

Columbia Overlook

A SIERRA CLUB PUBLICATION FROM THE COLUMBIA GROUP OF OREGON

SPRING 2004

Let's save our forests

Joe Keating, *Federal Forest Issue Coordinator (North)*

Unfortunately the dark days for our forests are here again. If Bush is successful with his "get the cut out" agenda our community will again be stripped of its ability to protect our forests in the courts or administratively. Bush's successful initiatives to date include the so-called Healthy Forest Initiative, gutting the rules that govern the Survey, Manage and Aquatic Strategies of the NW Forest Plan (the US Fish & Wildlife's pressured decision to contract out its endangered species surveys to outside consultants), and the recent introduction of a bill amending the Endangered Species Act. If Bush has his way, our wondrous wilderness will be converted into Disney-like theme parks where you can get a picture of an old-growth tree and buy a T-shirt while munching on a hot dog. So, what can we do?

During the horrible days of the "Salvage Rider" the forest defense community was stripped by an act of Congress of its ability to use existing laws to defend our national forests for a three-year period (1996-1999). The citizens of Cascadia responded. Thousands of folks traveled to the forests to protest the destruction of our forests. We lost a lot of trees, but we saved some too. A key organizing entity emerged during that time. That entity was Witness Against Lawless Logging or WALL.

Our last line of defense will be not the courts, not administrative challenges, but ordinary people who love the forests. By mid-spring the Forest Service will be rolling out one destructive timber sale after another throughout the Northwest. Now is the time to organize.

Consequently, WALL has been rejuvenated. We are calling our effort this time "BACK 2 the WALL" (B2TW). The plan is simple. B2TW is helping communities throughout Oregon to form BACK 2 the WALL chapters. The mission of B2TW is to organize folks of all stripes (moms, pops, kids, and our elders) to travel to the woods safely to bear witness against the destruction of our forests. (It should be noted that forest protests have exposed participants to arrest. B2TW has years of experience in dealing with police in protest situations. One of the most important mandates of B2TW effort is to do all that is humanly possible to avoid arrest situations for B2TW event participants.)

Fifteen fledgling chapters have now formed in cities across Oregon, and even one in San Francisco! More chapters are expected soon, as B2TW is likely to expand to the rest of Northern California and into Washington State.

Since September, B2TW chapters have organized five forest-defense protest events in the Northwest. On February 23, B2TW cosponsored with Cascadia Rising a region-wide protest of Bush's gutting of the Survey and Manage rules. Protests took place in ten cities from Eureka, California, to Bellingham, Washington, with over 300 citizens participating.



Coastal spruce tree at one of the many sites proposed for cutting.

Together we will be able to blunt the worst excesses of Bush's chainsaw. However, it will take united commitment. B2TW is busy organizing. Keep in mind that this is also an election year. Think of the political significance of thousands of Oregonians in the forest bearing witness against George Bush's policies.

Contact Joe Keating to find out what events are coming up and to get plugged into your local B2TW chapter, keats@teleport.com.



The gorgeous Latourell Falls in the Columbia River Gorge is one of Oregon's natural gems—come join other Sierrans on hikes or biking trips this spring. See page 4 for the full outings calendar...

Organic catering takes off in Portland

By Brent Foster, *Oregon Chapter Conservation Chair*

Every day more and more people are making the switch. They are choosing to buy organic food as a way to decrease the effects of rampant pesticide use on the natural environment as well as to avoid the human health impacts of eating pesticide residues. But trying to find a caterer willing to prepare organic food for a big event like a wedding or conference has not always been easy.



Chef Jeff Heigl of Zen Kitchen Catering has over thirteen years of cooking experience.

Jeff Heigl and Jennifer Matthewson, however, now make finding great tasting organic food for a catered event not just an easy option, but also affordable! This past September, Heigl and Matthewson launched Zen Kitchen Catering with the philosophy of providing high quality organic food that tastes great with a heavy emphasis on meeting the unique needs of different clients. So far, the response has been great.

"We've had a really positive response and it has been very exciting as word of what we're doing gets out," says chef and co-owner Jeff Heigl.

Heigl, a Portland native, and Matthewson, who is the business manager and co-owner, say that creating an organic catering business was a great way to combine their passion for promoting organic foods and cooking. "It's fun when we hear people who have never had organic foods say 'Wow, this tastes great—I didn't know you could

do this with organic foods,'" explains Heigl. "While some of our clients are definitely excited that we use all organic ingredients, we also like being able to show people who don't usually eat organic that organic food isn't just good for the environment and your health, but that it actually tastes better."

