



Shore Acres State Park  
Before Friends - 1986

Album 17



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 La Tomme, 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 La Tomme, 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 Mc Dermott, 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 Photo Shop 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.**

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

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

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

I've been privileged to create and produce our slide shows, DVD's, 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 Friends of Shore Acres Inc has grown and prospered in order to help Shore Acres State Park, Sunset Bay State Park and Cape Arago State Park. What a great reminder of why we do what we do. Our hope is that in the future, others will experience and enjoy the same opportunities. ■

## Note from David Bridgham - September 2014

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

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

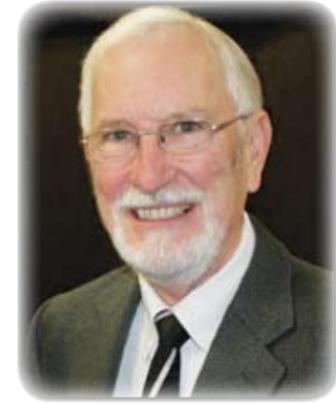
Shore Acres State Park, 13 miles from town, is the touchstone that we all bring our friends and visitors to when we want to show off the beauty of the Oregon south coast. There was a built-in and pent-up desire to shower this special place with community pride and needed TLC. Outreach to our communities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

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

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

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

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



# Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

*Founded December 4, 1986*



*“THE PURPOSE OF FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES, INC  
IS TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERPRETIVE, EDUCATIONAL,  
AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS  
WITH SUNSET BAY MANAGEMENT UNIT.”*

*Friends of Shore Acres Inc Bylaws*

# Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

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## FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

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

A meeting was held on December 4, 1986 at 7:30 pm in room 12 of Sumner Hall on the campus of Southwestern Oregon Community College. In attendance were Andy La Tomme, John Bergen, George Guthrie, Karen Wuethrich, Marty Giles, Ron Hjort, Mike Bodkin, John Garner, Shirley Bridgham, David Bridgham, Dick Hansen and Tony Mason. Andy La Tomme 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 La Tomme, Ron Hjort, Karen Wuethrich and Mike Bodkin responded "yes."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Andy La Tomme 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.

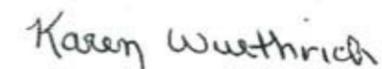
Andy La Tomme was asked to prepare a press release announcing the formation of the Friends with special mention of Mike Bodkin's contribution.

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, 2003 - August 31, 2004

## Annual Meeting - September 9, 2003 Bureau of Land Management Facility, North Bend, OR

### Annual Meeting

**President Gregg Nelson** called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM and welcomed more than twenty volunteer guests in attendance.

**Directors Present:** David and Shirley Bridgham, Kenn and Betty Kennedy, Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, Kathi and Dennis Netter, Timm Slater, Carl Siminow and Barb Taylor. **Directors Absent:** Ellie Kinney-Martial, Robynn Reed, Terry Richards and Ralph Thomas.

**New Business:** David Bridgham gave the nominating committee report for the upcoming elections to be held at the regular board meeting immediately following the annual meeting. The committee is nominating David Bridgham, Betty Kennedy, Ellie Kinney-Martial, Terry Richards and Carl Siminow to serve as directors for three (3) years. The Kolkhorst's currently share a Directorship. The Nominating Committee proposes splitting this into two Directorships. Lou would serve for one year and Sharon would serve a two year term. Directors were elected unanimously. MSP

**Old Business:** Shirley Bridgham gave an update on the upcoming Holiday Lights and a re-cap of the Friends' activities over the past year. Shirley and David presented a power point programs regarding the history of the Holiday Lights from 1986 until the present and an update on the construction of the new Information & Gift Center that will open in October. After the presentations, President Gregg Nelson invited all the guests to enjoy the ice cream sundaes and coffee and to stay for the regular board meeting. The Annual Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kenn Kennedy, Secretary



### FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES, INC. SEPTEMBER 1, 2002 - AUGUST 31, 2003

#### RECAP OF ACTIVITIES

- Annual Meeting, 2002
- Dahlia Day
- Orchids Day
- Membership Campaign / Annual Park Pass Program
- Holiday Lights & Open House - an estimated 49,000 visitors (see brochure for details)
- Information & Gift Center
  - Moved into Garden House in January
  - Volunteer Meeting and Breakfast in January
  - Construction started on new building and garden entrance
  - Continued Inventory Expansion
- Bonsai Day
- Reprinted Simpson Reef brochure
- New garden maps printed
- Rhododendron Sunday - Mother's Day - Reprinted Brochure
- Rose Sunday - Father's Day - New brochure and insert
- Oregon Coast Music Festival Garden Concert - Sundae sales
- Began the process of Holiday Lights 2003 (see separate report)
- Gave used lights to the Downtown Associations of Coos Bay, North Bend, Charleston and Winchester Bay/Reedsport for lighting local businesses during our Holiday Lights season.
- Near completion of Simpson Reef signs
- Near completion of new garden entrance and Information & Gift Center
- SB: 9/9/03

**Board Meeting - September 9, 2003**  
**Bureau of Land Management Facility, North Bend, OR**

**Board Meeting**

**President Gregg Nelson** called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM.

**Directors Present:** David and Shirley Bridgham, Kenn and Betty Kennedy, Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, Ellie Kinney-Martial, Dennis and Kathi Netter, Carl Siminow and Barbara Taylor. **Absent:** Ellie Kinney-Martial, Robynn Reed, Terry Richards, Timm Slater and Ralph Thomas

**Election of Officers:** Kathi Netter, President-Elect; Kenn and Betty Kennedy, Co-secretaries; Barbara Taylor, Treasurer. MSP. Past President Gregg Nelson presented the gavel to President Lou Kolkhorst, who conducted the remainder of the board meeting.

**Minutes:** Approved as presented. MSP

**Financial Report:** \$61,194.25

**Information & Gift Center (IGC):** Sharon Kolkhorst reported IGC sales for August 2003 were up 25.9% over last year. State Park Pass sales for August were 15, compared to 2 for last year. The white birch slat wall material that will be used for displaying merchandise will be installed soon, with the new IGC to open in October.

**Old Business:** Suggestions for the Penny machine were plentiful with the board approving 4 dies: Herons (from our logo), Cape Arago Lighthouse, Garden House with Holiday Lights, OPRD Shield, modified with Shore Acres State Park.

**New Business:** Dahlia Day is Sept. 27 and Orchid Day is Oct. 4, 2003. State Parks Co-op Conference is Oct. 4-6 in Wilsonville. Lou and Sharon will attend and do a presentation.

**Holiday Lights:** September 9 Update by Shirley Bridgham filed with these minutes.

President Lou Kolkhorst adjourned the board meeting at 8:15 PM.



**Holiday Lights 2003 - September 9 Update**  
by Shirley Bridgham

**WHAT'S DONE:**

Lights ordered (mini, rope) and delivered  
Holiday Lights Brochures  
Updated database for Lights Pledge Campaign  
Lights Pledge Campaign mailed in Aug. (Responses to date total: \$6,357.00)  
B & B Tickets  
Posters (150+ printed)  
Fred Meyer Letter mailed and affirmative response received for 100 cases of apple juice.  
Cider Spice Co-Chair - Betty & Bob Renner - Tentative date Oct. 10  
24 Trees ordered from David Hannah  
Rope lights on all sculptures in process  
New frog animated sculpture (design by Don McMichael) in process  
New larger "bugs" sculptures (designs by David Bridgham) in process  
Buttons by Judy and Al Aslakson in process  
Contacted host teams  
Contacted Christmas tree decorators  
Publicity release sent out statewide

**TO DO:**

Distribute posters  
Finish lights sculptures  
Order spice, apple juice and cups  
Finish lighting plan  
Contact light stringers  
Contact entertainers  
Get food supplies for light stringing  
Order cookies  
Unpack and mark lights  
Decorate House  
Whales Setup - Date TBA  
Lights checking and marking of new lights - Oct. 9-10-11-12  
Preliminary setup for lights stringing Oct. 11-12, 18-19  
Lights Stringing starts Oct. 25 and continues every weekend thru Nov. 23

AND MORE!!!

# . . . September Publicity . . .

NEWS RELEASE



**Oregon Parks and Recreation Department**  
**Media Contacts:**  
Michael Carrier                      Mike Beard  
503-378-5019                              503-378-4168, ext. 243

September 18, 2003

**Deferral of day-use fee expansion recommended**  
**03-61 For immediate release:**

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department staff will recommend next week that its earlier proposal to increase the number of parks charging day-use fees be postponed indefinitely. The recommendation will be made September 25 at a regular meeting of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission.

Michael Carrier, director of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), said the recommendation to defer is based on, "an improved financial outlook and the expressed public support for maintaining the existing fee system."

For two years, staff and commissioners of OPRD have examined expanding day-use fees. This study was driven by the wish to address the equity of charging day-use fees at some, but not all, parks and by the need to ensure long-term financial security for the department.

The present day-use fee system is not equitable because it does not spread the burden of day-use fees equally across the entire park system, Carrier said. "Therefore, there is justification for expanding the fee to additional parks. However, a business case for doing so, which existed when the study began, does not presently exist."

Carrier explained that recent actions by the Legislature have resulted in greater than expected financial security for OPRD in the next several years without the need to expand fees. He said the increase in recreational vehicle registration fees and anticipated additional Oregon Lottery revenues, "have significantly improved the department's financial picture."

