



Shore Acres State Park  
Before Friends - 1986

Album 1 - September 2014



Shirley Bridgham

## How Friends of Shore Acres Happened

In 1986, the Communication Arts Group at Southwestern Oregon Community College decided to tell the story of Shoreacres and Shore Acres State Park by creating a multi-image slide show to be shown at the 5th annual Multi-Image Festival in September. After the Festival, Shirley Bridgham asked Andy LaTomme, manager at Shore Acres State Park, if the park wanted a copy. He said yes. Not long after, Andy asked Shirley and her husband David if they would like to help start a Friends group – a non-profit corporation in association with state parks. They said yes.

An organizational meeting was held on December 4, 1986 at 7:30 pm in Room 12 of Sumner Hall on the campus of Southwestern Oregon Community College. In attendance were Andy LaTomme, John Bergen, Mike Bodkin, David and Shirley Bridgham, John Garner, Marty Giles, George Guthrie, Dick Hansen, Ron Hjort, Tony Mason, and Karen Wuethrich. On that important night, Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. in cooperation with Shore Acres State Park began a long journey of success.

*The Shore Acres Story* was shown in slide format to thousands of visitors for years, then transferred to VHS tape for easier showing. In 2006, it was transferred to DVD. In 2013, it was transformed again, this time with additional photos courtesy of Caitlin Day, James McDermott, Sunset Bay State Park and the Coos Historical and Maritime Museum. Special thanks goes to Phillip Bridgham for rescuing the original sound track.

The program is about Asa Meade Simpson and his son Louis Jerome and the history of the magnificent estate that Louis called Shoreacres. It continues with what Shore Acres State Park was like in 1986 when the slide show was created. ■



Ward Robertson

## Aerial and Gardens — 1986



Shirley Bridgham

Album 1 - September 2014



Shirley Bridgham

## About the Friends' Albums

by Shirley Bridgham - 2014

It's time to preserve the Friends' photos and clippings using the following:

- Epson Expression 11000XL Scanner
- Adobe PhotoShop CS-3
- Adobe InDesign CS-3.
- Epson Presentation Paper - Matte
- Epson Premium Photo Paper - Glossy
- Epson Stylus Photo R2000 Printer

I will also save the album pages as PDF files. ■



Ward Robertson

## Aerials - 1986



Ward Robertson

## Album 1 - September 2014

## Note from Shirley Bridgham - September 2014



**Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. was founded on December 4, 1986.**

**1st annual year Dec. 4, 1986 - Aug. 31, 1987**

**1st Birthday - Dec. 4, 1987**

**1st Christmas Lights - Dec. 11, 1987**

**2nd annual Year - Sept. 1, 1987 - Aug. 31, 1988**

**2nd Birthday - Dec. 4, 1988**

**... and so on. The annual year runs from September of one year to the end of August of the next year.**

**W**hat an amazing journey it has been for David and me since 1986. Little did we know when we, the Friends, decided to bring more attention to Shore Acres State Park, by stringing some lights to celebrate Christmas in 1987, we would begin an awesome adventure that continues to this day.

So many volunteers, so many supporters, so many visitors, such a great board of directors, and always so much excellent cooperation from park managers, rangers and staff - all combine to make Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. one of the most successful non-profit Co-ops in the state of Oregon.

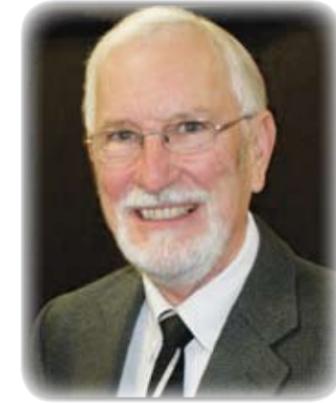
All these years, Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. has been truly blessed to remain an all-volunteer organization. It has made it possible to accomplish so many interpretive and physical development projects at Shore Acres. Visit our Information & Gift Center and pick up one of our membership brochures and you will find an extensive list.

I've been privileged to create and produce our slide shows, DVDs, and Newsletters and Journals. Not to mention, designing the lights display and seeing it come together like theater every season. Yes, it's a lot of work, but it's also a lot of fun. David has the challenge of designing and producing new sculptures and maintaining the old ones. When we read the comments in the guest books, we always get enthused to start the next season.

This year, I'm starting a project to preserve the Friends' archives in physical albums — this is the first album — backed up in a digital format for easy viewing by many. We have many photos, news clippings and other materials that will be included in the albums.

As I've started going through the archives, I'm reminded of how FoSA has grown and prospered in order to help Shore Acres State Park, Sunset Bay State Park and Cape Arago State Park. What a great reminder of why we do what we do. Our hope is that in the future, others will experience and enjoy the same opportunities. ■

## Note from David Bridgham - September 2014



**T**he following pages (and Albums) are a chronology of the efforts of Friends of Shore Acres, Inc., but even more than that, tell the tale of the enormous support that the Friends have enjoyed from our regional communities.

This was a movement whose time had come. The Oregon State Legislature had passed "Enabling" Legislation allowing non-profit 501(c)3 organizations to adopt a specific State Park to provide educational and interpretive services to its visitors. Well that's the dry legislative speak for find a core user group that loves that park and let it nurture and care for it.

Shore Acres State Park, 13 miles from town, is the touchstone that we all bring our friends and visitors to when we want to show off the beauty of the Oregon south coast. There was a built-in and pent-up desire to shower this special place with community pride and needed TLC. Outreach to our communities started with the planning sessions with FOSA Board members and volunteers. Dreaming of what could be, planning on now and the future.

Holiday Lights at Shore Acres is a night time interpretation of the formal English style gardens and the reflecting pond at the oriental garden. Historically, the original Simpson mansion built on the bluff at the stone wall, was a Christmas present to Louie Simpson's wife Cassie. From the very first lighting event we recognized the importance to the communities to open the Garden House for our visitors and start building traditions. After 27 annual lightings it thrills me to hear from adults with their young family when they tell us they came to see the lights as kids and now they're bringing their families to grow the tradition.

An important cornerstone to the Holiday Lights tradition is the consistency of our focus on major themes. We have stayed true to who we are and where we're at, interpreting the gardens with flower-lights, sculptures that are inspired by what's found in the gardens as well as many marine related sculptures. The Garden House is beautifully decorated with an old time (Simpson era) theme that fits this historic gardener's cottage.

There are those certainties in life - like the tide at our ocean's shore, the Bay and its tributaries - migrating geese, and the Holiday Lights at Shore Acres. When I see or hear a migrating flock of Canadian Geese I get an itch I can only scratch by stringing lights at Shore Acres.

You will see as you turn these pages that the secret sauce has always been to engage our community, give credit and ownership where deserved, and always try to improve this place that we all love. ■

# Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

*Founded December 4, 1986*



*“The purpose of Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. is to participate in interpretive, educational, and physical development programs with Sunset Bay Management Unit.”*

*FoSA Bylaws*

Album 1 - September 2014

# Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

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## FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Friends of Shore Acres  
December 4, 1986  
Minutes - page 2

A meeting was held on December 4, 1986 at 7:30 pm in room 12 of Sumner Hall on the campus of Southwestern Oregon Community College. In attendance were Andy LaTomme, John Bergen, George Guthrie, Karen Wuethrich, Marty Giles, Ron Hjort, Mike Bodkin, John Garner, Shirley Bridgham, David Bridgham, Dick Hansen and Tony Mason. Andy LaTomme opened the meeting by giving background information about the establishment of non-profit corporations in association with state parks.

Mike Bodkin reviewed the legal steps necessary to establish a corporation and to certify it as tax-exempt under federal and state laws: fees to be paid, legal liability of corporation members and the formation of an initial board of directors.

Discussion followed on the details of the above presentations. The group agreed that a preliminary date of June, 1987 was a goal for establishing the tax-exempt status of the organization and that the group should forego any solicitation of funds until this status has been obtained.

Those present introduced themselves to the group and completed a sign-up sheet with their names and addresses. Each person was asked if he or she desired to serve on the initial board of directors. All except Andy LaTomme, Ron Hjort, Karen Wuethrich and Mike Bodkin responded "yes."

Some discussion followed about the number of state park employees to be allowed to serve on the board at any one time. It was generally agreed that no more than 1/4 of the board should be composed of state park employees, however formal action on this was deferred until bylaws are adopted. It was agreed that the Sunset Bay State Park district manager would serve as a non-voting member of the board. There was some discussion about this and it was understood and agreed that the group would not undertake any projects without the approval of the district park manager or his designee.

Nominations were opened for chairman. Dick Hansen and John Bergen were nominated and declined. John Garner was nominated and unanimously elected. He conducted the balance of the meeting.

A motion to name the organization the "Friends of Shore Acres, Inc," was proposed, seconded and passed.

Mike Bodkin was named to act as legal agent for the Friends of Shore Acres (hereafter referred to as the "Friends") and was thanked for his work thus far. Discussion followed regarding the purposes of the Friends as required for the incorporation papers.

Mike Bodkin stated that he would use wording from a similar organization's application and that he expected the incorporation papers would be returned by the next meeting.

It was decided the scope of the organization would be discussed when bylaws were presented for adoption at a later meeting.

There was discussion about membership in general, voting vs. non-voting membership and graduated membership fees. Action on this was deferred until a later meeting.

A collection was taken to cover the cost of the incorporation fee. A total of \$13.00 was collected from the group.

It was proposed and approved that Mike Bodkin act as initial incorporator for the Friends.

Additional discussion about the purpose of the Friends took place. It was felt that the purposes stated in the articles of incorporation should be broad enough to allow the group to participate in a broad range of activities, including physical development in the park.

The agenda for the next meeting was discussed. It was decided that bylaws and the setting of goals for the group would take up most of the meeting. The board was asked to be prepared to discuss possible goals and committee assignments for that meeting. Dick Hansen was selected to lead the discussion on bylaws.

Andy LaTomme was asked to bring a copy of his park's master plan to assist in coordinating the goals of the Friends with those of State Parks. He was also asked to prepare a draft set of bylaws, based on those used by existing cooperating associations, to be mailed to board members before the next meeting.

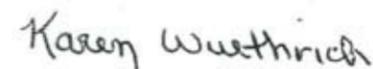
Andy LaTomme was asked to prepare a press release announcing the formation of the Friends with special mention of Mike Bodkin's contribution.

Karen Wuethrich was asked to prepare minutes of the meeting.

The date for a second meeting was set for January 13, 1987. Shirley Bridgham was asked to arrange for a meeting room at SWOCC. The suggestion was made that the board consider a fixed meeting date, e.g., the second Tuesday of each month. It was felt that this was a good idea, but no action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Wuethrich

# Friends Early Activities - 1987

Cape Arago Tidepool Walks



Slippery Rocks



Interesting Marine Animals



Sea Star and Sea Urchins

Oregon Arts Commission Visit



David Bridgham



(L-R) Larry Watson, Nellie Ripper, Richard Notkin



Garden Tours



Dr. Ed Quinn leads garden tour.



George Guthrie (L) "Head Gardener"

## Coast named best

The Oregon Coast has been named one of the top 10 recreational vehicle destinations for 1987 by Trailblazer magazine.

In addition, Winchester Bay is among the other 90 locations listed in the Trailblazer magazine's second annual "Hot 100" selections.

The magazine is published by Thousand Trails Inc. of Bellevue, Wash., a membership campground company, and has a circulation of 92,000.

"Oregon's unspoiled coastline, with its quaint fishing villages, miles of sand dunes and dramatic rock formations, attracts RVers from all over the country," says a magazine press release. "Camera bugs and beachcombers delight in the spectacular seascapes and storms that bring in glass fishing floats and other ocean treasures."

Trailblazer publisher Gregg Olsen says "Exploring the Oregon Coast is a perfect RV vacation."

