

# Chemeketan

Vol. 84/No. 12

December 2011



Photo: Max Rae

Chemeketan hikers on Coffin Mountain with Mt. Jefferson in the background: Don Gallagher, Brenda Nard, Mary Liepins, Tom Vanderhoof, Donna Hunter, Max Rae, Kathy Reid.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO NEWLY ELECTED 2012 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

FRANCA HERNANDEZ, AMY PALACIOS, LARRY PETERSEN,  
NEIL PETERSON, JIM RASTORFER, MATT RIEKE, ROZ SHIRACK,  
JAN THOMPSON, PAM WOJCIK

# ***HAPPY HOLIDAYS!***

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE JANUARY 31**

The *Chemeketans* are a group united in a common interest in outdoor activities. Application for membership may be made after completion of two qualifying trips with the club. For information, contact any member of the Executive Council.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Trip Participation

It is your responsibility to determine from the description of distance, altitude, terrain, trail and possible weather conditions, whether you, your children, and your guests can fully participate. The leader may refuse to take anyone not properly equipped or who is judged incapable of making the specific trip. All valuables should be left at home or carried with you — not left in a vehicle at the trailhead. Dogs/pets are not permitted.

## Guests (non-members)

A guest under 18 years of age must provide a signed RELEASE FROM LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK to the trip leader if he/she is not accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

## Trip Essentials

Participants should wear appropriate footwear and clothing (no bluejeans), carry lunch, water, raingear, warm sweater/jacket, and the following "essentials":

EXTRA food/clothing/water  
flashlight & extra battery  
lighter/matches in waterproof container  
solar blanket and/or ground insulation in winter  
insect repellent  
first aid materials                      sunglasses  
pocket knife                              toilet paper  
candle                                        sunscreen  
whistle                                        small shovel

## Trip Ratings:

**DAWDLERS:** Pace slow, group makes frequent stops for viewing, photography, etc.

**EASY:** Max. 5 mi round trip, elevation gain less than 1000 ft.

**MEDIUM:** 6-10 mi round trip, 1000-2000 ft elevation gain.

**HARD:** Long, strenuous, and difficult.

## Trip Meeting Points

**RAS** = Rite Aid South, south Commercial, behind bus stop

**CCC** = WEEKENDS ONLY – Green Parking Lot (lot off Cooley Dr off Lancaster Side)

**RLC** = Redeemer Lutheran Church at 4665 Lancaster Dr (corner of Hayesville Dr – but never on Sunday)

**SKM** = Big K Lot, 2470 Mission St., Mission St. side, just west of Jack-in-the-Box

**RPR** = Roth's Portland Road, 4746 Portland Road NE (park in northwest corner on Portland Road)

**PAR** = State Motor Pool Park and Ride lot on Airport Road

**DEN** = 360-1/2 State Street

**FMN** = Fred Meyer northwest side of lot (River Road side)

**SAF** = Safeway West Salem, use Capital Manor exit from 22. Park on Edgewater -- southwest corner

**MBI** = Minto Brown Island Park (1st parking lot on right as you enter island)

## Mileage Reimbursement for Drivers

To reimburse drivers for vehicle operation costs, the suggested donation is 9¢ per mile per person to drivers.

**Hiking Coordinator for December:** Rick Cooper 503-362-9719 [cooperrm50@gmail.com](mailto:cooperrm50@gmail.com).

## Membership and Bulletins

The best way for prospective members to request club information and guest bulletins is to complete the online "MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION REQUEST FORM", available on our website [www.chemeketans.org](http://www.chemeketans.org) under "Membership" or "Contact Us". You may mail requests to Chemeketans, Membership Secretary, PO Box 864, Salem OR 97308 or email [chememb@chemeketans.org](mailto:chememb@chemeketans.org) and use an unambiguous subject line and include a snail mail address and phone number. If you mail in names of prospective members on sign-up sheets, instead of directing people to the website, it is very helpful to include email addresses.

**Renewing Members:** First adult \$26 (\$12 household fee + \$14 dues); Additional Adult \$14 dues; Junior \$3 dues.

**New Members:** First adult \$31 (\$12 household fee + \$14 dues + \$5 application fee); Additional Adult \$19 (\$14 dues + \$5 application fee); Junior (under 18 years) \$8 (\$3 dues + \$5 application fee). A junior who is the only Chemeketan in a household would also pay the \$12 household fee. The membership year starts January 1st.

## Bulletin Editors

Joanne DeMay 971-237-9775 [joannedemay08@gmail.com](mailto:joannedemay08@gmail.com)

Bill Geibel 503-873-0270 [banjobill1@gmail.com](mailto:banjobill1@gmail.com)

Mike Berger 503-400-7645 [ayenova@comcast.net](mailto:ayenova@comcast.net)

**Cover Editor:** Allan King [kingalla@gmail.com](mailto:kingalla@gmail.com)

This issue was edited by Joanne DeMay.

The January issue will be edited by Mike Berger.

The February issue will be edited by Bill Geibel.

**To submit a Where & When or We Were There**, use the online forms on the [www.chemeketans.org](http://www.chemeketans.org) website. If you do not have internet access, ask a friend or the hiking coordinator to do this for you. You may also [email](mailto:), call, or send your write-ups directly to the editors at their home addresses.

**The Chemekeden** is located at 360-1/2 State Street, Salem. Members may schedule the facility with the Chemekeden Committee Chair.

**The Chemeketan Trip Leader Guide** is available at [http://www.chemeketans.org/Leader\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.chemeketans.org/Leader_Guide.pdf).

**THUNDERBIRD LODGE:** To reserve the Chemeketan cabin on Whitewater Rd., call or email Kim Hyatt: [pkhyatt@msn.com](mailto:pkhyatt@msn.com), 503.362.2765.

## DECEMBER 2011 CALENDAR

Thu	1	Annual Climb Section Meeting at the Den	Bryon Snapp
Thu	1	Center50+ Lunch	Lee Slattum
Sat	3	Pittock Mansion Hike	Vicky Wilbanks
Sun	4	Cascade Head Hike	Allan King
Mon	5	Koffee Klatch at the Beanery	Bill Anning
Wed	7	Audubon Nature Reserve Blackberry Removal	Lee Slattum
Wed	7	Early Season X-Ski	Don Gallagher
Wed	7	Something Red Art Walk	Mary Narey
Thu	8	Center50+ Lunch	Lee Slattum
Thu	8	HoHoHo Second Thursday	Joanne DeMay
Thu	8	Introduction to Snowshoeing at the Den	Steve Dougherty
Sat	10	Rooster Rock Hike	Jean Gabriel
Sun	11	Bear Point Snowshoe	James Sealy
Sun	11	Little North Santiam Hike	John Savage
Mon	12	Koffee Klatch at the Beanery	Bill Anning
Wed	14	Audubon Nature Reserve Blackberry Removal	Lee Slattum
Wed	14	Santiam Pass X-Ski	Dave Carter
Thu	15	Center50+ Lunch	Lee Slattum
Sat	17	Marys Peak Hike	Janet Rafalovich
Sat	17	Maxwell Butte Snowshoe	Steve Dougherty
Sat	17	Santiam Canyon Snowshoe	Lee Slattum
Sat	17	Santiam Hwy Beginner X-Ski	Betsy Belshaw
Sun	18	Maxwell Butte X-Ski	Rick Cooper
Sun	18	Silver Falls Solstice Hike and Potluck	Mary Coleman
Mon	19	Koffee Klatch at the Beanery	Bill Anning
Wed	21	Audubon Nature Reserve Blackberry Removal	Lee Slattum
Wed	21	Santiam Pass Area Beginner Snowshoe	Ken Ash
Thu	22	Center50+ Lunch	Lee Slattum
Mon	26	Koffee Klatch at the Beanery	Bill Anning
Wed	28	Maxwell Butte Loop X-Ski	Don Gallagher
Wed	28	Audubon Nature Reserve Blackberry Removal	Lee Slattum
Thu	29	Center50+ Lunch	Lee Slattum
Sat	31	New Year's Eve Day Hike and Potluck	Blanka Trunekova
Sat	31	Where the Snow Is X-Ski	Ken Ash

