



Shore Acres State Park  
Before Friends - 1986

Album 12





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.

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## 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.

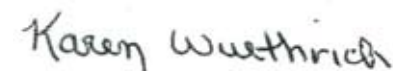
Andy LaTomme was asked to prepare a press release announcing the formation of the Friends with special mention of Mike Bodkin's contribution.

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, 1998 - August 31, 1999

## **Annual Meeting - September 8, 1998** **Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Conference Room** **Highlights of the Minutes – (Original on File)**

**D**avid Bridgham, substituting for President Gregg Nelson, called the annual meeting to order at 7:34 PM.

David read the Friends' Mission Statement and listed some of the Friends' accomplishments for the year: enlarged parking capacity, computer in the Information and Gift Center, and new carpet and vinyl in the Garden House.

Shirley passed out this year's 12th annual Holiday Lights brochure.

**Looking ahead:** Web site development with opportunity or order IGC items; work on the Interpretive Simpson Reef project in conjunction with U.S. Fish & Wildlife and BLM; a coast trail map and brochure covering from Sunset Bay to Cape Arago; at the garden entrance, a memorial wall of names who contributed to the Memorial Fountain.

**Election of Directors:** Terms expiring-Bob and Betty Renner, Gregg Nelson, Dick Van Natta, Mary Novak and Ellen Garner. Ellen, who has been on the board since 1989, has chosen to retire. Kenn Kennedy was nominated to take her place. With no further nominations, Bob and Betty Renner, Gregg Nelson, Dick Van Natta, Mary Novak and Kenn were unanimously elected to serve as directors with terms expiring in September of 2001.

There being no further business, the Annual Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted, *Betty Kennedy, Secretary*

**Directors Present:** David Bridgham, Shirley Bridgham, Barbara Taylor, Betty Kennedy, Mary Novak, Kay Valois, Terry Richards, Bob Renner, Chuck Lembke, Carl Siminow

**Directors Excused:** Winnie Pitsenberger, Ellen Garner, Dick Van Natta, Gregg Nelson

**Guests:** Larry Becker and Shirley Stentz of OPRD, Volunteer Glenna Stone, Board director nominee Kenn Kennedy

## **Board Meeting - September 8, 1998** **Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Conference Room** **Highlights of the Minutes – (Original on File)**

**F**ollowing the Annual Meeting, David Bridgham, substituting for President Gregg Nelson, called the Board meeting to order at 7:55 PM.

**Election of Officers:** President-David Bridgham; Immediate Past President-Gregg Nelson; President-Elect-Shirley Bridgham; Treasurer-Barb Taylor; and Secretary-Betty Kennedy. All were unanimously elected.

**Minutes of August 11, 1998** were reviewed and with corrections were approved.

**Financial Report:** Total Cash Assets as of August 31, 1998 - \$57,156.81

**Proposed Budget for 1999** was approved.

**Information & Gift Center (IGC):** Looking for holiday merchandise; more volunteers; and park hosts. Larry suggested replacing net with lattice. Mary said the dehumidifier needs to be repaired or replaced. Postcards were discussed. Bob Renner asked who would be setting up the Friends' web site.

**State Parks Report:** Park staffing down; work on the Garden House steps starting; restroom roofs completed; Dahlia blooms were damaged by deer; Fountain has been readjusted.

**Old Business:** Fuchsia Frolic was successful. Computer desk under construction. Discussion of Trailer needs, e.g., dehumidifier, better heating system, storm windows. Upcoming floral events- Dahlia Day Sept. 20 and Orchids 'Gems of the Rain Forest' Oct. 3. Annual Celebration Dinner Oct. 7. Co-op Conference in Baker City Oct. 15-18. Other business discussed: Pond resurfacing (\$8,000 est.), kitchen remodel, and sandwich boards.

**New Business:** Volunteer Appreciation Lunch Sept. 23; Holiday Lights - cookie bakes scheduled; sculptures are ready to be re-strung; lights stringing starts Oct. 31.

**Other New Business:** Need to contact Bay Area Artists for events; Carl asked for old lights for Museum Train and said he might be gone from November until February.

There being no further business, the Board Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Next Board Meeting - Oct. 13, 1998 at 7 pm, BLM Conference Room

Respectfully submitted, *Betty Kennedy, Secretary*

**Directors Present:** David Bridgham, Shirley Bridgham, Barbara Taylor, Betty Kennedy, Mary Novak, Kay Valois, Terry Richards, Bob Renner, Chuck Lembke, Carl Siminow, Kenn Kennedy

**Directors Excused:** Winnie Pitsenberger, Ellen Garner, Dick Van Natta, Gregg Nelson

**Guests:** Larry Becker and Shirley Stentz of OPRD, Volunteer Glenna Stone





# Friends Celebration Dinner – October 7, 1998



ur Celebration Dinner was a wonderful opportunity to extend our thanks to many of the people and organizations we are pleased to call our Friends - Community members who support and take part in our activities and who share the vision of what Shore Acres and the Friends of Shore Acres can be. They join an impressive list of previous honorees, each with a different story. But all are similar in their unselfish giving attitude toward our community and Shore Acres visitors.

**ANDY LATOMME- MANAGER AREA 4** - As you look at our early beginnings, you should know that one person stands out as the glue and inspiration to the Friends movement at Shore Acres. Back in 1986, when a dozen of us sat around a table discussing "what if?" Andy shared his vision of "what if" and asked us to dream, too. We did and we were so sure of our dreams, we all pitched in \$1 which Andy rounded to \$13 for the filing fee for a 501 (C) (3) status. We had great volunteers right off the bat. Attorney Mike Bodkin was at our first meetings and filled out our papers pro bono. Andy continued to guide us and share the Friends vision for a statewide volunteer group designed for local state parks support. He has held us to a high standard in all that we do. The result? FoSA is arguably the best darn co-op in the state parks system.

**GREGG NELSON - IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT, FOSA** - Stewardship is a large part of what state parks is all about. It's not surprising that an organization associated with parks is taught the values in stewardship as well. In the Friends, it reaches the highest levels with the president. Spokesperson, leader, head volunteer for a year. FoSA enjoyed stewardship from our outgoing president at the highest level. Soft spoken, always smiling, always looking for an opportunity for FoSA to partner with others.

**S.E.A. (SHORELINE EDUCATION FOR AWARENESS) - BILL AND JOAN RUSSELL, FOUNDERS** - S.E.A. is very similar to Friends of Shore Acres. Both organizations are all-volunteer; both do some of their best work in the rain; and both attract dedicated volunteers because the product and the process is meaningful. The Friends string lights and hold annual floral events. S.E.A. educates and informs the public about marine wildlife, teaching our visitors to understand and respect our wildlife diversity on Oregon's south coast. We have worked together a number of times and we are particularly proud of the interpretive work S.E.A. does.



President David Bridgham and Andy LaTomme

**DON MCMICHAEL - MARINE ARTIST** - Don's work is well known here and abroad. Don's artistic career has always included community support - O.C.M.A., Coos Art Museum, Rotary and others. We are fortunate to have world class artists like Don working in our community. Frank Smith and I have been doing lighted sculptures almost as long as we've done the lights. We started with the herons, then small sea creatures. As our undersea garden grew in size and popularity, I wanted to go "big." I talked to Don about the concept of a whale and he suggested "full size." We decided on 45' gray whale migrating south for the winter. Don designed the whale on a scalable grid and Industrial Services made it work for us. I challenged Don again with a leaping Orca concept. A series of sequential drawings of this marine creature leaping and twisting. A big hit during the lights. The most recent project Don has helped with are the popular pelicans flying across the gardens with one on the chimney. Every season, Don's work brightens up the gardens tremendously.

**CB/NB PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE - BEVE SAUKKO AND KAY HEIKKILA** - Have you noticed the TV commercials featuring the holiday lights, usually on KOBI or cable? The Friends don't pay for advertising - and it does cost money - sometimes a lot. The Coos Bay/ North Bend Promotions Committee has a mission to promote the greater Bay Area to the outside visitor. This is funded by hotel/motel taxes. We aren't in any position to insist they spend their money on the lights event. They do it because they believe in what we do, and honor our efforts with their support. A big thanks to previous director Kay Heikkila who knew a good thing when she saw it and Beve Saukko, the current director who share's Kay's vision.

**BAY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - KATHI JOY** - Another group that is in the promotions business. But the chamber does it differently, devoting staff, both paid and volunteer; answering questions, giving directions, suggesting places for visitors to go, answering phone calls and allowing us to use their 1-800 number for our press releases and brochures. These are all great assets to the Friends and we thank Kathi and the Chamber for their efforts.

## \* \* \* \* \* PAST RECOGNITION AWARDS \* \* \* \* \*

Bay Area Artists Association - Events - '96  
Bay Area Bonsai Society - Events - '96  
Marvin Blenz - Electrical - '95  
Bureau of Land Management - Pond Cleaning - '94  
Georganna Casey - Board Member and Secretary - '97  
Coos Bay/North Bend Rotary Club-Projects - '96  
Coos Bay Volunteer Firefighters- Lights Up High - '96  
Coos County Forestry - Trees - '94

Coos Head Builders - Trees' Delivery - '94  
Downs by the Pond- Water Lilies - '96  
Connie Eslinger, Past President - '94  
Farr's True-Value Hardware - Lights - '94  
Sharon Fortune- Cookies - '95  
Fred Meyer, Coos Bay - Apple Juice - '95  
Ellen Gamer- Information and Gift Center - '95  
Pearl Groves - Cookies - '95

George Guthrie Jr.- Founder and Board Member - '96  
Heddles & Treddles Weavers & Spinners- Events - '96  
Industrial Services, Inc. - Sculptures - '95  
Jim's Water Gardening - Lilies '96  
KCBY Television - Promotion & Video Production - '95  
Ken Kocher - Electrical - '95  
Ann Koppy, Past President - '94  
Kyle Electric -Electrical - '94



## A Chance to Thank Supporters and Volunteers

**MARSHFIELD HIGH SCHOOL-DAN GORDNER AND NORTH BEND HIGH SCHOOL-TONI JOHNSON** - Who do you call when you need a place and ovens to bake 3 to 4,000 dozen home baked cookies baked by volunteers? It's a big job that calls for a big kitchen.... To the rescue - the kitchens and staff at Marshfield High School and North Bend High School. Cooky sheets that hold dozens and large ovens that bake lots of cooky sheets at a time. Their well deserved award is not only for the facilities, but for the outstanding cooperation we receive from the food service directors at both schools.

**DAY SHIP SUPPLY - JOHN LEONARD** - You may have wondered what we do with all those cookies once they're baked. Our community is blessed with people who are willing to help. Now, we're talking a big job - our freezers aren't big enough. Day Ship Supply provides the ingredients at a nice discount, wraps our boxes of fresh baked cookies, freezes them, stores them, and delivers them to Shore Acres as needed.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, NORTH BEND - PASTOR DAN MYERS** - Who do you call when you need a place to cook the spice mix for our famous hot apple cider. The kitchen at the church is just the right size with just the right number of stoves. Besides, it's been said that the aroma in church the next Sunday is quite pleasant. We really appreciate Pastor Myers and church's support of this essential holiday lights activity.

