



FRIENDS OF
SHORE ACRES

©

Volume 6, no. 1

Quarterly Journal - Autumn 1992

One dollar

Dahlia named "Shore Acres 50"

by Ellie Kinney-Martial

When I approached Madlyn Geisert about naming a dahlia for Shore Acres in honor of Shore Acres State Park's 50th Anniversary she was thrilled. She thought it was a wonderful idea and we immediately went to her garden to choose a dahlia.

Madlyn says her work with dahlias started as a "hobby that got out of hand." She opened Bridge View Dahlia Gardens in 1960. Since that time she has introduced thirty-five new cultivars.

Her grandfather, Howard Colver, was a gardener at Shore Acres in the early 1900s. He and his family (including Madlyn's mother) lived at Cape Arago at this time. Madlyn says they always referred to Cape Arago as South Bay.

Zorro is Madlyn's most well known dahlia cultivar. It has been awarded the Stanley Johnson medal, the Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medal, and the Derrill W. Hart medal.

Some of her other award winning dahlias include *Aloha*, *Versa* and *Rusty*.

Shore Acres 50 is a four year old seedling of *Zorro*. It has a 9-10 inch bloom, and is a dark red semi-cactus. *Shore Acres 50* will

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Happy 50th anniversary - Shore Acres State Park

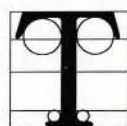
December 10, 1942 - 1992



Shirley Hammar displays Shore Acres quilt in the "Baltimore style."

Shore Acres quilt captures 50 years of lore and lure

WORLD, Coos Bay - by Linda Meierjorgen, Coast Life Editor



Think of Shore Acres and you'll think of the twin blue herons in the Oriental pond of the formal gardens.. Now the graceful birds are the centerpiece of a "Baltimore-style" commemorative quilt, designed and stitched by Shirley Hammar, North Bend quilter-extrordinaire, with help from friends. The quilt was displayed for the first time at the garden house at Shore Acres in late October. Since then it has been part of the "Quantum Quilts" exhibit at Evergreen Court in North Bend. It will come back to Shore Acres for the Holiday Lights and Open House, December 10 through January 3.

Baltimore, or album quilts, were popular in America in the mid-1800s, always telling a story. Hammar's quilt tells the story of Shore Acres, a history dating back to the earliest days of Coos County that centers around the timber

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FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES, INC.

Quarterly Journal
autumn, winter, spring, and summer

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Outdoor Trees

Debbie Webb 756-1988

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A stream stays alive by moving . . .

by Connie Eslinger, President



I am pleased to express my joy and gratitude for having been given the opportunity to serve

as president of the Friends of Shore Acres.

The Friends, as an organization, initially appealed to me because of the fast paced creative ways I saw them deal with opportunities for growth and movement. I have come to love the Friends because of the people, the volunteers, and the energy that keeps that movement flowing.

The Friends of Shore Acres are truly blessed - with a community, a membership, and working volunteers who have a passion for keeping Shore Acres alive. To all of you who have been so generous with your time, energy and love I say a heartfelt thank you. Without all of you we could not move forward.

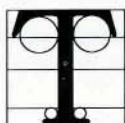
For those of you who are energized by change and challenge, I say get active. That's what the Friends will continue to be about. As projects draw to a close, new ones are always unfolding. Two projects slated for the winter months are completion of the interior of the new Gift and Information Center and refurbishing the interior of the Garden House.

Come join us and become part of the movement that keeps us alive. ■



Connie and David - passing the gavel

Editor's notes



he 6th annual Holiday Lights and Open House at Shore Acres Gardens is about to begin. This year we'll have more than 100,000 lights. It hardly seems possible that six years ago we had just 6,000. The increase is due, in large part, to incredible community and business support, not to mention the thousands of hours from volunteers and the "super" cooperation of state parks staff in the Sunset Bay Park District. And now permanent night lightscaping is about to become a reality. Be sure to look at the new permanent path lights around the Oriental pond, the garden lights on selected trees and shrubs in that area, and the lights under the benches in the formal garden. After the first of the year we'll have Tom Kyle's landscape design on display near the new Gift and Information Center so you can see what is planned.

Imagine for a moment a romantic summer evening . . . garden lights at Shore Acres . . . the sound of the surf nearby . . . and a late evening music performance in the coastal mist. *This is just the beginning.* The next fifty years of the most beautiful park on the Oregon coast promises to be especially exciting for all who care to be involved.

When you come to see the *lights* this month, be sure to check out the "scrolls" of names of everyone who has helped. In the next issue of this *Journal* due out in February we'll have complete coverage of the event.

