



Shore Acres State Park  
Before Friends - 1986

Album 19





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.

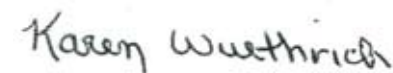
Andy La Tomme was asked to prepare a press release announcing the formation of the Friends with special mention of Mike Bodkin's contribution.

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, 2005 - August 31, 2006



## Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. - Annual Meeting and Board Meeting September 13, 2005 - Shore Acres Garden House

### Annual Meeting

**Call to Order:** Past President, Lou Kolkhorst called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Directors Present:** David and Shirley Bridgham, Vee Elliott, Kenn and Betty Kennedy, Lou and Sharon Kolkhorst, Ellie Kinney-Martial, Robynn Reed, Carl Siminow, Timm Slater and Barb Taylor.

**Directors Absent:** Kathi & Dennis Netter, Ralph Thomas (who is on BLM assignment)

**Guest:** Larry Becker, OPRD

**Remarks:** Shirley Bridgham handed out a list of accomplishments for the past year and a list of future projects. (See attached handout)

**Nominations:** Shirley Bridgham handed out list of board members whose terms expire in September 2005: Shirley Bridgham, Sharon Kolkhorst, Robynn Reed, Timm Slater and Barb Taylor. The Nominations Committee nominated the above individuals to serve for three (3) years, with terms expiring in September 2008. In addition Merry Vee Elliott was nominated to serve out the balance of Gregg Nelson's term, which expires in September 2007. (Nominations Report in file)

**Election of Board Members:** Kenn Kennedy moved, Betty Kennedy seconded that the above individuals be elected to the Friends of Shore Acres Board. MSP

**Adjournment:** Annual Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM by Past President, Lou Kolkhorst. A Social Break for Ice Cream Sundaes followed prior to the regular FoSA Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Kenn Kennedy, Secretary

### Board Meeting

**Call to Order:** Past President, Lou Kolkhorst called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM.

**Directors Present:** Same as Annual Meeting

**Directors Absent:** Same as Annual Meeting

**Election of Officers:** David Bridgham-President-Elect; Kenn and Betty Kennedy Co-Secretaries; Barb Taylor was nominated to serve as Treasurer for one year beginning September 2005. MSP Carl Siminow/Timm Slater. In the absence of President Kathi Netter, Past President Lou Kolkhorst passed the gavel to David Bridgham who conducted the remainder of the meeting.

**Minutes:** It was MSP - Minutes of August 9, 2005.

### Financial Report: Barb Taylor

Cash Change Fund -	\$800.00
Checking Fund	\$17,453.01
Money Market Acct.-	\$89,019.74
Umpqua Bank savings-memorials -	<u>\$1,196.98</u>
	\$108,469.73

**Information and Gift Center:** Lou Kolkhorst submitted a report that shows an increase of 3.10% over last year's figures for the same time period. The Kolkhorst's have been invited to tour the Wild Republic's facility in San Diego in January of 2006 as the guests of the supplier Wild Republic at no expense to the Kolkhorst's. The Board unanimously agreed that the Kolkhorst's should take advantage of this opportunity.

**State Parks Report:** Ellie reported the Pavilion steps project will start on Sept. 19 and should be completed before the Dahlia Day on the 24th. Larry Becker said the Garden House windows cannot be replaced, only repaired. New glass may be put in the old frames. Interior closet doors may be replaced. Ben Fisher, the new assistant Park Manager will be on board on October 3, 2005 and will reside in the mobile home at Shore Acres. In early May, 2006, the Cape Arago Hwy will be re-paved from Cape Arago to Cottle Lane. Shore Acres will only be open on week-ends. Hopefully the project will be done by Rose Sunday/Mother's Day.

**Old Business:** Shirley reported the new screen saver is done, also the new "Brief History" brochure is almost complete and a new DVD is in production that will include music. Shirley handed out a progress report on the upcoming Holiday Lights projects. (Report on File) Robynn said she is planning on using an old sewing room theme in the back bedroom for the Holiday Lights this year. She has been loaned an old "Singer" treadle sewing machine and some other items. **Dahlia Day, Saturday September 24th** – Bob & Betty Renner and Carl Siminow will work the morning shift and the Kennedy's will take the afternoon shift. The OPRD CO-OP Conference will be in the Albany area this year. Larry Becker will attend. Barb Taylor also expressed an interest but needs to check her calendar before she commits. It was pointed out that the Friends will reimburse her for lodging and expenses.

**New Business: Orchid Day is on Saturday, October 1st** this year. The Kennedy's will be unable to work. Betty and Shirley will contact some of the volunteers to help out. Carl Siminow reported that his ham radio club has received permission from Larry about doing a special events radio station for a day (24 hours) during the holiday lights season that would be manned by the ham radio operators. Carl requested that the Friends donate postcards that would be sent out to all the contacts. After some discussion it was moved that the cards be donated for this event. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting – October 11, 2005 – 7:00 PM at the OPRD office at Sunset Bay.**

Respectfully Submitted, Kenn Kennedy, Secretary

## Annual Meeting Report by Shirley Bridgham - September 13, 2005 - Shore Acres Garden House

### *Friends' / Park's Cooperative Projects - Sept., 2004 - Aug., 2005*

- Shore Acres History / Friends Milestones / Membership brochure completed prior to Holiday Lights 2004
- Provided electrical support and path lights for new path south of Garden House.
- Successful 18th annual Holiday Lights season in 2004 with an estimated 54,000 visitors
- Winter Journal sent to 650 people on the Friends' mailing list; includes members, financial supporters, and volunteers
- New donation box for entrance completed
- Bronze Memorial Display completed prior to Mother's Day
- Resurfacing of pond "bottom" completed
- Successful annual flower day events and music festival concert
- Provided dollars for new plants and plant signs
- Reprinted Simpson Reef brochure
- Provided funds to SEA for Simpson Reef brochures in other languages
- Produced Sunset Bay Special Places brochure
- Produced new improved Holiday Lights screen saver
- Information & Gift Center had a banner year
- Developed plan and budget for projects to be completed by June 30, 2006 (see budget)
  - Electrical and night lights for garden
  - Equipment (cash register; cement mixer)
  - Mural for IGC
  - Entrance sign (on Cape Arago Highway)
  - Garden House doors, windows, etc
  - Interpretive panels for Observation Building
  - Observation Building electrical
  - Booster pump for water system
  - New irrigation well
  - Turf for pavilion steps



***A Powerful Partnership Since 1986***



### ***Holiday Lights 2005 - Progress Report***

- Lights plan is done with a few modifications.
- Miniature lights, rope lights and L.E.D. lights were ordered in June. The L.E.D. lights are in; the miniature lights and rope lights will be in by mid-October.
- L.E.D. lights will be used in the garden display and also sold in the IGC.
- Holiday brochure produced.
- Parking coupons printed.
- Lights pledge campaign packets mailed; as of Sept. 12 we have received 51 pledges for a total of \$5,021.50
- Thank you cards and coupons mailed to lights pledge contributors.
- Fred Meyer request for apple juice mailed.
- Holiday poster created; copies made at South Coast Printing; mailed brochures and holiday posters to south coast visitor centers.
- B&B tickets will be printed and at the IGC next week.
- Holiday buttons in production by Judy and Al Aslakson, Reedsport
- Fred Ehrman and David have built a new frame for the Orca display. New lights will be going on soon.
- Sculptures that have been re-done: 4 flowers, squirrel, seagull (duck)
- New sculptures of 2 puffins are ready for rope lights.
- Betty Renner is organizing the cider spice brew crew to cook spice on Oct. 7 at the First Presbyterian Church in North Bend.
- Lights setup starts in October.



# . . . Ready for Dahlia Day - Sept. 24, 2005 . . .



DAHLIA - "SHORE ACRES"



GARDEN HOUSE WILL BE OPEN TO VISITORS.



INFORMATION & GIFT CENTER

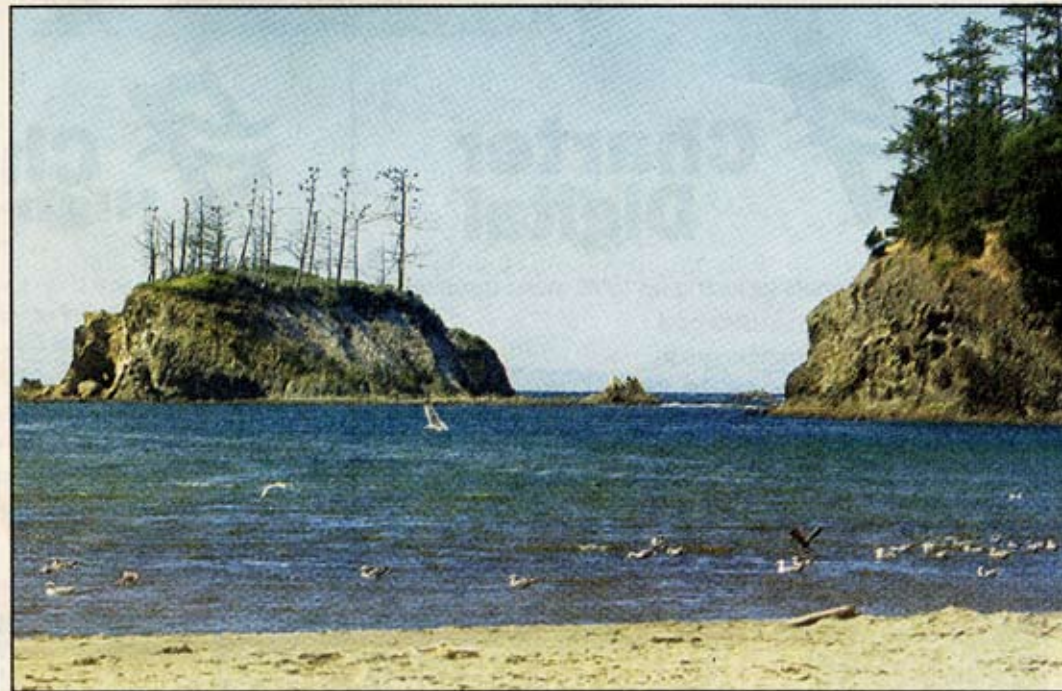


GARDEN SQUARES FILLED WITH DAZZLING DAHLIAS



# . . . Fall 2005 Publicity . . .

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - October 12, 2005



World File Photo

**This tiny jut of rock, left, visible at Sunset Bay State Park in Charleston soon will have a new name. The Oregon Geographic Names Board is recommending federal officials designate it as Qochyax Island, in honor of Indian women and children who hid there historically in dangerous times.**

## Sunset Bay's island nearer to new name — Qochyax Island

PORTLAND (AP) — The state Geographic Names Board voted to rename roughly two dozen places, removing the word "squaw" from many of them.

