we could not have produced this amazing week. Your efforts and long hours kept us on track and on target, and served our hosts admirably. I do believe our message rang out clearly.

I hope our dedicated statewide cadre of park hosts knows how integral they are to OPRD’s excellent reputation for customer service and operational success, and how much we consider you a part of the parks family. Welcome aboard, and have a fabulous summer in the parks! ●



▲ The Host Recruitment Fair gave park staff the chance to show off their parks.



▲ Host Nancy Gerling talks to new Valley of the Rogue interpretive hosts John and Anne Venner.



▲ Dorothy Brown-Kwaiser presents “Lions, Rangers, Hosts and Bears, Oh My.”

Crissey Field Welcome Center

By Darrell Monk, OPRD Engineering project manager

Contractors are busy placing the final touches on a building at Crissey Field State Recreation Site that will become Oregon's newest welcome center. The 40-acre park is bounded by U.S. 101, the California border, the Winchuck River and the Pacific Ocean.

An unimproved park until work began in 2007, the Crissey Field Welcome Center is the perfect spot to showcase Oregon's pristine public beaches. Trails will lead visitors to explore the beach and adjacent wetland mitigation site.

The park will open late this year as a day-use facility. Two full-hookup host sites are located at the south end of the property. The parking area will accommodate 49 cars and 14 RVs. The 4,500-square-foot building will house a reception area, public restrooms, exhibits, gift store, office space and break room. The building plan includes space for the U.S. Forest Service and Oregon Travel Information Council. ●



Artist rendering of Welcome Center site.

The Welcome Center integrates many sustainable features to reduce impacts to the environment, such as:

- Geothermal radiant floor heat;
- Solar panels to generate electricity;
- Solar water heater;
- Passive ventilation;
- Natural light with light sensors;
- Carpet made with 40 percent post-industrial recycled nylon;
- Low-flow plumbing fixtures;
- Waterless urinals;
- Pipes made of recycled plastic;
- Bioswale for storm water run-off;
- Low VOC (volatile organic compound) paints;
- Concrete pigment stains made from recycled materials.



Safety Corner *Stay cool, take sensible precautions*

We see several incidents each summer and fall caused by critters, poisonous plants and excessive sun. Keep the following in mind:

Critters

This broad category covers things that sting (yellow jackets and bees), bite (spiders, snakes and dogs) or burrow (ticks). Protect yourself by wearing gloves, long sleeves, pants and sturdy footwear when working outdoors. Do not put your hands into places that might hide snakes, spiders or yellow jacket nests. Yellow jackets can be aggressive if disturbed, so watch where you walk, especially near garbage cans. If you are in rattlesnake habitat (southern and eastern Oregon), watch where you step. Ticks are common in Oregon and can transmit serious diseases, such as Lyme. Apply tick repellent to exposed skin, on boots and on pant legs.

Strange or loose dogs can be unpredictable. Don't approach dogs unless they are under control. Loose or aggressive dogs should be reported to staff.

Poisonous plants

Oregon's backcountry and perhaps your backyard are home to poison oak



and poison ivy. Remember: leaves of three, let them be. If working in known poisonous plant areas, wear long sleeves, pants and gloves. Carry Tecnu and apply if you come into contact with poison oak or ivy. If you have a severe reaction, seek medical attention immediately.

Excessive heat and sun

Sunburns are more than just a temporary discomfort. Too much sun exposure can lead to skin cancer. So cover up, wear a wide-brimmed hat, apply SPF 15 or higher sunscreen to exposed skin and limit your time in the sun. Drink lots of water, not coffee, tea or sodas. Caffeinated drinks

do not replace lost body moisture as effectively as plain water. Remember, if you are thirsty, you have waited too long to drink. As the temperature rises, keep a water bottle handy and stay well hydrated all day.

Seniors, people with existing health problems and people taking certain medications are particularly vulnerable to overheating. If you feel dizzy, lightheaded or nauseous, get out of the sun immediately and into a cooler, preferably air conditioned area. Heat exhaustion is a serious condition, so do not hesitate to seek emergency medical help if someone is not recovering quickly from these symptoms. ●

Junior Ranger training held at Canby Grove



Volunteers, seasonal rangers, full-time rangers, hosts and Friends Groups attended this year's Junior Ranger training in June at the Canby Grove Conference Center.

