

The Presbyterian choir is just one of many groups set to entertain each evening, weather permitting.

### CHRISTMAS AT SHORE ACRES - AN "INSTANT TRADITION"

By the time you get your newsletter, Christmas Lights and Open House at Shore Acres will be underway. Last year nearly 20,000 visitors came and since we've expanded the weekend hours this year we expect an even greater number.

More than 50 volunteers were at the gardens to help set up the weekend of December 2nd and 3rd and as a result, almost 25,000 lights have been strung, the garden house has been furnished and decorated, more than 500 dozen cookies have been baked (a start towards the 1500 dozen needed), entertainment has been scheduled and dozens of hosts are ready to welcome everyone with hot cider, cookies, punch and coffee.

This year's event promises to be the best yet and as a direct result of the cooperative effort the Friends, the park staff and the hundreds of volunteers put forth, Christmas at Shore Acres becomes once again truly a community event.



## Christmas Lights and Open House at Shore Acres



**December 9 - 31, 1989**

Saturdays and Sundays 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Week nights 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

(Including Christmas Eve and Night)



Last year's outdoor display has been increased by more than 10,000 lights.



## SUNSET BAY PARK DISTRICT

### PARK NOTES

by Andy LaTomme



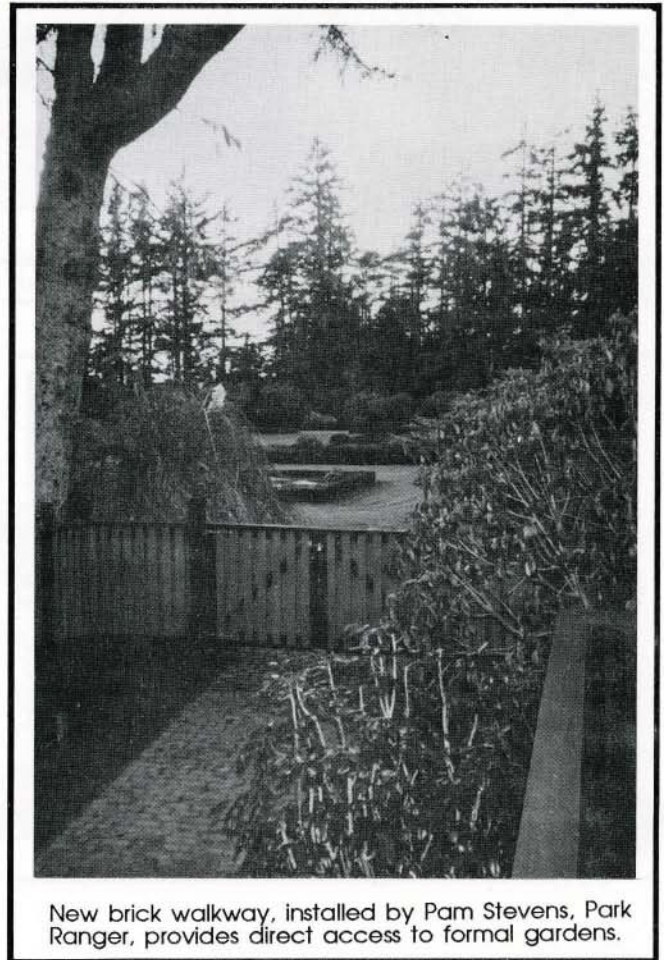
If our employees seem a bit more relaxed this year, perhaps it is because the weather has been to our liking. Then again, it might have something to do with the fact that we don't have a thousand feet of muddy trenches in the garden.

Perhaps it is because we received the State Parks' Region 3 Safe Driving Award. Or it could be that we are nearing 50,000 hours of work without a time-loss injury. Then again, it may be because we haven't really started all of the work that awaits us.

One of the questions I get asked most often is, "What do you do in the wintertime?"

Well, since September, we've installed a new sewage effluent irrigation system. And we put in about 500 square feet of brick paved walkway and built a gate to keep the deer out of the garden. Then there was the door replacement for the Garden House, and the remodel of the Gift and Information Center. Of course, we can't forget the remodel of the district office (not yet completed, however). Oh, yes, there was the hole cut in the garden walk to accommodate the Friends' large Christmas tree. And our inmate crew did a lot of work on the Cape Arago Pack Trail, even creating a new viewpoint with a picnic table. All of this while taking care of a couple of thousand campers and tens of thousands of day use visitors, of course.