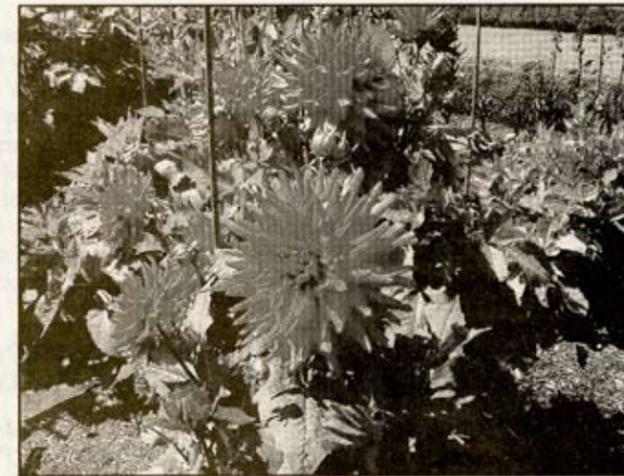
Governor Ted Kulongoski praised the public input phase of the department's review of its fee program. "It gave OPRD an opportunity to educate visitors about how state parks are presently funded and allowed park patrons to express their views about how parks should be funded in the future. This has been helpful in reaching a conclusion about the matter of day-use fees, and it will also help the commission in the future as it seeks to guarantee a stable source of funding for the department," Kulongoski said. ###

*EDITORS NOTE: The Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission will meet at 9 a.m., September 25, at the Jenkins Estate, 8005 Grabhorn Road, Aloha, Oregon. This meeting notice and agenda as well as this news release is posted on the OPRD website: < <http://www.prd.state.or.us/news.php>>.*

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - September 25, 2003

## OUT & ABOUT

### *Dazzling dahlias*



Contributed Photo

The Friends of Shore Acres will host Dahlia Day from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday at the state park's botanical garden off Cape Arago Highway south of Charleston. The Southern Oregon Dahlia Society will have a display in the Pavilion and the Friends will provide refreshments.



# Simpson Reef Publicity

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - October 14, 2003

## Interpretive panels, kiosk installed at Simpson Reef Overlook

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Friends of Shore Acres and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department announced that new interpretive panels and a wayfinding kiosk have been installed at the Simpson Reef Overlook. From the overlook, located in Cape Arago State Park, visitors enjoy breathtaking views of Shell Island and Simpson Reef, part of Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge. Simpson Reef is one of the few places on the Oregon Coast where visitors can see thousands of marine mammals.

The recently reconstructed overlook is fully accessible for people with disabilities and has three permanent benches.

The interpretive development was a partnership between the Fish and Wildlife Service, Friends, and OPRD. The Friends contributed \$6,000 to the project, administered the contract, and assisted with design. The Wildlife Service contributed \$10,000 and assisted with design and fabrication. OPRD also assisted with design and is responsible for installation and maintenance. In addition, the Bureau of Land Management devised the original plans on which the final design of the parking lot was based.

"This project is a great example of what can happen when people work together for a common goal. The Simpson Reef Overlook is one of the best kept secrets on the Oregon Coast, maybe the West Coast and we (the Friends) are excited about telling

everyone about the new improvements that will make a trip out there even more worthwhile" said Shirley Bridgham, past president and board member of Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

Larry Becker, assistant area manager for state parks on the South Coast said, "The construction of the overlook and the placement of the interpretive panels culminates a vision started in 1993 and is a major step toward addressing OPRD's 2014 goal of providing world-class interpretive opportunities to park visitors to the Sunset Bay-Cape Arago park complex.

One of the new interpretive panels provides visitors with tips on identify-

ing and locating the four species of pinniped (seals and sea lions) that regularly haul out on Shell Island. A second interpretive panel provides detailed information of the life history of the harbor seal, northern elephant seal, Stellar sea lion, California sea lion and California gray whale, species regularly seen from the Simpson Reef Overlook. The wayfinding kiosk will direct visitors to other sites within the vicinity where they can enjoy natural resources or historic places. For unparalleled views of Oregon's spectacular coastline and even rarer glimpses of its marine life visit Simpson Reef Overlook any day of the year.

"The installation of the interpretive

panels completes the overlook improvement project that was initiated in the spring of 2000," said Roy W. Lowe, project leader for the Oregon Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex based in Newport. "Visitor experience at this site will now be greatly enhanced through learning about these amazing animals," Lowe said.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. It manages

the 95-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, which encompasses 542 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 70 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resource offices and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts.

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - September 30, 2003

### Visitor information



World Photo by Lou Sennick

Park employee Calum Stevenson pulls some double duty Monday afternoon at the Simpson Reef Overlook in Cape Arago State Park. While Stevenson tightens down bolts on one of the new interpretive signs at the overlook, he answers questions from tourists viewing the hundreds of marine mammals on and around Shell Island. The small rocks and reefs are home to Stellar and California sea lions, harbor seals and elephant seals, and on a calm day like Monday, their constant barking can make a lot of noise.

# Board Meeting – October 14, 2003

**President Lou Kolkhorst** called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Directors Present:** David and Shirley Bridgham, Kenn and Betty Kennedy, Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, Ellie Kinney-Martial, Dennis and Kathi Netter, Robynn Reed, Terry Richards, Barbara Taylor, and Ralph Thomas. Absent: Carl Siminow and Timm Slater Guest: Larry Becker, OPRD

**Minutes:** Approved as with a couple of corrections to the minutes of the Annual Meeting. MSP

**Financial Report:** \$55,916.51

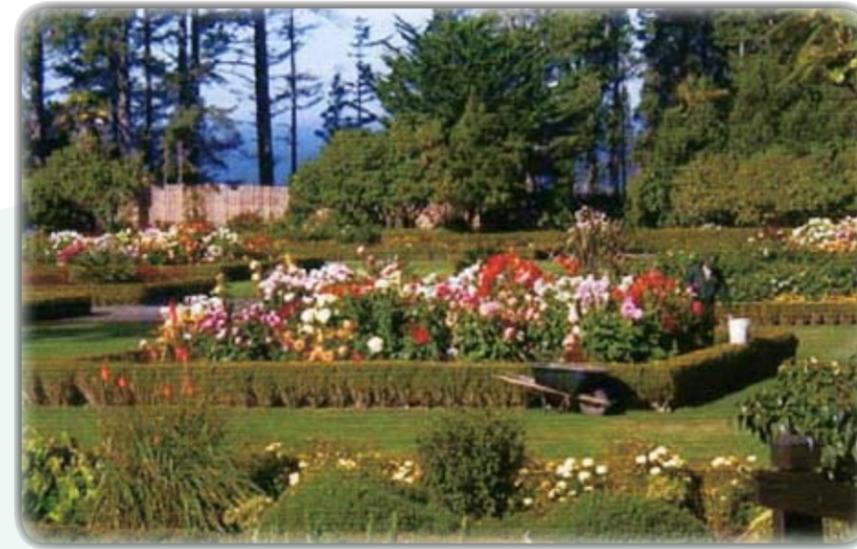
**Information & Gift Center (IGC):** Sharon Kolkhorst reported IGC sales for Year to Date sales up 20% over last year. State Park Pass sales for September were 7, compared to 5 for last year. Fixtures for the new IGC should be installed soon.

**State Parks Report:** Larry Becker reported he is hopeful the contractor can finalize the IGC project by the end of the month. Door locks need to be installed and also rails along the ramps to meet ADA code. Discussion about the security system that is tied to the phones in the Garden House. Motion by David, seconded by Kenn that the Garden House and the Information & Gift Center have separate phone numbers. Motion carried.

**Web Page Update:** New pictures and Holiday Lights information added. 17th Annual Holiday Lights & Open House at Shore Acres - Nov. 27, 2003 thru Jan. 4, 2004 - 4:00 - 10:00 PM

**Old Business:** Penny Masher - President Kolkhorst passed around the final drawings of the penny smasher dies. Machine has been shipped and should arrive by the end of October or the first week of November. Lou and Sharon attended the OPRD Co-op Conference in Wilsonville Oct. 4-6. Lots of info and ideas for recruiting volunteers and board members.

**New Business:** Terry Richards passed around information and drawings for the pond resurfacing. Gunnite will cost approximately \$17,000 compared to \$9,000 for Shot Concrete. After discussion, it was agreed to explore the possibility of a grant from State Parks.



DAZZLING DAHLIAS IN THE GARDEN ABOVE THE WAVES

**Other New Business:** New park passes cannot be sold before January 1, 2004. The IGC usually sells them at a discount in December. Larry will look into the possibility of getting a waiver. Holiday Lights stringing will start on October 15. The cider spice making will be on Oct. 24. Gregg and Connie Nelson are looking for entertainers for the Holiday Lights.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2003 at the new Shore Acres Information and Gift Shop at the park.

With no other business, President Kolkhorst adjourned the board meeting at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kenn Kennedy, Secretary



# Making Progress

THE INSIDE WALLS WERE TEXTURED AND PAINTED AND THE SIDING WAS DONE. ELECTRICAL FIXTURES WERE INSTALLED, THE FLOOR AND WINDOW TRIM WAS FINISHED, AND SLAT WALL INSTALLED. THE FINISHING TOUCHES WILL BE ADDED AND THE DOORS WILL OPEN TO THE NEW INFORMATION & GIFT CENTER JUST IN TIME FOR THE 17TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY LIGHTS.



Visitors to the 17th annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park will enter the formal gardens by way of a new pergola, thanks to funds from the Oregon Lottery and the Friends of Shore Acres. The passageway, with its lighted, white columns, replaces the redwood-deck version which was installed during the 1974 garden renovation.

The \$300,000 project, constructed by Laskey Clifton Corporation of Reedsport, consists of an octagon-shaped gazebo with three columned pergolas, an 800 square foot deck and a 1536 square foot Information and Gift Center. The gazebo and pergolas are reminiscent of structures that were present when Louis Simpson developed Shore Acres in the early 1900s.