Oregon passed a law in 2001 that asks for the removal of the word "squaw," which some people find offensive. Oregon has 180 such names, more than any other state, said Maret Pajutee, a U.S. Forest Service ecologist.

Some of the new names could prove difficult for many Oregonians to pronounce. The board, for example, voted Tuesday to change Coos County's Squaw Island to Qochyax Island, which is pronounced "coke-yaw," said Howard Roy, cultural development coordinator for the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians. Other tribal members have pronounced the name as "Quek EE ak."

The island just off Sunset Bay State Park in Charleston has caves, including one accessible from the rock's top, that once provided hiding places.

Centuries ago, when nearby Coos Indian villages were threatened by enemies, women and children hid there, Tribal Chairman Ron Brainard said this summer.

In the mid-1800s when Indian people were being removed from their villages and taken to reservations, the island was used again as a refuge. At the time, soldiers from Fort Yamhill made regular trips to Coos Bay to capture and remove Indians, forcing them to walk back up the coast to a reservation at Siletz. Only Indians who could prove marriage to a person of Euro-American descent or who could hide from the soldiers were not taken away.

The tribe first proposed the name Qochyax Women and Children's Island. The Names Board considered the request but tabled a decision after Coos County commissioners sent letters opposing the word Qochyax, suggesting instead the island be called "Womens' Island" or something easier for the public to pronounce. They also challenged the board as to whom the term "squaw" is derogatory.

In the end, the tribe opted to shorten the name. The state board's recommendation now goes to federal officials for final approval before it can be listed officially.

**See Names, Page A10**

## Only one name is not approved by board

### Names from Page A1

under the new name on maps.

Other changes if approved, include renaming Squaw Creek near Sisters to Whychus Creek. It would be a historic name for the stream, first recorded in an 1855 railroad survey, Pajutee said. The name derives from a "the place we cross the water" in Sahaptin, one of the three languages of the Warm

Springs tribes, Pajutee said.

Most proposals replaced "squaw" with tribal words. Akawa Butte, Little Akawa Butte and Akawa Gulch, all in the Sisters Ranger District, borrow the Wasco word for a female badger.

The board agreed to rename Tillamook County's Daley Lake as Winema Lake, following common local usage, and approved the name Chinese Massacre Cove for a

Wallowa County site where settlers killed Chinese miners in 1887.

The only name not approved Tuesday was Sesti Tgawaals, a Native term for "Mount Shasta viewpoint" that was proposed to replace "squaw" in some Klamath County sites.

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names must approve Oregon's recommendations before they become official.





# What happened?!

## \* The Island at Sunset Bay State Park

By Kathy Schulz, Southwest Area Interpretive Coordinator, Sunset Bay State Park



*“What happened to the island, the trees, my friends?”* long-time visitors to Sunset Bay ask.

Changes to the landscape usually happen gradually, allowing us to become accustomed to what we see.

However, sudden changes can occur as well. Often these changes cause shock or dismay as a treasured view or a special place ceases to exist. At the same time, these changes also remind us that nature is dynamic and unpredictable.

The dead trees on the island off the entrance to Sunset Bay mark the return of the Double Crested Cormorant. Once decimated by the pesticide DDT, Double Crested Cormorant populations have recovered spectacularly over the past 20 years.

While cormorants have been a source of controversy among fishermen for years, their growing numbers and geographic expansion have begun to earn the wrath of landlubbers as well. Although many Double Crested Cormorants nest on offshore rocks or in ledges, others build their nests in trees. The acidic guano that they produce ends up killing the trees that they roost in. In other words, they foul their own nests.

Double Crested Cormorants began nesting on the island about ten years ago, according to Larry Becker, Sunset Bay Park Manager. It's just in the last three years however, that the trees have noticeably begun dying.



LUIS VELASQUEZ



LUIS VELASQUEZ

The island at Sunset Bay State Park soon may have a new name. The Oregon Geographic Names Board is recommending federal officials designate it as *Qochyax* (pronounced *Coke-yaw*) Island, in honor of Indian women and children who hid there historically in dangerous times.

### DOUBLE CRESTED CORMORANTS

If you've been out near the water, you may have seen Double Crested Cormorants diving for fish or sitting on pilings with their wings spread out, sunning themselves. Like their cousins, the Pelagic and Brandt's Cormorants, Double Crested Cormorants are clumsy on land and when taking flight. When taking off from the water, they must run and beat the surface for many yards, before they finally rise into the air.

Double Crested Cormorants are found throughout United States; in fact, they are the only cormorant that lives in fresh-water environments. Here on the coast, the Double Crested Cormorant is recognizable by its orange throat patch and the kink of its neck in flight.

### THE FUTURE OF THE ISLAND

Live trees will not grow again as long as the birds are present, and we don't know how long they plan to stay. As the forest structure breaks down, the cormorants may decide to leave. If they do, wind and other birds will eventually carry seeds to the island and new trees will begin to grow.

And who knows, eventually the cormorants may decide to move back to the island, starting the process over again and causing our great-great grandchildren to ask, *“What happened to the island?”* ■

**Kathy Schulz** is the Area 4 Interpretive Coordinator, who works with the interpretive rangers along the coast from Reedsport to Brookings and over to Grants Pass and Shady Cove in the Rogue River area. Kathy began her position at the Sunset Bay Management Unit office in October of 2004. Before arriving on the Oregon Coast, she worked at Mount St. Helens. She has a Masters in Natural Resources and Environment and has lived in France, California, Michigan, Oklahoma and Portland, Oregon.

#### Resources

Larry Becker, Asst. Manager Area 4 Southwestern Oregon, Oregon Parks & Recreation Department; Dawn Grafe, Refuge Operations Specialist, Oregon Coast National Wildlife Complex, USFWS



# . . . Getting Ready for Holiday Lights . . .

## 19th 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. 24, 2005 - Jan. 1, 2006

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



Dusk is a favorite time for many who visit.

Shirley Bridgham

### 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  
(541) 756-5401 ★ 888-3732 ★ 888-3778  
[www.shoreacres.net](http://www.shoreacres.net)



Shore Acres "Wave" - Spectacular in December Luis Velasquez

"Holiday Lights" is sponsored by Friends of Shore Acres Inc. in partnership with Shore Acres State Park, Coos Bay, OR 97420

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - October 12, 2005

## Holiday Lights at Shore Acres to be turned on Thanksgiving

The 19th annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park will open on Thanksgiving night, Nov. 24, and continue through Jan. 1, 2006.

The walk-through display with its lighted formal gardens attracts thousands of visitors each season. Every night, the garden house is decorated in a traditional holiday theme and has volunteer hosts from area organizations, businesses and the Friends of Shore Acres serving hot cider, cookies, punch and coffee. Volunteers greet visitors and provide refreshments from 4 to 10 p.m. every night, including Christmas Eve, Christmas, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Choirs, carolers and bands will offer entertainment in the performance pavilion.

This year's display will feature the addition of low-energy lights, more 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, and animated sea lion display, an undersea garden, flowers, garden bugs and butterflies, a leaping frog in the pond and many others.

Holiday gifts and raffles tickets for the "Ultimate Bed and Breakfast" are available in the Friends' Information and Gift Center. The bed and breakfast 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 drawing to be held at 9 p.m. Christmas Day. The ticket holder does not need to be present to win.

Shore Acres State Park is located on Cape Arago Highway beyond Charleston. There is a parking fee of \$3 per vehicle or a current Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Annual Parking Permit or Coastal Passport or current campground receipt. The Friends welcome donations for refreshments and for continuing the event the following year.