**WINNIE PITSENBERGER- CHIEF "CIDER SPICE" COOK AND FRIENDS BOARD MEMBER -** Past president Doris Emmett organized early crews at the church. For the last several years, Winnie Pitsenberger has gotten the volunteer crew together. A side note the color of the new carpet in the garden house was selected on the basis of spilled cider and punch - good choice. Cider spice cooking is a big job, not to be looked at as minor. If you feel so, see Winnie for a volunteer time slot.



Award winners (L-R front) Joan Russell, Kay Heikkila, Beve Saukko, Winnie Pitsenberger, Bonnie Koreiva, (Back) Dan Gordner, Bill Russell, Dan Myers, Gregg Nelson, Don McMichael, Andy LaTomme, Kathi Joy (Unable to attend: John Leonard, Ellen Garner, Toni Johnson, Karen and Peter Crosby)

**KAREN AND PETER CROSBY** - "*In the beginning*," sound familiar? *There was no cider spice concentrate. But there needed to be some.* So after the first year, *there came to pass*, a couple - Karen and Peter - who said - "We can do this." *And there was cider spice concentrate*- a delicious blend of natural spices cooked down with apple juice carefully measured to transform a kettle full of apple juice into the best apple cider. We are renowned for what tastes like Christmas.

**BONNIE KOREIVA** - Our host teams in the Garden House do not organize themselves. 39 nights, usually teams of 16 or more hosts in the Garden House - serving our famous cookies, cider, punch, coffee, and lots of holiday cheer. Bonnie has been solving this logistic puzzle since 1990. It's a year 'round job - we already have host nights scheduled for 1999! Some groups have experienced "not getting their night." Bonnie has done even more. She helped create and narrated our holiday host orientation video- required viewing for host teams. Bonnie has a lot to do with the quality of the visitor

experience with the wide variety of host teams from Boy Scouts to Harley owners and car clubs to businesses and services clubs.

**ELLEN GARNER** - Ellen's work with the Friends has been involved with the Information and Gift Center. Saying that falls way short of her accomplishments for visitors on the south coast. A board member since 1989, Ellen remembers when our IGC was a garden cart that appeared when we could find someone to push it around the garden- sort of a traveling sales person. Then we moved in to a permanent facility with an 8' by 8'space. Eventually we built our current and much larger space with a storage room/office and a restroom! Through all these years - these changes - these growing pains - Ellen was there. She coordinated and helped train the volunteers and park hosts. Always willing to fill in when needed and smooth over a few wrinkles along the way - a true Friend of Shore Acres. Ellen retired from the board last September - a well-deserved rest - but says she's still willing to volunteer. ■

**Story by David Bridgham \* Photos by Luis Velasquez**

## PAST RECOGNITION AWARDS

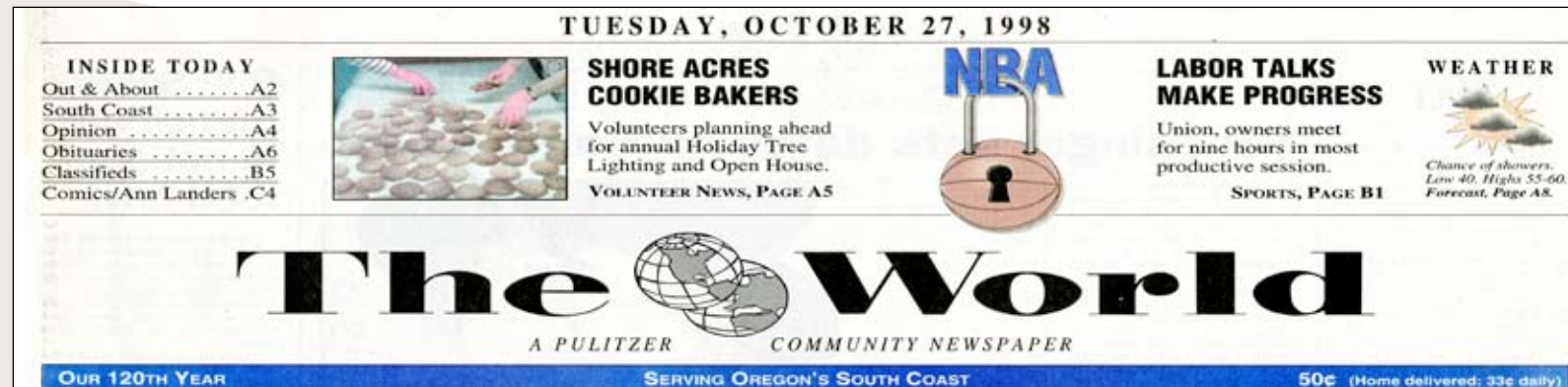
Lumbermen's Building Centers - Materials - '94  
North Bend Volunteer Firefighters - Lights Up High - '96  
Mary Novak - Information & Gift Center - '95  
Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc. - Juice - '95  
Oregon Daffodil Society - Events - '96  
Oregon Department of Transportation - Signs - '95  
Pacific Orchid Society - Events - '96  
Pacific Power - Electrical - '94  
Winnie Pitsenberger - Information and Gift Center - '95

Bob Renner-Past President '97  
Bernard and Jackie Schlaf -Photos - '95  
Security Bank -Holiday Lights - '94  
LaDoll Shannon, Family & Friends, Corvallis -  
"Old-Fashioned Roses Garden" - '96  
South Coast Wood Carvers - Events - '96  
South Coast Printing-Printing Discounts - '95  
Southern Oregon Dahlia Society - Events - '96  
SouthWestern Oregon Rose Society - Events and Roses - '95

Southwestern Oregon .Rhododendron Society - Events - '96  
Ella Mae Stuart - Cookies - '95  
Sunset Chapter of the American Fuchsia Society - Events - '96  
Richard Van Natta - Past President - '96  
Luis Velasquez - Photos - '95  
Vend West Services- Food Storage/Delivery - '94  
Marty Wheeler - Cookies - '95  
Yergen & Meyer, CPA - Services - '94



# It's Time for Cookies . . . Again



Thanks!



Lily Busick (R), Maxine Braulick and Helen Shefstad pack cookies in boxes.

Photos by Luis Velasquez

## Chocolate Chip Cookies Yield: 12,000

26 oz. salt  
50 lbs. dry eggs  
80 lbs. chocolate chips  
200 lbs. flour  
200 lbs. granulated sugar  
5 lbs. baking powder  
1 lbs. baking soda  
90 lbs. real butter  
1 quart vanilla

## Peanut Butter Cookies Yield: 12,000

219 lbs. margarine  
219 lbs. peanut butter  
191 lbs. brown sugar  
219 lbs. granulated sugar  
101 lbs. whole fresh eggs  
6 1/8 cups vanilla  
329 lbs. flour  
16 lbs. baking powder  
6 1/2 lbs. salt



Cooky bakers (Front L-R) Maxine Braulick, Helen Shefstad, Chair Ella Mae Stuart, Lily Busick, Fred Pantekoek (Back L-R) Kay Valois, Dan Gordner, Bob Young, Karla Kaudel, Donna Kaudel, Amanda Jones

## Shore Acres bakers



World Photo by Lou Sennick

Shirley Braulick, left, and Helen Shefstad box cooled cookies in the basement of the Harding Building at Marshfield High School. About a dozen Friends of Shore Acres volunteers spent Saturday morning baking approximately 16,500 cookies to be distributed to visitors during the 13th-annual Holiday Lights and Open House at Shore Acres State Park in Charleston. The volunteers hope to have 45,000 cookies baked by Nov. 25, when the light display will open. The recipe for one batch of Shore Acres chocolate chip cookies includes 26 oz. salt, 50 lbs. eggs, 80 lbs. chocolate chips, 200 lbs. flour, 200 lbs. granulated sugar, 200 lbs. brown sugar, 5 lbs. baking powder, 1 lb. baking soda, 90 lbs. real butter and 1 qt. vanilla. In all, 41 volunteers have put in approximately 416 hours baking cookies for the annual holiday event.



# . . . And Cider Spice . . . Again



Winnie Pitsenberger (L) and Irene Quick cook the cider spice concentrate in the kitchen at the First Presbyterian Church in North Bend.

## CIDER SPICE

Recipe: Karen and Peter Crosby; Chair Winnie Pitsenberger, Helen McElravey, Fran Spillman, Nancy and Red Weybright, Irene Quick, Helen Doving, First Presbyterian Church, Dan Myers, Pastor, Bob Valois (Transport to Vend West)

Thanks!



Filling and packing the spice cups: (L-R) Red Weybright, Helen Doving, Nancy Weybright and Helen McElravey



Spice Cooks: (Front L-R) Nancy Weybright, Winnie Pitsenberger, Helen McElravey (Back L-R) Helen Doving, Red Weybright, Irene Quick



Lou Leberti, Vend West Services, continues his tradition of picking up 100 cases of apple juice donated by Fred Meyer of Coos Bay. Lou stores the apple juice in his large walk-in freezers at Vend West and delivers it to Shore Acres as needed during the lights. **A SUPER SERVICE. WE APPRECIATE IT!**



# Volunteers descend to light up Shore Acres



■ **Display:** Park is receiving its makeover for the holiday season.

By **ANDY PORTER**  
Staff Writer

CHARLESTON — Under a gentle, misting rain Saturday, the lights started to shine at Shore Acres State Park.

Throughout the park, volunteers began putting up the first of what will eventually be 200,000 Christmas lights to light up the park nightly starting on Thanksgiving.

"You can always tell when it's time to do the lights," said volunteer

coordinator Shirley Bridgham. "It rains."

Put on by the Friends of Shore Acres, the Christmas light display started in 1987 with a mere 6,000 lights. Now that many go into one flower bed alone, Bridgham said.

Work on the display starts on the last weekend in October and continues each weekend until Thanksgiving. Between 50-60 volunteers will work from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to string lights, connect cords, erect figures and generally put the display together.

With lighting plans held on a fluorescent pink clipboard and protected by plastic, Bridgham and her husband David directed volunteers

to flower beds and issued instructions on the all-important "300 rule," which is to not connect more than six, 50-light strings together at a time.

In one flower bed, volunteers Shirley Champagne and Peter Downing were steadily arranging their lights across the top of a bush.

"Ready?" Champagne asked Downing. "Ok, fling!" and another string of 50 lights snaked across the top of the bush.

"I started doing this in the winter of 1995," Champagne said. She has helped ever since. She and Downing carefully watched their steps as they

See Lights, Page A12



Hauser resident Peter Downing prepares to toss a string of lights to a waiting Shirley Champagne of Coos Bay. They were among the volunteers at Shore Acres starting the awesome job of stringing 200,000 Christmas lights for this year's show. Coils and coils of extension cords, above, wait the stringers in various parts of the garden. Older lights are stored in boxes, above left, in a metal shed on the state park grounds. The standing light displays have been checked and ready for installation in the park at a later date.

World Photos by Lou Sennick



# Decorate the House and Light a Whale

**R**obynn Reed, Co-chair of House Decorating puts the finishing touches on one of the Christmas trees in the Garden House. This season's theme:

**“A Seashore Holiday.”**



Light stringers assess the outlines of the 5 sections of the leaping Orca whale. This year they outlined the design with new wire and all new lights.



Upstairs Study featured a wonderful display on the bookcases build by Butch Hutchinson last year.



