



Shore Acres State Park Before Friends - 1986

Album 23



Shirley Bridgham

How Friends of Shore Acres Happened

In 1986, the Communication Arts Group at Southwestern Oregon Community College decided to tell the story of Shoreacres and Shore Acres State Park by creating a multi-image slide show to be shown at the 5th annual Multi-Image Festival in September. After the Festival, Shirley Bridgham asked Andy LaTomme, manager at Shore Acres State Park, if the park wanted a copy. He said yes. Not long after, Andy asked Shirley and her husband David if they would like to help start a Friends group – a non-profit corporation in association with state parks. They said yes.

An organizational meeting was held on December 4, 1986 at 7:30 pm in Room 12 of Sumner Hall on the campus of Southwestern Oregon Community College. In attendance were Andy LaTomme, John Bergen, Mike Bodkin, David and Shirley Bridgham, John Garner, Marty Giles, George Guthrie, Dick Hansen, Ron Hjort, Tony Mason, and Karen Wuethrich. On that important night, Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. in cooperation with Shore Acres State Park began a long journey of success.

The Shore Acres Story was shown in slide format to thousands of visitors for years, then transferred to VHS tape for easier showing. In 2006, it was transferred to DVD. In 2013, it was transformed again, this time with additional photos courtesy of Caitlin Day, James McDermott, Sunset Bay State Park and the Coos Historical and Maritime Museum. Special thanks goes to Phillip Bridgham for rescuing the original sound track.

The program is about Asa Meade Simpson and his son Louis Jerome and the history of the magnificent estate that Louis called Shoreacres. It continues with what Shore Acres State Park was like in 1986 when the slide show was created. ■



Ward Robertson

Aerial and Gardens — 1986



Shirley Bridgham



Shirley Bridgham

About the Friends' Albums

By Shirley Bridgham - 2014

It's time to preserve the Friends' photos and clippings using the following:

- Epson Expression 11000XL Scanner
- Adobe PhotoShop CS-3
- Adobe InDesign CS-3.
- Epson Presentation Paper - Matte
- Epson Premium Photo Paper - Glossy
- Epson Stylus Photo R2000 Printer

I will also save the album pages as PDF files. ■



Ward Robertson

Aerials - 1986



Ward Robertson

Note from Shirley Bridgham - September 2014



Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. was founded on December 4, 1986.

1st annual year Dec. 4, 1986 - Aug. 31, 1987

1st Birthday - Dec. 4, 1987

1st Christmas Lights - Dec. 11, 1987

2nd annual Year - Sept. 1, 1987 - Aug. 31, 1988

2nd Birthday - Dec. 4, 1988

. . . and so on. The annual year runs from September of one year to the end of August of the next year.

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

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

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

I've been privileged to create and produce our slide shows, DVDs, and Newsletters and Journals. Not to mention, designing the lights display and seeing it come together like theater every season. Yes, it's a lot of work, but it's also a lot of fun. David has the challenge of designing and producing new sculptures and maintaining the old ones. When we read the comments in the guest books, we always get enthused to start the next season.

This year, I'm starting a project to preserve the Friends' archives in physical albums — this is the first album — backed up in a digital format for easy viewing by many. We have many photos, news clippings and other materials that will be included in the albums.

As I've started going through the archives, I'm reminded of how FoSA has grown and prospered in order to help Shore Acres State Park, Sunset Bay State Park and Cape Arago State Park. What a great reminder of why we do what we do. Our hope is that in the future, others will experience and enjoy the same opportunities. ■

Note from David Bridgham - September 2014

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

Founded December 4, 1986



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

FoSA BYLAWS

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

A meeting was held on December 4, 1986 at 7:30 pm in room 12 of Sumner Hall on the campus of Southwestern Oregon Community College. In attendance were Andy LaTomme, John Bergen, George Guthrie, Karen Wuethrich, Marty Giles, Ron Hjort, Mike Bodkin, John Garner, Shirley Bridgham, David Bridgham, Dick Hansen and Tony Mason. Andy LaTomme opened the meeting by giving background information about the establishment of non-profit corporations in association with state parks.

Mike Bodkin reviewed the legal steps necessary to establish a corporation and to certify it as tax-exempt under federal and state laws: fees to be paid, legal liability of corporation members and the formation of an initial board of directors.

Discussion followed on the details of the above presentations. The group agreed that a preliminary date of June, 1987 was a goal for establishing the tax-exempt status of the organization and that the group should forego any solicitation of funds until this status has been obtained.

Those present introduced themselves to the group and completed a sign-up sheet with their names and addresses. Each person was asked if he or she desired to serve on the initial board of directors. All except Andy LaTomme, Ron Hjort, Karen Wuethrich and Mike Bodkin responded "yes."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Andy LaTomme was asked to bring a copy of his park's master plan to assist in coordinating the goals of the Friends with those of State Parks. He was also asked to prepare a draft set of bylaws, based on those used by existing cooperating associations, to be mailed to board members before the next meeting.

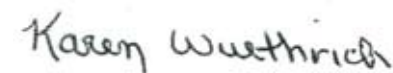
Andy LaTomme was asked to prepare a press release announcing the formation of the Friends with special mention of Mike Bodkin's contribution.

Karen Wuethrich was asked to prepare minutes of the meeting.

The date for a second meeting was set for January 13, 1987. Shirley Bridgham was asked to arrange for a meeting room at SWOCC. The suggestion was made that the board consider a fixed meeting date, e.g., the second Tuesday of each month. It was felt that this was a good idea, but no action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Wuethrich



Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

Annual Year - September 1, 2009 - August 31, 2010

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. - Annual Meeting and Board Meeting Highlights September 8, 2009 - Shore Acres Garden House

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

President Robynn Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Directors Present: David & Shirley Bridgham, Kenn & Betty Kennedy, Lou & Sharon Kolkhorst, Barb Taylor, Vee Elliott, Kathy Metzger, Jack Gilham, Joan Clifton. Guests: Ellie Kinney-Martial, Dell & Roberta Willis. Directors absent: Kathi & Dennis Netter, Timm Slater

President Robynn Reed welcomed everyone to the meeting and presented outgoing board member Carl Siminow with the Friends' traditional plaque of appreciation. Carl said he still will be available to help with Friends' activities.

Shirley Bridgham presented the following reports:

FRIENDS ACCOMPLISHMENTS SEPTEMBER 2008 - AUGUST 2009

- Information & Gift Center had ongoing success
- Reprinted Shore Acres History/Friends Milestones Membership brochure.
- Successful 22nd annual Holiday Lights season in 2008 with an est. 44,464 visitors
- Bob Dixon built a new electrical building to protect breakers/etc. on west side of the garden
- Applied for Energy Trust grant to offset L.E.D. expense and received \$2,883.00
- Applied for Oregon Department of Energy Pass-through Project and received approval letter 8/27/09 (Could amount to lump sum payment of \$5,109 if and when they find a partner for the project)
- Contacted Pacific Power about Power building electrical use 2006-2008 (little KWH reduction with LED's) (Resulted in a check of the meter with the intent to monitor it closely in 2009)
- Web site maintenance ongoing - Shirley, Lou
- Winter/Spring Journal (fourth full color) sent to 650 people on the Friends' mailing list: includes members, financial supporters, and volunteers. PDF of the Journal also on the web site - www.shoreacres.net
- Long Range Planning Meeting in March - Developed plan for 2014 (see Board Book)
- Successful annual flower day events and music festival concert - board members and volunteers
- Provided dollars for new plants and plant signs
- Produced new Geology book (content and design provided by George Mustoe, WA)
- Reprinted "Roses" card
- Re-designed and printed "Roses" brochure
- Found a new supplier for Gifts and Memorials nameplates
- Built new 24' x 60' storage building to be shared by Friends and Park
- Installed wiring and data lines for garden web cam; as well as Wild Blue Internet Satellite
- Replaced pond lights fixtures with outlets and repaired pond wiring
- Installed original style small windows at Garden House. Curtains hung by Robynn Reed.
- New cabinet purchased for Friends' reference library in Garden House
- New cabinet put together by Jack Gilham and Joan Clifton
- Developed plan and budget for regular Friends activities (IGC; Holiday Lts; etc. - see budget)
- Developed plan and budget for projects to be completed by June 30, 2010 (see budget)