See you at the Gardens. ■



Memories of garden restoration

by Andy LaTomme, Sunset Bay Park District Manager



On this occasion of the 50th anniversary of Shore Acres State Park, I asked Joe Paiva to share his reflections on the restoration of the gardens of Shore Acres. Twenty years ago, when State Parks Director Dave Talbot said "We ought to do this one right," he gave the assignment to Joe.

"Among the memories I cherish most from my career with State Parks is the restoration of the formal and Japanese gardens at Shore Acres.

"The project required months of historical research in which I was aided by Stephen Dow Beckham and Barbara Griffin, Louis Simpson's daughter, who graciously let me see the family photo album and who answered my many questions. The photo album was a very valuable tool because it showed the evolution of the garden from its earliest days up to World War II. It was through study of the family photos that I discovered the locations of many of the garden ornaments.

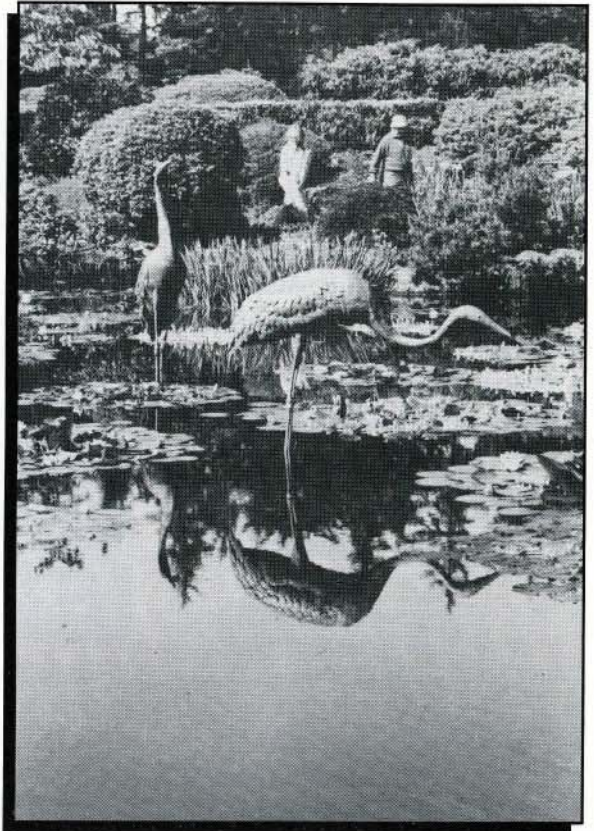
"The two urns that sit at the top of the stairs that lead down to the Japanese garden were hidden for four decades. One day while studying the photos, I noticed that the urns had ivy planted in them sometime in the late 1920s. On each side of the stairs, where the urns had been, was a very large sculptured ivy hedge. Could the urns be under this mass of vegetation? I grabbed a long hunk of re-bar and began to poke into the ivy. I hit something solid. After some careful chain saw work, two urns emerged to see daylight for the first time in forty years.

"The photo album revealed that the upright crane had been relocated

from the Japanese pond to the Simpson's home in Barview, after they sold Shoreacres to the state. Knowing the address, I checked subsequent ownerships until I found a previous owner, then living in Reedsport, who just happened to have the missing bird. I was unable to persuade the owner to part with it, but I was able to photo document it and take measurements. I developed sketches and worked with inmates at the Oregon Correctional Institute in Salem to produce the cranes which are in the pond today. They are built out of copper as were the originals.

"The development of the water source for the pond was a combination of detective work and luck. Working from an old map and oral history accounts, I set off up the canyons above the gardens looking for a small dam. I was almost standing on top of it before I realized it was there. It was completely overgrown with brush and silted in to the top! All of the silt was removed and with the help of the Charleston Fire Department's pumper truck the old water lines were cleaned out and water once again flowed into the pond.

"The opportunity to restore the gardens that Louis Simpson built for the enjoyment of his wife and friends was a great privilege. Today Shore Acres is a place of beauty, delight and fantasy for all who visit it. I think the Simpsons would be proud."



Replicas of Louis Simpson's cranes are made of copper, as were the originals.

All Oregonians can be proud of Shore Acres and the people who made it what it is today: Louis Simpson and his vision; Samuel Boardman, Oregon's first State Park Superintendent, for acquiring the estate; Dave Talbot for encouraging the gardens' rehabilitation; Joe Paiva for his imagination and skills as a landscape architect; all of the State Park employees who have given more of themselves than was required to maintain Shore Acres for half a century; and the Friends of Shore Acres, who have helped hundreds of thousands of Oregonians and their visitors appreciate the beauty and wonder of this unique state park.



