

Volume IV, No. 3

**Quarterly Newsletter** 

May 1991

# SPRING ... TO SUMMER

Spring is a time to get ready for summer at Shore Acres, Sunset Bay, Cape Arago and all of the beaches on the coast. This spring was no exception. Volunteers turned out in large numbers to pick up litter on the beaches and clean the pond at Shore Acres.

Pond cleaning at Shore Acres was on a very dreary day and all who helped are to be commended for work above and beyond the call of duty. The effort was coordinated by park staff (and Friends) George Guthrie and Frank Eckley, Friends president David Bridgham, and BLM crew leader Gregg Nelson (also a Friend).



Others who worked were Connie Nelson (who, we understand, was not excited about working in the rain, but did so anyway), Erika & Travis Nelson, Al Swanson, and Monita and Wally Johnson. BLM staff and families included Chris, Kate, Whit & Laurel Hamilton; Steve Fowler; Mel & Sony Chase; Bob Golden; Ed Fisher; Stefania Strzalkowska; Ray and Dotti Orazem; Bill Hudson; and Dennis Phillips. Thanks everyone!



Where'd they go?

#### What Happens to the Coins?

For the past two years, we have been storing the coins collected from pond cleaning, in hopes that we would be able to get them cleaned and turned in for reimbursement. Many of the coins are not useable because of the material they are made of and because of the length of time they are in the pond.

Over the past year, *Friend* and park ranger Sharon Williams took on the task of cleaning the coins. She also contacted the folks at Pacific Security Bank in Reedsport and they agreed to send the cleaned coins to the Philadelphia Mint. Because of Sharon's hard work and perseverance and the cooperation of the bank, the *Friends* were reimbursed for more than \$200.

#### FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES, INC.

Quarterly Newsletter published November, February, May and August

#### OFFICERS

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#### HOLIDAYS LIGHTS COORDINATORS Outside Lights & Co-Chair Shirley & David Bridgham 756-5401, 267-3012

Garden House DECORATION
Connie Eslinger 267-0570
Cookla Bakes

Sharon Fortune 888-3173 Pearl Groves 756-5684

Holiday & GAIC Sales Volunteer Coordinator

Ellen Garner 888-3484

Entertainment

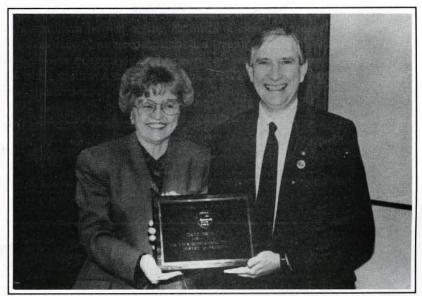
Wanda Graham 756-6789

Host Volunteers (Individuals)

Bonnie Koreiva 267-4037

Host Volunteers (Groups)

Shirley Bridgham 756-5401



President David Bridgham honored in Salem.

#### from the Prez...

My day in Salem, on behalf of the Friends of Shore Acres, included a morning meeting with twelve other presidents of Friends Co-ops state wide. We discussed issues common to all of us, including topics like gift sales and state-wide sales items. Newer friends took the opportunity to ask the more seasoned friends "how to" questions. The exchange of ideas and the sharing of experiences left us determined to meet at least twice a year.

In the afternoon, we went to the Capital building for afternoon appointments with our local legislators. We talked with them about issues important to Friends of Shore Acres and Oregon State Parks. The fall-out from measure 5 has impacted not only state parks, but their relationship to Friends Co-ops, as well. Many of our co-operative long term projects have been slowed down, but not stopped. State parks have many friends and supporters in the Legislature.

A big supporter is Governor Barbara Roberts. The reception for the Governor that afternoon was the highlight of the day. It was both, my honor and pleasure to accept recognition from the Governor on behalf of the Friends of Shore Acres. Our organization has accomplished a great deal, and it is because of the efforts of many caring people. We can <u>all</u> feel equally proud of what we have done, and look forward to many new opportunities.