- Electrical
- Entrance/IGC
- Equipment (cash register software update; garden tools/equipment; electric cart; bike rack)
- Fencing
- Garden House (new windows/doors; exterior paint & repair; interior paint; furnishings)
- IGC storage
- Masonry restoration
- Metal storage building interior shelving, etc.
- Night lights and flag lights
- Observation Building windows and interpretive panels
- Park labor crews
- Tree trimming
- Walkways and roadways (paver stones; overlay road and walkways)
- Water system improvements
- Web site/web cam/internet (Friends and Park office)
- Garden plants/signs
- Interpretive Expenses (equipment/etc for staff)



NEW CORNER "REAL" WINDOWS

23RD ANNUAL HOLIDAY LIGHTS 2009 - PROGRESS REPORT CO-CHAIR - SHIRLEY AND DAVID BRIDGHAM

- Lights plan is done except for a few modifications.
- L.E.D. Lights failures replaced by company
- L.E.D. Lights backup lights ordered, received, unpacked by Jack & Joan; waterproofed by Dell
- L.E.D. Lights fixed and waterproofed for upcoming season by Dell Willis, David B., Roberta W.
- Lights Sculptures repaired and re-strung with L.E.D. rope lighting by Dell and David
- Holiday Lights brochure developed and produced
- Parking coupons printed.
- Lights pledge campaign packets mailed with responses coming in (\$2,710.50 to date)
- Thank-you cards, posters, and parking coupons mailed to lights pledge contributors.
- Mailed Fred Meyer request for apple juice and lemonade and discounts on cookies
- Holiday poster created; copies made at Wegferds'; some already distributed by Jack & Joan
- Mailed brochures and holiday posters to south coast visitor centers and media outlets
- B&B tickets printed and at the IGC.
- Notices to be e-mailed to tree decorators and lights stringers
- Kathi Netter is coordinating the cider spice production.
- Kathy Metzger has hosting schedule nearly completed.
- Dino and Cindy Coolen are organizing entertainers.
- Lights setup starts in October.
- No college display this season; will use Christmas trees at the entrance instead
- Wanted: Holiday Button maker (Roberta and Dell Willis volunteered)(

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. - Annual Meeting and Board Meeting Highlights

September 8, 2009 - Shore Acres Garden House

ANNUAL MEETING CONTINUED

NOMINATIONS REPORT BY SHIRLEY BRIDGHAM:

The Nominations Coordinator nominates David Bridgham, Joan Clifton, Jack Gilham, and Betty Kennedy, to serve for three (3) years, with terms expiring in Sept. 2012. In addition, the Nominations Coordinator nominates Dell Willis to the board position being vacated by Carl Siminow. This board position will expire in Sept. 2012. According to the Bylaws of Friends of Shore Acres Inc., "The Board of Directors will be composed of three (3) to fifteen (15) members." If these nominees are elected to the Board, the total number of Directors will be fifteen (15).

Election of Board Members: MSP

Annual meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

SOCIAL BREAK FOR ICE CREAM SUNDAES



INCOMING PRESIDENT DAVID BRIDGHAM ACCEPTS
GAVEL FROM OUTGOING PRESIDENT ROBYNN REED



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: President David Bridgham

BOARD OFFICERS ELECTION - The Nominations Coordinator nominates the following to serve as officers for one year beginning September of 2009: Timm Slater - President Elect (The President-Elect will serve as President for one year beginning Sept. 2010.) Kathi and Dennis Netter - Secretary; Barb Taylor -Treasurer - MSP

MINUTES: JULY 14, 2009 - MSP

FINANCIAL REPORT \$ 212,823.78

INFORMATION AND GIFT CENTER (IGC) - Lou & Sharon Kolkhorst: July/August sales were up about 6.6% compared to July/August of 2008. The IGC was up about 6.6% for the year. The Friends received a thank-you note from the Empire "Clambake" Hollering Contest for the Clam puppet we donated to the event. Lou said the IGC may have Scout badges for sale in December (or sooner).

STATE PARKS REPORT - ELLIE-KINNEY MARTIAL

- Web cam project - installation of conduit, wiring and satellite for garden camera completed.
- Installation of conduit, wiring and satellite completed for FOSA shed and maintenance shop completed.
- Entrance deck project - resurface with non-skid material completed.
- Continued work around the new building and maintenance shop - moved wheelbarrow and garbage can storage area and created 3 new parking spaces on west side of parking area.
- New building - painted, bay doors insulated, bumper guards installed on roll up bay doors.
- Projects with SCBEC work crew - grant funded program - 25 youth
 - a. Brushed and chipped portion of Oregon Coast trail
 - b. Invasive weed removal - 15 yards English Ivy removed from garden
 - c. Painted maintenance shop
 - d. Cleanup nursery growing area
 - e. Cleanup, walk repair and grounds maintenance at Cape Arago
 - f. Weeding in formal garden
- Pre-bid meeting (Thursday, September 10th) for painting exterior and interior of the Garden House

OLD BUSINESS:

- Production Projects - New "Roses" brochure completed; "Simpson Reef and Shell Island" and the "Sunset Bay Special Places" brochures are in process.
- Oregon Coast Music Festival Concert, July 18 - Great concert by "Soulpie", sundae sales were \$216.00 as compared to \$305.00 in 2008.
- Holiday Lights - Update given with annual meeting report

NEW BUSINESS - Reminder of Volunteer Lunch Garden Party, Sept. 23 at Shore Acres, sponsored by OPRD.

Good of the Order:

- Kenn and Betty Kennedy are park hosting at Humbug Mountain during October.
- 8 new volunteers in the Information & Gift Center
- Robynn is looking for items for the house, e.g., old milk bottles, quart size.
- Robynn passed around her written job description for decorating the Garden House.

Next Meeting: October 13, 2009 at the North Bend Public Library

Meeting adjourned: 8:05 pm

Respectfully submitted, Shirley Bridgham, Secretary (for Kathi and Dennis Netter)

. . . Volunteer Lunch Garden Party – Sept. 23, 2009 . . .



ANDY LATOMME, SOUTHWEST AREA MANAGER, OFFERS HIS APPRECIATION AND THANKS TO THE VOLUNTEERS IN ATTENDANCE.

. . . Dahlia Day – September 26, 2009 . . .



JACKIE SCHLAF (WITH HER PHOTO CARDS THAT SHE GIVES AWAY) POSES WITH VISITORS NEXT TO THE DISPLAY OF CUT DAHLIAS CREATED BY PAULETTE WOODWARD OF THE SOUTHERN OREGON DAHLIA SOCIETY.



PAM STEVENS AND DAVE ESCH HELP THE FRIENDS



DAHLIA "SHORE ACRES"



DAZZLING DAHLIAS IN LATE SUMMER AND AUTUMN AT THE "GARDENS ABOVE THE WAVES"



FRIENDS GINGER AND BINGO SAWYER

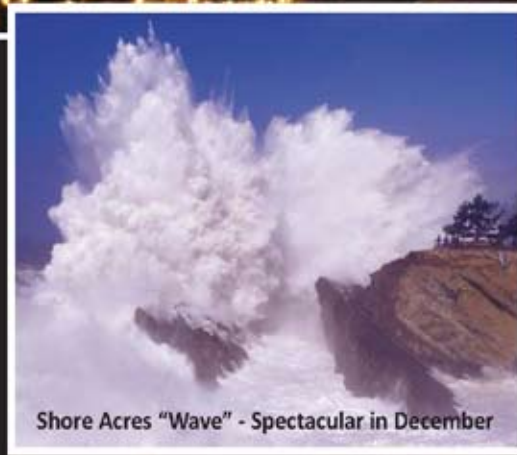


. . . Holiday Lights Coming Soon . . .

23rd Annual Holiday Lights *(almost all L.E.D.)* at Shore Acres State Park a "community tradition" since 1987

275,000 Lights!

