



# Shore Acres State Park Before Friends - 1986

Album 18





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.**

*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 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

*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.”***

*Friends of Shore Acres Inc - 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 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.

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 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.

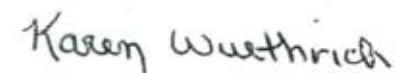
Andy La Tomme was asked to prepare a press release announcing the formation of the Friends with special mention of Mike Bodkin's contribution.

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, 2004 - August 31, 2005

## Board Meeting - September 13, 2004 Bureau of Land Management Facility, North Bend, OR

**President Lou Kolkhorst** called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

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

**Election of Officers:** President Kolkhorst announced the nominees for office: President Kathi Netter; President-Elect Ralph Thomas; Co-Secretaries Kenn and Betty Kennedy; and Treasurer Barb Taylor. A motion was made and seconded to cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried. Lou Kolkhorst then passed the gavel to incoming President Kathi Netter.

**Minutes of the August Board Meeting:** MSP

**Financial Report - Barb Taylor:** \$76,792.29

**Information and Gift Center:** Lou reported that the IGC sales for the year to date were up 24.3%. Lots of new merchandise and everything going well. He also reported that the new penny smasher machine is a popular attraction and will pay for itself in the very near future.

**State Parks Report:** No report from State Parks this month

**Website:** No updates at this time



**Old Business:** David and Shirley reported that the new Butterfly and Mushroom sculptures have been completed and the gray whale spout will be redone and ready for this season. Shirley reported that Fred Meyer will again contribute 100 cases of apple juice for our hot cider and give us the usual discount on the purchase of cookies. She also reported that the new donation box has been completed by Tony Dub of Coast Metals and will be installed soon.

**Other Old Business:** The Bridgham's reported that the Memorial Display has been approved by State Parks and will consist of an aggregate rock base and a 24" x 40" bronze plaque containing 96 names. The cost will be \$4,300 and to be split between Friends of Shore Acres Inc and OPRD. MSP

**New Business:** David Bridgham announced that he has been appointed by the Oregon Cultural Trust to serve on the new Coos County Cultural Coalition.

**Next Meeting:** October 12, 2004, 7:00 pm at the BLM facility.

President Kathi Netter adjourned the meeting at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenn Kennedy, Secretary



# . . . September Website and October Board Meeting . . .



## Board Meeting, October 12, 2004 - BLM Facility

**President Kathi Netter** called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

**Directors Present:** David and Shirley Bridgham, Kenn and Betty Kennedy, Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, Ellie Kinney-Martial, Gregg Nelson, Kathi and Dennis Netter, Robynn Reed, Timm Slater. **Directors Absent:** Terry Richards and Barb Taylor. **Guests:** Larry Becker, OPRD; Sunset Bay State Park's new Manager Dennis Lucas and his wife Kelly.

**Minutes of the September Annual Meeting and Board Meeting:** MSP

**Financial Report - Barb Taylor:** \$76,174.82

**Information and Gift Center:** Sharon Kolkhorst submitted a report that shows an increase of 27.69% increase over this time last year.

**State Parks Report:** Larry Becker reported that Kathy Schulz has been hired as a supervisor/programs director for state parks and the Garden House window replacement project is on hold for now.

**Website:** Shirley Bridgham passed around some new color photos that are now on the website.

**Old Business:** Holiday Lights - Light stringing starts Oct. 23. She also passed around the 2004 Holiday Lights Button. Kenn Kennedy reported that he has completed arrangements with Wendy's for chili for the volunteers' lunches.

**Other Old Business:** The Kennedy's and Kolkhorst's worked Dahlia Day, with Gregg Nelson, Carl Siminow and Kathy Metzger taking care of Orchid Day - both successful events.

**New Business:** Kenn Kennedy advised the board of the death of Ken Windred, founder of the Bay Area Bonsai Society and member of the Rhododendron Society. The family is raising funds for a memorial bench in Mingus Park. Motion by Kenn, second by Gregg to contribute \$100 to the Bay Area Bonsai Society for the bench. Passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting:** November 9, 2004, 7:00 PM, BLM

President Kathi Netter adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Kenn Kennedy, Secretary



# . . . November Board Meeting . . .

## Board Meeting, November 9, 2004 - BLM Facility

**President Kathi Netter** called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

**Directors Present:** David and Shirley Bridgham, Kenn and Betty Kennedy, Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, Ellie Kinney-Martial, Gregg Nelson, Kathi Netter, Robynn Reed, Terry Richards, Barb Taylor. **Directors**

**Absent:** Dennis Netter, Carl Siminow, Timm Slater **Guest:** Dennis Lucas, Sunset Bay State Park Manager

**Minutes of the October 12th Board Meeting:** MSP

**Financial Report - Barb Taylor:** \$74,250.34

**Information and Gift Center:** Lou Kolkhorst submitted a report that shows an increase of 77.73% increase over this time last year. He pointed out that the IGC was closed for 2 weeks in Oct. 2003 for the move from the Garden House to the new building. The penny smasher machine is doing well, with 3,360 pennies sold.

**State Parks Report:** Dennis Lucas submitted a written report prepared by Larry Becker outlining various OPRD projects in the region. (Filed with these minutes)

**Old Business:** Holiday Lights - Shirley Bridgham submitted a written report, also filed with these minutes. Board members were asked to volunteer for Preview Night, Nov. 24th. Gregg Nelson reported that the entertainment recruitment was going slow.

**New Business:** An offer from Fisherman's Grotto in Charleston to provide clam chowder for take-down in January. Robynn Reed will follow-up on this. Kenn Kennedy presented a request from RSVP for Friends of Shore Acres Inc to be a table sponsor at the RSVP Recognition Dinner. MSP to donate \$100. Kenn suggested that either the Bridgham's or Netter's attend.

**Good and Welfare:** Betty Kennedy reported receiving a phone call from Marian Tracy thanking the Friends for our contribution to the Ken Windred memorial bench in Mingus Park.

**Next Meeting:** January 11, 2005, 7:00 PM, BLM

President Kathi Netter adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Kenn Kennedy, Secretary

TO: FOSEA BOARD

FROM: LARRY BECKER

CC: DENNIS LUCAS, GEORGE GUTHRIE, ELLIE KINNEY

DATE: 11/9/2004

The following is a report of significant activities & events affecting OPRD, Sunset Bay Management Unit and specifically Shore Acres State Park. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the projects and activities at Shore Acres or other parks in Sunset Bay's Management Unit, please contact George Guthrie at 541-888-3732, Dennis Lucas at 541-888-3778 ext. 23 or myself 541-888-3778 ext. 22.

**SHORE ACRES PROJECTS** - New ADA compliant path to the garden house • Thinning and reduction of the vegetation east and north of the large field. • Replacement of one primary sewage lift station pump. • Repair of the asphalt cut and control of the water that surfaces from winter rains • Larry will add supports to the undersea garden frame once it is installed. • Dennis Lucas is currently pursuing the installation of a booster pump station on the potable water line for Shore Acres and Cape Arago and also re-developing the non-potable water portion of the garden from Big Creek, Norton Creek or drilling a well. • Larry is working Nancy Nedemhofer of SHPO to get approval to either repair or replace the garden house windows. Nancy is advocating repair instead of replacement as the garden house is under review for historic status.

**MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION** - The annual plan and the five-year agreement between FoSA and OPRD needs to be updated. • Larry and Dennis went to training on Non-Profit Cooperating Associations on October 5, 2004. They will schedule a time (after Holiday Lights) when they, Connie Bradley and the FoSA Board can review the legal and legislative responsibilities of the Cooperative Association and OPRD in administering the Agreement.

**UNIT PROJECTS** - William Tugman campground will have a complete electrical upgrade in March-May of 2005. • Sunset staff will remove hazard trees at Sunset Bay and William Tugman during November-December of 2004. • By May 2005 three more yurts will be installed at William Tugman, bring the total number of yurts to 16. • Sunset staff will install a septic tank in the overnight camp for the interpretive building.

**ODOT PROJECTS** - Johnson Rock has the contract for the re-alignment of the Cape Arago Hwy between Simpson Reef Overlook and Cape Arago State Park. • Bid documents are out for the repair and re-alignment of the highway at Norton Gulch.

**PARK PERSONNEL** - Tim Wood has been named the Director of OPRD. Tim was the Assistant Director in charge of field operations. That position is now open and the recruitment process has started. • Dave Esch, Sunset Bay MU Ranger, has announced his retirement effective December 31, 2004. • Retirements of Greg Foster in September (and transfer of his position to Harris Beach SP) and Dave Esch along with vacancy of Calum Stevenson's position while he is on developmental assignment and the long absence of Rob Kilmer for medical reasons has created a staff shortage for the MU. Karen Wuethrich and Dennis Maurer, Seasonal Ranger Aides, have been retained to help with park operation through the winter.



**Board Meeting, November 9, 2004 (Continued)**

Activities Update for Board by Shirley Bridgham

November 9, 2004

**Holiday Lights**

1. Fred Meyer request for 100 cases of apple juice and discount on cookies approved.
2. Vend West will store and deliver apple juice and spice to the park.
3. Day Ship Supply will store and deliver cookies to the park.
4. Cups and napkins ordered from Coastal Paper; will deliver Nov. 23.
5. "Santacans" ordered from Roto Rooter; to be delivered Nov. 16.
6. Cider Spice (Betty Renner, chair) made at NB Presbyterian Church and stored at Vend West.
7. New cider thermos "box covers" ordered from The Framery.
8. New lights were unpacked and marked in Sept. by Ginger and Bingo Sawyer, Cappy Klein and Maxine Johannesen.
9. Lights Pledge total as of Nov. 9 - \$8,486.50 (includes \$125 donated in January).
10. Holiday buttons in production by Judy and Al Aslakson, Reedsport.
11. Holiday entertainment recruitment ongoing by Gregg and Connie Nelson.
12. Host groups confirmed with some changes.
13. Christmas tree groups confirmed with some changes.
14. Large sculptures and hedge stakes set by inmate crews mid-October.
15. Lights preliminary setup (extension cords, etc.) Mid-October.
16. Lights stringing started Oct. 23 with large groups involved (Weyco, Rotary) and our regular volunteers.
17. Watch for new "flower" light strings created by David and Gregg.
18. Kenn Kennedy took care of getting chili from Wendy's for the volunteers.
19. Cappy Klein, Maxine Johannesen and Sharon Lewis take care of lunch service every weekend; heat the chili and hot dogs, keep the coffee pots going and the trays of "goodies" filled for hungry volunteers.
20. Christmas tree decorating started Nov. 6; to be completed by Nov. 14.
21. New spout on gray whale installed (per original art work by Don Mc Michael).
22. Ordered garland for pavilion; to be delivered Nov. 11 or 12.
23. Fire fighters will finish lights on the house Nov. 11 (or Nov. 13-14 if necessary).
24. David, Kenn, and Fred Ehrman will set the leaping frog display Fri., Nov. 12.
25. Garden House decorating by Robynn and Carl is nearly done.
26. Called ODOT about highway signs and Cape Arago Highway construction (not scheduled until 2005).
27. Two more weekends to finish hedges, misc. lighting, lights on Christmas trees, etc.
28. Scrolls for house to be done before we open!

**Memorial Fountain Display**

Cast bronze plate will be finished by JRT, Portland, next week.

**Donation Box**

Custom designed and built by Coast Metals; Bob Dixon (retired park ranger) has volunteered to install box before Holiday Lights.

**New Brochure**

"Shore Acres and Friends - a Brief History" completed (10,000 printed)  
Will send to members with membership renewal letters.  
Will use during Holiday Lights and next year.

# 18th annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park

a "community tradition" since 1987

★ **More than a Quarter Million Lights** ★

**Thanksgiving thru New Year's ★ 4-10 PM**

**Nov. 25, 2004 - Jan. 1, 2005**

**OPEN HOUSE ★ Hot apple cider, coffee, punch, cookies!**



View from Garden House Window

Luis Velasquez



Leaping Frog in Lily Pond

Luis Velasquez



Undersea Garden

Gregg Nelson



Oriental Garden and Lily Pond

Gregg Nelson

**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 ★ Need not be present to win.

Tickets- Friends' Info & 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  
Holiday Lights at Shore Acres sponsored by Friends of Shore Acres Inc.  
in partnership with Shore Acres State Park,  
Coos Bay, OR 97429 (541) 756-5401 ★ 888-3732 ★ 888-3778  
[www.shoreacres.net](http://www.shoreacres.net)