While even the condiments accompanying the meals Zen Kitchen prepares are organic, their prices are surprisingly very comparable to other caterers. "It definitely costs a little more to use organic ingredients, but we try to buy direct from local farmers and have relationships with a number of organic suppliers, keeping both ours and our clients' costs down," comments Heigl. "There's no question, though, you get a lot better product when you buy organic."

If lackluster spaghetti or iceberg lettuce salads come to mind when you think of catered food, Zen Kitchen's Roasted Vegetable Salad, with organic eggplant, squash, zucchini, peppers, and mushrooms tossed in an organic balsamic vinaigrette should change your mind. Zen Kitchen's dishes vary from free range Chicken Roulade, made with organic sun dried tomatoes and spinach, and Sesame-encrusted Wild Salmon to a wide variety of vegetarian and vegan dishes—even offering meals for diabetic and low-carb eaters.

Jeff and Jennifer, who also recently joined the Sierra Club, offer all non-profit groups a 15% discount as a way to give back to the community. Check out Zen Kitchen Catering's website at www.zencatering.com or contact them at 503-284-3330.

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Memo from the Chair

By Ramona Bundus Rex, *Executive Committee Chair*

Spring is here, and for many of us it's time to turn attention to our garden. One important way to help protect our environment is to start right outside our front door. What we put on our lawns and shrubs affects the wildlife that share our surroundings. Non-point source pollution adversely affects the health of salmon runs in Oregon. Over the last couple of years, my husband and I have systematically removed the lawn from our yard. In its place, we are growing beautiful native and drought tolerant plants. Local wildlife have benefited from our reduction in water use and a more native habitat. Still like to have some lawn in your yard? Switch to organic lawn care. Using a reel mower instead of a power mower eliminates greenhouse gas emissions. A low maintenance wildlife-friendly yard will give you more time to get out and enjoy Oregon's natural beauty either at home or on one of the Columbia Group's springtime outings. Enjoy!



Volunteer editor position open

The Overlook is seeking an editor to develop story ideas, solicit and edit articles, create a photo archive, and work with the graphic designer to produce the quarterly Overlook newsletter. For more details please contact Ramona Rex at 503-231-0507, extension 16.

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The Columbia Overlook asks members: Why is this coming election year important to you?

"The Bush Administration is severely undercutting so many of our environmental protections—things we have fought so hard for. Across the board our wild places are being destroyed at a frighteningly rapid pace. The Administration needs to be held accountable and the only way to do that is to mobilize. We all hear about those who don't vote, who don't seem to care, or who don't think they can make a difference. It's



Robyn Conroy, Office Manager and tireless worker, for the Oregon Chapter Sierra Club.

time to talk to each other, talk to our neighbors, and educate ourselves about the power of taking action in 2004. Luckily, the Sierra Club provides lots of opportunities for getting involved. As one example, the Building Environmental Communities program is in full-swing and the groundswell effort is only getting bigger and better. Even as a Sierra Club staff member, I am enjoying learning new ways to be effective. All this coming from a Canadian who can't vote. Imagine the change you can make with your vote."

— Robyn Conroy, Office Manager, Oregon Chapter Sierra Club

Earth day every day

Earth Day is officially April 22, but in Oregon, we know that widespread volunteer action year-round is key to restoring endangered species, improving water quality, and keeping our state healthy and attractive. The Earth Day, Every Day Oregon web site makes it easy for individuals and businesses throughout Oregon and SW Washington to get involved. The site provides a calendar of statewide environmental activities, events, and workshops as well as a conservation education page so everyone can learn how to make every day earth day! Stream clean-ups, wetlands restoration, invasive species removal, tree planting, trail maintenance, and park clean-ups.

What will you do? Check out the possibilities at www.Earthday.Everyday.org.



New! General meetings for members

For the last few months, we've been hosting an open house at the Sierra Club for members to stop by and enjoy snacks, drinks, dessert and to learn more about what's happening at the Columbia Group. To accommodate more people we will now host general meetings at 6:30pm on the third Tuesday of every month (except for the fourth Tuesday in April) at the S.M.I.L.E. Station located at 8210 SE 13th Avenue in Sellwood, one block off Tacoma.