But the real fun is yet to start . . . There are 25 waste water disposal units to install in our over-night camps. We've got about 150 new picnic tables to put together and move into place. There are about 100 new camp stoves to install. We'll be putting new siding on the Sunset Bay registration booth. The A-Loop shower building is scheduled to be rebuilt at Sunset Bay. The buildings at William Tugman are to have new stall partitions. We'll let the bid to have the Garden House and the Observation Building re-roofed. The irrigation system at Tugman is scheduled for an overhaul and the Shore Acres system will get some upgrading. Curbs and safety fences will be replaced at Cape Arago. New 30 amp electric hook-ups will



New brick walkway, installed by Pam Stevens, Park Ranger, provides direct access to formal gardens.

be installed for campers at Sunset Bay. A long-needed trailer dump station will be constructed at Sunset Bay.

In addition, we'll be doing the normal maintenance - painting buildings, brushing and grading trails, making our visitors feel welcome and cleaning up after them.

So if you drop out just to chat, you may not find us in. Or you may be handed a hammer or a paint brush and asked to join in the fun.

### STATE PARKS AND FRIENDS - A WINNING COMBINATION

Our annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in late September was well attended and everyone enjoyed looking back over the past year. Al Aslakson was our master of ceremonies, Keryn Frazell provided piano music for the evening and Andy LaTomme was our guest speaker. David Bridgham, newly elected president of the Friends shared his goals for the organization and the coming year and the Friends "annual report" in the form of a 7 minute slide show was presented by Shirley Bridgham. Everyone was reminded that as we ended our third year as an organization, we were, at the same time, getting ready for the third Christmas at Shore Acres. (editor's note: Time does fly when you're having fun!) We were also reminded of how important all of our volunteers are. Without them, Friends organizations for state parks could not exist.



## CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT



## SCHEDULE

9th	North Bend First Presbyterian Church Choir Ron Crouse, Steve Simpkins & Christmas Band	18th	Geno the clown Hauser Church adult choir
10th	Western Rivers Girl Scouts singers SWOCC Southwesterns	19th	Charleston Church Rainbow Cloggers
11th	Hauser Church, Teen Celebration, Kid's Praise	20th	Methodist Church w/Dave Stewart
12th	Rainbow Cloggers Kingsview	21st	Four Square Church Barbershop Quartet
13th	Kim & Kevin Paulson LDS Youth	22nd	Celebration Church
14th	Runeberg Dancers Sweet Adelines	23rd	Melody Caldera
15th	West Coast Gymnastics Geno the clown Pam Lancaster	24th	Valerie and Ben
16th	NBHS Choice Edition Rainbow Cloggers	25th	Kotch Graham and Carolyn Regal
17th	TBA	26th	TBA
		27th	TBA
		28th	TBA
		29th	Ken Keyes
		30th	Ken Keyes
		31st	TBA

**ALL ENTERTAINMENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
AND "WEATHER DEPENDENT"**

## CALENDAR

**Christmas Lights and Open House at Shore Acres**  
**December 9 through 31 (including Christmas Eve and Night)**  
**5 p.m. to 9 p.m. week nights \*\*\* 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekends**

\*\*\*\*\*

January 2 (Tues.)	Board Meeting	SWOCC TBA	7:30 p.m.
January 6 and 7 (Sat. & Sun.)	Christmas take-down and put-away		10 a.m. to dusk
January 18 (Thurs.)	Grant writing workshop	Salem	8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
February 6 (Tues.)	Board Meeting	SWOCC TBA	7:30 p.m.



# VISIT THE GARDENS

## GARDEN NOTES

by George Guthrie



Last issue we discussed ways of discouraging certain animals (deer) from munching and lunching in the garden - primarily by planting ornamentals that were attractive to us - but in one way or another a turn-off to them. However, just because the deer aren't always welcome doesn't

mean that Shore Acres (or any other garden) can't be attractive and useful to other smaller critters like squirrels or birds.

Let's face it, this time of year is not the best for flowers to attract people and food for animals - so anything that can liven up the place - the color of fruits and berries, the calls, songs, or amusing antics of wildlife feeding on same are worthwhile to all concerned.

Shrubs like cotoneaster and pyrocanthea and trees like Hawthorne, for example, provide bright red fruit that is showy (sometimes messy, too) around this time of year - even more so when you can watch chickadees, pine squirrels and chipmunks doing acrobatics among the branches, stuffing themselves on the fruit. It's easy food for them and free entertainment for us.

Rosa rugosa, the "wild rose" that backs up the rows of showy hybrid teas and floribundas in the front rose garden provides succulent hips like cherry tomatoes and those that haven't already been harvested will be holiday taste treats to the birds.

Ditto for dogwoods - their lovely flowers in spring pass on to fruits with a strawberry look - almost any dogwood - the common easter flowering, our native western will do - but the semi-evergreen Cornus capitata from the mountains of India and China has the largest fruit - a real armful for the local squirrels and birds to haul away.