The goal of the Junior Ranger program is to help children have fun in the outdoors while they learn about Oregon State Parks. Junior Ranger activities expose kids to the natural world. It is designed for children ages 6-12.

Junior Ranger training takes attendees through sample programs, hands-on learning tips on how, when, and where

to use the J.R. Beaver mascots and the basic Junior Ranger Passport Program.

Guest speaker Jeffry Gottfried, executive director of Educational Recreational Adventures, helped create a deeper understanding and appreciation for environmental education. He shared the technique of linking scientific concepts to outdoor experiences. Gottfried encouraged people to model the behavior that they wanted their Junior Rangers to emulate. He shared great ideas on how to make the program unique for every volunteer, seasonal, host, and Friends Group. ●

Happenings AT OPRD

Interpretive Core Training completes ninth year

OPRD's ninth year of Interpretive Core Training added 41 more participants to the front line of park interpreters.

More than 450 staff, volunteer interpretive hosts, seasonal naturalists, Friends Group representatives, interpretive interns and AmeriCorps volunteers have completed at least the core phase of the department's certification process. Another 57 are basic level graduates, and four OPRD staff have their advanced certificate. No one has completed the final, master phase.

This year 15 volunteers attended the core training from parks around the state. These included Nolan and May McKinney from Joseph Stewart, Louise Nelson from Silver Falls, John and Anne Venner from Valley of the Rogue, Richard and Donna Newton from Stub Stewart, Herb and Bee Lay from Bullards Beach, Jack and Sandy

Edwards from Bullards Beach, Mark and Donna Hinds from Champoeg, and Karl and Barbara Arnsmeier from The Cove.

Stephanie Miller of Sunset Bay and Miranda Miller of Sumpter Dredge were the latest full-time park rangers to complete the core training. Along with their 39 classmates, they learned the fundamentals of leading thematic interpretive programs from 11 trainers June 17-20 at the Canby Grove Conference Center. Jamie Little, along with Region 4 interpretive coordinator Paul Patton, Vicki Sink of Silver Falls, Dane Osis of Fort Stevens, Heather Currey of Stub Stewart and Region 3 interpretive coordinator Nick Davis led group breakout sessions. Other trainers included Karen Houston of Tryon Creek, Dorothy Brown-Kwaiser of Silver Falls, Kim Martin of the Friends of Historic Champoeg,

and Denise Berkshire of the Oregon Department of Forestry.

Each of the trainees gave 10-minute interpretive presentations to conclude the training. Guest speakers this year were Roger Riolo, a central Oregon interpretive consultant and the current National Association of Interpretation (NAI) director for Region 10, and Patrick Barry, supervisory park ranger for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Bonneville Lock and Dam.

The trainees were introduced to OPRD's 2008 Interpreter's Manual, a revised edition with new sections of flora, fauna, geology and Oregon history added to its "how-to" content. The manual was e-mailed to all interpretive field staff and park managers July 13. Those who attended Interpretive Core Training in previous years can get the new version from their park manager. ●



AmeriCorps members get LINKed up to busy summer parks

Five of our busiest parks obtained an AmeriCorps member to help them with summer interpretive and educational programming. Detroit Lake, Silver Falls, Joseph Stewart, The Cove Palisades and Heceta Head Lighthouse each were assigned a paid volunteer through a special arrangement OPRD has with the Northwest Service Academy (NWSA).

NWSA is a local Portland/Vancouver service organization that receives federal grant dollars from the Corporation for National and Community Service. The grants help administer statewide

AmeriCorps programs, which allow members to be placed with host agencies. OPRD has worked closely with NWSA to place applicants in our parks for the past five summers. The AmeriCorps members give parks an extra hand during the busy summer months and OPRD gives members valuable and relevant work experience. Some of these members have later gone on to find full-time ranger work with us!

This season's five assignments were made possible through the AmeriCorps LINKS program. OPRD agrees to provide a work space, training, coaching, housing and a learning

experience in exchange for the member's work. OPRD's statewide interpretive program pays for each member's educational stipend and a taxable living allowance over the three-month summer period.

The 2008 LINKS AmeriCorps members are:

- Regina Macko—The Cove Palisades
- Brittany Klee—Detroit Lake
- Jimmy Bacon—Silver Falls
- Caitlin Wall—Joseph Stewart
- McKenzie Reeves—Heceta Head Lighthouse (joint agreement with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service) ●

NAI National Workshop in Portland, November 2008

You are invited to attend the National Association for Interpretation National Workshop in Portland, Nov. 11-15, 2008.