The World - August 1, 1987

## Shore Acres holds surprises in flowers

Where can one go to observe the sea, look at exotic flowers, watch fantastic wave action, go tide pooling, and learn some history while they are at it? Shore Acres of course!

Shore Acres State Park is located 4½ miles west of Charleston. The rugged coastline, sandstone bluffs, botanical gardens, and a covered observatory allow visitors a 180 degree view of the coast. It is the site of some of the most spectacular wave action on the Pacific Coast, particularly during winter storms.

There is a trail that leads to the beach 75 feet below. Simpson Beach is a sheltered beach with an ideal spot for tidepooling and observing of sea life.

Shore Acres State Park was the estate of Louis J. Simpson.

The estate began as a summer home — a Christmas present for his wife in 1906. The Simpsons were lumbermen and ship builders and their ships returned to Coos Bay with exotic plants for the Shore Acres Garden. Originally, it was a Japanese garden built around a 100-foot lily pond that bordered a formal garden.

In 1921, the original house burned to the ground and was rebuilt. This house was eventually sold to the state. It fell into disrepair and was torn down. The covered observatory is located where the houses stood.

The state worked to restore the gardens using old photographs and interviewing the Simpson family. The gardens follow the original path

layout and is very similar to how it was in its heyday.

An interpretive center with photographs and exhibits of the Simpson Estate leads the visitor through a hedgerow of cyprus trees. Bordering the rose garden are the formal gardens. Boxwood hedges border the planting areas that contain annuals, perennials, and original dahlias and hydrangeas. Also on display are some of the plants that Simpson brought from around the world. There are over 30 different kinds of rhododendrons in the gardens.

The Japanese garden has been planted with hundreds of fuchsias, clusters of bamboo and exotic ferns. Stone lantern planters add to the atmosphere.

The World - August 5, 1987

## Great Publicity from the Beginning

# The World

Serving Oregon's great South Coast for over 100 years

No. 35 109th Year

Published in Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

Friday, August 14, 1987

25 Cents

## Parks to have new 'Friends'

Friends of Shore Acres, a group formed to lend support to the area's state parks, has officially received its non-profit status setting the stage for fund raising efforts.

Formed under a 1985 law allowing private groups to help out in state parks, Friends of Shore Acres is aimed at providing educational and interpretive programs at the parks in the Sunset Bay District of Oregon State Parks, stretching from Cape Arago to the Umpqua River Lighthouse, according to Vice President Shirley Bridgham.

This summer, for example, Friends trained volunteers to lead tours of the botanical gardens at Shore Acres State Park, and sponsored tidepooling tours at South Cove in Cape Arago State Park.

Such projects might include marking plants in the botanical gardens, regularly scheduled tours and interpretive materials for distribution to visitors, she said.

On a recent weekend, volunteer Steena Brown led about two dozen people — most of them campers from nearby Sunset Bay and Bastendorff Beach campgrounds — through the tidepools of South Cove on a Friends of Shore Acres outing. Timed to hit a very low tide, Bridgham said the group found several tidepool treasures that even Brown found unusual despite her expertise.

Two more free garden tours are scheduled for the summer. The first is at 1:30 p.m. this Sunday; the second is at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 5. The tours last about 90 minutes.

Funding to date has been limited, according to Bridgham, including reclaiming coins from the muck of the water lily pond at the botanical gardens. With non-profit status, the group is actively soliciting memberships that will help fund future activities.

An annual meeting of all members and interested persons is set for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 8 at the garden house at Shore Acres State Park. Those attending can drive up to the house by using the service entrance that is south on Cape Arago Highway from the main park Entrance.

The address for volunteer information or donations to the group is Friends of Shore Acres, in care of Sunset Bay State Parks District, 13030 Cape Arago Highway, Coos Bay 97420.



Photo by Shirley Bridgham

A toddler checks out the shell dad found at South Cove during a Friends of Shore Acres tidepool tour.

The World - August 14, 1987

# Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

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[The original Minutes scanned for digital file and scrapbook - July, 2014 - Shirley Bridgham]

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.  
Minutes  
September 8, 1987

Page 2  
Minutes - continued

The annual meeting of the Friends of Shore Acres was called to order at 7: 30 PM by Vice President Shirley Bridgham. All board members were present as well as a number of invited guests. (Ray Duskin, Jim and Sue Graeser)

**OLD BUSINESS :**

Dick Hansen asked Andy LaTomme about a proposed deposit box for contributions (as discussed at last month's meeting). Andy replied that one could be placed at the garden interpretive center by the end of the year.

Minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and approved.

George Guthrie made a treasurer's report. The present balance is \$89.19. From that must be deducted about \$40.00 for the printing of membership cards. George also reported that he had taken the I.R.S. notice of tax- exempt status to Security Bank so that from now on we will no longer be assessed a service charge for our checking account.

Andy discussed the concept of cooperative associations between parks and public groups (like the "Friends"), what the "Friends" can do to help the parks and serve the public. It can serve both as a source of funding and as a means of funneling community interest and involvement for the parks and vice-versa.

One of the guests, Jim Graeser, asked if funds donated to the Friends had to be for a designated purpose or projects. Andy replied that donations don't have to be earmarked for a particular project.

George and Shirley then reviewed summer tide pool and garden walks. Walks have been generally successful and we hope to expand them more next year. It was suggested that next year we might have geology walks about coastal rock formations.

Tony Mason reported on printing of membership decals for the Friends. He had received quotes from three printers : Wegferd's (\$402. 00/500 copies - green ink on vinyl); Accuprint (\$439.00 (dicut)/500 copies) : News Press (\$118.00/1,000 copies). The board approved a motion to go with News Press to print the decals (at 2000 copies).

Correction to previous minutes - The July 15th minutes made note of a " fee " paid by an advertising company to the Friends for taking pictures of the coast. That money was a donation to F. O. S.A.

**NEW BUSINESS :**

Andy reported that he will be going to a convention in Sacramento, CA, concerning park cooperative associations (like the Friends ), how to organize them and what they can do. He will report about what he learns at the next meeting. At this point, Shirley showed some of the new certificates of appreciation she had made, to be presented to various people who had helped the Friends in the past year. "Awards " were given to Andy LaTomme, Mike Bodkin (for legal assistance ), John Garner (for serving as President) and to the various tour leaders.

Some discussion followed on membership. It was the sense of the board that all volunteers (tour leaders, etc.) should become regular members (i. e. pay dues).

Jim Graeser suggested that the Friends establish contacts with M. E. A., the Art Museum, historical society, etc., for joint projects, sharing of membership and mailing lists and so on.

John Bergen said that he will address the Coos Head Garden Club in the near future and will put in a plug for "F. O. S.A." membership.

Talk turned to various ways of fund raising. Mentioned was selling items like T-shirts and art-style post cards. Dave Bridgham suggested making a bookmark - park map that could be sold or handed out in place of a brochure. Andy talked about using a sticker- type label with "Friends" info and/or logo to be put on the garden guide as a way of advertising the Friends. Also brought up was a possible co-op agreement with the State for the Friends to run the day use booth during the summer and split the proceeds with the State. *Sue Graeser suggested stringing some Christmas lights in the Garden and holding an open house in December.*

Dick Hansen suggested putting out a seasonal list of what's blooming at Shore Acres. Andy suggested about providing a service in which park visitors could "write themselves a note", to remind them to come back to the garden at a certain time to see particular flowers in bloom. The Friends would hold the cards and send them at the appropriate time.

Also brought up, was possible cooperation with local nurserymen for plant sales. (The nursery would provide plants for the Friends to sell and split the profits 50/50. )

The board then moved to election of new officers. Nominated were Shirley Bridgham for President, Dick Hansen, Vice President, and George Guthrie, Secretary/Treasurer. The proposed slate of officers was approved unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The October meeting will be on October 13, 1987 at the Garden House. On the agenda will be planning of up-coming events. Tony will investigate getting together a yearly calendar of events and maybe getting a feature story in Oregon Coast Magazine. Dave Bridgham will work on getting Friends events put on the Coos Arts Committee calendar of events.

Dave and Shirley showed off the newly printed membership cards - several of our guests and board members officially joined the group and got their new cards officially signed by our new president.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

(Continued)

# Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

[The original Minutes scanned for digital file and scrapbook - July, 2014 - Shirley Bridgham]

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.  
Minutes  
October 13, 1987

The October meeting of the Friends of Shore Acres was called to order by President Shirley Bridgham at 7:30 PM. All Board members were present with the exception of Nellie Ripper and Andy LaTomme.

## OLD BUSINESS:

The September minutes were approved as submitted, with one correction, the price quote for the membership decals was \$118.00 for 2,000 rather than the 1,000 as was quoted in the minutes.

The treasurer's report showed \$479.00 in the Friends' bank account, including \$140.00 in new memberships (\$100.00 was from the Coos Bay Emblem Club). Treasurer, George Guthrie, reported that a check, in the amount of \$40.00 was sent to Wegferd's, to pay for the membership card printing. George also reported that he had contacted the Smith Western Printing Company, about postcard production. They quoted an approximate price of about 11¢ per card, with a 5,000 card minimum order. They also would accept our negatives for printing. The Board decided to try to obtain more information on Smith Western's prices and products, and also to contact other printers to see what deals they could offer.

The new Friends bumper and window stickers were shown and passed out. All members will receive a set. Extra sets will be sold at 50¢ each. Giveaways from other Friends type organizations, such as decals, shirts and postcards were shown and discussed as examples of future projects for membership and money making activities.

In conjunction with the membership cards and decals, to be sent to new members, a welcome/thank you letter drafted by George, Shirley and Andy, will be sent out.

Discussion began on publicity for future Friends events. Major events should be announced through magazines, such as Sunset and Oregon Coast, and also the local papers. Minor events, like the individual walks and tours, could be promoted through the park bulletin boards, the membership bulletins and local outlets.

The possibility of getting Shore Acres regularly included on the "vacation tour package" stops was brought up again. David Bridgham indicated that such things are arranged on a long term basis and involves an expensive fee, to get on the tour list. Shirley suggested that maybe the Friends could explore doing this in conjunction with the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, as making Shore Acres an attraction would benefit the entire community. David will continue to investigate this.

George read a letter from Mike Bodkin, indicating that he had officially notified the Oregon Department of Revenue, of our Federal Tax Exempt status, and requested that we be granted similar state status. Mike indicated that this request would probably be approved without much trouble. He also indicated that critical information in the Friends' finances would have to be filed late next year (1988), and that an accountant or a C.P.A. would be needed to get the necessary information together. Shirley said there is a possibility that C.P.A. Don Hall would volunteer his services to the Friends on financial matters like this.

The content of the week's previous executive meeting (Shirley, Dick, Andy and George) was discussed. *The main topic was the proposed "Christmas Festival" at Shore Acres." This would involve lighting and decorating parts of the garden and Garden House, along with various other events, carol singing, etc., over the holiday period. Members, Jim and Sue Graeser, have already offered assistance. The Oregon Tourism Commission and the Chamber of Commerce, will help with the publicity. The Port of Coos Bay has also expressed interest in helping. The Coos Historical Museum is interested in helping with*

(Continued)

Page 2

Minutes - continued

*decorating the Garden House with period-type decorations. The Friends would be able to act as hosts, serving refreshments at an open house and set up a donation box for possible gifts and new members for the group.*

*Dick Hansen asked where would we get the lights and how would we afford the power for such a display? Shirley said that she would contact John Sweet and Pacific Power and Light about their involvement and assistance. Shirley indicated that regular planning sessions for the event will be held each Monday at SWOCC in Empire Hall at 12 :00 PM (noon).*

*Dick inquired about liability insurance for the event. Would the state cover us or would the Friends have to obtain their own? George stated he would contact Andy and find out the answer. It was determined that the Friends responsibility (at least initially) for the event, would be to reserve the Garden House from the park for the event period, provide people to be on duty during the event, help plan and coordinate the event, and assist in the actual set-up.*

*John Bergen made a motion that the Board officially sponsor the Christmas open house, December 11-24, 1987 at Shore Acres under the above guidelines. Dave seconded the motion. The measure passed unanimously.*

The Board then discussed the Friends' newsletter. Dave indicated that he hoped we could have one out by the end of November. It would include news, notes, encouragement for gift memberships, renewals and any interesting features we can dream up. Tentative publication schedules would be, the end of February (for spring activities), the end of May (for summer activities), and the end of August (with the annual membership meeting agenda).