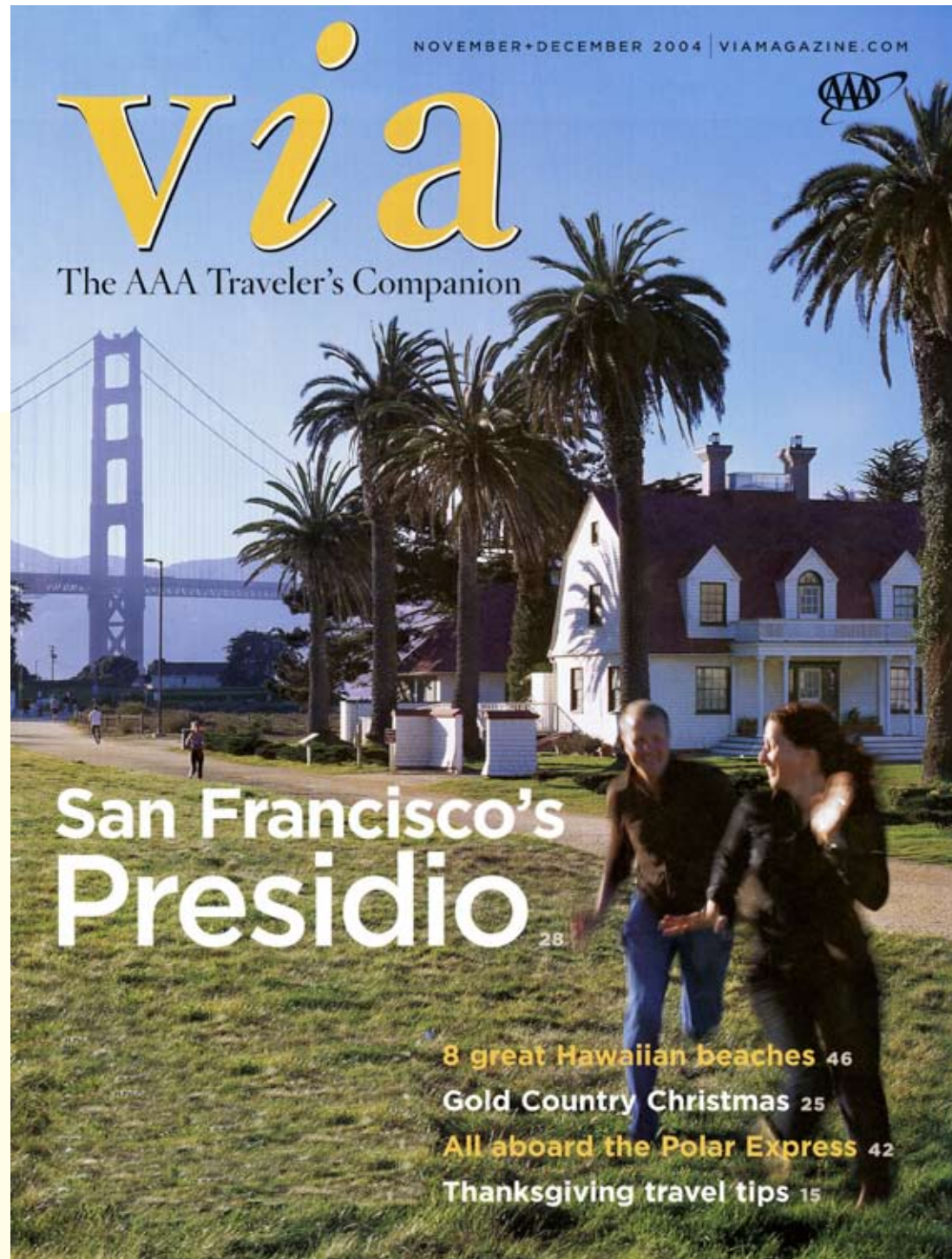


Shore Acres "Wave" - Spectacular in December

Luis Velasquez



## ... Holiday Lights Publicity ...



# ON THE ROAD

where to go & what to do in the west



**SANTA LUCIA FESTIVAL AND PARADE** Kingsburg, Calif.  
December 4. "The town celebrates Swedish style," says Donna Eastland, "as it kicks off the season with arts and crafts and an evening parade downtown." (559) 897-1111, [www.kingsburgchamberofcommerce.org](http://www.kingsburgchamberofcommerce.org).

**OLD TOWN COUNTRY**  
**CHRISTMAS** Auburn, Calif.  
December 11 and 18. "Old Town Auburn is pure Christmas," Eva Mael says. "A bonfire crackles in the center of town, live music plays in the street, and craft booths are lit by lanterns and candles." (530) 888-1585.

**LIGHTED TRACTOR PARADE**  
Ferndale, Calif. December 19.  
"The event draws a crowd," says  
Stephanie Renfer, "even when  
the rain is coming down side-

ways. Local farmers decorate their equipment with lights and tinsel and line up for one of the most unusual of parades." (707) 786-9675.

**HIT LIST** >> >> >>

## Small towns offer special holiday treats

For a breather from shopping and decorating, enjoy *VIA* readers' favorite displays of spirit in towns around the West.

**HOLIDAY LIGHTS** Shore Acres State Park, Coos Bay, Ore. November 25 to January 1. "People come from all over the world," C.L. Kolkhorst says, "to see more than a quarter of a million lights illuminate the night for this spectacular display." (541) 888-3732, [www.shoreacres.net](http://www.shoreacres.net).

**HOLIDAY PARADE OF LIGHTS** Pacific Grove, Calif. December 2.  
 "Downtown really comes alive," Thomas Maudlin says, "with marching  
 bands, holiday floats, dance teams, equestrian groups, and Santa Claus."  
 (831) 373-3304, [www.pacificgrove.org](http://www.pacificgrove.org).

**HOLIDAY LIGHTED BOAT PARADE** Petaluma, Calif. December 4. "The waters of the Petaluma River Turning Basin twinkle," Denise Parks says. "You can enjoy watching nearly 25 bejeweled boats make their way down the river at dusk." (877) 273-8258, [www.visitpetaluma.com](http://www.visitpetaluma.com).

6 VIA

Send us your views

Our March/April Hit List will feature the West's best publicly accessible views. Send your favorite, along with details about why it's great, to On the Road, VIA, 150 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102. Or email it to us at [otr@csaa.com](mailto:otr@csaa.com). If we feature your pick, you'll receive \$50 and a VIA T-shirt.



## OUT & ABOUT



World File Photo

More than a quarter-million holiday and landscape lights will brighten the evening skies beginning Thanksgiving day, as the 18th-annual Holiday Lights and Open House gets under way at Shore Acres State Park in Charleston.

### *Holiday Lights go on for Thanksgiving day*

The 18th-annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park will come on at 4 p.m. on Thanksgiving day and continue daily through New Year's Day.

This walk-through display, with more than seven acres of lighted gardens, continues to attract thousands of visitors each season. The Garden House, beautifully decorated in a traditional holiday theme will have friendly volunteer hosts from many organizations, businesses and members of Friends of Shore Acres will serve hot cider, cookies, punch and coffee from 4 to 10 p.m. each night, including Christmas Eve, Christmas day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Choirs, carolers and bands will offer entertainment next door in the performance pavilion. And there's plenty of

parking for both cars and buses.

This year's display also features garden landscape lighting, 20 large Christmas trees decorated by various organizations and businesses, and dozens of lighted sculptures including the Shore Acres' herons, life-size whales, an animated sea lion display, an undersea garden, flowers, garden bugs and butterflies, a leaping frog in the pond and many other surprises.

Exciting holiday gifts and raffle tickets for the "Ultimate Bed and Breakfast" are available in the Friends' Information and Gift Center. The "B&B" is an overnight stay for two adults in the Garden House on New Year's Eve with a special catered breakfast the next morning. Tickets are \$10 each (only 200 will be sold) with the

drawing to be held at 9 p.m. Christmas day. Ticket holder does not need to be present to win.

The holiday lights event became an instant community tradition in 1987 when the Friends of Shore Acres, in cooperation with Shore Acres State Park, decided to "string a few lights" to help celebrate the holidays. That first season, 6,000 miniature lights, one Christmas tree and the open Garden House drew 9,000 visitors.

Now, more than a quarter million lights — both holiday and landscaping — dozens of Christmas trees, lighted sculptures, a performance pavilion, and the beautifully decorated Garden House attract 40,000 to 65,000 visitors each season.

Inside the Garden House, long

scrolls of names pay tribute to lights pledge and business supporters and the members, volunteers and park staff who make it happen for all to enjoy — more than 1,200 all together.

Shore Acres State Park is located 13 miles southwest of Coos Bay/North Bend. Admission is a parking fee of \$3 per vehicle or a current Oregon Parks & Recreation Department annual parking permit or Coastal Passport, or a current campground receipt. The Friends welcome donations for refreshments and for continuing the event the following year. For more information, call Dave and Shirley Bridgham at 756-5401, Shore Acres State Park at 888-3732, or Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, (800) 824-8486 or 269-0215.



Diversions



The lights of Shore Acres

Annual holiday display provides magical respite from winter

BY JUDY FLEAGLE  
For the Herald and News

What is it about the Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park that attracted 47,680 visitors from 38 countries and 46 states last year?