Keynote speakers are Dan Shilling, author of *Civic Tourism: The Poetry of Politics of Place*, who will speak Wednesday, Nov. 12; and Roberta Conner, director of the Tamástlikt Cultural Institute, who will speak Saturday, Nov. 15. The workshop also will feature more than 100 concurrent sessions by seasoned professionals, pre-workshop courses and off-site field trips.

Thousands of NAI members value this meeting as a time to re-ignite their enthusiasm and gain new knowledge about our profession. The time between sessions is as important as the programs. You will have a chance to meet someone who might be a future employer, or just a friend with whom to share ideas.

We look forward to seeing you in Portland. Registration for the 2008 NAI National Workshop is now available. This year, in keeping with NAI's Green Policy, registration is

only available through the online form.

The regular registration deadline is Oct. 14, 2008. Go to the NAI website at: http://www.interpnet.com/workshop/reg_info.shtml to download the registration packet and reserve your place. For more information, call Kristine Yamamoto at (503) 986-0723. ●



Special Director's Volunteer Award recognizes Jim and Liz Rottinghaus



Liz and Jim Rottinghaus.

OPRD awarded its first Director's Volunteer Award to park hosts Jim and Liz Rottinghaus last spring. The award recognizes their positive work ethic and tremendous quality of contribution to OPRD. The award is a new, annual program to bring well-deserved recognition to volunteers of any type who provide exemplary service.

During the past two years, Jim and Liz have been park hosts for 21 months out of 24. They have served at 15 different parks since 1999. Each has earned hour bars for more than 6,000 hours of volunteer service.

The couple has taken on new or unusual assignments, like onsite presence at the Oregon State Fair last year, and a call for help in preparing Stub Stewart for its grand opening last

summer. Volunteer coordinator Jill Nishball, says the special recognition was warranted because "they are always responding to the call. Anytime we've needed someone to staff an OPRD booth or assist at a special event, they've always been there to help."

The award specifically cites their work at Discovery Depot in the Stub Stewart Welcome Center. Their efforts included building the depot's touch table from scratch and designing it to meet ADA requirements.

The Rottinghaus couple has represented OPRD and its host program at three previous state fairs, but in 2006 and 2007, they called the fairgrounds property home for the duration of the fair (all 11 days!), helping with construction and

landscaping projects and with set-up and tear-down of the OPRD exhibits.

Jill says the couple has set the standard for service as Northwest Ambassadors and are model recruiters of other park hosts. "They are recruiting constantly," she says. "You never see them without those blue host recruitment postcards in their pockets."

"Team Rottinghaus" returned to the fairgrounds in April to help with the bi-annual Host Rendezvous, and then again in August to help build shelving in a storage unit and construct a new stage area for OPRD-sponsored events. ●

Want to be a host in 2009?

Be sure to renew your Park Host Application. Download it at www.oregon.gov/OPRD/Vol. Click on the "renew your host application" link under the For Existing Volunteers column. You can now complete the host application **online** and print it out at home. Sign and mail to us and you are good to go.

While you are online, be sure to check out the 2008 Host Directory—a comprehensive document that provides site-by-site details for most every host site in our system. ●

Angdahl park host award recipients share traits

The “Gen” Angdahl Memorial Host Award recipients for 2007 have much in common. Their credentials show they are experienced, contributing more than 4,000 hours of volunteer service as individuals or couples; are dedicated to making parks safer for both visitors and park employees; and are capable of working under any kind of conditions while keeping a smile.

The biennial award recognizes outstanding volunteer contributions in activities ranging from park maintenance and repairs to interpretive services and visitor safety. Established in 1997, the award honors the memory of long-time state park volunteer Genevieve “Gen” Angdahl.

More than 200 park hosts saw five finalists and 13 other nominees honored April 22 during the 2008 Host Rendezvous. OPRD Assistant Director Dave Wright (now retired) presented the awards.

Harold and Gloria Bartol, nominated by Umpqua Lighthouse ranger Gary Kirkwood.

The Bartols were nominated for their expertise and diligence in promoting OPRD’s safety program among visitors and staff at William Tugman. “Harold knows the safety modules as well as any safety coach or park ranger,” said Gary Kirkwood. “Both he and Gloria really believe in the ‘tough caring’ contract as a vital part of their hosting job.”