## NEW BUSINESS:

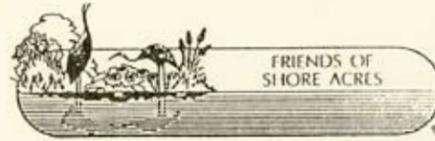
Shirley stated that the local Bonsai Club is interested in possibly donating a collection of specimens to the garden. Shirley and George presented to the Board, Andy's ideas about obtaining more money for the Friends. Based on experience from a similar operation at Fort Stevens, Andy suggests that we drop the \$1.00 per vehicle weekend fee and go to a 50¢ per head garden entrance fee. This could generate thousands of dollars in the course of a summer. The Park Hosts could help collect these fees and also sell items (books, postcards, etc.) for the Friends. Andy believes that we might be able to get a loan from the Friends of Fort Stevens (F.O.O.F.S) to act as up front seed money to help purchase these items.

John mentioned that eventually the Friends could expand into providing exhibits on the local history of logging and shipping, including a possible display of original pieces of Sutter's Mill, from California gold rush days, that was purchased by Simpson and is still in the area. This would be a potentially interesting interpretive attraction.

Tony Mason indicated that the news about the Christmas Festival, should be due on November 1, 1987, for inclusion in the December issue of the Oregon Coast Magazine. He also suggested that we might be able to get a price break on ordering publications from the Oregon Coast Magazine, for possible sale by the Friends.

Discussion followed on a proposed "dahlia dig" event for the end of this month. The Friends would sponsor a work day by community volunteers, to help dig up dahlia tubers at the park. It was decided that instead, we should wait and plan for doing it next year as a members only activity, in which participating members would be able to obtain surplus tubers as a bonus for helping. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

# Planning for the first Christmas at Shore Acres - 1987



EXCITING PLANS ARE UNDERWAY FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON!

**WHO:** The Friends of Shore Acres

**WHAT:** "A Shore Acres Christmas"

Plans are to decorate the garden house and light the gardens from the covered entry to the house. We also plan to light as much of the garden area as we can. The Coos County Historical Society Museum will help furnish the garden house. The garden house will be open to visitors from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. each evening. Exception: December 12 when the house will be open from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. because of The Nutcracker Ballet.

Refreshments will be available and hosts will be there to greet visitors.

**WHEN:** December 11 - 27, 1987

**WHERE:** The Garden House and Botanical Gardens at Shore Acres

**WHY:** To enhance the community's Christmas experience and draw visitors to the park during the Christmas season and because we want to acquaint people with our organization and its future plans.

**THIS IS A BIG PROJECT BUT A FUN PROJECT TOO, SO WE HOPE YOU WILL WANT TO BE PART OF IT.** Planning meetings are being held at SWOCC, Mondays in Empire Hall, Rm. 102-103. Meetings begin at noon. Lunch is available in the Empire Hall cafeteria.

Help is also needed in the following areas:

**MATERIALS**

colored outdoor lights for Christmas trees  
heavy duty extension cords  
decorations (traditional)  
refreshments (cookies, apple cider, punch, coffee, tea)  
cider and punch bowls  
serving trays, cups, glasses, etc.

**WORKERS**

Pre holiday work crew (decorate garden house, and set garden light display)  
Post holiday work crew (take down displays)  
Hosts (2 adults per evening, minimum)

**\$\$**

Funds are needed for the purchase of many, many strings of miniature white lights to light the gardens.

If you want more information or would like to help, please call Shirley or David Bridgham at 756-5401 or 267-3012 or Nellie Ripper at 759-3241 or Sharon Fortune at 756-3191.

The Friends of Shore Acres c/o Sunset Bay Park District, 13030 Cape Arago Hwy., Coos Bay, OR 97420  
(503) 888-4902

## Friends of Shore Acres ask for help with holiday goals

The Friends of Shore Acres plan an exciting holiday season at the popular South Coast park.

Shirley Bridgham said the group is planning to decorate the garden house and light the gardens from the entry to the botanical gardens to the house.

Much of the garden will also be decorated, she said.

The garden house will be decorated and will be open to visitors from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. every night from Dec. 11 to Dec. 27, except for Dec. 12 when hours will be 4 to 7 p.m.

Refreshments will be available and hosts will be on hand to greet visitors.

To accomplish these goals, however, the group is asking for donations of labor, money and materials, Bridgham added. Needed materials include colored outdoor lights for Christmas trees, heavy duty extension cords, traditional Christmas decorations, refreshments, cider and punch bowls, serving trays, cups and glasses.

Workers are needed to decorate the garden house and set up a garden light

display, and a post-holiday crew is needed to take down all displays. In addition, at least two hosts are needed for each evening.

Financial contributions are also being accepted for the purchase of strings of miniature white lights.

Bridgham said a work committee is meeting at noon each Monday in Room 102 in Empire Hall on the campus of Southwestern Oregon Community College. Lunch is available in the Empire Hall cafeteria, and the meetings are open to all community residents, she said.

More information is available from Bridgham at 756-5401 or 267-3012, or Nellie Ripper at 759-3241 or Sharon Fortune at 756-3191.

It's all right here! OREGON'S BAY AREA

COOS BAY • NORTH BEND • CHARLESTON

COMING ATTRACTIONS

*Our Christmas Gift to Oregon.* Community members from throughout the Bay Area have joined the Friends of Shore Acres to light and decorate Shore Acres Park and Garden House. Come enjoy the wonder of the lighted Gardens and the Christmas music from Dec. 11 through the Holidays. *The Taste of Oregon Seafood, Wine and Cheese* is a three day celebration featuring the Governor's Challenge Cookoff to select one chef to represent Oregon at the National Competition in March. Come enjoy the continuous entertainment and gourmet foods February 5 through 7th in North Bend.



bay area chamber of commerce  
P.O. Box 210, Dept. N • Coos Bay, OR 97420

OUT OF STATE: 1-800-824-8486  
IN OREGON: 1-800-762-6278  
LOCAL: 269-0215

# Christmas at Shore Acres



LIGHTS in the GARDENS and OPEN HOUSE  
at the Gardener's Cottage  
December 11 - 27, 1987 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

antique furnishings  
Christmas lights and music  
refreshments

Tree Lighting Ceremony • Friday, December 11 at 7:30 p.m.

A community event coordinated by  
The Friends of Shore Acres

First poster designed and hand colored by P. K. Love

## Bay Area Activities DECEMBER

- 1-31 Coos Historical Museum—Simpson Park, North Bend, "Focus on Youth 1890-1915"; "Quilt Show"
- 3 Lecture—"Geology of Yellowstone National Park", by Don Stensland, SWOCC, Eden Hall, 1 pm.
- 3-12 Theater—"Roshamon, a Japanese Drama" Little Theater On The Bay, North Bend.
- 4-23 Theater—"A Christmas Memory", a PACT Production, On Broadway Theater, Coos Bay.
- 5-6 "A Celebration of Christmas", a fund raiser for PACT, MEA and Art Museum, Coos Art Museum, Coos Bay.
- 4-31 Exhibit—"Religious Vision in a New Land: 19th Century Churches in the Northwest", photography by Barry Peril, Coos Art Museum, Coos Bay.
- 11-27 **Christmas at Shore Acres**—A community event sponsored by the Friends of Shore Acres, featuring a breathtaking display of lights in the gardens, music, refreshments, and the original gardener's cottage furnished, decorated and open for visitors from 5 pm to 9 pm each evening. The grand opening and tree lighting ceremony is Friday, December 11 at 7:30 pm. Come and share Christmas with the Friends.
- 12 Ballet—"Nutcracker Ballet", Marshfield Auditorium, Coos Bay, 8 pm.
- 25 Christmas Day—We are closed.

### Red Cross Bloodmobile for December

- 8 Marshfield H.S., 9 am-2 pm
- 9 SWOCC, Empire Hall, 10 am-2 pm
- 10 North Bend H.S., 9 am- 2 pm
- 11 Bay Area Hospital, 10:30 am-3 pm
- 15 St. Monica's Hall, C.B., 1:30 pm-6 pm
- 16 IWA Hall, North Bend, 2 pm-7 pm

Pancake Mill Restaurant  
2390 Tremont, North Bend, OR  
756-2751

FREE - TAKE ONE

# Pancake Mill

Restaurant

Breakfast • Lunch • Catering  
Pie Shoppe • Diet Center Menu  
Open 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## December 1987 Specials and OREGON'S Bay Area Activities

NORTH BEND - COOS BAY  
CHARLESTON



# First Newsletter, November-1987



VOL. I, No. 1

Quarterly Newsletter

November 30, 1987

## President's Notes

I can hardly believe it's been a year since we had our first organizational meeting or that our first newsletter has become a reality. So much has happened since then. A brochure was created and distributed to explain our purpose and expand our membership. During the summer, volunteers guided visitors through the gardens and explained the mysteries of the tidepools at Cape Arago. At the same time, Mike Bodkin was successful in his efforts to gain non-profit status for the Friends.

**Brainstorming sessions** gave us more ideas than there are weeks and months in a year! Just to name a few -- improvement in garden plant identification and signing; interpretive displays for Shell Island, seal viewpoint and the north cape; enlarged greenhouse; replacement of overgrown and missing plants; a visitor center; nightscaping the gardens. At the annual meeting in September, Sue Graeser came up with an exciting idea for the holidays, "Why don't we have a display of lights in the gardens for Christmas?" What followed will soon be history as **Christmas at Shore Acres** begins Friday, December 11. It promises to be an enchanting experience for those that visit the gardens during the holidays. **Merry Christmas!**

## Garden Notes from George Guthrie

Perhaps the basic question that Shore Acres gardeners get asked is (with apologies to the nursery rhyme), "How does your garden grow?" At this time of year finding out the answer may take more than the usual amount of searching

but the results can be just as satisfying to the visitor as viewing the more obvious charms of the warmer months. Most of the usual flowers are gone - the annuals removed and most of the permanent plantings - trees, shrubs and herbaceous perennials settled down for their version of a long winter's nap **but**, weather permitting, summer flowers do spill over into fall and beyond. The roses continue to bloom - especially on the shrub rose "Bonica" a 1986 A.A.R.S. rose of the year - but scattered on a number of other varieties throughout the garden. With a little luck and continued mild temperatures we could have at least a rose or two to enjoy for Christmas. It's getting toward summer in the southern hemisphere (Australia, New Zealand, etc.) where seasons are reversed from here, it's not entirely surprising that the Australian bottle brush (*callistemon*) in fiery red and the shrubby veronica (*hebe*) in deep purple show their summery colors in respective corners of the garden. Here and there near the oriental pond, the South American *Fuschia* or "hummingbird flower" continues to show its nodding blossoms (minus the hummingbirds). Hard frosts will cut plant and flower to the ground but they come back in time to repeat the show next summer. Likewise, the South African "red-hot poker" lights up its bed with orange-yellow "match-heads". While the greenhouse is closed for the season, walking up the path toward the building will bring you to a bed of multi-colored primroses apparently getting a jump on spring before winter is even started. The cabbage-like heads of the common hydrangeas



have mostly faded, but the "lace-cap" hydrangea known as "blue wave" continues to flaunt its large clusters of blue purple flowers by L.J. Simpson's large old silver birch near the upper end of the oriental garden.