Thanksgiving thru New Year's Eve - 4-10 PM - OPEN HOUSE



Shore Acres "Wave" - Spectacular in December

Win the Ultimate B&B

10 PM Dec. 31 - 10 AM, Jan. 1

Tickets are \$10

(Only 150 Tickets.)

**Available at the 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 or 888-3732 or 888-3778 - www.shoreacres.org

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



UNDERSEA GARDEN- LONG TIME VOLUNTEER MIKE PERKINS TOOK CARE OF SETTING UP THE UNDERSEA GARDEN NEAR THE ENTRANCE IN 2009. BRILLIANT BLUE LEDs ENHANCED A NEW ARRANGEMENT OF THE SEA CREATURES IN THE DISPLAY. •



OUTSIDE CHRISTMAS TREES - EVERY YEAR SINCE 2001, DAVE HANNAH OF DAVE'S TREES HAS SUPPLIED AND DELIVERED HUNDREDS OF LARGE CHRISTMAS TREES TO THE LIGHTS DISPLAY. THEY ARE UNIQUELY DECORATED BY 26 DIFFERENT GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS. •



CIDER SPICE - (L-R) KAREN CROSBY, JACK GILHAM, JOAN CLIFTON, AND PETER CROSBY HELPED KATHI & DENNIS NETTER CREATE THE FROZEN CIDER SPICE MIX THAT MAKES THE SHORE ACRES HOT CIDER SO FLAVORFUL. THE ORIGINAL RECIPE WAS CREATED BY KAREN AND PETER IN 1988. •



. . . Shore Acres Holiday Lights on “Grants Getaways” . . .

KGW-TV-PORTLAND

THANKS TO GRANT MCOMIE AND JEFF KASTNER FOR VISITING AND DOING A WONDERFUL STORY! GO TO WWW.SHOREACRES.NET AND CLICK ON THE LINK. •



VIDEO CAMERA FOR DUSK TO DARK TRANSITION - THE
“MAGIC TIME “ FOR SO MANY VISITORS. •



SHIRLEY BRIDGHAM SHOWS GRANT AND JEFF THE TAGS
THAT GO ON EVERY SHRUB THAT WILL BE LIGHTED. •



. . . Local Publicity . . .

Thanks Matt Jarvis, Jarvis Communications and Lou Sennick, The World!

Bay Area Weekly, Jarvis Communications -
Coos Bay, Ore. - November 25, 2009



www.shoreacres.net

Volunteers have been busy since the middle of October stringing lights within the Botanical Gardens at Shore Acres State Park west of Charleston. It's all part of the preparation for the 23rd Annual Holiday Lights Show, and one of the coordinators says they are "almost ready!" Shirley and David Bridgham, of North Bend, have been behind the show since its inception. They've watched the number of lights and displays grow to huge proportions. In fact, this year Shirley estimates they will have over 275,000 lights, with the majority of them the colorful and bright energy efficient LED's strung throughout the garden. This year there will be 25 themed holiday trees decorated by groups and organizations. That's three more than last year, and as Shirley says, three more off the long waiting list. The show opens Thanksgiving night, Nov. 26th, and runs through New Year's Eve from 4 to 10 p.m. nightly. Shirley says the busiest night remains the Friday after Thanksgiving. "We usually have cars backed up to Sunset Bay that night." An estimated 45,000 took in the show last year. Along with the free hot cider and cookies, viewers can also enjoy a variety of holiday entertainment in the garden's outdoor gazebo. The only cost is the parking fee of \$3 charged by the Oregon State Parks & Recreation Dept. For more information about the Holiday Lights Show at Shore Acres State Park, go to their website, www.shoreacres.net.

THE WORLD, Coos Bay, Ore. - November 25, 2009

Bright light in the West



World Photo by Lou Sennick

Online
See related video at
www.theworldlink.com

A crescent moon sparkled over Shore Acres State Park on Sunday night after the sun set in the west. Volunteers completed their massive lighting project over the weekend, and on Sunday turned on all lights to check them before the Holiday Lights show opens. The 23rd-annual light show opens Thanksgiving Day and will run through New Year's Eve. Gates will be open from 4 to 10 p.m., with admission \$3 per carload for parking.

. . . Shore Acres Holiday Lights – 2009 . . . Enhanced by the Shore Acres “Wave”

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



LED LIGHTING ENHANCED BY A FULL MOON



ENTRANCE TO THE POND - A FAVORITE FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS



AWESOME REFLECTIONS AT THE POND

... Shore Acres Holiday Lights – 2009 ...
Enhanced by the Shore Acres “Wave”



Shore Acres Holiday Lights – “Beautiful – The Sunset Too!”

*Comments throughout the guest books – beautiful, awesome, gorgeous, WOW, etc.
(not sure which one wins out) plus “love the LEDs” over and over.*



David Bridgham

A FAVORITE LIGHTS SCULPTURE IS THE 45' GRAY WHALE SPARKLING AT SUNSET.

An estimated 53,172 visitors attended the 23rd annual Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park. Those who signed the guest books included visitors from 31 countries, 47 states and Washington D. C. With only 4.5" of rain, and only one week of frigid temps, it was a sensational season. *“Beautiful, the sunset too!”* wrote someone from Vancouver, Washington and a visitor from San Diego wrote, *“Traditional annual visit!”*

CITIES AND COMMENTS

- **Long Island, NY – Just stunning!**
- Scottsburg, OR – Fun to re-visit year after year!
- Missoula, MT – It takes my breath away. Thnx!
- Moscow, ID – Magnificent job!
- Las Vegas, NV – Very, very, very nice!
- North Bend, OR – We love the lights and the house is so cute!
- Bishop, CA – Well worth the 700 mile drive!
- Cheyenne, WY – Worth the drive! Stunning!
- Rogue River, OR – Still the best light show ever!
- Medford, OR – Nice to be back! Thanks for converting to LEDs.
- **(No city) – This was on my Bucket List!!!**
- Discovery Bay, CA – Awesome - Beautiful Effect
- Coos Bay, OR – More beautiful each year!
- Corvallis, OR – What a blessing! Thank you!
- Tulsa, OK – Thanx so much!
- Eugene, OR – Lovely! Thank you!
- Scotland – This place is amazing!
- **San Diego, CA – Traditional annual visit!**
- Eugene, OR – How Fun! Love the animation!
- Houston, TX – Nice ! ! !
- Elko, NV – Wonderful - Love it.
- Milan, Italy – Always our favorite light display!
- Woodland, WA – Thank you for the wonderful light display!
- San Diego, CA – Memorable and precious.
- Coos Bay, OR – Purple and white - awesome!
- Roseburg, OR – We come every year. It is always beautiful!!!
- **Vancouver, WA – Beautiful - the sunset too!**
- Corvallis, OR – We enjoyed it so much! SLAM DUNK!!!
- Salem, OR – It was awesome!
- Los Angeles, CA – Incredible!
- McAlester, OK – Mesmerizing, very festive, beautiful!
- Port Orford, OR – Breathtaking.
- Springfield, OR – Thank you - what a blessing!
- Beijing, China – So creative and great.
- Austin, TX – Brilliant! Very “bright” idea! Nice people. THNX
- Mapleton, OR – 5th year - we bring new people every year. We love it!
- Gold Beach, OR – Our Christmas tradition - thank you!
- Fordville, ND – Beautiful
- **Eugene, OR – Great addition to our honeymoon!**
- North Bend, OR – Love the rooms upstairs!
- San Francisco, CA – What a lovely fairyland!
- Ashland, OR – We keep coming back - magical!
- Elmira, OR – Beyond “Awesome”
- Coquille, OR – Thanks, volunteers for this wonderland!
- Florence, OR – Spotlights on trees are awesome! LED lights are vivid!
- Black Diamond, WA – Like a fairyland!
- Denver, CO – Mesmerizing!
- **Portland, OR – Many thanks for the lovely tradition!**
- Sixes, OR – Wonderful Eye Candy
- Vacaville, CA & Bandon, OR – We got to be kids again for one night - enchanting! (Ash, B&B winner)

Shore Acres Holiday Lights – Thanks to Supporters

THANKS, LIGHTS PLEDGE SUPPORTERS!