For one thing, you get a lot more than pretty lights. It's also the setting on the bluffs, the stormy time of year, an indefinable magic as darkness descends, refreshments in the charming Garden House and entertainment by local groups, as well as a quarter million well-placed lights.

Shore Acres began as the summer home of Louis J. Simpson, pioneering Pacific Coast lumber and shipbuilding entrepreneur. His home had not only a spectacular setting on the bluffs, but five acres of gardens featuring trees, shrubs and flowering plants brought by sailing ships from around the world. During Simpson's lifetime, the public was welcome to stroll the grounds, and since 1942, Shore Acres has been a state park.

The formal gardens have grown to seven acres and are worth visiting any time of year, but their popularity soars during the holidays. Although located close to the ocean bluffs, the gardens are protected from winter storms by thick groves of tall conifers.

Winter storms are common. So



The 18th Annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres begins Thanksgiving Day and runs through New Year's Day from 4 to 10 p.m. nightly and is sponsored by Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. in partnership with Shore Acres State Park.

DIRECTIONS

Shore Acres is located 13 miles southwest of Coos Bay / North Bend. Turn off Highway 101 at the sign for Ocean Beaches and follow signs through town to Cape Arago Highway. Continue through Charleston past Sunset Bay State Park.

PARKING

Parking is \$3 or free with OPRD Pass, Coastal Passport, or current campground receipt.

CONTACT

For more information, contact Shore Acres State Park at (541) 888-3732 or Shirley and David Bridgman at (541) 756-5401.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2004 • SERVING THE SOUTH COAST FOR 126 YEARS • 50¢ (HOME DELIVERED: 37¢ DAILY)



**South Coast**  
Gobbling good fun  
at the turkey trot, A3

# The World

A Pulitzer Newspaper



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



**Sports**  
Lines shine for NB  
and Bandon, B1



World Photos by Lou Sennick

## Shore Acres: Lighting up the holidays

Designers worked in a few changes to this year's Holiday Light Show at Shore Acres State Park, one of which is the lighting on the gray whale to better reflect the original artwork by Don McMichael, at right. On Sunday evening, all the work is finished and it is the first chance for the Friends of Shore Acres to check all the lights for the annual Holiday Light Show. As the sun set, the moon was up over the Gardener's House, at left, and the lights are starting to glow. There are more than 250,000 lights at the show this year. It opens Thanksgiving Day at 4 p.m. and runs each night from 4 to 10 p.m. through New Year's Day.





## . . . Holiday Lights – Exquisite . . .

“FLYING” PELICAN SCULPTURES, NEW ANIMATED SPOUT ON THE LIFE-SIZE GRAY WHALE,  
A FAVORITE VIEW AT DUSK AND NEW MUSHROOM SCULPTURES



PHOTO BY LUIS VELASQUEZ



PHOTO BY LUIS VELASQUEZ



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY BRIDGHAM



PHOTO BY GREGG NELSON



# . . . The “Wave” Crashes While Lights Sparkle . . .



PHOTO BY LUIS VELASQUEZ

SHORE ACRES “WAVE” - *REMBRANDT OF THE SEA* - AS DESCRIBED BY SAMUEL BOARDMAN, FIRST OREGON STATE PARKS SUPERINTENDENT



NEW BUTTERFLY SCULPTURES

PHOTO BY LUIS VELASQUEZ

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

## HOLIDAY LIGHTS



Once the work of volunteers is completed, the gardens are aglow in Shore Acres State Park each evening for the annual Holiday Light Show. The view on the right is the same as below showing the difference between night and day.



North Bend resident Cindy Hough strings lights along a walkway at Shore Acres State Park with the Gardener's House in the background on a sunny Saturday morning in November. Many volunteers work to string the thousands of lights and decorate Christmas trees for the annual light show at the state park near Charleston. The Holiday Light Show opened Thanksgiving evening and will run through New Year's Day evening.

## Thousands come to see thousands of lights



Laurie Hall, director for operations with the Southwestern Oregon Community Action Committee, which operates food banks in Coos and Curry counties, puts up another big candy cane decoration on the group's sponsored Christmas tree at Shore Acres. Many local groups put up and decorate trees for the holiday light show.

World Photos by Lou Sennick



Above, each volunteer putting up the Shore Acres light display has a diagram showing the color and where each goes and is plugged in. The schematics are laminated to keep the wet coastal weather. Each year, volunteers spend hours putting up more than 250,000 lights for the display, which includes animated critters such as a leaping frog in the pond of the Oriental Garden, below. Other animations include a gray whale, a breaching orca and sea lions leaping off a rock and into the Pacific Ocean. Admission to the Holiday Lights is \$2 per carload and the hours are from 6-10 p.m. each night.



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# . . . More Holiday Lights Publicity . . .

THE SUNDAY OREGONIAN DECEMBER 12, 2004

Holiday outings

## Lights on!

Banish the dark and brighten the season by visiting some of the region's best displays

By MONIQUE BALAS ♦ SPECIAL TO THE OREGONIAN

So the dark days of winter are getting you down? Lighten up! While the Northwest may not be a snowy winter wonderland — yet — few things are lovelier than the sight of holiday lights twinkling in the darkness.

There are gorgeous light shows in every direction, but here's a sampling of some that really shine:



See twinkling starfish, jellyfish and a sea horse at Shore Acres State Park's display. The marine-theme display attracts visitors from around the world.

### SHORE ACRES STATE PARK

Near Charleston

Theme: Nautical life

**Why it'll light up your night:** In its 18th year, this walk-through display will delight visitors. With more than 250,000 lights, this luminous display attracted visitors from 38 countries and 46 states last year. Marine life, such as life-size leaping orcas, will make children's eyes shine with delight. Even better, the Friends of Shore Acres bake thousands of cookies and provide hot cider for a freewill donation. What a sweet way to get motivated to make the drive!

**Hours:** 4-10 nightly, through Jan. 1 (including Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day)

**Admission:** State park fee of \$3 per car (any park pass will apply)

**Location:** Off U.S. 101, 13 miles southwest of Coos Bay; at the end of the Cape Arago Highway

**More info:** 1-866-888-6100; 541-888-2472; [www.shoreacres.net](http://www.shoreacres.net)

### MAGIC AT THE MILL

Mission Mill Museum, Salem

Theme: Period displays

**Why it'll light up your night:** See history in a new light as costumed interpreters re-enact life around the mill from the 1800s through the World War II era. The museum also offers about 350,000 lights on display on historic buildings throughout the mill's five-acre site.

**Hours:** 5:30-8 p.m. Dec. 19-23

**Admission:** \$2 per person; free for members

**Location:** 1313 Mill St. S.E.

**More info:** 503-585-7012;

[www.missionmill.org](http://www.missionmill.org)

### WILDLIGHTS

Wildlife Safari, Winston

Theme: Wildlife

**Why it'll light up your night:** Lions and tigers and Christmas lights! This unique display is sure to make your night a little wilder. The Safari Village restaurant, gift shop and petting zoo are all aglow with hundreds of thousands of lights. (This doesn't include the actual safari park.)