## FUTURE EVENTS

Fri-Sun	Jan 13-15	Cabin Weekend	Steve Dougherty
Fri-Sun	Jan 27-29	Elk Lake Ski Trip	David Anderson
Mon-Fri	Feb 6-10	Diamond Lake Senior Ski Week	Carrol Maurer
Fri-Mon	Feb 10-13	Elk Lake Ski Trip	Ken Ash
Thu,Sat,Sun	Feb 16-19	Route-Finding School at the Den	Steve Dougherty
Sat-Sun	Feb 25-26	Wilderness First Aid Training	Mike Niemeyer
Sun-Sat	May 27-June 2	Canyon De Chelly Camp/Hike	Hardin King

## 2011 CHEMEKETAN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President Roz Shirack 503-399-8615  
Vice-President Pam Wojcik 503-362-3439  
Recording Secretary Franca Hernandez  
Membership Pat Simila 503-581-5369  
Membership Mike Berger 503-400-7645

Treasurer Matt Rieke 541-928-2767  
Trail Maintenance Larry Petersen 503-983-8181  
Chemeketan Store Neil Peterson  
Conservation Jim Rastorfer 503-390-4640

### CHEMEKETAN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

October 26, 2011, 6 pm

Council members present: Pam Wojcik, Matt Rieke, Larry Petersen, Jim Rastorfer, Mike Berger, Pat Simila, Franca Hernandez. Absent: Roz Shirack, Neil Peterson

#### Approve minutes from the September 28, 2011 meeting.

ACTION: Franca Hernandez moved to approve the minutes as written; Pat Simila seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** disbursed to members of the Executive Council via email on 10/25/2011.

September 2011 reports:

- a. Bank Activity
- b. Statement of Receipts and Disbursements
- c. Statement of Assets and Liabilities with prior year comparison

The club's revenues total \$3.33 in interest and dividend income and \$83.00 membership income in checking account number ending 9241.

The club's expenses totaled \$1,139.97 which consisted of \$311.37 in Chemekedan expenses (rent/utilities), \$68.60 in mileage reimbursement for trail maintenance, \$495.00 in bulletin expenses, \$115 in tax preparation expense, and \$150.00 in state taxes.

The club's assets are valued at \$124,511.43 compared to \$123,071.50 at the same time last year.

Reimbursement requests:

Matt Rieke: \$21.90 for postage  
Dave Carter: 140 miles RT @ \$.035 per mile = \$49.00  
Larry Petersen: same = \$49.00

General discussion about expenses. Pam Wojcik wanted to know what the election expense is. Matt Rieke said that expense will show up in the next Treasurer's report.

ACTION: The Treasurer's report is accepted as presented. The reimbursements were approved unanimously.

#### Membership report – Mike Berger

Chemeketan Council Membership Report - for the period between 9/28/2011 and 10/25/2011

There are currently 732 active, paying members including 10 life members and 10 junior members. There were no membership reinstatements this month.

We received and processed 20 guest requests for complimentary electronic bulletins. This brings the total number of guests receiving a 3-month complimentary email notification

of electronic bulletin availability to 71. In addition, there are 33 businesses, agencies, and libraries as well as three other outdoor clubs who receive a printed bulletin for no charge. There were three new adult member applications submitted by Norma Freitas, David Jackson and Sam Miller.

Monies received for new memberships totaled \$93.00.

ACTION: Mike Berger moved to approve the membership requests; Jim Rastorfer seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously approved.

#### Revisions to some Chemeketans documents – Mike Berger

Mike Berger presented the Membership Application and the Membership Renewal forms with the new waiver statement approved at the September 28, 2011 meeting.

Mike Berger submitted copies of waiver statements from other clubs that were more lengthy and specific. It was agreed that the Risk Management committee the Council agreed needs to be created could review the Club's statement as well as other risk management issues and make its recommendation to the Council.

ACTION: Mike Berger moved to approve the forms as presented; Matt Rieke seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously approved.

Revision to the Chemeketan Trip Sign-up sheet re drivers' insurance – Roz Shirack (absent).

Franca Hernandez explained that Roz Shirack suggested adding a column with boxes that people who volunteer to drive can check to affirm they have motor vehicle insurance.

There was discussion on the merits of this new feature of the sign-up sheet and who would actually update the sheet. It was decided to table further discussion until November's meeting so that Roz Shirack may add her comments.

### **Review Trail Maintenance agreement with U.S. Forest Service – Larry Petersen**

Larry Petersen went over the proposed agreement between the Chemeketans and the Detroit Ranger District. He sent the proposed agreement by email prior to the meeting for the Council's review and approval. It was agreed that the emergency contact name would be Larry Petersen's wife, Melody, who is also a Chemeketan member. Larry said that as long as volunteers follow the guidelines, they are covered for tort claims and injury compensation. The work will be done specifically for the Willamette National Forest, Detroit Ranger District, in the North Santiam drainage area. The agreement includes attachments that state annual trail maintenance work that needs to be done and specific language for the Chemeketan volunteers. Larry Petersen will sign the agreement on behalf of the Club.

**ACTION:** Larry Petersen moved to approve the agreement; Matt Rieke seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously approved.

### **New Business**

Pam Wojcik had questions about her duties with regard to the election as laid out in the Vice President's job description. The job description says the VP needs to check each ballot to make sure whoever voted is a member of the Chemeketans. She wanted to know if she should tally the votes since there are nine positions and nine candidates. We agreed that even under the new revised elections procedures it was still necessary to check each ballot. It was agreed that there may be write-in names and that she therefore should keep a tally.

**ACTION:** No action needed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm

Next meeting: November 30, 2011

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Chemekeden on State Street

Submitted by Franca Hernandez, Recording Secretary

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

**2012**

### **CHEMEKETAN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

#### **One-Year Term**

**Larry Petersen**

**Pam Wojcik**

**Roz Shirack**

#### **Two-Year Term**

**Matt Rieke**

**Jim Rastorfer**

**Neil Peterson**

#### **Three-Year Term**

**Franca Hernandez**

**Jan Thompson**

**Amy Palacios**

**81<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CHEMEKETAN OUTING**

**AUGUST 4-18 2012**

**TRINITY ALPS CALIFORNIA**

**Reserve the dates! The Outing Guide including reservation form will be printed in the 2012 Roster & Prospectus, mailed to all club members in March.**

**Membership renewal forms** have been mailed and are due by January 1 with a check for the 2012 calendar year. Please help us save volunteer hours and additional postage by paying promptly. Members who pay after January 31 are not listed in the roster. For adult members we include Chemeketan identification stickers which can be peeled off and placed on any card you carry in your wallet. Club membership will qualify you for discounts at several outdoor stores. PLEASE verify that all information shown on the renewal form is correct.

**Discount Vendors:** The stores listed below will honor your Chemeketan membership sticker with a discount.

**Climb Max Mountaineering**, Portland, 503-797-1991. 15% to climb leaders, 10% to others.

**Oregon Mountain Community**, 2975 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland, 503-227-1038. 10%.

**The Mountain Shop**, 1510 NE 37th, Portland, 503-288-6768. 15%. **(note new location)**

**Next Adventure**, 426 SE Grand, Portland, 503-233-0706. 10%.

**US Outdoor Store**, 219 SW Broadway, Portland, 503-223-5937. 10%.

**Peak Sports**, 207 NW 2nd, Corvallis, 541-754-6444. 10%.

**Redpoint Climbers Supply**, 8283 11th St, Terrebonne, 800-923-6207. 10%.

**NEW! Sports Authority**, 831 Lancaster Dr. NE, Salem, 503-378-0300 - \$10 off any purchase of \$50 or more.

**The Mazama Mountaineers of Oregon** would like to extend an invitation to Chemeketan members to join us on a hiking outing to Patagonia in Argentina and Chile, March 8-21, 2012. It will be a fun adventure for outdoor persons of all ages because we will have 3 local guides, making it possible to have daily hikes of different speeds and distances for the comfort and ability of the participants. All meals, overnights in picturesque inns and lodges, and all land travels are included. Some of the things and places we will enjoy visiting will be Buenos Aires and El Calafete, the spectacular Perito Moreno Glacier, Los Glaciarses National Park, Torres del Paine National Park, the Cerro Torre Trail, the classic Monte Fitzroy Massif, and the vast Patagonian forests and steppes.

