



Shore Acres State Park
Before Friends - 1986

Album 7



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



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

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.

What 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

The 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

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

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.

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

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.

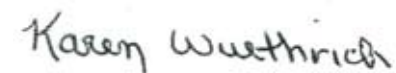
Andy LaTomme was asked to prepare a press release announcing the formation of the Friends with special mention of Mike Bodkin's contribution.

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 of Shore Acres, Inc.

Annual Year - September 1, 1993 - August 31, 1994

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. Annual Meeting - September 14, 1993 MINUTES

The Annual Meeting of Friends of Shore Acres, Inc., was called to order at 7: 15 p.m. by President Connie Eslinger. All Board members were present except Bob Emmett, Dick Van Natta, Dick Hansen, Ellen Garner and Tony Mason. Guests were Larry Hyatt, Don and Carol Todd, Carl Siminow, Park hosts Ben and Pauline Barnett, and Assistant Park Manager Dan Lucas.

David Bridgham, on behalf of the nominating committee, nominated George Guthrie and Shirley Bridgham to serve as Board members. After brief discussion, Doris Emmett moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for the two nominees. Georganna seconded. Motion carried.

The guests were introduced to the Board (and vice versa) with some discussion on both their interests in Friends of Shore Acres and FoSA's need for volunteers in its ongoing work with parks. Andy LaTomme talked about new direction in State Parks concerning more interpretive projects and more joint efforts with community groups like the Friends.

AI moved to adjourn the annual meeting. Shirley seconded. Motion passed.

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. Board Meeting, September 14, 1993 MINUTES – Highlights (Details on File)

The Board Meeting of Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. was called to order by President Connie Eslinger. First order of business was election of officers for 1993-94. On behalf of the nominating committee, David Bridgham nominated Georganna Casey-Secretary; Shirley Bridgham-Treasurer; Al Aslakson-Vice President; Doris Emmett-President Elect; and Ann Koppy-President. All were elected by unanimously. Connie passed the gavel to new President Ann Koppy to conduct the remainder of the meeting.

Minutes of the August meeting were reviewed and passed as submitted.

Shirley gave a financial report of the monthly and annual status. Details were in a report that she distributed to everyone. Both reports were accepted as submitted.

Shore Acres Celebration Dinner - We expect up to 100 people at \$14 (\$12 plus gratuity). David moved that FoSA pay the gratuity. AI seconded. Motion passed. AI will be M.C. Coos Bay Mayor Joanne Verger is the keynote speaker. Other speakers will be Andy, Connie, and Ann. An annual report of our accomplishments will be available and there will be a sales table of FoSA items.

New policy guidelines - Shirley talked about the new policy guidelines discussed at the last meeting. Discussion followed as AI read the policies one by one. Charlie Kocher had concerns with the policy limiting public disagreement by Board members of State Parks policy. He also had reservations with the policy on the allowable dollar value of FoSA funds that could be committed by the Executive Committee without full Board approval. There was also a question on whether Shore Acres should be the main area of all FoSA activities as opposed to the Sunset Bay Park District. AI moved to accept all policies as submitted except #3, 7, 11, and 13, which will need further review.

Shirley reported on the IGC (Information and Gift Center) committee. Dick Jamsgard had contacted LAMCO about constructing portable cabinets for the Center. Dick has volunteered to help with the installation. The estimated cost of all units is \$9550. Connie moved to have LAMCO construct the units and install in two phases as proposed. Judy seconded. Motion passed.

Ann reported that she had received a letter of resignation from Board member Tony Mason, effective September 7. Members of the Board expressed regret and voiced appreciation 'for Tony's contribution. The Board will send an official letter acknowledging his resignation.

Connie talked about the up-coming Co-op Conference. There is a \$135 scholarship available to each Co-op for people who want to go. It can be split several ways and is not limited to Board members. The IGC Committee will choose items for a "silent auction" at the Conference.

The Board received information about Shoreline Education for Awareness activities at Simpson Reef overlook. SEA's efforts have been much appreciated by the visiting public.

Board member Dick Hansen is recovering from heart surgery and is back home doing well. Doris reported that a new County roadside tourist map does not include Shore Acres. Connie suggested we have a mural of Shore Acres painted on the side of the Surplus Center in Coos Bay.

Andy said architect Mike Vaughan is doing sketches and plans for a new fountain and new entrance gate signage for Shore Acres. Andy also said park attendance was down about 35%, but projected revenue was up about 20%.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Secretary Pro-tem, George Guthrie

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. - Quarterly Journal - Autumn 1993

FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT - OUR OWN "QUEEN ANNE"

It's not going to be easy to follow in the footsteps of past presidents Shirley Bridgham, David Bridgham, and Connie Eslinger. Each of them has contributed immensely to the leadership and accomplishments of Friends of Shore Acres. However, I look forward to doing what I can with whatever abilities I may have.

Several thoughts come to mind as we begin another year of events. I'm constantly amazed by the countless energy and enthusiasm shown by Friends volunteers. Regardless of your roles in our organization – Board of Directors, traffic controllers, Information and Gift Center staff, pond muckers, etc., etc. – all of you help with an almost fierce dedication to Shore Acres.

In addition, we're in the enviable position of enjoying a cordial and healthy working relationship with state parks personnel. With their cooperation and guidance we can grow in our mission to provide interpretive services and physical development to our very special part of the Oregon coast.

Finally, a key component of our goals is maintaining current partnerships with community groups while establishing new opportunities. These highly successful programs allow us to expand activities and strengthen our purpose. We will continue to integrate our efforts with a wide range of affiliates to ensure that Shore Acres will endure and be enjoyed by future generations. ■

Ann Koppy

Album 7

Shore Acres and Friends in the News

Piece of history returns to Shore Acres

Man donates pictures of site from '40s

By John Gunther
Staff Writer

CHARLESTON — Jim McDermott returned to Shore Acres this week, nearly a half century after he was stationed in the park as a U.S. Air Force corporal.

"The place has changed for the better," he said, though he added, "I miss not seeing the old mansion there."

McDermott came to Shore Acres from his home in San Rafael, Calif., to give some old pictures of the mansion and park to the Friends of Shore Acres.

He was 18 years old and fresh out of high school when he was stationed here as a radio technician in 1943. He spent six months at the site with 12 other Air Force personnel and at times up to 50 U.S. Navy personnel.

"It was a very solemn moment in my life to drive up the driveway and go into the acres," McDermott said. "It's close to 50 years since I have been there."

The pictures from when McDermott was at the site were given to him by a Sergeant Huerta (he doesn't know the sergeant's first name) from negatives that Huerta had of the site.

They include views of the mansion and Shore Acres site and Sunset Beach. One picture shows McDermott on the rocks below the mansion.

McDermott decided about two weeks ago to give the pictures to the



Jim McDermott looks at old photos of Shore Acres grounds with Shirley Bridgham of Friends of Shore Acres.

Friends of Shore Acres. He and a close friend, Carol Dreyer, made the trip up from San Rafael this week. They were planning to leave the Bay Area Thursday morning.

McDermott handed the pictures over to Friends board members

Shirley and David Bridgham and Andy LaTomme, the ranger for Shore Acres, Sunset Bay and Cape Arago state parks.

Many of the pictures McDermott gave to Friends were images the group did not already have.

"We are constantly trying to gather archive pictures of the park," Shirley Bridgeham told McDermott. She said in their research the Friends had never heard of an Air Force connection.

When McDermott was stationed at

Shore Acres, the military was using the site to help patrol and protect the Oregon Coast.

His unit worked specifically with radio intelligence and kept a low profile, he said.

(Continued on Page 3)

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - October 1, 1993



Contributed photo

The mansion at Shore Acres as it looked during World War II.

Old pictures returned

(Continued from Page 1)

All of the military personnel stayed in what was the second mansion on the site, located near where the observation building is today.

The second mansion was torn down in December 1948, LaTomme said. The original mansion burned down in 1921.

"I fell in love with the grandeur of the forest immediately," McDermott said of coming to the Oregon Coast from Pennsylvania in 1943.

He also considered himself lucky to be stationed at Shore Acres, because it was during the war.

Coming back to Shore Acres was a very solemn feeling, McDermott said.

He remembered a staircase down to the beach and driving into Coos Bay in a jeep. He was surprised at how much has changed.

"I was surprised to learn about the garden," he said. "Everything was overgrown then."

When McDermott was at Shore

Acres, patrols walked through the woods and guard dogs patrolled the area, but the people weren't interested in what was in the wooded areas.

A few things haven't changed, though. The site was called Shore Acres then, as it is now, and there were a lot of sea lions.

"There used to be loads of sea lions out there; they would drive the dog guards crazy," he said.

Giving up the pictures was difficult in some ways for McDermott because he loves them. But by giving them back, he feels he can still give service to the public.

"I know where they will be if we want to see them again," he said.

The Friends of Shore Acres is always looking for new pictures and pieces of history. Anyone with information can contact either LaTomme at the Oregon State Parks office at Sunset Bay by calling 888-4902, or leave a message with the Friends at 756-5401.



A Powerful Partnership since 1986

Shore Acres and Friends in the News

Page 16 • BAY AREA DISPATCH • October 1, 1993

Out and About

By Barbara Albiston

I was astonished to see them. Gossiping over white picket fences, sunbathing near driveways, waving gracefully to passing motorists, or peeking around trees and rosebushes, they flaunted their naked limbs and rosy countenances to the world. These NAKED LADIES could grace any centerfold -- of House and Garden.

Of course, these Naked Ladies are the beautiful Amaryllis belladonna, blooming so profusely right now. Their name comes from the fact that no leaves grow up first like potted amaryllises, just along, slender stalk that develops 3-4 rosy, lily-like flowers at its top.

Being an amateur gardener, I enjoy seeing flowers in bloom. This hasn't been a real good year for that. The horticultural displays at the fair this year were smaller because of the erratic cool, wet spells which continued through late July.

Summer may have been slighted in favor of Spring

and Fall this year, but don't tell the flowers. Driving around the area, I've seen dahlias, roses, poppies, fuchsias, cosmos, geraniums, wild sweet peas, hydrangeas, nasturtiums, wild morning glories and the feathery-plumed pampas grass.

To enjoy a diversity of flowers and scenery, I suggest a trip to Shore Acres' Botanical Garden. I've seen it as the setting for weddings, Christmas lights and carols, or a lazy Sunday stroll, but I'm still renewed by its quiet beauty in any season.

Right now, the garden is sporting masses of roses in brilliant reds, oranges, yellows, peaches, pinks and whites. There are cosmos, bronze canna lilies, daisies, newly-planted pansies, fire pokers, marigolds, fuchsias and Lily-of-the-Nile.

The pond is settling down for winter and has only a few water lilies encircling the heron sculptures and providing protection for the multi-colored koi. A single

stalk of papery-yellow flowers heralds a late blooming gladiolus. Moss hangs from the trees, reminiscent of mangrove swamps in warmer climes.

An old friend, however, has gone. The large, rust and green hued Japanese plume cedar that stood for years to the right of the pond is no longer. "Age and weather took its toll", said Ellie Kinney, park ranger. The freeze of 1990 did a lot of damage to its basic structure and subsequent storms ravaged the gnarled and curlicued branches. The removal decision was a hard one to make and caused some regular visitors to be upset, but a replacement is now growing close to the original site.

The main focus of the garden is the dahlia display. There are 35 different cultivars located in 16 plantings. Madlyn Geisert of Bridge View Dahlia Gardens in North Bend hybridized and named a large, dark red semi-cactus variety Shore Acres 50 in honor of the park's 50th anniversary in '92. It is planted next to the Garden House, which is open Monday-Fri-

day 11:30 am to 4:30 pm.

The Friends of Shore Acres have provided two excellent free brochures on both the dahlias and roses. Be sure to pick up a copy when you visit.

Speaking of flowers, the next time you drive down Highway 101 and see bunches of nasturtiums growing in median strips, on hillsides or gracing vacant lots, call up any of the participating Highway 101 Brigade companies or groups and say "Thanks!". These UNPAID employee volunteers, families and friends spend countless hours keeping the 101 corridor looking good.

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - October 5, 1993

CB to shed some light in Empire

The city of Coos Bay will shed some light in its Empire District during the holidays.

The city's Public Works Department plans to hang lights in downtown Empire this year and to spread the lights to other areas of the city as money becomes available.

Downtown Coos Bay will also be decorated. A Christmas tree is planned for the city parking lot next to the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

Most tourists drive through Empire to get to Shore Acres State Park's holiday lights display.

The lights will be lit on Nov. 26, the day of the Christmas tree lighting ceremony.

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - September 27, 1993

Coast happenings

Friends to dine

The friends of Shore Acres are holding a celebration dinner at 7:15 p.m. Oct. 7 in the Red Lion Inn.

The dinner includes music, entertainment and a keynote speech by Coos Bay Mayor Joanne Verger. Buffet dinner includes a choice of halibut almandine or sweet and sour chicken. The cost of the dinner is \$12. Reservations have to be made by Oct. 1.

A no-host social starts at 6:30 p.m. Reservations can be made at 267-0570, 756-5826 or 756-5401.