- 5,000*** Shinglehouse Auto & Salvage
- 4,200*** Abel Insurance Agency-Harry & Francie Abel;
Captain John's Motel-Hong-Chi Teng & Jan Lin
- 2,800*** The Portside Seafood Restaurant-Joe Tang
- 1,750*** Dave's Pizza
- 1,666*** Huggins Insurance-Bob & Janet Huggins;
The Mill Casino-Hotel
- 1,500*** Hargens Construction Co.-Gary & Rody Hargens;
Cornelia & Don Barnhart
- 1,400*** Azalea Acres Inc.-Richard, Betty, Steve & Wesa Liles;
Best Western Holiday Motel; David & Shirley Bridgham;
Coastal Paper & Supply-Johanna & Bob Dillard;
Edgewater Inn Motel-Coos Bay; Nancy Robinson;
J.W. White Painting-Jay & Melody White
- 1,125*** Coos Bay Fire & Rescue
- 1,050*** Michael Gordon, CPA -"Not Your Basic Bean Counter"
- 1,000*** This Olde House Bed & Breakfast Inn-Sally White
- 833*** The Portrait Place-Jessica & Kevin Fellows
- 807*** SC & AGE, Inc. Tom's Lock & Key
PacificCorp/Pacific Power; Ted Jay Terry DMD & Staff;
Weldon & Sons Coos Bay
- 700*** Art Connection; Audio Video Specialists, Inc.;
Benetti's Italian Restaurant-Joe & Tricia Benetti;
Bob's Appliance-Bob & Gayle DePeal;
Cheslock Optical-Dr. James & Rhea Cheslock;
Coos Bay Grocery Outlet-Patricia & Sven Backman & Crew;
Evans-Havel-Styarfyr Family; Ray Gapp;
Kevin & Diane Keiser-in memory of Heidi Nerbovig & Berneice Lange;
Ron & Kathy Metzger; James & Ellen Montalbano; North Point Inc.;
Northwestern Mutual Life-Dick & Jan Vigue;

**SPECIAL THANKS TO
FRED MEYER -**
18TH YEAR OF
DONATING 100
CASES OF FROZEN
APPLE JUICE FOR HOT
APPLE CIDER AND
FROZEN LEMONADE
FOR PUNCH AND
DISCOUNTS ON
COOKIES.



A FROZEN FOUNTAIN DURING THE LIGHTS!

- 666*** Alice Freeman in memory of Samuel Freeman;
Oyster Cove LLC-Martha Butler
- 586*** Bruce's Street Rods-Bruce & Kittie Lou English
- 500*** Andy & Lynn Nasburg in memory of Robert G. Nelson Sr.
- 400*** Charleston Harbor Inn in memory of John A. Castro;
High Tide Cafe, LLC-Carol Rodde & Steve Raplee
- 360*** Cedar Electric & Construction, Inc.
- 350*** Betty Kay Charters-Margery & Bill Whitmer; Books by the Bay;
Archi & Jim Davenport;
Gold Coast Truck Repair-Butch & Jacque Shields; Betsy Groben;
Honda World; House at Lighthouse Beach-Stan & Janet Thompson;
Kinnee's Gifts N' Shells; Marineau & Associates;
North Bend Lanes-Bob, Mark & Marianna Mattecheck;
Shoji Planning & Development-Crystal & Gene Shoji;
Slippery Slope Soap Shop-Ron & Pauline Vierra
- 266*** Donald & Priscilla Zobel
- 166*** Paul & Marlene Haugland

Light duty



World Photo by Benjamin Brayfield
Michael Perkins takes down holiday lights Monday at Shore Acres State Park. Volunteers helped string 275,000 lights for this season's six-week show. They will be broken down in two weekends.

Holiday display attracts record crowds

By JESSICA MUSICAR
Staff Writer

SHORE ACRES — Organizers of Shore Acres State Park's light display believe dry weather and more lights than ever helped bring record crowds to the South Coast's annual glowing event.

Shirley Bridgham, who has co-chaired the display since it kicked off in 1987, said the weather probably helped people. Only three inches of rain fell during the show's six-week run, and people from Idaho, Washington, Nevada, and cities from all over Oregon made the trek to the South Coast.

"When it's wet, it makes a difference," she said. "They come from everywhere."

While Bridgham is already thinking ahead to the 2010 display, the co-chairwoman said the 2009 season had a lot going for it, with a record 275,000 lights, too — all of them LED. An estimated 53,172 visitors stopped in with 13,293 vehicles, including buses.

That represents a 16 percent increase for the park.

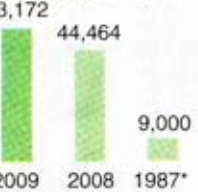
Those who parked their vehicles paid a \$3 day use fee, bringing Shore Acres \$30,400 for the display alone. David Bridgham, Shirley's husband and co-chairman, touted that the display had virtually no fuse failures, after volunteers coated them with a special grease to avoid corrosion. In 2008, there were 250,000 lights and 10 inches of rain to go with them.

Volunteers handed out about 40,000 cookies this year in the park's Garden House, and visitors drank thousands of gallons of apple cider, coffee and punch. They also heard carols and barbershop tunes from 43 groups of entertainers.

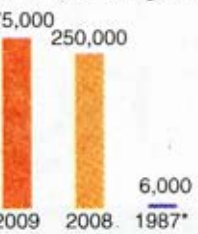
Small clusters of volunteers pulled thousands of LED light chords Monday, from the state park's lush collection of flora following the event's 36-day run.

Shore Acres Holiday Lights statistics

Estimated number
of visitors



Number of lights



*First year of Holiday Lights event

SOURCE: Friends of Shore Acres
World Graphic by Jeff Trionfante

SEE LIGHTS | A8

LIGHTS Inmates helped dismantle lights Continued from Page A1

Volunteer Mike Perkins said dismantling the display isn't too bad, as he removed lights from a Japanese red pine. But the last tree he tackled — a rhododendron — was a bit of a hassle. He explained that the lights were wrapped very securely around its limbs and trunk.

"It was a nightmare," he said.

An inmate crew from Shutter Creek Correctional Institution helped with the heavy lifting.

Bridgham said this year's visitor increase may have been due to advertising outside of the area and word-of-mouth. People who have seen the display, she explained, often invite friends to come along the following year.

"It's a community event. We organize it, but it takes the community to not only help us with it but to come out and see it," Bridgham said.

She and her husband said they don't come to the display during every night of its run, but they do visit. They enjoy hearing what people have to say.

It's "just abuzz with conversation about how beautiful it is," David Bridgham said.

Bay Area Weekly, Jarvis Communications -
Coos Bay, Ore. - January 13, 2010



The number of visitors who took in the Annual Shore Acres Holiday of Lights this past year was estimated at 53,172. That's up from the 44,464 in 2008. Co-organizers Shirley and David Bridgham say "wonderful weather and great publicity were both contributing factors to this year's numbers." Along with the more than 275,000 LED lights in the botanical gardens, the Gardener's House was again decorated and made to feel warm and comfortable for the many volunteer groups and organizations who served hot cider, coffee and cookies to visitors. Robynn and Mike Reed are credited with the decorating of the historic structure. Visitors were encouraged to sign the guest book in the house. Some of the entries reflect the overall feeling of the Holiday experience: Throughout the guest books – "beautiful, awesome, gorgeous, WOW," etc. (not sure which one wins out) plus "love the LEDs" over and over. Long Island, NY – Just stunning! Mariposa, CA – Magnificent! Love it in the summer and the winter now! Scottsburg, OR – Fun to re-visit year after year! Missoula, MT – It takes my breath away. Thnx! Moscow, ID – Magnificent job! Las Vegas, NV – Very, very, very nice! North Bend, OR – We love the lights and the house is so cute! Bishop, CA – Well worth the 700 mile drive! Cheyenne, WY – Worth the drive! Stunning! Rogue River, OR – Still the best light show ever! Medford, OR – Nice to be back! Thanks for converting to LEDs. Lincoln City, OR – Grand! (No city) – This was on my Bucket List!!! and We are on the same Bucket List!! Bandon, OR – Thanks for our annual Christmas Eve tradition! Bob and Gretchen Ash, Vacaville, CA and Bandon, won the night's stay in the Garden House. Out of the 150 tickets available for the special evening, 132 were sold. Proceeds benefit the Friends of Shore Acres and the Holiday Lights Show. The Pancake Mill donated the breakfast, which the Bridgham's delivered on New Year's morning. The Ash's wrote in the guest book, "We got to be kids again for one night – enchanting!" The Bridgham's say there is a new large sculpture being planned for 2010, but wouldn't reveal any details stating it will be a "surprise!"