Statewide Co-op Conference honors FoSA folk

by Al Aslakson

Friends volunteers love to talk about their co-op and

their state park. And Friends volunteers from all over Oregon did just that at the 5th annual Oregon State Parks Co-op Conference in October. FoSA was represented by Connie Eslinger, David and Shirley Bridgham, and Al and Judy Aslakson. Sunset Bay Park District manager Andy LaTomme and assistant manager Dan Lucas also joined the delegation. Board members Tony Mason and Gregg Nelson, with his wife Connie, were present as guests of the conference. Also present were Bill and Joan Russell of Bandon, representing Shoreline Education for Awareness.

Although the weekend was packed with activities and work sessions, the highlight was surely the presentation ceremony of the 1992 Loran L. Stewart Volunteer Service Awards. Of five awards, the Friends of Shore Acres captured two.

The Partnership Award went to the Coos Bay District of the Bureau of Land Management, for its work with FoSA on the Oriental pond cleaning project. BLM manager and new FoSA board member Gregg Nelson accepted the award for BLM employees who worked with FoSA volunteers to clean the pond, and with park staff to redesign and upgrade the pond drain system. Runner up for the Partnership Award was Shoreline Education for Awareness, for their work with FoSA on interpretive programs at Simpson Reef.

Tony Mason, manager of the FoSA Gift and Information Center received the Volunteer Dedication award for countless hours of work, planning, inspiration, and success in the operation of the GaIC. Both honorees received plaques and State

Parks wristwatches.

Other awards were presented to Blanche Sweger of the Friends of Silver Falls State Park, receiving the Life Service Award; Eleanor St. Laurent of the Friends of Cape Blanco, receiving the Inspiration Award; and Jane Herbst of Tryon Creek State Park, chosen for the Rising Star Award. FoSA's David and Shirley Bridgham were finalists for the Life Service Award.

Prior to the awards ceremony, nearly sixty friendly folk from all over the state participated in workshops, round tables and presentations on topics ranging from volunteer recruitment and motivation to the effectiveness of teamwork to the responsibilities of new officers. Friends co-ops set up displays highlighting their parks and activities and presented brief overviews of their co-op's accomplishments.

Given that most Friends co-ops are only five or six years old, their collective accomplishments are exciting. Over 2500 volunteers provided the state parks with the equivalent of 109 full-time employees this past year alone. Over the past five years, Friends co-ops have raised nearly a million dollars to benefit parks.

Friends co-ops have been instrumental in the creation of at least one new state park - the Banks-Vernonia linear park, built along an abandoned railroad right-of-way between Banks and Vernonia as an equestrian, cycling and hiking trail. Another

group is working hard to put together a new state park centered around an abandoned gold mining dredge complex near Sumpter in the eastern part of the state.

It wasn't all work. The conference was held at the Flying M Ranch near Yamhill, a tourist ranch with conference facilities. Conferees participated in a cook-out and barbecue deep in the primal forest (well, about a mile into the woods), and several took advantage of the availability of horses for a trail ride. A blind auction of items donated by the co-ops raised over \$500 for the State Parks Trust Fund, which is used to help Friends co-ops send participants to future conferences.

About a third of the people at this year's conference were attending their first conference, while about a dozen people were singled out as having been to all five.

These Co-op conferences are an excellent opportunity not only to find out first-hand what's happening state-wide, but to meet and share with (and steal ideas from) Friends volunteers from all over Oregon. No two co-ops are alike, just as no two state parks are alike, but as Friends we are all bound together, and you can't help but feel proud to be a part of not only the Friends of Shore Acres, but of the larger group as well.



"So what's new?"

Next fall's conference is already in the planning stage; I'd recommend it to anyone who wants an outstanding weekend that bundles an incredible amount of work with an incredible amount of fun. *And food.* Don't ever under-estimate the food at these things. ■

Quilt captures lore, lure

(continued from page 1)

baron Asa Simpson, and his charming, development-minded son, L.J. Simpson.

Hammar, who has been quilting for over 15 years, says Baltimore quilts were ornate, quite realistic, but decorative in a Victorian fashion - with wreathes and flowers, scrollwork and often blocks signed or covered with sayings handwritten in India inks.

They commemorated friendships, family records, the Bible, patriotism and political feelings, a bride's story, tithing, retirement and other events.

Like Hammar's creation, the central medallion was often surrounded by other blocks adding to the story, then edged with geometric patterns, bows or scallops.

There is something of a revival in quilting, and especially Baltimore-style quilts right now, Hammar notes. In January 1991, Hammar and a dozen friends gathered to start a Baltimore quilt, making use of several lesson plans calling for completion of a block a month. The group dwindled though, and it wasn't until Hammar attended a quilting show in Sisters, featuring Elly Sienkiewicz, author of several books on Baltimore quilts, that she came home fired up to complete the Shore Acres quilt.