A brief "paper chase" through the grounds can't show or tell of all the goodies in the garden even during the floral "off-season". Nevertheless, there is a surprisingly large number of plants to be admired both here and throughout the south coast area if we are willing to search them out. Come visit Shore Acres, see how our garden grows and you indeed might find a little bit of "summer" color hiding out.

\*\*\*\*

## Park Notes from Andy LaTonne



In September, I had the chance to attend the National Assoc. of State Park Directors' Conference in Sacramento, California. One of the purposes of my attendance was to gather information about how California and other states use volunteer groups. It was a great conference and I returned with a whole bunch of ideas about how the Friends of Shore Acres could make a positive impact on the community.

For example, we learned about the Gilroy Garlic Festival -- a volunteer run effort that produces over a quarter million dollars for local charities. We got to see the Sacramento Railroad Museum -- after a volunteer run train ride, we were hosted by their "friends" to a fine dinner in the Round-House Museum". The Calaveras Big Trees Assoc. folks hosted a luncheon and showed us the interpretive center and bridge they had built. The cooperating association in the gold rush town of Columbia put on a nice show by dressing in period costumes and welcoming us into town. The co-op at Sutter's Fort in Sacramento not only dressed in period costumes, but gave us a living history demonstration - quite a show.

So, home I come to find that the Friends of Shore Acres have been planning an event to top their already successful summer tours. I believe that "Christmas at Shore Acres" will be one of the best seasonal events to come to "Oregon's Bay Area". Judging from the level of interest and enthusiasm, it looks like you've got a hit -- one that will be around for a long time.

I'm sure that this event is just the type of thing the 1985 legislature had in mind when they passed Senate Bill 865, which enables groups like the Friends to enter into agreements with state parks to provide educational and interpretive services. As we look forward to the future with guided walks, book sales, increasing membership, development projects and seasonal events, there is no doubt in my mind that, one day, park managers from other states will come to Shore Acres to see just how a cooperating association works.

Congratulations on a great year past and best of luck in the future.

\*\*\*\*

CHRISTMAS AT SHORE ACRES

LIGHTS IN THE GARDENS

\*\*\*\*

OPEN HOUSE  
AT THE GARDENER'S COTTAGE  
Antique Furnishings  
Christmas Lights & Music  
Refreshments

\*\*\*\*

December 11 thru 27  
5 - 9 p.m. each evening

Tree Lighting Ceremony - Dec. 11  
7:30 p.m.

Barbara Simpson Griffin, daughter of Louis J. Simpson, will turn on the tree lights and the BACC Ambassadors will be on hand to greet visitors.

# First Newsletter, November-1987

## Christmas at Shore Acres



Drawing, courtesy of Phyllis K. Love

The community response to the Friend's first large scale event has been tremendous. These folks are just the beginning of a long list of helpers:

Iva Adams, Pearl Afholter, Bill & Sally Arbus, Al Aslakson, BACC Ambassadors, Bangor School, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, Bay Area Concert Band, John & Dottie Bergen, BOAZ Green, David & Shirley Bridgham, Jo Ann Briggs, Brownie Scout Troop 272, Carnation Co., Checkerberrys, Debbie Chesselet, Coos Art Museum, Coos County, Coos County Historical Society Museum, Coos Head Builders Supply, Ron Crouse, Custom Bouquets, Helen Doving, Elf Nursery, Mary Enstrom, Eugene Register-Guard, Jay Farr, Farr's True Value Hardware, Helen & Wally Ferguson, First Presbyterian Church (NB), Flowers Please, Sharon Fortune, Front Row Magazine, Ken & Gertrude Galloway, Girl Scout Troop 180, Jim & Sue Graeser, Tom Graham, Barbara Simpson Griffin, George Guthrie, Howard Hall, Loren Hall, Dick Hansen, Don & Robin Harms, Joe & Rachel Henke, Bev Heyer, Gloria Hillstrom, Karen Hollenbeck,

Horizon Video, Ann Hunt, Clint Johnson, Jim & Irene Johnson, Tom Johnson, Red Jordan Food, Inc., KBBR, KCBY, Ken Keyes College, KHSN, Claire Kinman, Ann Koppy, Bonnie Koreiva, Kyle Electric, KYNG, Barbara Langsdon, Michelle Langsdon, Andy LaTomme, Phyllis Love, Billie Lowe-Aslakson, Tony Mason, Verena Matthews, Dortha McCarthy, McKays, Linda Meyer, Bill Moragne, Ocean Spray, Oregon Coast Magazine, Oregonian, Bill & Corky Otton, Pacific Power & Light, Pancake Mill, Bob & Arlene Peil, Pony Village Mall, Mike Rector, Mike & Robynn Reed, Nellie Ripper, Don Roberts, Safeway (NB), Clark Sathre, Schroeder's Furniture, Scott Paper Co., SE Rycoff, Ed Smith, Frank & Donna Smith, Soroptomists, Irene Sund, John Sweet, Ed & Judy Swenson, SWOCC, Tourism Promotions Committee, United Grocers, Jack Varra, Debbie Webb, John Webber, Judy Weeks, Clare Wehrle, Barbara & Jim Wilkerson, Cheryl Woodward, The World

(and the list continues to grow)

\*\*\*\*

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." For more information contact: The Friends of Shore Acres, c/o Sunset Bay Park District, 13030 Cape Arago Hwy., Coos Bay OR 97420 or call 888-4902.

### Board of Directors

Shirley Bridgham, President  
Dick Hansen, Vice-President  
George Guthrie, Secretary-Treasurer  
John Bergen  
David Bridgham  
Tony Mason  
Nellie Ripper

### Members

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Anna Mae Barnes  
Dottie Bergen  
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Marjorie Evans  
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Phyllis Love  
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Andy & Lynn Nasberg  
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Mike & Robynn Reed  
Alice Richter  
Nellie Ripper  
Eugene & Crystal Shoji  
Frank & Donna Smith  
Richard & Irene Sund  
John Sweet  
Dorothy Vaughn  
John & Teri Whitty

\*\*\*\*

### Newsletter Dates

November 30, February 28,  
May 30, August 30

\*\*\*\*

WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FUTURE  
EVENTS!

\*\*\*\*

### Shore Acres State Park

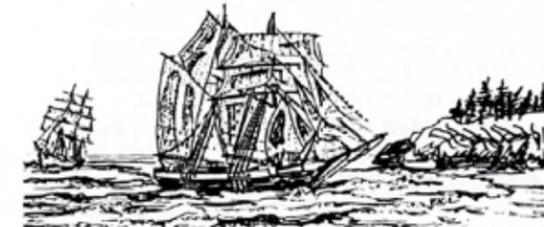
Located 4.5 miles southwest of Charleston, Shore Acres State Park welcomes visitors with its rugged shoreline, sandstone bluffs, covered observatory and **Botanical Garden** - a photographer's paradise.

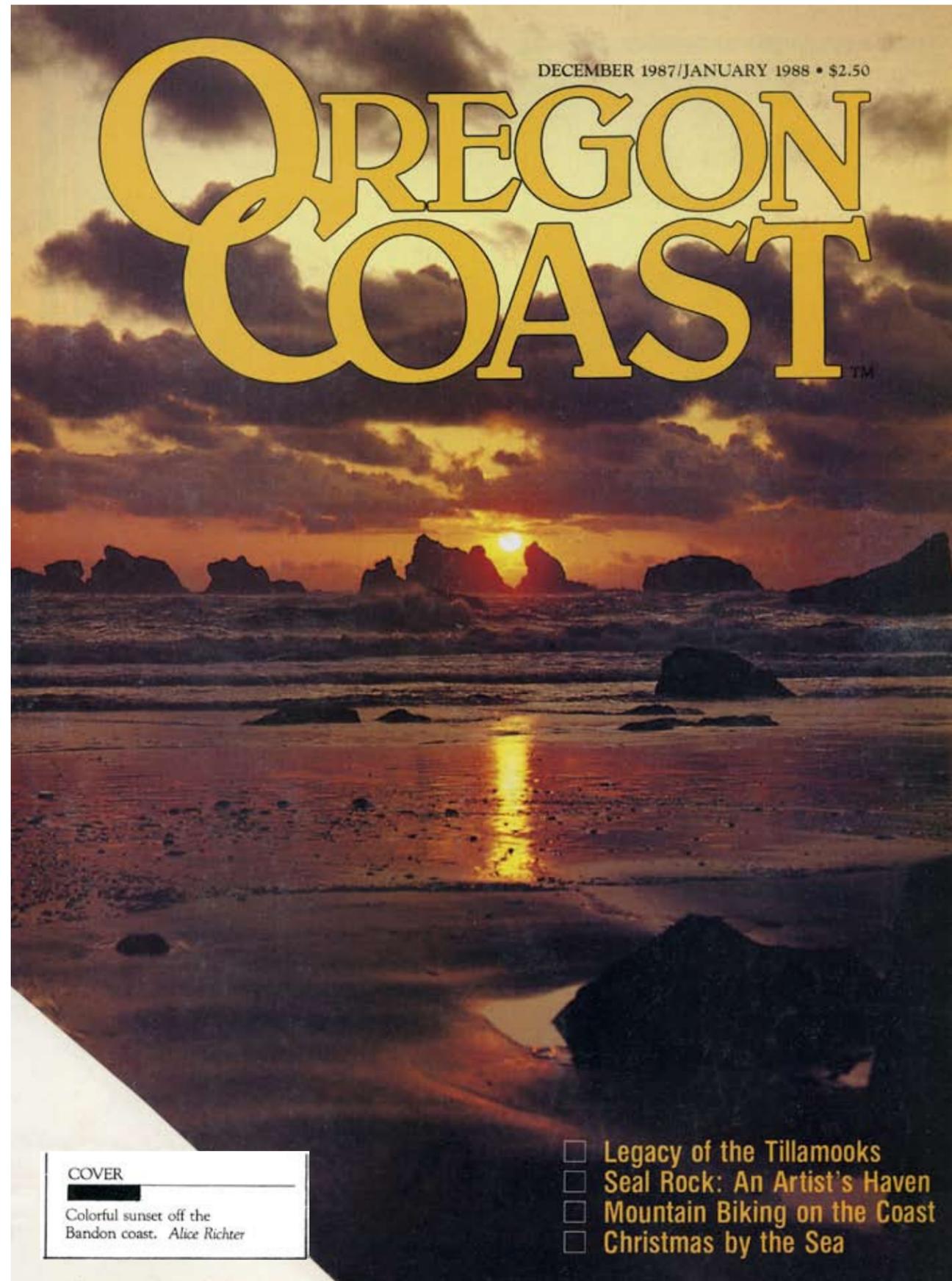
The park was once part of the Louis J. Simpson estate. The estate began as a summer home, a **Christmas present** for Louis's wife, in 1906. The Simpsons were lumbermen and ship builders and their ships returned to Coos Bay with exotic plants for the Shore Acres gardens. A 100 foot lily pond bordered the formal gardens. In 1921 the original mansion burned to the ground. The **existing gardener's cottage** became the family home while a second mansion was under construction. The site of the two Simpson mansions is now the location of a glass enclosed observation shelter. The shelter is an ideal place for wave watching. The viewer is protected from rain and spray and has a 180 degree view of the coast. Shore Acres is the site of some of the most spectacular wave action on the Pacific Coast. Most of the trails in the park are ones that L.J. Simpson had built for strolling through his estate.

\*\*\*\*

THE SHORE ACRES STORY, a 17 min. three projector multi-image show has been created for viewing by interested persons, groups & organizations. For more information about this, contact Andy Latomme at 888-4902 or Shirley Bridgham at 888-7266.