**Hours:** 5-8 p.m. nightly through Dec. 24

**Admission:** \$1 per person buys entrance to the village light show

**Location:** 1790 Safari Road

**More info:** 541-679-6761; [www.wildlifesafari.org](http://www.wildlifesafari.org)

### UMATILLA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

Hermiston

Theme: Christmas

**Why it'll light up your night:** At close to a million lights, this walk-through display will leave you aglow with holiday spirit. You'll find arts and crafts vendors; pictures with Santa; and horse-drawn wagon and carriage rides for \$2.

## Best of ...

### At Shore Acres, you really see the lights



PAUL CARTER / The Register-Guard

Shore Acres State Park, south of Charleston on the Oregon Coast, twinkles each year with thousands of holiday lights.

The gardens on the former Simpson estate south of Coos Bay are definitely not lights lite

When Team Best of... set out in search of the best Christmas — er, make that "holiday" — display in the Best of... minivan, we snaked our way through all the nooks and crannies of the region looking for something that would dazzle.

We saw giant inflatable Santas on the lawns of those brand-spankin'-new northeast Eugene cul-de-sacs. We saw shopping center parking lots strung up with millions of white lights that blink to the rhythm of "Jingle Bells." We even checked out an NC-17 display on Barger Drive of illuminated reindeer doing what, um, well — they were engaged in what hot-blooded reindeer do, you know, to reproduce.

We examined everything that flashed, shined, winked,

#### BEST DISPLAY OF HOLIDAY LIGHT

Shore Acres State Park

**Directions:** South on Highway 101 from Reedsport; in North Bend, head the signs to ocean beaches and Charleston, following the Cape Arago Highway until you see signs for Shore Acres

**Telephone:** (541) 888-3732

hallucinating to appreciate the full spectrum of 250,000 blinking, flashing, multicolored holiday lights. But you've got to admit that wandering among electrified diving sea lions and leaping frogs while sipping cider and munching on snickerdoodles would be right up the Merry Pranksters' alley.

The park's 18th annual Holiday Lights display is a family affair, which means you're far more likely to trip over a sniveling youngster than a giggling hippie. Which is just fine with Team Best of...

But about those lights.

There's an orca cresting and splashing into an imaginary ocean. The effect is created by different sets of lights, blinking one at a time, sort of like the way cartoons used to be drawn.

There are sea lions barking and diving off rocks. And an undersea garden, complete with a starfish, crab, sea horse, octopus and the dangling legs of some kind of waterfowl.

But if wildlife ain't your thing, sniff the pretty flowers. They won't smell like anything

but voltage, but have you ever seen a tulip, rhododendron, rose and dahlia in the same magnified scene?

There's a grasshopper, a snail, a turtle and a slug. Take your pick. And much, much more. Seven acres of Christmas trees, hedges and shrubbery of all kinds are jam-packed with lights.

The whole thing started back in 1987, when the Friends of Shore Acres decided to string a few lights to draw visitors to the park. The first season, it was 6,000 miniature lights, a tree and a decorated garden house.

About 9,000 people showed up.

As the years dragged on, the Friends found more and more — and more — lights. Now, some 40,000 to 60,000 visitors from 38 countries arrive each season.

How's that for a great notion?

To see a show that will blow your mind, go to the Best of... archive at [www.registerguard.com/bestof](http://www.registerguard.com/bestof).



HOLIDAY MEMORIES

*Holiday Lights at Shore Acres*



World Photo by Lou Sennick

The gazebo at Shore Acres State Park is lit up for the Holiday Lights show with the view of the gardens aglow with over 250,000 lights. The annual show is running every night from 4-10 p.m. at the state park near Charleston. Admission is \$3 per carload and runs through New Years Eve.

Left: A pair of lighted butterflies decorate some trees along one of the Shore Acres State Park pathways.



# . . . 2004 - Best Year Yet . . .

## **"A MEMORY FOR A LIFETIME"**

*By Shirley Bridgham, Holiday Lights Co-Chair*

The 18th annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park drew an estimated 54,000 visitors from far and wide. Comments in the guest books included: *"We came special from Hawaii for this. Beautiful!"* A visitor from Homestead, Florida - *"Spectacular! Moving exhibits exceptional."* And another from Magalia, California wrote *"A memory for a lifetime."* Less than ten inches of rain, some beautiful clear moonlit nights, and the excellent attendance helped make it the best season in recent memory.

According to our volunteer statistician Al Aslakson, those who signed the guest books (not everyone did) included visitors from 28 countries, 47 states and the District of Columbia. There were 178 California towns and cities, 210 Oregon towns and cities, 73 Washington towns and cities, and 261 towns and cities from other states.

New sculptures included a new spout on the life-size gray whale, giant butterflies, and large mushrooms. Additional landscape lights illuminated even more of the huge trees that frame the garden. Of particular interest to many visitors were the new red flower cluster lights designed and crafted by David Bridgham and Gregg Nelson. In the 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. Hanging scrolls of names in the house were a tribute to the more than 1200 volunteers, park staff, and financial supporters that make it all possible.

Toni and Garry Holcomb II of Cottage Grove, Oregon enjoyed their B&B overnight stay that included a catered breakfast courtesy of The Pancake Mill Restaurant. The Holcombs bought their winning ticket while visiting at Thanksgiving.

The lights are all put away, the house is furnished for summer and planning has already begun for the 19th annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park, which will run from Thanksgiving thru New Year's this coming season. There will be more than a quarter million lights, more cluster flowers, more landscape lights as we continue "framing" the garden and - as always - more surprises. ■



## **"STATS HIGHLIGHTS"**

AN ESTIMATED 54,000 VISITORS

28 Countries from Australia to the U.S.

47 States and the District of Columbia  
(Missing Kentucky, Louisiana & New Hampshire)

### **CITIES & TOWNS:**

210 Oregon • 178 California • 73 Washington  
261 cities and towns from other states

### **COMMENTS:**

"Been waiting for this all year - wonderful!" - Boise, ID  
"I'd move to Oregon." - Los Angeles, CA  
"We came special from Hawaii for this. Beautiful!"  
"A memory for a lifetime." - Magalia, CA  
"Came from Sacramento to see this!"  
"I love this place." - Coos Bay, OR  
"More beautiful than the Oregon Zoo lights!" Clackamas, OR  
"Spectacular! Moving exhibits exceptional!" Homestead, FL  
"This was worth traveling all the way from Australia to see."  
""Unbelievable!" - Eureka, CA  
"We read the AAA Via and had to come!" - Davis, CA  
"Worth the ride from Portland." - Portland, OR  
"Great Christmas gift to the community." - Coquille, OR  
"Magical - a real fairyland!" - Medford, OR  
"Awesome!" - Nashville, TN  
"What a wonderful gift to the public." - Vancouver, WA  
"Even in the rain, spectacular." - Portland, OR  
"Perfect! As wonderful as promised." - Lake Oswego, OR  
"Stunning!" - Eugene, OR  
"Thanks! This puts us in the spirit each year!" - Reedsport, OR  
"Such a great legacy!" - Klamath Falls, OR  
"Outstanding display!" - Depoe Bay, OR  
"Beyond belief!" - Portland, OR  
"Was worth the trip." - Reno, NV  
"We love to bring our guests!" - North Bend, OR



# . . . “Imagine . . . an Empty House . . .”

*By Robynn Reed, FoSA Director and Garden House Decorating Chair*

*Imagine an empty house with a fascinating history placed in a beautiful setting. Add in a delightful holiday season and willing volunteers. Combine all of these ingredients and you would be standing in the Garden House at Shore Acres a few short years ago.*

Today I enjoy the same combination with a few great changes. When we started decorating the garden house this year it still looked like a home. This was due to the gracious acceptance of the park manager Larry Becker and the Shore Acres staff who allowed the Friends to leave the house furnished for visitors to enjoy year 'round.