Harold and Gloria have each contributed more than 4,000 volunteer hours of what Gary calls “service with a smile” while raking campsites, cleaning fire pits and installing new siding on park buildings. The couple has served as campground, yurt, cabin, special project and relief hosts at Sunset Bay, Bullards Beach, Beverly Beach, Valley of the Rogue, Collier Memorial and Emigrant Springs since 2005.



Sunday and Paul “Blasé” Engerman, nominated by Valley of the Rogue ranger Paul Stulz.

Valley of the Rogue park staff praised the Engermans for relaying new safety information and recommending effective safety tips. Paul Stulz also mentioned their “amazing ability to make the best out of any situation and meet challenges with constant smiles.” Paul says the couple has taken on significant roles during emergencies, such as helping to remove hazard trees and protecting the park’s water pipes from breaking during a sudden hard freeze. “They’ve got that state parks spirit,” he added.

Sunday and Blasé also served at Jessie Honeyman, South Beach and Memaloose in 2007. They are now at Stub Stewart.

Ray and Jo Ann Fowles, nominated by South Beach visitor services team leader Mike Rivers.

The Fowles were credited for making safety a top priority as kayak hosts at Ona Beach. The couple has guided more than 1,500 paddlers on day and night kayak trips on Beaver Creek with a perfect safety record, thanks partly to the thorough instruction on safe paddling they give beforehand. They also offer regular training for local schools.

Ray and Jo Ann, who have been interpretive hosts since 2004, were among the first hosts to attend OPRD’s Core Interpretive Training. Both have earned basic interpretive certification. When not on Beaver Creek, the Fowles live in Texas.

Milton and Zelda Root, nominated by visitor services team leader Lisa Midlam and ranger Nina Smith-Haugen of the Columbia River Gorge parks.

Columbia Gorge park staff particularly value the Roots’ winter safety awareness. The couple was credited with suggesting many park safety improvements while braving the

Host TO HOST

Gorge's wintertime winds and storms, while at Dabney. Lisa Midlam and Nina Smith-Haugen said the couple are "the best eyes and ears we could ask for, as they go through their routine of opening and closing gates at our wet and windy parks." Milton is no stranger to wild Gorge winters. He was a park ranger in the Gorge for 30 years, beginning in 1957. The Roots have served as summertime hosts at Viento, Champoeg and Nehalem Bay.

Ken Tyburski, nominated by Jessie Honeyman ranger Fawn Gates.

Ken earned praise for his skill in identifying hazards at Jessie Honeyman. He conducts playground safety inspections, inspects day-use trails and monitors the park's garbage and recycling areas daily. As a Honeyman host for the past five years, he also lends his computer skills to the park office in the winter and oversees the park's group camp during the summer. He has contributed more than 4,300 volunteer hours as a host, many of them with his wife Mary at Tugman, Cape Meares, Cape Blanco, Harris Beach and Sunset Bay. The Tyburksis live in Florence. ●

The other nominees were:

- Gary and Theresa Anderson, Tumalo;
- Ken and Marilyn Buffington, Cape Meares;
- Larry and Judy Burman, Champoeg;
- John and Betty Goodwin, Deschutes River;
- Richard and Rebecca Harman, Devil's Lake;
- Jerome and Debbie Holland, Bullards Beach;
- John and Jeanie Hoyle, Prineville Reservoir;
- Erv Johnson and Ginger Scott-Johnson, Fort Stevens;
- Richard and Margaret O'Regan, Fort Stevens;
- Fred Parquer and Ruth Ziak, Nehalem Bay;
- Larry and Judy Perkins, Beverly Beach;
- Jack and Peggy Rhoades, Stub Stewart, and
- Ken Spencer, Detroit Lake.

"Gen" Angdahl nominated hosts gather with park staff. ▼



Down by the Riverside cleanup events

*R*ecord-breaking heat on May 17 didn't stop people from volunteering at SOLV's 13th annual Down by the Riverside event. OPRD sponsored the cleanup that brings together community members, students, public agencies and businesses from Oregon to celebrate and improve our watersheds, proving that when people get together, things get done!

Casey State Park

Fourteen volunteers picked up 155 pounds of garbage and one tire.