\*\*\*\*





DECEMBER 1987/JANUARY 1988 • \$2.50

# OREGON COAST™

COVER

Colorful sunset off the Bandon coast. Alice Richter

- Legacy of the Tillamooks
- Seal Rock: An Artist's Haven
- Mountain Biking on the Coast
- Christmas by the Sea

## Coastal Economics Model

Economist Dr. Hans Radtke will be working for OCZMA over the next two years in establishing a coastal economics model covering the following economic sectors: commercial fisheries, forestry, tourism (including sport fishing), agriculture, marine activities, and transfer payments, dividends and rents. The model will estimate the total personal income impacts of these sectors by coastal county. □

## Oregon Ocean Salmon User Group To Meet

Oregon's Ocean Salmon User group is scheduled to meet in Newport on December 15, 1987 at the Hotel Newport for a one-day meeting. This user group is composed of both ocean salmon sport and troll industries.

OCZMA's work with the user group in 1986 on reallocation was in effect during the 1987 salmon season. With bad winds and few coho available, this past season witnessed a sport season generally running past Labor Day with a small, late rollback of coho to the troll fleet.

In addition to participating in a

recap of the 1987 season, the ocean salmon user group will review work being conducted for OCZMA and the Department of Fish and Wildlife to define salmon issues and to identify alternative approaches for analysis. □

## Shore Acres At Night

For the first time, Shore Acres State Park will blaze with lights and ring with carols in celebration of the holidays December 11-27, from five to nine each evening. Plans call for a dazzling display of lights, illuminating the plantings and outlining the boundaries and walkways of the formal English gardens, and lighting up towering Christmas trees. Refreshments are to be served nightly in the rustic garden house.

Shore Acres is one of a chain of state parks on the Cape Arago Highway southwest of Coos Bay. It is noted for its rugged shoreline, sandstone bluffs and awesome wave action. The botanical garden also features a Japanese garden with sculptures of herons mirrored in a lily pond. The park was once part of the Louis J. Simpson estate.

The Christmas lighting project is a community-wide effort organized by Friends of Shore Acres. Further information may be obtained by calling Shirley or Dave Bridgham, 756-5401 or 267-3012. □

70 December 1987/January 1988 OREGON COAST



**December 11, 13-24 — Coos Bay** 5  
**"A Shore Acre Christmas"**  
 See the garden house and botanical gardens decorated with light. 5-9 p.m. daily. Sponsored by The Friends of Shore Acres. For more information, call Shirley or David Bridgham; 756-5401 or Nellie Ripper; 759-3241.

**December 11-31 — Coos Bay** 5  
**Oregon Biennial Juried Exhibition**  
 Sponsored by Coos Art Museum. For more information, call 267-3901.

**December 12 — Astoria** 1  
**Victorian Christmas Dinner**  
 Dinner held at Flavel House Museum. Reservations. For more information, call; 325-2563.

**December 12 — Yachats** 4  
**Cape Perpetua Guided Walk**  
 For more information, call Judy Taylor, CYI, P.O. Box 36, Yachats 97498; 547-3636.

**December 12 — Coos Bay** 5  
**Nutcracker Ballet**  
 8 p.m. at Marshfield Auditorium. Sponsored by Music Enrichment Association. For more information contact Don Landis, P.O. Box 663, Coos Bay 97459; 756-4134.

**December 12-13 — Astoria** 1  
**Christmas Home Tour**  
 Tours of the Victorian homes in Astoria. For more information call 325-2203.

78 December 1987/January 1988 OREGON COAST

# Getting Ready for the first Christmas at Shore Acres - 1987

Outside - Temporary Power Pole



(L-R) Helper, Frank Eckley, David Bridgham, Andy LaTomme



(L-R) David Bridgham, Tony Mason and helper raise pole for power.



Helper and Tony plant the pole.

Inside - Garden House Decorating



Shirley Bridgham and Nellie Ripper work on Garden House decorations.



Nellie Ripper in the Living Room



Out of chaos will come great creativity.



Dining room is ready. Note brown woodwork.



Living room is ready for visitors. Note orange carpet.



Kitchen is ready for serving refreshments.

# Ready for the first Christmas at Shore Acres - 1987



Living Room and Stairs



Front Bedroom



Narrow stairway did not stop visitors from seeing the Upstairs.

## First Hosting Schedule

DECEMBER 1987						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Elaine Beatty 267-2971 Connie Nipkin		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 <sup>Am Bassaders</sup> Ron Crouse + Band OPEN Gardens BACC Ambrosden Ron Crouse + Band clear & cold	12 Don & Robin Hanna Billie Lowe Al Aslakson clear & cold
13 <sup>Presbyterian</sup> Gertrude + Ken Galloway Ann Kopyy Frank & Donna Smith clear & cold	14 <sup>Choir 7 p.m.</sup> Sharon Staley Barbara Jim + Jennifer Wilkinson Vain	15 Jim & Sue Graeser Bonnie Koneiva Monica Bishop Vain	16 <sup>HANUKAH</sup> Phyllis Love Clint Johnson Toni Easley Fran Holland Sharon Fontana Iva Adams clear & cold	17 Maui & Henry Schelkman Barbara + Michelle Lingsdon Verma Matthews	18 Cheryl Woodward Ward & Melly Kudevstuf Claire Riman Cardyn Kayate Breanna Kayate Methodist Choir	19 Bill & Sally Arbus John & Dottie Bengen
20 David & Shirley Bridgman Robynn & Mike Reel Harry Lockett's	21 Nellie Ripper Howard Ha II Ann Hunt John Sweet 8 <sup>pm</sup> Rumborg Dancers	22 Cheryl Woodward Dick Hansen Dortha McCarty Molly "	23 Rachel Henke Joe Henke Jan Wankhoren Bill Thompson	24 Bridgman's Aslaksins	25 <sup>CHRISTMAS DAY</sup> Bridgman's Aslaksins	26 <del>Sharon Staley</del> Pearl Afholter Mary Eastman Tony Mason
27 Bob & Aylene Peil Steve & Nancy Clay Bridghams	28	29	30	31		

ATA-GLANCE®  
DECEMBER

# First Brochure - 1987



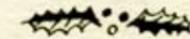
World photo by Matt Andrus

Shore Acres State Park sparkles for the holidays courtesy of a community effort led by the Friends of Shore Acres. Shirley Bridgham, one of the coordinators, kneels in front of a giant lighted tree across from the Shore Acres garden house, which is decorated with lights, Christmas trimmings and antiques. Volunteers have hung lights throughout the park, outlining walkways and illuminating plantings. A lighting ceremony at 7:30 p.m. Friday, headed by Barbara Simpson Griffin, will open two weeks of evening activity. The park will open nightly from 5 to 9 p.m. Dec. 11 through 27; choirs and strolling minstrels are set to perform from 7 to 8 some nights. The Bay Area Concert Band will play Christmas music at Friday's ceremony; the North Bend Presbyterian Church Choir will sing Dec. 13. The brainchild of Sue Graeser, Shore Acres Christmas involved more than 100 volunteers; some of them will be on hand nightly to greet visitors and serve refreshments in the garden house.

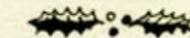
## Christmas at Shore Acres



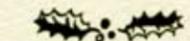
LIGHTS IN THE GARDENS  
and  
OPEN HOUSE  
at the  
Gardener's Cottage



*antique furnishings  
Christmas lights and music  
refreshments*



December 11 - 27, 1987  
5:00 - 9:00 p.m.



Tree Lighting Ceremony  
Friday, December 11 - 7:30 p.m.

A community event coordinated by  
The Friends of Shore Acres

# Guest Celebrity - December 11, 1987

Page 6 — THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore., Thursday, December 10, 1987



## Sports

RICK ALVORD, Sports Editor



Olympic hopeful Tonya Harding will be an honored guest Friday at Shore Acres.

World-class skater

### Harding eyes the Olympics

By RICK ALVORD  
Sports Editor

On her fourth birthday, Tonya Harding and her parents were shopping at Lloyd Center when the mall's ice rink caught her eye. She pleaded with her mom and dad, and after turning on the tears, they gave in.

The figure skating world is lucky Tonya Harding got her way. After all, it was her birthday.

Now 17, Harding has made the most of her time on the ice, developing into a world-class figure skater, and one of the United States' top prospects for the 1988 Winter Olympic Games in Calgary, Canada. The Portland native just returned from Tokyo, where she placed third overall in the NHK Trophy Invitational, a prestigious international competition.

Harding will be an honored guest at the opening ceremonies for the annual holiday display "Christmas at Shore Acres" Friday night at beautiful Shore Acres Park and Botanical Gardens. She will take part in the Christmas tree-lighting ceremony at 7:30 p.m., and will be on hand to chat with Bay Area residents, and other aspiring young skaters, before and after the ceremonies.

Harding placed fifth in the 1987 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, and is currently training for January's U.S. National Championships in Denver. It is there that the U.S. Women's Olympic Figure

Skating Team will be chosen.

"When I was 10 or 11, I wanted to go to the 1984 Olympics. But at the time I knew it was impossible," Harding said. "I knew I would have four more years to train and work hard and maybe it (the Olympics) would come."

Harding trains four to five hours each weekday at the Clackamas Town Center Ice Capades Chalet in Portland, meeting with Coach Diane Rawlinson around 5 a.m. Those are the kinds of sacrifices a teen-ager has to make when working toward an Olympic dream — whether it's in 1988 or 1992.

"There are a lot of people who are saying that I'm going to be number one in '92. Well, I say sure... but I'm going to be number one in 1988," she said.

Described as the best jumper in the history of women's figure skating, Harding is the only woman ever to complete a triple axel during competition. She did it at the 1984 U.S. National Competition in Salt Lake City. Harding started completing the jump in practice when she was only 9, and is still the only woman in the world to complete the jump in competition.

Under the "Adopt an Athlete" program, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oregon established a trust fund for Harding to cover her training, competition and travel expenses, leading up to and including the Olympics.

Letter from AGER/BP&N PUBLIC RELATIONS

111 SOUTHWEST OAK STREET, PORTLAND, OREGON 97204 /503-227-2506

1117 FIRST AVENUE, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101/206-343-7741

21 December 1987

Shirley Bridgham and Friends of Shore Acres  
3111 Fir  
North Bend, OR 97459

Dear Shirley and Friends of Shore Acres:

On behalf of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oregon (BCBSO), thank you for having Tonya Harding as your guest for the tree lighting ceremony on Friday, December 11. Tonya enjoyed taking part in your celebration and meeting the local residents. We all enjoyed the beauty of Shore Acres State Park, especially with its festive holiday decorations.

Tonya has enjoyed meeting her fellow Oregonians during her two-week goodwill tour. She has also had the opportunity to meet her local corporate supporters as she has visited each BCBSO District Office in the state. Two of the four BCBSO staff members in North Bend accompanied us to Shore Acres.

We will all be anxiously watching Tonya's performance at Nationals, which will determine her Olympic status. In addition, she'll be featured on PM Magazine (KGW, Channel 8, NBC in Portland) on January 4 at 7:00 p.m.

Shirley, thank you again for your hospitality and the warm welcome from all who made your tree lighting ceremony such a success. We wish you the best throughout the holiday season.

Best regards,

*Lisa Wood*

Lisa Wood  
Account Coordinator

# Opening Night - December 11, 1987

Black/white photos by Ward Robertson; Color photos by Luis Velasquez



Entrance to the Gardens



Shirley Bridgham welcomes crowd.



Garden House



6,000 clear miniature Christmas lights



Joe Paiva (OPRD) and Shirley Bridgham, President FoSA



Visitors excited to see the inside of the Garden House.