ANOTHER FAVORITE VIEW – LANDSCAPE LIGHTING
ON THE GIANT EVERGREENS SOUTH OF THE POND

. . . Remembering a Friend . . .

Kenneth E. (Kenn) Kennedy - May 12, 1941 - Feb. 27, 2010

By David Bridgham, President

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. has lost a leader. Someone who could with humility gracefully serve as FoSA President as well as be one of its best workers under anyone's directions.

Kenn Kennedy joined the Friends' board in 1998 and served as president for 2000-2001, after which he continued serving on the board and volunteering for the Friends' many activities.

Kenn took on some of our more arduous tasks year in and year out. He would come early and leave late, come back on "off days" and charge on. Kenn's greatest joy was to complete a big job, and do it well. He was well known for his easy smile and quick laugh that always made you feel great just being there.

Kenn is also missed in our larger community. He was a court appointed mediator for Coos County, involved in RSVP, a member of the Bay Area Bonsai Society and the South Coast Wood Carvers. In recent years, he and Betty served as State Parks campground hosts.

Kenn will be missed, but not forgotten. ■

Memorial Service for Kenn Kennedy -
Sunday, August 29, 2010 - Noon
Shore Acres Garden House & Pavilion
Potluck - Everyone Welcome



ALWAYS A SMILE . .
.WHETHER HELPING
PLACE FROGS IN THE
POND FOR HOLIDAY
LIGHTS, OR SERVING
SUNDAES AT THE
OREGON COAST
MUSIC FESTIVAL
GARDEN CONCERT,
OR VOLUNTEERING
WITH HIS WIFE BETTY
IN THE FRIENDS'
INFORMATION AND
GIFT CENTER.



FRIENDS SELL SUNDAES AT THE OREGON COAST MUSIC FESTIVAL GARDEN CONCERT. (FRONT) BETTY KENNEDY, VEE ELLIOT, KENN KENNEDY (BACK) KATHI NETTER, JOAN CLIFTON, DAVID BRIDGHAM, BARB TAYLOR, DENNIS NETTER, JACK GILHAM

. . . Andy La Tomme Retires . . .

ALL ABOUT ANDY . . .

Courtesy of Frank Howard - FYI815 - A weekly OPRD Bulletin

Andy LaTomme, who officially retired March 31, 2010 ended his 38-year parks career in a fitting manner—on special assignment.

Andy led OPRD's first Field Manager Academy, a training he helped develop. The assignment, says OPRD Director Tim Wood, gave Andy still another chance to add to a legacy that "has left the agency better off for it. If there is a more meaningful legacy than that, I don't know what it is." Tim added that Andy's legacy, like those of other OPRD senior managers, promises to pay future dividends. He cited his work on the department's recent field position reallocation as an effort that helped create a clear career path for park employees.

Another assignment took him to the State Fair in 2006 to assess OPRD management options for handling the fair and fairgrounds. He also has left a lasting mark on the department's safety culture, leading the Safety Review Board to codify OPRD's Safety Cornerstone. Since 1994, the headquarters demand for Andy's experience drew him away from his work as the "Southwest Oregon Region Manager," the title he used when answering the phone for 16 years. "Numbers tend to change," he says, pointing out that Region 3 had been Area 4 when he moved into his office near Sunset Bay.

Andy's first special headquarters assignment came in 1976, after working for four years as a park manager assistant at Fort Stevens. That work included developing park brochures and serving as the department's legislative coordinator during the 1977 session. "I had the great good fortune of meeting a lot of staff and visiting a lot of parks around the state during that time," he recalls. "The legislative work gave me a chance to look at the whole agency and realize it was involved in a lot more than just campgrounds and picnic tables."

Andy moved to the north end of the coast after his first six months at Parks, working as park manager assistant at Harris Beach in 1972. After 18 months in Salem, he began working his way back south, briefly serving at South Beach and at Devil's Lake as park manager assistant before returning to Harris Beach. Soon after, in 1978, he was chosen as the park's manager. Andy considers his first 10 years as "a special time. We were building stuff, like campgrounds, bike trails and handrails along the trail up Saddle Mountain," he recalls. "We also were building a sense of pride in our parks."

After serving as park manager at Nehalem Bay from 1979-1982, Andy returned to the south coast for good, assuming the managerial reins at Sunset Bay. He served as park manager there for 12 years before becoming the Area 4 Southwest Oregon Region manager. Andy cites many technological improvements over the years, but is also impressed with OPRD's progress in taking care of its natural resources. "We're better stewards now than when I started," he says. "We were still acquiring lands and buildings before 1980, but we often didn't know the best ways to take care of them. We're doing a much better job protecting those resources, and each other." ■



ANDY IN HIS OFFICE NEAR SUNSET BAY

Preson Phillips

FATHER OF THE FRIENDS. . .

By David Bridgham, President, Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

The inspiration for Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. — Andy LaTomme — retired from state parks at the end of March, 2010. As I look back to the first organizational meeting with nine people sitting around a table, dreaming of what a "Friends" group could accomplish, Andy was the inspiration. But it did not end with that first spark. Andy has been there all along the nearly 25 years of the Friends, encouraging and helping in any way he could. You can sense his pride in what his inspiration has accomplished.

It was a piece of Oregon legislation the "allowed" 501(c)3 non-profits to associate themselves to specific state parks by providing educational and interpretive services for their visitors. This sounds dry and unassuming, but it meant to Andy that people who live nearby and have an attachment to Shore Acres, love the park, always bring their family and visitors there, can participate directly in helping the park.

Andy's storied career with OPRD has many chapters. Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. is only one. He is without a doubt one of the most accomplished senior staff members with one foot still in the "field"

and the other in the other part of the park system - Salem headquarters. His area of responsibility encompassed part or all of 6 counties in southwest Oregon; along the Oregon Coast from the Lane/Lincoln County line on the north to the California border south, and Rogue and Umpqua River regions of southern Oregon. Wow! That's a lot of parks, waysides, staff, and politics. Also, he is the go-to guy for large, complicated and special projects when OPRD needs someone with vision and critical thinking. The large task of converting the State Fair over to a State Parks operation was given to Andy. The transition was as smooth as could be hoped due to his insight on problem solving and his talent for complex planning.

One unwritten chapter, literally, is what we hope will be a published book on the comprehensive history of Oregon State Parks. It's been many years since the last chronicle and many great things have happened to our state parks system since. Anyone who knows Andy, knows he is a great story teller and writer. He has lived the contemporary life of the parks system and knows the people who made the foundation of our parks. It truly would be wonderful to see this story told by a great story teller who has been part of the drama and excitement that is one of the nation's best state parks systems - the people and the times.

Andy will be sorely missed in his capacity of leader and visionary in the Friends movement and in State Parks, but will be enjoyed by all of us, exclusively, as volunteer and friend. We wish Andy and his wife Sue the very best and will always regard him as the *Father of the Friends of Shore Acres.* ■

Best wishes for a wonderful retirement!



. . . Decorating the Garden House . . .

By Robynn Reed, Decorating Elf



NEW GLASS CORNER WINDOWS AND BEAUTIFUL LACE CURTAINS UPSTAIRS AND DOWNSTAIRS



NEW PAINT JOB IN 2009



FLOCKED TREE "SMOTHERED" IN UNUSUAL ORNAMENTS AND LIGHTS

As I take a few minutes to write this, it's spring and I am listening to the "never ending" rain patter on the metal roofing of the building I am in. It is weather very similar to the time of year when I begin my annual creative endeavor at Shore Acres. Decorating the Garden House fulfills my need to take on a huge project with a short time line and a different theme each year to keep our guests inspired (and happy). The Oregon Parks & Recreation Department is always happy to work with us and continues to perform the work needed to keep the Garden House in excellent condition. From windows to paint there seems to be some sort of project each year to keep the Garden House in visitor ready condition. Usually these projects are started after the busy summer season and before the Holiday Lights event—exactly when I am decorating! It always works out with everything completed and decorated before the lights are switched on for the season.