Cline Falls State Scenic Viewpoint

The Deschutes County Juvenile Justice program brought 12 young adults and two supervisors to help beautify the park and create a more family-friendly environment. They picked up litter, sanded picnic tables, swept curbs, prepared a cement pad for a picnic table and other concrete work. Ranger Aide Erin McHenry and shop hosts Joe and Barbara Davis also worked at the event.

Fort Stevens State Park

Volunteers converged on DeLaura Beach to rid the property of illegal dumpsites along DeLaura Beach Road. Ranger Dane Osis led 87 volunteers to fill a 30-yard dumpster and remove 40 tires. The Down by the Riverside event followed an Earth Day cleanup that also removed a 30-yard dumpster of garbage and nearly 90 tires.

DeLaura Beach is the newest addition to Fort Stevens State Park, bordering the park on the south. The 423 acres has beach access as well as wetlands, dunes, forests and a primitive trail system.

Milo McIver State Park

The banks of the Clackamas River are much cleaner thanks to a lone volunteer. He picked up 20 pounds of trash.

Minam State Park

Seventy volunteers from Wallowa Resources removed garbage and pulled Sulfur cinquefoil. Ranger Aide Nancy Beglau led groups on identifying invasive weeds tours. Cary Lindsey, Wanda Hansen and Marilyn Harvey, ranger aides from Wallowa Lake Management Unit, also helped.

Everyone worked 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., followed by a barbecue and potluck hosted by a local church.

Ontario Wayside

Biology and botany students from Treasure Valley Community College learned about weed ecology and the dangers of noxious weeds. Farewell Bend Team Leader Matt Rippee led a discussion on how noxious weeds spread, the different levels of invasiveness, removal options and weed management tools. The students and Matt inventoried the weeds on the property and discussed why, as land managers, we are responsible for taking care of our parks and the surrounding areas. Matt said the students were enthusiastic and interested and asked many questions.

Prineville Reservoir State Park

Six Crook County High School students and a crew leader transplanted crested wheatgrass in the park. They also picked up litter along the lakeshore.



Volunteer SPOTLIGHT

Rooster Rock State Park

Members of the American Association of Nude Recreation brought their shovels, rakes and clippers for a day of cleaning at Rooster Rock State Park.



Silver Falls State Park

A group of 13 adults and 19 children picked up litter along the Trail of Ten Falls. A Girl Scout troop (15 children and six adults) removed several sites of Scotch broom.



Tryon Creek State Park

English ivy met its match as 19 adults and nine children pulled about 2,500 pounds of the invasive plant from an area off of the North Horse Loop.



Valley of the Rogue State Park

Garlic mustard didn't stand a chance when 25 volunteers scoured the park looking for the invasive weed. Ranger Neil Thuresson and Gail Perrotti of the Seven Basins Watershed Council led council volunteers and Cub Scout Pack 29-Rogue River on the weed pulling trip.

Although garlic mustard was the target weed, many other invasive plants were toppled by the group's effort—more than 60 bags combined. ●



Down by the Riverside

May 16, 2009 • 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



Join volunteers across the state for a day of watershed enhancement and celebration.

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

A SOLV WATERSHED PROGRAM

Silver Falls super volunteers make a difference

By Steve Janiszewski, Cascades District Manager

If you visit Silver Falls State Park on a weekday this summer, you are likely to meet Andy and Lou Nelson or see the results of their work around the South Falls Day-Use Area. I first met the Nelsons last spring as they were clearing weeds and spreading bark dust over 13 areas surrounding the South Falls Lodge.

What struck me first about this energetic duo was their positive personalities, their knowledge of gardening and northwest plants and their dedication to helping out at the park. I also got a chance to learn more about their varied backgrounds and careers.

Andy and Lou are a rare breed of volunteers because they commute to the park from their home in Shaw, located in the foothills outside of

Salem. Now married for 42 years, they met while attending Chico State University in California. They moved to Oregon after graduation and have lived here since 1974. Lou held sales and public relations positions in the private sector, wrote two books and has served as a volunteer hospice caregiver. Andy worked as an employment counselor and a lead job test development analyst for the State of Oregon, operated a printing business and served as the human resources director for Polk County. They enjoy travel in the United States and abroad.

Andy and Lou became members of the Friends of Silver Falls in 2007, and accepted my invitation to attend one of the board meetings to become more involved in the park. They now both serve as active board members and



Andy and Lou Nelson.

continue to volunteer each week to maintain the grounds and native plants.