First (and only) tree lighting ceremony



Visitors ready for refreshments



Miniature lights on hedges.



World photo by Matt Andrus

**Simply delightful**

Both Christmas lights and children's faces lit up Friday night at Shore Acres Botanical Gardens as Barbara Simpson Griffin threw the switch that lit up the tree. Zane and Zair Burris try to see the top of the

center tree as their mother, Mary Burris, explains what's going on. Hundreds of people gathered at the park to witness the lighting, as well as listen to a local band.



**OUTLOOK**

Lighting up Shore Acres  
 Page 3

TV listings for the week of Dec. 12-18.



Decorations transform Shore Acres garden house.

By ANN HUNT  
Guest Writer  
A dazzling display lights up the night for Christmas at Shore Acres State Park, illuminating a garden of memories.

Barbara Simpson Griffin flicked the switch Friday and set tiny white lights to dancing among the roses and crocuses. Strings of colored lights define the walkways, climb high on the Christmas tree, circle beds of purple kale and borders of hydrangeas. Plants from the southern hemisphere, in the belief that this is summer, bloom brightly — the purple veronica and red bottlebrush from Australia and the South American hummingbird tree.

The holiday lighting is a communitywide effort of Friends of Shore Acres. Old-fashioned hospitality is to be offered in the caretaker's cottage, which will be furnished with antiques. Volunteers will greet visitors and the lights will shine each night from 5 to 9 p.m. through Dec. 27. Choirs will sing and strolling minstrels play, from 7 to 8 p.m. some evenings.

But for Barbara Simpson Griffin, it will be a time to remember Christmases gone by, when she was a young girl and Shore Acres was her home — the years when ships of the Simpson fleet brought plants from all over the world for the vast formal English and Japanese gardens in her back yard.

Shore Acres is one of a chain of state parks on Cape Arago Highway south of Coos Bay, all once part of the Simpson estate. It is noted for its wild and awesome wave action, for the tall breakers that explode into cascades of spray against sandstone bluffs. The towering rocks are sculptured by waves and weather into surrealistic shapes.

From her room on the second floor of the Simpson mansion, Griffin could watch the sun rise over wooded mountains from her east window, and set into

the Pacific rim from her west window. She had a front row seat for the migrations of whales and seabirds; could hear the sea lions barking on nearby Shell Island. During winter storms, 50-foot waves showered her windows with spray.

As a child, she explored every path and formation of the varied landscape — the small private cove where it was possible to find glass floats from Japan, the natural bridge where the water boiled at high tide, the cliffs where the cormorants nested.

What was it like to grow up in this magical place? To celebrate the holidays in a great house?

"On Christmas Eve, we wrote letters to Santa and put them in the fireplace to go up the draft. There was always a big tree, cut on our own property, that we decorated with chains of gold and green beads. My sister and I made paper chains and popcorn strings for it. One year, I whipped up some Ivory Flakes to make snow for the tree.

"The fireplace was massive," she added. "The logs we burned must have been six or eight feet long. The mantle was held up by two chains that mother decorated with greenery. We always had a lot of guests, and mother used to serve plum pudding and a whole roasted suckling pig with marble eyes and an apple in its mouth. We always had a lot of holly, thick with red berries, and we made wreaths on coat hangers to send to all of our friends. A prickly job, but I loved it."

The estate was accessible only by a narrow gravel road. "It was not uncommon to have to cut up a fallen tree to get to school," Griffin said, remembering the trek to the two-room school in Charleston. "Sometimes I was the only one in my class."

An era came to an end with the depression.

(Continued on Page 11)

# Lighting up the night at Shore Acres



Old-fashioned spirit of Christmas shines inside as lights illuminate the garden.

## Garden of memories

(Continued from Page 3)

"Nobody had any money, and we didn't either. We had two vegetable gardens behind the holly hedges. My mother did extensive canning — beets, peas, string-beans, corn, carrots."

In those lean years, everyone lived off the land. On the South Coast, often all there was to eat was salmon, venison, crabs and wild berries — the food of gourmets in other places.

The girls were not pampered princesses. "We made our own bucket filled, carried out the ashes, learned to cook and sew. I learned to embroider and made a set of dishtowels for every day of the week. I taught myself to drive when I was a teenager, and drove the pickup truck to Coaledo to haul loads of coal."

The mansion at Shore Acres was built on the site of an earlier great house, which went up in flames in 1921. Priceless art and antiques and several fine sheep dogs were lost in the fire.

The family lived in the caretaker's cottage, which still stands in the garden, while the second house was built. Most of the lumber used in its construction was salvaged from the wreck of the schooner "Brush," which broke up on Simpson Reef in 1923. Much of its cargo of three million board feet of lumber washed ashore in the cove near the gardens.

Griffin's earlier memories are of the three-story, 21-room house that stretched 224 feet along the bluff overlooking the ocean. A small glassed observation building stands there today.

The nearby formal gardens are the work of three decades and a brigade of Simpson gardeners. Hydrangeas were the first specialty. Then came roses, rhododendrons, wisteria and bulbs. Simpson ships brought exotic trees and shrubs from all over the world. Many still grow and blossom in the gardens.

Founder of the Simpson clan in Oregon was Asa Meade Simpson. He developed a fleet of coastal

vessels to haul freight for the California gold rush.

Louis J. Simpson, his son and Griffin's father, established the city of North Bend, which was incorporated in 1903. He operated the Simpson mill and shipyards; opened an iron works, an ice cream factory and a woolen mill. He served as mayor for six terms. He donated prime waterfront property for a public dock. He founded Mercy Hospital and gave the land on which it was built. He helped organize the Bank of Oregon.

Billed as "The Handsome Stranger," he was an unsuccessful candidate for governor in 1918, and Oregon development. He gave land to establish Simpson Park, Sunset Bay and Cape Arago State Parks. "My father always shared whatever he had. He was always generous," Griffin says.

The stock market crash in 1929 and the worldwide depression that followed brought a decline in the Simpson fortunes. Louis Simpson tried to recoup his losses with a company to develop the town of Empire, but the economic climate was unfavorable.

The fire that burned the city of Bandon to the ground in 1936, also threatened the Simpson home. Flames engulfed the farmer's cottage, power plant, cookhouse, two barns and the chicken house. Hastily built backfires near the rose arbors saved the mansion.

But the gracious home that weathered ocean storms and the fire was doomed. The Simpson fortune was gone. When Griffin was a teenager, the Simpsons left Shore Acres and moved into a smaller home near Barview. In 1942, they sold the 637 acres on which the house stood to the state of Oregon. The army used the house for a barracks and officers' club during the war. In 1948, it was razed.

On Dec. 11, Barbara Simpson Griffin flicked the switch to light up the night at Shore Acres. In memory, she was a little blonde girl with a Dutch bob, walking with her massive dog down the path of a formal garden, while the whales sounded and the sea lions barked.

## Note from Barbara Simpson Griffin - Dec. 13, 1987

Thanks for the Wonderful Time!



Dear Linda of Horrocks-

When it comes  
to hospitality  
You really have the knack--  
For making "company"  
think up ways  
To get invited back!

Thank you for allowing me to participate in your "First Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony". The size of the crowd should have told you how much all your efforts were appreciated. My hope is that it can continue as a local event using the talents of our local people to bring enjoyment to many. You all deserve a big round

of applause. The lovely ornament you presented me with was the first to go on our tree this year and will always be a reminder of the time I participated in the tree lighting ceremony.  
(Many days later)

So sorry the rush of Christmas and company prevented me from mailing this note in a reasonable time. Shirley tells me there will be more colored lights for Christmas 1988. I am looking forward to a lovely sight.

"Happy New Year" to you all.

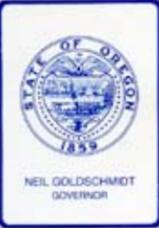
Congratulations again.

Sincerely,

 Barbara

Dave - I really did appreciate your lighting instructions even if I wasn't a very good student.  
Regards,  
Barbara





Department of Transportation  
**PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION**

REGION 3 OFFICE, 365 N FOURTH STREET, SUITE A, COOS BAY, OREGON 97420

December 29, 1987

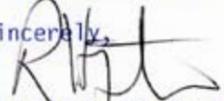
Shirley Bridgham, President  
The Friends of Shore Acres  
c/o Sunset Bay State Park District  
13030 Cape Arago Highway  
Coos Bay OR 97420

Dear Shirley:

I want to tell you how impressed I was with the "Christmas at Shore Acres". It was truly delightful. All those I spoke with, the times I visited with my family, expressed the same sentiments to me.

A great job! The Friends of Shore Acres should be very proud of their accomplishment. I know we at state parks are very proud of you. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

  
Ron Hjort, Supervisor  
Region 3 State Parks

RAH:c

cc Dave Talbot  
Andy LaTomme  
Monte Turner

The World - Jan. 3, 1988

## Shore Acres holiday lights a success

Christmas at Shore Acres brought over 9,000 guests to the formal gardens twinkling with white lights and holiday spirit, according to organizers for Friends of Shore Acres.

The event, which included an open house, seasonal refreshments at the historically decorated caretaker's cottage of the Louis Simpson estate, raised over \$3,000 in donations of all kinds, and netted the organization \$1,500 or so, according to Shirley Bridgham.

Visitors on those cold, crystal

clear holiday nights came from as far away as Japan, Mexico, Canada, western Europe and throughout the United States.

The event also brought more than 30 new members into the Friends group, a support group for expenses and projects at the historic facility.

Bridgham reports the most consistent comments on the visitors book were: "We hope this becomes an annual event" and "This is what our community needs."

The majority of visitors chose Christmas Eve and Christmas night,

as well as the night after Christmas to view the decorations, imbibe some punch or coffee and cookies, enjoy the antiques and good conversations.

Plans are already under way for the 1988 holiday season, with the organization hoping to expand from just over 6,000 white lights to about 15,000 white lights, outlining not only the gardens, but the house itself.

In addition, the group wants to offer up more historical detail and more elaborate decorations upstairs.

None of this year's delights would have been possible without hundreds

of volunteers, donations, and hours of labor, Bridgham said with a hearty thanks to all.

Organizers will attempt to marshal a veritable army to help string lights and prepare for holiday crowds next year, and there are plenty of much-needed activities on the agenda throughout 1988, too, Bridgham said.

Anyone wanting to join the group, or to volunteer, can contact her at Southwestern Oregon Community College.

The World - Jan. 7, 1988

Tourist season

## It really goes all year long

IF ANYONE ever doubted that there is no quiet season at a good state park, there were two good examples to prove the rule over the holidays on the South Coast.

First, Friends of Shore Acres proved the formal garden at Shore Acres State Park can be an attraction even when the flowers are not in full bloom. The group decorated the garden with lights and the gardener's house with antique furniture and holiday trimmings, attracting several hundred visitors to the park every night, rain or shine. It was exactly the kind of activity the group was designed for — enhancing the use of the park and providing insight on the history behind it.

Second, a group of Myrtle Point students led by teacher Pam Strong, volunteered for special whale watching duty at Cape Arago State Park. It's a coast-wide effort organized by the Hatfield Marine Science Center at Newport. Publicity about the program over the holidays drew hundreds of visitors to Cape Arago State Park. The parking lot there was a traffic jam on New Year's Day, when the attractions of Mother Nature were stronger for many than the annual football bowl schedule.

IN FACT, up and down the coast many are promoting the attractions we have to offer during the winter, from the Bandon Storm Watchers to the Coos Art Museum's special Oregon Biennial show, from whale watching charters to the upcoming Governor's Seafood Cookoff.

We don't have to wait for summer vacation season or camping season or even sunshine to offer something to visitors. It can be happening all the year round.

The decorators at Shore Acres and the whale watchers at Cape Arago should be proud of their efforts and pleased with the response. Their success should encourage others to help prove the tourist season has no beginning or end.