Celebrating “Friends” and “Partnerships”



Joanne Verger - Keynote Speaker

The celebration dinner held October 7 at the Red Lion was a grand success. Pianist Judy Terry provided background music before dinner and Judy Aslakson led some fine singing of "yesterday's hits" during dessert. After welcoming everyone, President Ann Koppy introduced Coos Bay Mayor Joanne Verger, who inspired everyone with her keynote address. Past President Connie Eslinger recapped the years activities and Andy LaTomme talked about the value of partnerships and the special relationship between the Friends and Shore Acres State Park.

Then came the surprises. First, Judy Aslakson led the group through an exercise that challenged everybody's memorization skills. She and Al had spent some time dreaming up One Red Rose . . . They started with the first line, then kept adding to it, always going back to the first line. Try it (it's under the photo) and see how far you get.

Next, a unique awards ceremony by Connie and Ann Koppy completed the fun-filled evening.

In their own words . . .

"This is the first annual, maybe the first and only, Fosies presented by the Floozies," said Connie. "It is dedicated to the weird, the wonderful, and the crazy," said Anne. Then with a lot of laughing and good natured kidding, they presented a dozen specially designed and hand made "priceless gems."

Fine Tooth Comb Award. Nominees: the always beautiful George Guthrie for this thick head . . . of, of hair; Al Aslakson for combing through holiday statistics every year; **Winner:** FoSA Board Member Dick Hansen for his meticulous-dare we say nitpicking, na, scrutiny, of all written reports.

In the Nose Award. Nominees: Jimmy Durante. Charlie Kocher for knowing everything that goes on in the world. **Winner:** Andy LaTomme, who knows all there is to know about state parks dirt.

Hedda Hopper News Hen Award. Nominees: Connie Chung who didn't want to miss her appointment at the fertility clinic. Barbara Wawa who was interviewing Geraldo. Lois Lane who was taking flying lessons. **Winner:** Shirley Bridgham, noted newsletter editor, publicist, and girl reporter for non-major metropolitan newspapers.



Judy Terry and Judy Aslakson led the singing.

One Red Rose . . .

One red rose
A couple 0' mums
Three tubs of tulips
Four fine frivolous FRIENDS
Five fat furry sea lions
Six shimmering statues of stately storks
Seven serious shoppers, seeking spectacular souvenirs
Eight elliptical elephant ears, enduring elegantly
Nine noxious nasturtiums, needing negligible nourishment
Ten terrible tourists from Tampa, trampling terrain in
totally toeless tennies. 0'



by Judy and Al Aslakson

All in good fun!!

Boomerang Award for the individual who keeps coming back for more. Nominees: Energizer Bunny and Elvis Presley. **Winner:** Vivian Day, a gift shop volunteer who has been coming back for several years.

Pumping Up Award. Nominees: Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jane Fonda. **Winner:** Gregg Nelson for persistently and consistently pumping up the muck and yuck from the bottom of the pond.

Golden Hammer Award given to the person who has found the ultimate tool to make the IGC cash register user friendly. Nominees: Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy. **Winner:** Our very own Mary Jo Jamsgard.

Tickle My Fancy Award given to the individual whose imagination brings whimsy and magic to our lives. Nominees: Dr. Seuss, Santa Claus. **Winner:** David Bridgham for his creative light sculptures that brighten the holiday season.

Live Wire Award. Only nominee: Reddy Kilowatt. **Winner:** Frank Smith for enduring and assisting David in the creation of the holiday light sculptures.

Here's Looking At You Award Nominees: Humphrey Bogart, who gave us that immortal line and Cyclops. **Winner:** George Guthrie, landscape artist who oversees the design of the gardens at Shore Acres.

Sucker Award given to the persons who, despite common sense and all reason, always help save the day. Nominees: Indiana Jones, Lassie, Mighty Mouse. **Winners:** Jean Donason and Helen Barton who blindly follow their daughters to the end of the ladder and the bottom of the paint bucket.

Sweetheart Award given to the person who is always there to help her fellow volunteers. Nominees: Tin Man from the Wizard of Oz, Cupid. **Winner:** Charlotte Skinner, gift shop staffer whose heart is always in the right place.

Fan Award given to the individual who knows how to keep cool. Nominees: Gypsy Rose Lee and Madonna. **Winner:** the always unflappable and patient Information and Gift Center volunteer coordinator, Ellen Garner.

Kudos also go to the Red Lion for a fine buffet dinner and to Jackie Schlaf for the photo note card place markers. And to Doris Emmett for finding all the great music that we sang. And to Charlie Kocher and family for helping with clean-up. And to David Bridgham for helping set up and take down. And . . . to Al Aslakson for being our perennial and superb master of ceremonies, great job Al! ■



Arianne Eslinger helped Connie and Ann present "Fosie" awards.



Left to right: Mary Jo Jamsgard, George Guthrie, Charlotte Skinner, Vivian Day, Helen Barton, Ellen Gamer, Frank Smith, David Bridgham, Gregg Nelson, Andy LaTomme, Shirley Bridgham, Al Aslakson.

Looking for Volunteers

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - October 28, 1993

Wrong holiday? Nope, Shore Acres really starts right now

■ Work parties planned Nov. 20, 21, 26, 27, 28 and Dec. 4 and 5

■ Cookie bakes from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 6 and Nov. 13
Call 756-3386

■ Decorate the garden house for a 'Storybook Christmas'
Call 267-0570 or 756-5826

■ Want to entertain at gardens in December?
Call 756-2688

■ Serve as hosts during the holiday season?
Call 267-4037



More than 50,000 visitors from as from 31 foreign countries, 43 states, five Canadian provinces and 185 Oregon towns enjoyed a display of more than 100,000 lights in the

botanical gardens and garden house at Shore Acres State Park in 1993. Preparations for the annual holiday celebration begin right now.

Yes, it's not even Halloween. No, you haven't consumed that Thanksgiving turkey.

But, if you'd like to help in creating a wonderland of 120,000 lights, a "Storybook Christmas" in a gardener's cottage or a fanciful tree full of fun decorations, now's the time to volunteer with the Friends of Shore Acres to prepare the botanical gardens for December's celebrations.

The gardens will be open from 4 to 10 p.m. every evening from Dec. 9 to Jan. 2, with decorated trees, shrubs and walkways, holiday warmth with cookies and beverages in the garden house, and entertainment each evening.

For seven years the Friends have been fundraising for the gardens with the Christmas decorations the prime event of the year, but Rhododendron Sunday for Mother's Day, Rose Sunday for Father's Day, the annual music festival outdoor concert, antique car shows and other events scattered throughout the year, too.

To join in any of the holiday preparations stop by the information and gift center at the gardens any weekend through November from noon to 4 p.m., call the telephone

numbers at left, or contact a member of the Friends.

While you're at the gift shop you can also find a host of items for Christmas giving yourself, including garden view books, garments, nature books and history books, as well as other items. Those joining the Friends right now find their membership is good through all of 1994. Members get a discount at the gift shop, too.

People are needed with carpentry, electrical, decorating skills, to check the lights each day, to keep the coffee and cookies coming during visits.

"The lights are really a communitywide project with an international reputation...the event really can't happen unless it stays that way...it takes such an army to do it," says Shirley Bridgham, one of the founders of the group who shares chairmanship of the lights this year with her husband, Dave.

Ella Mae Stuart is in charge of cookie baking; Connie Eslinger and Ann Koppy are in charge of the garden house; Gerry Livingston is in charge of entertainment and Bonnie Koreiva is organizing the hosts. Call the telephone numbers at left to volunteer.



26,064 COOKIES BAKED AND COUNTED

At North Bend High School, volunteers under the direction of Ella Mae Stuart (GREEN SLACKS), Marty Wheeler (PINK SHIRT) and Pearl Groves (PHOTO RT.) worked on two successive Saturdays in November to complete the task. ■

A big thanks to all who participated!





Holiday Lights Brighten SHORE ACRES STATE PARK

Story by Andy LaTomme



The formal garden at Shore Acres State Park glows with thousands of holiday lights.

"This year we'll guarantee that over 100,000 lights are on at any one time," says Shirley Bridgham, general chair for the Friends of Shore Acres 1993 Holiday Lights festival. Last year the festival fell a bit short of that magic number for a few days due to wind, rain, and bulb snatchers that ravaged Shore Acres State Park. However, with more than 125,000 miniature lights strung by community volunteers, the Friends plan to have the gardens looking brighter than ever this time.

The lights will be on from 4 through 10 nightly from December 9 through January 2. They will adorn bushes, trees, the caretaker's Garden House, and other structures in the botanical gardens that form the centerpiece of the park on the southern Oregon Coast, 12 miles west of Coos Bay and North Bend.

As the Friends' volunteer recognition buttons said one year, "You gotta see it to

believe it." First-time visitors to this community event write comments such as, "Incredible," "A living fairy tale," and "We'll be back next year" in the Garden House guest books. Visitors who have watched the number of lights increase from 6000 in 1987 express such feelings as, "Keep up the good work;" "How do you do it better each year?" and "Thanks, you made this our best Christmas ever." And those comments aren't just from local folks. In 1992, visitors representing 185 Oregon cities, 43 states, and 31 foreign countries signed the guest books as more than 51,000 people enjoyed the three-week display.

This season, returning visitors will notice the expanded undersea garden with light sculptures of kelp, a heroic-sized seahorse, and a mermaid added to last year's sea anemone, starfish, and sea urchin. The northern boxwood hedges will be defined with white lights,

continuing the pattern that began six years ago and has grown each year since. Masses of miniature lights will illuminate more individual shrubs and trees in red, green, gold, blue, and violet colors. The traditional, life-sized Shore Acres cranes and flying pelican light sculptures will be on exhibit. Local organizations will again vie for a chance to decorate one of eight large outdoor Christmas trees.

Additions to the Friends' long-range, night landscaping project also will be displayed. Perimeter lights, shining upward through limbs of the large Sitka spruce trees that surround the formal gardens, will create a white frame to offset the splashes of colorful holiday lights contained within. Subtle, muted reflections in the Oriental pond will contrast sharply with the pools of light that invite visitors onto the gravel path.

The Garden House will again be filled with period furnishings. Each room will

be decorated with antiques and curios. Returning visitors who look beyond the holiday trappings will notice the new carpet, paint, and ceiling light fixtures provided by the Friends.

The 1993 house theme is A Storybook Christmas. Visitors to the kitchen, scene of the Mad Hatter's tea party, will enjoy cups of hot, spiced cider and home-baked cookies, compliments of the Friends. More than 27,000 cookies will be baked, and 800 gallons of cider will be spiced and heated.

Constructed in 1906, the Garden House is the only remaining building of the Louis J. Simpson estate. The 743-acre Shore Acres park occupies the grounds of the estate noted for its gardens of plants imported from throughout the world by Simpson, a wealthy shipping tycoon. The estate was acquired by the state in 1942, and state parks landscape designers eventually restored the gardens. As a result, the park, one of three state parks on Cape Arago south of the entrance to Coos Bay, has become one of the most popular visitor attractions on the Oregon Coast. The park had more than 400,000 visitors in 1992.

Bridgham points out that the Holiday Lights festival at Shore Acres could not happen without community involvement. "Everybody just loves Shore Acres State Park," says Bridgham. "The Holiday Lights event captures their imagination and gives them the chance to become involved—that's why they first help us. Then they stay involved each year because they have so much fun." Hundreds of people bake cookies, string lights, and act as hosts in the Garden House. Dozens of businesses purchase lights and provide other supplies. Nearly 700 names of individuals, businesses, and service and fraternal organizations appear on the "Thanks" scrolls that hang in the Garden House each season.

"This is a great example of a private organization cooperating with a state agency to add value to the community," said Oregon State Parks and Recreation Director Bob Meinen after seeing the 1992 display. "I can't wait to bring my family here. They'll love it."

For additional information about Shore Acres State Park, the Friends of Shore Acres, or the Holiday Lights display call (503) 756-5401 or 888-4902, or write to the Friends of Shore Acres Inc., PO Box 1172, Coos Bay, OR 97420. □

Andy LaTomme is the Sunset Bay district manager for the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department.

EVENTS IN THE PARKS



NOVEMBER

Veteran's Day, November 8, Fort Stevens State Park, 10 miles west of Astoria. The nation's veterans are saluted at the park's historic area from 10 to 2. No admission is charged to watch the 2nd U.S. Artillery re-enactors perform their ceremony or for the museum's open house. Refreshments will be served. For more information contact the Fort Stevens Historic Area, (503) 861-2000.

DECEMBER

Holiday Lights, December 9 through January 2, Shore Acres State Park, 13 miles southwest of Coos Bay. More than 100,000 miniature lights strung on the trees and shrubs of the park's botanical gardens make an impressive holiday glow. The historic Garden House (it's lit up, too) will be decorated on the inside following the theme, A Storybook Christmas. The Mad Hatter's tea party will be going on in the kitchen. Free admission. For more information call (503) 756-5401 or 888-4902.

Old-Fashioned Christmas Open House, December 4 through 5, Yaquina Bay Lighthouse, Yaquina Bay State Park, Newport. Ornaments and decorations from the 1870s, when the lighthouse was built and briefly operated, bring holiday cheer to the old lighthouse keeper's quarters. The Friends of Yaquina Bay Lighthouse group serves seasonal goodies. Lights will line the structure's exterior from December 3 through

January 1. Free admission. For more information contact South Beach State Park, (503) 867-4715.