The cedar shingled building with its gambrel roof-line and dormers is styled after Simpson's first mansion, which burned to the ground on July 4, 1921. It has up-to-date heating and energy-efficient technology, in addition to being fully accessible. It replaces a 576 square foot building which was used since 1985 as an Information and Gift Center by the Friends.

The Information & Gift Center (IGC) is open all year. This all-volunteer operation, managed by Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, is a primary source of funding for many of the Friends' activities.

For more information about Friends of Shore Acres Inc and Shore Acres State Park, visit our website at [www.shoreacres.net](http://www.shoreacres.net) ■

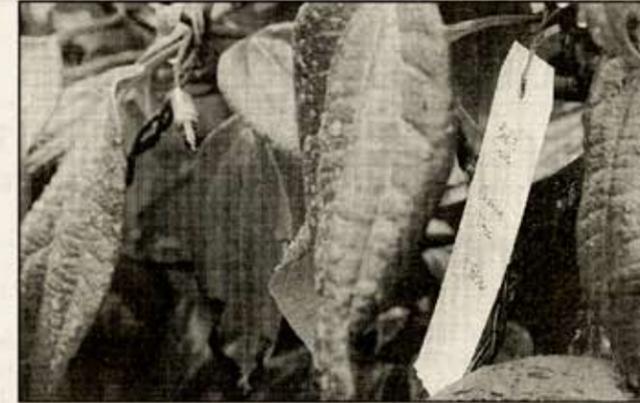


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SHORE ACRES

Prepping for the holidays

Rain and drizzle didn't deter volunteers stringing lights at Shore Acres State Park Saturday. Fred Ehrman, at left, makes repairs to the sea lions light sculpture while Wayne Murray, at right, strings green lights on a tree near the garden house. Volunteers will continue testing and stringing the more than 250,000 lights throughout the 7 acres of gardens in November, in preparation for the opening display on Nov. 27. Above, tags placed on the trees, flowers and shrubs by organizers identify how many and what colors of lights should be strung in that particular area. Lighted sculptures include pelicans, a killer whale, a gray whale, tulips, sea anemones, sea horses, sea urchins, sea lions, jellyfish and more. The 17th-annual Holiday Lights and Open House will run through Jan. 4; the hours of viewing are between 4 and 10 p.m. The garden house also will be decorated and have cookies, hot cider, punch and coffee



World Photos by Susan Chambers

available for visitors. The Friends of Shore Acres works with Shore Acres State Park to make the event a success. For more information, those interested can call the park at 888-3732 or Friends of Shore Acres co-chairs Shirley or David Bridgham, 756-5401.

# Board Meeting – November 11, 2003

## THE MEETING WAS HELD AT THE NEW INFORMATION & GIFT CENTER

**President Lou Kolkhorst** called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Directors Present:** David and Shirley Bridgham, Kenn and Betty Kennedy, Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, Ellie Kinney-Martial, Kathi and Dennis Netter, Robynn Reed, Barbara Taylor, and Carl Siminow. **Absent:** Gregg Nelson, Terry Richards, Ralph Thomas and Timm Slater **Guests:** Larry Becker, OPRD and Ken De Graw, Camp Host

**Minutes:** MSP

**Financial Report:** \$45,221.67

**Information & Gift Center (IGC):** Sharon Kolkhorst reported IGC sales for October 2003 were down 10.40% compared to last year, but the IGC closed on the 22nd of October for the move to the new building that is scheduled to be open before Thanksgiving. President Kolkhorst welcomed everyone to the new facility and thanked Kenn Kennedy for installing the entire slat wall for displaying merchandise. Bob Dixon and his helper Ray have refurbished the sales counter that was donated to the Friends by The Mill Casino, as well as several display stands. The plan is to start moving and displaying the merchandise the weekend of Nov. 15th.

**State Parks Report:** Ellie Kinney-Martial reported that the landscaping around the new Information & Gift Center is almost complete and looking good.

**Web Page Update:** Shirley Bridgham reported that she has been updating the photos on the web page and that she is working with Allan Ledesma of Epuerto for technical help with the website.

**Old Business:** President Kolkhorst reported that the Penny Smasher was damaged when we received it and one of the dies was wrong. The mechanical mechanism has been returned to the company and they are engraving a new die. Shirley handed out a Holiday Lights report (filed with these minutes). Discussion about the pond resurfacing was postponed to the January meeting.

**New Business:** President Kolkhorst passed around the 2004 Events Schedule and invited board members to volunteer at least once. He also invited the directors to volunteer in the new IGC, saying "It's a great opportunity to meet the public."

President Kolkhorst adjourned the board meeting at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Kenn Kennedy, Secretary

### Holiday Lights 2003 - November 11 Update by Shirley Bridgham

#### WHAT'S DONE:

Lights ordered (mini, rope) and delivered  
Holiday Lights Brochures  
Updated database for Lights Pledge Campaign  
Lights Pledge Campaign Responses to date total: \$8,743  
B&B Tickets  
Posters (More than 200 printed and distributed)  
Fred Meyer - 100 cases of apple juice received and stored at Vend West  
Fred Meyer - 30,000 cookies (½ chocolate chip, ½ oatmeal/raisin) stored at Day Ship  
Cider Spice Co-Chair - Betty & Bob Renner - Spice made Oct. 24, stored at Vend West  
25 Trees delivered by David Hannah today, Nov. 11  
Rope lights on all sculptures done  
New larger "bugs" sculptures also done in rope lights  
700 of 1000 buttons done  
Host teams set; need to board members to sign up for Preview Night.  
Christmas tree decorators scheduled  
Publicity release sent out statewide in August  
Entertainment list being developed by Gregg & Connie Nelson  
House upstairs rooms 99% done  
Whales and controllers in place.  
Sea Lions sculpture and controller in place.  
New frogs sculpture in place - Fred Ehrman and David  
(Coos Bay Volunteer Fire Fighters donated \$700 to cover the cost of the metal work.)  
Salmon sculpture in place  
Shore Acres' cranes sculptures in place  
Garden House lights and pelican on chimney by Coos Bay Volunteer Fire Fighters - done  
About 75-80% of lights stringing done

#### TO DO:

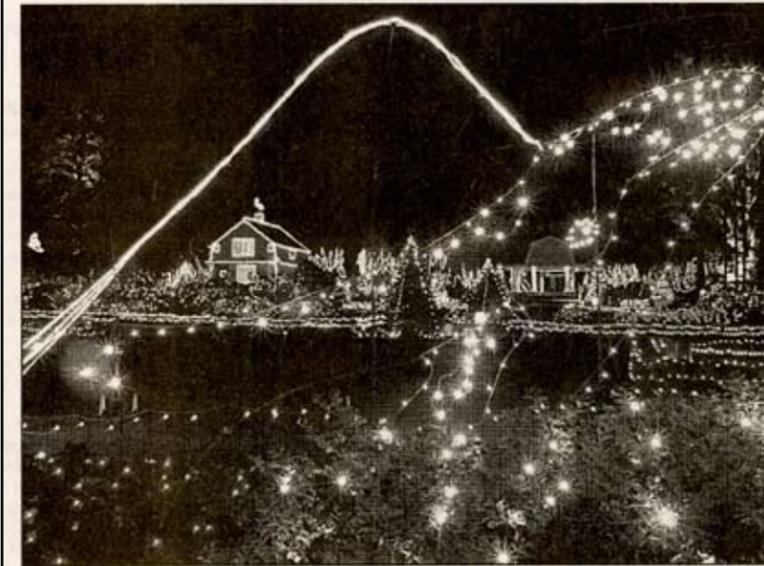
Meet with Tim of South Coast Exterminators, Mon. Nov. 17, 1:30 about rodent problem in house.  
Undersea Garden (frame being constructed by Larry Becker)  
Set pelicans.  
Set flowers.  
Set bugs.  
Set landscape lights (inmates)  
Finish lights stringing.  
Finish house  
Put up Christmas trees (inmates) and decorate (sponsor groups)  
Put up white chain fences (inmates)  
Check path lights and parking lot lights.  
Order signs for new items.  
Order holiday info brochure/card.  
Order holiday guest book pages.  
Carpet (downstairs) cleaning, Tues. Nov. 18 - 8:00 a.m.  
Pick up lemonade for punch.  
Pick up stir sticks and host supplies.  
Check supply of vacuum cleaner bags and cleaning agents.

ETC. ETC. ETC !

# Holiday Lights Coming Soon . . .

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - November 22, 2003

## OUT & ABOUT



World File Photo

The annual Holiday Lights and Open House at Shore Acres State Park opens on Thanksgiving Day and continues nightly through the first weekend in January.

## Holiday Lights

*Annual event to include unveiling of new entrance*

Visitors to the 17th-annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park will enter the formal gardens through a new pergola, a passageway reminiscent of one used by guests of estate owner Louis Simpson about a century ago.

Funded by Oregon Lottery dollars and the Friends of Shore Acres, the entryway, resplendent with its lighted, white columns, replaces a red-wood-deck structure that had served as the garden's entrance since 1974.

"We now have an entrance equal to the beauty of the gardens," said Park Manager Larry Becker. "We're very fortunate to have Parks and Natural Resources Fund support as well as a substantial donation from the Friends to make it happen."

The new entrance complex consists of an octagon-shaped gazebo with three adjoining columned pergolas, including the 30-foot entryway to the garden. An 800-square-foot deck and a 1,536-square-foot information and gift center complete the new look.

Products of a \$300,000 project, the structures are modeled after those present when Simpson developed Shore Acres in the early 1900s. Simpson was pioneer lumberman and shipping tycoon whose estate once occupied the land comprising both Shore Acres and Cape Arago state parks.