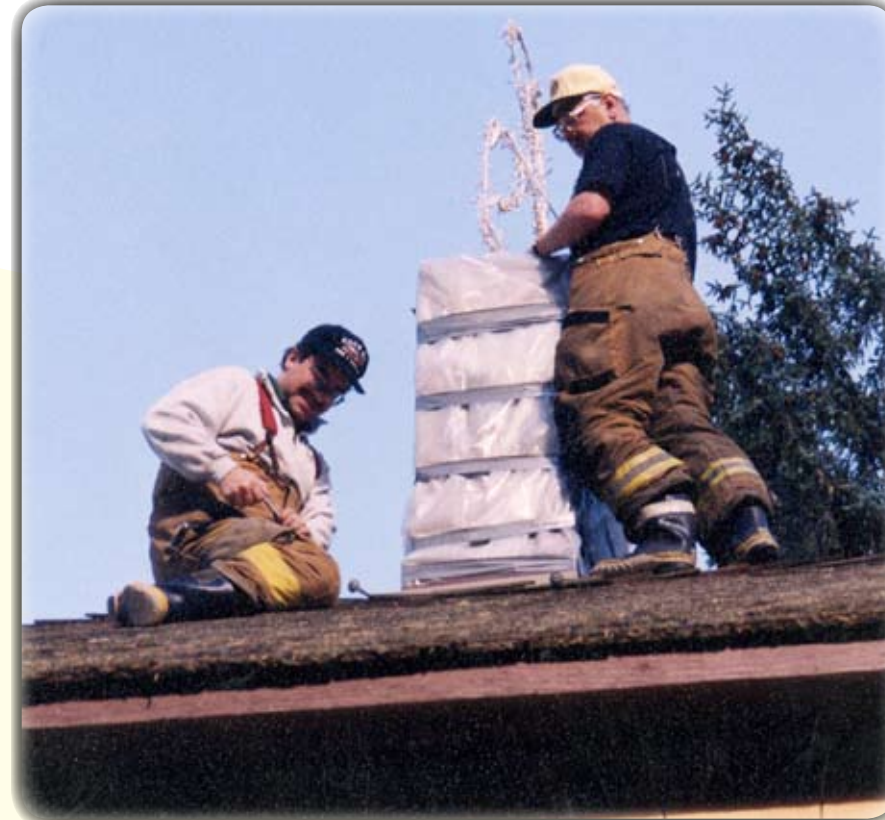
(L-R) Bob Renner, Bingo Sawyer, Kenn Kennedy, Fred Ehrman and Gregg Nelson



# Thanks to All Holiday Lights Volunteers & Supporters



In the Friends' storage building, volunteer lights stringers pose for a picture. (L-R) Front: Lou Kolkhorst, Kenn Kennedy, Betty Kennedy, Irene Sund, Cappy Klein; Back: Jim Arbuckle, Dick Sund, Kent Ferris, Sharon Kolkhorst



(L) Coos Bay Volunteer Firefighter Steve Schneiderman and Chief Stan Gibson get ready to put the pelican on the chimney.



Photos by Luis Velasquez



Coos County Foster Parents prepared lunch for hungry volunteers.



# From Dusk to Dark – A Miracle in the Making!



Photos by Luis Velasquez



# While the Whale Spouts, Hosts Welcome Visitors



North Bend Education Association Hosts



H.O.G. Harley Owners Group



New Year's Eve - (L-R) Ginger Sawyer, Vicki and Ted Chism

Photos by Luis Velasquez



## . . . And Entertainers Perform . . .



Marshfield High School Vocal Ensemble



Marshfield High School Band



Millicoma Middle School Band



North Bend High School Choir

**22 GREAT GROUPS OF VOLUNTEER ENTERTAINERS!**



# More Publicity Thanks to The World Newspaper

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - November 28, 1998

## *Lighting the way for the holiday season*



World Photo by Michael R. Dudash

A couple strolls among the shrubs and trees festooned with some of the 200,000 miniature lights Wednesday at the botanical gardens at Shore Acres State Park near Charleston. A preview night was held Wednesday for the volunteers who decorated the five acres of gardens. The 12th-annual Holiday Lights and Open House at Shore Acres opened to the public Thursday and will continue from 4 to 10 every night, including Christmas and New Year's Eve, through Jan. 3, 1999.



## HOLIDAY NEWS

# Volunteers take time to bring seniors to Christmas

**■ Tradition:** For six years, local older residents have enjoyed lights at Shore Acres.

A volunteer effort that is now six years old once again brought busloads of seniors to Shore Acres State Park to enjoy the holiday light display.

"I'm doing great, thank you," said Thelma Means, one of the many who were able to view the display thanks to the volunteers. "I'm out here almost every year on the senior bus."

Means and many other seniors who wouldn't have otherwise been able to travel to the light display converged earlier that evening from around Coos County on the North Bend Senior Center, where they filled three school buses, assorted vans and other vehicles to make the trip.

Mary Coughlin, who started out "kind of helping" six years ago and is now the main organizer for the effort, estimated there were about 125 seniors and their helpers involved in this year's trip.

Coughlin said the event began six years ago when Skipper's, a

now-defunct North Bend seafood restaurant "kind of started it for their senior citizen clientele."

Coughlin, who is an assistant manager at the North Bend McDonald's, said that "the first year they did it, they just had everyone meet back at Skipper's, and the second year they needed more help, so they came over and asked McDonald's if we would help and so we said 'Surely.'"

"Then Skipper's went out of business and it was 'Oh, now what are we going to do?'" Coughlin said.

What she and others did was continue rounding up donations of food for what is now a regular post-viewing party at the North Bend Senior Center, as well as recruiting help from local businesses and individuals to do a dozen tasks from driving to escorting seniors to playing Santa Claus.

"We have have so many helping," Coughlin said, launching into a litany of supporters.

"Bay Cities Ambulance helps, North Bend Bus Company helps, Sizzlers helps, McDonald's helps, all your fast food places help. I get wheelchairs from John's Medical Center in North Bend and the Home Medical Center in Coos Bay. I get clam chow-

der from Day Ship Supply, I get the milk from Umpqua Dairy, I get apples from Farmer's Market, it's just all donations."

In addition, she said, "Verger Chevrolet gives me two vans that helps pick up all the stuff and we get cookies from Safeway and we get a cake from Albertsons."

Volunteers also include helpers from the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and the Charleston and Lakeside Fire Departments.

After viewing the display Thursday, the seniors and volunteers returned to the North Bend Senior Center, where they feasted on clam chowder, cider, cakes and cookies to the music of the Gold Coast Musicians.

"It just keeps getting bigger and bigger. It started out with one bus and we're up to three buses this year. We just had to keep going because this is the only way some seniors can get out there," Coughlin said.

**Story and photos  
by Andy Porter  
Staff Writer**



Serving up hot drinks to visitors at Shore Acres, above, are volunteers Bill Grile, left and Giles Parker; at right, Thelma Means, in wheelchair, and Shirley Scott enjoy the Christmas lights at Shore Acres State Park Thursday night. Viola Lee and her escort, Danny Chapman, left, enjoy the holiday lights at Shore Acres State Park Thursday evening. The two were among many seniors and their escorts who visited the park that evening.



# Unexpected Snowfall – December 20, 1998



Photos by David Bridgham



# Volunteer families make lights shine at Shore Acres State Park

By JOHN GUNTHER  
Sports Editor

What would Christmas Day be without lights?

Fortunately, people who visit Shore Acres State Park don't need to worry about that question, thanks to a couple of dedicated families.

Since the holiday lights display in the park near Charleston went up for the first time 12 years ago, David and Shirley Bridgham have spent Christmas night in the park every year. Sonny and Helen Shefstad have joined them for nearly all of those years.

"It is our Christmas tradition," said Shirley.

She and David celebrated Christmas with their extended family last weekend so they could spend much of Friday at the park, checking the lights late in the morning to make sure they were all working and then opening the guest house at 4 p.m. They greeted visitors with a smile, a cookie and a hot cup of cider.

"Christmas Eve and Christmas is the one time we don't have organizations and businesses willing to commit 20 people (to help out)," Bridgham said. "Those are the two nights we know for sure we are going to be out there. That's ironic, because those two nights are traditionally the busiest."

Every Christmas, you can find the Bridghams and the Shefstads in the kitchen at the guest house.

David and Shirley "haul in" whatever volunteers they can find to help, and daughter and son-in-law Robynn and Mike Reed help whenever they can. Other families have occasionally come out to help on Christmas night, but none have been as dedicated.

"We don't mind working Christmas," said Sonny. "We get through dinner a little early and take off and spend the night out there. Christmas night is really busy."

The Shefstads actually volunteer three nights at Shore Acres each year — Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

"It's something we enjoy doing," Helen said.

The Shefstads are retired and their family is grown, though they get together with as many of their children and grandchildren as they can each year.

"Our family does get together on Christmas and we just tell them we have to leave by 4 o'clock to get out there," Helen said.

Volunteering at Shore Acres is just one in a number of activities they help out at through the American Legion (Sonny), the Bay Area Hospital Auxiliary (Helen) or other groups. Sonny and Helen also lead teams each spring during the Relay for Life, an American Cancer Society fund-raiser.

But there's something special about the holiday lights display.

"It's just unbelievable how many people come out there," Sonny said. "It's really a good thing for the community."

The Shefstads love holiday light displays, but say none compares with Shore Acres.

"At Christmas time, we've went out of our way to see the lights all the way from Ashland to Florence," Sonny said. "I don't think I've seen anything like Shore Acres."

That's the attitude the Bridghams share, also.

As members of the Friends of Shore Acres, they were among the founders of the original lights display 12 years ago and have organized it ever since.

"It's David's and my passion —

that's the only way to describe it," Shirley said.

They have seen the lights display grow from 6,000 white lights the first year to 200,000 lights of all colors this year. Hundreds of volunteers help string the lights in the weeks before Thanksgiving, bake cookies and volunteer on the nights between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day when the lights are up.

Shirley knew the tradition would be something special when 700 people showed up the first night seven years ago.

"It seemed like the community just took to it immediately," she said. "They wanted a Christmas tradition and we were lucky to have a place to do it."

The Bridghams don't consider their effort at Shore Acres to be work, and say the rewards outweigh the effort.

"It's not a sacrifice at all," David said. "It's really quite a pleasure for us to do that."

"It is so gratifying to be out there and to hear people's appreciation and astonishment at the thing," Shirley said. "We have a great time."



World Photo by Justin Harris

Posing at the Shore Acres Gardener's House in the snow are Shirley and David Bridgham. The Bridghams have spent Christmas night in the park for the past 12 years making sure all the lights are working and then opening the guest house at 4 p.m. Christmas Day and greeting visitors with a smile, a cookie and a cup of hot cider.



Photo by Luis Velasquez



# Holiday Lights – “Worth the Trip”

by Shirley Bridgham



Despite thunderstorms, wind storms, nearly 9 inches of rain, plus snow and freezing temperatures, more than 44,000 people visited the 12th annual Holiday Lights and Open House at Shore Acres. One of the comments in the guest book was, "A lot of hands and hard work created beauty for all to see! Worth the trip! - Ontario, Canada."

Visitors consumed 36,000 cookies and 1200 gallons of hot cider and punch and countless gallons of coffee.