OFFICIAL VOLUNTEER BUTTON



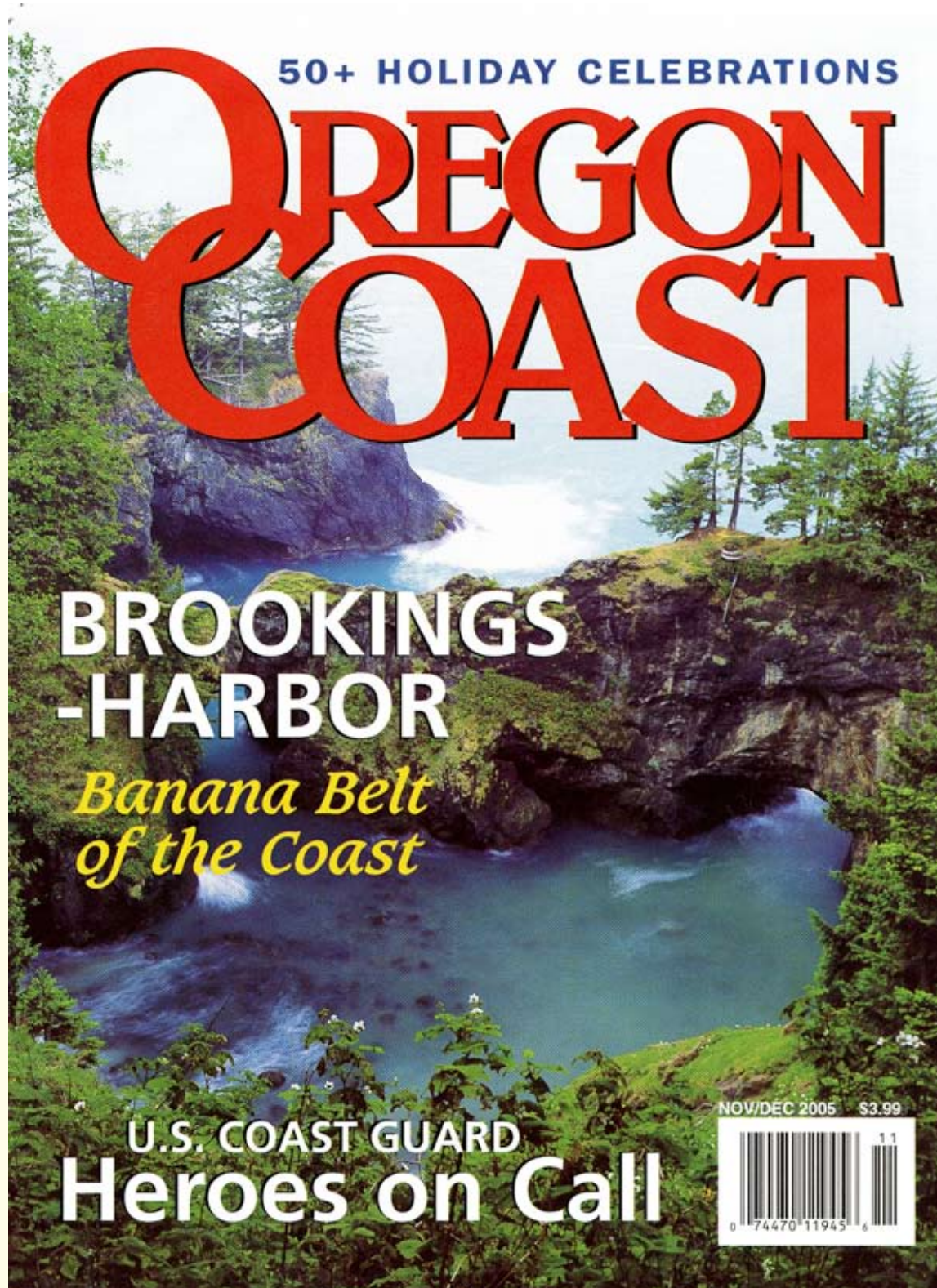
ROCK 'N RIDERS 4-H CLUB



H. O. G. (HARLEY OWNERS GROUP)



# . . . Regional Publicity . . .



50+ HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

# OREGON COAST

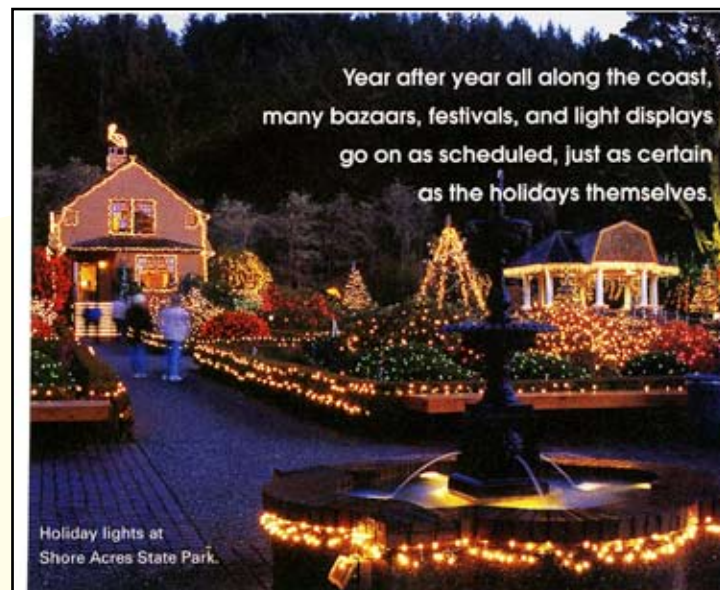
## BROOKINGS HARBOR

*Banana Belt of the Coast*

U.S. COAST GUARD  
Heroes on Call

NOV/DEC 2005 \$3.99

0 74470 11945 6 11



Holiday lights at Shore Acres State Park.

Photo by Steve Blocker

## Traditional HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

STORY BY JUDY FLEAGLE

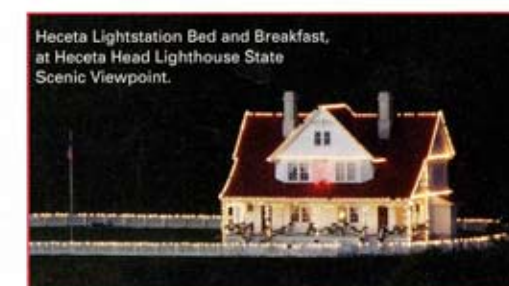
**M**Y FRIEND AND I walked from painting to painting enjoying this chance to visit an artist in his home studio. The whale paintings by renowned artist Don McMichael include grays, humpbacks, and more species. I bought some note cards, which make nice gifts. Two houses away I was in noted artist Dutch Mostert's studio and this time I was impressed with his detailed, vivid watercolors. Again I bought gifts—this time some prints.

Then we headed to Shore Acres State Park. Here the waves were the first order of business. This is not only one of the premier locations on the coast for high waves, but December is the best time to see them. The waves were spectacular. As it started to darken, we walked over to the formal gardens to see the holiday lights. It didn't matter that I've been here numerous times before to see the waves and the quarter million lights decorating the garden. I'm always impressed, always see something I didn't see before, and always glad I came.

I can't imagine the holidays without my trip to the coast's Bay Area. It's as much a holiday tradition as decorating the tree, putting up lights on the house, eating my mom's fruitcake, and picking persimmons from my sister's tree.

For many coastal residents and visitors, the holiday events have become a part of their holiday traditions. And the choices are endless. All along the coast towns gear up to celebrate the season through tree-lighting ceremonies, parades, visits from Santa, and more bazaars and craft fairs each year.

Following is a compilation of many of the holiday events scheduled in November and December. We do not have enough space to describe all of them, so check the Calendar of Events in this issue and contact local chambers of commerce and visitors centers for more events. Always call ahead to confirm dates, times, and locations.



Heceta Lightstation Bed and Breakfast, at Heceta Head Lighthouse State Scenic Viewpoint.

Photo by www.karenknapphotography.com

### LONG BEACH PENINSULA

#### Bed & Breakfast Association Holiday Open House

December 10-11, 800-451-2542

**O**nce again the Bed & Breakfast Association hosts its annual Holiday Open House, and you are invited to visit several of the best bed-and-breakfast inns located around the peninsula. Many were built in the late 1800s and early 1900s, and all are decorated for the holidays. A complete list of B&Bs open for tours will be available in November at local grocery stores and from the Long Beach Peninsula Visitors Bureau ([www.funbeach.com](http://www.funbeach.com)). Admission to each B&B is a donation of one canned food item to benefit the local food share program. Home-made gingerbread houses are also being raffled to support the same cause.



# . . . Local Publicity . . .

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - November 14, 2005

## The World

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# SOUTH COAST

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**LEFT:** Volunteers who are Friends of Shore Acres State Park work on the exterior of the park as others decorate the inside of the small house on the grounds. Volunteers have been working on the park for months but have really been putting in the hours during October and November to have the holiday lights display ready for the public by Thanksgiving.

**BELOW:** These two volunteers go out on a limb to string lights on a small tree hanging out over the pond at Shore Acres State Park on Saturday. The girls were with the Coos Bay-North Bend Rotary Club. Left, Gretchen Hough and, right, Lisa Prinz remarked the temperature of the water was "not bad."

**BOTTOM:** Longtime volunteers at the Shore Acres State Park, Shirley Bridgham, left, and Carol Ventgen, both from North Bend, work on tiny lights inside the shed at the park. All the lights are checked before used for decorations. Bridgham has been a volunteer for more than 19 years at the park and is the one who picks out the colors for each tree, shrub and bush.

World Photos by Madeline Steege

## Volunteers lighting the park for the holidays



## THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - November 14, 2005

By BEN TORBUSH  
Editorial Assistant

'Tis the season.

Retail stores are setting up their holiday displays. The neighbors are stringing lights around their roof lines. It's time to break into the boxes of stored decorations and start untangling all of those wads of holiday lights.

This is the time of year when people discover that some of the Christmas bulbs have burned out, or that some have gotten crushed in the off-season. Most people have only a few strands of lights to deal with, maybe a few dozen if they're enthusiastic about decorating. But imagine digging more than a quarter-million lights out of storage and preparing them for a display that almost 60,000 people will see.

The Friends of Shore Acres has spent the last four weekends doing exactly that. This year marks the 19th-annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park. From 4 to 10 p.m. beginning on Thanksgiving and running through New Year's Day, the display will be open to the public every night.

Those who have attended the display in the past will see many familiar elements. The spectacle of rhododendron blooms rendered in miniature lights has returned, as have animated light sculptures of sea life. As in years past, volunteer groups have adopted Christmas trees and decorated them according to their own themes. And of course, the garden house will be open to the public and decorated for the season, and guests will once again be treated to hot apple cider and cookies.