Andy has taken on producing and writing the *Silver Falls Newsletter*, is busy writing a Silver Falls State Park History publication, and recently assisted the park with producing a tear-off map of the Trail of Ten Falls for hikers. Lou has been busy heading up the Public Relations & Marketing Committee and promoting membership, park events and programs. Some of Lou's many efforts include designing a new membership donation envelope, providing fundraising ideas, developing a South Falls Historic District Interpretive Walk, and finding effective ways to promote the Friends Group in the local communities surrounding the park.

The next time you visit Silver Falls, look for the evidence or presence of the Nelsons! I feel very fortunate to work with this amazing couple and appreciate all that they have done to help Silver Falls and the Friends Group. ●



Lou attends to her landscaping.

Kam Wah Chung renovations celebrated

*K*am Wah Chung State Heritage Site celebrated its reopening May 3, 2008, after 10 months of restoration and repair work.

Oregon's first lady Mary Oberst, descendants of Doc Hay, and the Lion Dancers from Portland were on hand for the celebration.

"The success of this event was due to the many hours the Friends of Kam Wah Chung spent on it," said Christy Sweet, museum curator for Kam Wah Chung. The event was a resounding success, with more than 335 people attending.

The Friends were instrumental from the very beginning. They created table exhibits on the history of the Kam Wah Chung Building, told Chinese folk tales using puppets and donated decorations. The group also sponsored a catered Chinese lunch for all the attendees. Jeanne Day, president of the Friends, presented Claudia Naibert with the Carolyn Minchimer Award for 2008, an annual award given for outstanding volunteer service. ●



Friends of Tryon Creek install brush check dams

By Robin S. Lewis, restoration coordinator, Friends of Tryon Creek



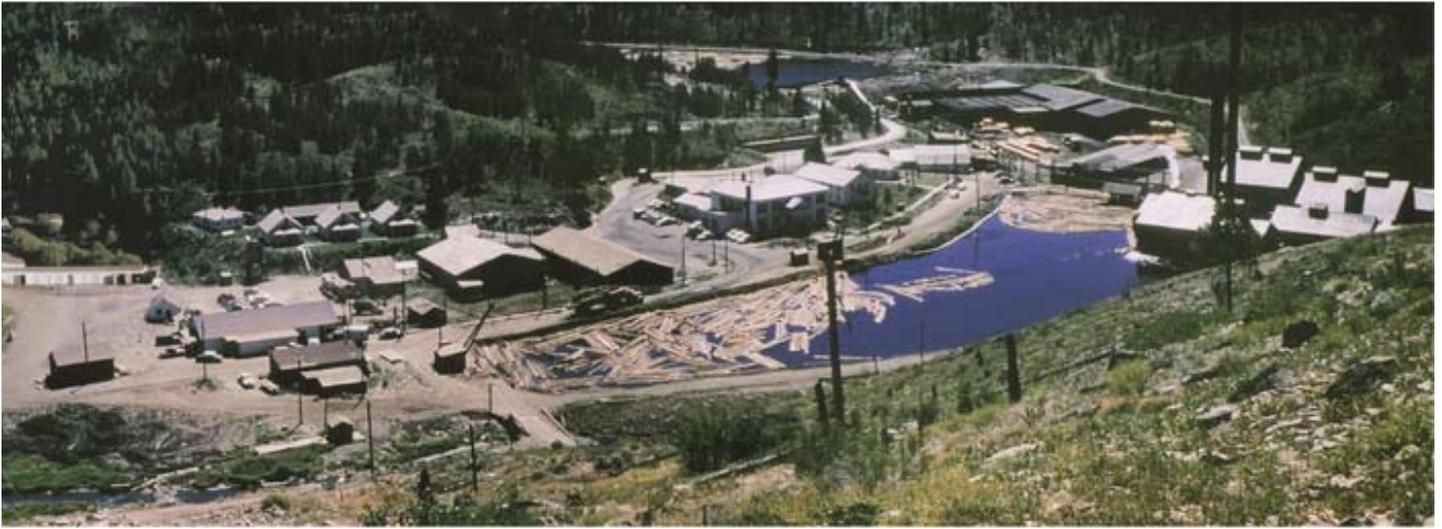
A beautiful, sunny day greeted volunteers as we installed brush check dams in three Tryon Creek tributaries on Dec. 8, 2007. Brush check dams improve fish habitat by slowing water flows and reducing the amount of sediment going into the main stream of Tryon Creek.