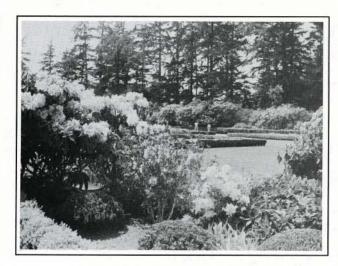
David

## CALENDAR

## Rhododendron Sunday / Mother's Day at Shore Acres - May 12

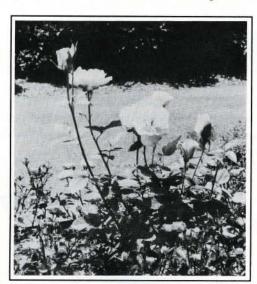
This annual event sponsored by the Friends of Shore Acres, offers visitors the opportunity to have their rhody questions answered by experts and a reminder to visit the gardens at the peak of the rhododendron season. On hand to answer questions will be Shore Acres Landscape Superintendent George Guthrie (George is also the new president of the Rhododendron Society) and Tom and Ann Drake from the Southwestern Oregon Rhododendron Society.

An added attraction in the Garden House, will be an exhibit and demonstrations by weavers and spinners from Headles & Treadles, Humbug Mountain Weavers & Spinners, and local members of the Northwest Spinners Association. The house



will be open from noon to 5 and Friends volunteers will serve cookies and lemonade and coffee.

## Rose Sunday / Father's Day at Shore Acres - June 16



Board meetings will be at the Garden House June 4, July 2, August 6 7:30 p.m. Shore Acres prestigious All America Rose Display Garden will be featured with this year's new rose winners. From noon to 5 p.m., experts will answer questions about roses in the Display Garden.

This annual event also will feature a wood working exhibit in the Garden House with wood workers on hand to discuss wood types and applications. The house will be open from noon to 5 p.m. and volunteers will serve cookies, lemonade and coffee.

Oregon Coast Music Festival

Garden Concert - July 12

**Foxfire** 12:30 - 2

(details, page 8)

### **GARDEN NOTES**

by George Guthrie

Shore Acres has finally made it through another winter and as I write this (in late April), both garden and staff are well into spring - with lots of flowers (tulips, daffodils, rhodies, azaleas, cherries, etc.) and lots of weeds (an even greater variety of those).

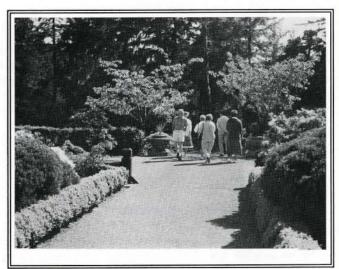
Along with the new growth, we notice (sadly) more and more delayed evidence of damage from December's severe cold snap. Despite our best efforts, a number of our *tree* roses were either killed outright or damaged severely. Their loss is particularly obvious since they serve as the *centerpiece* of our front rose garden.

These types of roses often are very difficult and expensive to replace. Luckily, Rita Crowe and the staff at Jackson and Perkins Bear Creek Gardens in Medford had some replacements and very generously donated them to us. Their kindness should help make our rose beds look a lot better this summer. If you happen to take a stroll through the garden later on this year and like how the tree roses look, please think sincere thoughts of gratitude toward the J and P gang - we do!!

A number of folks have stopped by and talked about winter damage to plants in their gardens and asked our advice about what to do with shrubs that look <u>dead</u> - should they be removed? Our thought is this - If it's a rare plant that you really love or one whose defoliated state doesn't offend you too much - <u>wait</u>, don't prune it or remove it for another month or so.

Check to see if there are buds or regrowth on the lower branches or even at the base. If you see evidence of life then you can prune down to that point and with a little luck, your plant will come back even denser and fuller than before.

Another good check is to lightly scratch small sections of the outer bark from various points along the stem and branches. If the <u>inner</u> bark looks bright green, then you've probably got some life left in the plant. If the <u>inner</u> bark is black, brown or yellowish, you've probably lost it.



Don't give up, plants can surprise you!

However, they can surprise you and come back from <u>below</u> ground level. *Hardy* fuschias are notorious for this. No matter how dead the above branches look, they are probably shooting out like crazy at the base, even as we *speak* - I know that ours are.

Now, if the plants really look dead and especially if they are common and easily replaced and in a highly visual place - then you might as well give them the old heave-ho and buy some replacements. You'll be able to start with healthy vigorous plants and make an *instant* impression rather than have to endure a perhaps lengthy period of recuperation until the old stuff looks presentable.