"I'd been a visitor to the gardens many times, of course, and those birds always fascinated me," Hammar says. So in July 1991, she began again to create the quilt.

The blocks around the blue heron medallion include the garden house decorated with Christmas lights and ringed with holly leaves and berries, a wild strawberries block, a snowflakes and birds block, a flower-filled summer block, and a schooner flying the Simpson family flag.

Hammar took up quilting some 15 years ago when her mother-in-



A closer look . . .

law, Alta Dunphee of Grant City, Mo., a lifetime quilter, created a red, white and blue "Bicentennial Quilt." She now belongs to two Bay Area quilting organization, as well as the Coast Quilters in Reedsport, and hosts a small group in her home called the "P's and Q's."

Though Hammar did the blocks for the Shore Acres quilt, the "P's and Q's" quilted the pieced fir trees that border the artwork.

The individual blocks are not pieced - like traditional pioneer patterns could be - they are built up layer on layer for texture.

The blue herons take on the characteristic blue-green patina of the familiar sculptures in the pond thanks to unusual upholstery fabric, Hammar notes.

Some blocks are enhanced by embroidery, for instance, the block depicting the garden house hung the annual holiday lights is hand-stitched with sparkling beads which reflect the light and shimmer. A wreath of Oregon grapes looks real enough to munch.

A Hoffman jungle print forms the border of the medallion, as well as a "feather" pattern wreath of reverse applique nearby. "Shore Acres was tamed from the wilderness," Hammar smiles.

The signature piece on the back of the quilt was done in calligraphy by Father Martin, O.D., and reads "Shore Acres commemorative quilt designed and created by Shirley Hammar." In the swirling wreath around the signature piece Father Martin has hidden a dove and the words "Peace Be With You."

In a wreath of hearts is another scrolled message: "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to end, they are new every morning."

Graphic artist and calligrapher Bill Blumberg traced the lettering for "Shore Acres" above the heron medallion.

Hammar works full time, but still finds the time to quilt. She and her husband, Wayne, live in a house full of love and hand-made country crafts, along with a studio full of materials and quilting equipment.

The quilter says she is never without handwork, even in the car - she used a 14-inch hoop to stitch the blocks in the "Shore Acres" quilt. She keeps her eyes open for fabrics, too, and jokes "name me a city and I'll tell you where the fabric stores are."

Hammar says each of the blocks in the "Shore Acres" quilt took between 10 to 25 hours of hand-stitching to create; the pieced trees around the border each took 2 1/2 to 3 hours, and the full quilt has some 150 hours of work in it right now.

The quilt will stay in the Hammar family. Hammar plans to show the quilt, enhanced with even more quilting stitches, at a special show of Baltimore-style quilts in Lancaster, Pa. in April, 1994. ■

Reprinted with permission

Next half century starts with "growing pains" new "Center" under construction



Shirley McGuire gets ready for foundation.



Jim Phinney trims it just right.



Troop 42 Scouts cover the mud with chips.



As we go to press, park staff and volunteers are on a marathon mission to complete the new visitor center that will replace the former Gift and Information Center.

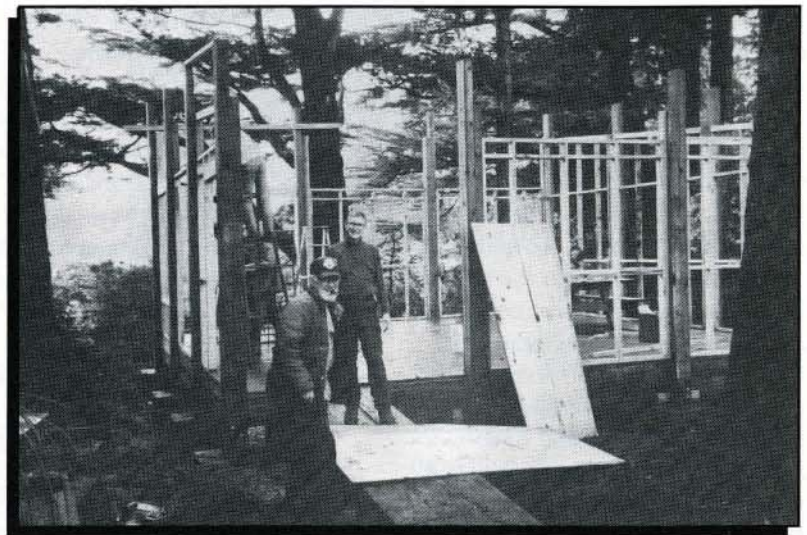
The Center, which is operated by Friends and volunteers for the benefit of Shore Acres, will be open in time for the Holiday Lights extravaganza if these hardworking folks have anything to do with it.