Christmas at Hughes House, December 11 through 12 and 18 through 19, Cape Blanco State Park, 9 miles north of Port Orford. Victorian Christmas decorations and exhibits add a special charm to this historic house restored by the Friends of Cape Blanco. Free admission. Check local newspapers for tour times. For more information contact Cape Blanco State Park (503) 332-6774.

Tryon Holiday Party, December 12, Tryon Creek State Park Nature Center, Lake Oswego. Making food ornaments to decorate a Christmas tree for the park's feathered residents will be one of several holiday crafts keeping guests at this party busy. Santa Claus will provide entertainment. Free admission; hours 1 to 3. For more information and to order holly wreaths and other items crafted by the Friends of Tryon Creek, contact (503) 636-4398.

Annual Christmas Party, December 12, Silver Falls State Park, 26 miles east of Salem. The Friends of Silver Falls and park employees open their holiday party to the public in the park's day-use lodge. Wreath-making and a park visit by Santa are highlights. Refreshments are free, but a small charge is requested from adults; hours are 11 to 5. For more information contact Silver Falls State Park, (503) 873-8681. □

A Storybook Holiday – Alice Visits the Garden House



Alice in Wonderland was the theme in the Garden House. Eileen Paul of the Umpqua Valley Arts Association in Roseburg loaned us the cardboard figures and the house committee, chaired by Ann Koppy and Connie Eslinger, worked for weeks. Ann asked for teapots and got more than a shelf full! Keith Ott and Don Todd provided valuable carpentry skills. Carl Siminow installed the speakers and strung the lights. Jay and Julie Schaefer, of Schaefer's Custom Bouquets provided roses and the finishing touches in the living room. ■



Meanwhile . . . In the Gardens . . . Stringing 120,000 Lights



Ginger and Bingo Sawyer



Co-Chair David Bridgham and Keith Ott



Co-Chair Shirley Bridgham



George Guthrie, Landscape Maintenance Superintendent, Shore Acres State Park

This season, four individual flower beds *Teach* had more lights than we had totally in our first year, 1987. The pond area alone had nearly 20,000 lights. The light stringers outdid themselves again. So many people helped and we simply can't thank everyone enough. ■

Shirley and David Bridgham



Brownie Ruggles and Cappy Klein

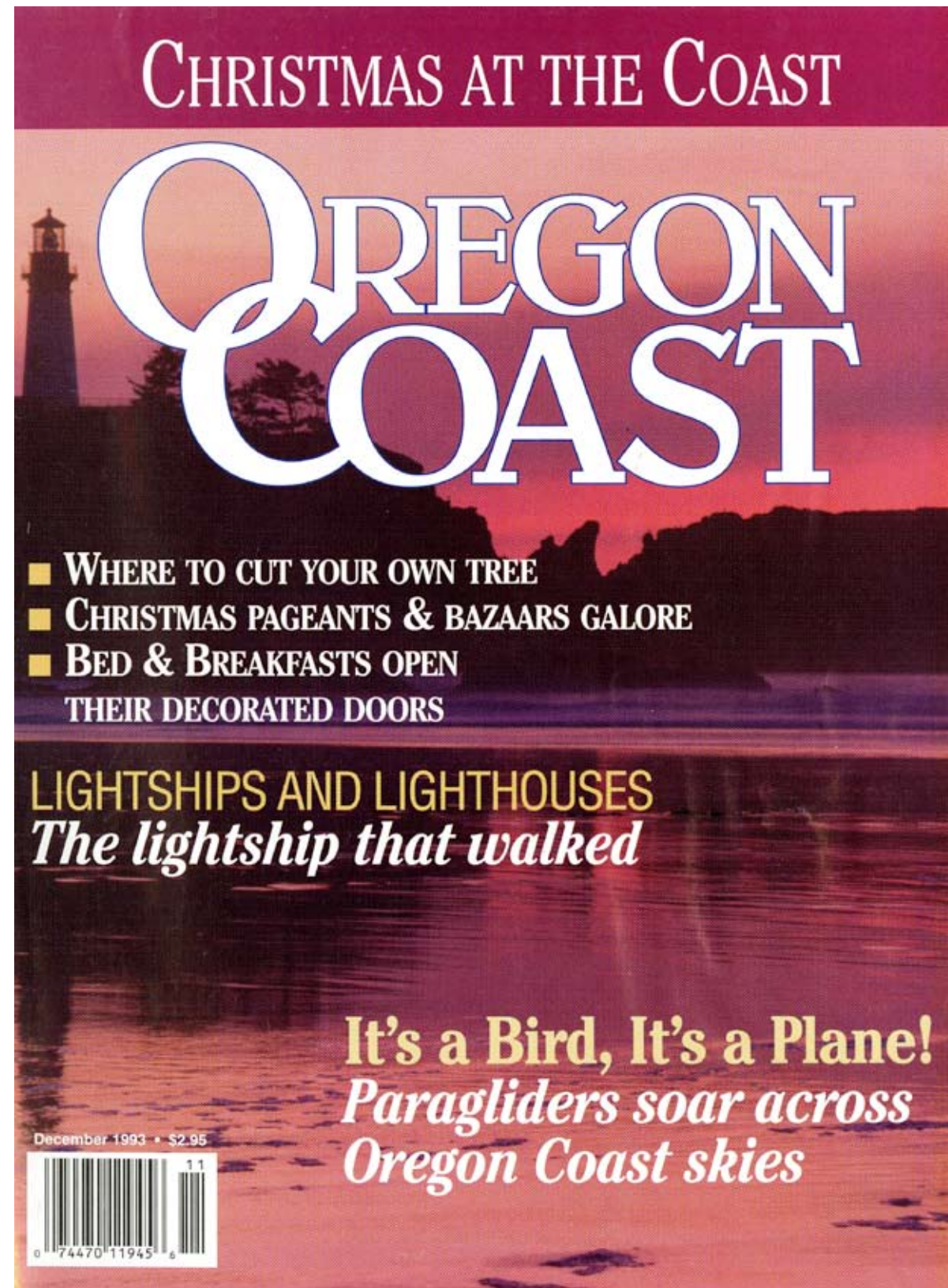


Pacific Power Christmas Tree



Carol Ventgen, Mike Perkins, Betty Mault, Donna Smith

Positive Publicity



Plentiful Publicity

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - November 22, 1993



Stringing lights

Luke Soles of Coos Bay was one of the many elves in Shore Acres State Park over the weekend who started the work of putting up 120,000 lights that will brighten the formal gardens for the annual Holiday Lights display. The lights don't go on until Dec. 9, but volunteers are invited by Friends of Shore Acres every weekend until then to help string the lights and decorate the Garden House. For more information, call 756-5401.

Lights brighten park garden spot

By Charles Kocher
Managing Editor

CHARLESTON — What has 120,000 lights and all your favorite "Alice in Wonderland" characters?

It's the view from the garden house at Shore Acres State Park — once the seventh annual holiday lights display is officially opened Thursday night.

The light display and open house officially begins Thursday and runs every night — no exceptions — through Jan. 2, with lights and free refreshments from 4 to 10 p.m. Some 35,000 visitors are expected.

Outside, in the gardens of the park, the last of the lights are going up this weekend — white ones along the hedges, clusters of color in mirrored patterns of the formal gardens, and multi-colors to reflect in the waters of the pond.

Inside the garden house, the

Mad Hatter's tea party is taking shape, complete with cardboard cutouts and full papier mache statues of Alice, the Queen of Hearts, the White Rabbit and all the others.

And it's hard to tell whose grin is bigger — that of the Cheshire Cat or holiday lights organizer Shirley Bridgham of the Friends of Shore Acres.

She's the organizing force behind the event, which she rightfully calls "an instant community tradition."

The first display was only 10,000 lights, and it became an immediate part Christmas in the Bay Area.

She and her husband, David, lead the charge in a force of volunteers that numbers in the hundreds as all the pieces come together for the event.

That includes the light stringers, cookie bakers, cider spice mixers, house decorators, hosts in

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - December 4, 1993



World photo by Charles Kocher

Shirley Bridgham shows decorations at Shore Acres.

the garden house pouring coffee and serving cookies, groups to decorate the outdoor trees, entertainers, clerks in the information and gift center, electricians, and volunteers to take the lights down.

There are buses to organize (Dec. 17, 18 and 24 at 7:30 from Pony Village Mall.) There's publicity to go out. There's already

planning and promotions in the works for the 1994 lights display — which will include more lights and more days.

Anyone involved has to marvel at the organization, and realize that it's the Bridghams who keep it all straight — from color-coded maps of the gardens showing what lights go on which bush to

(Continued on Page 3)

Lights readied

(Continued from Page 1)

long lists of thank yous to post in the garden house. There are explicit directions for almost every chore.

And the Bridghams pick up more chores as board members of the Friends of Shore Acres, including the bookkeeping and the newsletter, in the mail this week despite all the pressing concerns of getting the lights up and gardens decorated.

Despite all the work, all the lights, all the decorations and all the coffee, cider and cookies, there is no admission charge — but donations are accepted.



The Register-Guard

SUNDAY

DECEMBER 5, 1993

OREGON LIFE

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■ Write On	2F
■ Books	3F
■ Travel	5F



by BOB KEEFER
photos by
PAUL CARTER
THE REGISTER-GUARD

Serenity BY THE SEA

CHARLESTON — As the 20th century dawned, Pacific Northwest lumberman Louis Jerome Simpson decided to build himself a home on the Oregon coast.

It was the age of guilt-free ostentation, a time when mansions such as William Randolph Hearst's "castle" in San Simeon, Calif., and Scotty's Castle in Death Valley were no more than the exuberant expression of their owners' incredible wealth.

So Simpson's ocean-front house, built on a rocky bluff near Charleston, contained a 26-by-52-foot heated indoor swimming pool, a ballroom that ran the length of the mansion's third floor, a hallway paneled in myrtlewood

and Tiffany glass chandeliers.

It also had a garden, laid out with formal walkways vaguely evoking European splendors such as Versailles.

Today the mansion is gone — accidentally burned to the ground on the Fourth of July in 1921 — and Simpson, his fortunes lost during the Depression, is a minor footnote in Oregon history.

But on most days of the year, you can find George Guthrie tending the garden that Simpson built, a garden that attracts more than 400,000 people a year to the southern Oregon coast.

"This is Oregon's best-kept secret," says Guthrie, an



Formal gardens (far left) once bordered a grand estate. Pat Greenlee (left) helps Jim Thompson photograph cliffs and sea.

Shore Acres State Park combines wild and manicured beauty

animated, dark-haired man dressed today in green Parks Department coveralls. "Oregon Parks doesn't advertise. We don't want to compete with the private sector. But somehow people get here. It's all word of mouth."

The word of mouth goes something like this: At Shore Acres State Park, a few miles outside Charleston, you can look outward and see nature at her spectacular best, with Pacific waves pounding the rugged shore like something out of a Sierra Club calendar.

Or you can turn inland, walk a few yards, and stand in the middle of the garden, an other-worldly fantasy of trim boxwood hedges, manicured lawns, bronze statuary, a Japanese pond and flowers that bloom in every month

of the year.

As though that weren't enough, there are the holiday lights. In December, the garden will be lit up by 120,000 lights, marking the holiday season and transforming Shore Acres into a wonderland that last year alone attracted 50,000 guests.

Guthrie has worked here 10 years, and he practically sighs when you ask him about the job. "It's a beautiful place. The nice thing about it is, you get so much positive feedback. What a good job you do. There are so few public servants who get that positive feedback all the

Turn to SERENITY, Page 4F

SERENITY

Continued from Page 1F

time."

Although people call him a ranger, Guthrie's formal title is landscape maintenance superintendent. He spends most of his time working on the garden, overseeing a small maintenance crew that's constantly pruning, trimming, mowing, weeding and planting.

He walks quickly up and down the garden walkways, stooping now and then to pick up a discarded cigarette butt, pointing out the current crop of flowers to a group of tourists like a proud parent. Pansies, fuchsias, bottle brush, red-hot poker and roses are all in bloom this gray November day, giving the garden splashes of color to complement its fall leaves. A small evergreen dogwood from the Himalayas sports fruit like large red strawberries.

"Even in December and January you'll find a cyclamen hiding out in some corner or other," Guthrie says.

This is not, it turns out, the original garden planned and planted by Louis J. Simpson.

Out of money after Depression-era losses and the mansion fire — the building was not insured — Simpson sold 600 acres of land, including the garden and a second, less impressive main house, to the state in 1942.

In 1949, unimaginative highway department officials razed the main house, which had housed troops during the war, also filled in the Japanese lily

Put lights in spotlight

Is there a fabulous display of Christmas lights in your neighborhood? We'd like to know about it.

Again this year, The Register-Guard will publish a list of residential displays recommended by our readers.

To nominate a house, call 687-6666 before 9 a.m. on Dec. 13 and leave a recorded message. Include a precise street address with the zip code, plus your name and daytime phone number, just in case the message is garbled.

Look for the published list in the Oregon Life section on Dec. 19.

pond and then let the entire property decline.