Plus, you have the pleasure of venting your frustration on the old stuff and the healthful exercise inherent in yarding it out and putting the new guys in - an activity mutually beneficial to body and mind - well, it was for me, anyway. We have been doing the same to some of ours so you'll be in (hopefully) good company.

George

Don't miss Rhododendron Sunday on Mother's Day, May 12 and Rose Sunday on Father's Day, June 16 !!

### **VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION**

by Ellen Garner

Gift and Information Center volunteers met April 20th for orientation. Our new smart cash register didn't attend, but word is she'll probably be here for our next meeting. In the meantime, there's a contest underway - Name the Cash Register.

President David Bridgham welcomed everyone and Andy LaTomme sent his greetings. David told us about the new SWOCC class for docent training. The first session April 29th will be on hospitality. Our volunteers that attend will have their tuition and lunch paid by FOSA.

Shirley Bridgham showed the multi-image slide program, *The Shore Acres Story* to acquaint volunteers with the history of Shore Acres.

George Guthrie conducted garden tours. The tulips were showy, but George said the display wasn't just for us. All visitors could enjoy them.



Volunteers tour the garden with George.

Everyone practiced arming and disarming the security system. We looked at the merchandise and went through the procedure for recording sales.

Returning volunteers included Beth Andersson, Anna Mae Barnes, Georganna Casey, Bob and Doris Emmett, Florrie Fox, Gladys Ivy, Claire Kinman, Charlotte Skinner and coordinators Connie Eslinger and Ellen Garner. New volunteers were Rose Slevoigh and Vivian Day.

Those unable to attend will have an orientation at the time we introduce the new cash register. If you are interested in volunteering at the GAIC, please call and leave a message on the Bridgham's answering machine (756-5401) and we will call you.



Thanks for volunteering!

The Gift and Information Center at Shore Acres is open for the season. It is staffed by Friends volunteers on weekends and Park Host Volunteers on weekdays. The information provided by the volunteers and the kinds of gift items available reflect the educational value found in a visit to the park by the whole family. It's also an opportunity for visitors to take home something that has enhanced their stay on the south coast. Gift and Information Center hours are from noon to 5 p.m.

rom Monday through Friday the park hosts who operate the Gift and Information Center, also show the multi-image slide program *The Shore Acres Story*, in the Garden House. The 17-minute program tells the history of the Simpsons and Shore Acres and how the park became what it is today.



### **BEACH CLEANUP**

by Ellie Kinney

he cleanup for the Sunset Bay District netted about 3.7 tons of garbage (7,400 pounds). Included in this figure were 257 bags of garbage, 8 tires, plastic buckets and jugs, large chunks of styrofoam,

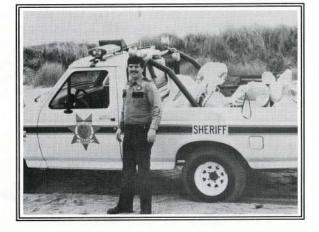
boards, signs, rope, fluorescent light bulbs, chains, pallets and lots of other junk, even an old stereo.

Over 255 people came out to help with the cleanup effort, including many community groups. The Oregon Off-Highway Vehicle Association, alone, sponsored the cleanup at Three Mile Beach. Other help was obtained from the National Association of Women in Construction, the OATVA, Workforce 2000 (from SWOCC), Coos Bay Power Squadron, North Bend Kiwanis, North Bend High School Key Club and numerous scouting groups and 4-H groups.



A special thanks goes out to Horning Brothers Sanitary Service in Reedsport and Les' Sanitary Services, Inc., in Coos Bay for hauling away the trash.

Sheriff Deputy Rod Summers was a lifesaver at Horsfall Dunes. He hauled everything off the beach.



We have a lot of ideas for next year's cleanup, including one from David Bridgham. He suggested we start a contest for the most unusual piece of trash found during the cleanup, saving the winning items to use for a public awareness display to show what ends up on Oregon's beaches.

### A special thanks to Oregon State Parks Host Program

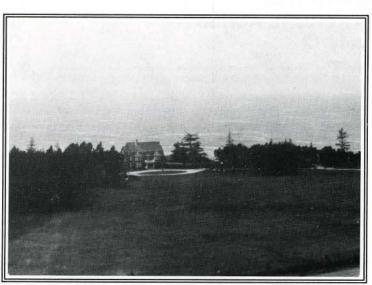
and to James and Anna Gibboney
Park Hosts at Sunset during the month of April.
They ran the Shore Acres Gift and Information Center and presented our slide program in the Garden House.
THANKS!!!