Again this year, the Friends will raffle off an opportunity for one couple to spend the night in the garden house. The lights will be left on for their enjoyment and the couple will be treated to a catered breakfast in the morning. Only 200 tickets will be available at \$10 each.

Also as in years past, the lights event will feature numerous holiday-related performances in the pavilion. Community-based groups will perform, mostly holiday music. Performances will begin Dec. 8 and will continue until after Christmas.

According to David Bridgham of North Bend, one of the founding members of the Friends, there also will be a few new surprises this year.

"This year, there will be lights on the observation building," said Bridgham.



Also new this season are several landscape lights to illuminate the gardens and surrounding nature, in addition to the decorative lights. New among the lighted animal sculptures are puffins, which imitate the black and white northern shore birds with large beaks. This season also marks the return of LED lights, which Bridgham said have been re-engineered to be more effective. Guests can watch for the distinctive, bright electric colors of LED lights among several of the displays.

The Holiday Lights display is a community tradition, said Shirley Bridgham, David's wife and the epicenter of this yearly event. The two have been central to the display since it was begun in 1987. They had developed a slide show about Shore Acres and were giving it to the management of the park. Around that time the idea to illuminate the park for night visitors was developed. Between their dedication to the promotion of the park, a group of other volunteers and the need for further development, Friends of Shore Acres came together.

One of the first undertakings of the Friends group was to decorate the park to celebrate the holidays. Shirley said that they started with one Christmas tree, the decorated garden house, and about 6,000 miniature lights.

"Now we have that many lights in one bed," Shirley Bridgham said.

She joked that "the only reason anyone came back (after the first year) was they could get in the garden house for cider and cookies." But the event has expanded every year since it was begun. This year the display will include more than a quarter million lights, "and next year there will be way over" a quar-



ter-million, David Bridgham added.

Setting up all of those decorations involves more than 1,200 volunteers. Many community groups participate by decorating Christmas trees, stringing lights in one of the formal flower beds or hosting one of the display nights. Although the Friends group has a membership of about 300, they are able to expand their influence by cooperating with others.

"A small membership organization can multiply itself by setting up situations where people can volunteer," David Bridgham said, and that is exactly what the Friends has done in opening up Holiday Lights to other groups.

There usually are one or two groups hosting the display every night it's open, and there is a waiting list for groups that would like to host. There also is a waiting list for groups that want to adopt one of the

als who help to buy new lights every year. The Friends group hosts a lights pledge campaign every year. Half of the display must be replaced every year and "that campaign buys the lights we need," David Bridgham said. In the past the Friends group tried to keep the lights for four or five years, but they discovered that the lights tended to stop working in the third year. So now they donate the lights after two years to local civic groups and organizations.

Some of the more complicated elements of the holiday lights display are the lighted sculptures. A huge gray whale spouts, an orca leaps out of the water, a pair of sea lions interact, and a frog leaps across the oriental pond among the sculptures. Viewers also will get to see puffins, pelicans and an under-sea garden. Local artist Don McMichael was instrumental in designing the sculptures. His designs were expanded on a huge grid and then rendered in metal frames by local metalworker Eric Luckman. These frames were once wrapped with mini lights, but now rope lighting makes their set up much more efficient.

Carol Ventgen of North Bend was working Saturday, taking the plastic wrapping and white tags off of the new strings of lights. Ventgen, who, with her husband has been among the volunteers since the earliest years, said, "It's fun, gratifying to do. I meet a lot of interesting and nice people."

Aside from the chance to appreciate their efforts, every volunteer gets a parking pass to view the holiday lights. Also, each day during setup, the volunteers are fed lunch. On Saturday, Maxine Johannesen of

Coos Bay was busy in the kitchen. She cooked hot dogs and chili for all of the volunteers. "We usually have cookies and goodies, too," she said.

Aside from working in the kitchen, Johannesen also helps in the shed where the lights are readied for the display.

"I also have four trees out in the square that are mine," she said. "I'm sort of a jack of all trades."

Robynn Reed, of North Bend, has a great deal of ownership in her share of the display. She's in charge of the garden house.

"This is my creative outlet once a year," she said.

Reed started with an empty house 19 years ago. Since last year, they now leave it decorated like a home during the off season.

"The best part is there's no mail, no laundry, no dirty dishes," she said.

Reed said she borrows ideas from numerous sources all year long, anything from Disneyland to the styles of the early 1900s, "anyplace that's decorated." She said she tries to make the house seem warm and homey. With the smell of hot apple cider and holiday cookies, cheery decorations and the crackle of the electronic fireplace, the illusion works. One feature of the house Reed said children love every year is Santa in the bathtub. It's a tradition that she maintains. Many of the other decorations are different every year. Reed said that one of the upstairs bedrooms will look like a sewing room this year. She spends between 40 and 80 hours preparing the house every year.

Looking out the large front window at the view that will soon be filled with colors, she said, "It's really kind of magical."





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**Sports**  
Colton beats Bandon  
in playoffs, B1

# The World

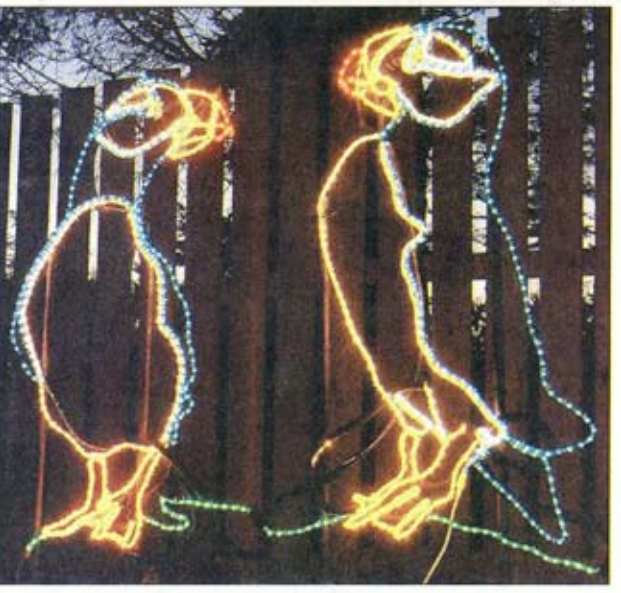
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**Public Record**  
Bandon lifts  
boil water alert, A2  
**South Coast**  
Planning begins for  
Empire area, A3

Shore Acres ready to turn on lights



ABOVE: The blue glow of a Christmas tree sparkling with the lights from LEDs adds more color to the thousands of lights set up again this year at Shore Acres State Park near Charleston. For the past five weeks, volunteers have been converting the gardens into a holiday light show. The light display opens for the public on Thanksgiving evening and runs through New Year's Day at the state park a few miles beyond Charleston on Cape Arago Highway. The LED lights used here and on other displays use less electricity, something the Friends of Shore Acres appreciate, since about 250,000 lights are glowing every night during the season.



RIGHT: New this year to the lights at Shore Acres State Park are two puffins. They are displayed along the wooden fence near the path that goes down to the beach. The pair join the other lighted displays that will adorn the garden from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day.

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# SOUTH COAST

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*World Photos by Madeline Sheeja*



**Shore Acres light show opens to visitors tonight**

Robynn Reed, North Bend, above, has spent at least two solid weeks decorating the inside of the garden house at Shore Acres State Park to have each room just right for the holidays and the more than 50,000 expected visitors. The display opens tonight and runs through Jan. 1, 2006.

At left: While volunteers are outside decorating the park with holiday lights, Maxine Johannessen, Coos Bay, prepares lunch for those working up an appetite. Johannessen has been volunteering for "lots of years," she said as she fixed hot dogs and hot chili on a recent weekend. During the holiday lights show, this kitchen is used to serve hot apple cider and cookies to park visitors.



SOUTH OREGON COAST



David and Shirley Bridgman, volunteers who coordinate the annual lights display at Shore Acres State Park south of Coos Bay, stand in front of a portion of the 2004 holiday display.

250,000 lights make up couple's 'baby'

By Roy Gault  
Statesman Journal

David and Shirley Bridgman confess that it's an obsession, a love affair that long ago outgrew the bounds of their neighbors' comprehension.

But when the holiday lights were switched on 19 years ago at Shore Acres State Park and they saw the expression on astonished faces, they were instantly hooked.

Shore Acres  
Holiday Lights

**WHEN:** 4 to 10 p.m. daily through Jan. 1

**WHERE:** In the botanical gardens at Shore Acres State Park at Cape Arago, 13 miles southwest of Coos Bay, a drive of 182 miles and 4½ hours from Salem

**ADMISSION:** Free, but a state parks day-use fee of \$3 is required to park. Free cider and cookies; donations accepted

**ENTERTAINMENT:** For a night-by-night list of free, live entertainment, go to [www.shoreacres.net](http://www.shoreacres.net)

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

Jim and Sue Graesser have long since left town, but the Bridgmans have been coordinating the light show from the night the idea was born.

The lights attract up to 3,000 visitors on peak nights and up to 65,000 annually from Thanksgiving through Jan. 1.

"It caught on instantly, and it was so gratifying to see people's appreciation. That's one of the things that's kept us going all these years," said Shirley, 67, retired from a public relations job at Southwestern Oregon Community College. "It's such a great thing to be able to transform that garden into a fairyland of life."

The Bridgmans coordinate 1,200 volunteers who contribute to an annual program of lighting, gardening, refreshment-serving and entertainment that has matured into a 250,000-light show of jumping porpoises, leaping frogs and spouting whales.

"It grew and grew and crept up to what it is now," David said. "I doubt seriously if Shirley and I would entertain chairing something of this size and complexity if it hadn't grown on us."

Shirley added: "It's like our baby. It's like we've raised a child."

David, 61, a dental lab technician, met Shirley near the park 24 years ago, and they've been heading up the holiday lighting most of their 23 married years.