In the early 1970s, a young Parks Department landscape architect just graduated from the University of Oregon was given the job of restoring the gardens at Shore Acres to their former glory.

Joe Paiva, who now works for the highway department trying to make engineers build better-looking bridges, says the job was "the most fun thing I did in my 22 years with the Parks Department."

He recalls what he found on his first visit to Shore Acres.

"The garden was just a large grass field with four palm trees in the middle," he says. "The pond had been filled in and was a soggy grass area. The whole thing was a Victory Garden

during World War II. There were vegetables and corn and tomatoes growing there."

Paiva located Barbara Simpson Griffin, daughter of Louis Simpson, and persuaded her to share her family albums. He discovered pictures of a European-style garden long lost to the intrusions of time, man and nature.

He found two large decorative urns near the filled-in pond. Grown over with 8 feet of ivy, they had been lost to sight for 40 years. He discovered the original water source for the pond, a small hillside dam long silted in and obscured by brush. He recruited volunteers to dig the dam out and called on the Charleston fire department to pump water through the plugged-up plumbing.

Paiva also tracked down one of two

life-sized bronze cranes that had once graced the lily pond.

Having located the damaged statue in the basement of a Reedsport motel, where it was being stored years after having been sold by Simpson, Paiva commissioned a metal shop instructor and inmates at the Oregon State Correctional Institution to make two copies, which have now been in the restored pond for more than a quarter century.

For the garden itself, Paiva made some concessions to the fact that Shore Acres would draw many more people as a park than it had as a private estate; he planned wider walkways and a more open look.

Eight years ago, a group called the Friends of Shore Acres was formed to help develop, maintain and publicize the park. They immediately hit on the idea of a Christmas light display during the cold, dark days of December.

When a small display of lights was turned on for the first time in 1987, no one knew whether anyone would actually drive out to see them, says Shirley Bridgham, co-chairwoman of the event.

"Then 700 people showed up the first night," she says. "And only half the garden was even close to being lit. We had one Christmas tree and 9,000 people came out that year."



Michelle Bolduc, 5, of Bandon, Ore., visits the Japanese garden pond at Shore Acres Park in Charleston, Ore. The garden once adjoined a mansion built by lumberman Louis Jerome Simpson around the turn of the century which has since been destroyed by fire.

Oregon garden is state's 'best-kept secret'

By BOB KEEFER
Eugene Register-Guard

CHARLESTON, Ore. — As the 20th century dawned, Pacific Northwest lumberman Louis Jerome Simpson decided to build himself a home on the Oregon Coast.

It was the age of guilt-free ostentation, a time when mansions such as William Randolph Hearst's "castle" in San Simeon, Calif., and Scotty's Castle in Death Valley were no more than the exuberant expression of their owners' incredible wealth.

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More Positive Publicity



Michelle Bolduc, 5, of Bandon has the Japanese garden pond to herself. The pond, filled in with soil for decades, was restored along with the rest of the gardens at Shore Acres in the 1970s.



From coast to Keizer, light displays brighten the season

■ **Keizer:** What began as a neighborhood rivalry now attracts tens of thousands of sightseers.

By KEVIN MILLER
The Register-Guard

KEIZER — A strange glow fills the night sky just to the west of Interstate 5, immediately north of Salem, during the holidays. Passers-by who take the Keizer exit to investigate are rewarded with one of the largest residential Christmas lighting displays in the Northwest.

Barely an hour north of Eugene and five minutes off the freeway, Keizer's Miracle of Christmas display includes about 300 homes. It has drawn more than 100,000 visitors some years, nightly attracts thousands of cars and tour buses and annually collects several tons of donations for the local food bank.

It all sprang from a few neighbors deciding to see who could put up the snazziest lights as the holidays approached nine years ago.

"It was just kind of a friendly rivalry at first, and then it kind of spread up the block," said David Guile, an elementary school principal and one of the three neigh-



More than 100,000 lights adorn the cottage and garden at Shore Acres. The cottage is also decorated inside.

bors who inadvertently started the extravaganza.

Scott Justice, another of the early decorators, said the group was inspired by the movie "Miracle on 34th Street."

"We thought we'd create a 'Miracle on 14th Avenue,'" Justice said.

By the end of the second year, several neighbors banded together and held a work party to create more

than 100 plywood snowmen for displays up and down the street. They challenged other neighborhoods in Keizer to decorate their areas, and neighbors on nearby streets accepted.

One group adopted a Christmas card theme for its displays, another went with candy canes and still others used carousel horses, cartoon characters and the "12

Turn to KEIZER, Page 4F

■ **Coast:** Visitors will be greeted with cookies and hot cider.

THE FORMAL GARDEN at Shore Acres State Park will become a wonderland of 120,000 holiday lights beginning this week.

The lights will be turned on at 4 p.m. Thursday, and will be illuminated from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. each night through Sunday, Jan. 2. No admission is charged, and free entertainment will be offered between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. each evening, weather permitting. Least crowded times are before 5 p.m., after 9 p.m. and on weekdays.

The garden cottage, the sole structure remaining on the estate from Louis Simpson's day, will be decorated inside. Volunteers have baked 26,064 cookies to serve with hot cider during the light display.

The Friends of Shore Acres are also selling \$10 raffle tickets for a drawing to be held at 8 p.m. Christmas Day. The winning ticket is good for one night's lodging in the upstairs bedroom of the garden cottage on New Year's Eve; the garden lights will be left on all night, and catered breakfast will be provided in the morning.

Only 100 tickets will be sold; write to Friends of Shore Acres, P.O. Box 1172, Coos Bay 97420 for tickets.

KEIZER Continued from Page 1F

Days of Christmas" as themes.

Many of the displays are elaborate, with animation and sound effects. Justice had his house rewired to support more light strings after blowing his fuses one too many times. A drive through the neighborhood on a clear day before the display opens reveals several groups of neighbors helping one another get their lights up.

Right away after it started, the display became a traditional visit for residents of the Salem-Keizer area. Then a Portland television show did a feature on the event, and the ensuing nightly gridlock led the Keizer Police Department to get formally involved.

Now the police organize the event, selecting a one-way route and clearly marking it with signs featuring a "Sno-Cop," who resembles Frosty but wears a hat and badge.

The display is open nightly from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m., beginning tonight and continuing through Dec. 27. To get there, take the Keizer exit on Interstate 5, go west on Lockhaven, watch for the Sno-Cop signs and turn right on 14th Avenue, which is only a few blocks west of the freeway. Be warned that traffic can be heavy, especially on weekends. To avoid the rush, go on a weekday and get there as close to 6 p.m. as possible.

Allow an hour or two to tour the area. The Keizer Police ask that visitors stay on the marked route, not turn around in driveways, keep their headlights on and their seatbelts buckled. While admission to the display is free, the neighbors who put on the show strongly suggest a donation of some canned food for the area food bank. Drop-off spots are clearly marked along the route.

7th Annual Holiday Lights - Dec. 9, 1993 thru Jan. 2, 1994



THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - December 8, 1993

HOLIDAY EVENTS

HISTORIC HUGHES HOUSE at Cape Blanco State Park, Sixes, will include a Victorian children's room with angels and animals, as well as a Victorian wedding with elegant gifts and accessories. Dates for the Victorian open house in the 1898 home at the mouth of the Sixes River, from 2 to 7 p.m. each day, are Dec. 11, 12, 18 and 19, sponsored by the Friends of Cape Blanco. For information on this event call 332-6774 or 347-4794. Admission is free, but donations are welcome to help continue restoration of the home.

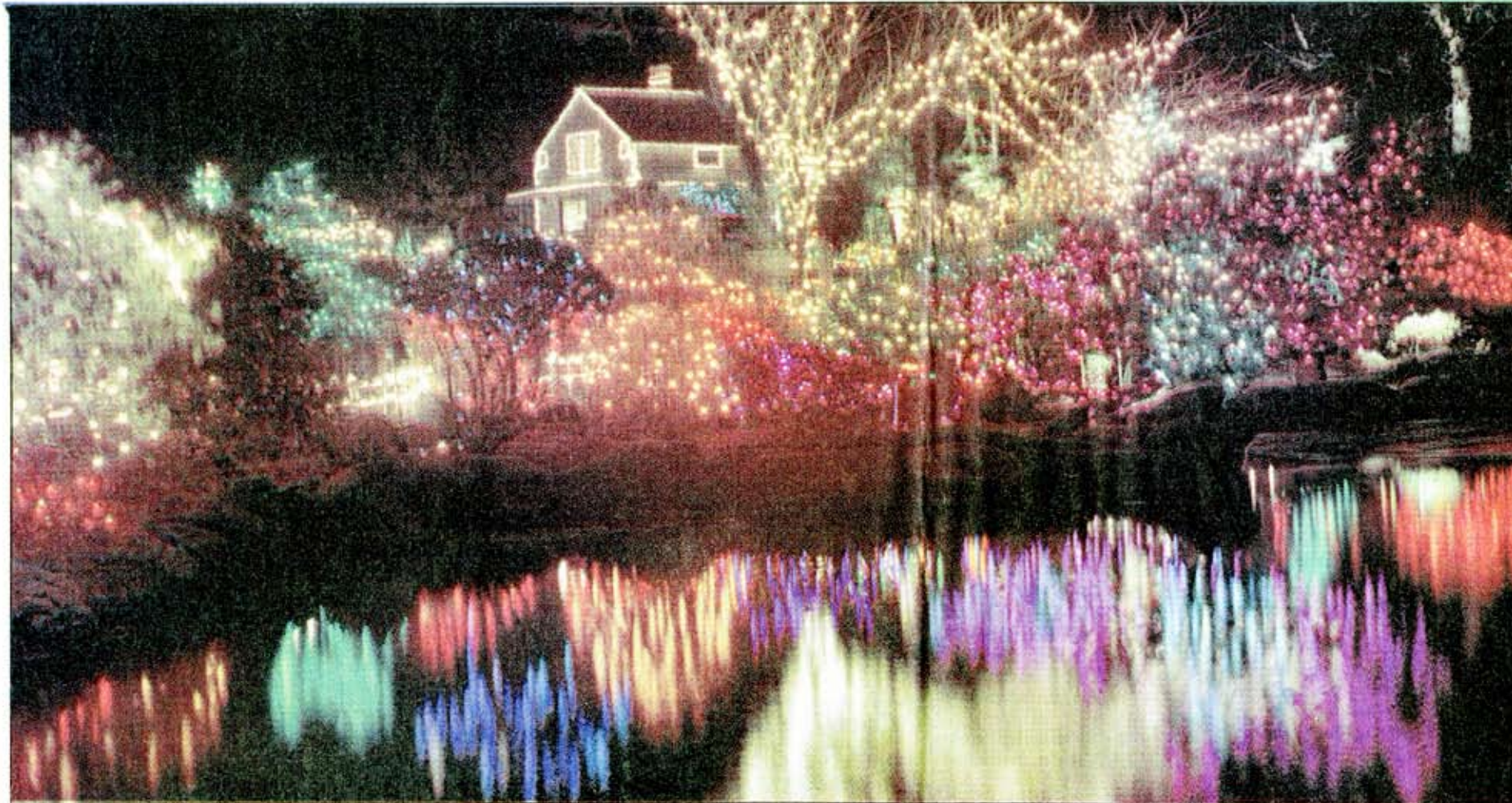
SHORE ACRES STATE PARK will feature 120,000 lights in the gardens opening Thursday, Dec. 9. The gardens will be open from 4 to 10 p.m. each evening through Jan. 2, including Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. There will be entertainment each evening and tours of the gardener's cottage with hot cider, punch, coffee and thousands of cookies served. There is **NO** parking fee at the park at this time of year. Admission to the lights is **free**. Donations are gratefully accepted to cover costs. Visitors can take the bus at 7:30 from the west parking lot of Pony Village Mall in North Bend on Dec. 17, 18 and 24. For further information 756-5401, 888-4902 or 888-3732.

MUSIC AT SHORE ACRES will be featured each evening of the Christmas display in the gardens (see related listing on this page) with the current schedule of performers as follows: Sweet Adeline's and the First Presbyterian Church Choir, Dec. 9; Girl Scout Troops 86 and 317 and harpist Carol Ann Smith (in the garden house), Dec. 10; musical groups from Southwestern Oregon Community College, Dec. 13; the Charleston Community Church and North Bay School, Dec. 14; a mime group, Dec. 15; the Bay Area Community Concert Band, Dec. 16; the First Assembly of God Choir and Boy Scout Pack 151 on Dec. 17; St. Monica's Catholic Church Choir, Dec. 18; flute players in the garden house, Dec. 19; Camp Fire and Girl Scout Troop 155 on Dec. 20; Boy Scouts in the LDS Pack 43, the Shutter's Creek Choir, and the Bay Area WomynSpirit Drummers, all on Dec. 21; choirs from Hillcrest and Roosevelt schools, North Bend and the Foursquare Church Choir on Dec. 22; vocal selections from Wanda Graham and Carolyn Riegel, Dec. 23; Golly the Clown on Dec. 24 and Jan. 1. Entertainment is still signing up for other evenings. If your group would like to perform call 756-2688.



Choir from First Presbyterian Church, North Bend
Director - Elaine Bessey - December 9, 1993





World photo by Mike Sweeney

Reflections in the water double the number of lights shining around the Oriental Pond at Shore Acres State Park.