Each season the Friends' board has budgeted enough funds for purchasing decorations. These have included furniture items which has eliminated the need to borrow furniture, etc. We still include delightful items such as the house display loaned by Bob and Carolyn See for a couple of years. We then give them a “vacation” and try to create something different for everyone to enjoy.

I quickly learned that some things must NOT change! Santa makes a mandatory visit each year and parents will ask the hosts if he is there before taking their little ones upstairs! He is a fun permanent tradition.

I am a great “recycler” and try to accomplish a “new” look each year with a lot of the same stuff! Decorating the Garden House is my “creative endeavor” each year and I look forward to the time spent doing it. (I get to create something beautiful which does not include dishes, mail or laundry!)



IN 1991, ADAM AND ROBYNN HELPED WITH LIGHTS STRINGING WHEN ADAM WAS A BABY!



A TEDDY BEAR'S TEA PARTY IN 2004



A “MUST” AND A FAVORITE, SANTA IN THE TUB!

Carl Siminow and I have worked out a great system. Ellie Kinney-Martial and George Guthrie are always available and a great help. Cappy Klein and Maxine Johannesen give a helping hand along with the Andy Wolf's Shutter Creek Corrections crew as needed. Each year we attract a few new volunteers who are greatly appreciated.

I “borrow” ideas from other places and keep my eyes open all year for new “things” to use. Please call me at 404-6223 if you'd like to come join the fun! ■

**DONATED ITEMS** - B&B Bed - Shary McKeown & Greg Horning; Bookcases & Louvered Screen - Butch & Kathy Hutchinson; Candelabra & Hanging Lamp-Marion Harris Custom Lampshades; Radio - Dayton Hughes and family; Entrance Table and Roll Top Desk- Marshfield Bargain House, Steve Schneiderman; Antique doll - Headlands Country Mercantile

**LOANED ITEMS** - Canopy Bed - Marshfield Bargain House- Steve Schneiderman; Dresser - American Home Furnishings; Ship's Wheel - John McKeown; Misc. Items - Mike, Robynn & Adam Reed

**DECORATOR ELVES** - Mike & Adam Reed, Carl Siminow, Cappy Klein, Maxine Johannesen, Sharon Morse, Ellie Kinney-Martial, George Guthrie, Andy Wolf and the Shutter's Creek Corrections Crew.



# . . . Back to Business 2005 . . .

## BOARD MEETING, JANUARY 11, 2005 - BLM FACILITY

**President Kathi Netter** called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

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

**Minutes of the November 9, 2004 Board Meeting:** MSP

**Financial Report - Barb Taylor:** \$112,074.53

**Information and Gift Center:** Lou Kolkhorst submitted a report that shows an increase of 31.65% increase over this time last year. Park Pass sales are up and we have sold 4,894 pennies to date.

**State Parks Report:** Dennis Lucas submitted a written report outlining various OPRD projects in the region. (Filed with these minutes)

**Old Business:** Holiday Lights - Shirley Bridgham submitted a written report. (Filed with these minutes)

**Other Old Business:** Pond Resurfacing Spring of 2005, budget \$10,000. MSP Terry Richards will meet with OPRD staff and keep the board apprised of details and progress.

**New Business:** Shirley requested board members consider coming out to help take down lights as we have been short of volunteers. The Shutter Creek inmates have helped take down all the sculptures and picked up all the extension cords. All that is left is lots of lights. Lou announced the annual breakfast meeting for the IGC volunteers will be January 22 at Fisherman's Grotto in Charleston. Board members are welcome.

**Good and Welfare:** Kudos to Lou and Sharon for the great job they are doing in managing the Information and Gift Center and to all the volunteers who help. Secretary Kenn Kennedy requested that someone volunteer to take notes at the next meeting as he and Betty will be State Park Hosts at Humbug Mt. State Park for the month of February.

**Next Meeting:** February 8, 2005, 7:00 PM, BLM

President Kathi Netter adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Kenn Kennedy, Secretary

## STATE PARKS REPORT - HIGHLIGHTS:

**Sunset Bay** - Dave Esch retired as of December 30th. Current staff includes 3 permanent rangers and 1 ranger aid, with plans to hire another ranger soon. • Both road repair projects slated for Cape Arago Hwy are proceeding. • Simpson Reef project is scheduled for completion by May 20, 2005, weather permitting.

**Shore Acres** - Garden House windows project information by next meeting. • Holiday Lights event was successful with \$32,602 collected from vehicle fees.

**William Tugman** - Installation of 3 more yurts will be completed by mid March. • Electrical project is scheduled for completion by mid May. ■

## HOLIDAY LIGHTS REPORT - HIGHLIGHTS:

- Best season ever with \$17,490.50 left in donation jars in house.
- Visitors - an estimated 54,000, more than 1,200 volunteers
- Weather - 10" rain (half of 2003 season)
- Bought 48,000 cookies (cookies, cups, spice, etc. left over)

New spout on gray whale, new butterfly and new mushroom sculptures, and new rhodie flower cluster light drew good comments and most people thought we had more lights. • Used both 5" and 2" spaced miniature lights and added more perimeter landscape lights. • The IGC and garden entrance and the decorated garden house drew continued great comments. • Minimal repairs of lights needed. • Lights display almost down thanks to dedicated volunteers, Shutter Creek crews and park staff. • A complete stats report will be available at the February board meeting. ■





# Shore Acres Pond gets “base” lift - April, 2005

*By George Guthrie, Head Gardener, Shore Acres Gardens*

Since Louis Simpson first created it, the lily pond has been the scenic centerpiece of the gardens at Shore Acres. The calm waters, colorful aquatic plants, and the twin bronze cranes eternally admiring their reflections have pleased visitors for many years. As many of our readers already know, the pond — like the rest of the garden — has gone through many changes. During the early years of state park administration, the pond was filled in and used as a “sunken garden” because of leaks in the original base. It was not until the “great make-over” of 1973 that the area was fully repaired and turned back into what we see and enjoy today.

What many may not know is that for the last 10 years or so, we park staff have been struggling with a new round of leaks that slowly but surely were draining the pond. During the summer we could see the effects of the leaks by the “bathtub ring” around the edge of the pond exposed by the retreating waters. The by now almost 30 year old pond base was cracking here and there and allowing water to seep out. This was mainly due to normal deterioration but probably also due in part to unavoidable wear and tear of our annual “brush and flush” cleaning of the pond.



Nevertheless, in the last several years, we felt that we had the leak situation under control but each time we cleaned the pond, we would look for obvious cracks and repair them with various spot treatments (including a concoction whose name in the pond repair biz is “moose milk”!) which themselves stood out as off-color patches and blotches. Add rusting exposed rebar (part of the original reinforcement for the pond base) and we eventually realized that at some point we would have to consider a complete brand new resurfacing of the pond base.