"We visited the park a lot when we first met — it was such a special place — and my wedding ring was made from a tiny fern that we got out there," Shirley said. "That's the kind of work David does. He made a cast from a tiny, tiny frond from a fern."

A garden on the ocean's edge

While the star of Shore Acres State Park is the crashing surf at the base of the cliffs, the focal point is the botanical garden of ship-builder and timber baron Louis Simpson, who presented his wife with a summer residence at the center of the garden in 1906. The mansion was destroyed by fire in 1921. Its replacement fell into disrepair and was razed after the State of Oregon acquired Simpson's 600 acres in 1942.

"It's so unique, a formal garden right on the ocean's edge," David said. "It's a wonderful place, a great stage. It's a park that is so loved by so many people. I mean, when anyone who lives here has a visitor, that's where they take them. We're all so very, very attached to it."

"One of our dreams was to light the park seasonally like Bucht Gardens (near Victoria, British Columbia), and we saw that Shore Acres had that kind of potential," David said.

"It was isolated from any urban city lights, it was framed by tall trees, and it was spectacular. Then we started asking ourselves a serious question. Would anybody actually come out here at night? I mean, it's 10 miles from town, and nothing ever happens out here. When we tried it and immediately got a big turnout, we discovered that not only will people come out, but they absolutely love it."

The first year Friends of Shore Acres put out 6,000 lights on extension cords. As the show grew, they have buried eight miles of wiring and put as many as 6,000 lights on each exhibit.

A frog was one of the many decorations at the 2004 Shore Acres State Park holiday light display.

See Shore Acres, SE

Shore Acres

Continued from 1E

show grew, they have buried eight miles of wiring and put as many as 6,000 lights on each exhibit.

Aside from weddings and special events, it's the only time of year that the original Simpson garden house is open to the public. The garden cottage, not to be confused with the mansion, survived the fire.

1,200 volunteers

The Bridgmans have a waiting list of volunteers to host a night in the garden cottage, giving away free cookies, hot cider and coffee. There's also a waiting list for the opportunity to decorate one of the 20 donated Christmas trees.

"In an era in which there's less and less joining, there's more and more a sense of need to volunteer," David said. "We have a relatively small organization in members, but we get 1,200 volunteers every year. I'm very proud of that."

Shirley said: "It's a wonderfully gratifying thing to do. Volunteering, even though it's become year-round, is such a luxury. I can't imagine doing it for money."

One thing they've discontinued, however, is the volunteer sign-up for cookies.

"We used to have a group of women bake them until they decided that 36,000 cookies was unreasonable," Shirley said. "We still serve anywhere from 36,000 to 40,000, but people donate money and we buy them." The 100 cases of apple cider served each season also are donated.

Whatever the Friends of Shore Acres don't get donated usually is purchased at discounted prices — anything from new lights and extension cords each year to entire lighting systems.

New this year are two large light-sculptured puffins on the garden wall next to the ocean.

"We also added 20,000 LED lights, most of them on the trees, and they're striking," David said. "They use one-tenth the energy, but they make such a statement."

So do the stampeding crabs.

"We have a fascinating new project that includes students and instructors from the electronic department, the welding department, the art department and the computer department at Southwestern Oregon Community College," David said. "It's hooked up to motion detectors at the garden entrance, and when you come in, there suddenly are gulls flying over your head and crabs scurrying back and forth. It's been quite a hit."

Listening to comments from the crowd has become one of the Bridgmans' favorite pastimes.

"We'll go out as a visitor — and not a lot of people will know us — and just listen to people," Shirley said. "That's really fun. People are astonished. It's always beyond their expectations. We'll hear them gasp, and they'll say things like, 'Better than Disneyland,' or, 'It's such a wonderland.'"

A nostalgic tradition

Rain is the main deterrent to potential visitors, but Coos Bay-area residents know that the show will go on for 39 nights and that eventually the clouds will part.

"People come to Shore Acres to see the lights and to experience how they remember in their minds that the holidays used to be," Shirley said. "It's so nostalgic for people, especially when they come into the garden house with its old-fashioned decorations and stand in front of the fireplace."

The holiday lights rapidly have become a tradition in Coos Bay, North Bend and Charleston.

"My passion is that it's literally become part of the community's fabric, and we now have young adults who live here who don't remember a holiday without coming out to see the lights," David said. "It's become part of the family tradition, and as such has become a community tradition."

The holiday lights help keep motels and restaurants busy in a community hit hard by the crash of the logging and fishing economies, though that was never the strategy of the nine founders.

"We just wanted to do something to help the park," Shirley said. "David and I led tidepool walks, garden walks, a few other things, and then that first year, we'd just decided we needed to do something to bring more attention to the park. Shore Acres is so special, one of the jewels of the state parks system."

[rgault@StatesmanJournal.com](mailto:rgault@StatesmanJournal.com)  
or (503) 399-6723

More Shore Acres  
information

**YEAR-ROUND:** The park is open 8 a.m. until sunset, which means the closing time varies throughout the year, but the garden remains open until 10 p.m. during the holiday lights.

**GETTING THERE:** From Salem, take Highway 22 west, then Highway 18 west to Lincoln City, or take Interstate 5 south, then take either Highway 34 west to Waldport, Highway 126 west to Florence or Highway 38 west to Reedsport, all which connect to Highway 101. Go south on 101 to Coos Bay, then follow the signs.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** For campers, Sunset Bay State Park is one mile north of Shore Acres State Park and has 29 full hookup, 36 electrical and 66 tent sites; eight yurts; 11 group camping areas; and a hiker and biker camp. For information, call (541) 888-3778, Ext. 45. To make reservations, call (800) 452-5687. For commercial lodging information, contact the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, 145 Central Ave., Coos Bay, OR, 97420, (541) 266-0868 or [www.oregonsbayareachamber.com](http://www.oregonsbayareachamber.com)

PAGE REFORMATTED  
FOR THIS ALBUM.



### Sounds of the season



World Photo by Madeline Sleege

As hundreds of visitors walked among the lighted enchanted forest at Shore Acres State Park Tuesday night, Christmas carols filled the air. Members of the Boy and Girl Scouts of Coos County from many different troops gathered inside the open-air gazebo and serenaded visitors who came to see the light display at the park.



NEW LARGE LANDSCAPE LIGHTS ON THE WEST SIDE GIANT EVERGREENS.

SHIRLEY BRIDGHAM

### Holiday Lights at Shore Acres, Coos Bay



**How to get there**

From Medford, take Interstate 5 north to Winston. Take Highway 42 west to Coos Bay. Highway 42 joins Highway 101 north. From Highway 101, turn left onto Newmark Avenue and follow signs for about three miles toward Charleston and ocean beaches. Newmark veers left and becomes Cape Arago Highway. Continue south approximately five miles to Charleston. From Charleston, drive another four miles southwest along Cape Arago Highway to Shore Acres State Park.

**Holiday Lights at Shore Acres draws tens of thousands of visitors each year. At center is the Garden House, where visitors can warm up with hot cider and cookies.**

Photo courtesy Friends of Shore Acres

**I**f holiday lights in one neighborhood after another are becoming just a big blur, it may be time to get away—to a sparkling showcase of displays on the Oregon Coast.

Now in its 19th year, Holiday Lights at Shore Acres draws thousands of visitors rain or shine to Coos Bay. Given a serviceable jacket, the show is almost more enjoyable in a drizzle, when a carpet of puddles creates an additional canvas for more than 250,000 lights.

Also popular among summer tourists, the five acres of formal gardens are all that remain of lumber baron Louis J. Simpson's once grand estate. More than 1,200 volunteers this year pitched in to make the state park sparkle for the holidays. The event opened on Thanksgiving and runs through Jan. 1.

Holiday Lights has steadily expanded with each new season since 1987. Regardless of how many times they've seen the display, South Coast residents and return visitors alike anticipate new animated light sculptures and ornaments on the garden's 20 Christmas trees.

Make the short jaunt from the parking area to the garden entrance, and sounds of sea and surf give way to music and carols. Trees, hedges, shrubs and flower beds have been transformed into a twinkling fairyland.

Fashioned from strings of lights, a breaching orca whale, spouting gray whale and playful sea lions are sure to delight. These along with pelican and puffin sculptures were designed by local artist Don McMichael, known for his oil paintings of sea creatures.

The "undersea garden" shining near the park's entrance gives visitors a close encounter with a jellyfish, octopus, Dungeness crab, starfish, sea horse, urchin and anemone. Inside the actual garden, light sculptures of frogs, butterflies, mushrooms, tulips, roses and dahlias accent the other fauna and flora.

Surrounded by light-festooned trees, the garden's lily pond becomes a watery wonderland. A tour around the pond's path and over the half-moon bridge shouldn't be passed up.

Drawing 9,000 visitors in its first year, Holiday Lights at Shore Acres boasted more than 54,000 last year from 47 U.S. states and 28 countries, according to the nonprofit group Friends of Shore Acres. Attendance varies based on the weather. But guests can always warm up in the Garden House, where volunteers serve hot cider, punch, coffee and cookies.

Live entertainment in the park's performance pavilion will run throughout the season. Local school choirs and bands, Cape Blanco Bell Ringers, Pieces of Silver flutists, the Bay Area Concert Band and others are on the schedule.

The lights come on every night from 4 to 10 p.m. Cost is \$3 per vehicle to enter the park. An Oregon Parks and Recreation Department parking pass, Oregon Coast Passport or current campground receipt also gains admittance. There is no extra fee to see the lights. The grounds are handicapped-accessible.

Reach reporter Sarah Lemon at 776-4487, or e-mail [slemon@mailtribune.com](mailto:slemon@mailtribune.com).