Join us at our next general meeting on April 27th at 6:30pm at this new location. Bring a potluck dish or small cash donation. Come learn about basic bicycle maintenance—get ready for spring!

Please call Robyn Conroy at 503-238-0442, ext. 300, or check our website at www.columbiagroupevents.org for more information. Interested in volunteering? If so, please leave a message for Dorothy Shoemaker at 503-231-0507, ext. 16.

Save the date! International Family Planning Event

May 11th – Come listen to two international family planning experts from Kenya and Peru. They will discuss the impacts the Bush Administration's family planning policies are having on their work. The event starts at 6:30pm with a reception and lecture following. Visit www.columbiagroupevent.org for the time and location.

For more information contact Ramona Rex, Population Committee Chair, at 503-231-0507, ext. 16.

For the love of a Hybrid

By Chris Stockner, *Oregon Environmental Council volunteer*

Transportation—everyone needs it. For many Sierra Club members, the challenge is getting from one place to another without causing excessive damage to the environment. Bus, bike and boot can solve this problem partially, even completely for some. For those who must turn to internal



Toyota Prius Hybrid

combustion at least part of the time, better options are here and keep getting better every year. As early as 1985, certain Honda Civic models achieved 50-plus miles per gallon on the highway. Some day our cars may run on hydrogen, produced from clean energy sources and emitting only water vapor as exhaust. But there is an exciting midway point on this continuum that is available right now at a car dealership near you.

We're talking about "hybrid" cars, and by that we don't mean an El Camino. For those not yet familiar with this new technology, these vehicles are so named because they combine a traditional (though ultra-efficient) gas engine with an electric motor and battery that recharges itself during the act of braking. The result is a car that gets superior gas mileage, especially in city driving. Most hybrid models are also outfitted with the best pollution control equipment, making them "super ultra low emission" vehicles. Hybrid cars lower their owners' personal dependence on oil, help clear the air of smog-forming chemicals, and add less heat-trapping CO2 to the atmosphere. These cars handle great and don't need to be plugged in—ever.

Sounds great, you may say. But what's the real story on these miracles of modern technology? Could hybrid cars be another Edsel? The non-profit Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) had that same question and decided to ask the nearly 1,400 people in Oregon already driving hybrid cars. In a survey conducted in 2003, in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Energy, OEC invited hybrid owners to share their opinions.

The most overwhelming result was the high level of customer satisfaction—hybrid owners love their cars. 98% of hybrid owners reported they would recommend their car to a friend; more than a few reported anecdotally that they had actually sold one or more hybrids indirectly by showing off their own. Did these feelings of car contentment stem from

the design? Features? Handling? Or the simple joy that comes from knowing a choice has been made that has less impact on the planet? The answer: all of the above.

While 89% of owners reported that environmental reasons had at least partially influenced them to purchase a hybrid, 68% named traits such as pleasing design and superior performance as their favorite aspect of the car. Sierra Club member, Ramona Rex, said "My husband and I love our Honda Civic Hybrid. The car is roomy, comfortable, has a great ride, and plenty of zip for freeway and in-town driving. And we're getting over 42 miles per gallon on average. On a recent trip to and from the coast, we got 50 m.p.g.. I would encourage everyone who is in the market for a new car to consider purchasing a hybrid vehicle."

Overall, hybrid owners from all parts of Oregon were enthusiastic about the future of the vehicles, and many mentioned that federal and state tax credits available to hybrid buyers are an excellent way for government to encourage the switch to hybrid technology. The switch seems to be gaining steam at an exponential rate: hybrid sales have consistently doubled every year since they were introduced, with Americans projected to purchase over 100,000 hybrids in 2004.

A large part of the growth in sales has come from the positive word-of-mouth these cars have enjoyed from their early owners. If you'd like to learn more about a hybrid first-hand there may well be a no-pressure salesperson in your own neighborhood—just look for the driveway occupied by a Toyota Prius, a Honda Civic Hybrid or a Honda Insight. And look for American manufacturers to introduce hybrids in the next couple of years, including SUVs and pickups.



Honda Civic Hybrid

Consumers are increasingly demanding cleaner, healthier choices from auto makers. Companies who respond to that demand will carry the banner for the future of driving, right on up until the day when the only thing that comes out of our tailpipes is a cloud of water.