While this season's numbers are down from the previous season (65,000 people and near-perfect weather in '97), satisfaction was high, donations generous, and the comments in the guest books are truly wonderful. All of us who work on this "community tradition" feel very appreciated and motivated to make it even better. As many of you know, it takes about 1,000 volunteers along with dedicated state park staff to make it happen. It also takes businesses and individuals helping with the purchase of new lights (100,000 each year), and donations of and discounts on the products and services we use.

One hundred B&B tickets sold out by mid-December and Ann Daubenspeck from Westlake, Oregon won with #53 - the second ticket she purchased. ■



Jack and Ann Daubenspeck - Happy Winners!



*Bed & Breakfast Winners  
Far Out Farm, Westlake, Oregon  
5 January 1999*

*Dear Shirley and David,*

*We wish to thank you again for your hospitality, and our wonderful New Year's Eve at Shore Acres. It was really a magical evening and an experience we will never forget. The clear night and full moon added to the beauty.*

*You asked us to write a little bit about ourselves. Jack is a retired engineer who modified airplanes. I am a pediatrician who retired in 1997 after 30 years of private practice in Seattle.*

*We have had our home south of Florence for nearly 20 years, but have lived there full time only since 1997. The house was built in the 1920s by a University of Oregon professor. We have seven acres with a fruit orchard, holly orchard, a large garden and bee hives. With these and the old house, we have no problem keeping busy.*

*We have always enjoyed the gardens at Shore Acres and look forward to visiting whenever we are in the Coos Bay area.*

*Thank you again, and have a very happy new year!*

**Ann Daubenspeck**



# Happy Visitors and Looking Ahead

44 States and Washington D.C. \* 140 Cities CA \* 99 Cities OR \* 68 Cities WA

## VISITOR COMMENTS

- The most beautiful light display we've ever seen!!! - Chicago
- Brings back the child in you - Spokane
- A highlight of our annual Thanksgiving reunion - especially like the light reflections in the rain! - Seattle & Walnut Creek, CA
- More beautiful than ever! - Redmond, WA
- Nothing like this in So. Calif. - San Juan Capistrano
- Great way to spend our honeymoon - Provo, UT
- A lot of hands and hard work created beauty for all to see! Worth the trip! - Ontario, Canada
- Very beautiful & imaginative - St. Paul, MN
- Been coming last 7 years - Salem
- Remembering Christmas as a child - Boise
- Made trip to see family a better experience - Sacramento
- One of a kind in Oregon - Beautiful - Grants Pass
- I like the cider and cookies - Phoenix, OR
- Wonderful - I've wanted to see the display for years and was not disappointed. Thank you for your work - Eugene
- Came all the way from L.A. - It is worth it !! - Los Angeles
- Great! - must come back - Vancouver, WA
- Especially liked Santa in the bathtub and the frog at the pond - Lakeside
- A great gift to the community - Medford
- Like walking in a fairy tale - Coos Bay
- Wonder lighting and warm cozy house - Bandon
- Wonderful community effort - Medford
- Worth the 400 mile trip - Milton-Freewater
- Stunningly beautiful and creative! - Portland
- Got me in the Christmas spirit - Toledo, OR

Thanks to:

*Al and Judy Aslakson  
Besides creating 900+ holiday volunteer buttons, they also pour over the guest books at the end of each holiday season. Al says he won't vouch for his deciphering of the handwriting but will stand by the numbers, which are amazing!*

*Shirley Bridgham*

- It gets better every year - Central Point
- Nothing like this back home - Queensland, Australia
- Beautiful - thank you for sharing - Medford
- Better than Shreveport, LA - Port Ludlow, WA
- Absolutely gorgeous - never saw anything like it! - Arizona
- Breathtakingly beautiful - San Jose
- Incredible, very much worthwhile - Brookings
- Beautiful - what a great way to get into the Christmas spirit - St. Helens
- Absolutely breathtaking! - Bullhead City, CA
- It is beautiful in the daylight - spectacular lit up at night! - Florence
- Thanks for the effort - Eugene
- Loved the pond! Great as always - Springfield
- Better each time, 5th year here! - Lebanon
- Absolutely incredible! (*The snow was a bonus*) - Central Point

**Oregon Governor's  
Conference on Tourism -  
Oregon's Bay Area,  
April 11-13, 1999**

## WHAT'S COMING UP - 1999

### BONSAI IN THE PARK

Sat., April 17 \* 11 - 4

Bay Area Bonsai Society Experts  
& Displays in the Garden House,  
Refreshments

### RHODODENDRON SUNDAY - MOTHER'S DAY

Sun., May 9 \* 11 - 4

Bay Area Artists Association  
Exhibit in the Garden House,  
Refreshments, Rhody Experts in  
the Garden

### MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN DEDICATION

Sat., June 5.. 2 PM

Refreshments

### ROSE SUNDAY- FATHER'S DAY

Sun. June 20 \* 11 - 4

Rose Experts in the Garden  
South Coast Wood Carvers in the  
Garden House, Refreshments

### OREGON COAST MUSIC FESTIVAL GARDEN CONCERT

Fri., July 23 \* 12:30

Sundae Sales by the Friends

### FUCHSIA FROLIC

Sat., Aug. 14 \*11-4

Fuchsia Displays & Experts in the  
Garden House, Refreshments

### DAHLIA DAY

Sat., Sept. 25 \* 11 - 4

Dahlia Experts in the Garden,  
Refreshments in the Garden House

### ORCHIDS: GEMS OF THE RAIN FOREST

Sat., Oct. 2 \* 11 - 4

Pacific Orchid Society Experts &  
Displays and refreshments in the  
Garden House



# Preliminary Publicity

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - January 25, 1999

## Auditions to be held for 'A Gathering of Finches'

The Waterfront Players have announced dates for auditions for its April production of "A Gathering of Finches." The play is based on the regionally best-selling novel of the same name by Jane Kirkpatrick. The play has been written by William Sipes, in collaboration with Jane Kirkpatrick and Judy Kobrin. The roles of Cassie and Louis will be auditioned at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 26.

Auditions for all other roles (nine men and nine women of various ages) will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

The play depicts the life of Cassie Hendricks Stearns Simpson, the fiery and passionate Victorian woman whose choices and ideas ran counter to contemporary views. Mystery and disaster shrouded her liaison with Louis Simpson, California shipping and lumber entrepreneur, founder of North Bend

and heir to one of the world's richest estates.

Simpson is also known as the creator of Shore Acres, a mansion and ranching estate with a legendary garden carved from the coastal timber and given as a gift to Cassie by her husband in 1908.

There are six principal characters in the play Cassie, Louis Simpson, Josiah Stearns, Cassie's first husband; Annie, Cassie's lifelong friend; Margaret, Cassie's younger sister; and a fictional character called Lotte (a Miluk Indian personal maid.) Lotte is the narrator for the story.

In addition, 12 actors are needed who will each play several roles. These multi-cast actors will help to tell the story by playing party-goers, secretaries, newsmen, gardeners, family members, etc.

For more information, those interested can call 751-0708 or 756-2900.

The Bulletin, Bend, Ore. - March 3, 1999



With four novels under her belt, author Jane Kirkpatrick has signed a three-book deal with a subsidiary of Random House.

## Story avoids gimmicks, yet holds reader's interest

Can you name three living Oregon writers who enjoy a national reputation? Ken Kesey, Ursula LeGuin and Barry Lopez come to mind. In the second circle — regional qualifiers awaiting a call from, say, the New York Times Book Review — the search is easier: Floyd Skloot and Molly Gloss, who were here last weekend; Craig Lesley, William Kittredge (who lives in Montana) and Jane Kirkpatrick, among others.

Kirkpatrick has logged four novels, all under contract with Sisters-based Multnomah Publishers. She's working on a new one, due in June of next year, with a new contract from WaterBrook, a subsidiary of Random House in New York.

Her current novel, which appeared last year, is "Mystic Sweet Communion." Don't let the title throw you, or the fact that Multnomah is a "Christian" publishing outfit. Kirkpatrick should satisfy all but the most conservative Christians, and at the same time deserves a wider audi-

### Review

"Mystic Sweet Communion" by Jane Kirkpatrick (Multnomah Publishing, Sisters, 1998; paperback, 400 pages, \$13).

ence. As a title, "Mystic Sweet Communion" is somewhat misleading. The novel is a large-canvas historical work (she calls it "fiction based on fact") that manages to be complex and reader-friendly at the same time.

In an era of "Pulp Fiction" on video shelves and Monica Lewinsky in the White House, can a 400-page novel with neither sex nor violence — the central character and her husband have a celibate marriage — hold a reader's interest? Kirkpatrick presents a strong case. Set in an idyllic



Kirkpatrick and her husband, Jerry, live on 160 isolated acres near Wasco — a move she calls the biggest leap of her life.

19th-century Florida community that's swarming with newcomers and tested by growth (sound familiar?). "Communion" is a first-person narrative by Ivy Cromartie Stranahan, a Christian feminist about 75 years ahead of her time.

Kirkpatrick spent two years researching the Cromartie and Stranahan families, the culture and anthropology of the Seminole Indians, and the history of New River — which became Fort Lauderdale in 1899.

See REVIEW, Page B3

## Life and art riding together on one road

By Andy Whipple  
The Bulletin

History is full of tales about exceptional athletes, musicians and chess players who displayed their talents early. With writers, it's usually a different story: a long and winding road of self-discovery, followed by a straighter but hideously crowded road to commercial recognition and a living wage.

With Jane Kirkpatrick, these routes are connected, literally as well as figuratively. She and her husband, Jerry, live at the end of a road whose last, single-lane, unpaved mile drops 1,000 feet to the edge of the John Day River flood plain. Kirkpatrick jokingly named the steep switchback "Rattlesnake Road." The view is breathtaking. On days when the mud on that 16-degree slope freezes, a similar response occurs to any driver of a vehicle without chains.

Kirkpatrick tells about the time Jerry had to drive up the road (after putting chains on his own rig) to rescue her. She knew for a fact that control of a skidding vehicle could be regained by turning in the direction of the skid and taking your foot off the brake. Instinct (and the lack of shoulder between the road and a bad fall) prevented her from doing so.

"That road is a metaphor for life itself," is how Kirkpatrick finishes the story. She'll also tell you that the 1984 move from Tumalo to 160 isolated acres in Sherman County was the biggest leap of her life.

"We'd had the property since 1979," she says. "Jerry was ready, but I was scared. I didn't think we could do it." Their spread, which includes some cattle and a barn plus a cash crop of hay and the beginnings of a vineyard, is seven miles from another human and 25 miles from a food market. The book jacket isn't exaggerating when it says "remote ranch."

See AUTHOR, Page B3



# Review: Seed for book planted years ago

## Continued from Page B1

The book opens with maps and a 2½-page list of characters — two-thirds of which are based on real people. There's also a glossary of Seminole terms.

Cutting to the chase, why does our heroine have no physical love life? All that can be said here is that it was caused by a childhood trauma (but not sexual abuse) that Kirkpatrick has woven into her story with great skill.

Ivy Cromartie Stranahan died in 1970 at the age of 91. Kirkpatrick was 24, and would wait another 24 years until the seed for "Communion" was planted.

It's yet another interesting story: She was in Bend, doing a radio interview with KICE as part of the promotional effort for "A Sweetness to the Soul."

Greg Cromartie, Ivy's great-

nephew, called the station from Texas to speak with Kirkpatrick. Would she be interested in the story of a spiritual activist in Florida? Possibly, she replied.