For complete itinerary, more information and costs, call Mazama outing leader Helen Hanson 503-254-9465 or Darlene Nelson at [darlenenelson@verizon.net](mailto:darlenenelson@verizon.net).

**Ads:** A Chemeketan club member may place one small non-commercial ad per year—for example offering outdoor equipment for sale—in the *Chemeketan Bulletin*, free of charge. These classified ads are subject to space availability. There will be no display ads on the back cover. Ads must be sent via email directly to the editors and must be received by the first of the month preceding the month in which they are to be published.

**Thank you leaders** for submitting your online Where and When and We Were There reports by the 1st of the month. Please avoid scheduling hikes on trail maintenance days.

**Wilderness First Aid Training Weekend:** February 25-26, 2012. Please watch for more details in the next bulletin. This is recommended for all trip leaders.

## WHERE AND WHEN

Refer to General Information on Page 2 for trip ratings, meeting point locations and other important information. Trips leave promptly at the time stated, so be there a few minutes ahead of time. RT = round trip.

### **Thursday, December 1, DEN, 6:00 p.m., ANNUAL CLIMB SECTION MEETING BRYON SNAPP 503-304-8596**

The annual December Climb Section Meeting will be held at the den (360-1/2 State St, Salem). Topics for discussion will include the upcoming climb season, 2012 Climb School and the status of current and future leaders, provisional leaders and assistants. Other topics will be discussed as needed and time permits. Please feel free to contact Mike Niemeyer ([mwniemeyer@frontier.com](mailto:mwniemeyer@frontier.com)) or Bryon Snapp ([bryon.snapp@yahoo.com](mailto:bryon.snapp@yahoo.com)) for additional information. Bring a coat...the Den may be chilly!

### **Thursday, December 1, CENTER 50+ LUNCH LEE SLATTUM**

Into the third year, our Chemeketan and guest lunches continue at the new City of Salem Senior Center, the Center 50+, at 2615 Portland Road NE. Lunch is served between 11:30 and 1:00. The cost is \$4.50 if you are 50 or better; \$6.50 if you are younger. A reserved sign identifying us as Chemeketans will claim our table. Drop in for some good food, conversation, and a chance to do some networking. Be the first to stay for bingo.

### **Saturday, December 3, PITTOCK MANSION Hike PRE-REG W/LDR: VICKY WILBANKS 503-472-2244**

Let's enjoy the Christmas atmosphere again this year at the beautiful Pittock Mansion. Each year the mansion is decorated with a Christmas theme, however at this writing, the theme has not been published. Check online closer to the date for the theme and the entry fee (senior discounts apply).

Pack a lunch, and dress appropriately, it can be cold and wet, although the trail is usually not muddy. We will find a sheltered place to eat our lunch. Moderate pace.  
RATED: EASY-MEDIUM, Driving dist RT 100 miles, Hike dist 6 miles, Elev. 800 feet.

### **Saturday, December 3, 9:00 a.m., MINTO BROWN Hike MARY ELLIOTT 503-508-1494**

Join the Minto Walkers. We walk 3-4 miles every Saturday at Minto Brown Island Park. Meet at the last parking lot. All fitness levels welcome. Moderate Pace.  
RATED: EASY

### **Monday, December 5, 10:00 a.m., KOFFEE KLATCH AT THE BEANERY**

### **Wednesday, December 7, EARLY SEASON X-Ski PRE-REG W/LDR: DON GALLAGHER**

Let's plan on finding some new snow for an early season cross-country ski trip to use some of those muscles that have been in hibernation. Depending on snow conditions, we could end up at Ray Benson, Maxwell Butte or Potato Hill Sno-Parks. Pre-register at [dongall39@comcast.net](mailto:dongall39@comcast.net). Moderate pace.  
RATED: MEDIUM, Driving dist RT 180 miles, Ski dist 7 miles.

### **Wednesday, December 7, SOMETHING RED ART WALK PRE-REG W/LDR: MARY NAREY 503-364-1294**

Each December, the group Artists in Action of Salem organizes and sponsors an art exhibition in select downtown

businesses. The title "Something Red" refers to the work of art on display that needs to have the color red somewhere in it.. The fun comes in eating together beforehand and then walking to locate the art exhibition, displays and artists in selected businesses in downtown Salem. The evening ends with the artists reception and awards in the basement of the Reed Opera House from 7 to 8 p.m. Please phone the number above or email the leader at [narey733@comcast.net](mailto:narey733@comcast.net) for the particulars, time, etc. This is a great way to have fun together, enjoy art and support the art community of Salem. Always enriching!  
RATED: DAWDLERS.

**Wednesday, December 7, AUDUBON NATURE RESERVE  
BLACKBERRY REMOVAL  
LEE SLATTUM 503-364-9325**

Like many of you, I am both a Chemeketan and a Salem Audubon member. I have volunteered to lead a blackberry removal program at the Audubon Nature Reserve, located in West Salem on Eola Drive, behind the Safeway grocery store on Edgewater. We work every Wednesday morning from 9:00 to 11:00, using shears to cut up the vines down to their base. No dragging or stacking is involved. We have also started to work on other invasive species. At 11:00, we quit and head to the McDonald's on Wallace Road to drink senior coffee and have a good visit. Since starting in February, we have made good progress with our collaborative effort.  
RATED: DAWDLERS.

**Thursday, December 8, 6:00 p.m., HO HO HO SECOND  
THURSDAY  
JOANNE DEMAY 971-237-9775**

Let's get into the Christmas spirit at Gamberetti's in the Pringle Park Plaza. The menu includes pizza, salads, pasta among other specialties. An upstairs space has been reserved for us. The pace is yours to set. Come and enjoy.

**Thursday, December 8, CENTER 50+ LUNCH  
LEE SLATTUM**

See Thursday, December 1.

**Saturday, December 10, 9:00 a.m., MINTO BROWN Hike  
MARY ELLIOTT 503-508-1494**

See December 3 write-up.

**Saturday, December 10, ROOSTER ROCK Hike  
PRE-REG W/LDR: JEAN GABRIEL**

With the shorter days of December, Rooster Rock is a good option for a quick bit of exercise. The trail is usually in good condition. We probably won't run into any snow this early in the season. If big snow comes in early, I may change this to a snowshoe at a different location. Pre-register by phone, not by e-mail. See roster for phone number. Moderate pace.  
RATED: HARD, Driving dist RT 160 miles, Hike dist 6.6 miles. Elev. 2300 feet.

**Sunday, December 11, 7:30 a.m., BEAR POINT Snowshoe  
PRE-REG W/LDR: JAMES SEALY 503-588-7339**

This snowshoe will depend on how much snow we have. If we have little snow this could be just a hike. If there is a lot of low

snow we will not be able to drive into the trailhead so another destination will have to be chosen on the fly. Bear Point is a wonderful ex-fire lookout, and it has a great close-up view of Mt Jeff. The best time to be up there is when it is covered in snow on a crisp sunny winter day. Getting there is a challenge. There is a lot of elevation gain and it gets much steeper the last fourth of the trip. If there is a lot of snow, the way forward will be guided by GPS. If you like a good workout and a trip with unforeseen adventure, this is for you. Moderate pace.  
RATED: HARD, Driving dist RT 120 miles, Snowshoe dist 8 miles, Elev. 3000 feet.