For more information on OEC's survey of Oregon hybrid owners, visit www.orcouncil.org or contact Chris Hagerbaumer at 503-222-1963, ext102, or chris@orcouncil.org.

Federal transportation policy favors highways

By Debbie Bulger, *Sierra Club*

A report released in December by the Brookings Institution confirms what transportation reform advocates have learned from their experience in the field: there is in fact an unlevel playing field between transit and highway projects. Authored by Edward Beimborn and Robert Puentes, the report, "Highways and Transit: Leveling the Playing Field in Federal Transportation Policy," documents that transit and highways are treated very differently in federal policy, law and regulations. Highways are given a big leg up. If highways had to be built according to current procedures required of transit:

- Only 50% of their capital costs would be paid from federal sources instead of 80 to 90%.
- They would need a congressional "sponsor" who would help secure scarce funds.
- Local governments would have to demonstrate they could pay for their share and could operate and maintain the highways.
- Highway projects would have to compete with police, fire, education and other programs for funding. In lean budget years, highways could be closed some of the time to save money.

If transit rules applied to highways, highway construction would be very difficult and subject to intense political scrutiny. If transit rules applied to highways, some cities, states and metropolitan areas would never be able to build any highways, even if the public wanted them very much.

Only a few highway segments could begin construction each year. Given the uneven playing field documented by this

report, it's a miracle that we have any transit in this country at all. To remedy the inequity between highway and transit regulations, the Brookings Institution authors recommend the following:

- Require the same land use guidelines for highway construction as for transit projects. Currently the federal government will only support transit projects where land use policies provide for efficient development patterns.
- Require cost-effectiveness procedures for highway expenditures. Currently there is no requirement for cost effectiveness for highways. As has been observed, "an empty bus is bad; an empty highway is good."
- Implement peer comparisons for highway projects as is required of transit projects to encourage use of best practices.

Additional recommendations for leveling the playing field are included in this well-referenced report. Communities should not be faced with the choice of an effective transit project that requires mostly local funding or a highway project that is mostly funded from state and federal sources. The double standard for highway and transit projects heavily favors the most polluting and least efficient form of transportation. The Sierra Club favors the most energy and land conserving transportation modes. A level playing field between highways and transit would go far to achieving this goal.

To view the report visit www.brookings.edu/urban.

CALENDAR

April

Wed 7 • High Desert Committee, 7 p.m., office
Contact: Ken Snider, ken@mctv.org

Tue 13 • Political Committee, 6:30 p.m., office
Contact: Jessica O'Neil

Thur 15 • Inner City Outings, 7 p.m., office
Contact: Ann Griffin

Mon 19 • Population Committee, 7 p.m., office
Contact: Ramona Rex

Wed 21 • Tillamook Committee, 6:30 p.m.
Contact: Larry Deal for location.

Tue 27 • General Meeting, 6:30 p.m.,
S.M.I.L.E. Station, 8210 SE 13th Ave.
Contact: Dorothy Shoemaker

Tue 27 • Salmon Committee
Contact: Jeff Fryer for time and location.

Wed 28 • Conservation Committee, 6:30 p.m., office
Contact: Scott Chapman

Wed 28 • Executive Committee, 7:30 p.m., office
Contact: Ramona Rex

May

Wed 5 • High Desert Committee, 7 p.m., office
Contact: Ken Snider, ken@mctv.org

Mon 17 • Population Committee, 7 p.m., office
Contact: Ramona Rex

Tue 18 • General Meeting, 7 p.m.,
S.M.I.L.E. Station, 8210 SE 13th Ave.
Contact: Ann Kloka

Wed 19 • Tillamook Committee
Contact: Larry Deal for time and location.

Thur 20 • Inner City Outings, 7 p.m., office
Contact: Ann Griffin

Tue 25 • Salmon Committee
Contact: Jeff Fryer for time and location.

Wed 26 • Conservation Committee, 6:30 p.m., office
Contact: Scott Chapman

Wed 26 • Executive Committee, 7:30 p.m., office
Contact: Ramona Rex

June

Wed 2 • High Desert Committee, 7 p.m., office
Contact: Ken Snider, ken@mctv.org

Tue 15 • General Meeting, 7 p.m.,
S.M.I.L.E. Station, 8210 SE 13th Ave.
Contact: Dorothy Shoemaker

Wed 16 • Tillamook Committee, 6:30 p.m.
Contact: Larry Deal for location.