Kirkpatrick scribbled Cromartie's phone number on a handy copy of "Sweetness." After the interview, she graciously gave the book to a station employee. It took two years for Greg Cromartie's seed to germinate; when Kirkpatrick wanted to call Cromartie, she first had to remember who had the book.

"When I finally called him, the first thing I did was ask if he remembered me. 'Of course we do,' he said. 'You're the one we want to write the story. We knew you would be calling back.'"

Kirkpatrick's systematic research (see accompanying story) included a wealth of documents and

photographs, guided tours (the house on the cover of "Communion" is the oldest structure in the state), files and tape — video as well as audio. Kirkpatrick has a copy of an Ivy Stranahan recording, made the year before her death, talking about her experiences with the Seminoles.

"Before I studied Ivy's life, and her becoming a spokeswoman for the Seminoles, I didn't realize what those treaties really meant," Kirkpatrick says. "I didn't get it: The Seminoles were never officially 'conquered,' and as a result they got no benefits — no land, no money."

Of the more than 40 characters in "Communion," more than half are fully drawn individuals. Ivy and Frank are vivid enough to earn a slot in your memory's hard drive.

The finest writing in "Communion," a brief prologue and a final dream sequence that begs to be read aloud, frame the text of the novel the way a theme frames a symphony. It's Ivy who introduces herself by saying, "Never waste time doing what someone else can do, that was my motto. Still is." And it's Ivy who belongs to this stream-of-consciousness deathbed monologue:

*People wait like petals of patience. Understanding presses in: No one can prevent change or pain. Human love cannot. It can only prepare, teach, offer service to another with compassion, unhold them from deep within.*

It's also Kirkpatrick talking, and her voice has a conviction that no church can contain, a spirituality that needs no denominational boarding pass. A voice that's ready for national audiences.

—Andy Whipple

## Author: 'Everything fell into place'

### Continued from Page B1

"But whenever I was here," Kirkpatrick says, "I felt that this was the place we were supposed to be. After the decision (to move), everything fell into place."

Not immediately, of course: She and Jerry had no phone for 18 months, and then only after they anteed up for a trench alongside Rattlesnake Road. They camped in a series of trailers while they built their house. They used propane before they got electricity and drank bottled water before drilling their well.

There were magic touches, too: A couple from Bend, longtime friends, came and helped with the construction. Her parents brought rough-sawn oak from Minnesota. Jerry had it milled into finish tongue-and-groove flooring. For details on this chapter of Kirkpatrick's life, check out her 1991 work of nonfiction, "Homestead."

1984 was also the year of Kirkpatrick's first sale: a two-page spread in Private Pilot magazine. She had taken writing classes at Central Oregon Community College. Her previous formal education was in pursuit of a master's degree in clinical social work, which she uses in a three-day-a-week job in early childhood education with families of kids with special needs. The job is at Warm Springs, a two-hour drive each way. She's been making the trip weekly for 14 years.

Kirkpatrick has four novels to her credit: "A Sweetness to the Soul" (winner of the Wrangler Outstanding Western Novel award in 1995), "Love to Water my Soul" (1996), "A Gathering of Finches" (1997) and "Mystic Sweet Communion" (1998).

"Finches," based on the life of Cassie Stearns Simpson, wife of Oregon Coast timber baron Louis

Simpson, has been adapted for live theater. The world premiere will be performed April 9 by the Waterfront Players Repertory Co. of North Bend (watch these pages for details).

She recently signed a three-book contract with a subsidiary of Random House and is working on a novel that's due in June 2000. The fact-based story, though compelling, should not come as a surprise: In 1852, out on the Oregon Trail, 11 wagons are headed east (you read that right), all of them headed by women whose men had died and were buried along what proved to be a too-rough road of self-discovery.

"It's about stretching personal limits," Kirkpatrick says. "Boundaries. I had thought of calling it 'Where We Love' — that was Oliver Wendell Holmes' definition of home — and the publisher is thinking of calling it 'Turnaround Women!'"



# The World

A PULITZER COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

SERVING OREGON'S SOUTH COAST 50¢ (Home delivered: 33¢ daily)

## One lane open to Cape Arago

By ANDY PORTER  
Staff Writer

The vistas of Cape Arago State Park have been reopened to vehicles again, but access is restricted to one-way only along a stretch of road threatened by a landslide.

The Cape Arago Highway at milepoint 14, approximately 200 yards north of the park entrance, has been restricted to a single lane due to land slipping away underneath the roadway, according to Lee Sparks, assistant district manager for the Oregon Department of Transportation.

A concrete barrier and guardrail have been placed on the road to keep traffic from traveling on the undermined section. Motorists are asked to use caution when driving in that area, Sparks said.

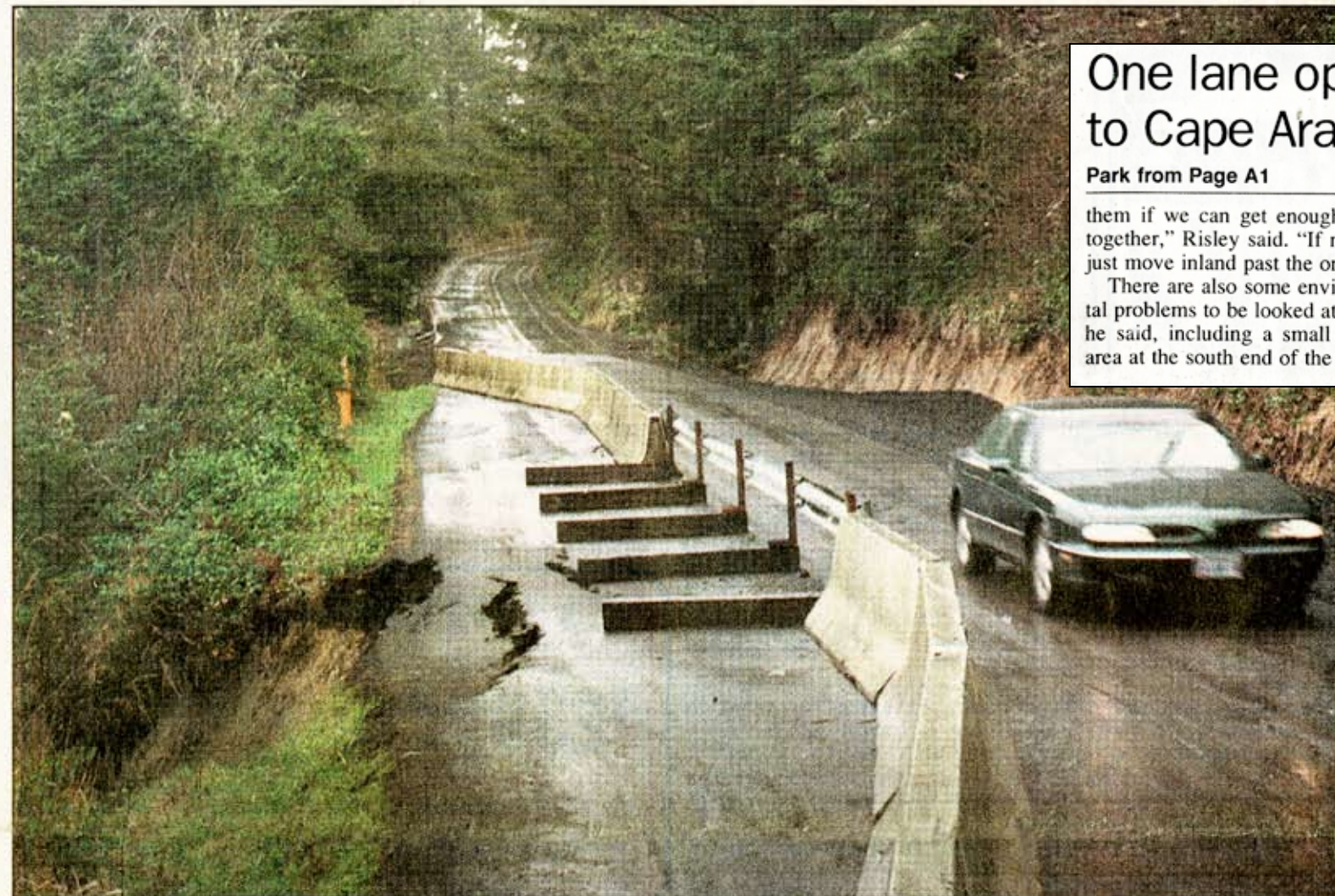
The road, which borders a steep cliff, was closed early this month when the slippage raised concerns the roadway may collapse.

Jim Risley, district operations coordinator for the Oregon Department of Transportation, said Tuesday an engineering study is being done to plan for moving the highway to the east, away from the ocean.

"It will kind of a two-part study," Risley said. One part will see what the cost will be to move the highway around the slide that's taking out the roadway now as well as move it away from another slide section.

"We would like to go past both of

See Park, Page A8



A car travels south on a previously closed section of Cape Arago Highway past a portion of the road that broke off during stormy weather and slid down the steep cliff. The final stretch

of roadway located approximately 200 yards before the entrance to Cape Arago State Park was recently reopened to one-way traffic.

### One lane open to Cape Arago

Park from Page A1

them if we can get enough money together," Risley said. "If not we'll just move inland past the one."

There are also some environmental problems to be looked at as well, he said, including a small wetland area at the south end of the road.

World Photo by Michael R. Dudash



## MILESTONES

# Cultivating the arts

Eyes on artist in the Shore Acres gardens

BY PATTI RICHTER  
Staff Writer

COQUILLE — Pat Weaver doesn't mind being on display.

In fact, she thrives on it.

Weaver was recently chosen as the "Artist in the Gardens" at Shore Acres State Park for 1999. Visitors to the gardens may see Weaver painting at many of the events that are scheduled there this year. Some of her work will be available at the information and gift center at Shore Acres.

"I like painting there," she said. "People are fascinated by it, but since I'm used to demonstrating, I can focus on the painting when I need to."

Weaver was chosen as this

“

*Art is an inner  
thing.*

Artist Pat Weaver  
on a lifetime dedication

”

year's "Artist in the Garden" after she submitted several slides to the Friends of Shore Acres selection committee. Her entries included one of her favorite paintings, Poolside, which was done two years ago at Shore Acres on a "paint out" with fellow artists.

She became interested in the program after her friend and fellow teacher Merrie Holbert was the artist two years ago. The program was created to increase public awareness of the beauty of Shore Acres Gardens and the work of local artists.

One of the things she really enjoys about painting in the gardens is the people. They eager to learn more about what she is painting. Weaver said that sometimes people stop by to watch here on their way into Shore Acres and then check on her progress again before they leave for the day.

But this 54-year-old spends most of her days demonstrating proper painting techniques to students at the Coquille Art Center off Highway 42. Not only does she teach them how to hold the brush and blend colors, Weaver



World Photo by Lou Sennick

Pat Weaver poses with one of her pastels of a scene at Shore Acres State Park. She is the 1999 Artist in the Gardens for the state park and will spend time at the gardens drawing and painting throughout the year.

helps students from the ages of 9 to 92 develop their own eye.

"I like watching beginners develop something and see what they have produced," she said.

Weaver moved to Coquille in 1976 and had lived in Myrtle Point for two previous years. She started painting when she was 13 years old in New Pine, which is near Lakeview, after taking oil painting lessons from a local woman there.