Hundreds of hours have gone into the project and a huge thank you goes to parks' staff who volunteered many hours of their own time on weekends: Andy LaTomme, Dan Lucas and family, George Guthrie, Ron Hjort, Greg Foster, Jim Phinney, Frank Eckley, Pam Stevens, Shirley McGuire, Rob Kilmer, and Ellie Kinney-Martial. Friends volunteers who helped on weekends were Bob Emmett, Lloyd Geraths, Dick Jamsgard, and David Bridgham. Plus, we know it would have been impossible to complete the project without the weekday help of the Shutter's Creek inmate crew.

Further assistance came from Scout Troop #42, which is sponsored by the LDS church. Hauling chips to cover the mud were Scouts Ryan Thomas, Zach Meuer, Alma Lancy, Greg Sherwood, Brett Elbert, James Johnson, Jonathan Parker, Mark Huff, Keith Huff and leaders Don Elbert, Larry Crose, Alden Parker, and Michael Lancy.

Special thanks also goes to W.J. Conrad Lumber Co. and Kyle Electric for their help.

We believe this project is another excellent example of what can happen when *parks, Friends, community volunteers, and business* work together to help state parks and enrich our communities. ■



Lloyd Geraths and David Bridgham volunteer to help.



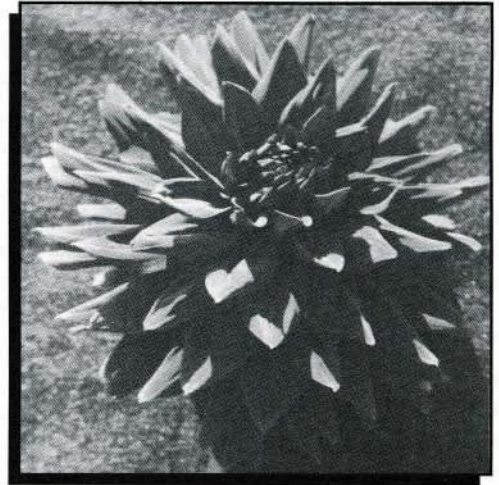
6th annual
Holiday Lights and Open House
at Shore Acres Gardens
100,000+ lights



December 10★ - January 3
Open every night: 4 p.m. - 10 p.m.
*(including Christmas Eve, Christmas Day,
New Year's Eve and New Year's Day)*
hot cider, cranberry punch, coffee, cookies
music and entertainment - weather permitting

★ **Shore Acres State Park's 50th Anniversary**

Dahlia named



"Shore Acres 50"

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be on display in the garden next spring and limited quantities will be available for sale at Bridge View Dahlia Gardens.

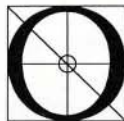
Madlyn has been coming to Shore Acres for as long as she can remember. She remembers the pergola and times when she and her family would visit the garden.

She told me she had always wanted to see some of her dahlias at Shore Acres, and this past year it finally happened. Some of Madlyn's dahlia cultivars that were at Shore Acres this year included *Zorro*, *Aloha*, *Bill Holmberg*, *Fan Dancer*, *My Valentine*, *Tang*, *Highland Fling*, *Knockout*, and *Peaches & Cream*. ■

Getting ready for garden night "lightscaping"



Marvin Blenz installs path light at pond.



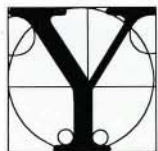
On Saturday and Sunday, October 17 and 18, volunteers buried two more miles of wire in the formal garden at Shore Acres. Added to the three miles installed in 1988, the wire is the second phase of installation for the permanent garden "lightscaping" designed by Tom Kyle. Permanent path lights around the pond and lights under some of the garden benches are being installed just in time for the *Holiday Lights and Open House* in December.

Pulling wire and working on the project were Andy, Sue, Amy, and David LaTomme; George Guthrie; Frank Eckley; Dan and Rickie Lucas; Gregg, Connie, Erika, and Cory Nelson; Connie Eslinger, Harry Wilson, Greg Smith, Marvin Blenz; George Jones, Tom Stemmerman, and Tom Kyle.

A heartfelt thanks to all who helped! ■

"Dry" landscape near pond

by George Guthrie, Landscape Maintenance Superintendent



You may have noticed some recent changes to the Oriental pond area at Shore Acres.

The three large Japanese plume cedars have been removed and in their place is something completely different.