The cedar-shingled building now serving as the park's interpretive gift store is styled after Simpson's first mansion, which burned to the ground on July 4, 1921. Adorned with gambrel

roofline and dormers, the building has up-to-date heating and energy-efficient technology, and is fully accessible. It replaced a 576-square-foot structure used as an information and gift center by the Friends of Shore Acres since 1992.

"We are very excited to move into this beautiful expanded space," said Shirley Bridgman, one of the founders and current board member of the Friends group. She added that managers Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst plan to have the new center open by Thanksgiving. The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors has scheduled a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 4:45 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 5.

The old building was moved to nearby Sunset Bay State Park for use as a campground interpretive center by the park's Junior Ranger program, which offers outdoor educational activities for children age 6 to 12.

The new information and gift center will be open the same hours as the 39-night Holiday Lights exhibition — from 4 to 10 p.m. Nov. 28-Jan. 4, 2004. Beginning Jan. 5, the center will be open from noon to 4 p.m. through March 31.

Shore Acres is a day-use fee park. Visitors need to buy a \$3 per vehicle daily parking permit or show a current state park day-use pass (12-month or 24-month), a same-day state park campground receipt or an Oregon Coast Passport.

More information is available at <http://www.shoreacres.net> or by calling 888-3732, 888-2472, (800) 888-6100, or 756-5401.

## 17th annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park

"a community tradition"

Quarter Million Lights  
★ 39 Nights  
Thanksgiving thru Sunday after New Year's

★ Nov. 27, 2003 - Jan. 4, 2004  
4-10 PM

- OPEN HOUSE -  
Hot apple cider, coffee, punch, cookies!

★ Walk-thru Display  
★ Plenty of Parking  
★ Entertainment in the Performance Pavilion  
★ Lighted Sculptures- Whales, Sea Lions, Pelicans, Cranes, Undersea Garden, Flowers . . . and more! ★



45' Whale



Performance Pavilion

### Win the Ultimate Bed & Breakfast

★ 10 PM Dec. 31 - 10 AM, Jan. 1  
Overnight stay for 2 adults at Shore Acres Garden House  
Catered Breakfast New Year's Day  
Tickets are \$10 (200 Tickets Available.)  
★ Drawing at 9 PM Christmas Day. ★  
Need not be present to win.  
Tickets at the Friends' Information & Gift Center  
541-888-2472 ★ 1-866-888-6100

Vehicle Parking Fee - \$3 or OPRD Annual Pass or Oregon Pacific Coast Passport or Current Campground Receipt

★ Annual Passes available in Dec. - \$20 (save \$5)

Holiday Lights at Shore Acres sponsored by Friends of Shore Acres Inc. in partnership with Shore Acres State Park, Coos Bay, OR 97420 (541) 756-5401 ★ 888-3732

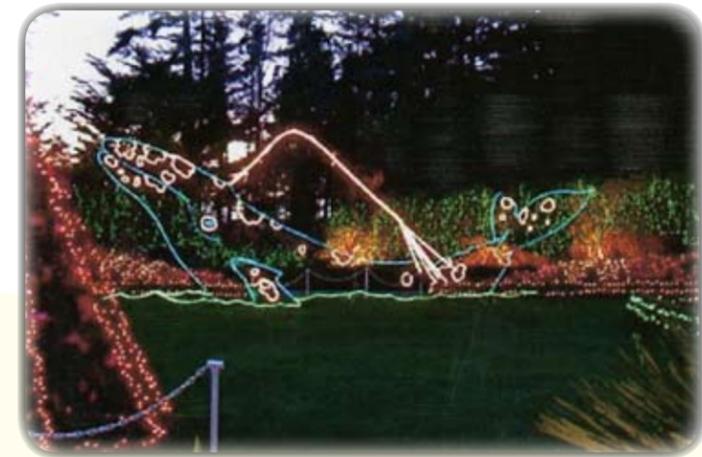
★ 888-3778 ★ [www.shoreacres.net](http://www.shoreacres.net)

Digital Photos by David Bridgman

# Holiday Lights Sparkle Again . . . Nov. 27 – Jan. 4, 2004



NEW LEAPING FROG DISPLAY DESIGNED BY  
DON MC MICHAEL, FABRICATED BY ERIC'S  
ARTISTIC EXPRESSION, LIGHTED BY DAVID  
BRIDGHAM, ANIMATED BY TOM KYLE OF  
KYLE ELECTRIC



A NEW "FAVORITE" DISPLAY



# Holiday Lights Spared

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - December 15, 2003



Waves crash on the rocks below the Cape Arago Lighthouse early Sunday afternoon after several days of stormy weather dropped more than 5 inches of rain along the Southern Oregon Coast during the weekend.

*Wade a minute!*

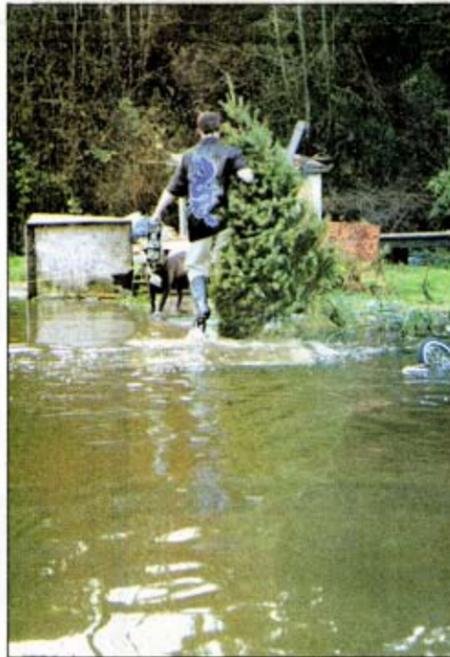
## Storm slams South Coast

By SUSAN CHAMBERS  
AND HOWARD YUNE  
Staff Writers

■ Rainfall: Downpour shatters a 1946 record.

LIBBY — "It's a foot lower already," Anthony Atteberry said Sunday afternoon, wearing black rubber boots and carrying a Christmas tree through flood waters to his home on Red Dike Road.

Atteberry's home, like several others on the South Coast, was surrounded by water left from a storm that dropped a record 4.05 inches of rain on the region Saturday. It broke the 1946 record of 2.37 inches of rain for Dec. 13. Including Sunday's smattering of rain, this year's total so far is 57.87 inches — almost an inch lower than normal rainfall for the same time and about 8 inches more than last year, according to the National Weather Service.



Anthony Atteberry carries a Christmas tree to his house through flood waters Sunday afternoon. This flood wasn't as bad as last year, he said, when the waters were higher than his rubber boots and he had to carry his children out of the house and through the water.

Though slogging through water was a hassle, Atteberry said it wasn't as bad as last year. He and his family spent three days in a motel waiting for waters to recede. The water was higher than the tops of his boots, he explained.

The Coquille River flooded, turning valley fields into Winter Lake. Crews cleared debris from the bridge near Sturdivant Park in Coquille Sunday, allowing the river to flow freely again, while Highway 42S, Fishtrap Road and several of the smaller roads in the valley were under water.

The North Fork of the Coquille River crested at 37.14 feet early Sunday morning, more than 2 feet above flood stage. The South Fork crested at 42.61 feet around 5 a.m. Sunday, more than 4 feet above flood stage. Warnings Friday and Saturday indicated extensive damage to houses, farms and roads could be expected, along with moderate erosion along the banks of the North Fork.

The Siuslaw River near Mapleton also reached its flood stage of 18 feet, which, as the National Weather Service warned, could cause minor flooding of low-lying dairy land and some structures along the banks of the river.

As of this morning, a flood warning remained in effect for the Coquille River at Coquille and the warning for the South Fork at Myrtle Point had expired. The Coquille River should fall below flood stage by this evening, forecasters advise.

Sunday morning brought other weather to the coast region: a mix of thunderstorms, some rain, some hail and, very late Sunday night and early this morning, freezing temperatures and frost.

Storm-generated waves pounded the coastline Saturday, and the beaches were busy with storm watchers Sunday. At least

See Storm, Page A8

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2003 • SERVING THE SOUTH COAST FOR 125 YEARS • 50¢ (HOME DELIVERED: 30¢ DAILY)



**Sports**  
Pirate boys win swim invite, B1

# The World

A Pulitzer Newspaper [www.theworldlink.com](http://www.theworldlink.com)

**South Coast**  
Council enters the cheese fray, A3  
**State News**  
Newport mourns Keiko's death, A5

## Coos County spared power outages; many in Douglas County not so lucky

Storm from Page A1

one surfer braved the elements Sunday afternoon at Sunset Bay.

"It's a good surf day," Spike Richardson said as he returned to his truck and began putting his surfboard away. Richardson said there were probably some better waves elsewhere but that the moderate waves at Sunset provide some easy fun.

Despite being pelted by heavy rain during the weekend, Pacific Power customers in Coos County was spared the power outages that plagued much of inland Douglas County, according to Joe Litzinger, regional community manager.

While more than 5,500 customers went dark Saturday night in Douglas County — with 3,000 still without power this morning — only "scattered outages" were reported in Coos Bay and none in the southern part of the county, Litzinger said.

"We only had outages to individual homes, at most five to 10 customers at a time," he said. "We didn't have a circuit or substation go out."

It was much the same story in Lakeside and Reedsport, where Douglas Electric Cooperative Inc. reported only a fraction of the outages that put as many as a third of its 9,000 customers in the dark countywide. According to company spokesman Todd Munsey, the few degrees that separated coastal temperatures from those inland forestalled the snow that elsewhere burdened — and snapped — trees and power poles.