**Story by**  
**SARAH LEMON**  
Mail Tribune



# Christmas events scheduled locally

## Bandon

A community Christmas dinner will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Christmas Day, Sunday, at The Barn, 1200 11th St. S.W., Bandon.

All ages are welcome. People are encouraged to come and celebrate the holiday by sharing a meal and fellowship with others. Meals also will be delivered to the homebound.

Dessert donations can be taken to The Barn on Christmas Eve between 3 and 4 p.m., or Christmas morning. Those bringing desserts are asked to label those that are sugar-free.

Monetary contributions can be mailed to Holiday Meals, P.O. Box 1632, Bandon, OR 97411.

## Charleston

The Charleston Rural Fire Protection District is hosting a Christmas display with toy trains from 6 to 10 p.m., Monday through Sunday, until Christmas Eve, located at the district's main station at 92342 Cape Arago Highway.

There will be seven tracks of trains running in a lighted village of more than 160 houses. Admission is free to the public.

For information, those interested can call 888-3268 or visit the Web site at [www.charlestonfire.net](http://www.charlestonfire.net).

## North Bend

A Christmas musical, "Star of Wonder" by Dennis and Nan Allen, will be presented at 10 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Saturday, Dec. 24, at the First Presbyterian Church of North Bend, located at 2238 Pony Creek Road.

The musical gives the audience a look at the magis' journey through the eyes of those who may have encountered them on their way.

## Shore Acres

The 19th-annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park opened on Thanksgiving evening and will continue through Jan. 1, 2006.

The walk-through display with its beautiful lighted formal gardens continues to attract thousands of



World Photo by Madeline Steege

The Gardener's Cottage at Shore Acres State Park is all decorated to welcome visitors for treats, a break from the cold and a spectacular view from the second floor.

visitors each season. The garden house, beautifully decorated in a traditional holiday theme, has friendly volunteer hosts from many organizations, businesses and the Friends of Shore Acres serving hot cider, cookies, punch and coffee from 4 to 10 p.m. every night including Christmas Eve, Christmas, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Choirs, carolers and bands will offer entertainment in the performance pavilion.

This year's display also features the addition of low-energy lights, more 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 others.

Holiday gifts and raffle tickets for the "Ultimate Bed and Breakfast" are available in the Friends' Information and Gift Center. The bed and breakfast 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. The ticket holder does not need to be present to win.

Shore Acres State Park is 13 miles southwest of Coos Bay/North Bend. Admission is a parking fee of \$3 per vehicle or a current Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Annual Parking Permit or Coastal Passport or current campground receipt. The Friends welcome donations for refreshments and for continuing the event the following year.

For more information, those interested can call Shirley or David Bridgham at 756-5401; Shore Acres State Park at 888-3732; or Bay Area Chamber of Commerce at (800) 824-8486 or 269-0215.

## Coos Bay

The First United Methodist

Church Choir of Coos Bay will perform its Christmas Cantata at 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at the church, located at 123 Ocean Blvd.

The theme of this year's music is "Celebrations from other Lands," with Mike Campbell and the Rev. Adele Hustis narrating.

The public is invited to attend.



## HOLIDAY MEMORIES

### *Christmas at the Shore*



World Photo by Madeline Steeg

The garden house at Shore Acres is lit up and ready for guests during the holiday season. During the Christmas season, Friends of Shore Acres and other

volunteers serve hot cider and cookies to visitors who tour the lighted grounds. Tours of the lighted state park end January 1, 2006.



 **The World**

Kathy Erickson, editor

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2005

# IMAGES

SECTION  
**C**



The trip up 12th Court in North Bend is worth the short drive from Virginia Avenue to see several of the homes alight for the Christmas holidays. The court is behind Clyde Allen Field and off of Madrona Street. The neighborhood is worthy of the trip not only for those homes pictured here, but several along Madrona also light up the night sky.



Above, members of the Boy and Girl Scouts of Coos County sang Christmas carols to visitors enjoying the light display at Shore Acres earlier in the month.



# “M M M M M!”

*By Shirley Bridgham, Holiday Lights Co-Chair*

**H**oliday Lights at Shore Acres State Park drew an estimated 44,560 visitors from far and wide. Comments in the guest book included: M M M M M! - Grants Pass, OR; “Better than Butchart Gardens - Medford, OR; and “The Griswold’s would be envious!” - Lake Tahoe, NV.

Weather is always a factor and it was a wetter-than-usual season with more than 16 inches of rain and one closed night because of no power. However, some beautiful clear moonlit nights in the middle of the season drew lots of visitors and helped improve the numbers.

According to guest book compilations by volunteer Al Aslakson, those who signed the guest books (*not everyone did*) included visitors from 37 countries and 46 states. Towns and cities included 160 California; 198 Oregon; 56 Washington; and 271 towns and cities from other states.

New additions included brilliant L.E.D. lights on all the large Christmas trees, two lighted puffin sculptures designed by Don McMichael and more large landscape lights that illuminated the huge trees on the west side of the garden. Of particular interest at the entrance was an animated display of sea gulls and red crabs designed, fabricated and installed by Southwestern Oregon Community College students and instructors (*see story page 9*).

In the beautifully decorated Garden House, visitors celebrated the season with hot cider, punch, coffee and cookies served by dedicated volunteer hosts. In the Pavilion, entertainment was provided by dozens of community, school and church groups. Generous donations and wonderful comments reflected the visitors’ high level of satisfaction. Hanging scrolls of names in the house were a tribute to the more than **1500** volunteers, park staff, and financial supporters who make it all possible.

Mike and Debby Metz of Depoe Bay won the B&B overnight stay for New Year’s Eve, but because of a road closure north of Reedsport, they could not get to Shore Acres. They have a “rain check” and will stay one night at the beginning of the 2006 season.

The lights are all put away, the house is furnished for summer and planning has already begun for the **20th annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park**, which will run from Thanksgiving thru New Year’s this coming season. ■



LUIS VELASQUEZ

BRILLIANT L.E.D. LIGHTS ILLUMINATE LARGE CHRISTMAS TREES.



SHIRLEY BRIDGHAM

MOONRISE ON A COLD CLEAR NIGHT RIVALS THE LIGHTS.



# . . . Stats, Comments & Lights Pledge Supporters . . .

## VISITORS, COUNTRIES & STATES

An estimated 44,560 visitors  
37 Countries from Afghanistan to Whales  
46 States (missing Delaware, Mississippi,  
Vermont, West Virginia)

## CITIES AND TOWNS

198 Oregon; 160 California; 56 Washington

- Out of this world! - Medford
- Thanks for the memories - San Diego
- Stunning new L.E.D. lights. - Coos Bay
- Fantastic! - Las Vegas
- Beautiful, priceless - San Diego
- **M M M M M! - Grants Pass**
- Breathtaking!!! - Reno
- Gorgeous! - Orlando
- Wow! Worth the drive! - Spokane
- Impressive! - Eagle River, AK
- Beautifully done. - Hayward
- One of our favorite traditions. - Madras
- Awesome! - Hesperia, CA
- Fantasy Land! - Salem, OR
- What a discovery! - Portland
- Awesome! - Italy
- Magnificent! - Eagle Point
- House was done wonderfully! - Salem
- We never miss a year, thanks! - Myrtle Point
- **Better than Butchart Gardens. - Medford**
- Seems more beautiful every year. - Astoria
- Excellent! - Martinez
- Love coming every year. - Lebanon
- Most beautiful I've ever seen. - Portland
- Worth the drive! - Keizer
- Come every year; gets better with age! - Coos Bay
- Wow! - Bakersfield
- No words can describe the magic. - Springfield
- Yearly tradition. - McKinleyville, CA
- Wonderful fairyland. - Sutherlin
- It's a fairy tale. - Denmark
- Altogether lovely! - Bandon
- Absolutely beautiful! - Nampa, ID
- Love the bear tea party. - Edwards, CA
- The lights! The ocean! Unbelievable! - San Jose
- **The Griswold's would be envious! - Lake Tahoe**



SHIRLEY BRIDGHAM

## LIGHTS PLEDGE SUPPORTERS

**4,722 LIGHTS** - Abel Insurance Agency-Harry & Francie Abel

**4,444 LIGHTS** - The Mill Casino-Hotel

**4,000 LIGHTS** - Dick & Donna Frank \* Life Care Center of Coos Bay  
\* The Portside Restaurant

**3,333 LIGHTS** - A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc.-South Coast Chapter  
\* Jim & Cindy Hough

**2,422 LIGHTS** - Prudential Seaboard Properties-Earlene Brown

**2,222 LIGHTS** - BELFOR USA Group Inc. \* Lon Samuels Architecture &  
Planning \* Shinglehouse Auto Wreckers

**2,000 LIGHTS** - Azalea Acres Inc.-Richard, Betty, Steve & Wesa Liles \* Best  
Western Holiday Motel \* David & Shirley Bridgham \* Gary & Rody Hargens-  
Hargens Construction Co. \* J. W. White Painting-Jay & Melody White \*  
Thomas & Sons Transportation \* Jim & Diane Verger

**1,944 LIGHTS** - Huggins Insurance-Bob & Janet Huggins

**1,750 LIGHTS** - Menasha Forest Products Corporation

**1,500 LIGHTS** - Dave's Pizza \* Molly's "The" Pizza Parlor

**1,388 LIGHTS** - Cornelia & Don Barnhart

**1,344 LIGHTS** - Tom's Lock & Key - Steve & Cathy Clark

**1,111 LIGHTS** - Beta Delta Chapter-ESA \* Dr. James & Rhea Cheslock-  
Cheslock Optical \* Clare D. Gove, C.P.A. P.C. \* Coastal Paper & Supply  
\* Coos Head Garden Club \* Ray Gapp \* Northwestern Mutual Life-Dick  
& Janice Vigue \* Oyster Cove L.L.C.-Martha Butler \* Pacific Corp/Pacific  
Power \* Nancy Robinson \* Timm & BobEtta Slater \* This Olde House Bed &  
Breakfast \* Stu & Shay Weinger

**1,100 LIGHTS** - Michael A. Gordon, CPA, LLC

**1,000 LIGHTS** - Art Connection \* Audio Video  
Specialists \* Bay Group Anesthesia Service PC  
\* BNT Promotional Products \* Bob's Appliance  
Sales & Service-Bob & Gayle DePeal \* Books by  
the Bay \* Cardinal Services, Inc. \* Coos Bay  
Grocery Outlet-Patricia Backman & Staff \* Hough  
& MacAdam L.L.C. \* Diane & Kevin Keiser-in  
memory of Heidi Nerbovig \* Wayne & Carol  
Murray \* North Point Inc.-Ed Meyer \* Pacific  
Mobile Services Inc.-The Chaney Staff \* Dr. Ted  
Terry & Staff \* The Oregon Connection \* Ticor  
Title Insurance Co.