**Sunday, December 11, 8:00 a.m., LITTLE NORTH  
SANTIAM Hike**

**PRE-REG W/LDR: JOHN SAVAGE 503-399-8615**

With the right weather, this is a good winter hike. We will walk through old-growth forest and view the pools and waterfalls of the Little North Santiam River. Moderate pace.

RATED: MEDIUM, Driving dist RT 70 miles, Hike dist 9 miles, Elev. 900 feet.

**Monday, December 12 10:00 a.m., KOFFEE KLATCH AT  
THE BEANERY**

**Wednesday, December 14, SANTIAM PASS X-Ski  
PRE-REG W/LDR: DAVE CARTER 503-393-3649**

This will be a cross country ski trip in the Santiam Pass area if there is enough snow. Otherwise we will do a hike. Please contact me prior to the hike for details. Think snow. Moderate pace.

RATED: MEDIUM, Driving dist RT 200 miles, Ski dist 5 miles.

**Wednesday, December 14, AUDUBON NATURE RESERVE  
BLACKBERRY REMOVAL**

**LEE SLATTUM 503-364-9325**

See Wednesday, December 7.

**Thursday, December 15, CENTER 50+ LUNCH  
LEE SLATTUM**

See Thursday, December 1.

**Saturday, December 17, 8:00 a.m., MARYS PEAK Hike  
PRE-REG W/LDR: JANET RAFALOVICH 503-371-1039**

We'll hike the East Ridge Trail which climbs a slope across a dense noble fir forest to a high meadow with views of the Coast Range. Moderate pace.

RATED: MEDIUM, Driving dist RT 106 miles, Hike dist 6 miles, Elev. 1250 feet.

**Saturday, December 17, 9:00 a.m., MINTO BROWN Hike  
MARY ELLIOTT 503-508-1494**

See December 3 write-up.

**Saturday, December 17, PAR, 8:00 a.m., MAXWELL  
BUTTE Beginner Snowshoe  
STEVE DOUGHERTY 503-566-8899**

This beginner snowshoe begins at the Maxwell Sno-Park (3700'). We will snowshoe two miles up 600 feet to the

Mountainview Shelter. On a clear day hikers can enjoy views of Mt. Washington and the Three Sisters. We will lunch at the shelter (4300') before reversing our route back to the cars. All ages and abilities are welcome. This is a great opportunity to experience the sport of snowshoeing. Preregistration required at <http://www.cascadeadventures.net>. Moderate pace.  
RATED: MEDIUM, Driving dist RT 154 miles, Snowshoe dist 4 miles, Elev. 600 feet.

**Saturday, December 17, SANTIAM CANYON Snowshoe PRE-REG W/LDR: LEE SLATTUM**

The snow gods be willing, we'll be snowshoeing in deep, fluffy snow to some worthwhile destination, providing us with an aerobic workout and splendid views, perhaps upon a butte or craggy bluff. The distance covered will probably not be more than eight miles or more than 1000 feet of vertical. You will, of course, need to be in reasonably good aerobic shape. I have two pairs of loaner snowshoes and enough ski poles to accommodate most heights. Moderate pace.  
RATED: HARD.

**Saturday, December 17, SANTIAM HIGHWAY BEGINNERS X-Ski**

**PRE-REG W/LDR: BETSEY BELSHAW 503-370-8789**

We will go up Santiam Highway till we find good snow. If the forecast is bad or we do not find good snow the trip will turn into a snowshoe or hike. This is not a lesson. The driving and skiing distances and elevation gain depend on conditions but will be compatible with a beginner trip. Moderate pace.  
RATED: EASY, Driving dist RT 150 miles, Ski dist 5 miles.

**Sunday, December 18, MAXWELL BUTTE SNO-PARK X-Ski**

**PRE-REG W/LDR: RICK COOPER 503-362-9719**

Weather and snow conditions permitting, we will ski at Maxwell Butte Sno-Park. If there isn't enough snow at Maxwell, we will continue up the canyon. Pre-register with leader by phone or email at [cooperrm50@gmail.com](mailto:cooperrm50@gmail.com). Moderate pace.  
RATED: MEDIUM-HARD, Driving dist RT 160 miles, Ski dist 7 miles, Elev. 500 feet.

**Sunday, December 18, SILVER FALLS SOLSTICE Hike and Potluck**

**PRE-REG W/LDR: MARY COLEMAN 503-873-5605**

We have some hiking to do and some celebrating. We will hike the loop at the Falls, stopping midway for a snack at the lodge. After, at the leader's house in Silverton, we will celebrate the upcoming solstice as well as Elizabeth's retirement and birthday. Anyone else have something to celebrate, bring it on! I'll make a couple pots of soup to ward off the dark chill. Bring something to share if you wish. Questions? Call or email at [mcolemanj@gmail.com](mailto:mcolemanj@gmail.com) Moderate pace.  
RATED: MEDIUM, Driving dist RT 40 miles, Hike dist 7 miles,

Elev. 1000 feet.

**Monday, December 19, 10:00 a.m., KOFFEE KLATCH AT THE BEANERY**

**Wednesday, December 21, AUDUBON NATURE RESERVE BLACKBERRY REMOVAL**

**LEE SLATTUM 503-364-9325**

See Wednesday, December 7.

**Thursday, December 22, CENTER 50+ LUNCH**

**LEE SLATTUM**

See Thursday, December 1.

**Saturday, December 24, 9:00 a.m., MINTO BROWN Hike**

**MARY ELLIOTT 503-508-1494**

See December 3 write-up.

**Monday, December 26, 10:00 a.m., KOFFEE KLATCH AT THE BEANERY**

**Wednesday, December 28, MAXWELL BUTTE LOOP X-Ski PRE-REG W/LDR: DON GALLAGHER**

Snow conditions permitting this ski trip will begin and end at Big Meadow Road and include lunch at the shelter. The leader is reserving the right to move to an alternate trip. Pre-register with leader at [dongall39@comcast.net](mailto:dongall39@comcast.net). Moderate pace.  
RATED: MEDIUM, Driving dist RT 180 miles, Ski dist 6 miles, Elev. 1000 feet.

**Wednesday, December 28, AUDUBON NATURE RESERVE BLACKBERRY REMOVAL**

**LEE SLATTUM 503-364-9325**

See Wednesday, December 7.

**Thursday, December 29, CENTER 50+ LUNCH**

**LEE SLATTUM**

See Thursday, December 1.

**Saturday, December 31, 9:30 a.m., NEW YEARS EVE HIKE AND POTLUCK**

**BLANKA TRUNECKOVA 503-409-1606**

Join us for a hike in the McDonald Forest to work up an appetite for a New Year's Eve potluck and merriment. Bring your potluck dishes to Blanka's house at 9:30, and we will carpool from there. Questions? Call Blanka or Joanne. Moderate pace.  
RATED: MEDIUM, Driving dist RT 60 miles, Hike dist 6 miles.

**Saturday, December 31, 9:00 a.m., MINTO BROWN Hike**

**MARY ELLIOTT 503-508-1494**

See December 3 write-up.

## FUTURE EVENTS

### **Friday-Sunday, January 13-15, CABIN WEEKEND STEVE DOUGHERTY 503-566-8899**

Join me at the Thunderbird Lodge for the seventh annual winter cabin weekend. This rustic mountain retreat is located just 65 miles from Salem on Whitewater Road off Highway 22. This time of year there is usually enough snow for skiing or snowshoeing nearby. I will arrive early Friday to open the cabin and get things warmed up and ready. Guests may arrive as early as 3 p.m. on Friday and stay until 2 p.m. on Sunday. Please be aware that the cabin has no electricity or indoor plumbing. The cabin is heated by two wood stoves and a fireplace. Lanterns and flashlights are used for light. Dress warmly and bring a sleeping bag, sleeping pad, flashlight, sense of humor and an appetite. No smoking or pets are allowed. The cost is \$35 for members, \$41 for guests and \$1/year for kids under 12. The cost includes cabin rental and meals specially prepared by yours truly. Limited to 30 participants. Please make your check payable to Steve Dougherty and mail to PO Box 9, Mehama, OR 97384. Sign up at <http://www.cascadeadventures.net>. Driving dist RT 130 miles.