Garden display grows to 120,000 lights

By Charles Kocher
Managing Editor

CHARLESTON — A seahorse and mermaid have joined the rock garden at the entrance to Shore Acres State Park.

It's one of the first images created by 120,000 lights that will begin greeting visitors to the annual Holiday Lights display tonight, a show that runs from dusk to 10 p.m. every night through Jan. 2.

In the garden, the pelicans are flying through the western corner of the formal

rose garden, which is anchored with candy-striped polls.

Pools of colors mimic each other across the main sidewalk of the garden, framed by new floodlights that create illusions of winter frost on the trees along the south and east.

The palm tree at the southwest corner looks like a shooting star, and blue lights add to the illusion of water falling along the Oriental pond, where the water reflections double the number of lights around it.

In the Garden House, the Alice and her friends are enjoying tea at the Mad Hatter's

Party, while volunteers for the Friends of Shore Acres are serving hot cider and homemade cookies to the real visitors.

Every vantage point in the garden offers a new view of the lights. And in the background, as a bass note to the holiday music on the loudspeakers, the surf is pounding on dark cliffs of one of Oregon's most scenic viewpoints.

With longer hours and more days in the free display, organizers expect more than 35,000 visitors to the formal gardens over the next 3 1/2 weeks. There is no parking fee at Shore Acres this time of year. Since

parking does get congested, organizers suggest carpooling and flashlights for the walk into the garden.

The free entertainment provided by community groups starts tonight at 7 p.m. with the Sweet Adelines barbershop chorus and the choir of the North Bend Presbyterian Church.

All the entertainment is subject to weather conditions.

And though there are 20,000 more lights than last year — the display has grown from less than 10,000 lights seven years ago — there are already plans for more lights.

Holiday Lights Survive Despite "Wild Weather"

Coquille Valley Sentinel, December 15, 1993

Weather this week was wild

The old joke around these parts "If you don't like the weather wait 10 minutes" might have been an understatement Thursday, as Coquille experienced one of Mother Nature's wildest days.

Thursday's weather here included heavy rain, high winds -- gusts up to 60 plus miles per hour -- with cold temperatures, then a serving of sleet and hail and then the temperature went up -- to about 60 degrees.

Bixxie Ferguson, longtime Coquille resident who lives on Rink Creek, said his gauge showed the temperature nearly 60 before midnight, higher than it had been mid-day, Thursday.

Resident shere Monday at press time were bracing for more high winds. The National Weather Service sent warnings to the County Sheriff's Office of winds gusting to 75 miles per hour along the coast, and the SO issued flood warnings for the coast.

Staff at the Sheriff's Office Monday morning reported winds gusting to 50 MPH at Gold Beach, and as high as 80 MPH at Cape

(Please see page 7)

Mother Nature puts on quite a show

(Cont'd from page 1)

Blanco at 3 a.m. Monday.

The storms that blew in and out of this area late last week did not cause any major damage, according to local police officials, but Ed Padgett reported his boat and its trailer, sitting in his yard, were flipped upside down by the high winds.

The storms did not result in any prolonged power outages, according to Pacific Power manager Faye Albertson. She did say, however, there were some spot outages, including some on North Bank Road, and the Bandon line.

She credited the utility's program the past six years of tree trimming, and that, coupled with facility inspections and pole replacement, has eliminated a number of outages even during very severe weather.

Pushed by above normal high tides, the rivers were all on the rise by Friday. The Coquille was over its banks late Friday in many

places and the fields were full of water by Monday in most spots.

In Coquille, city reports showed rainfall last Saturday at 3.79 inches for 24 hours, and 1.29 inches total for Wednesday, Dec. 8. Those were the two highest amounts last week.



Lights . . . and More Lights!

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore., Saturday, December 18, 1993

Regional news

Shore Acres display on each night through Jan. 2

There's lots of other lights to see, too, throughout the South Coast communities

By now, everyone should know that there are 120,000 lights shining in the formal gardens of Shore Acres State Park, a spectacular display that will be open every night from 4 to 10 p.m. through Jan. 2.

But on the weekend before Christmas, where else are the bright lights of the season?

The World has asked readers and chambers of commerce to recommend holiday lighting displays to be seen this season. Here's where they say to go see the lights.

Bay Area

— Friendly family holiday light contest between the Sherwoods, Slagels and the Darlington and Sellers. On Garden Drive in Englewood, off Shingle House Slough Road.

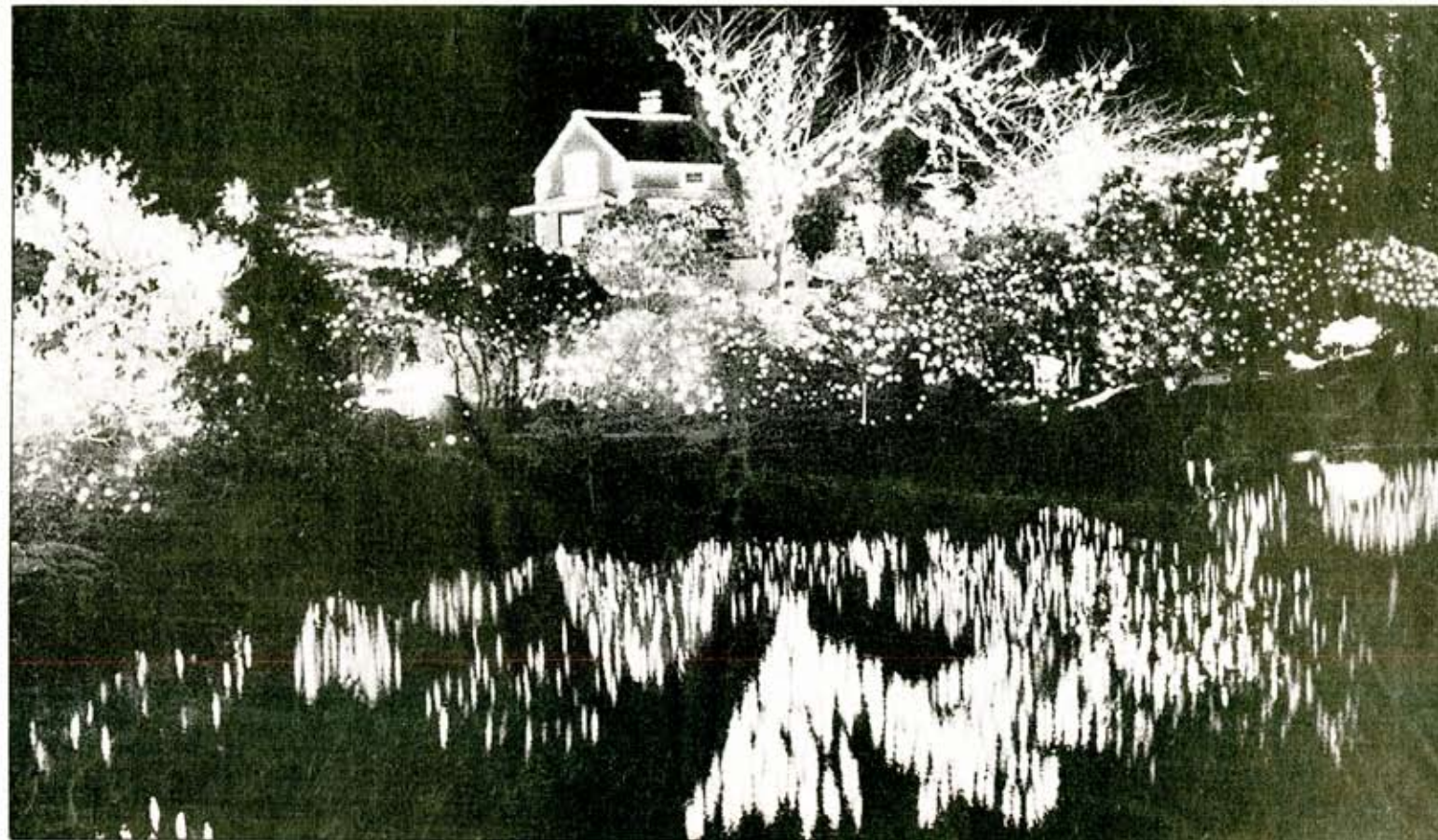
— At 420 10th Street, Coos Bay, the light display even goes up side of hill.

— Joe Benetti's home at 524 N. 10th St.

— In the Glasgow area there's a neighborhood contest on East Bay Drive east of Glasgow Store, including Bluebird Lane and Swallow Drive. If you keep going on Bluebird you will find a whole section of lighted homes.

— At 4886 Wildwood in Hauser is reported as having a beautiful display, also going up a hill.

— In the Empire district look for



World photo by Mike Sweeney

Free buses to see Shore Acres's lights leave Pony Village Mall at 7:30 p.m. tonight.

is on 18th Street of of Maple Street to East Willow, and left on East Willow to its end, where there is a well-lit house. Another special display is at Sixth and Harris Streets.

Powers

A beautiful display is between Birch and Cedar Streets and another house on Appleton Lane can be seen as you cross the Coquille River Bridge. More nice houses are as you drive out-of-town towards Agness.

Coquille

One of the outstanding displays on the entire South Coast is on 17th Street behind Towne Pump. Other special displays can be found throughout the Sanford Heights area and on Fourth Street and Nutmeg Street.

Florence

Although the Harvard Lights display in Glenada will not shine this year, there are several other locations in the Florence area to view Christmas displays.

The 200 block of Nopal Street is completely decorated with Christmas lights, according to the Central Lincoln People's Utility District, including four houses, two offices and an apartment complex that is completely decorated.

A two-block area around 10th and Oak streets is also heavily adorned with lights.

Announcements and Appreciation

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - December 29, 1993

Neighbor notes

There's still time to see the lights — the Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park. They're on from 4 to 10 p.m. every night through Sunday night.

Some answers to the most commonly asked questions by the stream of visitors that pour through the park:

- There are about 120,000 lights. In the first year, there were 6,000. It was the idea of Dave and Shirley Bridgham, who still coordinate the effort.

- The purple lights are General Electric, ordered through Farr's True Value Hardware early in the year.

- It took seven days to string the lights, with about two dozen people volunteering each day.

- The Holiday Lights project is the work of volunteers and donations to the Friends of Shore Acres, and is not funded with tax money.

- The work parties to start taking down the lights begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 8; any volunteers are welcome.

Lee Jacobsen of Bandon understand the true spirit of Christmas.

Jacobsen, the winner of a 51-inch

television in a Marine Corps League contest, donated the prize back to the League to help them buy more toys for children along the South Coast. Jacobsen bought only one raffle ticket.

Local residents made Christmas special for several of the inmates at the Shutters Creek Correctional Center in Hauser.

Inmate Ben E. Baker of North Bend said he would especially like to thank volunteers from the prison fellowship, McKay's Market in Lakeside and the prison staff for

making it a special day.

Judy Kobrin of North Bend has been named the director of marketing and public relations for the Coquille Economic Development Corp., the economic branch of the Coquille Indian Tribe.

Editor's note: The World accepts verifiable notes about our South Coast neighbors. Send them to The World, P.O. Box 1840, Coos Bay, 97420; fax them to 267-0294; or drop them off at 350 Commercial in downtown Coos Bay.

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - December 25, 1993

Whale watch starts Sunday along coast

FLORENCE — The sinter 1993 Whale Watch Week will begin on Sunday, Dec. 26 and end on Sunday, Jan. 2. Volunteers will be available at several watch sites along the Oregon Coast throughout the week.

The volunteers will be available to answer questions from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. all week. Whale watching stations will be identified by signs that read, "Whale Watching Spoken Here."

Watch sites along the southern Oregon Coast include: The Sea Lion Caves Turnout north of Florence, the Umpqua Lighthouse south of Winchester Bay, Shore Acres State Park south of Charleston, Cape Blanco Lighthouse south of Bandon, Battle Rock City Park, Cape Ferrelo south of Gold Beach and Harris Beach State Park north of Brookings.

Binoculars are helpful when whale watching and warm, rain-proof clothing is strongly suggested.

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - December 30, 1993

State Park dates set

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department has announced the following key dates and basic fees for 1994:

STATE PARK CALENDAR

- Jan. 1, 1994: Reservations postmarked Jan. 1 and later accepted for 13 reservation campgrounds for period between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

- Jan. 10, 1994: Campsite reservation processing begins.

- March 7, 1994: Campsite Information Center opens. Staff provides information on availability of campsites in state parks. Weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Inside Oregon 1-800-452-5687. Portland and out-of-state 731-3411. (Call the center before mailing reservation applications to assure available space.)

- March 19, 1994: Company's Coming Spring Beach Cleanup, 10 a.m. 1 p.m., most coastal state parks.

- April 15, 1994: Thirty-four

seasonal campgrounds open, weather permitting (16 remain open year-round) and 1994 camping fee increases implemented.

- May 14, 1994: Day-use fee begins at 24 parks: \$3 per vehicle/day; \$20 seasonal permit available allowing unlimited use of 24 parks. (Seasonal permits for sale beginning Dec. 16, 1993.)

- May 27, 1994: Campsite reservation period begins.