**955 LIGHTS** - Bruce's Street Rods - Bruce & Kittie Lou English

**555 LIGHTS** - Judge Paula M. Bechtold \* Brown's  
Studio & Camera Shop-Memo Jasso \* Cedar Electric  
& Construction, Inc. \* Cottonwood Studio-James &  
Archina Davenport \* Effigy Images-D. J. & Gail Richards

**500 LIGHTS** - Adventure Kayak & Kite Shop \* Autumn  
House Restaurant- Scott Owens \* Benetti's Italian  
Restaurant-Joe Benetti \* Betty Kay Charters-Margery  
& Bill Whitmer \* Charleston Harbor Inn-in memory of  
John A. Castro \* Charleston Merchants Association \*  
Coast Metal Works-Tony & Mary Ann Dub \* George  
& Barbara Domenighini \* Gold Coast Security \* Gold  
Coast Truck Repair-Butch & Jacque Shields \* High Tide  
Café, LLC \* Honda World \* House at Lighthouse Beach-  
Stan & Janet Thompson \* K & K Sound Systems Inc. \*  
Kinnee's Gifts N' Shells \* K-Lyn Fisheries-Wayne & Mary  
Noyes \* Marineau & Associates \*  
Betsy & Walt McClure \* Andy & Lynn Nasburg-in  
memory of Nancy Keltner Huggins \* Andy & Lynn  
Nasburg-in memory of Charlene Messerle \* Andy  
& Lynn Nasburg-in memory of Sharon Hewitt Page \*  
Andy & Lynn Nasburg-in memory of Myron Jerry Smith  
\* North Bend Lanes/Back Alley-Bob & Mark Mattecheck  
\* Seaport Crab Station-Wayne & Mary Noyes \* Shoji  
Planning & Development-Crystal & Gene Shoji \* Mary  
Swindling-in memory of Blanche Siewell \* The Oregon  
Connection-Tricia Benetti \* Timber Inn, Coos Bay \*  
Weldon & Sons Building/Remodeling-Weldon Laiche

\* \* \* \* \* **SPECIAL THANKS** \* \* \* \* \*

**FRED MEYER - 100 CASES OF FROZEN  
APPLE JUICE FOR HOT APPLE CIDER  
AND DISCOUNTS ON COOKIES & FROZEN  
LEMONADE FOR PUNCH**

**WEYERHAEUSER - \$1,000 GRANT FOR  
LANDSCAPE LIGHTS**



# . . . An Unusual Final Exam . . .

*By Dave Fedukowski, Electronics Instructor, Southwestern Oregon Community College*

The Southwestern Oregon Community College Electronics 101 class of Fall 2005 was given an unusual final exam; “. . . design, construct, install, and troubleshoot a complex interactive light display for the main entrance area of the annual Holiday Lights Display at Shore Acres State Park.”

It was the students’ opportunity to demonstrate how they had mastered the concepts and skills covered in the class. One of the conditions of this exam was that the class instructor would serve only in the roles of consultant and unskilled labor. The project would succeed or fail dependent on the students themselves. The class successfully rose to the occasion and other classes and departments at the college graciously offered their services and expertise and joined what became a multi-departmental design and construction team.

The class decided to design a display with three main elements. The first element, consisting of 28 individually controlled seagulls, would reside under the roof of the main entrance gazebo. By sequentially turning individual birds on or off the

birds could be made to appear as if they were flying across the ceiling in up to six different paths. The second element, of 20 red crabs, was placed in the landscape area

immediately to the left of the main entrance. By sequencing these crabs, it was made to appear that there were four crabs scuttling around in the area. The third and final element was a sequenced line of eight blue and white waves which flowed back and forth around the scurrying crabs. All in all, the class used nearly 1000 feet of variously colored rope lights in the construction of the display. The 40 individual light groups were connected to the six BASIC Stamp controllers by over 2000 feet of parallel jacketed 18 gauge wire. The sensors were connected to the BASIC Stamps using Cat 5 networking cable with RJ-45 connectors.



SCURRYING CRABS AND BLUE AND WHITE WAVES

DAVE FEDUKOWSKI

The display was designed to respond to the presence of viewers. Different elements responded in different ways. Seagulls here on the coast tend to look at tourists as convenient sources of food, and so they will often

swoop over as a group to check people out. Our seagulls were designed to fly toward people as they entered through the various sides of the gazebo. The students accomplished this by using cheap motion detectors from Wal-Mart (about 9 bucks each). This type of motion detector senses the infrared radiation given off by a warm body and is sensitive to over 30 feet. The sensor uses two matched elements. When the source of radiation changes bearing with respect to the detector, the readings on the matched sensor elements change with respect to each other and the circuit fires.

The programming was written so that when one or more of the five bird control sensors fired, the output pins controlling individual birds would go high in the desired sequence.

The crabs worked in a similar manner. As a viewer approached the crabs, a sensor would fire and the crab would run away. As the viewer passed by, a second sensor would be triggered and the crabs would run back.

The crabs worked in a similar manner. As a viewer approached the crabs, a sensor would fire and the crab would run away. As the viewer passed by, a second sensor would be triggered and the crabs would run back.

The project worked as planned (after the expected troubleshooting). The project was both more involved and more fun than we had originally anticipated. Since all of our logic and control equipment was from Parallax, it all integrated smoothly and was both easy and fun to work with.

Thanks to Parallax for a great product! ■



INDIVIDUALLY CONTROLLED SEAGULLS OVERHEAD

DAVE FEDUKOWSKI



# . . . Looking Forward to 2006 . . .

## **Bonsai Day**

April 15 - 11 am - 4 pm

## **Rhododendron Sunday-Mother's Day**

May 14 - 11 am - 4pm

## **State Parks Day**

June 3 - Free Parking

## **Rose Sunday-Father's Day**

June 18 - 11 am - 4 pm

## **OCMF Concert**

Friday, July 21 - 12:30

Bluegrass - Joe Ross

## **SW Oregon Street Rods Show & Shine Car Show**

Aug. 12

## **Sunset Classic Chevys Show & Shine Car Show**

Sept. 17

## **Dahlia Day**

Sept. 23 - 11 am - 4 pm

## **Orchids "Gems of the Rain Forest"**

Sept. 30 - 11 am - 4pm

## **20th annual**

## **Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park**

Nov. 23 - Jan. 1 - 4 pm - 10 pm

**T**he **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.

In the IGC you will find books on gardening, local history of the area and the gardens, children's books, cookbooks, birds and animals and more; VHS tapes & DVD's on Shore Acres history and the gardens, Oregon lighthouses and covered bridges; screen savers on Shore Acres Gardens, holiday lights, and lighthouses; children's and ladies T-shirts, adult's jackets and sweatshirts, barbecue aprons, baseball style caps; silver and wildflower jewelry; placemats, soap, pictures, art, postcards, note cards, calendars, ship models, science kits, thermometers, kaleidoscopes, playing cards, birds and animals with authentic sounds approved by Audubon.

Check out our penny smasher machine (with 4 designs) and other new items being added during the year, including garden accessories, lighthouse collectibles and more. ■

**Many chances  
to Volunteer!**



SHIRLEY BRIDGHAM

A new Edition DVD of "Gardens Above the Waves" includes 32 Holiday Lights Scenes!