Thur 17 • Inner City Outings, 7 p.m., office
Contact: Ann Griffin

Mon 21 • Population Committee, 7 p.m., office
Contact: Ramona Rex

Tue 22 • Salmon Committee
Contact: Jeff Fryer for time and location.

Wed 23 • Conservation Committee, 6:30 p.m., office
Contact: Scott Chapman

Wed 23 • Executive Committee, 7:30 p.m., office
Contact: Ramona Rex

OUTINGS

April

4 (Sun) • Mountain Bike Conditioning Ride

Moderate/6mi/uphill grade

Forest Park ride on paved and gravel Leif Erickson Rd. Dirt trails are probably too muddy but we'll take a look. Meet 9am at the northwest end of NW Thurman Road. Leader: Jim Geltz, 503-625-8919, or jimageltz@aol.com.

17 (Sat) • Cape Falcon Hike

Easy/5miles/300ft gain

Meet at Gateway Park & Ride at 8am. Return to Portland around 6pm. Leader: Brian McLain, 503-844-9857.

18 (Sun) • Mountain Bike Conditioning Ride

Easy/5+mi/flat

Champoeg State Park, southwest of Wilsonville. Route is mostly flat with a couple of short hills on paved trails connecting to lightly trafficked, paved country roads. Meet at the fire station in St. Paul at 9 am. Leader: Jim Geltz, 503-625-8919, or jimageltz@aol.com.

May

1 (Sat) • Hamilton Mountain Hike

Moderate/8 miles/2100ft gain

Meet at Gateway Park & Ride at 9am. Optional stop for salmon chowder in Cascade Locks on the way back. Return by 5 pm. Leaders: Brian McLain 503-844-9857, Kristin Otto, 503-492-1847, or lumahaibeachgirl@aol.com.

9 (Sun) • Mothers Day Bike Ride

Join us at 9:15 am at Sellwood Park, lower part near the river and by the public restrooms. Parking is free. Ride starts at 9:30 am. We'll ride the bike path to downtown and back. Mothers and children are welcome. Don't forget your helmet and water. Bring snacks to share afterward at the park. Leader: Kathryn Kendall, 503-827-4304.

May 27 (Thu) • Beginner's Backpacking Class

Easy/2mi/600ft gain

Tailored for Sierra Club members or others with day hiking experience who want to truly leave city life behind. Spend a night enjoying the magic of an unimproved wilderness camp, the camaraderie of a group, shared dinner and a campfire. Instructors welcome the use of student's existing equipment or borrowing/renting minimal basic items: e.g. backpack, sleeping bag, tent and cooking equipment. Overnight field trip is June 12-13. Register no later than May 25 by sending \$15 conservation donation ("Sierra Club"), day and night phone #'s, and email address to: Leader: Dave Bybee, 2600 NE Minnehaha St. BB-18, Vancouver, WA 98665, 360-993-4247.

30 (Sun) • Columbia Gorge Mtn. Bike Ride

Tracy Hill morning bike ride on dirt trail loops suitable for beginners and intermediate riders. Afternoon ride for intermediate and advanced riders goes cross-country from Tracy Hill down the Gorge bluffs to the river by way of Major Creek Road (technical old dirt 4X4 road), or down open meadows into the Catherine Creek drainage. Optional no host visit to Stevenson's Walking Man Brew Pub on the way home. Meet at 8am at the gravel parking lot east of the Sandy River at the Lewis and Clark State Park exit off I-84 eastbound. Reservations required. Leader: Jim Geltz 503-625-8919, jimageltz@aol.com.

June

5 (Sat) • Devil's Rest Hike

Moderate/8 mi/2400ft gain.

Meet At Gateway Park & Ride at 9:00 am. Return to Portland about 5:00 pm. Leader: Brian McLain 503-844-9857.

12 (Sat) • Salmon River

Moderate/7mi/900ft

Reservation required. Enjoy a climb to a bluff with a spectacular view of the Salmon River's rugged upper canyon. Meet at Gateway Park & Ride at 9am. Leader: Judy Muir 503-449-7280, or judymuir@juno.com.

12-13 (Sat-Sun) • Beginner's Backpacking Class Field Trip

Student participation in prior class lecture mandatory. See May 27 listing.