## LIVING HISTORY PROJECT

The Living History grant project is well underway. To date, Linda Comstock has interviewed eighteen people who know much of the history of the Simpsons, Shore Acres, Sunset Bay and Cape Arago.

One of those interviewed, Helen Barnard, gave Linda the following written statement. We found it quite interesting and thought you would too.

"The first house at Shore Acres was finished in 1906 and given to Mrs. Simpson as a Christmas present. It was intended to be their summer home and was furnished casually in wicker and leather chairs and Navajo rugs. Later, upholstered furniture and oriental rugs replace the wicker, which was given to the Commercial Club functioning on the third floor of the Winsor Building at the southeast corner of Sherman and Virginia, North Bend.



First Mansion at Shore Acres - 1906



A Closer Look

The living room of the three-story house was 56 by 32 feet, with a staircase in the south end leading to the upstairs bedrooms. Each bedroom was decorated in a different color and designated as the pink, blue, gold and lavender rooms. I remember the Winsors always stayed in the blue room.

When the swimming pool wing was added in 1914, the master bedroom with its fireplace was located above the pool wing and included a bathroom and pleasant sitting room.

The swimming pool in the Roman bath room was 26 by 52 feet. At the far south end was a mammoth fireplace flanked by shower rooms. The pool wing was entered through a door from the living room into a pretty area centered by a fountain where a white marble statue of a girl looking down at a ring on her finger was placed. Also in this area

were hung several cages of yellow warbling canaries. I think my mother said that the statue was a gift from Edith Simpson Pike, L.J.'s sister."

Linda has interviewed Claudia C. Allsup, Richard J. Anderson, Helen W. Barnard, Anne Collins, Frank Eckley, Lilian Ede, Cranson Fosburg, George Guthrie Jr., Henry Hansen, Dennis Johnson, Grace E. Lark, Harry Luckett, Sabra Luckett, Anna Lunde, Norma Lyons, Alton L. Noel, Ethel Spence and Victor West.

A synopsis of each interview, as well as the audio tapes of those who are willing to be recorded will be used for further historical interpretation of our area.

The project will be completed this summer. If you have information or suggestions of people who should be contacted, please call Linda Comstock at 756-7439.

## FOXFIRE AT SHORE ACRES July 12

The annual Shore Acres garden concert of the Oregon Coast Music Festival will feature the popular singing group Foxfire. The free concert is scheduled for Friday, July 12, from 12:30 to 2:00 and is co-hosted by The Friends of Shore Acres.

Friends volunteers will park cars and sell fresh raspberry and chocolate sundaes and lemonade. The concert is free and everyone is invited to attend.

The Festival offers a wide variety of exceptional music. Those attending will be treated to classical, folk, pops, jazz, as well as big band. Don't miss it!



Popular singing group Foxfire to perform.

Oregon Coa	st Music Festi	val 1991 - Schedule
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July	11	Thurs	Tour Concert - NW Bach Ensemble	Bandon	7:30
ou.,		Fri	Picnic Concert - Foxfire	Shore Acres State Park	12:30
		Fri	Tour Concert - NW Bach Ensemble	Reedsport	7:30
		Sat	Band Concert - Concert Band	Mingus Park	12:30
		Sat	Jazz Concert - It's About Time Big Band	Elks Club (CB)	8:00
		Sun	Jazz Concert - Glen Moore Ensemble	Harbor Hall, Bandon	8:00
		Tues	Festival Orchestra	Marshfield Auditorium (CB)	8:00
		Wed	Tour Concert - NW Bach Ensemble	Florence	7:30
	112410	Thurs	Festival Orchestra Plays Pops	Marshfield Auditorium (CB)	8:00
		Fri	Festival Chamber Players	Presbyterian Church (NB)	8:00
	1000000	Sat	Festival Orchestra	Marshfield Auditorium (CB)	8:00

Intermissions at Marshfield concerts will be hosted by Gourmet Coastal Coffees.

For ticket information, call BACC (800) 824-8486 or 269-0215.