Similar looking fruits hang out on the "strawberry tree" arbutus unedo from Europe and its native cousin the Madrone (arbutus menziesii). Both are handsome plants anytime but especially useful to animals in fall. Closely related, the native manzanita (arctostaphylos species) is worth retaining in wild or natural areas of your property for its fruit which is exactly like miniature apples - down to the reddish blush on the sunnyside - and which is just about as yummy to local critters as a winesap or grannysmith is to us and a heck of a lot easier to carry off in a squirrel's cheek pouch.

Pride of place among ornamentals at this time of year must go to English holly. The local plant's combination of glossy green foliage and bright red berries makes a mature specimen a living Christmas wreath for you and me and allegedly a source of

holiday "cheer" for the birds. Legend has it that at certain times the birds will gorge on large holly crops and the berries will ferment inside their craws giving them a literal holiday high characterized by drowsiness and difficulty in flying. I've never seen it myself but if during the season you see a tipsy robin or junco don't necessarily blame it on brandy in the bird bath!

Actually almost any plant in any garden at this time of year can be of some benefit to animals if not by offering food, then by providing shelter from bad weather, protection from predators, or a cozy nook for nest or den. Obviously, we don't want every living creature to make a happy home in our gardens - porcupines, field mice and slugs aren't welcome at any time but plants like the above can be attractive to gardeners and useful to some of their four-footed or winged friends.

**"Blow your own horn department"** - As you know we've yanked the dahlias from center stage in the garden and the tulips, while in the ground, are months away from causing a stir - so the big square beds in the formal garden lawn are kind of empty. However, we decided to do something a little different and instead of leaving a path of fallow ground we attempted a "formal" pattern of different colors and textures of sand, bark and soil to kind of hold interest until tulip time. If you're around and have a moment, take a quick stroll over to the former dahlia beds and take a look.

Make plans, of course, to take a much longer look at the "brand new and improved" lights, decorations and goodies that comprise the 3rd Christmas at Shore Acres - it's definitely worth the trip!!

Happy Holidays!

*George*



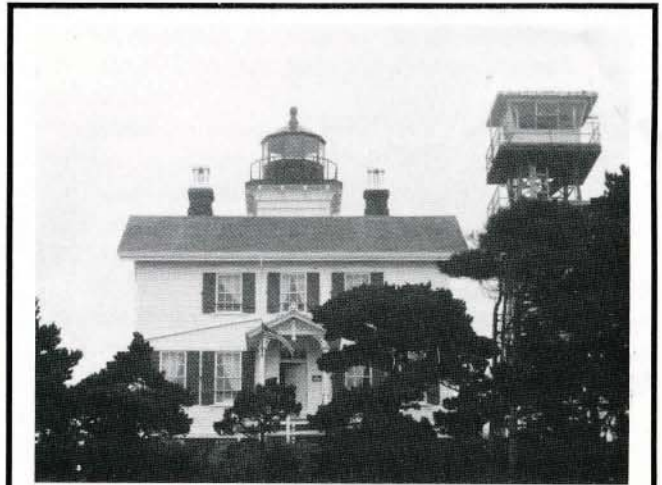
Soviet visitors are treated to a guided tour by George Guthrie. Visitors from left to right: Sergei Ravnjago, Irina Volkova, Sergei Markov, Lubov Znaemskaya.



## FRIENDS ACTIVITIES



Friends volunteer shows gift shop wares to the Bridghams at Yaquina Bay Light House.



Plan to visit Yaquina Bay Light House when you are in Newport.

### SPECIAL THANKS \*\*\*

To the media for their continued great coverage of our events and activities!

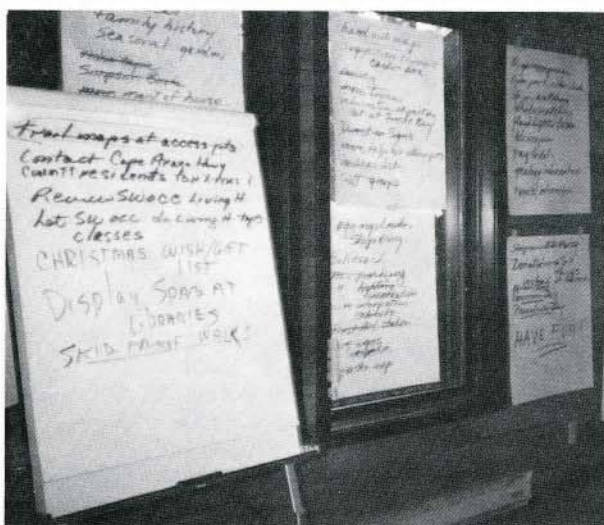
For the contributions of both time and money from those who support our efforts!!