Weaver has lived all over the United States and has a bachelor's degree of fine arts from Virginia Commonwealth University and a master's degree of fine arts from

the University of Montana.

Her work is on display at the Coquille Art Center and Crystal Dolphin Gallery in North Bend.

Art has always been her full-time occupation, but Weaver has worked as a waitress at times and was a teaching assistant.

One of her more interesting jobs was as the director of the U.S. Army's craft shop in Korea from 1969 to 1974.

"It was interesting," she said. "It was sort of like living in a fish bowl. I taught guys to paint, take pictures and work with wood. I even learned how to

build a model airplane."

Weaver now paints in all mediums, including pastels and watercolors. The one medium she has stopped using as much is oil because she is allergic to it.

Weaver spends much of her time at the Shore Acres sketching and putting details in her pictures. She also takes photographs of her subjects to help retain the colors and placement in her mind.

"Art is an inner thing," she said. "To not be able to do it would be strange because I have always drawn. It is a part me and to be able to teach it is just a bonus."



# From Novel to Stage

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - April 7, 1999

## COASTAL CLOSEUP

### 'Gathering' to open at Waterfront Playhouse

"A Gathering of Finches" will be presented by the Waterfront Players Repertory Company beginning Friday and continuing on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through May 9. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7 p.m., Sunday matinees are at 4 p.m.

The script for "A Gathering of Finches" was written by William Sipes, in collaboration with Jane Kirkpatrick and Judy Kobrin, and is based upon the regionally best-selling novel of the same name, published by Multnomah Publishers. The novelist, playwright and director will attend the opening night performance on Friday, and will be invited to join in a discussion of the play immediately following the performance.

The romantic drama, directed by Judy Kobrin McDonald, which spans 30 years and four states, presents the life of Cassie Hendricks Stearns Simpson, who was married to Louis Simpson. Louis, who was inspired by Cassie to create the Shore Acres mansion and botanical gardens, was an entrepreneur who built the city of North Bend and held timber and shipping contracts throughout the Northwest.

In the lobby of the Waterfront Playhouse at Pony Village Mall in North Bend, there will be an exhibit of rarely seen photographs of the Simpsons, digitally recreated by Lowell Kobrin from the original photographs held by the family. The display, which will be open to the pub-



Contributed Photo

**Members of the cast of "A Gathering of Finches" rehearse in preparation for opening night on Friday. The novelist, playwright and director will attend the premier performance of the play, based on the life of Cassie Hendricks Stearns Simpson, and will take part in a discussion of the play following the 7 p.m. performance.**

lic one hour before performances, will include an authentic "environment" along with the photo display.

A portion of the proceeds from the play will benefit the Friends of

Shore Acres. The exhibit photographs will be donated to the Coos County Historical Society Museum following the run of the show.

Tickets for the production are

available by cash or check at the House of Books in the Pony Village Mall. Telephone orders can be made by calling the playhouse at 751-0708.

THE WATERFRONT PLAYERS REPERTORY  
COMPANY, IN COOPERATION WITH  
MULTNOMAH PUBLISHERS,  
PRESENTS THE WORLD PREMIER OF

## A Gathering of Finches

by William Sipes, in collaboration  
with Jane Kirkpatrick and Judy Kobrin

Based on the novel by Jane Kirkpatrick  
Directed by Judy Kobrin McDonald

**APRIL 9 through MAY 9**  
Fridays and Saturdays, 7 PM & Sundays, 4 PM

All seats \$10 (a portion of which will benefit the Friends of Shore Acres)

Exclusive ticket outlet: House of Books, Pony Village Mall, (541) 756-3222  
For group reservations call the Waterfront Playhouse ticket office at (541) 751-0708



**WATERFRONT PLAYHOUSE**  
**Pony Village Mall, North Bend**



J. K. McD, 1999



# Meet the Author – Jane Kirkpatrick

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - April 13, 1999

## OUT & ABOUT

### DAILY DIGEST

**THE SPRING FLING TALENT SHOW**, showcasing the diversity of entertainment of the high school generation, will be presented at 7 p.m. on Thursday at the Marshfield High School Auditorium. Doors open at 6 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for students and senior citizens, and children 12 and under \$2. Proceeds go toward scholarships for the top three winners and a contribution to the Doernbecher Children's Hospital in Portland.

**ROUGH STOCK RODEO** will be held at the Curry County Fairgrounds arena in Gold Beach on Friday and Saturday. Advance tickets are \$10 and available at the Rogue Outdoor Store in Gold Beach. Tickets will be \$12 at the door. Ages 6 and under free. For information call (541) 247-4541.

**'THE ELVES AND THE SHOE-MAKER,'** a play for the whole family, continues through April 24 at the On Broadway Theater in Coos Bay. The all-children production plays on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. with Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Reservations and tickets are available at The Box Office in downtown Coos Bay, 269-2720.

**THE 1998-99 TEXACO-METROPOLITAN OPERA** radio season comes to a close on Saturday with the broadcast premiere of George Frideric Handel's "Giulio Cesare." The opera will be broadcast live from the stage of the Metropolitan Opera House at 10:30 a.m. over the Texaco-

### *Author speaks at premiere*



World Photos by Michael R. Dudash

Author Jane Kirkpatrick, right, talked with audience members following the premiere of "A Gathering of Finches," a play based on her novel of the same name at the Waterfront Playhouse in the Pony Village Mall in North Bend. A capacity crowd gave a raucous ovation at the end of the opening night performance Friday evening. Above, Kirkpatrick signs a copy of her novel for Peggy Varner-Hall following the premiere performance of her novel based on the life of Louis and Cassie Simpson. The play runs through May with tickets available at the House of Books at Pony Village Mall. Showtimes are 7 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays with Sunday matinees at 4 p.m.





# Welcome, Oregon Governor's Conference on Tourism

by David Bridgham, President



Shore Acres State Park enjoys the distinction of being called the "Crown Jewel" of the Oregon State Parks System.

According to state visitor records, our beautiful park has remained in the top ten most visited public areas in Oregon. State parks and the Friends work hard to spruce-up and prepare for the spring and summer visitor seasons. The gardens and all the visitor services we pride ourselves on always need attention.

This spring is special. Several hundred professionals in the tourism industry throughout Oregon will visit us during the

1999 Oregon Governor's Conference on Tourism, April 11-13.

Among the many activities planned, conference goers will visit Shore Acres for a late afternoon-evening dinner and an educational discovery of our area. It's a unique opportunity for all of us to show off and reacquaint many to our special part of the world.

Special activities at Shore Acres include a dinner under a huge tent, docent tours of the gardens, a discussion with Jane Kirkpatrick, the author of "A Gathering of the Finches," and a review of what we Friends are and what we do. What a wonderful opportunity to talk to tour leaders, travel agents, directors of Chambers of Commerce and visitor information centers across Oregon.

Conference participants are visiting many sites around our Bay Area and I know we will do our best to make the Shore Acres visit a favorite.

Volunteers will help us recreate a portion of the "Holiday Lights" by stringing lights in the flower beds adjacent to the garden house. The decorations have been left in place inside the garden house since Holiday Lights '98. State Parks staff have been very helpful by letting us leave the lights on the outside of the house and turning them on for us each day for a couple of hours. You'd be surprised how quickly the lights deteriorate without daily attention.

We are excited to be a part of this big conference in the Bay Area. It has been a huge undertaking to plan and organize and we extend our thanks to the dedicated citizens in our community who are making it possible. ■



A giant tent was the dinner site of the Monday night festivities of the Tourism Conference.



Photos by Luis Velasquez



# Oregon Governor's Conference on Tourism - April 1999

The Highlight – Shore Acres State Park  
Perfect Weather, Seafood Delicacies, Lively Music and Holiday Lights

## *Holiday Lights in April*

Some very dedicated Light Stringers recreated the holiday lights scene in a section of the garden near the Garden House just for the Tourism Conference. Giant landscape lights were also installed. Our visitors were impressed!

A huge thanks goes to the following for their hard work - John and Barbara Anderson, David and Shirley Bridgham, Shirley Champagne, Jay and Joy Dow, Kenn Kennedy, Cappy Klein, Betty and Bill Mault, Wayne Murray, and Irene and Richard Sund. ■

*Note of Appreciation from  
Ann Kopp. Member of the  
Conference Committee*

*David & Shirley,  
Your cooperation and  
enthusiasm were a mainstay  
in ensuring the success of the  
Conference.*

*Thank you so very much  
to Friends of Shore Acres for  
helping put it together! You  
were great.*

**Ann K.**



Enjoying the view from the Observation Building at the bluff.



Dungeness crab was just one of the many seafood delicacies enjoyed by the many visitors.



# A Delightful Time for All



North Bend High School Jazz Band played nostalgic big band tunes of the 1940's.



The "Crabby" host was played to the hilt by Mel Campbell of Charleston.



Special hosts Roger Collins and Karleen Burgett in the guise of Louise and Cassie Simpson provided a glimpse of Shore Acres' history.



TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1999

**INSIDE TODAY**

Out & About .....A2  
South Coast .....A3  
Opinion .....A4  
Obituaries .....A5  
Comics/Ann Landers . .C2  
Classifieds .....C3



**SOUTH COAST  
TREATS VISITORS**

Gift shops cater to tourists  
with diverse items to keep  
people returning each year.

SECTION B



**PIRATE RALLY  
COMES UP SHORT**

Marshfield scores four  
times in last inning, but  
Willamette wins.