"Except for a broken pole Saturday, we didn't have any outages in the Reedsport-Tenmile Lakes area," he said. "If (the problem) were wind," rather than snow, he added, "It would have been just the opposite."

Outages in Douglas County began about 5 p.m. Saturday and most were repaired by 10 p.m. Sunday.

Meanwhile, the swollen creeks did provide for some amusement.

"It's one way we can find the kids' basketballs," Atteberry said, pointing across the road at water-filled ditch, where two basketballs had popped to the surface and were stuck in an eddy near a pasture. "They always pop up."

# Holiday Lights – Plenty of Publicity

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - December 18, 2003



A new addition to the Holiday Lights display at Shore Acres State Park is an animated frog leaping from a lily pad into the water in the Japanese Garden. Although in this time exposure, it looks like they are all lighted at once, the animated display actually begins on the right and moves toward the left until it splashes into the water on the left. The 17th-annual Holiday Lights & Open House is open to the public from 4 to 10 p.m. each day through Jan. 4, including Christmas and New Year's Day. Visitors are charged a \$3-per-vehicle parking fee or can show a current State Park day pass, campground receipt or Oregon Coast Passport to get in free.

## Holiday Lights are shining



Members of the Friends of Shore Acres and area volunteers serve spiced cider and cookies in the Gardener's House. Local groups also entertain visitors with musical performances in the nearby pavilion. On stage tonight are students in French classes at North Bend High School. On Friday, choirs from St. Monica Catholic Church and Charleston Community Church will perform. On Saturday, the choir from Bible Baptist Church will entertain park visitors.



Next to the new gift and information center at Shore Acres State Park, creatures that live under the waves of the Pacific are displayed in lights, including jellyfish, crab, sea horses and bottom dwellers.

World Photos by Lou Sennick

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - December 22, 2003



World Photo by Lou Sennick

## What is your favorite family tradition?

These submissions to the Kid Scoop Weekly Writing Corner are from fourth-graders at Hillcrest Elementary School in North Bend:

My family and I all rented a limo to go see the lights at Shore Acres. On Christmas eve we put up are stockings exalty on the fireplace. Then on Christmas morning we rush to the Christmas tree. There were all kinds of ornments. Then we have some hot coco extra chocolatey with marshmillos on top. Then we go out to eat at Kings Table! I like to Decorate my house in Christmas colors, like green and Red there realy pertiy. Sometimes I even go to my grandma's house and then we all go to sing Christmas carls. And thats my Christmas Tradition. The end!

*Katie Powell*

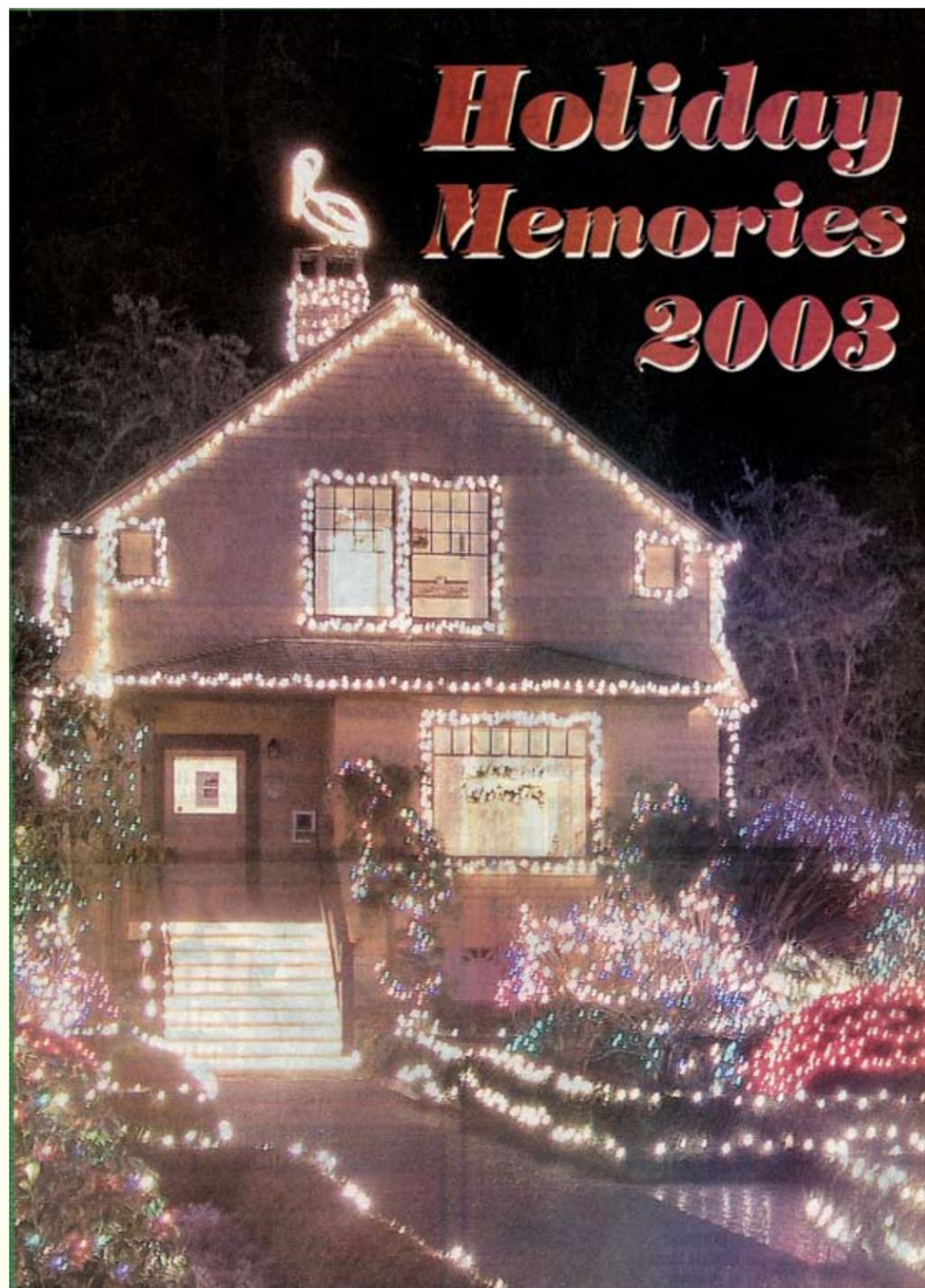
My family traditions are ... my mom, dad, sister and I go to Shore acers Every year. We also always go as a family to pick out our tree. Then on Christmas Day we have a big dinner with lots of yummy food. We open presents and we always decorate our tree. At the very end of the day, my dad will lift my sister and I to put on a shiny star. My sister and I always get a special ornament. Thats our family's favoriote traditions!

*Katie Phillips*

Every Christmas my family and I go to Shore Acers. My family and I go to Shore Acers so we can se all of the cool lights like the whale and the otters jumping in and out of the water. I really like to see all of those shiny sparkling lights. I also like to go to that big house where you get those free out of the oven cookies of your choice. There is also hot delicious apple cider. Up stairs there is Santa Clause in the bathtub taking a bath. That is my Christmas tradition.

*Jon Harris*

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - December 22, 2003



THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - December 27, 2003



World Photos by Susan Chambers  
Singers perform in the gardens at Shore Acres State Park near Charleston on a recent night. Different groups have been performing in the evenings during the 17th-annual holiday lights display. See Page C1 for the area's privately orchestrated top-rate light displays captured by World photographers over the past few weeks. As to Shore Acres, the 39-night exhibition continues from 4 to 10 p.m. through Jan. 4.

## *Shore Acres brightens the holidays*

Singers perform Christmas carols at Shore Acres State Park on Monday, Dec. 15. A number of groups take turns entertaining the audiences that visit the lights show every year.



# Holiday Lights – Wet But Wonderful . . .

## HOLIDAY LIGHTS STATS

An Estimated 47,680 visitors

26 nights of rain (20")

1 night closed due to power outage

Biggest group: 52 on Dec. 14 - Medford

38 countries

46 states (missing Alabama, Mississippi, New Hampshire, West Virginia)

1 U.S. territory

## CITIES & TOWNS:

200 Oregon, 175 California, 68 Washington

24 Idaho & Nevada, 204 Other

## BEST SYNONYMS FOR RAIN BY A HOSTING CREW NOV. 29, 2003

"Wet, rainy, drippy, misty, soaking wet, dark & damp, moist, saturated, puddly, soaking, soggy, slobbery, drizzly, unpredictable, water logged, occasional drainage, sopping, moisteners, swirling rain, and smattering of wetness"

## Comments:

"Absolutely breathtaking" - Johnstown, PA

"Most magnificent Christmas light display in the world!" - San Salvador

"Breathlessly beautiful, what a wonderland!" - Medford

"Love the new entrance and gift shop." - North Bend

"Remarkable!" - Bandon

"The most beautiful heaven on earth." - India

"Perfect as always!" - North Bend

"A stunning display, a feast for the eyes!" - Santa Rosa

"Exquisite! We love the frogs." - Coos Bay

"Great action - frogs, whales!!" - Portland

"A yearly tradition!" - North Bend

"Incredible!" - France

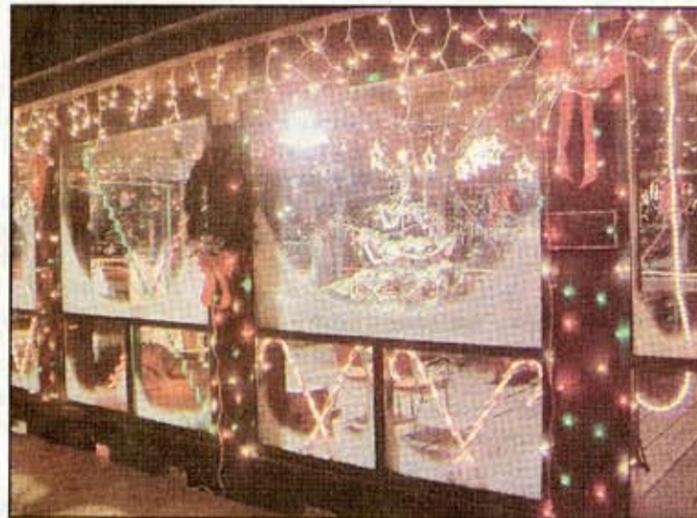
"Unbelievably gorgeous. We come each year, this is the best." - Florence