Perhaps before we explore "what" that something is, it might be worthwhile to explain "why" it's there in the first place. Ever since the extremely harsh winter of 1990, the cedar trees had been slowly browning out and dying back. By this spring it was apparent there was not going to be any significant regrowth and the best solution was total removal.

As we cleared the area, we exposed a whole new vista on the Oriental pond - for the first time in years, people walking from the west side of the garden could see the whole pond area all at once.

We decided any redesign would preserve this new view and at the same time be attractive in itself (like the trees had been) and harmonize with the general Oriental/Japanese motif.

Our solution was a "dry" landscape - a reasonably common Oriental gardening style but not used before in this area. Basically such a landscape uses various types of stones, pebbles, and gravel to suggest the streams and ponds found in traditional gardens. The placement, texture, and size of the stone creates the appropriate impression of water from babbling brook to placid pond.

Why would the Japanese (or us for that matter) work in such a way?

Without getting too technical or mystical the rationale runs thus. Real water is lovely but sometimes it's unavailable or you can't afford the pumps and hi-tech equipment to provide artificial flow. Often you want to create a particular picture with your landscape to induce a particular effect, feeling, or emotion on the visitor or viewer.

If you've worked hard to create that particular "picture" you also want to preserve it just so - not blurred or obscured by change and movement in the medium you have composed the

water and how would you create a quiet "pool?"

I'd read some books, looked at some pictures, and had some general ideas. But in a very real sense the project succeeded because of input from the rest of the crew.

Everybody worked on the project at some point and everybody had some kind of suggestion. More often than not the suggestions were very good, although sometimes it took a lot of experimentation and negotiation to achieve our ends. For example, I had a particular idea as to how the

"stream" rocks should be placed. Mike Kashuba, one of our seasonal workers had a completely different concept. We cussed and discussed our two views for several days.

Finally we both made 2-foot long test sections of streams - one his style, one in mine and then the rest of the crew took a look and gave their opinions.

Unfortunately for me, they liked his idea better. Fortunately

for you, they were right. When he finished installing the rocks, the stream looked "real." I would like to thank Mike for his lead work in laying the stone.

Thanks also to members of the inmate crew - especially Rick Fossing and Terry "Moose" Jones for helping with stone laying and the creation of the handsome and functional bamboo fences on the perimeter.

Special thanks also are due to Ellie for the good taste and tact displayed as she became the "tie-breaker" when there were differences of artistic opinion about the placement of this stone or that plant. ➡

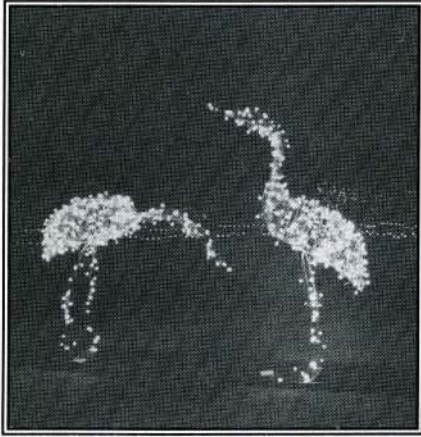


a stream flowing through "meadows" of heather and "forests" of azaleas

picture with. Real water is changeable and fluid by definition, but by use of static materials the Japanese gardener can suggest or imply the idea of motion without moving (whoeee!!).

So much for the theory. In practice it was a lot of nitty gritty, grubby work to put it in for real. Just finding, selecting and hauling all the stone from local beaches (some of the stones weighed several hundred pounds apiece) was a major task and then placing them correctly was a whole project in itself.

For example, what kind of stone would you put in to suggest running



Look for the heron sculptures in the "Golden Anniversary Garden" next to the Garden House during the Holiday Lights and Open House.

December 10 - January 3

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Dry landscape...

(continued from page 8)

Lest you think that we utterly dispensed with tradition, we did replant one Japanese cedar in the new landscape to overlook and shade our "pond."

Of course the success of our project ultimately rests with you gentle reader and kindly reviewer - will you enjoy it? Do you see a rock pile with an attitude or *somehow* do you glimpse off in the distance a spring coming out of a mountain that becomes a stream flowing through "meadows" of heather and "forests" of azaleas to end as a quiet "pool" by a path? Only you can make that decision.

But if you happen by one evening and see *yours truly* standing by that pool with a fishing pole in hand, please don't disturb me or rush off to call the guys with the strait jacket - I might be getting a bite. ■

George

New center needs a new name . . .