- Sept. 2, 1994: Campsite information Center closes.

- Sept. 4, 1994: Last day for campsite reservations.

- Sept. 25, 1994: Last day for day-use fees at designated parks.

- Oct. 30, 1994: Thirty-four seasonal campgrounds close; 16 remain open year-round.

Twenty-four popular destination campground's fees per night by campsite type: Full hookup \$17; Electrical hookup \$16; Tent \$15; Primitive \$9



Thank you

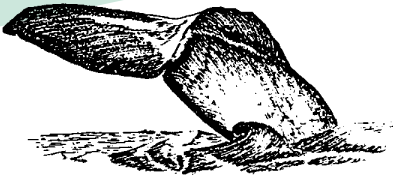
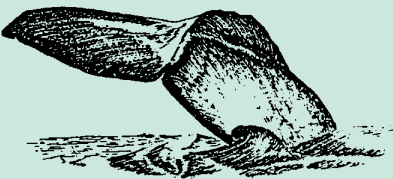
from Oregon State Parks

Dear Friends of Shore Acres

Thank you for donating buttons for the Winter '93 Whale Watch. The attractive buttons helped identify volunteers at whale watch sites from Cape Perpetua to the California border.

Record numbers of volunteers and visitors took part in the winter whale watch, and Oregon State Parks and Recreation is proud to be part of this program.

We thank the Friends of Shore Acres for their Support.



Record Numbers, B&B Winners and Shakedown

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - January 5, 1994

Shore Acres holiday light display attracts a record 65,000 visitors

CHARLESTON — It was a record-setting year in every way for the Holiday Lights display at Shore Acres State Park outside Charleston, according to organizer Shirley Bridgham of Coos Bay.

The display closed Sunday night, after attracting an estimated 65,000 visitors had come to the park to see the 120,000 lights on display.

That's the highest ever, according to Bridgham, and up 15,000 over last year when bad weather trimmed the traffic through the park. "Perfect weather" marked almost every night of this year's display, she said.

Bridgham, who calls this year "the best yet," credited it all to the cooperation between the sponsoring group, Friends of

Shore Acres; Oregon State Parks; and the donors in the community. Some 400 people, for example, helped pour coffee and serve cookies; it took volunteers seven days to string the lights.

That includes, she said, about \$15,000 in donations and raffle ticket sales during the Holiday Lights display.

The donations help cover expenses she said, including plans for even more lights next year — probably an additional 5,000 lights. The amount depends on electricity available in the formal gardens of the park, she said.

Winning the raffle to spend New Year's Eve in the Garden House, with the lights on, were Larry and Wanda Holloway of Coos Bay. However, the Holloways gave the bed and breakfast

offer to their daughter and son-in-law, Rhonda and Audra Duncan of Montana. The Duncans were married in August and didn't have a honeymoon.

Now it's time to take down the lights and do more planning for next year, according to Bridgham. The work parties are set for 10 a.m. this Saturday and Sunday; any volunteers are welcome.

The planning for next year starts with a "shakedown meeting" for all volunteers over a potluck dinner set for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 25, at the Coos Bay District Office of the Bureau of Land Management.

Next year's lights display is slated to run more days — from Dec. 1 to Jan. 1 — with the same hours, 4 to 10 p.m.



Larry and Wanda Holloway, Coos Bay, won the Ultimate Bed & Breakfast. They gave it to their newlywed daughter and son-in-law from Montana for a belated honeymoon.



Co-Chair David and Shirley Bridgham lead a lively discussion of volunteers' suggestions for improving the Holiday Lights event in 1994.

Congratulations

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - January 26, 1994

Chamber honors top citizens

Calling them "the original spark" behind the holiday lights display at Shore Acres State Park, Dave and Shirley Bridgham of North Bend were honored Saturday night as the Citizens of the Year by the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

In other awards, D.B. Western of North Bend was honored as the Business of the Year, Pearl Affholter as the chamber's Volunteer of the Year, and John Lemmons received the Prefontaine Memorial Award for student athletes.

The Bridghams organized both the Friends of Shore Acres, a volunteer group which serves the state park, and the group's Holiday Lights display. This year, the display of more than 120,000 lights attracted 65,000 visitors to the park.

For their part, the Bridghams shared the success of the Holiday Lights display with the community. "I've always said it's the community who makes it possible," said David after the award was announced. "The lights at Shore Acres could not go on every year unless all of you helped," Shirley told the chamber crowd of more than 250 people.

D.B. Western, a North Bend firm specializing in design and construction of petrochemical, resin and formaldehyde facilities, was honored for its contributions of computers and other donations throughout the community.

Company president Dennis Beetham, who was not present for the



Dave and Shirley Bridgham honored as Citizens of the Year.

award, was called "a man with a mission" to spread knowledge about high technology throughout the community.

He makes his employees understand, said Beetham's personal assistant Polly Linegar Parrot, "we should be constantly striving to improve ourselves, D.B. Western and our community."

Pearl Affholter, longtime restaurant owner and a volunteer for many organizations, was honored for her work this year on improving and maintaining the gardens around the chamber office.

Lemmons, who already won sev-

eral state and national awards for his performance on the 1992 state champion Marshfield High football team, was represented by his mother, Linda Lemmons, and coach, Kent Wigle, at the dinner. Lemmons is now a student at the University of Montana.

"There's something special in his heart," said Lemmons' coach in youth activity programs, Roger Gould, in making the announcement.

The banquet also served as the inauguration of incoming chamber officers, led by new president Mike Helfrich of U.S. Bank.

Oregon

PARKS AND
RECREATION
DEPARTMENT



February 7, 1994

Dave and Shirley Bridgham
3111 Fir
North Bend OR 97459

Dear Dave and Shirley:


I was delighted to read about your selection as Citizens of the Year by the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce recently.

I can't imagine that judges for the award could have had a difficult time selecting you as winners. Since my first visit to Shore Acres, which was at the 1992 Holiday Lights event, I have been truly impressed with this event and the fine accomplishments of your group in general.

I know that events like this and groups such as yours don't happen without a great deal of work and dedication by people like you.

I'm certainly pleased that your local community has recognized your good deeds, and I add my full congratulations.

Sincerely,


Robert L. Meinen
Director

RLM:jn
BRIDGHAM.LTR

cc: Andy LaTomme
Ron Hjort
Linda Lopez
Monte Turner



1115 Commercial St. NE
Salem, OR 97310-1001
(503) 378-6305
FAX (503) 378-6447

In the News . . .

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - February 14, 1994



Photo courtesy Friends of Shore Acres

John Menegat, longtime member of the Southwestern Oregon Rose Society, joined other society volunteers and staffer George Guthrie to prune over 500 rose bushes at Shore Acres State Park recently. Friends of Shore Acres provided lunch for the hard-working group — the pruning provides those fragrant blooms each summer!



BAY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

news

March 1994

together
"... ^ we mean business"



CHAMBER MEMBER OF THE YEAR PEARL AFFHOLTER

Pearl spends hundreds of hours each year taking care of landscaping at the Chamber. She replaces plants for various seasons, waters, weeds, fertilizes, "rigs" up sprinkling systems, organizes for replacement of dirt and obtains donations, many from her own garden!



BUSINESS OF THE YEAR D.B. WESTERN, INC.

D.B. Western, Inc., a research and development company headquartered in North Bend, builds urea-formaldehyde and resin concentrate plants all over the world. The company is appreciated for its vision and funding for local educational technology and programs, philanthropic programs, and business development efforts. Dennis Beetham, pictured here, is the founder and owner.



CITIZENS OF THE YEAR DAVID AND SHIRLEY BRIDGHAM

Thank you for the engraved goblets which we received with our Citizen of the Year Awards. We were totally surprised. We have always felt that our work on the holiday lights at Shore Acres is a community event, and certainly bigger than both of us. This recognition is very special to us, and we appreciate it.

Thank You

David & Shirley



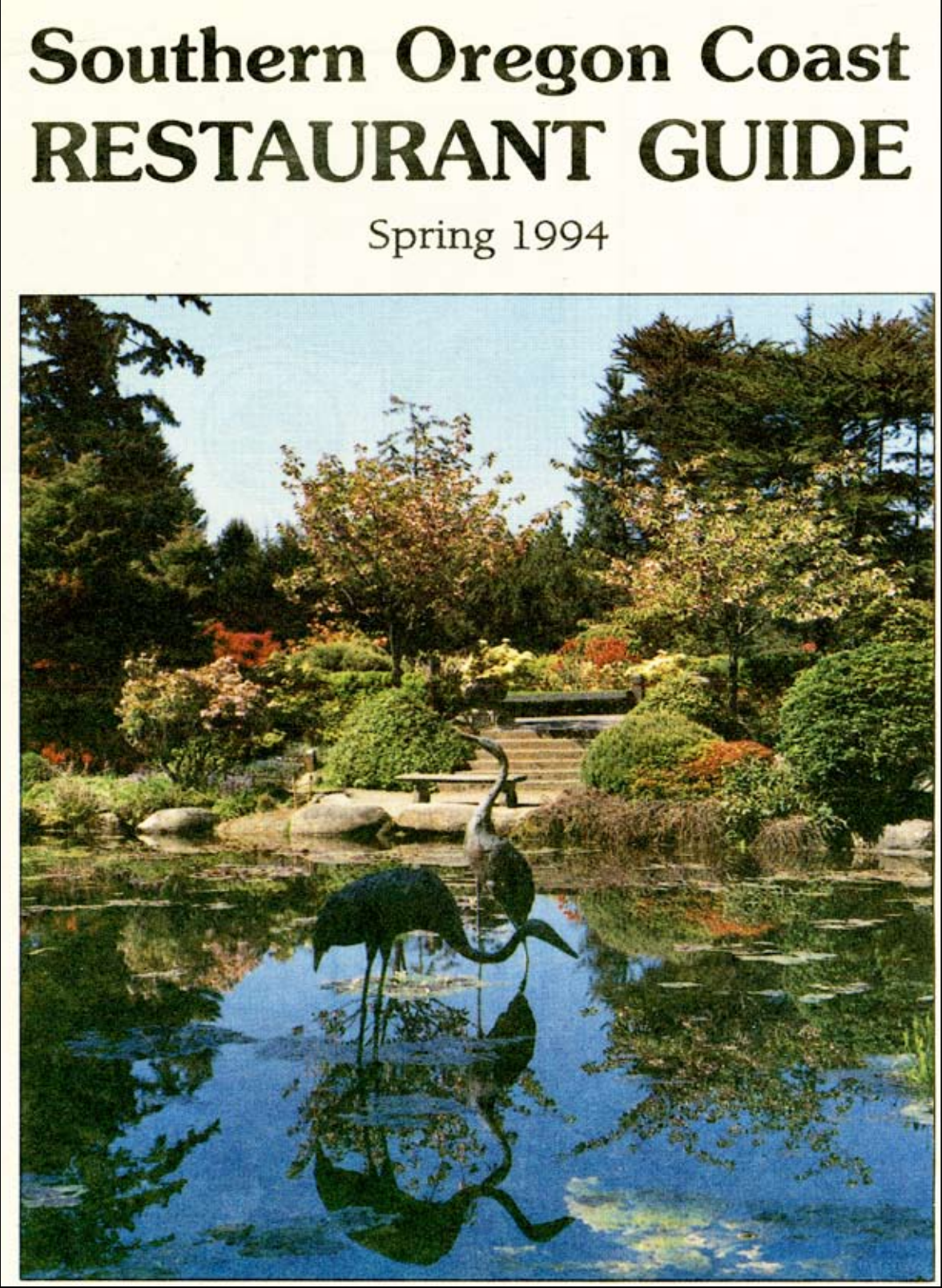
Members of the Chamber's Economic Development and Government Affairs Committees consider the Coquille Forest Plan proposal (story on center insert page).

Springtime Activities

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - April 8, 1994



Under construction, a new deck and ramp at the Garden House



Spring Cleaning – a Story to Ponder

by Gregg Nelson, FoSA Board Member – Friends of Shore Acres Quarterly Journal - Spring/Summer 1994



Brush and flush took only one hour - a new record!

On Saturday, April 9th, volunteers from the Bureau of Land Management and the Friends of Shore Acres gathered together to drain and clean the pond (fondly called the "Brush & Flush") in the Oriental Garden at Shore Acres. Cleaning the pond consists of brushing, shoveling, and hosing the accumulated debris toward and down the drain.

This year the cleaning process went like clockwork, thanks to the pre-work by the State Parks personnel. On Thursday and Friday, they "pulled the plug" to drain the pond, caught most of the goldfish (a few decided to go to sea), and removed all the potted lilies. They also trimmed back the overhanging vegetation, and chopped back the islands.

When the workers showed up Saturday, it had truly become a simple chore of brush and flush. The water was gone, the lilies were gone, the fish were gone - the only things left were the muck and the coins.

Martin Pike parked BLM's 2200 gallon fire tanker near the greenhouse, and a crew laid out three fire hoses to the pond. With 40 volunteer adults and children picking up coins, washing down the mud, sweeping, and squeegeeing (is this a word? What else would you call pushing a stick with a rubber edge on the end through mud in a cement pond?). **The entire cleaning took only one hour - a new record!**

The new drain, installed by BLM two years ago, worked very well, and made the pond cleaning, almost a pleasant experience. People who had helped clean the pond back when the final few hours of the day were spent doing a bucket brigade of muck, were NOT lamenting the loss of the "good old days".