"Most breathtaking in the NW" - Portland

"Beautiful house and garden." - North Bend

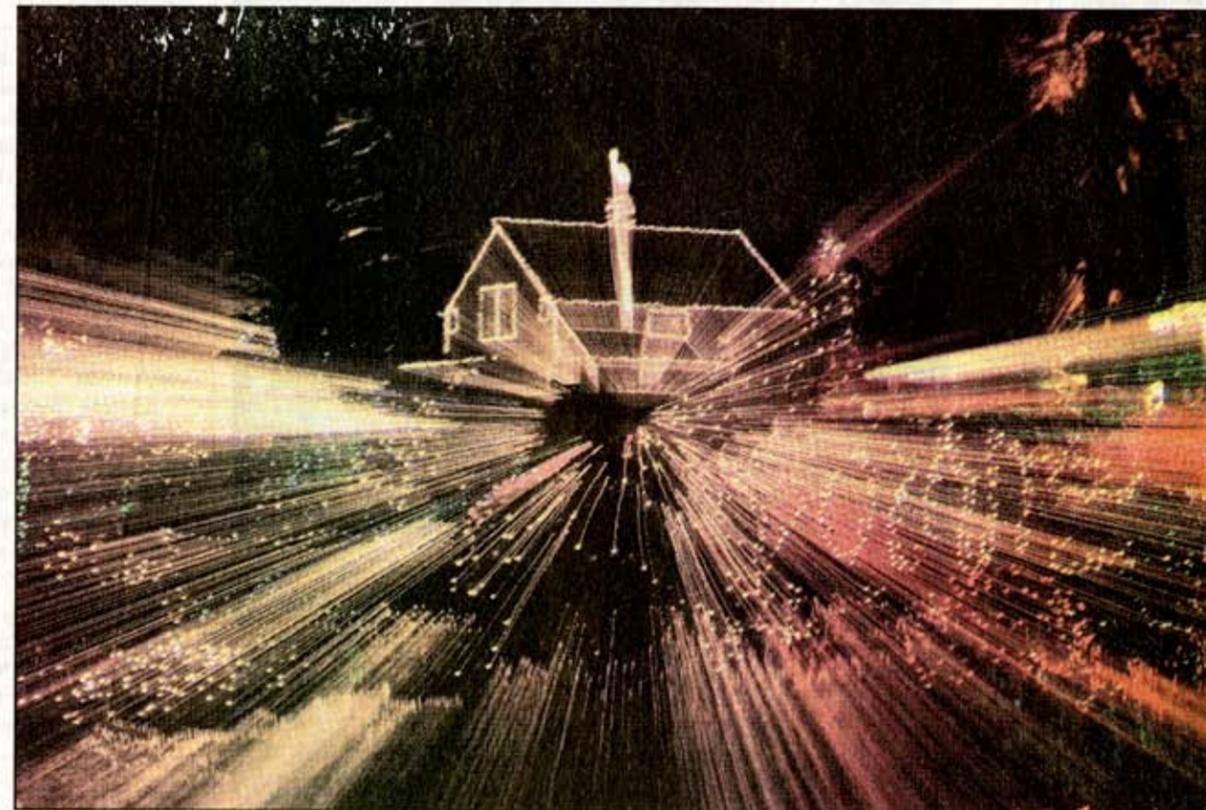
"Love the lights, rain, smell of trees & ocean all in one. Beautiful!" - Eugene

## THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - December 29, 2003



World Photo by Mary Schamehorn

The Port of Bandon's new picnic shelter, above, built on the boardwalk, is beautifully decorated for the holidays. The Port placed Best in Show in the Bandon Chamber of Commerce-sponsored Celebration of Lights contest. At right, the gardener's cottage at Shore Acres State Park in Charleston is shown in this zoomed photo, taken from across the pond. The effect was created by leaving the camera shutter open for four seconds and zooming the lens at the same time.



World Photo by Susan Chambers

# Board Meetings – January & February, 2004

**January 13, 2004**

**President Lou Kolkhorst** called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

**Directors Present:** David and Shirley Bridgham, Kenn and Betty Kennedy, Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, Gregg Nelson, Dennis Netter, Robynn Reed, Barbara Taylor and Ralph Thomas. **Absent:** Kathi Netter, Terry Richards, Timm Slater and Ellie Kinney-Martial

**Minutes:** MSP

**Financial Report:** \$68,477.98

**Information & Gift Center (IGC):** Sharon Kolkhorst reported that the IGC sales from July to December were up 22.6% with December sales up 50.7%. She thanked all the volunteers who worked to get the new IGC up and running. She and Lou will attend the Seattle Garden Show in February, looking for new products and ideas. Lou and Larry will review the lighting that needs to be improved in the IGC.

**State Parks Report:** Shirley Bridgham reported for State Parks in the absence of Ellie and Larry. She said the holiday lights takedown is ahead of schedule and extended a big thanks to Ellie and the Shutter Creek inmate crew for all their help in both the set up and take down of the holiday lights.

**Website:** Shirley Bridgham reported that she is making more changes on the website and the leaping frog photos will be move to the photo section.

**Old Business:** Holiday Lights - David and Shirley reported that the park had more than 47,000 visitors and revenue was slightly down from last year, probably because of an estimated 20 inches of rain. We also had more than 1,000 volunteers and the leaping frog sculpture display in the pond was a big hit. Kudos to Robynn and her volunteers for making the Garden House look great. The dates for Holiday Lights 2004 will be from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day instead of ending on the first Sunday in January.

**Other Old Business:** The annual pond cleaning will be handled by Ellie and the Shutter Creek Inmate Crew and pond refinishing has been tabled until later in hopes of getting a grant.

**New Business:** Ellie Kinney-Martial and Barb Taylor will attend a grant writing seminar in February.

President Kolkhorst adjourned the board meeting at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Kenn Kennedy, Secretary



– MEANWHILE AT SHORE ACRES –  
EARLY BLOOMING CAMELLIA IN THE SOUTH  
GARDEN NEAR THE AARS ROSE GARDEN

**February 10, 2004**

**President Lou Kolkhorst** called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

**Directors Present:** David and Shirley Bridgham, Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, Ellie Kinney-Martial, Gregg Nelson, Kathi and Dennis Netter, Robynn Reed, Barb Taylor. **Absent:** Terry Richards, Kenn and Betty Kennedy, Timm Slater, Ralph Thomas. **Guest:** Larry Becker, OPRD

**Minutes:** MSP

**Financial Report:** (Cash, Checking, Savings) \$64,241.98  
(IGC Inventory) \$53,136.88, **Total Assets: \$117,378.86**

**Information & Gift Center (IGC):** Sharon Kolkhorst reported that January IGC were down about 6% compared to 2004. Sold 35 park passes (22 in 2003). Vee Elliott will work with Betty Kennedy in scheduling weekend volunteers. Tom Kyle is adding lights to the IGC interior.

**State Parks Report:** Larry reported on work to improve drainage in the parking lot and under the deck; repairing garden gate; pavilion terraces are closed until hand rails can be installed; staff is improving ADA access from the parking lot to house; Garden House has been cleaned, Sunset Bay will hire a permanent Manager 2; Shore Acres color brochure has been re-ordered and Larry asked if the Friends would help fund the printing. Gregg Nelson moved that we finance half up to \$3,000. Barb Taylor seconded. Motion passed.

**Website:** Shirley will meet with Allan Ledesma on Feb. 13 about re-designed the site, including a link for weddings/info requests to be sent to Co Co Sutton in the Sunset office.

**Old Business:** Holiday Lights - Shirley passed out handouts on the stats (on file with the minutes). Sign Reward - A \$500 reward has been posted leading to the arrest and conviction of person/s who vandalized the new signs at Simpson Reef. Events - Discussion about Board Members chairing flower events. Shirley and Robynn will create an SOP form. Pond Cleaning - April 8 with BLM truck. Shirley asked that the frog concrete bases be left in place.

**New Business:** Winnie Pitsenberger expressed concern about long hours of standing on the concrete floor in the IGC. Friends will get a mat for volunteers to stand on. Lou showed a wood table for possible use on the deck. Also said he and Sharon saw interesting items at the Seattle show. Friends' Annual Plan due in Salem by Feb. 29, 2004

President Kolkhorst adjourned the board meeting at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Ellie Kinney-Martial and Shirley Bridgham

# The World

To suggest stories, share information  
(800) 437-NEWS or 269-1222, ext. 242  
e-mail: [theworldnews@pulitzer.net](mailto:theworldnews@pulitzer.net)

# SOUTH COAST

[www.theworldlink.com](http://www.theworldlink.com)



World Photo by Madeline Steege

Information signs at Cape Arago State park have been vandalized by someone using a vehicle to run over the sign.