12-13 (Sat-Sun) • Bike/Hike/Rock Scramble

Smith Rocks State Park near Terrebonne (north of Redmond). Hike or rock scramble the afternoon of the 12th, camp out evening of the 12th, and ride hills behind Smith Rocks on the 13th. Reservations required for campsites. Contact prior to June 1. Leader: Jim Geltz, 503-625-8919, or jimageltz@aol.com.

• **Additional outings:** for an up-to-date list, check out our web site at www.oregon.sierraclub.org/groups/columbia/outings/ or subscribe to our weekly e-mail newsletter by sending an e-mail to OREGON-COLUMBIA-NEWS-subscribe-request@lists.sierraclub.org.

• **General Outings Information:** as of 2004, the suggested participation donation is \$1 for members and \$2 for nonmembers each. This fee helps cover outings program costs. All passengers are asked to pay a fair carpool fee to drivers for gas and car expenses. You don't have to be a member to participate. Please see the web site for more details: www.oregon.sierraclub.org/groups/columbia/outings/.



Balsamroot in bloom at Rowena Plateau in the Columbia River Gorge.

This spring join an outing or become an outings leader!

By Judy Muir, *Outings Committee Chair*

The outings committee consists of twenty active leaders. Each leader brings a different level of experience but all leaders share a passion for the outdoors and a desire to enjoy the natural world with others. The dedication and commitment shown by our leaders is notable and apparent in the assortment of high quality outings offered each season.

The formal mission statement for the outings program is, "To maintain and enhance a diversified, superior, volunteer-run outings program that supports the Sierra Club's conservation mission by connecting people with the natural world and with the Club". Most outings are day hikes while a few leaders offer backpack trips. We currently need more leaders interested in offering family outings, cycling or bike rides, backpack trips, snowshoe and cross-country ski trips.

To become an approved outings leader you need to be a Sierra Club member in good standing, certified in standard first aid or an equivalent, and join two training hikes with an approved leader. All volunteer leaders are certified in first aid, while some have wilderness first aid. Reimbursement is available for first aid courses. Optional donations are collected at each outing to support the reimbursement program. Leaders and the outings committee meet every three months to exchange ideas and submit outings for the next newsletter.

Safety is a priority when leading a group on an outing, as well as having fun. Participants are often afforded good conversation, camaraderie, and knowledge of the wildflowers, plants or wildlife common to an area. Being a naturalist is not a prerequisite of an outings leader, which is often a misconception of interested members. It is commonly the participants who offer the information conveyed on a hike.

Getting to a trailhead is often done by carpooling. Participants meet at a designated location and can ride with other participants. It's not mandatory to be a Sierra Club member to join an outing. For some people, a Sierra Club outing may be their first encounter with the Club. On an outing, participants new to the area or the Club have an opportunity to get outdoors, learn more about Club membership and the conservation issues crucial to our area.

A special thank you to the following volunteer leaders for their dedication and commitment to the committee and to the Club: Karen Ashford, Duane Bolland, David Burdick, Dave Bybee, Scott Chapman, Roberta Doering, Brad Elliott, Jeff Fryer, Jim Geltz, Harry Lofton, Leland Marks, Duane Monroe, Brian McLain, Kristin Otto, Ann Pickar, Carol Porto, Irene Powch, Rhya Rosenheimer, and Jennifer Snarski. The following are leaders in training: Alicia Emel, Paul Dockter, Elizabeth Beckley, Mary Clisby.

For more information about the outings program contact Judy Muir, 503-231-0507, ext. 16.

SINGLES EVENTS

Outings

April 14 (Wed) • Street Ramble—Willamette

Greenway Trail

Meet at the Willamette Park parking lot near the boating docks at 6pm for a walk until 8pm. Leader: Elizabeth Beckley, 503-525-0783, or waterliley@yahoo.com

May 12 (Wed) • Street Ramble—Terwilliger Blvd

(Duniway Park to Barbur Blvd)

Meet at the Duniway Park parking lot next to the Metro YMCA at 6pm for a walk until 8pm. Leader: Elizabeth Beckley, 503-525-0783, or waterliley@yahoo.com.