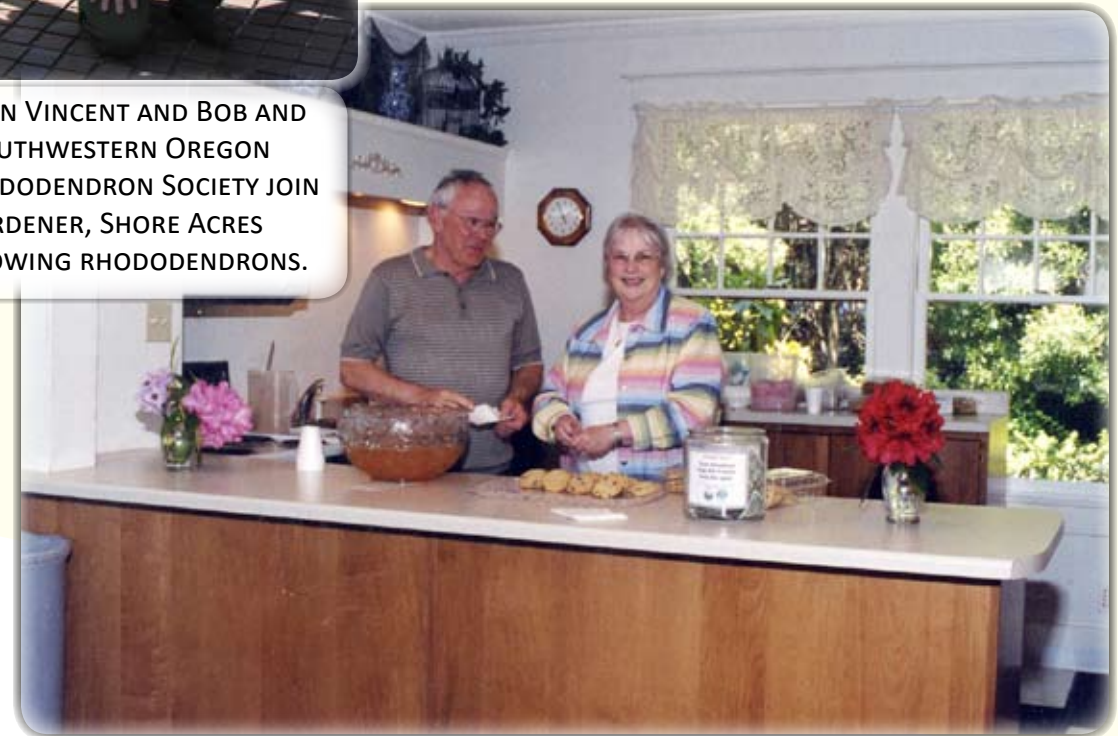


# . . . Rhododendron Sunday / Mother's Day . . .



MEMBERS OF THE BAY AREA ARTISTS ASSOCIATION HOLD A "PAINT-OUT"

RHODIE EXPERTS (L-R) LEE & JOHN VINCENT AND BOB AND MARJENE MACINTYRE OF THE SOUTHWESTERN OREGON CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY JOIN GEORGE GUTHRIE, JR., HEAD GARDENER, SHORE ACRES GARDENS, TO OFFER TIPS ON GROWING RHODODENDRONS.



FRIENDS LOU AND SHARON KOLKHORST OFFER REFRESHMENTS



THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - June 1, 2006

**Let's Go**  
What to see on the Southern Oregon Coast

**102**  
HERITAGE  
**2DO**

**Free**

Check out the gardens at Shore Acres State Park near Charleston.

Published by  
**The World**  
Use through May 2007

The image shows a two-story house with a chimney, surrounded by lush greenery and a large garden with pink flowers. The background is a dense forest of tall trees.



# 10 Ways to Enjoy the Hidden Beauty of Cape Arago State Park

*By Charlie Kocher, past Friends' board member and currently the Publisher of the Curry Coastal Pilot, Brookings, OR*

Because it's off the well-toured path of Highway 101, and devoid of commercial developments, Cape Arago is often called the hidden treasure of the Oregon Coast. Yet even those who discover the treasure miss some of the real gems of this crown jewel.

Finding the cape for the first time presents the obvious: Smell the roses of Shore Acres, wonder at the antics of barking sea lions on Simpson Reef, enjoy the calm of Sunset Beach and watch whales from the end of the cape. If you've tired of these routines, try hunting for some of these extra magic moments:

1. The best place for a summer weenie roast is the beach of South Cove. Sir Frances Drake hid from the summer winds here in 1579, and you can do the same. Park in the last spaces on the loop of Cape Arago State Park, and hike down a quarter-mile-mostly-paved trail to the beach.
2. A small remnant of modern history is hidden in the woods above Shore Acres State Park. Head up a path across the road and south of the Shore Acres entrance and you'll find the shell of a World War II outpost, where sentries watched for offshore threats. Hike further up that hill and you'll find a rarely-used picnic table with an eagle's eye view of Simpson Reef.



SHIRLEY BRIDGHAM

3. There might not be much in the way of oceanside dining at restaurants in Coos County, but there are picnic tables within the spray of the waves on the north edge of Cape Arago State Park. Wander to the right from the main parking area. It's open seating, so you might share space with gulls and rabbits.
4. Some summer months on a minus tide, forego the clam digging expedition and head for Sunset Bay. The tide pools on the north end of the beach are cradled in the eroded upthrusts of geologic history. The magic of a tide pool is not just the initial glance; get down close and watch for a few moments. The critters who were scared into hiding by your shadow will crawl back soon.
5. If you don't like the urban-style camping of Sunset Bay State Park and Bastendorff Beach County Park, there is an alternative hidden in the woods of Cape Arago State Park. A group camp, a quarter mile from the parking lot, is available by permit. It doesn't offer a view, but you can hear the surf as you fall asleep.
6. Want to see a different side of the former Simpson Estate? Park at the viewpoint north of the Shore Acres entrance - where you can see the Cape Arago Lighthouse - and hike on the Coast Trail through a little bit of rain forest into Shore Acres. You'll pass by the moss-covered gate posts of the original entrance to the Estate.
7. And once you're into Shore Acres, don't forget to go beyond the garden. Go down to Simpson Beach and do two things:
  - 1) Imagine timber baron Louis Simpson throwing full-service dinner parties down on the beach.
  - 2) Take a close look at the "sand" on the beach. Unlike the fine silica sands of the dunes, it's mostly ground bits of sea shells - and the mix changes at different times of the year.
8. Beyond Simpson Cove - up the hill to the south - is another pleasant hike through coastal forest. The joy here is take along a kite. The trail breaks out onto a level bench that is high above the waves and extends beyond the appetite of kite-eating trees.
9. Need a quiet moment away from the crowds at Sunset Bay on a sunny day? Wander back into the group picnic area and hug the hill on the south. You'll find a monument to one of Forbes' follies - the launching site of a cross-county balloon trip.
10. Does anyone dip smelt anymore? There's a small cove between Bastendorff Beach and Lighthouse Beach where the smelt run in the late spring. Ask the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for details like season and limits, and then plan a fish fry. ■



# . . . Rose Sunday / Father's Day . . .

HEAD GARDENER GEORGE GUTHRIE AND MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHWESTERN OREGON ROSE SOCIETY ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT RHODIES AND GARDENING.



ROSE PERGOLA BUILT IN MEMORY OF AL STINCHFIELD



"JULIA CHILD" - A FAVORITE AARS WINNER



"GORSE" SOCIETY  
VOLUNTEERS HELP  
CREATE THE BEAUTY OF  
THE ROSE GARDENS AT  
SHORE ACRES.  
RAY DUSKIN, JAY DOW,  
HELEN DOVING AND  
HELEN HARRIS



DAVID BRIDGHAM VISITS WITH JACKIE SCHLAF AND ROSE EXPERTS HEAD GARDENER GEORGE GUTHRIE, RAY DUSKIN AND HELEN DOVING



# . . . Summer Improvement Project – 2006 . . .

## OUR THREE PARKS AND THE EAGLE SCOUT CONNECTION

*By David Bridgham, Chairman, Chinook District, Boy Scouts of America*

The Chinook District of Boy Scouts of America has a rich history in being an important part of Sunset Bay, Shore Acres, and Cape Arago State parks. There isn't a park or hardly any spot in between that hasn't benefitted from an Eagle Scout project and the energies that Scouts bring to our public spaces.

As Chairman for Chinook District, I look around with pride and satisfaction at many accomplishments that have not only enhanced our parks, but have help build character in many Scouts.

The most recent project is the paver stone paths leading toward the Observation Building from the Shore Acres parking lot. You may have noticed the former asphalt path was in a state of ruin. Scout David Perrin successfully planned, engineered, enlisted Scout help and completed the first section of the path, a very long and arduous section complete with many special stone cuts to fit. The remainder of the path awaits another Eagle Scout applicant. The Friends joined in this project with the needed materials. We were pleased to review this project with a fine presentation to the Board by David on the construction details and its merits.

There have been many amenities added to our parks made possible by Eagle Scout projects, paths – bridges – railings, you name it, our area Scouts are adding enjoyment and safety to countless visitors now and into the future.

Congratulations to our Boy Scouts, Eagle Scouts, the Chinook District, and Eagle Board Chair Bob Gunther and his Board. ■



NEW PATH SITE AFTER REMOVAL OF ASPHALT.



NEW PATH SITE CONTINUING TOWARD THE OBSERVATION BUILDING

## David Perrin's Eagle Scout Project

*By Shirley Bridgham, Editor*

When Boy Scout David Perrin presented his Eagle Scout Path Project to the Friends' board, it was met with both appreciation and approval. The project was to replace 295 lineal feet of the path going to the Observation Building at Shore Acres State Park.

The new width of the paths would be 6 feet and the asphalt would be replaced with 6x4 Tudor style granite colored paving stones. The target date for completion was July of 2006. David presented a detailed and estimated budget for materials and supplies to be funded by FoSA. Total cost at completion was \$6,543.

Labor was supplied by Scouts, State Parks and Shutter Creek Inmates. David's Scouts crew included Dwain Benavidez, Brady Menzenberg, Damon Chase, Tom Chase, George David, Kyle Beechly, Linnae Beechly, Kycleray Katherman, Corey Riley, Brad Johnson and David's dad Peter Perrin.

All worked long and hard and it took a little longer than planned to complete the project but it was finished on August 16, 2006. ■

(MORE PHOTOS NEXT PAGE)



# . . . Summer Improvement Project – 2006 . . .

## David Perrin's Eagle Scout Project



PETER PERRIN OFFERED HIS EXPERTISE AND HELP.



LOOKING OVER THE PROJECT ARE (L-R) LINNAE BEECHLY, PETER PERRIN, KYLE BEECHLY, KYLERAY KATHERMAN AND DAVID PERRIN.



DAVID FINISHES A ROW OF GRANITE COLORED PAVING STONES.



COMPLETED PATH PROJECT - BEAUTIFUL!



# Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

Continued in Album 20:

Annual Year - September 1, 2006 - August 31, 2007

Album 19 - Completed June 28, 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