*by Tony Mason,
GalC Manager*

Let's start off with a wrap-up report on what the *Gift and Information Center* did from September 1, 1991 to August 30, 1992. During that time, our small Center (8'x 8') was open 222 days and had gross retail sales of over \$30,000. Of the money spent on inventory and operating expenses, \$19,400 stayed in Coos County. Another \$3,250 stayed in Oregon, while only \$6,180 went out of state. All profits were reinvested in the *Gift and Information Center* and in the park.

Those of you who have worked in the Center know we sell a lot of postcards. Last year, 19,200 found new homes with park visitors. That works out to 86 a day average, up 51 per day from the previous year. Also, 253 copies of the book, *The Simpsons of Shore Acres*, were sold. We're doing well!

Before I wrap up last year, I want to say a BIG thank you to all the volunteers who helped in the *Gift and Information Center*. Without the efforts of the park hosts, weekend volunteers, park staff, Ellen Garner, George Guthrie and the rest of the Friends, I would not be able to do what I do. I may have received an award for my volunteer work, but it was you who made it possible.

What's ahead for the '93 season? If you haven't been out to the park in the last month, you've missed the first building stages of the new *Gift and Information Center*. And it's going up fast. We're all looking forward to being in the new building when we open for the 6th annual Holiday Lights and Open House.

We'll officially start operation on December 10th and be open through January 3rd, noon - 10 p.m. every

day. If you are interested in meeting the public and volunteering in the Center, call Ellen Garner, 888-3484.

Besides a fine selection of garden, children and nature books; sweatshirts and t-shirts; audio and video tapes; postcards and notecards; 50th anniversary poster, mugs and vase; we also have a few new items. Look for the 50th anniversary sweatshirt; the third in a series of *holiday lights* coffee mugs; and a variety of flower and herb seeds, which are packaged complete with soil mix in wooden planter boxes.

For *Friends members only* (show your membership card) we have a 10 oz. forest green mug with our logo etched in white.

For *Friends members and volunteers* we have a limited number of *I've Seen the Lights* black glass Irish coffee mugs. So remember our Center when you do your holiday shopping.

New name?

We are considering changing the name *Gift and Information Center* to something new after we move into our new building. Send your ideas for a new name to Friends of Shore Acres, Inc., PO Box 1172, Coos Bay OR 97420 or put them in the "fish bowl" at the Center during the holidays.

See you in the new building! ■



♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

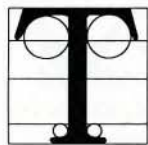
WANTED:

Items to provide a pleasant and interpretive experience for the visitor and a more comfortable environment for the volunteers in the new Center: TV/VCR combination; hand truck; file cabinet; rechargeable flashlight.

If you want to donate any of these items call 396-5792 and leave a message. All donations are tax deductible. ■

Simpson sells Shoreacres

by Shirley Bridgham



hat might have been the headline in the local daily paper on December 10, 1942, but the Coos Bay

Times' attention was focused on the war. So L.J. Simpson's sale of Shoreacres to the state of Oregon for \$29,000 went virtually unnoticed.

The newspaper's headlines read, instead, *"Freeze of Merchant Sailors, 660,000 Detroit Workers Are Glued to Posts for Duration of WMC Order"* . . . *"County Goes Over Quota in November - Coos County residents invested \$222,559 in U.S. war bonds in November"* . . . and *"Austin Begins Airport Work: \$1,500,000 Job."*

Christmas ads offered low prices. Dunn's Toggery had all-wool robes \$10, men's shirts \$.50, socks \$1, pajamas \$1.95 and sweaters \$3.95. Penney's listed women's robes at \$3.98 and slippers \$.98. Art Decorating and Furniture Co. had Biltwell Zephyr Swing Rockers - \$29.95 and up.

The Liberty Theater, now Little Theater on the Bay, featured Bud Abbott and Lou Costello in *Who Done It?* Admission - adults \$.50 and kids \$.11.

Recycling was new - *"Save Tin Cans, County Salvage Chairman Urges."* One hundred percent of the metal content was recovered for use for war production.

America's president was Franklin D. Roosevelt. Henry Wallace was vice-president.

In the national news - *"FDR closed Works Projects Administration after a job well done"* . . .

"Real facts of Pearl Harbor released by Navy: 2,343 men killed and

960 missing" . . . *"Allies bomb Nazi-occupied France and Holland; biggest daylight bombing of war."*

Still, there were some "bests" that December - the movie *Mrs. Miniver*; actor James Cagney; actress Greer Garson; radio program *Kraft Music Hall*; musical *This is the Army* by Irving Berlin; and in the World Series - St. Louis over New York Yankees.

Favorite songs reflected the nation's mood - *Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree* . . . *Paper Doll* . . . and *Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition*. The first gold record went to Glenn Miller's *Chattanooga Choo Choo* and Bing Crosby sang *White Christmas*.