To state parks staff who put up with more and more ideas and cooperate with us on our projects!!!

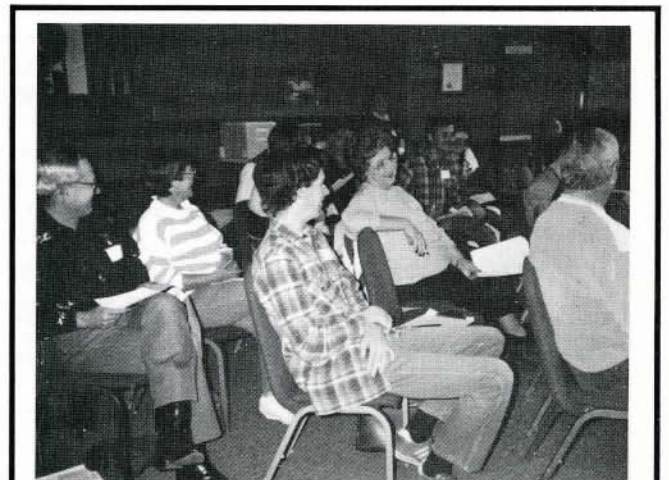
and especially for  
**Andy, George, Gail, Bill, Monica, Pam, Greg, Frank, Mary, Tom, Jerry, Rob, Jim, Sharon**

\*\*\* "Thanks" for Christmas help will be in the next newsletter, February 1.

**DON'T MISS  
 CHRISTMAS AT HUGHES HOUSE  
 CAPE BLANCO  
 DECEMBER 15, 16, AND 17**



October planning meeting yields more than 200 ideas for Shore Acres.



Brainstorming can be fun as well as productive.



# MEMBERS

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L.L. Stewart

## Benefactor

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Coos Bay Emblem Club  
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Sandra Archerd \*  
Marjorie Atherton  
Anna Mae Barnes  
Lucile N. Batholomew \*  
Don Boileau  
Marty Crouse \*  
Helen Doving  
Victoria Earl  
Ms. Leslie A. Gabel  
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Alfred T. Spence  
John Sweet  
Barb Taylor  
Barbara Tyndall  
Norma Walker  
Clare Wehrle  
Karen Wuethrich

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Geri Bork  
Stanley & Leigh Britton  
Esther A. Collier  
Ruth M. Hoggatt  
Bolda M. King  
Claire Kinman  
Viola Lee  
Jean Leeper  
Hazel Pletchney  
Ward & Monica Robertson  
Molly Rudersdorf  
Mrs. James M. Schneider  
Geneva Selin  
Donna M. Sturdivan  
Dick & Jerrie VanNatta

## Student

Jean Strehl  
Stan Sweet  
Becky Watson  
Jennifer Wilkinson

## MEMBERSHIP



The Friends of Shore Acres is an incorporated, 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."

### Board of Directors

David Bridgham, President  
Al Aslakson, Vice President  
George Guthrie, Secretary/Treasurer  
Shirley Bridgham  
John Bergen  
Connie Eslinger  
Ellen Garner  
Howard Hall  
Dick Hansen  
Ann Koppy  
Tony Mason  
Nellie Ripper

### MEETING TIME

The Board meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. From June through September meetings are held at the Garden House at Shore Acres. From October through May they are held at SWOCC.

### MEMBERSHIP

An important part of any non-profit organization is its membership support base. **Membership** is the foundation for achieving our many goals for Shore Acres State Park. \*

- \* Gift and Information Center -  
(educational & interpretive items)
- \* plant I.D. markers for the gardens
- \* interpretive signs
- \* garden nightscaping
- \* interpretive materials for self-guided walks -  
(coast trail, garden, tidepools, etc.)
- \* special annual events:  
Rhododendron Sunday on Mothers Day  
Rose Sunday on Fathers Day  
Christmas Lights and Open House

Membership categories for all levels of support are available. Membership runs from **January 1st to December 31st.**

**Members** receive a membership card, window decals, the quarterly newsletter and 10% discount on Friends sales items. In addition, memberships of "Sponsor" and above will receive special recognition from the Friends.

Fill out the application form and return with your check or money order to **Friends of Shore Acres, P. O. Box 1172, Coos Bay OR 97420.** For more information call **888-4902** or **888-3732** or **756-5401.**

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Senior or Student	\$ 5
Individual	10
Family	15
Patron	25
Sponsor	50
Benefactor	100
Sustaining	250
Life	500
Gift	_____

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
home work

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

We appreciate your membership!!



If you already a member, you'll find a renewal card with your newsletter.  
Please help us reach 100% renewal by January 1st.





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