# Small Woodlot Owners Visit – April, 1988



SOUTHWESTERN OREGON ROSE SOCIETY  
RAMBLING ROSE

Helen Doving, Editor  
Post Office Box 584  
Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

Mary Anne Kreutzer, President  
 BC 86 Box 52  
 Myrtle Point, Oregon 97458  
 tel. (503) 572 3426

MEETING: Tuesday, January 12, 1988 - 7:30 p.m.  
 (2nd Tuesday each month)  
 LOCATION: Coos Bay Library, 7th & Bennett, Coos Bay  
 BOARD MEETING: Last Thursday each month, 1 p.m.  
 Pizza Ray's, 1st & Johnson, Coos Bay

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:  
 (Ed. note: message, but the new year what it is past year's rose soc meetings of rose The membe as t

PROGRAM:

WELL, IT SURELY SEEMED LIKE 1987 came and went in record time -- and with record hap- penings to both the Rose Society and some of its members, both good and bad. One of the best things that is happened is all the new members who have come to our meetings and found themselves involved in the magic of growing roses. Our mini rose sale in March was a resounding success, as usual, and our rose show last June at Pony Village was a resounding success, as usual, and in the Coquille Valley, and some very beautiful blooms. Summer picnic time found us over Menegats, and finally settling amidst the roses at the Kreutzer dairy farm - enjoying the flowers and the vittles, not to mention their fantastic bullfrog population! Then came the Coos County fair; maybe next time..... and then our Christmas dinner, and then some of the rose people helped out with the lighting down at Shoreacres Gardens. Did you manage to get that crammed into your Yuletide activities? If not - next year, sure. It was beautiful - it was fun - the antiques from the Museum on display in the garden house were tastefully displayed, and the cookies and hot cider &/or coffee just hit the spot on those frosty nights. Another fun thing was that in the semi-darkness of just the little Christmas lights throughout the garden, you'd run right into somebody you hadn't seen for years, never dreaming that they were there wandering through the gardens too until you were right there, face to face.

AND LOOKING AHEAD INTO 1988, IT APPEARS TO BE SHAPING UP into just the same sort of great year ahead, no matter what the stock market may do! We are hoping for more new members - tell your friends! And the roses that were already ordered have been arriving (not necessarily planted, with all the frosty weather and frozen ground, however) and we'll be ordering mini roses for spring weather and frozen you members and also for the mini sale at Pony Village. Our programs are getting lined up for the year - if you have a suggestion as to what you'd like for a program, let Arch Wilkie or the Pres. know - or if you know of a program that would be of interest, speak right up!

THIS IS ANOTHER REMINDER ABOUT MAKING SURE YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS PAID for 1988 -- It is hoped that we can have a listing of members prepared and attached to your next month's bulletin, which we hope will help everybody to identify with everybody else.

FOR SOME OF YOUR NEWER MEMBERS, WHO, LIKE ME, JUST DIG A HOLE and stick in your bush and fill it back up with the same soil (real gardeners don't call it dirt) - here's Vancouver B.C. rose bulletin - he has lots of good helpful information... When you get your roses do not let them dry out; I have a garbage can ready with water in it and when I receive the roses I put them in there right away. If you cannot plant the roses within 48 hours, dig a trench in the garden and bury the roses in the garden with the tips of the canes above ground. Sometimes you get roses, particularly with the tips of the canes above ground. I make up my soil in a bed which has grown overseas, with shrivelled canes; burying them for or in old mushroom manure or in your favourite planting mix. (the peat moss has been soaked in warm water to which a bucketful of damp peat moss (the peat e.B. Rapid-Gro, or Miraclegro), two handfuls of bonemeal or superphosphate, and two handfuls of alfalfa pellets. DO NOT include any fertilizer including use old mushroom manure and bonemeal. When you have got your hole dug and your mix ready; if you do you may burn the roots. Some people just usually ragged; also cut off any dead or damaged wood from the canes. Put a stick across the mouth of the hole and position the rose so the crown (where the canes start from) is just about even with the surrounding soil level.



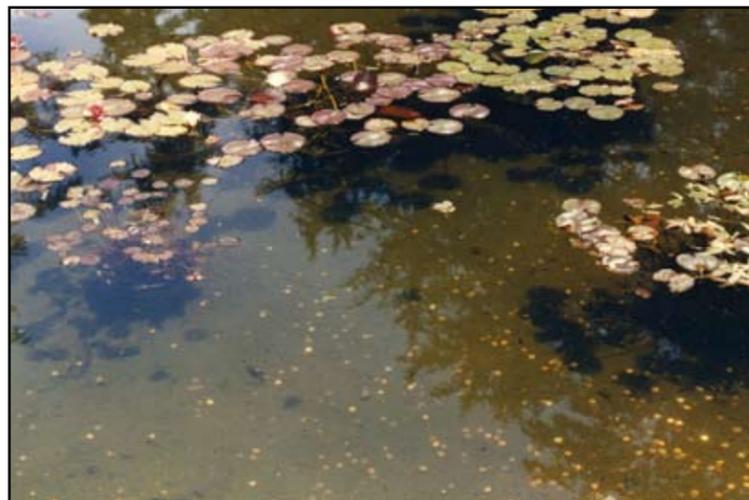
# Pond Cleaning – April 16, 1988



Volunteers work on lilies.



“Head Gardener” George Guthrie and Phyllis Love.



Pond pennies to collect.



World photo by Charlie Kloppenburg

## Jazzing up Japanese pond

A bucket brigade finishes emptying the Japanese lily pond at Shore Acres State Park Saturday afternoon. Park ranger Frank Ickley (foreground) dumps the water drawn from the nearly emptied pond into a wheelbarrow, which was used to pour the water off into the brush. David Bridgham, a Friends of Shore Acres volunteer, and George Guthrie, landscaping maintenance supervisor, fill the buckets with muddy

water while Phyllis Love sifts through the muck for coins tossed among the lillies. According to Andy LaTomme, Sunset Bay district parks manager, the pond cleaning averages about \$150, which will be used by Friends of Shore Acres to improve the interpretive programs around the park. The pond is drained and cleaned annually in the spring just before the tourist season kicks into high gear.

# Photography and Geology Workshop – April 30, 1988

Wednesday, April 27, 1988, THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. — Page 3

## Coast Life

LINDA MEIERJURGEN, Coast Life Editor

*Picture 45 million years ago*

### Take a walk on along the cliffs

You can take a trip back in time to 45 million years ago when there was a major delta at Coos Bay and the climate was tropical. Plan on attending a photography and geology workshop Saturday on a leisurely hike on the coast trail from Sunset Bay to Cape Arago.

The workshop will be hosted by Tony Mason and Don Stensland, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, April 30, under the sponsorship of the Friends of Shore Acres.

Participants should meet at the Sunset Bay picnic area gazebo and bring a sack lunch including beverage. Transportation will be available for the return to Sunset Bay. Wear comfortable shoes and bring rain gear.

Stensland is a professor of geology at Southwestern Oregon

Community College and will share geologic information emphasizing the north side of Sunset Bay and the north cove of Cape Arago.

Mason, a photography instructor on campus, will offer photo suggestions and instruction during the walk.

There is no charge for the workshop, but Friends of Shore Acres will accept donations.

The workshop is the first in a series scheduled this summer under sponsorship of the organization. Members assist the Oregon Parks Division with Shore Acres State Park.

For further information, call the Sunset Bay Park office at 888-4902.



DON STENSLAND  
Gives delta details

— THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore., Wednesday, May 4, 1988

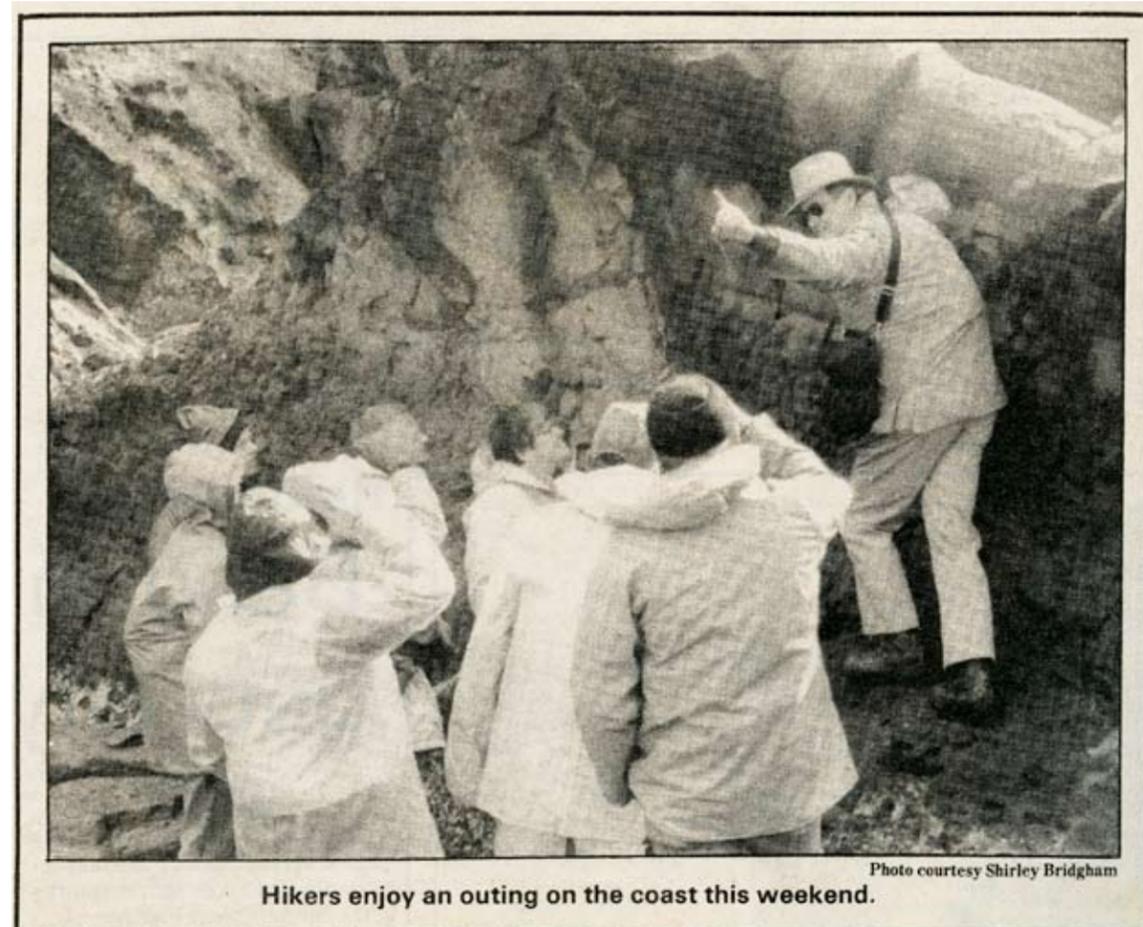


Photo courtesy Shirley Bridgham

Hikers enjoy an outing on the coast this weekend.

# Rotary Convention Garden Tour May 11, 1988



David Bridgham

Andy LaTomme

Dr. Ed Quinn,  
Tour Leader

John Bergen,  
Tour Leader

Garden tours led by Friends' volunteers and park staff are a favorite activity at Shore Acres Gardens. ■



## Coast happenings

The World - May 5, 1988

**Weavers to meet**

Headles and Tredles Weavers Guild will meet at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 7, at Summer Hall on the Southwestern Oregon Community College campus.

The session will be held in Room 10.

Further information may be obtained by calling Gloria at 269-5662 or Carine at 267-4688.

**Art sale set**

BANDON — Faculty members of the mythical University of Bandon will hold an art sale Friday, May 6, in the First Street Gallery.