## **LIGHTS ANYONE?**

he Friends are planning for the 5th annual Holiday Lights and Open House in December. Rumor is that there will be at least 75,000 lights and that night-scaping around the oriental pond could become a reality.

Letters for pledges of support will be sent in June and if the response is as good as it was last year, we feel certain that we can accomplish this year's goals.

Lights checking parties will be held this summer and many of you will be called to help. If you'd like to call us - the numbers are 756-5401 or 888-4902.

## **MEMORIALS**

Memorial contributions to the Friends of Shore Acres are being set aside and will be used at some time in the future to help pay for a new fountain in the center of the formal garden.

Contributions have been given in memory of John Bergen, Robert Hobbs and Earle Livingston.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **PERILS OF PARKS**

PART 3

by Andy La Tomme



We left off last time with the brand-new State Parks and Recreation Commission trying to find a stable, dedicated funding source while the 1991 legislature was still in session . . .

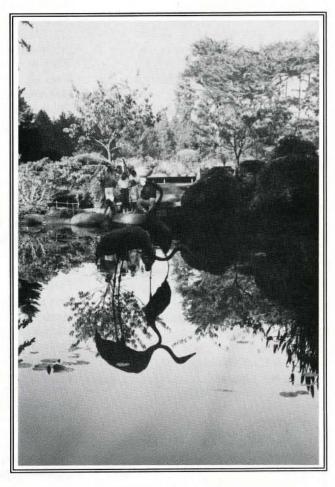
Everyone knew state parks had to have money just to keep parks open. On top of that was the 2010 Plan and the millions of dollars needed to give Oregonians the kind of state park system they wanted.

"Where will we find it?" That was the magic question.

Lots of suggestions were put forth by the public, by commission members, by parks staff, by legislators and bureaucrats, and by friends and not-so-friends of State Parks. Some said "Let's tax real estate transfers because State Parks are land based." And there were those who thought that made a lot of sense.

Others said "Wait a minute, we made a mistake -- let's change the Oregon Constitution again and let State Parks use gas tax money like they did in the good old days."

Variations on that theme arose. "Let's increase the gas tax by one cent," suggested some. "A Penny for Parks," became their rally cry. A few creative souls thought perhaps redirecting a percentage of the gas tax paid only by RVer's would be the best. They reasoned: "It's not a new tax, it's just a redistribution of the existing one. And who uses parks more than RVer's? Besides, it worked for the Marine Board."



Crystal clear pond reveals unusual patterns.

After all those suggestions, the talkers got pretty thirsty, so they took a six-pack to the nearest park bench to cool their fevered brows. Then -- inspiration struck!! Here they were, in a park, drinking carbonated beverages. "Eureka," shouted one. "At last," cried the others. And so a bill was introduced to tax carbonated beverages at the wholesale level with the proceeds to be used for state, county and city parks.

Why not? People drink carbonated beverages in parks all the time. Just ask the ranger who picks up the empties.

Will the bill succeed? Will it even get out of committee? Will it ever get to the Senate and if so what will they do with it? Could it be that state parks has at last found the stable, dedicated funding source it so richly deserves? And what about Measure 5?

(Fade to text: To Be Continued. Organ music swells in the background.)









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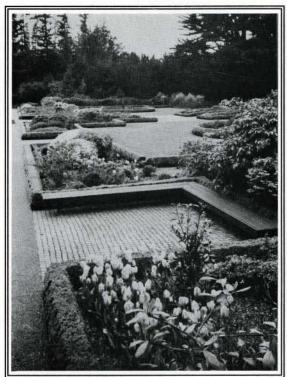
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Janet Wilson



Spring also brings renewal to the garden.

# THANKS, MEMBERS!!!

Members are the foundation of the Friends of Shore Acres. We appreciate your new and renewed memberships, as well as your volunteer help.

We have coded your address label so you will know if you have renewed for 1991. Current members have a "1" next to the member category code.

example

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Friendly BE1 1435 Shore Acres Lane Coos Bay OR 97420

If we have missed your name on the membership list, please call 756-5401.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The 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.

Membership runs from January 1st to December 31st.

As a member, you will receive a membership card, Friends decals and the quarterly newsletter. 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.

	Individual \$10 [ ] Family \$15 [ ] Patron \$25 [ ] Sponsor \$50 [ ]	
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Name		

Please circle any 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



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