SPORTS, PAGE B8

**WEATHER**



Mostly sunny. Highs  
60s. Lows 30s-40s.  
Forecast, Page A8

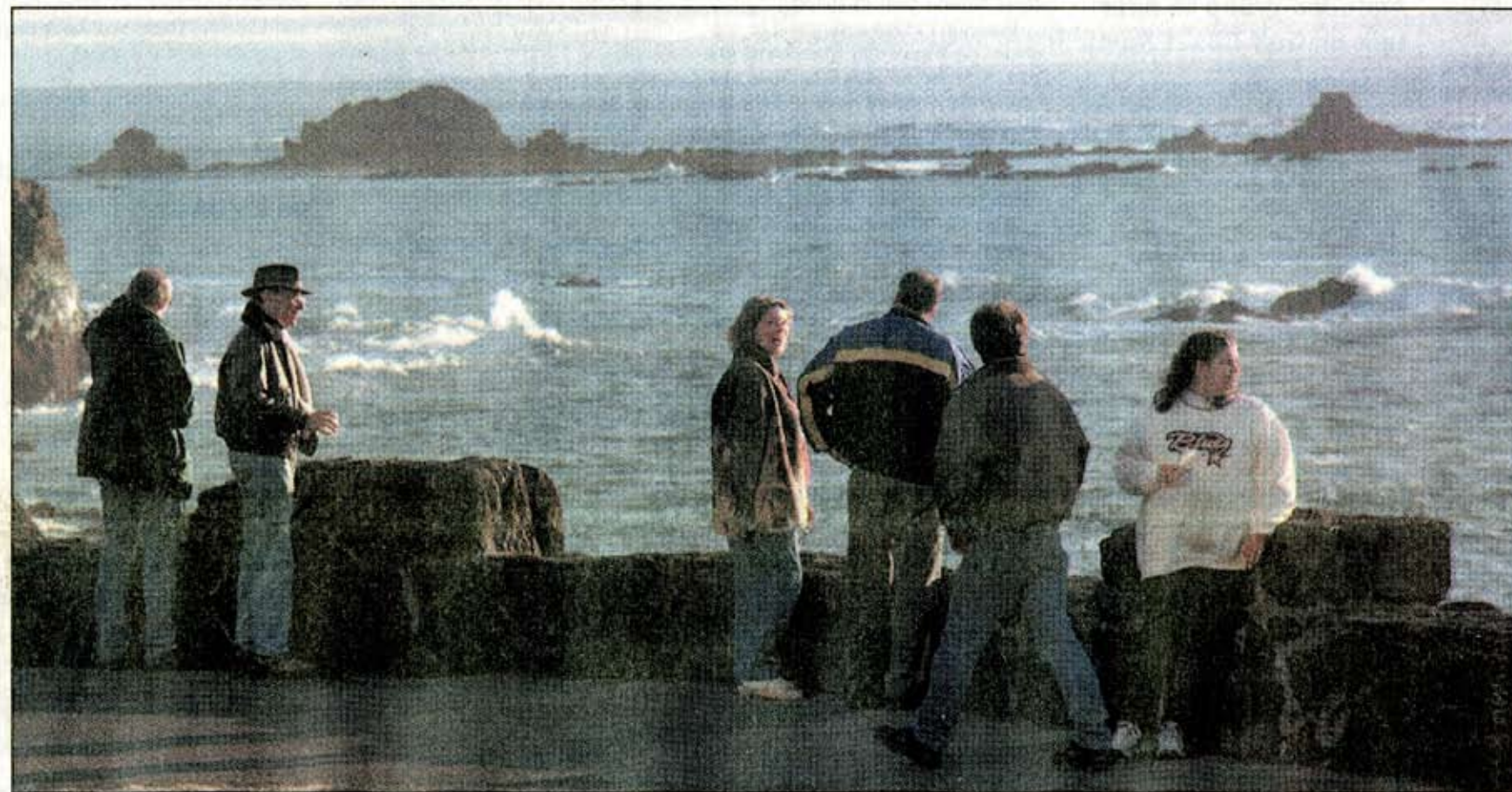
# The World

A PULITZER COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

OUR 120TH YEAR

SERVING OREGON'S SOUTH COAST

50¢ (Home delivered: 33¢ daily)



## *Edge of the world*

Delegates to the  
Governor's  
Conference on  
Tourism take a stroll  
along the wall at  
Shore Acres State  
Park late Monday  
evening after finish-  
ing their dinner. In  
the background is  
Shell Island on the  
left and Simpson  
Reef.

World Photo by Lou Sennick



# Plentiful Publicity

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - April 13, 1999

## STATE NEWS

### State tourism is topic



World Photo by Lou Sennick

**Hundreds of participants in the annual Oregon Governor's Conference on Tourism listened to speakers as the three-day conference got under way Sunday at the Southwestern Oregon Boys & Girls Club in Coos Bay. Workshops, tours and messages from a trio of keynote speakers will highlight the annual gathering.**

April 13, 1999



## CHAMBER QUARTERLY

SPRING COMMUNITY REPORT 1999

## Regional effort makes governor's tourism conference a big success

Bringing the Oregon Governor's Conference on Tourism to Coos Bay was a tremendous process, which began more than a year-and-a-half before the more than 400 delegates arrived in April. In fact it was a topic of discussion among a group of Bay Area delegates to the 1997 tourism conference held at Sunriver, near Bend.

As the idea grew and gathered momentum, support and enthusiasm came from all over the south coast, from Brookings to Florence. It took a truly regional commitment to convince the Oregon Tourism Commission to approve Coos Bay as the 1999 site. There were minor glitches and occasional doubts during the first few months. But by the time the April 1998 conference was held in Portland and the south coast organizing committee had launched the first-ever Governor's Conference web page, everyone knew it was definitely a "go!"

The 64 members of the organizing committee received incredible support from a wide variety of businesses organizations and individuals up and down the south coast. Over \$24,000 in cash and nearly \$32,000 in in-kind contributions helped to make the conference a reality.

Many local businesses also benefitted — motels, restaurants, printers, transportation providers, caterers and more.

Positive comments from all over the state continue to come in, and the host community for next year's conference has asked the conference committee for advice.

The local committee was recently recognized in a guest editorial written by Judy Densmore, Mayor of Bandon and a member of the Oregon Tourism Commission, published in *The World*. The committee also received the following message of congratulations from an Oregon Tourism Commission staff member who was its primary contact throughout the planning process: "I know that you will soon be receiving a formal thank you letter from the OTC's... Todd Davidson, but I wanted to relay my heart felt thanks."

"I feel as though I have made dear friends on the southern coast of Oregon, and I'm honored to have worked with each and every one of you."

"I don't think any other rural area of Oregon could have pulled off such an outrageously successful event. The commitment and perseverance of your committee has inspired me and I know it has inspired other regions of the state."

"You have set a standard. Your committee and community literally built the walls, laid the carpet, installed lighting, landscaped the building, built a bridge and created an atmosphere. It leaves me speechless as to what you accomplished."

"I am so proud of Coos Bay and the entire south coast region. You created an awareness of Oregon's southern coast that will not be forgotten. I guarantee it."

To all those involved as organizing committee members, major sponsors and partners, we say "Take a bow!"

**Major sponsors:** The Mill Resort & Casino; Coquille Indian Tribe; Lumbermen's Building Center; Oregon Coast Magazine; Fine Host Corporation; Southern Oregon Visitors Association; Bureau of Land Management; Coos Bay District; Oregon International Port of Coos Bay; Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission; Coos Bay-North Bend Promotions and Convention Bureau; Thomas & Sons Distributors; Eola Hills Wine Cellars; Clausen Oysters; Red Lion Inn; Edgewater Inn; Best Western Holiday Motel; Motel 6; Boys and Girls Club of Southwestern Oregon.

**Contributing partners:** Bandon Cheese Factory; Deschutes Brewery; Coos County Historical Society Museum; Jerry's Rogue Jets; Rogue River Mailboats; Bracelin & Yeager; Spinnel Dunebuggy Rentals; Oregon Stage and Lighting; Entouch Systems; Discovery Point; Coos County Logging Museum; Ocean Spray, Inc.; Cranberry Sweets; Big Air Windsurfing; Knutson's Water Sports; Merv Johnson; England Marine Supply; Bandon Chamber of Commerce; Bay Area Chamber of Commerce; Coquille Chamber of Commerce; Florence Chamber of Commerce; Gold Beach Chamber of Commerce; Port Orford Chamber of Commerce; Reedsport-Winchester Bay Chamber of Commerce; Coquille Supply; Pony Mail LLC; Mike and Mel Campbell; Li-

### Conference was just beginning of tourism effort

The 15th annual Oregon Governor's Conference on Tourism, held in Coos Bay April 11-13, brought 414 people to the south coast, many of them for the first time ever.

Although much of their time was spent in conference sessions and workshops, several of the workshops as well as the two evening events took them out into different parts of the Bay Area and showed them some of what we have to offer here. Many were surprised and delighted with what they saw, and vowed to return to see more of the Bay Area and south coast.

To encourage them to do so, members of the local organizing committee are working on a coupon book which will be mailed to all who attended the conference. The visitor industry from Brookings to Florence is invited to participate in this effort. Coupons should offer significant discounts, such as two-for-the-price-of-one offers or other substantial discounts on goods and services.

The target date for producing and mailing the books is late June or early July. The goal is to make all the coupon offers good from September 1 to March 1, to encourage visitors to come in what is traditionally the "off season." An increase in visitors during this time period will give the south coast tourism industry a boost, and show that there are things to see and do here year-round.

Les Cohen, executive director of the Brookings-Harbor Chamber of Commerce, is heading up the coupon book effort, with Marty Giles, owner of Wavecrest Discoveries, assisting. Coupon offers will be limited to fifteen per community. If you would like to reserve space in the book or learn more about it, contact Cohen at the Brookings-Harbor Chamber, 1-800-535-9469, or Giles at 267-4027 or by e-mail, mgiles@wavecrestdiscoveries.com.

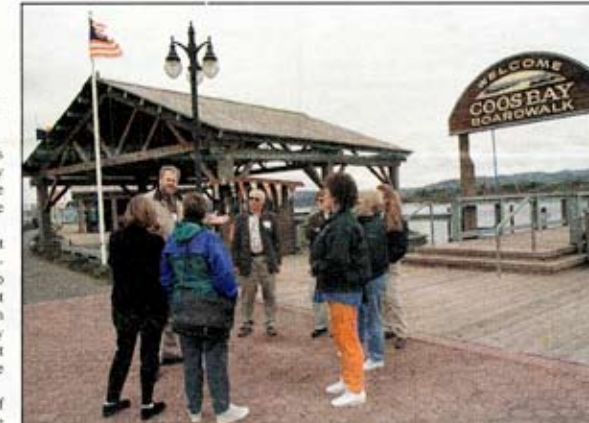
Hunkins received the Innovative Tourism Development award at the 1997 Governor's Conference on Tourism for his work in partnership with the Oregon Tourism Commission in launching the state's visitor promotion website.

Marketing basics on Dennett's agenda include the "five keys to great marketing": market research, creating packages and selecting the best advertising media for your business.

A local marketing update will be provided by Beverly Saukko, director of the Coos Bay-North Bend Promotions and Conventions Bureau.

Registration is \$25 per person, with a \$10 discount for SOVA or Bay Area Chamber of Commerce members.

To register or receive more information call the Chamber, 269-0215.



Conference visitors toured Coos Bay's Boardwalk.



# Reporting Success

Page 8

## Tourism conference a big success

Continued from Page 1

onel Youst; Coos County Parks Department; Charleston Merchants Association; Coos Bay Downtown Association; North Bend Downtown Association; Oceanside RV Park; Benetti's Italian Restaurant; Bayside Design; The Oregon Connection; Virginia Street Diner; Captain's Choice Restaurant; Security Bank; Ramcell of Oregon; Ferrellgas; Davis Oil Inc.; Western Bank; Paradise Lodge; Threads That Bind; Arctic Ice; Bay Area Hospital/Bay Area Health District; Portside Restaurant; Hilltop Restaurant; Wavecrest Discoveries; Southbound Sound; Dwight and Lucy Wood; Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation; Checkerberry's Flowers and Gifts; Maurice's; Books By The Bay; Hallmark Fisheries; City of Coos Bay; City of North Bend; Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors; Laidlaw Transit; Sawdusters Theater; Marty Crouse; Jane Kirkpatrick; North Bend High School Jazz Band; Umpqua Dairy; Teri Whitty; Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians; Friends of Shore Acres; PRIME Equipment; Twin City Linen; Pepsi; Roto Rooter; Kyle Electric; Day Ship Supply; U.S. Food Service; Les' Sanitary; Laurel Ashman; Menasha Corporation; Weyerhaeuser Company; Noel Lesley Event Services.

**Organizing committee:** Ann Koppy, Coos County Historical Society Museum, and Cindi Miller, City of Coos Bay and Coquille River Broadcasting, co-chairs.