We had a very successful installation day, guided by Matt Koozer and Jared Kinnear from Henderson Land Services. Many thanks go to the 21 volunteers who donated more than 95 hours of their time. It was a fun day for learning a new restoration technique, while having an excuse to get muddy and dirty! ●

Friends Group UPDATE

OPRD welcomes the Friends of Bates State Park



The Bates mill produced more than a billion board feet of lumber during its 58 years of operation. Photo circa 1957.

Before it sells a t-shirt, plans an event, leads a tour or raises any money, OPRD's newest Friends Group will help plan a park. This spring OPRD acquired the 131-acre site of the former mill town of Bates, a mile north of the intersection of U.S. 26 and Oregon 7. Two months later, Director Tim Wood signed a cooperative services agreement with the Friends of Bates State Park, officially making the group our 17th cooperative association.

The Oregon Lumber Mill Company opened the mill in 1917, and the town population grew to 400. Abandoned in 1975, the site was cleared with the exception of a kiln used to dry lumber. Although the mill and town were gone, former Bates residents didn't forget their old home. The first Bates reunion was held in 1979 and has continued every other year at campsites in the nearby national forest and at the Bates site.

Members of the Bates community had suggested that the town site be considered for preservation as a state park since 1983. When OPRD began the purchase process, those active in the biennial reunions rallied to create a non-profit group called The Friends of Bates State Park.

Following an early June informational meeting with OPRD staff in Prairie City, the Friends of Bates State Park unanimously voted to become a cooperative association partner with the department. Although its Friends Group is officially recognized as the Friends of Bates State Park, the site has not been

officially named by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission.

"The Friends of Bates State Park is a great example of why cooperative legislation was passed in the first place," says Tammy Baumann, OPRD volunteer coordinator. "A group of passionate citizens have organized for the sole purpose of supporting a state park. OPRD is lucky to have folks who are willing to invest personally, professionally and as a community to help us do our job." ●



2008-2009 Interpretive Services Grants awarded

Congratulations go to the Friends of Silver Falls, Friends of Historic Champoeg and Friends of Yaquina Lighthouses for submitting award-winning grant proposals for 2008-2009.

The OPRD Interpretive Services program funds the grant to help cooperative associations hire naturalists and interpreters. This year's awards total \$48,000 for four staff positions among the three groups.

"Our long-term goal is to see the growth of Friends Groups and to gradually see them able to fund these interpretive staff on their own," says Jamie Little, OPRD statewide interpretive services coordinator.

Every year, applications are due March 31. The simple process requires thoughtful and complete responses to a set of questions. The proposals are evaluated on:

- Capability of the Friends Group to support and supervise staff;
- Contribution to statewide interpretive vision and program goals; and
- Contribution to area and park interpretive goals.

Friends Groups also must present a plan for funding the position within five years by finding other sources, such as membership income. Grants are awarded annually, with the option of a five-year cycle to fund them in decreasing dollar amounts. The Friends Groups will apply annually, and be

awarded continued funds based on progress in meeting goals.

Friends of Silver Falls (FOSF) will hire a seasonal intern to offer evening, J.R. Ranger and roving interpretation this summer. The intern will also help to develop a new park event focused on June Drake and his role in making Silver Falls a state park. The intern will work on a presentation for the FOSF display and a series of displays for the South Falls Lodge. Other duties include helping rangers conduct programs for school groups, supporting the FOSF oral history project and helping with inventory park artifacts.

Friends of Historic Champoeg (FHC) will fund two, part-time, year-round positions. 2009 will focus on the "Oregon's 150th and Beyond," where staff will create a costumed interpreter program to improve the visitor experience in the new exhibit area. Other projects include a strengthened Founders' Day celebration and cultural events that reach out to more diverse audiences. The positions will help with Saturday living history demonstrations, public programs at the Historic Butteville Store; events including Pioneer Farmstead Day and the Apple Harvest Festival; summer barn dances and a Holiday Gathering; and the Chautauqua Lecture Series.

Friends of Yaquina Lighthouses (FOYL) will hire a seasonal full-time interpreter to conduct guided walks through the lighthouse and

surrounding area and offer living history demonstrations. The interpreter will recruit volunteers and partner with community based organizations and local elementary schools to support special interpretive and educational events at the lighthouse, as well as Junior Ranger and evening programs at South Beach State Park.