### **Friday-Sunday, January 27-29, ELK LAKE RESORT WEEKEND X-Ski**

**PRE-REG W/LDR: DAVID ANDERSON 541-758-7602**  
Join us for a weekend of skiing, snowshoeing, and merriment at Elk Lake Resort, near Mt. Bachelor. The resort is located several miles from the nearest plowed road in a highly scenic area, and includes log cabins, a lodge, restaurant, and bar. Skis and snowshoes can be rented at the Lodge. Cost per person for the weekend is \$50 for basic accommodations or \$105 for deluxe. Food and transportation are extra. Ski in or sign up for a round trip ride via sno-cat. A full deposit is required to hold your place. Experienced beginners and up. Moderate pace.  
RATED: EASY-MEDIUM, Driving dist RT 300 miles.

### **Sunday-Friday, February 5-10, DIAMOND LAKE SENIOR SKI WEEK**

**CARROL MAURER 503-856-8230**  
Cross-country ski or snowshoe at Diamond Lake. Share expense of cabin, \$139 per night, 4 ways. Take Amtrak and shuttle to and from resort. Lessons and tours at all levels, entertainment nightly (including one talent show!). Dinners are included (the food is great) plus one pizza lunch for \$175 per person. Cabin has 2 bedrooms, one queen and two twins. Please send deposit by January 29 to Carrol Maurer, 5426 Chetco Ct. NE, Keizer 97303. Come have fun in a beautiful spot.

### **Friday-Monday, February 10-13, ELK LAKE WEEKEND GETAWAY X-Ski**

**PRE-REG W/LDR: KEN ASH 503-884-3160**  
We will send our gear by sno-cat then ski to Elk Lake, about 10 mi, on Friday, Feb 10. There will be two days of skiing in the area. We will ski out on Monday. The most luxurious digs at the lake are reserved. The cost will be \$212 per person. This includes bedding, towels, fully equipped kitchen two baths and laundry. Please contact Ken ASAP by phone or email, [mrkenash@comcast.net](mailto:mrkenash@comcast.net). Moderate pace.  
RATED: MEDIUM-HARD, Driving dist RT 250 mi.

### **Thursday, Saturday, Sunday, February 16, 18,19, DEN, 6:30 p.m., ROUTE-FINDING SCHOOL STEVE DOUGHERTY 503-566-8899**

Carrying a map and compass is not enough. Backcountry travelers must have a solid understanding of how to use these essential tools. The Chemeketan Route Finding School will teach you the skills you need to "stay found". This three-part series of workshops focuses on learning and practicing map, compass and GPS skills. Part one "Using Maps" is a three-hour lecture and will focus solely on revealing and understanding the enormous amount of information available in a topographical map. Parts two and three will focus on compass and GPS skills respectively. Both will consist of equal parts lecture and field session practice. The field session exercises are critical for participants to internalize the skills introduced in the lecture sessions. Lectures take place at the Chemeketan Club Room at 360-1/2 State Street in downtown Salem (above Cooke Stationary). Field sessions will be held within walking distance of the Chemeketan Club Room at Salem's Riverfront Park. Participants are expected to bring their own compass, but need not own their own GPS. Participants who do not own a GPS receiver will be partnered with someone who does. Space is limited to 50 participants per session. Cost is \$19 for Chemeketan members and \$39 for non-members. Sign up online at <http://www.cascadeadventures.net>. Make checks payable to the Chemeketans and mail to the leader: Steve Dougherty, PO Box 9, Mehama, OR 97384. Schedule: Part 1: Using Maps Thu. Feb 16 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Part 2: Using Map and Compass Sat. Feb 18 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Part 3: Using a GPS Sun. Feb 19 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

### **Sunday-Saturday, May 27-June 2, CANYON DE CHELLY PRE-REG W/LDR: HARDIN KING 503-845-9340**

Base-camp in beautiful Canyon de Chelly. Day hike 6-10 miles with elevation +/- of 1200' in different environments daily; view numerous Anasazi cliff dwellings; enjoy rock art of Anasazi/Ute/ Hopi/Navajo; become acquainted with three generations of a Navajo family and share a sweat/potluck with them. Live/hike surrounded by: quiet beauty of patina-covered red-rock canyon walls, turquoise blue sky, green desert riparian areas; and, sleep with canyon walls providing views of crystal clear desert night skies. Interested? Call/email Hardin King asap: 503-845-9340 or [hardinking@hotmail.com](mailto:hardinking@hotmail.com). Moderate pace.  
RATED: MEDIUM-HARD, Hike dist 45 miles, Elev. 1200 feet

## WE WERE THERE

### Yosemite Valley Climbing, September 17-24

Participants: Scott Phillips, Tammy Phillips, Ashley Paul, Tyler Gates, Christine Usselman, Tim and Robyn Smith, Jack Myrtue, Simon Boyd, Mike Rudy, Sue Nelson, Justin Clark, Mary Wandell Wow, what a week in Yosemite Valley. The excitement started before we even hit the California border on the way down. I had my car loaded with Tammy, Simon, Sue, Mary and myself. The trailer I was pulling was loaded with our stuff plus Tim and Robyn's gear. In all, my rig was hauling 2,500 pounds of people and gear for a total weight of about 7,500 pounds. We pre-loaded Friday night and the next morning picked up our last passenger at 3am for what I was hoping to be a boring ride down there...that was not to be...read on... It was all right at first, passing Albany, Eugene, Cottage Grove and Roseburg. Then, somewhere after Canyonville, there it was, as I was rounding a curve next to a semi on my right, a dead deer in my lane. I'm talking adult, full size, fresh kill, in the middle of the road deer. Have you ever run over a dead carcass that had been flattened by a thousand cars and said to yourself, "I'm glad I wasn't the first poor sap to run that sucker over?" Well, it was my turn to be the poor sap. I hardly had time to react, not that I would want to with a semi beside me. Traveling a good 65 mph and with 7,500 pounds behind me, the deer didn't stand a chance. I may as well have been driving a meat grinder. I hardly felt a thing, just a couple of small bumps as we shredded the carcass to pieces with the undercarriage of my car and trailer. Everyone woke up enough for me to tell them what had just happened. Simon was my only witness that it wasn't a person I just hit. We continued on to Grants Pass where we gassed up. That's when we first smelled it...death. The trailer was spattered with blood and deer hair...and the smell. It was not going to be a good thing to take down to Yosemite, prime bear attractant. We continued on to Redding where we located a self-service car wash and spent the next hour spraying the undercarriage of the car and trailer. As I was spraying there were chunks of hide and meat and guts washing down the drain. Tammy was pulling out strings of venison eight inches long with a stick. I went in three different stalls because to ground was getting pretty gross after each of the three spray sessions. Finally, the car was as good as it was going to get and off we went. It still smelled. Okay, we're on the road again. Travelling along somewhere past Red Bluff someone mentioned that they heard a strange noise, it didn't sound right. Mary quickly pulled over and we hopped out. Sure enough the trailer had a flat tire. No big deal, we had a spare and the tools. As we were changing the flat, one of CHP's finest pulled up behind us and offered a hand, which he did. Nice guy. The chore was soon over and we went to the nearest Les Schwab to pick up two more spares. Two down, one to go...read on... We got to the Manteca exit and got on highway 120 that eventually leads into Yosemite Valley. Mary was driving again as we approached the Priest Road grade, a windy road that gains 1,500 feet in 5.5 miles. I suggested that we take the Old Priest Road, a steeper road that would save three miles and about 15 minutes. Well, as I was showing Mary how to use low gear on my car we missed the sign that said "No Trailers". We were making good time when a faster