June 9 (Wed) • Street Ramble—Esplanade (Steel Bridge, Hawthorne Bridge, River Place Marina)

Meet at Salmon Street Water fountains at 6pm for a walk until 8pm. Leader: Elizabeth Beckley, 503-525-0783, or waterliley@yahoo.com

Activities

April 23 (Sat) • Saturday Night at the Movies

Meet at 6pm at the McMenamin's Bagdad Theater and Pub, 3702 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Look for the Sierra Club sign. We will have dinner, and then see the current movie that starts about 7:30pm. The \$3 ticket can be added to your dinner bill to avoid lines. Check listings at: www.McMenamins.com. Leader: Kathryn Kendall, 503-827-4304.

June 13 (Sun) • Breakfast and the Dragon Boat Races

Join us at 9am for breakfast at a downtown cafe; location TBA. We will walk to the south end of Tom McCall Park to watch the races. Watch the Sierra Singles web page for details. Leader: Kathryn Kendall, 503-827-4304.

June 27 (Sun) • Summer Picnic

Join us at 3pm for a series of summer picnics at a local park, location TBA. Bring a potluck dish to share. Children and families welcome. Watch Sierra Singles web page and your email for details. Leader: Kathryn Kendall, 503-827-4304.

FIRST & THIRD TUESDAY NIGHT MOVIES

Join us every 1st Tuesday (at Paddy's Bar & Grill, 1st & Yamhill on MAX line) and 3rd Tuesday (at McMenamins, 15th & NE Broadway) at 5:30 pm for a movie night! Around 7pm we choose a movie and head off to the theatre. Leaders: Duane Monroe, duaneamonroe@attbi.com, or Lisa Seidman, cheffisa2@yahoo.com.

FIRST THURSDAY ART TOUR • PEARL DISTRICT

Meet at 6pm at the SW corner of the Ecotrust Bldg. at 10th and Irving. Tour gallery openings as announced on the listserv each First Thursday. Contact: Jean Inglis, 503-258-0147, ceramica@xprt.com.

More singles events to be announced at:

www.oregon.sierraclub.org/groups/columbia/singles

4TH THURSDAY GROUP GAME NIGHT

Dinner get-together followed by an evening of playing of games like Pictionary, Taboo, and Charades. Meet at 5:30 pm at Old Wives' Tales restaurant 1300 E Burnside St. Contact: Nancy, nsh1968@aol.com.

2ND Friday Night Wine Tasting

Join other singles as we sip, chat, and wine taste at wine establishments around town. Make new friends and learn about wine. For more info, please watch the Singles web site for details. Leader: Lisa Seidman, cheffisa2@yahoo.com

2ND WEEKEND OF THE MONTH PUB/DANCE NIGHT

Please join us for Salsa, Swing, Jazz, funk and other fun music and dancing. This spring we'll explore The Ram in Lake Oswego, Kell's Irish Pub, downtown Ptd., Brickstones at Jantzen Beach, and the Viscount on Burnside. Watch the Singles web page for details. Leader: Darcie Hildreth, darcie_h_koala@yahoo.com.

3RD SATURDAY NANCY'S EXCELLENT PDX ADVENTURES

Each month we visit different Portland area attractions like the zoo, OMSI, historic buildings, downtown art galleries, etc. Meeting times and places vary. Contact: Nancy, nsh1968@aol.com.

1ST SUNDAY DARCIE'S SIMPLE SAUNTERS

1st Sunday Simple Saunters are easy 2-3 mile walks/hikes around the metro area. Join us for exercise and socializing at some of Portland's most beautiful hiking spots! We meet at 12:45pm for a 1pm walk. April 4: Tryon Creek Trillium Festival; May 2: Tualitan Hills Nature Park; June 5: Lautorell Falls, 2.3 mile loop, 600 ft. gain. After the walks we grab a snack at a local restaurant. Watch the Sierra Singles web page for details!

3rd Sunday Super Saunters • These walks are 3-5 miles with limited elevation gain. Most walks start at noon. April 18: Gillette Lake, 5miles, 300ft. gain (Washington side of Bonneville Dam); May 16: Cape Falcon, meet at 10am. Watch the Sierra Singles web page for details. Leader: Darcie Hildreth, darcie_h_koala@yahoo.com.

COFFEE, CHAT, & ... ?

Relax and get better acquainted at one of the many coffee houses/cafes. Coffee, Chat, & ...? meets at 3pm until whenever. Movie, bowling, dinner, or an evening stroll could follow—whatever we decide to do, or not to do. Favorite coffee spot suggestions appreciated. Leader: Nancy Hatch, nsh1968@aol.com.