I "borrow" inspiration whenever I travel and love to peruse decorating magazines for new ideas. I use the many storage tubs of beautiful decorations in a recycled "new" way each year. I also have the opportunity to purchase new items as needed and for the 2009 season it was new curtains for the entire house. What an intimidating thing it was to push the order button on my final choice! I wanted something to compliment the inside — in keeping with the era of the house — while adding something to the outside view. I took a deep breath and hit enter— my choice was mauve (or pink to some people) then waited on pins and needles to get feedback about the choice I'd made. Luckily the curtains look beautiful and everyone likes them. *(sigh of relief)*

Each year I'm inspired to START decorating in a different area and never know where that will be. This past season it was the flocked tree in the living room which I smothered with hundreds of ornaments. I felt true joy when I found people were taking their family group photos in front of it, making the many hours it took to create worth every minute. I love the variety of lights available to use and had fun with the blue and white theme in the kitchen/ dining room area. There are so many shapes, sizes and colors in the inventory and with the LED technology I can use lots of strings! Keeping in mind the master plan in the garden.

Santa in the bathtub is a perennial favorite and I believe people send their little ones under the cord for that annual picture! Santa doesn't seem to mind. The outside view is absolutely stunning and I feel the house is a warm backdrop to that splendor. I have fun visiting with the hardy individuals who work "outside" in the ever changing weather while I stay warm and cozy.

I appreciate the fun opportunity to be creative each year and look forward to creating something new each season. And I have encouraged my spouse to enjoy this endeavor with me. He is a great sport and a huge help. *Thanks, Mike!*

My motto is "You can never have too many ornaments!" Happy decorating to all — wishing you all a wonderful summer, fall and holiday lights season! ■



FAVORITE FIREPLACE FOR FAMILY PHOTOS



COMFY BED FOR B&B WINNERS



A PERENNIAL FAVORITE - SANTA AND FRIENDS

. . . Memorial Fountain History & Renovation Project . . .

By Mike Vaughan, ASLA Landscape Designer



Luis Velasquez

MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN - 1996



INSPIRATION FOR THE SHORE ACRES MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN - THE ALHAMBRA GARDEN FOUNTAIN WITH ITS 'CIRCLE-ON-A-SQUARE' OUTLINE



Mike Vaughan

HISTORY

Shore Acres Garden at Shore Acres State Park has changed over the years since Louis Simpson first created his estate and will probably continue to evolve into even more of an attraction with the vision and energy of Friends of Shore Acres. The cast iron fountain from Robinson Iron in Alabama is but one of many the foundry has created for cities, parks and homes all over the world for over 60 years. It was designed specifically for this garden, combining the base and combination of tiers for the scale and feel of this wonderful community treasure.

In 1996 Friends of Shore Acres asked me to design and oversee the construction of a fountain for the formal garden at Shore Acres. My vision for the design came through the study of the history of gardens of the world in the Landscape Architecture Department at the University of Oregon, where I received my degree in 1992. The particular layout of axis, boxwood aisles, plantings, lawns and architecture set up an opportunity for a classic courtyard at the intersection of paths as you enter the garden from the Information & Gift Center. Formal garden style evolved physically through agriculture in ancient Mesopotamia and philosophically from spiritual beliefs, notably the Koran.

The Persian Garden was laid out in four directions from a central water feature and according to Marco Polo in 1260 AD, the sheikh set out a garden with "four conduits, one flowing with wine, one with milk, one with honey and one with water. There were fair ladies there..." and he gave his men to understand that this was Paradise. At this time, the idea of heaven was symbolized by the square and the circle symbolized the sky, stars and the signs of the zodiac. The combination of the two geometric shapes as a central focal point with water represented perfection. These water features were built of terra cotta and glazed colored tiles and surrounded by formal gardens, creating an orderly agriculture of fruit, flower and shade in a hot and dry environment. In the Koran, it is stated that believers go after death to gardens which hold all the delights inhabitants of burning, desert regions would long for. Symbolically, formal gardens represented heaven on earth. It's just a lot of work to make and maintain.

With the expansion of the Islamic culture, its architecture and landscape design first spread across Africa and Spain, then to Italy, France and England. As international travel became commonplace, each culture added its own twist on garden plans, and landscape design eventually became a profession to analyze, synthesize and develop garden spaces. ■

RENOVATION PROJECT 2010

Friends of Shore Acres asked me to renovate the fountain this year, as the salt environment ate away at the finish and began to show some rusty spots and oxidation of the finish. It was decided to take the fountain to a local industrial marine yard, Giddings in Charleston, and sandblast it down to bare steel. It was then galvanized, as they do with various fishing gear, primed and finished with an epoxy type paint called Amershield, and hand rubbed with a verde gris antique finish the next day so they both cured together and bonded. This is the material that commercial fishing boats are painted with, which withstand the rugged conditions of the Northwest and Alaskan seas. All surfaces, inside and out were treated with the same coatings, allowed to cure, and delivered on time to the park, two weeks start to finish. With the help of the inmate crew and staff, the fountain was golf carted back in its place, before deadline, Mother's Day weekend. ■

"It is a great pleasure to continue to be a part of the vision and evolution of Shore Acres Gardens, as our family has been associated with the site since my grandfather Bill Vaughan became Louis Simpson's bookkeeper in 1900. - Mike Vaughan"

. . . Memorial Fountain – Better Than Ever . . .

By Pam Stevens, Park Ranger



Frozen Fountain - 2009



Our salty coastal environment and the occasional freeze took a toll on the cast iron.

RENOVATION PROJECT 2010



One of the many projects this year at Shore Acres was the restoration of the fountain in the center walk. It was originally installed in 1996 and purchased by the Friends of Shore Acres through a fund raising memorial project. The Roman Minimus style cast iron fountain was manufactured by Robinson Iron of Alabama and installation and design was done by local landscape designer Mike Vaughan.

Always drawing a crowd for pictures and wishes, this beautiful fountain has been the center of attention when visitors first walk in the garden. There is something about a fountain that really makes people feel good, both young and old alike. It has also turned out to be a good source of donation money bringing in thousands of dollars over the years for the Friends of Shore Acres.

Fourteen years on the Oregon coast left our fountain with faded paint and rust in many places. Mike Vaughan was called on once again for the restoration work. He contacted Robinson Iron to find out the correct paint formulas and the steps to take to bring it back to the original look. The metal was sandblasted and the rusted access doors were fixed before the paint was applied. Mike was able to complete the project and have it reinstalled just in time for Mother's Day.

We are very pleased with how nice the project turned out and we invite you to come out and take a look at our fountain makeover.

Don't forget to make a wish! ■



THE FOUNTAIN GETS REINSTALLED BY OPRD STAFF AND SHUTTER CREEK WORK CREW UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYE OF MIKE VAUGHAN.



MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN - 2010



FUNDING FOR THE RESTORATION WAS PROVIDED BY FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES, INC.

. . . News From The Gardens . . .

By Ellie Kinney-Martial, Ranger Supervisor, Shore Acres



Though the Friends of Shore Acres are well known for the annual Holiday Lights display and flower day events, many other projects are made possible due to funding provided by the Friends.

Last year we completed the installation of the webcam on the west side of the garden. This year we have installed brick pavers in the gravel paths near the garden house and the memorial fountain has been refinished.

In the upcoming year the Friends of Shore Acres have provided funding for the replacement of the interpretive panels in the observation building. Sunset Bay Interpretive Ranger, Stephanie Miller, will lead this project with the assistance of Shore Acres Ranger, Pam Stevens.

While visiting the park this summer you may have an opportunity to join a tide pool walk or attend an evening program led by a Rocky Shores Interpreter, a position funded by the Friends of Shore Acres.