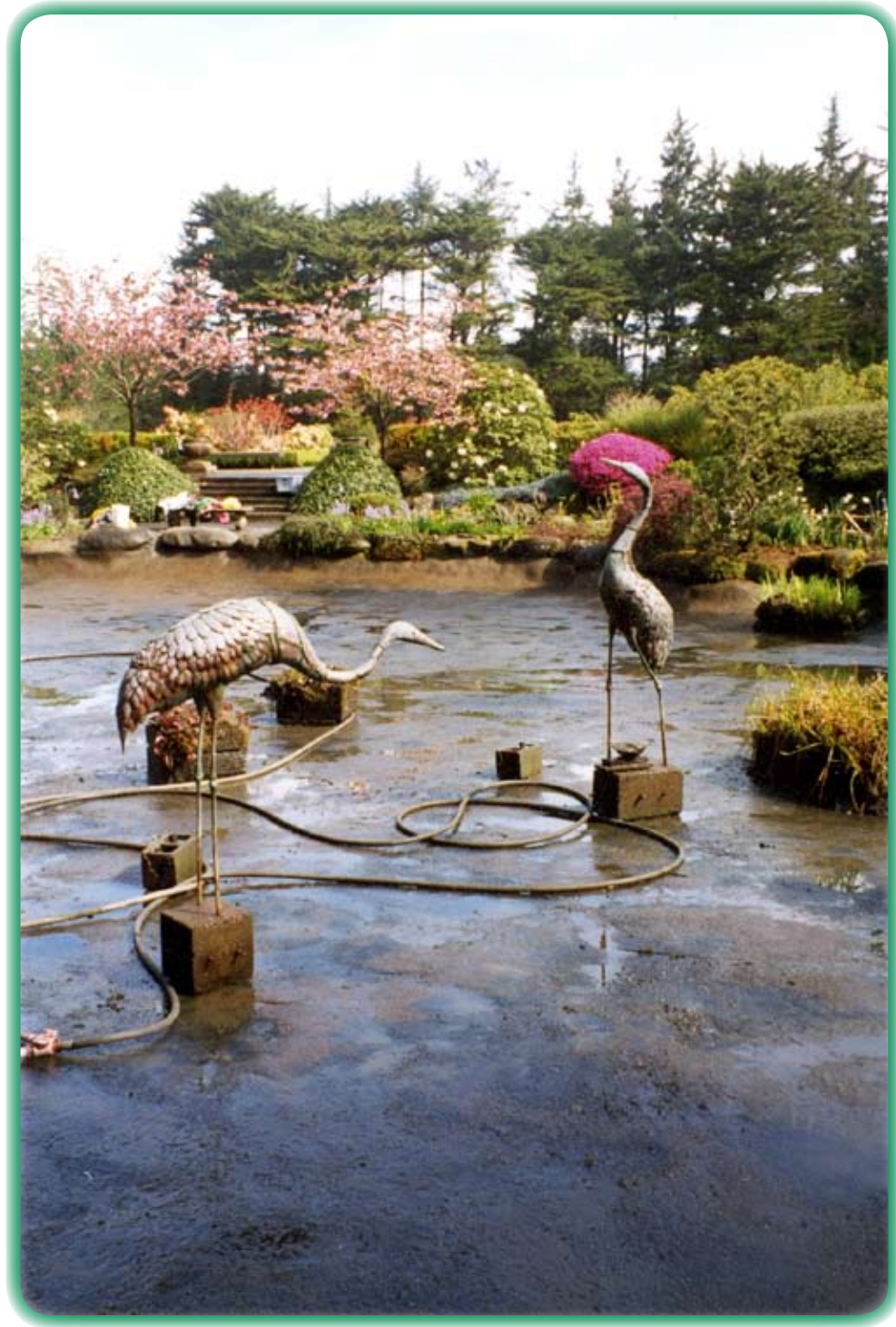
When the job was done, the Friends of Shore Acres barbecued lunch for the volunteers.

Thanks to all the volunteers from the Friends and BLM: Martin Pike, Roman Rodriguez, Lloyd Fritz, Cranson Fosburg, Steve Fowler, Mike & Jake Taylor, Kate, Laurel & Chris Hamilton, David Rosenkrance, Jon, Dora, Katie, and Charlotte Menten, Blaine Barklow, BreAnna Rifkin, Kara Wick, LeeAnne Bechtel, Maren Walsh, John, Tim & Jeremy Fields, Meredith, Miranda and Megan Childs, Luke Soules, Bill Breitmeyer, George Guthrie, Paul Rodgers, Ellie Kinney, Ray and Dotti Orazem, Archi Rosenthal, Ryan & Marcus Seiser, Travis Warnock, Carl and Tammy Humble, Mel and Karen Chase, Carl Sirninow, Shirley and David Bridgham, Bob and Doris Emmett, and David LaTomme. ■



Cranson Fosburg and George Guthrie flush and brush.

Partnerships Day Off



Saving coins . . .

May Brings Rhododendron Sunday

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - May 4, 1994

'In the Pink with Mom' offered at Shore Acres

CHARLESTON — Take Mom to Shore Acres State Park on Mother's Day this Sunday to enjoy the gorgeous rhododendrons and a reception in her honor at the garden cottage.

"In the Pink with Mom" is the theme for the annual Rhododendron Sunday at the park, from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 8. Sweet fruit breads and punch will be served at the cottage by the Friends of Shore Acres — the historic building will be filled with basketry works and creations by Shannon Weber, a weaving demonstration by the Heddles and Treadles Weaver's Guild and paintings by Jerry Baron.

Southwestern Oregon Rhododendron Society volunteers and chief gardener George Guthrie will be on hand to answer questions about rhododendrons and azaleas in bloom. The event has been chaired by Friends members Doris Emmett and Jo Hower.

The Friends information center will be open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday with floral mugs and cards, books on rhododendrons and other plants in the garden and other items available. Drawings for prizes will be held from 1 to 4 p.m.

For information call 756-5401 or 888-4902.

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - May 6, 1994

The weekend

THE SEASON

Mother's Day: It's not too late do something — anything — to let her know you love her.

SPECIAL EVENTS

"In the Pink with Mom" is the theme of a special open house Sunday at Shore Acres State Park near Charleston, celebrating the rhododendron blossoms with an art display and refreshments from 1 to 4 p.m.



Rhododendron Sunday - Mother's Day

"In the Pink with Mom" highlights rhodies, weavers, & artists

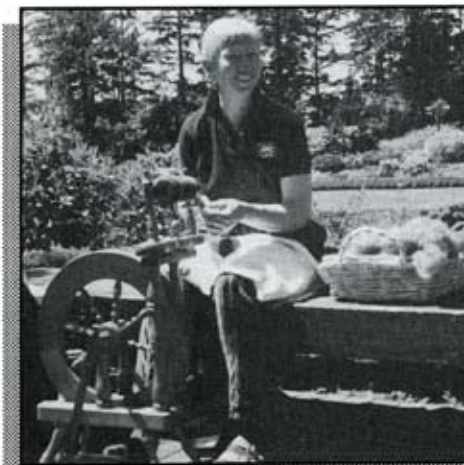
by Shirley Bridgham

Mother's Day at Shore Acres is always special and this year was no exception. While rhododendron experts shared garden tips with visitors, members of the Heddles and Treadles demonstrated their weaving skills. Jerry Baron's paintings were displayed in the Garden House and *Friends'* volunteers served fruit breads and punch.

In the Garden, George Guthrie and Helen Grey and Joe Howanic from the Southwestern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society gave expert advice on growing rhodies. A new rhododendron brochure produced by the *Friends* provided information to take home. Also, members of the Bay Area Artists Association could be found creating paintings for future exhibits.



Rhododendron experts give valuable garden tips.



Heddles & Treadles members demonstrate weaving skills and answer questions.

Kudos to Doris Emmett, chair of the event, George Guthrie, Helen Grey & Joe Howanic of the Southwestern Oregon Rhododendron Society, *Heddles & Treadles*, Jerry Baron, *Bay Area Artists Association*, and the *Friends* who served refreshments: Bob Emmett, Jo Hower, Carl Siminow, Ann Kopp, Helen Shefstad, Dick Van Natta, and Kay Valois.

OPRD News and Rose Sunday

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - May 10, 1994

State park user fees discussed

By Tammy Batey
Staff Writer

With most things in life, you get what you pay for. That's why a juicy steak costs more than an average hamburger and why a shiny red sports car with all the extras costs significantly more than a basic two-door with no extras.

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department will meet with Oregonians this month to assess public reaction on whether that philosophy should be applied to state park fees. In this scenario, sites adjacent to an ocean beach, a river or lake could cost as much as 50 percent more than standard campsites. And travelers could pay up to 50 percent less at sites near major, noisy highways or in remote areas with few services.

"It would give park users a broader menu of price ranges," said Andy LaTomme, Oregon Parks area manager.

The state parks department will hold 10 meetings around the state. Staff members will meet from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday in the Garden House at Shore Acres State Park, 13 miles southwest of Coos Bay.

At a June 30 meeting in Burns, staff members will ask the seven-member Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission to give Bob Meinen, parks director, the authority to establish differential fees based on such things as local prevailing rates, the day of the week, the season of the year and amenities of the specific day-use area, campground or campsite.

"The advantage for the parks would be to shift some of the use from intensely utilized parks to less utilized parks," LaTomme said. "We want to see if people see it in the same light."

Sunset Bay and Bullards Beach are popular local parks that may experience fee increases if the commission approves staff members' suggestion. William Tugman Park is a less popular site that would probably either maintain the standard fees or lower its fees.

See Parks, Page 10



State park user fees discussed

Parks from Page 1

Current camping fees fall within two ranges: popular destination campgrounds charge \$9 for a primitive site, \$15 for tent, \$16 for electrical and \$17 for full hook-up; all other campgrounds charge \$9 for a primitive site, \$13 for tent, \$14 for electrical and \$15 for full hook-up.

Beginning Saturday, day-use permits will be required in 24 state parks. Vehicle permits costing \$3 per vehicle or \$20 for a seasonal permit will be required through Sept. 25. Devil's Elbow and Jessie Honeyman park outside of Florence

and Shore Acres outside of Charleston will be among the parks assessing the fee. The day-use fee will be waived for Saturday's meeting.

Park officials say the day-use permit fee should boost the parks department's revenue. And although that's not the goal of adjusting other park fees, that change may attract more visitors during non-peak times and draw people to remote parks, funneling money into local communities.

Specific options that park managers will present at the community meetings include:

- Lower rates early in the week

and discounted fees at low use campgrounds, particularly during the fall, winter and spring.

- Variable day-use permit charges. Areas offering many recreation opportunities might charge more than the current \$3 per vehicle. The department might offer a discount on the \$20 annual permit if purchased before the season begins.

- Sale of a booklet for the 1995 camping season containing coupons redeemable for discounts such as: \$3 off camping fees, one night free with four paid nights at specific parks or one free night with two paid from November to March.

Page 10 - Shore Acres Spring/Summer Journal

Rose Sunday - Father's Day

Rose Experts, Photo Contest & Exhibit, Refreshments, Many Visitors

by Shirley Bridgham

Sunshine, fragrant roses, and photos were the order of the day on Rose Sunday at Shore Acres. In the Garden House an exhibit of outstanding photos gave visitors a chance to see photography by some of our area's excellent photographers. Friends' volunteers Ann Koppy, Carl Siminow and Dick Van Natta served cookies and punch. In the garden, George Guthrie and volunteers Alice Hobbs, Ed and Mary Anne Kreutzer from the South Western Oregon Rose Society shared valuable information about growing roses. And our new *Roses at Shore Acres* brochure was ready just in time.



Tree roses in rose circles attract visitors.



George Guthrie and Ed Kreutzer answer questions.



Friends' volunteer Bob Renner meets Harry Luckett.



"Aunt" Sabra and "Uncle" Harry Luckett were among the visitors. They lived in the second mansion at Shore Acres for a short time in the late '40s when Harry was park manager. Now retired, they volunteer many hours for the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

Photo contest winners

Photo awards went to Diane Becker of Port Orford, Marcey Griffin of Coquille, and from Coos Bay - Jean Carter, Archi Rosenthal, Frank Bryant, and Bernadette Smith. The photo contest was organized by Tony Mason and the Oregon Coast Photographers Association. Judges were Memo Jasso of Brown's Studios, Joe Williams of the OCPA, and Carl Siminow, Friends' board member. ❖

SEA Partnership With FoSA

Eugene Register Guard - June 14, 1994



Bill Russell (right) talks about sea lions and seals as participants spot them from Simpson Reef overlook.

Group offers tidepool tours

■ **Volunteers:** SEA Inc. shares information about life along the shoreline of the south coast with anyone who wants to learn.

By LARRY BACON
The Register-Guard

CHARLESTON — The quizzical look on her face changed to wide-eyed amazement as the Eugene woman closed one eye and put the other to the spotting scope.

"There's hundreds and hundreds of them," Linda Arnold exclaimed. "They're like sandwiches. They're all on top of each other."