If you would like more information on the Interpretive Services Grant, please contact OPRD Statewide Volunteer Services Coordinator Tammy Baumann at (503) 986-0751 or by email at tammy.baumann@state.or.us ●



Anita Varnon, intern for the Friends of Yaquina Lighthouses, poses in period costume with living history props.

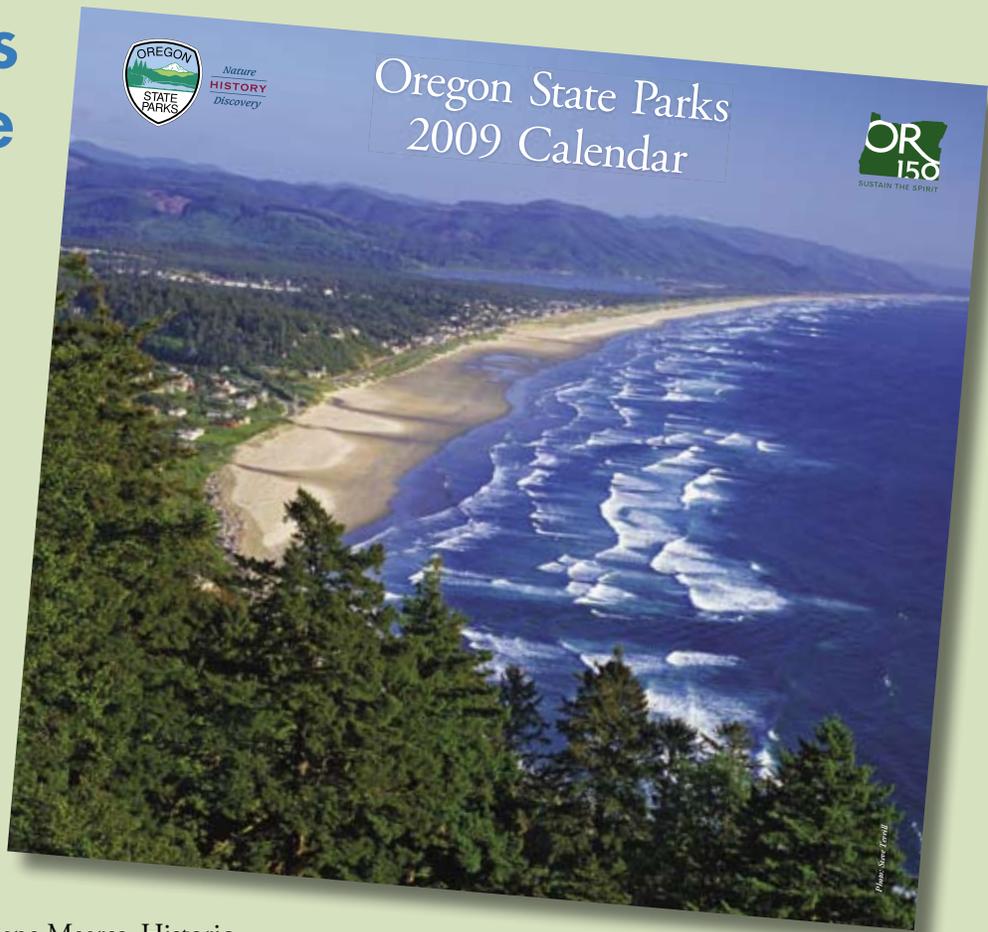
2009 State Parks Calendar on sale

Celebrate Oregon's 150th Birthday and support Friends Groups by purchasing a 2009 State Parks Calendar.

Filled with unique historic events and facts, the calendar highlights the scenic beauty of 12 properties that help protect and interpret Oregon history. The Oregon 150 logo appears on the cover, denoting the calendar as a product that advances the principles of Oregon's heritage conservation and celebration.

The calendars may be purchased for \$11.95 by calling the Oregon State Parks Information Center, 1-800-551-6949 and using either a VISA or MasterCard credit card. They also are available through the Oregon State Parks Trust and at the Oregon State Capitol gift shop, selected park offices and park stores operated by Cape Meares, Historic Champeog, Kam Wah Chung, Shore Acres, Tryon Creek and Vista House Friends Groups.

Net proceeds from the calendar sales will benefit the parks, Friends Groups and Oregon State Parks Trust. ●



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

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HISTORY
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