The event, in the print museum, will run from 5 to 7 p.m.

Another "art event" is scheduled Friday, May 13, at the print museum in the gallery, a spokesman said. This "hot time" will feature "burning shoes" with "soles to sear."

In concept, the group hopes to nurture the community spirit of the recent Fools Day celebration, marshalling a Bandon Arts Council to shepherd future art events in the community.

Artworks by faculty members Anita West, R. McSurdy-Wong, and Victoria Tierney will be featured at Friday's event.

**Want to lead tour?**

Guided garden walks and tide pool tours are now being scheduled by the Friends of Shore Acres organization for later this spring and summer.

If you would like to lead any of these tours, plan on attending an orientation session beginning at 10 a.m., Saturday, May 7.

Those participating are asked to meet at the garden house at Shore Acres at 10 a.m.

The tide pool orientation will run

from 10 a.m. to noon, with a potluck lunch scheduled from noon to 1 p.m.

Garden walk orientation will place from 1:30 to 3 p.m.



Stine Brown, Oregon Institute of Marine Biology



Observation Building

# Shore Acres Summer Scenes and Commission Meeting - June 1988



Bill Bradbury, Doc Stevenson, Roger Smith and Walt Schroeder share the spotlight.

More than 120 attend Shore Acres barbecue

## Development commission feted



Rick Evans and Larry Blake share a laugh.



Frank Martin welcomes visitors.



Railroad officials Anne and Pat Pond.



Chris Short and Doug Baker mix business, pleasure.



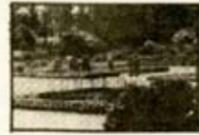
Jana Doerr and Cindy Finlayson talk shop.



Coos Bay Port Commission President John Stephens chats during barbecue.

# The Scene

What: Shore Acres  
When: All summer  
Where: Cape Arago  
Cost: Free  
Garden, tidepool  
tours offered



What to do on the South Coast

June 4



Stine Brown talks on tidepools.



Brown displays starfish, urchin.



George Guthrie helps train Shore Acres garden tour guides.

Each week throughout the summer, you can take a guided tour of the formal garden at Shore Acres State Park, with volunteers to help distinguish between daisies and roses, and to offer those interesting tidbits of history.

The gardens were originally planted for timber baron Louis B. Simpson, on a cliffside estate he built in the 1920s. Some of these

plantings have been nourished back to peak condition, and supplemented with gorgeous annuals and shrubs, thanks to Oregon State Parks crews and volunteers.

The gardens nestle in a sheltered area above the geologically dramatic cliffs along the ocean, and the nearby tidepools teem with marine life. Tours of the tidepools will be offered on a series of dates this summer.

The facility and its surroundings provide a photographer's paradise and guided photography walks will be offered on several summer dates, too.

All of the tours are organized and operated by the Friends of Shore Acres and the group's avid volunteers. All are free. Guided garden walks are offered on Wed-  
(Continued to Page 10)

## Learn about gardens, tidepools at park

(Continued from Page 9)  
nesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, at 2 p.m. each day, with participants meeting at the entrance to the gardens.

Saturdays and Sundays, guided tours are offered at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Size of the tours is limited to 25 people, with reservations available by calling 269-0215.

Those planning to go on the tidepool walks should wear rubber boots. Tidepool walks take about three hours and are scheduled at 8 a.m., Thursday, June 16; at 9 a.m.,

Saturday, July 2; at 8 a.m., Thursday, July 14; at 8 a.m., Saturday, July 30; and at 8 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 13.

A photography walk, focusing on plant and flower photography at the park itself, is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Wednes-

day, July 13, with participants meeting at the steps of the garden house.

A second series of photography tours, featuring an easy hike from Sunset Bay to Cape Arago, will be held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday, July 3; and from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.,

Wednesday, Aug. 24.

Participants in these longer sessions should meet at the Sunset Bay picnic area gazebo, wearing walking shoes. Bring a sack lunch, including beverages. Reservations are not necessary.

# ROSE SUNDAY



at  
Shore Acres

July 24, 1988  
11 am - 3 pm

George Guthrie, Ray Duskin and John Bergen will answer your "rose" questions at the All-American Rose Garden (formal test garden).



Hosted by The Friends of Shore Acres.  
For more information call 888-4902.



# Coast Life

Tuesday, July 19, 1988, THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. — Page 5

LINDA MEIERJURGEN, Coast Life Editor



Rose experts John Bergen, left, Ray Duskin, and George Guthrie, right, answer questions.

## A Sunday lesson on roses

Oregon Coast Music Festival audiences, and local folks, too, will find roses blooming throughout the region during this summer music series.

Among the finest, are those in the All-America Rose Society test garden at Shore Acres State Park — site of the opening concert for the 1988 Music Enrichment Association festival.

The test garden is tucked away to the southeast of the Japanese pond and garden.

To showcase its lovely award-winning and experimental blooms, members of the Friends of Shore Acres, will be on hand from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday, July 24 to answer rose questions, give tours.

volunteer support group for the state park, handling everything from volunteer workers in gardening to special fund-raising events.

Further information on the

organization may be obtained by calling 888-7266.

The music festival continues until July 30, with ticket and concert information available by calling 269-4150.

### MEA Festival concerts set Wednesday, Saturday

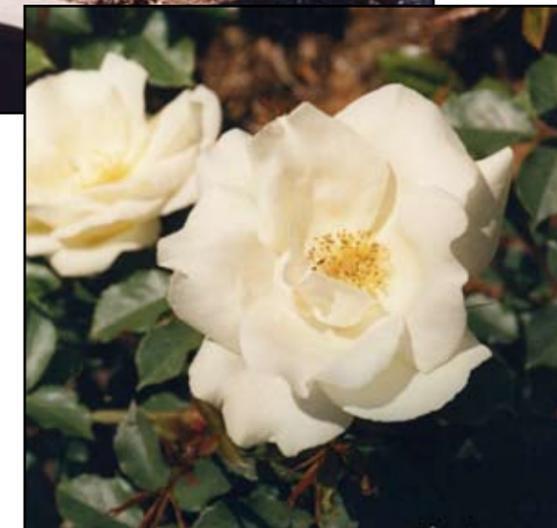
Music festival participants and others are welcome, with expert South Coast rose growers available to help gardeners and non-gardeners learn more about the All-America flowers.

Newly introduced roses whose hybridizers wish to take advantage of the society program, may have their latest selections tested at more than 20 rose test gardens in official locations around the United States over a two-year period before the yearly selection of the All-America winning roses.

In addition, private gardeners may participate in the program, providing comments to the organization on the specifics of growing requirements and care throughout different climatic zones.

Some of the most famous and well-known roses in the world have been All-America selections ranging from Peace to Charlotte Armstrong to more modern selections such as Oregon, Brandy, Pascali, or Mikado.

The Friends of Shore Acres is a



## Friends of Shore Acres and Oregon Coast Music Festival – A Tradition since 1988



(Foreground) David Bridgham, Donna and Frank Smith, Nellie Ripper; (Background) John Bergen, Robin Harms, Phyllis Love

**F**riends of Shore Acres decided to sell fruit kabobs at the Oregon Coast Music Festival July 24, 1988. Unfortunately, most attendees brought fruit with their lunches, so we had many left over. The next season we offered fresh raspberry sundaes — folks don't bring ice cream — and sundaes became a tradition for festival goers. ■



Andy LaTomme and Don Harms make melon balls. Sue Graeser walks toward Garden House.



David Bridgham, Don Harms, Al Aslakson, Ann Kopyy



Al Aslakson, David Bridgham and Don Harms put up booth.



Don Harms helps direct parking in the big field.



A beautiful and typical summer day at the Gardens.



Kids love dancing to the music.



Lots of music lovers enjoy the concert.

## THE FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES - ANNUAL REPORT

September 1, 1987 - August 31, 1988

As the saying goes, we've come a long way since the annual meeting last year.

**September 8, 1987** - "George Guthrie made a treasurer's report. The present balance is \$89.79, from what must be deducted about \$40 for the printing of membership cards."

Election of officers was held - Pres Shirley Bridgham, Vice-Pres Dick Hansen, Secretary-Treasurer George Guthrie.

**October 12, 1987** - "The main topic was the proposed 'Christmas Festival' at Shore Acres." "John Bergen made a motion that the Board officially sponsor the Christmas Open House, December 11-24, 1987." Discussion centered around how this would be accomplished.

A progress report on Christmas was given at the November board meeting. The "Christmas Committee" had been meeting weekly and would continue to do so until the week of Dec. 1. Dozens of people were on the committee and many more were recruited to help with the project.

It was announced that the Friends first newsletter would be November 30, and quarterly thereafter.

The week-end of December 4-5 was stormy. Nevertheless, the big tree went up, lights were strung on the hedges, the garden house was decorated and everyone worked like crazy to get the job done. Work continued through the week and when **Christmas at Shore Acres** opened the night of December 11, nearly 700 people came to see the grand tree lighting ceremony. The night was cold and clear, all that we could have wanted and then some. It was an outstanding success. Christmas eve and night were two of the biggest nights for attendance and everyone seemed to like the idea of "a community tradition in the making." Visitors were generous and nearly \$2400 was taken in. Our expenses were around \$1100, so we had a good start for 1988.

**January 11, 1988** - Discussion centered around how we can improve the Christmas event in 1988. Lots of good ideas that you will see implemented. "Al Aslakson proposed a special VIP preview and reception fund-raiser to be held the Thursday night before the grand opening." An all-day planning session for developing a 5-year plan for the Friends was scheduled for March 12, to be held at SWOCC.

**February 9, 1988** - A Shore Acres calendar was proposed, to be produced by Tony Mason and Phyllis Love. The Friends would sanction the calendar. Events to be held during the spring and summer were also discussed. The Friends will again do guided walks and will also help with the Oregon Coast Music Festival concert.

**April 11, 1988** - Andy discussed the Park's Interpretive Center, which will allow for a display case of Friends' products for sale. Shirley had examples of nature booklets that could be sold. Dave reported on the Small Wood-lot Owners tour, about 100 people participated in guided walks. Discussion was held on a Friends' concession at the music festival, cold drinks and "fruit kabobs" a possibility.

**May 10, 1988** - Linda Lopez, Oregon State Parks volunteer coordinator, talked about the progress of Park co-ops and the need for tracking volunteer hours. Fruit kabobs were sampled and decided upon. The Friends will provide tours for a Rotary Convention May 11. Lights have been ordered for the Christmas "show".

**June 14, 1988** - We received the bulk mailing permit and the new pins. Shirley talked about better signing for the parks from Highway 101. A tape is available on the geology/tide pool and garden tours for training of tour leaders. The Zonta booth will be used to sell kabobs. Sue Graeser showed an example of the tour guide vests. It was decided to hold general membership meetings quarterly. Special tours of the rose gardens were scheduled for July 24.

**July 12, 1988** - Jim Phinney constructed a box to be mounted on a cart to be used in selling Friends' items. Kabob assembly was scheduled for Wednesday night.

**August 9, 1988** - Linda Lopez reported that Friends groups and co-ops have contributed 31,000 hours of work from April to June alone. Shirley gave an update on the lighting for the gardens. Andy indicated area lights for trails and parking should be in place for Christmas. Report on the fruit kabobs showed a small profit and a possibility of doing them next year with some revision and not so many. The rose garden presentation was a success, as were the tide pool walks. Tony reported plans for the 1989 calendar have been canceled due to lack of funds. However, a smaller version will be available for sale, possibly by the Fun Festival. Manning the Blackberry Arts Festival booth and a float for the Fun Festival were discussed. Annual meeting/garden party will be September 13 at the Park. Election of officers will be October 4, 1988.

# Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

Continued in Next Album:

Annual Year - September 1, 1988 - August 31, 1989