car came up behind us. A pull out came up and we politely turned off the road right into the arms of...you guessed it...one of CHP's finest. He wasn't such a nice guy. He got us for the trailer on that road AND not having the trailer registered with a plate and tags, double whammy! UGH! Well, for the record, Oregon doesn't require plates and tags for a trailer that carries less than 1,800 pounds. Little vindication for causing Mary to get a double fine. Sorry Mary, we'll foot the bill. It's still in litigation as you read this. And that's just for the trip down there...read on... We show up at the Upper Pines campground two hours late with little light left to set up camp. Mike, Justin, Tim and Robyn, Tyler and his fiancée Christine were all there waiting for us to arrive. On Monday Ashley Paul and Jack Myrtue showed up. We all split up into various groups and climbed, bouldered and hiked various areas of the valley including Swan Slab area, Mungenella, Royal Arches, Church Bowl among others. The "Big" climb was scheduled for Wednesday, the Snake Dike route up Half Dome. The weather was forecast to be 20% chance of rain and thunderstorms. But that's what it was on Monday and Tuesday as well and nothing really came of it. On Tuesday, two groups hiked in to Little Yosemite Valley to get a jump start on the eight mile approach to Snake Dike. Simon and I would start from camp and make a full day of it. We were to meet the campers at the Snake Dike climbers trail cut off at 5:30 am. It was a cloudless and starry morning. After everyone was assembled at the cut off we headed out with four groups of two. Simon and Sue; Tyler and Christine; Mike and Justin; Ashley and myself. Tim and Robyn bailed at the last minute. We were making good time up the trail when we heard a familiar voice. Tim was trying to catch up to us. We decided to have him climb with two experienced climbers, Simon and Sue. That was a smart choice in retrospect. We got to the base of the route and our first group was off the deck by 8:30 under cloudless skies. After Sue, Simon and Tim was Mike and Justin's turn. After them, Tyler and Christine launched at about 9:15 and I was 30 minutes behind them. The delay was caused by our multiple parties and not enough belay stations. There was one lone Japanese couple waiting for all of us to clear the route so they could get started. Past years have been much worse. Ten minutes after arriving at the base of the route we've had 10 people show up to climb, what a cluster. By about 11am I saw a couple of puffy clouds above us and due east over the Tuolumne area. The first few pitches went smooth. Tim, Simon and Sue got into a roll and they were up, up and away. They got into a groove and just kept going. Mike and Justin made good time. Ashley and I were right behind Christine just until the top of the route at pitch 8. Note here: Ashley had to climb most of the route in her tennis shoes because her climbing shoes were painfully tight. Ashley and I took a short lunch break in the slabs at the top of the route then off we went. I saw that the Japanese couple passed us by as we were sitting there. It was about 3pm and the skies were mostly cloudy, mmm. They seemed to sneak in without us noticing. Mike was checking in with us to see where we were. They were on the other side waiting for the rest of the group. As I was belaying Ashley over the slabs I saw that the sky was nothing but clouds. We were wrapping

up the ropes when I heard Mike yell over the radio something about rai... What was that Mike, you cut out? Then it started on us, and I heard thunder, oh great! It really started raining and Ashley was losing her grip with her tennis shoes. She took them off to get up the rock, bare feet is not the best thing in a thunderstorm, but it was working. We were making our way up the slabs with small streams running past us. I really started to hear a lot of radio talk. Mike and everyone else were on the other side and going down the cables. Radio reception was spotty with Half Dome in the way. I heard that someone was hit by lightning. "Please confirm that!" I said. It was true. As Sue, Christine and Tyler were going down the cables there was a lightning strike that traveled through the cables and shocked all three of them. Luckily, they were wearing gloves and shoes to insulate themselves from the cable, it may have been what saved them. Tyler was off the cables by the time Sue and Christine were shocked twice again. Both Mike and Simon said they saw the strike travel up the cables. They were helpless as they watched from below. By now the rock was very slick. Christine slipped and was caught by Sue grabbing onto her backpack. Sue had kept her harness on so she could clip in on the cables on the way down. Christine had taken her harness off for the trip down. Christine was frozen on the cables. Sue was talking her down when the Japanese guy showed up and assisted Christine down the rest of the way, backing his way down as he helped her. God sent an angel to help. After everyone got down to the bottom of the cables, Mike did an assessment on each of the victims then headed towards Little Yosemite Valley Camp to pack up and hike back to base camp. Ashley and I were still heading towards the cables. I thought everyone else was off Half Dome but saw Tim still up there looking for us. We met up and waited another 30 minutes for the storm to clear before heading down the cables, wearing harnesses and clipping in as we went. Tim, Ashley and I were able to get to Little Yosemite Camp and meet up with the group just as they were going to head out. Mike reported that the three were in good physical shape but still recovering emotionally. We all hiked back to base camp where Tammy had fajitas waiting for us. Thanks Tammy. Wow, what a ride! The rest of the week wasn't without excitement as well. While some of us were climbing the Church Bowl Chimney (I hate chimneys), there was a car crash out at the road. I grabbed my first aid kit and ran to the scene of a pedestrian versus motor vehicle. The victim was breathing and a pulse was present. The 'big boys' were called in so I held c-spine until they arrived, which didn't take long. I helped package up the victim and he was life flighted out of the valley. Prognosis, unknown but not life threatening. Geez, what else is going to happen this week...read on... The week we were there was during 'Yosemite Face Lift'. It's a week organized by the Yosemite Climbing Association to clean up the park after the busy tourist season and get some special projects done. In the evenings they have well known climbers present slide shows of their projects. This year we had Lisa Rands and a few others. In years past we've seen John Long, Peter Croft, Tim O'Neil and others. They also give out prizes to people that volunteer for the daily clean up efforts. We won quite a bit of stuff. Gift certificates, Backpack, water bottles, chalk bag. We pretty much made a haul. Good times. Well, the week was winding down and Mike and Justin left Friday morning to make it back for Josh and Katie's wedding. Congratulations,

by the way. Saturday morning, Tim, Robyn, Tyler and Christine headed out. When I got back from climbing Super Slide on Saturday I started packing up some of my gear. Sue and Simon climbed the same route but were an hour or so behind us. As I was packing, the rain started, hard, then the hail, hard. It was starting to look like a winter wonderland and by the time it ended my tent was sitting in two inches of water and we were soaked. There were new waterfalls running across the Royal Arches route that Sue and I climbed earlier in the week. We knew Simon and Sue were soaked as well so Tammy and I went to find them, but the traffic was backed up and it took us 30 minutes to get 300 yards. We turned around and went back to camp. Simon and Sue would have get back on their own. They said the deluge started just as they were getting back to the bottom of the route and stayed dry by riding the shuttle back to camp. Sunday morning we packed it up and left. Sorry, nothing exciting to report for the trip back, just boring driving. I hope you enjoyed this report. The accompanying pictures are on my Webshots page at <http://outdoors.webshots.com/album/581551753xOgYUZ>.

#### **Cape Falcon Dawdler, September 21**

The long ride to Cape Falcon and back paid off with lots of humor and hearty laughter. The trail was sheltered and yet in spots warmed by the sun and ocean views. Lunch on top of the cliff offered a pleasant breeze and a wide open spectacular view of the ocean. The Cape itself is one of the four new marine reserves on the Oregon Coast and, in addition, a haven for crowds of surfers on the weekends. On the way home, the Tillamook Creamery and Cheese Factory became our haven for ice cream and cheese treats. Hikers and jokers were Wgixuan Baker, Sylvia Dawson, David Jackson, Pat Simila, Janet Templar, Dean Wachtel, and Mary Narey, leader.