Over a period of several years, the park (mainly through the efforts of assistant gardener Ellie Kinney-Martial) and the Friends of Shore Acres (FoSA) explored various options (materials and application methods) to achieve this goal. Originally, we thought the best way would be an application of “shotcrete” (a spray-on concrete-like substance used in swimming pools) but further research indicated that the weight of a new layer of such material might actually lead to further cracking of the underlying original “gunnite” surface material and possibly more leaks down the line.



# Result: A Pristine Pond Ready for Visitors

Eventually, we heard (courtesy of Mike Shott of LTM, Inc.) about a sealing material called “Tamoseal” which could be applied much thinner than the 2” or so required for the shotcrete while still providing the water-proofing we needed plus repairing the unsightly flaking of the old surface and rust stains. FoSA would generously buy the needed materials (some was also kindly donated by Mike and LTM), and we could use inmate crews from the Shutter Creek Summit Program to help Ellie and Bob Dixon (a long-term seasonal employee with formidable construction skills) to make this thing happen. We had the money, the materials, and a plan of action but as it turned out one vital thing was lacking — dry weather. The material had to be applied to a clean and dry surface. We could clean the base just as we did every year but keeping it dry was to be a real problem considering the fact that this spring turned out to be one of the wettest in recent memory — rain every day and when it held off for a few days and the surface seemed to be drying off enough to work, it would then rain again — big time frustration!



We had planned for about a week’s worth of work but with various rain delays, it took almost a month to do the prep work (grinding down the exposed rebar to bare steel, putting rust-inhibitor on it and then covering the repair with concrete to bring the treated area up to grade) plus 2 complete applications of the Tamoseal (applied with brushes and brooms with at least a 24 hours drying time between each application) to the entire pond base. We are happy to say that it was worth the wait and the work.

The pond base surface looks uniformly smooth and lovely, we came in under budget, and (believe it or not) no leaks! ■





# Rhododendron Sunday / Mother's day – 2005

SOUTH WEST CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY  
BAY AREA ARTISTS ASSOCIATION, REFRESHMENTS BY THE FRIENDS



KENN AND BETTY KENNEDY



BLOOMS ON DISPLAY AND LOTS OF QUESTIONS



BEAUTIFUL SUNNY DAY!



BAY AREA ARTISTS "PAINT OUT"



# Rose Sunday / Father's day – 2005

SOUTHWESTERN OREGON ROSE SOCIETY, SOUTH COAST WOOD CARVERS  
BAY AREA ARTISTS ASSOCIATION, REFRESHMENTS BY THE FRIENDS

VIA MAGAZINE - MAY-JUNE 2005


**The Roundup > Honoring Dad**  
Want to do something different with Dad this Father's Day? Try one of these activities for pops and kids of all ages.

**OREGON**  
**JUNE 17 ZOO FATHER OF THE YEAR, PORTLAND.** Vote online for the most worthy nonhuman dad at the zoo, then head there to watch the winner munch on a special Father's Day treat. Oregon Zoo. (503) 226-1561, [www.oregonzoo.org](http://www.oregonzoo.org).  
**JUNE 19 FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH, REDMOND.** Chug through the high-desert terrain of the Crooked River Valley while you dine on quiche with hollandaise or cowboy pork steak and eggs—but beware of Jesse James and his gang. Crooked River Dinner Train. (541) 548-8630, [www.crookedrivertrain.com](http://www.crookedrivertrain.com).  
**JUNE 19 FATHER'S DAY STERN-WHEELER CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH CRUISE, CASCADE LOCKS.** Indulge in salmon fettuccine Alfredo, pork loin with hoisin glaze, and an array of desserts on this cruise through the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area on a three-tiered paddle wheeler. Marine Park. (800) 643-1354, [www.sternwheeler.com](http://www.sternwheeler.com).  
**JUNE 19 FATHER'S DAY WILLAMETTE SHORE TROLLEY CAR RIDE, LAKE OSWEGO AND PORTLAND.** Travel in an antique trolley over trestles,

through a tunnel, and along the Willamette River while you enjoy views of stately mansions and the Portland skyline. Dads ride free when accompanied by a paying child of any age. Board at the Willamette Shore Trolley Depot (Lake Oswego) or Bancroft Street Station (Portland). (503) 697-7436, [www.oregonelectricrailway.org](http://www.oregonelectricrailway.org).

**JUNE 19 ROSE SUNDAY—FATHER'S DAY, COOS BAY.** Inhale the fragrance of some 600 blooming rosebushes, then tour the garden house where you'll find cookies and punch. Rose experts answer thorny questions, wood-carvers demonstrate their craft, and artists paint *en plein air*. Shore Acres State Park. (541) 756-5401, [www.shoreacres.net](http://www.shoreacres.net).

**IDAHO**  
**JUNE 19 FATHER'S DAY CAR SHOW, BOISE.** Ogle the chrome and curves of more than 100 shiny classic cars lined up along West Idaho Street. Vote for your favorite, then have brunch at one of the many nearby restaurants. Downtown. (208) 472-5200, [www.downtownboise.org](http://www.downtownboise.org).  
—JENNICA PETERSON



RAY DUSKIN AND GEORGE GUTHRIE ANSWER VISITORS' QUESTIONS.