**Bandon:** Bob Carr, Adventure Kayak; Judy Densmore, Sunset Motel; Karen Sinko, Bandon Chamber of Commerce.

**Bay Area (Coos Bay, North Bend and Charleston):** Pearl Affholter; Bill Altmiller;



Display boosted tourism potential of Oregon's South Coast and Rogue River areas.

Larry Becker, George Guthrie, Andy LaTomme and Shirley Stentz, Oregon State Parks and Recreation; David Bridgham, Friends of Shore Acres; Martin Callery, Oregon International Port of Coos Bay; Mel Campbell, Campbell's Vacation Apartments; Chris Coles, Michael Lawrence and Lynn Merry, Red Lion Inn; Gary Combs, Coos County Parks Department; Linda Courtright,

North Bend Information Center; Liz Dodge, Oregon Coast Magazine; Marty Giles, Wavecrest Discoveries; Bob Golden, Alan Hoffmeister and Dennis Turowski, Bureau of Land Management; Shaileen Green, Spinreel Dunebuggy Rentals; Cyd Harbin, Lucinda Mader, Deana Scott and Ann Marie Tomlinson, The Mill Resort & Casino; Kay Heikkila, Southwestern Oregon Community College;

Kathi Joy and Heidi Niblack, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce; Shirley Liberante, Coos County Economic Development; Don Marlow, Personnel Solutions; Trish Midyette, Books By The Bay; Rondi Potter, Coos Art Connection; Beverly Saukko, Coos Bay-North Bend Promotions and Convention Bureau; Helen Scully, Coos Art Museum; Tricia Shreck, The Oregon Connection; Rita Todd, Design Renaissance; Leslie Davis and LeeRoy Walker, Boys and Girls Club; Kelli Watson, City of North Bend; Margery Whitmer, Betty Kay Charters.

**Brookings:** Les Cohen, Brookings-Harbor Chamber of Commerce; Irene Hinkley, Brookings Welcome Center.

**Coquille:** Fran Capehart; Tony Spenader, Barton House Bed and Breakfast Inn.

**Florence:** Rob and Felicia Spooner, Oregon Coast Magazine; Mel Urban, Florence Chamber of Commerce.

**Gold Beach:** Jerry Biewend, Four Seasons RV Resort; Melody Brockish, Rogue River Mailboats; Sherree Cook, Curry County Tourism Board; Michele Duncan, Jerry's Rogue Jets; Laurel Gerkman, Paradise Lodge; Scott Hoy, Gold Beach Chamber of Commerce; Wendy Lang, Gold Beach Promotions Committee.

**Port Orford:** Nancy Phillips, Port Orford Chamber of Commerce.

**Reedsport-Winchester Bay:** Laurel Ashman and Dee Melander, Reedsport-Winchester Bay Chamber of Commerce; Ed Becker, Dave Burley and Mike Harvey, Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area; Portia Harris, Umpqua Discovery Center; Jim Hough, City of Reedsport.



# “Brush & Flush” – The Goal: a Pristine Pond



BLM volunteers do their annual “brush & flush” on the pond.



Fire hoses make the job easier!



Beautiful reflections!

BLM pond cleaners included Stafford, Jacob, Kyle and Jessica Owen, Emmett Courtright, Elaine Raper and her daughter, Martin Pike, Roman and Beth Watt. *Thanks everyone!*



# Bonsai Day – April 17, 1999



A beautiful bonsai display by the Bay Area Bonsai Society



Kay Valois, Betty and Kenn Kennedy, Carl Siminow



Virginia and Theo Stanley, Uschi Langley, Lois Strong, Betty Renner

Photos by Luis Velasquez

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - April 19, 1999



World Photo by Lou Sennick

Betty Renner of Coos Bay cleans the moss off her bonsai plant Saturday at Shore Acres State Park. Renner's rhododendron

satsuki kinsai plant was one of the many bonsai on display at the park's Garden House.

## Bonsai has roots on coast

By ANDREW SIROCCHI  
Staff Writer

A small branch of Japanese culture went on display at the Shore Acres Botanical Gardens on Saturday. Past the park's manicured boxwood hedges, azaleas and scotch broom, the Garden House was invaded by dozens of bonsai trees.

On a center table, a three-foot crab apple tree belonging to Bay Area Bonsai Society member Ursula Langley sat prominently on display.

Now nearly covered in white blossoms, the 18-year-old tree will eventually go to fruit, Langley said. "They look like cherries," she said.

Bonsai, the Japanese art of training dwarfed trees to grow to adulthood in small pots, has spread widely throughout the United States. In Oregon, the coast's mild winters have proved to be a haven for many bonsai enthusiasts and have provided a firm rooting for the hobby.

According to Bob Renner, vice president of the Bay Area Bonsai Society, the tradition goes back hundreds of years in Japan and can trace some of its history to the 2,000-year-old Chinese practice of Pen Jing.

Having migrated to the United States through relocated Japanese masters or students who have studied the art in Japan, the tradition of bonsai threads a common bond between cultures.

Enthusiasts who have caught the bug for the hobby all report the tranquility of working on bonsai plants, picking at the smaller leaves and training them to keep their diminutive size.

Renner calls it "getting centered." "Most people who are interested in plants are immediately interested in bonsai," he said. "You get focused on nature. It brings tranquility and calmness."

Lois Strang, a 15-year member and past president of the Bonsai Society, said she has about 50 varieties of bonsai plants in her home. Ivy, pine,

maples, juniper and beech are some of the varieties of plants she trains.

The Coos Bay woman said she became involved in bonsai through her garden club and after a while, the hobby began to take hold of her.

"You start buying books and you know how that goes," she said. "It's just a lot of fun."

Strang said her specialty is "mame," the smallest variety of bonsai that range up to six inches tall.

The dwarf trees vary greatly in size and age. Some reach nearly three feet tall and in Japanese culture, where bonsai trees are passed down among generations, specimens can be hundreds of years old.

Nearly any plant can be trained to keep its minuscule dimensions; apple trees, pines, azaleas and rhododendrons all lend themselves appropriately to the practice.

The value and prestige of a bonsai can vary depending on multiple factors, including the age, size and shape of the tree.

The exposed root structure of a bonsai, for example, adds to the plant's aesthetic appeal, Renner said. Some exhibits, with finger-like roots twisting over small rocks, hang only slightly into the soil.

Ultimately, the aesthetic appeal of the overall plant is the larger consideration of most hobbyists.

"Bonsai is always challenged to find plants that are going to look right in a small container," Renner said. "Half of the battle is to have a plant that does have the smaller leaf and tight foliage so that it appears proportionate."

But the minuscule trees also can fetch large prices. While locally, bonsai trees can be found for \$50 to \$100, older specimens from Japan can hold price tags in the thousands.

Samples of bonsai of all sizes and prices will be on display when the Bay Area Bonsai Society sponsors a show and sale this Saturday and Sunday at the Pony Village Mall in North Bend.



# Rhododendron Sunday / Mother's Day

A Very Special Day for Moms and Families at Shore Acres Gardens



George Guthrie, Shore Acres Landscape Maintenance Superintendent, answers questions about rhododendrons and the gardens.



Our "Artist in the Garden" Pat Weaver



Harpist Kathleen Kirksey charmed visitors with her beautiful music.



# Memorial Fountain and Display Dedicated June 5, 1999



George Guthrie discusses fountain with visitors.

## FOUNTAIN DESIGN

Mike Vaughan

## ELECTRICAL

Reese Electric

Archie Crozier

## CONCRETE WORK

Greg Brock Construction

## BRICK AND TILE

Larry Nichols Masonry

Stuart Richardson

*A project of Friends of  
Shore Acres, Inc. and  
Shore Acres State Park  
Funded by Memorial  
Contributions*



Fountain designer Michael Vaughan with (L-R) his wife Deborah, mother Dorothy, and daughter Lucia



Larry Becker, Assistant Manager, Area 4 welcomes visitors.



Friends' President David Bridgham describes the Memorial Program.



Memorial Fountain Display in the Garden Entrance



# Rose Sunday / Father's Day

## Rose Experts, Wood Carvers, Artists and Visitors



Shore Acres "Head Gardener" George Guthrie and Mary Anne Kreutzer of the South Western Oregon Rose Society answered questions about roses.



Reflections in the Lily Pond.



John Menegat, George Guthrie, Mary Anne and Ed Kreutzer are ready for visitors' questions.



South Coast Wood Carver Lou Blomquist and his wood carvings in the Garden House



Friends President David Bridgham and Don Capehart of the South Coast Wood Carvers.



"Artist in the Park" Pat Weaver



"Charles of Charleston" of the Bay Area Artists Association demonstrated his art.



Photos by Luis Velasquez



# Summertime – 1999

## NEW PERGOLA



In July, Mrs. Merriel Stinchfield, through the Friends, provided the funds for a brand new rose pergola in memory of her late husband, Al Stinchfield. The new pergola is a beautiful construction of Port Orford white cedar and is a fitting ornament to the garden.

Photo by Shirley Bridgham

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore.-July 5, 1999

## OUT & ABOUT

### *Fourth of July blooms at Shore Acres*

A brilliant red and white rose named after the Fourth of July holiday is in bloom on one of more than 900 rose bushes at Shore Acres State Park. The park, located on the Cape Arago Highway 13 miles southwest of Coos Bay, is open every day from 8 a.m. to dusk. June through September is the seasonal peak blooming period for roses at Shore Acres State Park, as it is for more than 5,000 flowering annuals and perennials.

World Photo by Michael R. Dudash





# Oregon Coast Music Festival Garden Concert in July



A large crowd attended the Oregon Coast Music Festival Garden Concert, which featured the Celtic singing group *Golden Bough*.



Friends volunteers (in booth) sold raspberry and chocolate sundaes and lemonade. Also helping (at table) were Robynn Reed and son Adam.



# Visitors in Horseless Carriages Stopped by in August



Bob Renner (L) talks with a visitor while Helen and Bob Hopkins from Sacramento, Jedice Booth from Portland and Mary Nunn from Coos Bay pose by the Memorial Fountain.



On the road again after enjoying fresh breads, juice and coffee served by Friends President David Bridgham.



# Visitors and Carriages at Shore Acres and Cape Arago



Local organizer Vicki Morgan.

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - August 4, 1999

## OUT & ABOUT

### *History on wheels*



World Photo By Lou Sennick

Out for a Sunday drive and about to leave Cape Arago State Park, members of the Portland Regional Group of the Horseless Carriage Club see the coastal sights. The club was founded in 1937. Members drove their ancient autos and dressed in costume as they drive around during gatherings, such as this one held in the Coos Bay area this past weekend. They stopped earlier in the morning at Shore Acres State Park on their jaunt.



# Shore Acres - Ready for Dahlia Day in September



Red dahlia "Shore Acres" and Shasta Daisies



Conservation Aide Rochelle Karpick keeps the annual displays of dahlias looking splendid for Dahlia Day.



# Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

Continued in Album 13:

Annual Year - September 1, 1999 - August 31, 2000

**Album 12 - Completed June 21, 2018**

Book and PDF Versions

**CONTENT SOURCES - FOSEA PHOTOS, PUBLICITY**

**CLIPPINGS, FRIENDS' QUARTERLY JOURNALS**

**AUTUMN 1998, WINTER 1999, WINTER/SPRING 2000**

**More Information:**

**[www.shoreacres.net](http://www.shoreacres.net) – Journal/Newsletters**