#### **Jefferson Park, October 12**

We had a crisp fall day for our hike into Jefferson Park on the Whitewater Trail. The huckleberry foliage was starting to turn red and Mt. Jefferson had new snow down to about 6,000 feet. Blue gentian flowers were starting to open. We got transitory views of Mt. Jefferson on the hike up, but then clouds hid the mountain most of the time while we had lunch at Scout Lake. After lunch we walked to nearby Bays Lake and Rock Lake. Hikers enjoying a walk in Paradise included guests Dick Yates and Everett Knott; and members Vicky Wilbanks, Marcia Kenagy, Margaret Saxe, Sylvia Dawson, Nancy Rockwell, Rick Cooper, Mary Liepins, Scott and Vivienne Torgeson, and leader Roz Shirack.

#### **Camp Whispering Winds Dawdler Hike, October 13**

What was supposed to be a sunny day turned out to be a pleasant overcast day. Three members and one guest looked at camp facilities while walking on or near gravel roads, hiked trails to see places like the swimming pool and the quiet place, and finally hiked the Lakeview Trail to complete the circle. Guest Lindsey Harms did much photographing and members Joanne Urbigkeit and Betty Pierce enjoyed seeing the deep wooded area while leader Paula Hyatt told stores about the camp, having had a 39-year connection with it. We

saw small varieties of wildlife and had lunch by the fire circle at a unit of Adirondack shelters. Final rest stop was on a soft bench outside Richards Lodge while enjoying the lovely view over the Lake of the Winds.

#### **Willamette River: Independence to Salem, October 15**

It was a very enjoyable paddle with scenic views of fall colors; a welcome contrast to the gray sky. Though there was a persistent cold breeze, we didn't get rained on... we were all grateful for that. The sun popped out a couple times, but didn't linger for long. It was a very fast and smooth trip; the river was high and wide. According to Mike's GPS we averaged about 4.6 mph. We didn't encounter any major obstacles or areas of shallow water. Along the way we saw several blue heron and two bald eagles. Afterwards, most of us met for yummy pizza and great conversation. Chemeketan paddlers were: Mary Wandell, leader, Mike Berger, Frances Hernandez, John Wilberding, Trish Rossitto, Jan Shearer, Tim Shearer, and Nancy Robinson. We were joined by non-members John Oorthuys, Carolee Will, and Ken Will.



#### **Mt. Curtis Gilbert, October 15-16**

The weekend of October 15-16 saw another in a succession of memorable end-of-season climbs with the summiting of Mt. Curtis Gilbert (8201'), the highest peak in the Goat Rocks. The Goat Rockin', cow-pie hoppin' effort began at the Conrad Meadows trailhead (4050') south of Highway 12 and southeast of Mt. Rainier. Conrad Meadows is one of the largest subalpine meadows/valleys in the Cascades, and cattle can often be seen grazing in the open areas (hence the



need for cowpie hoppin'). We saw plenty of the latter but the critters themselves may have already been removed for the season. The trail follows the South Fork Tieton River for about 4 flat miles before ascending another 2 miles to Surprise Lake (5250') where we set up camp this year in lieu of going higher to Warm Lake. The sun dropped into the west behind the mountains and darkness enveloped our campsite by 6:30 pm.

As the climb itself is not that long or difficult we opted for a 7:15 departure, but, hey!, it felt like an alpine start as headlamps were needed in the morning until just prior to departing. We contoured on the trail around the Tieton basin before heading crosscountry uphill toward Warm Lake where we soon began to encounter snow at ~6100'. The highlight of this part of the ascent was encountering two herd of elk: a smaller group of about 6 to 8 directly above us and a larger herd of about 20-25 animals bugling in the distance and moving away from us along the snowy open benches. Quite the display!

We readily found Warm Lake, where I'd originally intended to camp; the lake was open water, but there were several inches of snow covering the surrounding area. We ascended to Klickton Divide above the lake and began traversing northwesterly along the crest toward Gilbert, where the ridgeline afforded us great views of Mt. Adams to the south and the cloud covered valleys of the Tieton and Klickitat basins. The presence of snow along much of the crest made for slower and more cautious travel than normal, but we successfully negotiated the route and arrived at the base of the summit block. Here the presence of snow and ice harkened back to our 2007 trip where we took an alternate route to the summit to take advantage of some of the blocky rock and walls, and avoided the steep snow covering much of the normal (scree) route thru the basin. There were a few dicey moments but we all made it without incident, even crossing over the false summit immediately to the east of the true one.

We lingered for a while on the summit, snacking, taking pictures, and enjoying the views of Adams, Rainier, St. Helens just above the clouds, and the Goat Citadel to the immediate west. The downclimb back to Klickton Divide went surprisingly well, and we were soon hustling back toward camp. We shortcut off the Divide near Warm lake and descended crosscountry thru the area where we'd seen the large elk herd earlier – lots of hoofprints and scat but the herd had moved on.

We made it back to the Surprise Lake camp in fairly good time, quickly packed up and headed out, hoping to make it back to the cars without the use of headlamps – and just did so at 6:40 pm. The beverages were still frosty but, alas, opportunities for splashies were nonexistent; no end-of-season river fun this time. Sharing the splendid fall weather and grand company were Bill Tourtellotte (DNS), Mike Pennington (his first Chemeketan summit), David Braun, Kim Braasch, Stephen Rockford, Cathy Lazarus and Bill Saur.

### **Pine Ridge Lakes Tour, October 18**

I saw a large, Halloweenish sign along Hwy 22, west of Salem the other day that said something like, "Visit the Corn Maze of Terror!!" Well, this hike was kind of like that. But our hope was that our map, compass, and GPS would take the Terror Factor out of the maze of trees, snags and lakes. Our goal was to visit eleven small lakes in an off-trail circuit south of the Pine Ridge Trail. About two miles of our trail-less trek was in a



burn. This allowed views of Jefferson, Hood and the Old Cascades. After lunch at Maude Lake we plunged another two-plus miles into the deep, dark trees. But in general, the going wasn't bad. Lake after lake would occasionally appear, ringed by bright yellow grasses and red huckleberry bushes, made more colorful by the low fall sun. All in all we passed ten lakes. Lula Lake eLula'd us. It was tucked high above us in some crags. Too much work. We'll bag it next year. Our daring crew: Joanne DeMay, Marty Powell, Don Gallagher, and Bill Geibel, leader.

### **Burnt Lake Hike, October 19**

This was definitely a fall day of the negative type; cold and cloudy, but the rain held off until the end of the trip. The great group made up for the weather, and we did catch a fleeting glimpse of Mt. Hood. The falls were very pretty and the lake also, although the trail around it proved interesting in part. All in all, a good day for Phyllis Benanti, Jill Wilson, Rick Cooper, Nancy Rockwell, Sharon Wright, Sylvia Dawson, Margaret Saxe, Rosamund Irwin and Idr. Betsy Belshaw.

### **Santiam Wagon Road, October 21**

October is a GOOD hiking month. The footbridge over the Santiam at House Rock State Park was washed out. Only a minor annoyance; we hiked the same terrain we intended. We started at a bridge farther east where we hiked east up Seven Mile Hill. After retracing our steps, we hiked west back to House Rock. Good weather. Guest Lindsey Harms, and members Debra Dawes, Karen Eggiman, Donna Hunter, Brenda Nard, Ralph Nafziger, and George Struble, leader.

### **Bayocean Spit Hike, October 22**

This is a great beach hike, 9 miles all the way around, with variety. Half on the ocean beach, half facing Garibaldi, and easy walking. There's no remnant of the town that I know of,

but a signboard at the entrance provides a short history of its brief existence. We were treated to the sight of a large group of people riding their elegant Tennessee Walking horses on



the beach.

Rain was slight and brief, though the wind became annoying on the walk back to the car so we took a short cut across the spit. Then it was on to Roseanna's in Oceanside for well-earned refreshments. Beachwalkers were Rod Graves, Linda Willnow, Bob Custer, Margaret Saxe, Sylvia Dawson, David Jackson, Kate Seader and Joanne DeMay, leader.