World File Photo

Late in September, Oregon State Parks finished installing several interpretive signs at the Simpson Reef overlook pointing out what animal life can be spotted in the water and on the islands and shores below.

## Vandals wreck interpretive signs

Visitors to the newly renovated Simpson Reef Overlook near Cape Arago State Park by Charleston this week likely enjoyed watching sea lions and harbor seals loafing on Shell Island, but they also witnessed the work of vandals.

"Somebody, some individuals, pried and damaged and took three of the interpretive signs," said Larry Becker, assistant area manager in Charleston for the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department.

The thefts occurred Monday night or Tuesday morning, leaving frustrated State Parks officials trying to figure out why anyone would want the signs and where they went. The displays informed the curious about the offshore animals frequenting and living in the skies and sea.

Becker said the signs were specially made to withstand the wind, rain and sun that beat the coastal overlook year-round. Each sign cost \$300 to \$400. The signs were new,

installed in October, he said, adding that the Coos County Sheriff's Office has begun an investigation.

The damage wasn't limited to the overlook. The same night, someone crashed a stolen vehicle into a large group of signs at Cape Arago State Park, shearing off the 6-inch-by-6-inch posts at the ground.

Vandalism isn't a rare occurrence at the park. Becker said from time to time, park officials find lawns damaged by tire cuts and paint or bullet holes on signs.

For now, park officials have filed a complaint with the Sheriff's Office. They are encouraging anyone who might have information about vandalism at either spot to share it with investigators.

"These signs were funded through project funds and grant money," Becker said. "Any time there's damage to a public facility, it costs everybody a little bit."

—Elise Hammer, city editor



World Photo by Madeline Steege

A visitor looks out over a foggy Simpson Reef on Thursday afternoon. Interpretive signs that would tell him what he is looking at were recently stolen from the pedestals on the platform lookout.

18 ■ THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. ■ Thursday, January 29, 2004



Sunset Bay State Park can be an ideal place to watch the sun go down or view the Pacific Ocean from the vantage point of a sheltered cove and beach.

World File Photo

## State Parks: How would you like to spend your days?

There are dozens of day-use sites and waysides provided by the state of Oregon. Several of the most popular of these places are:

■ Golden and Silver Falls State Natural

Area, a day-use site that contains over 157 acres and two waterfalls. Hiking trails take visitors through soothing green ferns and forest to the tops of both falls. It is located 24 miles north-

east of Coos Bay at the end of the road beyond the little community of Allegany. The road narrows and it is not advisable to take RVs there as the parking and turn-around areas are limited.

■ Shore Acres State Park, once the estate of lumber baron Louis Simpson, is located on high oceanside bluffs, and the gardens that he planted there are now beautifully maintained by the state. The park with its blooms and shrubs is popular for weddings. It is located 2 miles south of Sunset Bay State Park. The office number is (541) 888-3732.

■ Cape Arago State Park provides visitors with spectacular views of the ocean and the rugged coastline to the south, and has trails, sea coves and picnic areas. It is about two-and 1/2 miles south of Shore Acres State Park.

State parks located in Coos County that have camping facilities include:

■ William Tugman State Park, located along U.S. Highway 101 north of Lakeside on Eel Lake. It is a large park with groomed lawns, picnic and camping areas, a boat ramp (under 10 mph speed limit on the lake), swimming

area, yurts, lakeside hiking trails and a playground.

■ Sunset Bay State Park is a beautiful, sheltered cove located about three-and-1/2 miles south of Charleston. It is popular for water sports such as kayaking and has plenty of room for wading and swimming. There also is a wind-sheltered campground with developed sites, yurts and picnic areas near the beach. The office number is (541) 888-3732.

■ Bullard's Beach State Park is two miles north of Bandon, along the bay of the Coquille River and on the ocean beach. Bandon's well-photographed old lighthouse is located there. The park is large and has 92 sites with full hookups and over 100 other sites for camping. The office number is (541) 347-2209.

For a more complete list of these special places, those interested can call the local Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation office at (541) 888-8867 or (800)-551-6949. To make campsite, recreational vehicle site or yurt reservations, those interested can call Reservations Northwest at (800)-452-5687.



## The World

Greg Stevens, publisher  
Kathy Erickson, editor  
Elise Hamner, city editor

# OPINION

## First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

## KUDOS

### More visitors to see Shore Acres lights

This season at Shore Acres State Park, we estimate there were close to 48,000 visitors in spite of 20 inches of rain.

The new Information & Gift Center and the Garden House drew rave reviews, as did the new leaping frog in the pond. A lot of folks thought we had more lights (we didn't), but the garden itself had been trimmed and replanted in many areas so the lights showed up better. We did add more uplighting on the big trees, so that may have been part of it. We hope to "frame" the whole garden this next season with more landscape lights.

Our visitors and supporters were very generous and we're ready to start planning the 18th-annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park slated for

Thanksgiving through New Year's (Nov. 25-Jan. 1). Maybe a few more lights, definitely more lighted sculptures, and probably some surprises! Our goal always is better, not necessarily bigger.

**Shirley Bridgham**  
Friends of Shore Acres Inc.  
Coos Bay

### Microfilming will be covered by grant

The Bandon Historical Society would like to announce that we just received an \$8,000 grant from Trust Management Services LLC of Waldport.

We are very excited about this grant because it will allow us to purchase through the University of Oregon all the Bandon newspapers on microfilm that were printed by the Western World throughout past years. We will be buying a micro-

film/fiche reader and printer, then preserving them for the future we will copy the microfilm on CD. This project will allow the museum to view newspaper articles from the past without damaging the originals. This project will become available for public research.

We will also be purchasing Adobe Photoshop software, an Epsilon Stylus Photo 2200 Printer, and an Epson Scanner 3200. This project will allow the museum to reproduce any type of negative, or original prints we have in the museum either for display or for gift shop purposes. We will have the ability to clean scratched, or damaged photos and to restore them to professional quality. Board member Bill Wehner will be teaching a couple of us this technique. We will be able to enlarge photos up to 11x14s specialty photos will be sold in our gift shop.

To the grant of Trust Management Services LLC, the museum will be contributing \$1,164 and an in kind contribution of approximately \$1,300 will complete this project.

We thank Trust Management Services LLC for this grant, their continued support and encouragement. We would not do it without their help.

**Judy Knox, executive director**  
Bandon Historical Society

## Letters Policy

Letters to the Public Forum must be signed.

Editors reserve final judgment on publication.

Letters can be mailed to P.O. Box 1840, Coos Bay, OR 97420.

## OUT & ABOUT

# Holiday Lights drew thousands to Shore Acres

A winter wonderland of lights and delights drew an estimated 47,680 visitors to the 17th-annual Holiday Lights & Open House at Shore Acres State Park.

According to statistics gleaned from the guest books by volunteer Al Aslakson, those who signed the guest books included visitors from 38 countries, 46 states and Puerto Rico.

"Most magnificent Christmas light display in the world!" wrote someone from El Salvador.

A visitor from Eugene wrote, "Love the lights, rain, smell of trees and ocean all in one. Beautiful!"

An entry on Dec. 23: "Sometimes you can come home. Merry Christmas." — Chesapeake, Va.

Visitors signed in from 175 California cities and towns, 200 Oregon cities and towns, and 68 Washington cities and towns. Visitors also signed in from 227 cities and towns in 43 other states, and 48 international locales from Brisbane, Australia, to Madrid, Spain.

Despite 20 inches of rain, it was a satisfactory season as visitors got their first look at a new entrance to the gardens and the new Information & Gift Center, both reminiscent of Louis Simpson's grand estate built in the early 1900s.

A new leaping frog sculpture in the lily pond drew rave reviews, as did the new undersea garden, the other animated sculptures and the landscape lights on the huge trees that frame the garden.

In the beautifully decorated garden house, visitors celebrated the season with hot cider, punch, coffee and cookies

served by dedicated volunteer hosts. Generous donations reflected a high level of satisfaction by visitors. The bed-and-breakfast overnight stay was won by Ken and Pam Lindgren of Gold Hill, who left a note saying they had "A

once-in-a-lifetime experience that will never be forgotten."

Hanging scrolls of names in the house were a tribute to the more than 1,200 volunteers, park staff and financial supporters that make it all possible.

## *State park hosts events year-round*

During the year, the Friends of Shore Acres sponsor "flower days" when the garden house is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with volunteers serving punch, cookies and coffee.

This year's schedule includes Bonsai Day on April 17, Rhododendron Sunday/Mother's Day on May 9; Rose Sunday/Father's Day on June 20; Dahlia Day on Sept. 25; and Orchid Day on Oct. 2. The Friends also park cars and sell sundaes and lemonade at the Oregon Coast Music Festival garden concert, which this year — for the first time — is going to be on a Saturday, July 17.

The Information & Gift Center is open all year. This all-volunteer operation managed by Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, is a primary source of funding for many Friends activities. The center offers a wide selection of books, VHS tapes and DVDs, clothing, art, jewelry, household items, toys, models, science kits and more,

many with a Shore Acres or Oregon Coast theme. Check out the new penny smasher machine (with four designs) and other new items being added during the year, including garden accessories, lighthouse collectibles and more.

The Information and Gift Center is open daily from noon to 4 p.m. through March 31. From April 1 through Nov. 23, the center will be open daily from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. During the Holiday Lights and Open House each year, the center is open from 4 to 10 p.m. daily from Thanksgiving through the first weekend of the New Year. For more information, call 888-2472 or toll free (866) 888-6100. Anyone interested in volunteering may check at the Information & Gift Center or call 888-2472, 267-7597 or 266-8300.

For more information about Friends of Shore Acres Inc. and Shore Acres State Park, visit [www.shoreacres.net](http://www.shoreacres.net).