Getting up close and personal via a spotting scope with the hoard of sea lions and seals at the Simpson Reef overlook south of Charleston has a way of exciting people. And sharing that excitement is part of the motivation for a group of south coast volunteers who enjoy telling people about coastal wildlife.

They call themselves SEA Inc., the short version of Shoreline Education for Awareness Inc. On weekends throughout the summer they set up their spotting scopes

Turn to WILDLIFE, Page 3B



WILDLIFE

Continued from Page 1B

and share their binoculars at Simpson Reef and Coquille Point and Face Rock near Bandon. The Bandon sites offer close-up views of seabirds such as common murrelets, cormorants and tufted puffins.

Between weekend stints at the viewpoints, SEA volunteers periodically take schoolchildren, or any group that wants to learn, on guided tours of local tidepools or the Bandon marsh where migratory waterfowl congregate.

"Anyone interested should just call," explains Bill Russell with a smile. "We'll try to find a docent to go out with any person or group."

Russell, president and a founder of SEA, is the head docent, or volunteer teacher. The word is special to Russell, a 60-year-old retired aerospace industry computer software engineer with long gray sideburns that make him look a little like Ben Cartwright on the old Bonanza TV show. Russell even drives a brown Ford van with custom license plates that say DOCENT.

The approach is low key. Docents at Simpson Reef don't deliver eco-sermons about the marine mammals. They just offer a look through the spotting scopes, and if people are interested, share a little information about the creatures offshore.

"We don't tell people they shouldn't go out there and disturb the seals," Russell says. "We try to help them understand why the seals are there, and how damaging it would be to the life-style of those seals if people did go out there."

"This is fun," said Jean Lobb, a retired office worker from Bandon who is new to the SEA program. "You get to see so many people."

Over and over again, Lobb tells about the four kinds of marine mam-

mals on Shell Island and the adjoining rocks. The big mass of dark-colored animals on the beach are California sea lions, explains Lobb. They're all males. The females and pups stay at the rookeries in California.

The lighter-colored ones that look like big hunks of driftwood are elephant seals, she says. Some grow to more than two tons. The big blond, bull-chested guy on a rock to the left of the island is a Stellar sea lion like those at Sea Lion Caves to the north. And the little spotted creatures on the rocks are harbor seals — some of which still have their pups.

SEA has 14 volunteer docents, and Russell says the group could use 150. He knows of no other Oregon nonprofit organization such as SEA, except for a group at Cannon Beach which uses paid interpreters to tell visitors about life along the shoreline.

Sunday was a busy day for the docents. More than half of them spent the early-morning hours catching a low tide so they could crawl around on the slippery rocks with an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife tidal zone expert learning about seaweed.

The expert, June Mohler, showed them dozens of different kinds of seaweed. About 600 varieties are found in the tidal zone, much of it is edible and none on the Oregon Coast is poisonous. Mohler left handouts, and the docents will have a lot to share about seaweed on future tidepool tours.

Russell said the volunteers have spent hours in classes and on field trips with professionals like Mohler, who have taught them about marine mammals, shorebirds, tide pool creatures, and shoreline plants. Not that the training makes them experts.

"You could go out and find hundreds of questions these folks can't an-

SEA Inc. Wildlife Viewing Locations

■ **Simpson Reef Overlook**
Viewing opportunities: California and Stellar sea lions, elephant and harbor seals

Location: Four miles south of Charleston on Cape Arago Highway

When: Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sundays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

■ **Coquille Point**
Viewing opportunities: Tufted puffins, pigeon guillemots, and black oystercatchers on offshore nesting rocks

Location: Near Bandon, go to Masonic Viewpoint at west end of 11th Street

When: Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., some Sundays

■ **Face Rock**
Viewing opportunities: Common murrelets and cormorants on offshore nesting rocks. Also harbor seals

Location: South of Bandon on Beach Loop Drive

When: Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., some Sundays

Call SEA Inc., 347-3683, to check schedules and arrange for special shoreline wildlife tours. Wildlife viewing stations operate weekends through Labor Day.

swer," Russell says. "But if you ask them most of the questions of interest to most of the people, they have the answers."

Friends Participate in July Jubilee Celebration

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - July 15, 1994

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12th annual July Jubilee marks birthday

When North Bend throws a birthday party folks are in for all kinds of new-fangled and old-fashioned fun — including a birthday cake and a baseball game.

One main attraction this year will be several hundred lighted motorcycles and other bikes in a "Light Parade" due at dusk (9:15 p.m.) Friday, July 15, circling Pony Village Mall, joined by a slew of antique automobiles and some lighted floats (designs for the floats are a secret around town, but at least one will feature some familiar light sculptures from Shore Acres).

July Jubilee princesses Julie England, Maria George, Heather Olson and Amy Sim will preside over the major events of the annual bash.

Each year the high school students visit businesses and nursing homes, as well as other locations in the community, serve as hostesses for several events, make appearances at all Jubilee events and at other festivals throughout the season.

This year, according to court spokesperson Pat Choat Pierce, they've decided to share their "princesshood."

The court will take a special role at a "Princess Story Hour" at the North Bend Library at 10 a.m. Wednesday — all children present will get a chance to wear a crown, dream of castles and kings and other courtly trappings. The ladies will share stories with a "princess" as major characters.

Young princesses and princes are encouraged to attend the reading free of charge, hosted by the Friends of the Library and the court.

The court will have corona-

tion ceremonies at 7 p.m. Thursday, just prior to a talent show at 7:30 p.m. at the North Bend Community Center, 2222 Broadway Ave., North Bend.

They will also help to cut the city's 91st birthday cake and cheer at the mayor's challenge softball tourney against Coos Bay at Ferry Road Park at 3 and 4 p.m. Saturday, July 16.

Over 50 girls have taken part in the 12 Jubilee birthday celebrations and Pierce says many keep in touch with her. They've gone on to a host of different careers and started families of their own, too. One got kissed by President George Bush while a cadet at the U.S. Air Academy, another just finished up a doctorate. For over eight years, Pat and her husband, Gene, have made an hour-and-a-half video tape for each of the princesses to keep memories fresh.

The lighted parade on the theme of "Cool Nights, Hot Lights," will form up at 8:15 p.m. Friday, July 15, in the parking lot at the North Bend Swimming Pool, according to John and Patty Molyneux of the Gold Wing Road Riders who are heading up the event.

The Riders, the South Coast Cruisers and the local "Hog" chapter of Harley Davidson owners will all participate in the lighted parade, John Molyneux said. In fact, the parade is open to any vehicle showing up at organizing time with lights — especially creative lights, he said. Organizers would like to have some idea of how many vehicles to expect, though, so give them a call at 759-3885 prior to the parade.

The antique vehicles in the



Princesses get an exciting cycle ride during the lighted parade around Pony Village.

parade will also be on display during the "Show 'n Shine" event from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 16 at Pony Village Mall with dash plaques given for special awards.

The vehicles will form up for the parade, then await the dark, starting about 9:15 p.m. from the

pool up 14th Street west to Broadway, then north on Broadway to come down Virginia Avenue to Pony Village — the lights will shine in a circle around the village twice, then exit via Vermont Avenue to Pony Creek Road, traveling south to Crowell Lane and then

to the North Bend High School parking facilities.

An ice cream social for all parade participants will be held about 9:30 p.m. Friday.

The weekend ends in that all-time tradition — the Mayor's Challenge Softball Game versus Coos Bay.

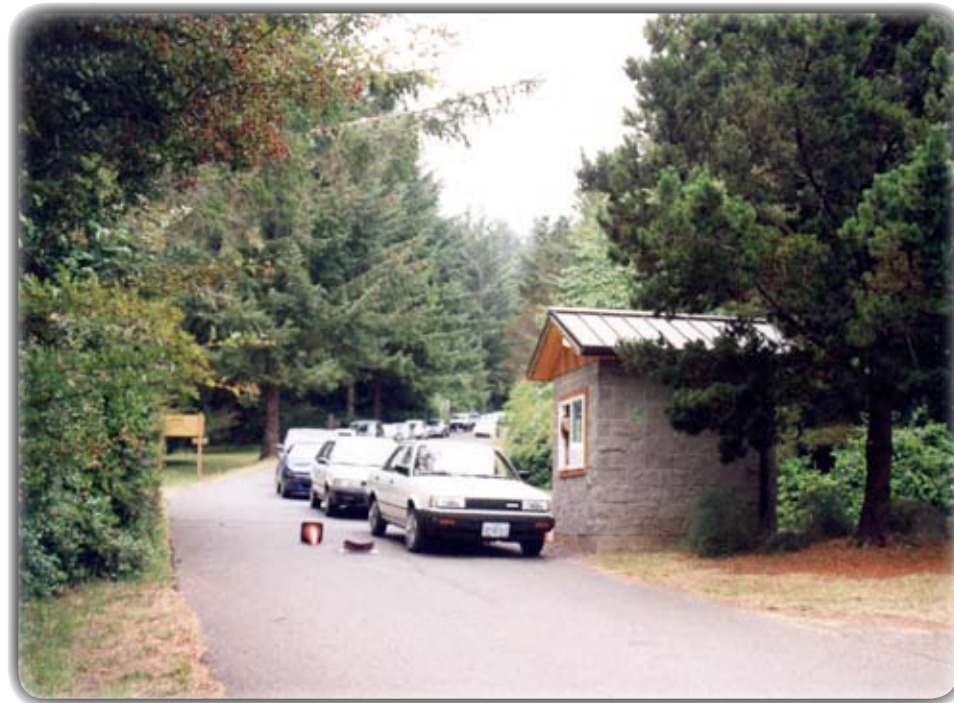


David Bridgman, Wanda "Kotch" and Tom Graham. Coos Head Builders loaned the truck for the float.



Friends' Holiday Lights float took first place in the North Bend Jubilee Light Parade — July 15.

Oregon Coast Music Festival Garden Concert – July 22



Cars were directed to overflow parking in the big field.

Oregon Coast Music Festival goes carrying picnic baskets, lawn chairs and blankets flocked to Shore Acres Gardens on a misty sunny Friday in July. A newly formed group of festival musicians delighted the crowd. The weather didn't dampen anyone's spirits and sundae sales went well. Parking was handled by Al Aslakson, Bob Valois, Don Harms, Bob and Doris Emmett, Cranson Fosburg, Frank Smith, Dick Van Natta, George Guthrie and park staff. Thanks to everyone who helped. ■



A sensational setting for a delightful concert



What a wonderful place to enjoy a picnic set to music.



Helen Barton, Vera Fusano, Ann Koppy, Gladys Ivy, Vivien Day, and Judy Aslakson were kept busy serving fresh raspberry sundaes and lemonade.

News and Notes

INTRODUCING LARRY BECKER - ASSISTANT AREA MANAGER, AREA 4

Larry Becker and his family have moved to our area from Detroit, Oregon (42 miles east of Salem). Larry was assistant district manager at Detroit Lake State Park.



The Becker Family - Barbara, Sarah, David, Kenneth and Larry



He has also served as a park ranger at Cape Blanco and has construction work experience with the High Chaparral Construction Company. Larry has a B.S. degree in social sciences from Western Oregon State College. The whole family is enjoying living on the Oregon Coast. ■

NEW SCULPTURE COMING . . .



Renowned marine artist Don McMichael paints the outline of the new gray whale lighted sculpture that will be displayed in the Gardens this holiday season. Industrial Services built the framework. Keith Ott, David Bridgham, Frank Smith and Don will work together to put the lights on it.



FRIENDS' VOLUNTEERS AT BLACKBERRY ARTS FESTIVAL - COOS BA7 - AUGUST 27

Board Members, Al and Judy Aslakson, built a new booth for the Friends. Judy spent considerable time making beautiful forest green skirting for it that was most fitting. It was the spiffiest space on the Coos Bay Mall! Helping at the Festival were Gladys Ivy, Winnie Pitsenberger, Bonnie Koreiva, Ellen Garner, and David and Shirley Bridgham. ■

Friends Celebrate Friends and Partnerships



Tom Green of BLM serves hamburgers and chicken.

On a sunny Sunday the end of August, about 70 members and volunteers of the Friends of Shore Acres got together for an informal Potluck picnic at the Gardens. Bureau of Land Management provided a large grill and BLM cooks, Lloyd Fritz and Tom Green volunteered to barbecue the hamburgers and chicken. What great cooks! Add the food brought by those who attended - we had quite a feast. President Ann Koppy introduced Larry Becker and his family to everyone and David Bridgham gave a brief overview of what was happening for the holiday lights. Carl Siminow set up a music system and everyone pitched in to help clean-up. Doris and Bob Emmett organized the picnic with enthusiasm and style. Great job! ■



Mary Pat Green signs up for the holidays.



Carl Siminow, Bonnie Koreiva and Barbara Weybright



Geno Landrum makes balloons for the kids.

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

Continued in Album 8:

Annual Year - September 1, 1994 - August 31, 1995

Album 7 - Completed March 10, 2018

Book and PDF Versions

CONTENT SOURCES - FOSEA PHOTOS, PUBLICITY
CLIPPINGS, FRIENDS' QUARTERLY JOURNALS 1993-1994

More Information:

www.shoreacres.net – Journal/Newsletters