### **Mt Hebo, October 23**

While it rained on the way, once on the trail the weather was decent even if the flora was a bit damp. We started at Hebo Lake and planned to take Sullivan's cut-off trail to the top. We missed his cut-off as it is very faint and in the wet brush might not have been a bargain anyway. We hiked to a viewpoint and then caught the road up to the radar station at the summit. It was very cloudy, and we didn't have much in the way of a view but we did have lunch and that picked us up. On the way home we stopped at the cafe in Hebo but were disappointed to find out that their oven was out of order so there were no pies or desserts. We let them know that we would not be doing this hike again until they had it repaired! Hikers were Margaret Saxe, Nadine LaCheminant, Dick Yates, Ken Ash, Bonnie Arias, and John Huff leader.

### **Vineyard Mountain Loop, Mid-week hike Corvallis, October 24**

Clouds, cold temperatures and possible rain interspersed with sun breaks were the day's forecast. It turned out to be fairly accurate. This hike is a great one for talkative groups because you can set a fairly decent pace since your eyes can remain on the road ahead instead of roots, drop-offs and possible toe stumbles. We stopped along the gravel road where sun breaks helped us to warm up and give our clacking teeth a rest. The breaks also provided us with lovely "valley below scenes" and picture opportunities. Usually mushrooms can be encountered along the trail, but the weather this fall has not created a bumper crop yet. Lunch was at the New Morning Bakery in Corvallis. A good time was had by Phyllis Benanti, Sylvia Dawson, Kathy Leddy, Janet Templar and Mary Narey, leader.

### **Old Cascades Hike, October 26**

Sixteen hikers decided the sunny weather forecast for the last Wednesday in October was just too good to pass up and headed to the Old Cascades to hike Coffin and Bachelor Mountains. We divided into two groups of eight, with one group doing Coffin, the other Bachelor and then switching places in the afternoon. The weather had gotten cool overnight so the trail started off with the crunch of ice crystals but the warming sun quickly made it feel like it was much warmer than the actual low forties. The view of the Central Cascades from Mt. Adams to the Sisters was great but Mt. Jefferson was spectacular. As we reached mid-afternoon the summit of the second mountain was still great but the clouds had settled in and we quickly got out the clothes that we had shed several hours earlier. Enjoying the trip were: Phyllis Benanti, Elizabeth Seibert, Sylvia Dawson, Margaret Saxe, Marcia Kenagy, Brenda Nard, Max Rae, Kathy Reid, Thomas Vanderhoof, Debra Dawes, Mary Leipins, Ralph Nafziger, Jerry Korson, Mary Coleman co-leader, Don Gallagher co-leader.



### **Maxwell Butte Hike, November 2**

On what appeared to be forecast the last day (even hours) of magnificent fall hiking there was a rush of folks interested in participating in this trek to the summit of Maxwell Butte. Unfortunately a slide closed Hwy 22 for an hour, so we were stuck at Rosies coffee shop wondering whether or not our narrowing window before the forecast snow would be wide enough. Our worries were lessened only by the lemon bars, brownies, and scones. Fortunately we had a perfect day for the hike with magnificent views of Three Fingered Jack and the rest of the Central Cascades. It had been many years since the leader had done this hike so it was a shock to be able to view the devastation of the B and B fire on the west slopes. Our weather worries were all for naught as the rain waited until we hit the city limits of Salem. Hikers: Mary Coleman, Sam Miller, Margaret Saxe, Sylvia Dawson, Brenda Nard, Donna Hunter, Ken Ash, Ralph Nafziger, Doris deLespinasse and leader Don Gallagher.

### **Champoeg Park, November 6**

A beautiful sunny fall day. Yes, I said sunny! Although it rained several days before and when I awoke this morning (the 7th) it was raining too, it did not rain on Sunday. We hiked from the visitor area over to the DAR and pavillion buildings on the west side of the park and then over the townsite trail to the dock area. Across the river we could see how some well-to-do folks lived. The poorer ones only had their own private docks. They didn't have boathouses! From there we headed towards the campgrounds and visited the gravesite of Mrs. Newell, one of the original townspeople. A scenic loop and then along the hike/bike path to Butteville and a picnic lunch near the store. Then back to the park and the visitor center. Colorful leaves vivid against the sunny blue sky. Several squirrels, slugs and shelled snails seen. We said hello to some sheep but they didn't seem interested. Great day. Leader, Matt Rieke, members Janet Templar and Greda Van Veen.

### **Polk County Pioneer Cemetery , November 7**

With a slight nip in the air, low, undecided clouds, sun rays darting through to tease us, and a breathtaking splash of autumn colors, five Chemeketans embarked on a dawdler adventure. Destination for the day was five pioneer cemeteries in Polk County. I had made prior arrangements with Ray and Darryl Tarter of Airlie to have them accompany us to the Williams Family Cemetery located on private land far from the Airlie Road. I knew we were in for a treat when father and son brought along machetes to clear a path to the abandoned cemetery plot. However, what father and son had not fully comprehended was that the five women they were escorting were dyed-in-the-wool Chemeketans who slogged over the brambles, undeterred and at a good clip. "I thought I was going to be leading you ladies and instead I had a hard time keeping up!" said Ray. In a patch of the dense understory, underneath ancient oaks covered in green spongy moss, we sighted lonely, neglected tombstones, one as tall as three feet, covered in moss and overrun by nasty vinca. We clustered around and pulled back the vinca in order to see some tombstone engravings with words such as "Williams," "Hooker," and, sadly, "infant." Ray Tarter, his eyes sparkling, was more than happy to lean on a stump and answer our questions about his family and the history of Airlie. We were told that the Tarters came from Virginia in 1859 and the family has been in the area ever since. He said his dad had set up a concession during WWI for the soldiers at Camp Adair and sold them hamburgers. They had done a lively business. We tore ourselves away and proceeded to Montgomery Pioneer Cemetery off Maple Grove Road and visited the well-cared-for cemetery where tombstones are decorated with loving and expert artwork. Our next stop was Edwards and Womer Pioneer Cemeteries a few miles past Pedee. Here we found gravesites from pioneer days to the present. Our tummies were grumbling by then and we went to Dallas for a meal. Afterwards, we returned to Pedee and knocked on the door of Alberta and Ted Jones and asked them where we could find another elusive cemetery, the Taylor Pioneer Cemetery. Ted came out in a jacket and smiling showed us the way to the cemetery which was also sitting on private property. He and his wife have lived in their lovely house for about 50 years. Before visiting that day, I had spoken with a couple of women from the Pedee Woman's Club who told me one grave is

outside the enclosure because, "It was the grave of a bad person." Before returning to Salem, we stretched our legs and took a short walk on the county road near the cemetery so that we could fill our lungs with the perfect air and take in the brilliant colors. The participants were: Leader Franca Hernandez, Sylvia Dawson, Janet Templar, Margaret Saxe, and Pat Simila.



#### **Dry Creek Hike, November 9**

This substitute hike (for Cape Mountain) was a good choice; no rain, good trail, and good roads. A walk through a lovely forest with views of the creek above ground and the gravel over it. This hike across the Columbia in Washington also featured lots of mushrooms. Obviously we had a good time. The group was Phyllis Benanti, Sharon Wright, Ken Ash, Franca Hernandez, Donna Hunter, Roh Rhodehamel and leader Betsy Belshaw.

#### **Saddle Mountain Hike, November 12**

I enjoyed hiking the Saddle Mountain trail for the first time in almost 20 years. Oregon State Parks has put in a lot of work improving what used to be in a constant state of erosion. We considered ourselves quite lucky because rain held off until we were almost back to the cars. It was very windy at the top and cold, no lounging around after lunch for a nap this time. Fleeting glimpses through the clouds, but the view was mostly in our imaginations. This is a short, steep hike, well worth the trip. Of course we stopped at Camp 18 on the way home for hot soup. Chemeketans willing to risk coastal weather: Ken Ash, Dave Carter, Rosamund Irwin, Lon Johnson, Allan King, Blanka Truneckova, leader Joanne DeMay.



Misty view from Saddle Mt. Photo Allan King