# Springtime Publicity

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - May 8, 2004

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - May 4, 2004

## Mother's Day means rhodies, artists and more at Shore Acres

The Friends of Shore Acres will host Rhododendron Sunday in celebration of Mother's Day, May 9.

All are invited to stroll through the botanical gardens and view the rhodies and azaleas in full bloom. Gardening expert George Guthrie will be on hand to talk with anyone who has questions about growing these showstoppers.

Also, members of the Bay Area Artists Association will be at work in the gardens during a "paint out."

From April through October, the Friends of Shore Acres hold "flower days," with the Garden House open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with volunteers serving punch, cookies and coffee.

Remaining flower days in 2004 are Rose Sunday for Father's Day, June 20; Dahlia Day on Sept. 25; and Orchid Day on Oct. 2.

The Friends also park cars and sell sundaes and lemonade at the Oregon Coast Music

Festival garden concert, which this year will be held on Saturday, July 17.

The Friends also run the Information & Gift Center, which is open all year. This all-volunteer operation, managed by Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, is a primary source of funding for many Friends activities. The center offers a wide selection of books, VHS tapes and DVDs, clothing, art, jewelry, household items, toys, models, science kits and more, many with a Shore Acres or Oregon Coast theme.

Through Nov. 23, the center is open daily from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, those interested can call 888-2472 or toll free (866) 888-6100.

Anyone interested in volunteering may check at the Information & Gift Center or call 888-2472, 267-7597 or 266-8300. For more information about Friends of Shore Acres or Shore Acres State Park, visit [www.shore-acres.net](http://www.shore-acres.net).



### A buzz with love



A bee investigates one of the flowering plants at Shore Acres State Park on Wednesday during a recent break from the cloudy skies. The low bushes were covered with yellow blossoms that attracted several of the pollinating insects. Several rhododendrons in various colors also are in bloom, as are some of the roses and many other plants.

World Photos by Susan Chambers

## Shore Acres honors moms and rhodys

It's Rhododendron Sunday on Mother's Day, May 9, and the garden house will be open with cookies, punch and coffee between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Bay Area Artists Association also will be holding a "paint-out" in the gardens. According to the Friends of Shore Acres Web site, the best rhododendrons and azaleas are at their peak between April and mid-May at the gardens. The park is open from 8 a.m. until sunset. Most of the garden is wheelchair accessible, and loaner wheelchairs are available from the information center/gift store operated on-site by the Friends of Shore Acres, 888-2472.

Park vehicle entry fee is \$3 daily for a single day-use fee; other fees that cover other state parks also are available. For more information about the state park, those interested can call 888-3778, ext. 45 or (800) 551-6949.



Several rhododendrons and azaleas in vibrant colors contrast with pale blooming roses (at right) at Shore Acres State Park. Intermittent showers shouldn't discourage visits to the park.



# Rhododendron Sunday / Mother's Day 2004



SHORE ACRES' HEAD GARDENER GEORGE GUTHRIE ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT RHODODENDRONS AND AZALEAS WHILE MEMBERS OF THE BAY AREA ARTISTS ASSOCIATION HOLD A "PAINT OUT" IN THE GARDENS. IN THE GARDEN HOUSE, JOY DOW, LOU AND SHARON KOLKHORST PROVIDE REFRESHMENTS.



GEORGE, JACKIE SCHLAF AND JAY DOW



JOY DOW, GEORGE AND JAY DOW



"CHARLES OF CHARLESTON" EDMUNDS



## Shore Acres visitors greeted at Garden House

If you're visiting Shore Acres on a weekend, stop into the Garden House and say hi to the RSVP volunteers who help staff the Info Center and Gift Shop there. The shop has moved to the Garden House while state parks revamps the main entrance. When it's done, probably in September, the gift shop will be twice its previous size.

There's plenty to look at in the existing shop in the charming Garden House too. Everything from film to authentic Audubon huggable animals to historic postcards and books on many things local, and more entice from the shelves. And it's all set within the ever flowering beauty of the area's treasured Shore Acres

State Park. A video tells of the history of the park.

If you haven't been there recently, it's definitely worth spending a lazy afternoon. The roses are just unfolding; snapdragons salute along the pathways, the pond lilies are flowering, and the dahlias and more are poking up.

"For my husband and myself, it's part of our childhood memories," Sharon Kolkorst, RSVP volunteer who with Betty Kennedy coordinates the volunteers in the shop, said. "We spent a lot of time at the beach."

Her husband, Louis, was born in



Betty Kennedy, left, and Sharon Kolkorst show new Simpson history book.

Marshfield and she moved here at age three. They left for 30 years, and returned in retirement.

The Kennedys came as tourists more than 20 years ago and camped at Sunset State Park adjacent to Shore Acres. When they later moved to the area, Betty picked the park as a place to volunteer.

"We love it," she said.

RSVPer Ken Border, born and raised in Myrtle Point, remembers bringing his children to the park for barbecues, and now enjoys talking with the people who stroll the grounds and venture into the gift shop.

Park hosts cover the Info Center and Gift Shop during the week. More volunteers are needed for weekend shifts, and even occasional service. Call RSVP to get connected. Check [www.shoreacres.net](http://www.shoreacres.net) for ongoing updates of special events (Fathers Day is Rose Day; refreshments in the cottage) and construction progress.

## COMING EVENTS

**June 1-30** – Summer season Sawdust Theater. Weekends. Coquille. 396-4563

**June 6 & 7** – Brighton Beach Memoirs, 8 p.m., On Broadway Theater. 756-8889.

**June 6** – Southwesterns Theater Clubs Inaugural Production, 8 p.m., Southwestern Oregon Community College Performing Arts Center.

**June 7** – Gay '90s Days, Coquille. 396-3414 <http://chamber2000@harborside.com>

**June 14** – Sports & Celebrity Auction, 6 p.m. SWOYA. 267-3635

**June 15** – Fathers Day at Shore Acres State Park. Rose specialists on hand to share information.

**June 21** – Mad Hatters' Tea Party, 1 p.m., The Barn, Bandon. A benefit for Southern Coos General Hospital by the

hospital auxiliary. All encouraged to wear a hat—and enjoy the creations of others.

**June 21-22** – Relay For Life, North Bend High School track.

**June 27-29** – Popeye, Children's Theater, Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 4 p.m., On Broadway Theater. Tickets, 756-8889

**June 27-29** – A Gathering of Finches, Waterfront Players, Pony Village Mall.

**June 28** – Forestry, Fisheries & Lumberjack Show, noon, Mill Casino-Hotel.

**June 28-29** – SWORS Rose Show, Saturday, 1-5 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. 888-8577.

**North Bend** will celebrate its **100th anniversary** in July!

# Rose Sunday / Father's Day – June 20, 2004

MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHWESTERN OREGON ROSE SOCIETY AND THE SOUTH COAST WOOD CARVERS  
HELPED THE FRIENDS CELEBRATE ROSE SUNDAY ON FATHER'S DAY



RAY DUSKIN, HELEN HARRIS, HELEN DOVING, JAY DOW  
AND GEORGE GUTHRIE READY TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.



# August Highlights Inside and Out

## August 10, 2004 - BLM Facility

**President Lou Kolkhorst** called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Directors Present:** David and Shirley Bridgham, Kenn and Betty Kennedy, Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, Ellie Kinney-Martial, Gregg Nelson, Kathi Netter, Barbara Taylor and Terry Richards. **Absent:** Dennis Netter, Ralph Thomas, Robynn Reed, Timm Slater and Carl Siminow

**Minutes / June:** MSP with one correction for a typo

**Financial Report:** \$68,889.27

Treasurer Barb Taylor distributed copies of the proposed budget in the board packets for review. After explanation and discussion, board members present approved the new budget.

**Information & Gift Center (IGC):** Sharon Kolkhorst reported that the IGC sales for the year to date were up 26.5%. Sharon also passed out to each board member a set of eight (8) postcards that have been developed by the Friends and produced locally. President Kolkhorst reported that the penny smasher machine is a popular attraction and will pay for itself in the very near future.

**State Parks Report:** In the absence of Larry Becker, Ellie Kinney-Martial reported that the hand rails are installed at the pavilion and some repair work is being done on the observation building. Also, the SW Oregon Street Rods Show is Saturday, August 14th.

**Website:** Shirley Bridgham reported the website has been updated in "What's Blooming" with color photos and information about the new attractions in the park.

**Old Business:** Barb Taylor reported that Rose Sunday/Father's Day, June 20th was well attended and went smoothly. Also, there was over \$500 in sundae and lemonade sales at the Oregon Coast Music Festival Garden Concert in July. Attendance was up as a result of the concert being held on a Saturday.

**New Business:** Shirley Bridgham handed out an update for the upcoming Holiday Lights and that we have already received \$1,215 in lights pledges from supporters. Tony Dub of Coast Metals is designing a new donation box for the new entrance. David Bridgham passed out the nominating committee's report for directors and officers that will be voted on at the September Annual Meeting and Board Meeting. It was MSP to move the meetings to Monday, September 13, 2004, starting at 7:00 PM.

President Kolkhorst adjourned the board meeting at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Kenn Kennedy, Secretary



POPULAR PENNY SMASHER



RUDBECKIA - "CHEROKEE SUNSET" IN THE GARDEN

# Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

Continued in Album 18:

Annual Year - September 1, 2004 - August 31, 2005

Album 17 - Completed April 21, 2020

Book and PDF Versions

CONTENT SOURCES - FRIENDS' MINUTES, PHOTOS,  
PUBLICITY CLIPPINGS, FRIENDS' JOURNALS

More Information:

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