WONDERFUL  
WOOD  
CARVINGS



KATHY AND RON METZGER AND BETTY KENNEDY



KENN KENNEDY

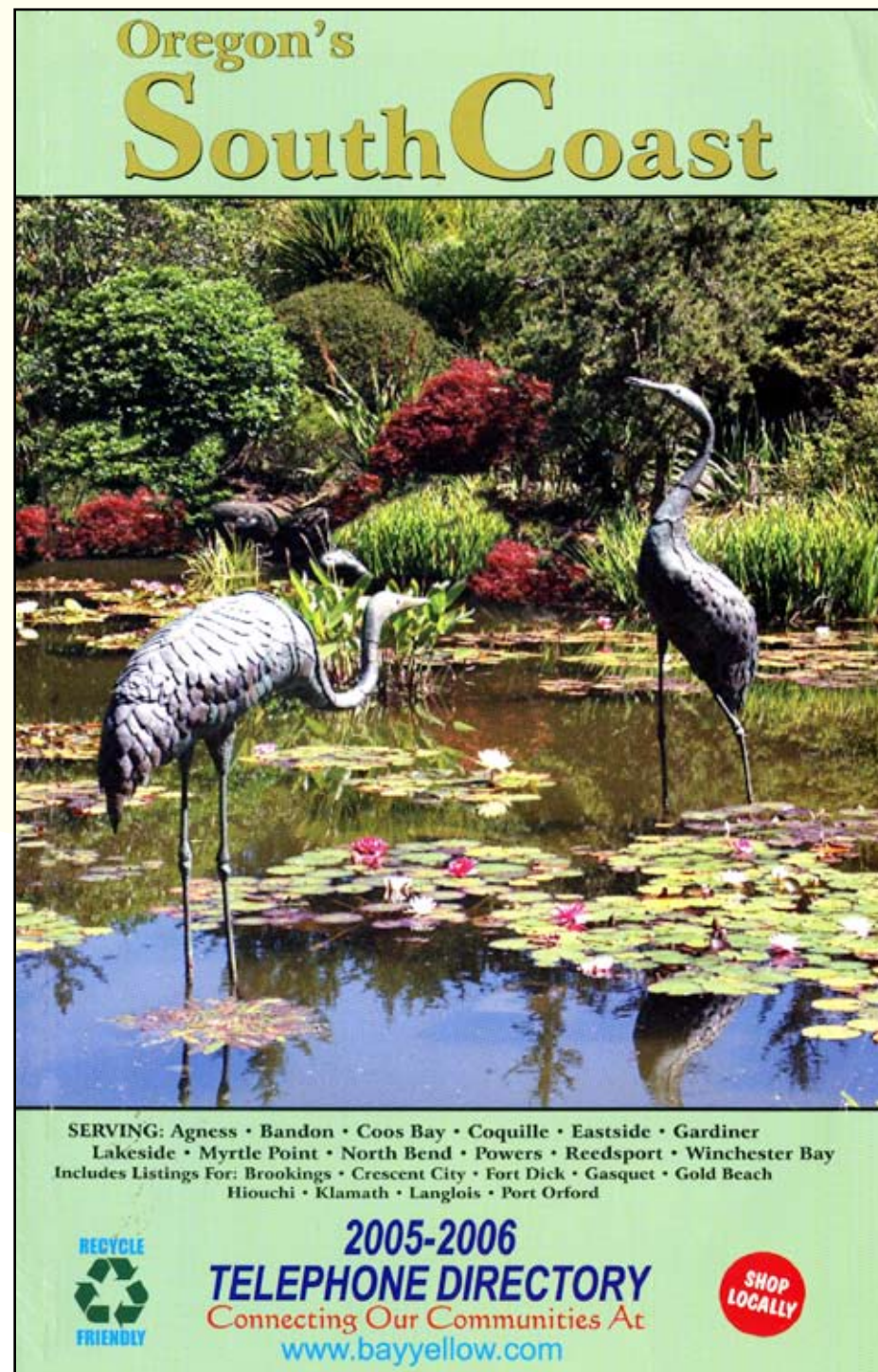


# This and That in 2005

... MADE THE COVER OF THE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY ...

... NEW MEMORIAL DISPLAY AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE GARDENS COMPLETED IN MARCH ...

... SUCCESSFUL OREGON COAST MUSIC FESTIVAL GARDEN CONCERT IN JULY ...



RETIRED PARK RANGER BOB DIXON COMPLETED THE INSTALLATION OF THE NEW MEMORIAL DISPLAY AT THE NEW ENTRANCE OF THE FORMAL GARDENS.



GREGG NELSON HELPED PARK CARS IN THE BIG FIELD AND A LARGE CROWD ENJOYED "SAMBA JA" IN THE FORMAL GARDEN. THE FRIENDS' FRESH RASPBERRY AND CHOCOLATE SUNDAES WERE A BIG HIT AND SOLD OUT.



# Cape Arago Highway Repairs and News in 2005

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - August 5, 2005



## Parks commission mulls cape highway ownership

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department may soon own some highway in Coos County.

The State Parks Commission is scheduled to decide this week whether the department will take control of a section of the Cape Arago Highway as it meanders through Shore Acres and Cape Arago state parks. The commission, which holds meetings at various spots around the state eight times annually, will meet for its summer meeting in Brookings on Thursday.

The highway proposal is tied to several changes for State Parks on the South Coast, according to Andy LaTomme, the agency's area manager. At one time, the Oregon Department of Transportation and State Parks were one agency, he explained. When they split, the properties didn't necessarily go to the proper agency. Now, ODOT wants State Parks to be responsible for roadways within its properties.

The prospect of taking ownership of the highway is not without risk, since slides have closed or hampered access to Cape Arago State Park over the years. Parks officials say ODOT has worked to upgrade the road into the park to prevent slides in anticipation of the ownership change. Ultimately, should the road slide again, State Parks officials say the agency would be responsible for repair, with ODOT engineering and design aid.

Land exchanges also are in the works in Curry County. Plans also call for State Parks to take over responsibilities along an almost 3-mile stretch of roadway at Cape

Blanco State Park. The agency will take ownership of the Ophir Rest Area and will add 36 acres to its holdings at Otter State Park, a couple miles north of Gold Beach.

"It will give us a piece of ocean-front property at Otter Point that is contiguous," he said.

Currently, ODOT owns that property, too. While the Otter Point access area is primitive with a gravel parking lot, there are no plans to improve the entrance road or the parking area at this time, he said.

In exchange for the added lands and roads, State Parks plans to deed over to ODOT a 19-acre parcel near Prineville where a highway was upgraded.

While traveling down the South Coast today, OPRD commissioners are to tour of a new welcome center at Shore Acres State Park at 11 a.m. Also, the commission is scheduled to stop at the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve near Charleston.

On Thursday, the commission's Brookings meeting is scheduled to start at 9 a.m. at the Beachfront Inn, 16008 Boat Basin Road.

— From staff reports

### Setting it Straight

Accuracy is important to us at The World. We take care in our reporting and editing, but errors do occur. We want to correct errors quickly and have set aside space each day for that purpose. If you believe information printed in The World is in error, please call our Coos Bay office, (541) 269-1222, (800) 437-NEWS, or e-mail us at: [theworldnews@pulitzer.net](mailto:theworldnews@pulitzer.net).



# Board Meeting in August – Dahlia Day in September

**Board Meeting, August 9, 2005 - Sunset Bay State Park Conference Room**

**Past President David Bridgham** called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

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

**Minutes of the July 12, 2005 Board Meeting:** MSP with one change: The Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference and Shore Acres Dahlia Day will be separate events in 2006.

**Financial Report - Barb Taylor:** \$102,749.37 (Cash, checking, savings)

**Information and Gift Center:** July sales were \$24,172 compared to \$23,433 in 2004, up 1.03%. Sold 17 park passes as compared to 25 in 2004.

**State Parks Report:** Larry announced that the Oregon State Fair is now part of the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department. On October 3rd, Ben Fisher will begin as assistant manager at Sunset Bay State Park and will reside at Shore Acres. The pump station installation is under review. Larry will report again in September.

**Bridgham's Report:** The holiday lights brochure has been sent out for the lights pledge campaign. FoSA is printing the Sunset Bay "Special Places" brochure and revising "Gardens Above the Waves" video and formatting in DVD. Fred Ehrman and David are reconstructing the Orca frame in PVC. The flowers are re-strung and new sculptures are in the works. Holiday Lights planning is on schedule.

**Old Business:** Successful OCMF concert with sundaes sold out..

**New Business:** Budget presented and passed MSP

**Upcoming event:** Dahlia Day, September 24

**Other:** Shirley presented the preliminary nominating committee report for elections at the annual meeting. Larry requested the IGC carry "Discovery Guide to Oregon's South Coast."

**Next Meetings:** Annual Meeting followed by Board Meeting - September 13, 2005 - Garden House - 7:00 PM

Past President David Bridgham adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Ellie Kinney-Martial and Shirley Bridgham

## DAHLIA DAY AT SHORE ACRES

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2005 - 11 AM TO 4 PM**

DAZZLING DAHLIAS IN THE GARDEN  
SOUTHERN OREGON DAHLIA SOCIETY DISPLAYS  
AND EXPERTS TO ANSWER QUESTIONS  
REFRESHMENTS IN THE GARDEN HOUSE



DAHLIA "SHORE ACRES"



# Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

Continued in Album 19:

Annual Year - September 1, 2005 - August 31, 2006

Album 18 - Completed May 4, 2020

Book and PDF Versions

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

More Information:

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