Friends' funding will also allow us to move forward with our plant replacement plans and to increase the number of plant identification labels.

Many members also volunteer their time to accomplish projects in the garden. Board member, Jack Gilham, took on the project of refurbishing one of the original heron sculptures that was returned to the park. Look for this piece of Shore Acres history to be displayed in the garden this summer. Board member, Dell Willis, has volunteered his time and expertise to make repairs to the cedar bench surround in the pavilion.

There are many ways that the Friends of Shore Acres support the garden and we are lucky to have in our community such a dedicated group of people who continue to enrich, enhance, and improve our parks. ■



JACK GILHAM HAS RESTORED ONE OF THE ORIGINAL SIMPSON HERON SCULPTURES THAT WAS RETURNED TO THE PARK.

GARDEN KUDOS . . . A very special thanks to garden volunteers: Helen Doving, Jay Dow, Ray Duskin, Helen Harris, Lee Littlefield, Tom Fuller, Shirl Schmidt, Barbara Swanson, and to the Coos Head Garden Club for a very generous donation.



THANKS TO BOB DIXON FOR THE NEW POSTS AND RAILS MADE FROM THE OLD ENTRANCE, ANOTHER EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF RECYCLING.



NEW BRICK PAVERS REPLACE THE GRAVEL PATHS NEAR THE PAVILION AND THE GARDEN HOUSE.



Newest Park Ranger at Shore Acres . . . Celebrates One-Year Anniversary . . .

Pam Stevens, Shore Acres' newest Park Ranger, celebrated her one year anniversary on May 11, 2010. Pam started her career with OPRD in 1980 at Umpqua Lighthouse and William Tugman State Park. In 1989 she had the opportunity to work at the gardens as part of developmental job training at Sunset Bay. That small block of time spent at the gardens held fond memories for her as a favorite place to work. She transferred to Bullards Beach State Park in Bandon and worked there for 19 years as a campground and interpretive ranger before her promotion to Shore Acres.

Pam was delighted to be able to return here full time last year. There is a huge variety of jobs to learn in caring for the gardens and she is glad to have such a capable teacher as Ellie Kinney-Martial to show her the way. ■



SPRINGTIME RHODODENDRONS



PAM OPENS VALVE AT RESERVOIR.



. . . New Interpretive Projects Underway . . .

By Stephanie Miller, Park Ranger, Sunset Bay Management Unit

This summer brings the start of my fourth year here and as always, many exciting opportunities. One of those opportunities is taking shape as Friends of Shore Acres Inc. teams up with State Parks. I have been assigned the lead on a project that will be redesigning and replacing interpretive signs at Shore Acres. The project will replace the old signs in the observation building as well as add a new sign for the garden.

This project will be worked through in the 3 phases found in State Parks "How to get Interpretive Projects Done" guidelines. The first phase, the vision phase, has been submitted for approval to Jamie Little, the statewide interpretive coordinator. With the help of park staff and David and Shirley Bridgham, I will be moving forward with the next phase, the concept phase. Then finally, our ideas, messages, and images will come together in the design phase.

As summer approaches, the interpretive season is also coming together. This summer there will be a wide variety of program types and topics offered. We will have guided tidepool walks during most low tides. Other guided walks offered include a native plant walk as well as a Simpson history stroll through the gardens. We also offer Junior Ranger programs daily, as well as other daytime programs for the whole family. And finally, we have evening programs four times a week. For more information on programs and program times, you can stop by the Interpretive Center located in the Sunset Bay Campground, or call 541-888-0982. ■



OBSERVATION BUILDING



TIDEPOOL WALKS OFFERED BY SUNSET BAY CAMPGROUND



HISTORICAL DISPLAYS TO BE REDESIGNED AND REPLACED

Friends' Information & Gift Center (IGC)

**AN ALL-VOLUNTEER OPERATION MANAGED BY LOU AND SHARON KOLKHORST
BY LOU KOLKHORST, CO-MANAGER**

OPEN HOURS - JAN. 4 THRU FEB. 28 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM MAR. 1 THRU NOV. 24; 10:30 AM - 4:30 PM; THANKSGIVING THRU NEW YEAR'S EVE 3:30 - **9:30** PM



At the last market in Seattle, we concentrated on not only finding new items for you, but also U.S. manufacturers to help the economy. We also looked for more items that would show off our great Gardens and fantastic Holiday Lights Display. We are having items designed and arriving here all year long as they are developed.

We are continuing our "Going Green" Campaign in several areas. We have expanded our bamboo shirt line and recycled material socks. We have added a line of seeds that come in recycled rice pots that can be used up to 3 years as they are biodegradable. We have expanded our books to cover "Going Green" in the youth area.

We have added a new case for carrying your flattened pennies. It is designed for Oregon and has a free penny sample integrated in the cover. We have expanded our night light selection and added new displays to show them off. Also new lamps and wall sconces. Come in and check out our walking sticks and canes. We have some great medallions to go on them too.

We have Scout patches designed by the local Scouts, who also perform at the Holiday Lights entertainment programs each year. We have added jewelry lines and camping supplies. We are constantly upgrading our youth lines and supplies that are used for fun, entertainment and home schooling. We have lots of new items for the gardens and yards like: wind chimes, thermometers, decorative wasp traps, hummingbird feeders, decorative bird houses, solar hose guides . . . and the list goes on.

If you just want to stop and ask questions, we have great hosts and volunteers who can provide or find the information you need. If you really want to have fun and have a spare Saturday during the year, please call Vee at 541-888-5447 or Betty at 541-267-7597 and tell them you would like to volunteer. The Information and Gift Center phone is 541-888-2472 or toll free 866-888-6100 if you just have a question for us. ■



CANES, WALKING STICKS AND MEDALLIONS



NIGHT LIGHTS SELECTIONS EXPANDED



POPULAR PENNY SMASHER



GREAT VOLUNTEERS (L-R) JUDY DOTSON, MARGARET MOOSIC, AND SCHEDULER BETTY KENNEDY

“Gardens Above the Waves at Shore Acres State Park”

NEW AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS BY MEMO JASSO – JULY 19, 2010



Lights Sculptures and Lights Ready for Next Season

STORAGE BUILDINGS PUT TO GOOD USE!



ROBERTA AND DELL WILLIS WORK ON GREASING THE PLUGS OF THE LED LIGHTS, A PROCESS THAT MAKES THE FUSES RESISTANT TO FAILING DURING THE SEASON.

Friends Board Meeting Highlights – July 13, 2010

REFORMATTED FOR THIS ALBUM

CALL TO ORDER: President David Bridgham called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: David Bridgham, Shirley Bridgham, Robynn Reed, Betty Kennedy, Dell Willis, Lou Kolkhorst, Sharon Kolkhorst, Vee Elliott, Kathy Metzger, Barb Taylor, Kathi Netter. Directors absent: Joan Clifton, Jack Gilham, Timm Slater, Dennis Netter. Guests: Preson Phillips, Roberta Willis

MINUTES: MSP to approve Minutes of June 8, 2010.

BUDGET 2020-2011: Those present at budget meeting: Vee, Dell, Jack, Joan, Dave, Shirley, Barb, Preson and Ellie. MSP to accept budget as presented, with Barb sending out the final version later.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Total Checking/Savings: \$207,519.28

INFORMATION & GIFT CENTER REPORT: IGC monthly sales for June totaled \$15,970.00 which was a 6.36% decrease from the same time one year ago, bringing the year-to-date receipts up to \$201,481.97 (a 0.87% increase over last year). Lou and Sharon report a “fairly slow” month, although the new \$19 windbreaker has been a popular purchase with 45 of the 100 ordered already sold! Lou figures “loss” amounts to 0.8%.

STATE PARKS REPORT: Preson reviewed recent activities by the Park staff:

- FoSA -purchased brown fencing is being installed.
- The booster station could use a larger tank..
- A 10% decrease in camping has been seen this summer, but revenue is up due to a fee increase.
- A FoSA grant is paying for a Rocky Shores Naturalist position, which provides a 7 day per week program.
- A “Do Not Enter” sign is needed by the entrance booth to keep traffic from going the wrong way on the one-way road.
- A reference library has been set up in the Garden House. Sharon has embossed the books for identification. Jack and Joan will assemble a second cabinet to hold all our books.