U.S. Army personnel occupied the second mansion during World War II.

The average income was \$2,000; a 3-bedroom home cost \$3,775; a new Ford \$815; a gallon of gas \$.20; a loaf of bread \$.09; a gallon of milk \$.60 and a pound of bacon \$.39.

And Shoreacres? For awhile, it was home to Army personnel as they kept a coastal watch.

After the war, when the state found that it could not restore Shoreacres, the mansion was razed, the Japanese pond filled, and most of the flower beds converted to lawn. Some of the original plantings did survive, however, to become the seeds of a garden restoration that began in 1971.

(see Andy's story, page 4)

Shore Acres Memorials ★

In memory of Betty Larsen

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bauer
Mr. & Mrs. W.G. Bobbitt
Barbara Bourns Covey
Ronald & Elizabeth Cowden
Laura Lee Craig
Harry & Betty Curigan
Gerald & Linda Dean
Robert & Rose Dorner
Russell & Carol Ellsworth
Catherine Ferrari

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Frost
George & Kathleen Gebhardt
Katherine Goll
Mert & Terri Greif
Keith & Katharina Harris
John & Betty Jacobsen
Mary Jacobsen
Ted & Margaret Johnson
Marion & Pauline Karavanich
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Karavanich

Rose Karavanich
Lynn A. Larsen
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Larsen
Richard & Claribel Larsen
Rose M. Larsen
Larsen's friends
at N.B. Post Office
Joe & Eleanor Mithers
Jim & Lois O'Neal
Jim & Betty Ohman

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Polich
Mary J. Potter
Robert Rekdahl & friends
at Oregon Research Inst.
Dr. John & Jan Ries
Jean C. Rose
Robert & Patricia Sepich
George & Lola Walker

★ Memorial funds are set aside and will be used for reconstruction of a fountain in the center of the formal garden.

Welcome New and Returning Members ★ ★ for 1993

SPONSOR

David & Shirley Bridgham
Ivan & Nancy Brooks
Neko D Colevins
Wally & Monita Johnson
Andy & Lynn Nasburg
Maybelle M Olson

PATRON

Helen Doving
Virginia Grant
Lou Lovett
Jack & Emma Townsend
William & Shary Werdell

FAMILY

Judy, Elissa, & Lara Kobrin
Harry & Sabra Luckett
Donna L Rabin, Steve Richardson
Wm & Ginger Sawyer
Don & Shirley Sell
Patricia & Stan Sweet

INDIVIDUAL

Claire Kinman
Carol J Knapp
Phyllis Love
Tony Mason

*Your mailing label is coded
with a membership number.*

"2"s are current until
Dec. 31, 1992.

"3"s are current until
Dec. 31, 1993.



Harry and Sabra Luckett on the Shore Acres 50th Anniversary float

Bay Area Fun Festival Parade

Friends got together in September to do a float for the Bay Area Fun Festival Parade. Float builders included Frank and Donna Smith, Tom and Wanda Graham, Claire Kinman, George Guthrie, Andy LaTomme, and David and Shirley Bridgham.

MEMBERSHIP

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. is a private non-profit organization with tax-exempt status. Its purpose is to participate in interpretive, educational and physical development programs with Sunset Bay Park District.

Annual membership runs from January 1 to December 31. As a member, you will receive a membership card, Friends decals and our quarterly *Journal*. You also receive a 10% discount on sales items if you show your membership card at the Gift and Information Center.

To become a member or to renew your membership, fill out the application form and return with your check or money order to **Friends of Shore Acres, Inc., P.O. Box 1172, Coos Bay OR 97420.**

☐ \$10 Individual

☐ \$25 Patron

☐ \$100 Benefactor

☐ \$500 Life

☐ \$15 Family

☐ \$50 Sponsor

☐ \$250 Sustaining

☐ Gift / Memorial

Name / Address / Phone _____

Please circle activities you would like to help with.

Board of Directors Gift and Information Center Garden Sitting/Tours Pond Cleaning
Rhododendron Sunday/Mothers Day Rose Sunday/Fathers Day Oregon Coast Music Festival/July
Holiday Lights & Open House/December



Ward Robertson Photo - Holiday Lights '91

50th Anniversary of Shore Acres State Park - December 10, 1992

6th annual Holiday Lights and Open House

More than 100,000 Lights

December 10 - January 3, 1993

Open every night 4 p.m. - 10 p.m.

(including Christmas Eve, Christmas, New Year's Eve, New Year's)

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.
P.O. Box 1172
Coos Bay, OR 97420

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