OTHER PROJECT UPDATES & OPPORTUNITIES:

- The web cam is working with John Taylor at SWOCC monitoring it daily. A new image is taken every 60 seconds and there is a remote access to adjust the camera view.
- Shirley has completed a 16-page newsletter which will be mailed on Friday 7/16.
- Lou feels an elevator for the IGC is not a prudent financial choice, but that an alternative to current storage options needs to be worked on. David suggested an outbuilding. Sharon added it might be best located on the west side of the existing IGC. SHPO’s involvement in design and placement was discussed. Shirley summarized by saying whatever our course, we need a long-term solution.
- David said FoSA is renewing its contract with the Shutter Creek Corrections program and asked for Board direction on the agreed daily amount. The Board directed him to fill in \$458 as the amount.
- Rose Sunday: Betty said it was “quiet”, taking in \$42.10 in donations with only a few visitors but a good crew!
- OCMF: planning ahead for the marimba band concert-volunteers were lined up for parking lot duty and ice-cream sundaes serving in the Garden House. FoSA is underwriting this presentation.
- September, 2010: the south dining room doors are scheduled to be replaced with windows like the kitchen.

NEW BUSINESS: Vee showed samples of commemorative coins, suggesting a minting for the 25th anniversary of FoSA. She will research cost and report back.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Shirley and David are being honored for “lifetime achievement” which will be presented during North Bend’s July Jubilee.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: No meeting in August, so the next meeting will be the annual meeting on September 14 at the Garden House at Shore Acres. Raspberry sundaes will be featured. Timm Slater will be the next FoSA President.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted, Kathi Netter, Secretary



**A POWERFUL
PARTNERSHIP
SINCE 1986**



Oregon Coast Music Festival Garden Concert – July 24, 2010

A FOGGY AND COOL AFTERNOON, BUT MANY CONCERT GOERS!



DAVID BRIDGHAM HELPS WITH PARKING.



KUKUVA MARIMBA BAND ATTRACTS BIG CROWD.



KATHY AND RON METZGER AND MARK STEPHENS HELP BETTY KENNEDY AT THE OCMF MERCHANDISE TABLE. NANCY PRICE IN THE BACKGROUND.



KUKUVA MARIMBA BAND – PERFECT FOR DANCING!



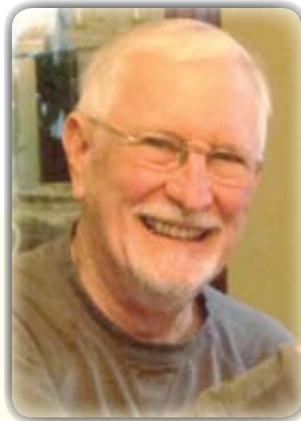
SUNDAES AND LEMONADE EVERY JULY AT THE OREGON COAST MUSIC FESTIVAL GARDEN CONCERT. SERVERS FOR 2010 (L-R) KATHI NETTER, BETTY KENNEDY, CHARLES SERLIS, HELEN THOMPSON, AND MIKE TAYLOR

Notes from David and Shirley Bridgham – September 2020

IF YOU HAVE VIEWED THE OTHER ARCHIVAL ALBUMS THAT WE BEGAN IN 2014, YOU KNOW ALBUMS FROM #15 ON HAVE BEEN COMPLETED DURING AN UNPRECEDENTED YEAR IN THE LIFE OF FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES, INC AND SHORE ACRES STATE PARK DUE TO A WORLD WIDE CORONAVIRUS-19 PANDEMIC. BELOW ARE 2 ARTICLES FROM OUR ANNUAL SUMMER JOURNAL OF 2020. BECAUSE OF THE PANDEMIC, WE AND OUR FRIENDS HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THE PROTOCOLS OF SOCIAL DISTANCING, MASK WEARING, HAND WASHING AND AVOIDING CROWDS. IN OTHER WORDS, WE HAVE BEEN PRETTY MUCH ISOLATED AT HOME.

SO . . . I'VE HAD TIME TO CATCH UP ON OUR ALBUMS PROJECT AND PLANNING TO COMPLETE ALL OF THEM.

THIS ALBUM #23 COVERS THE FRIENDS' YEAR THAT BEGAN ON 2009-09-01 AND ENDS ON 2010-08-31.



As I write this on June 9, 2020, our three parks - Sunset Bay, Shore Acres and Cape Arago - are open. Coos County and its surrounding counties have been doing relatively well in the Covid-19 Coronavirus Pandemic with low infection rates.

Unfortunately that doesn't give Holiday Lights 2020 a pass.

First and foremost, Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. in cooperation with Shore Acres State Park is focused on the health and safety of our visitors, volunteers and park staff.

- Traditionally, we see 50 - 60 thousand visitors during the 30+ nights with peak nights near 3,000 a night.

- Our visitors come from all over the country and even some distant nations.
- Garden House staffing with 60 host teams would be a daunting challenge for many of our volunteers to greet and serve refreshments that visitors expect and deserve.
- The event without the Garden House is not an option. It is one of the primary draws and is essential to the experience.
- With all this said, the *elephant in the room* is that for those not from Oregon, you might not be aware of the State Executive Order that reopens the state to a more "normal" commerce and public services. We are currently entering the second of three phases that brings in previously non-essential services - with public distancing and adequate monitoring and hygiene. Like many large festivals, Holiday Lights at Shore Acres falls into the third phase with high numbers of visitors and many, if not most, from outside of the area.
- Bottom line: we need a broadly available vaccine or treatment for Covid-19 before we can qualify to greet visitors who have adopted this magical experience as their holiday tradition.
- The gardens have many tight spaces outside with narrow paths around the pond, and the entrance near the undersea garden, where public distancing would not be possible.
- The Garden House and Information & Gift Center were not built for crowds needing the kind of monitoring that would challenge the joyful holiday spirit our visitors enjoy.

Where to begin . . . When we finished putting the lights away in January, I tackled the Holiday Lights Stats report. It's so amazing to see the total numbers and the places people come from. Next, it was time to do the 2020 Holiday Lights plan. Got it done, got the tags that we use to help our lights stringers done and updated the host team list. David replaced lights on several sculptures and he and Ray Daniels talked about a new sculpture for 2020. We were excited. New carpet for the Garden House had been approved and Robynn and Mike Reed were looking forward to decorating the house again. The Friends' annual flower day events, State Parks Day, the summer music festival garden concert, and a new Girl Scout event were set. Memberships were being tabulated and we were set for another banner year as Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.



Then came March and all the terrible news about Covid-19. Our favorite parks were closed. Our Information & Gift Center was closed until further notice. We cancelled all of our upcoming flower day events and the music festival concert. But, worst of all, we had to cancel the 2020 Holiday Lights at Shore Acres. It was a very disappointing decision, but absolutely necessary, as you can see in David's article.

On May 14th, Sunset Bay, Shore Acres and Cape Arago opened for day-use, but we did not open the Information & Gift Center since our visitors to the park come from everywhere and most of our volunteers are over 60. Social distancing is nearly impossible in the IGC and Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. will not put anyone at risk.

Many people are working 24/7 to come up with a treatment or vaccine and we hope they will be successful as soon as possible.

In the meantime, David and I encourage you to get outside and enjoy the coastal fresh air and visit our beautiful parks that we are so fortunate to have.

David and I are optimists. We are looking forward to a better than ever Holiday Lights at Shore Acres in 2021.

Take care . . . and please stay safe.

Shirley Bridgham

Co-chair, Holiday Lights since 1987

We hope to see you and your families in 2021, brighter than ever!

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc.

Continued in Album 24:

Annual Year - September 1, 2010 - August 31, 2011

Album 23 - Completed September 18, 2020

Book and PDF Versions

***Note: Album Completed During the
Coronavirus-19 Pandemic of 2020***

CONTENT SOURCES - FOSA MINUTES, PHOTOS,
PUBLICITY CLIPPINGS, FOSA JOURNALS

More Information:

www.shoreacres.net – Journal/Newsletters