



www.shoreacres.net

Annual Journal
Autumn 2021

Friends of Shore Acres

December 4, 2021



Photo by Luis Velasquez

*Due to the Covid-19
Coronavirus Crisis,
Holiday Lights has to wait
another year. We are so
disappointed but we hope to
be back in 2022!*

*Friends'
35th Birthday
Dec. 4, 2021*

Aerial Photo by Memo Jasso

FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES, INC.
an all-volunteer organization

Area Code 541

President - Kathi Netter 269-7187
President-Elect - Dora Daniels 759-2973
Secretary - David Bridgham 756-5401
Treasurer - Barb Taylor 756-5443
Past President - Dennis Netter 269-7187

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Lou Kolkhorst 266-8300
Robynn Reed 404-6223
Pam Stevens 572-0739
Dell Willis 808-0515
Roberta Willis 808-0515

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IGC Volunteers Coordinator
Pam Stevens 572-0739
Membership Chair
Shirley Bridgham 269-7187
Historian and Archivist
Shirley Bridgham 756-5401

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Lee Ricci 888-3778
Park Specialist, Sunset Bay Management Unit
Janet Sobczak 888-3778
Park Ranger II
Rider Frey 888-3732
Park Ranger I
Jess Hayward 888-3732

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

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Robynn Reed 404-6223
Host Volunteers
Shirley Bridgham 756-5401
Tree Decorators
Dawn Buxton 888-5214
Cider Spice
Kathi and Dennis Netter 269-7187
Entertainment
Kathi and Dennis Netter 269-7187
Holiday Buttons
Dell and Roberta Willis 756-1827

JOURNAL

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Shirley Bridgham
Photographers This Edition
David and Shirley Bridgham
Rider Frey
Jess Hayward
Lee Ricci
Luis Velasquez



Printer/Publisher
Wegferds' Printing & Publishing
North Bend, Oregon 97459



Our Mission . . .

"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



FROM THE EDITOR . . .

By Shirley Bridgham



Who would have thought we would have to cancel the Holiday Lights for a second season. When the vaccine became available we thought – so much for thinking – that having the event would work for 2021. We even sent out our Lights Pledge letters and got almost immediate responses (see the list below).

We did the Holiday Lights brochure, scheduled the host teams, Dell and Roberta made buttons and we finally opened the Information & Gift Center in July. Volunteers got vaccinated and visitors were asked to wear masks as an extra precaution. When the Covid-19 Delta variant hit, followed by the Omicron variant, our plans went out the window!

This Journal is late, but we hope to be on schedule this coming summer.

Holiday Lights 2022 is an important goal. Our cooperative mission with the Sunset Bay Management Unit and Shore Acres in particular, continues with the possibility of having a volunteer garden maintenance coordinator. Shore Acres State Park needs the Friends help more than ever.

Friends of Shore Acres Inc. turned 35 on Dec. 4, 2021 and this "late" issue of the Journal contains a lot of historical information as well as updated news from OPRD and Shore Acres Gardens. Watch for more volunteer opportunities in 2022 and the coming years. We truly appreciate all of our members and supporters. Our 2022 Spring and Summer events are tentatively scheduled and will be announced on our website and Facebook pages.

Take care . . . and please stay safe. ■

THANKS, LIGHTS PLEDGE SUPPORTERS 2021-2022!

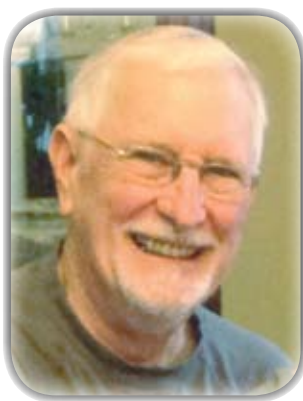
6,667* Pam Howard
3,334* Martha Butler * Barbara K. Mills
3,013* First Interstate Bank
2,334* Captain John's Motel - Paul Tang
2,000* Dennis and Jo Lynne Roberts
1,400* Seaboard Properties * J. W. White Painting-Jay and Melody White
1,125* Coos Bay Fire Department
814* Tom's Lock & Key - Steve Clark & Brooser Clark
720* Cedar Electric & Construction
700* Art Connection * Jim and Archi Davenport
Gold Coast Truck Repair - Butch and Jacque Shields
Betsy Groben * Honda World * North Point Real Estate
Jim and Diane Verger * Pauline Vierra In Memory of Ron Vierra
Donald and Priscilla Zobel
400* Charleston Harbor Inn - In Memory of John A. Castro
350* Shoji Planning, LLC
334* Nancy Robinson



NOTE: This Journal and all past Newsletters and Journals are posted on our website.

Information & Gift Center - 541-888-2472 • 1-866-888-6100 •
Shore Acres State Park - 541-888-3732
Sunset Bay State Park - 541-888-3778 • www.shoreacres.net

Changes and Volunteer Opportunities – By David Bridgham



Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. enters a new era as we celebrate 35 years of providing educational, interpretive and physical development programs with the Sunset Bay Management Unit.

As we continue to offer the Holiday Lights at Shore Acres, garden information and Shore Acres treasures in the Gift and Information center, we will adapt to the pressing issues facing the

Sunset Bay Management Unit and Shore Acres in particular. The closure of the Shutter Creek Department of Corrections Facility has created a deficit of literally hundreds of hours of garden related work in and around the gardens. Our talented and dedicated staff do their best, along with volunteer park hosts and community groups like Boy Scouts and others that do community service projects.

One thing we all share is our love for Shore Acres. The Holiday Lights, our flower day events, a garden concert, or just a peaceful stroll on the garden paths are all memorable events. I think most of us would like to help in some fashion to improve the gardens and share the joy of Shore Acres with our visitors.

Park staff has shared a list of general seasonal activities in which volunteers could help. For example: mowing lawns, spring planting, pond cleaning and lily repotting, summertime deadheading of roses and dahlias, weed pulling and painting/staining benches and buildings.

Personally, I will signup for pond cleaning. Park staff drains the pond in April for its annual cleaning (*once known as brush and flush when BLM volunteers helped*). Lily pots are refreshed, and up to 300 gold fish are introduced to help control algae. As Co-Chair of the Holiday Lights, I get in the pond each season to help set up the leaping frog display and the Koi. Always fun!

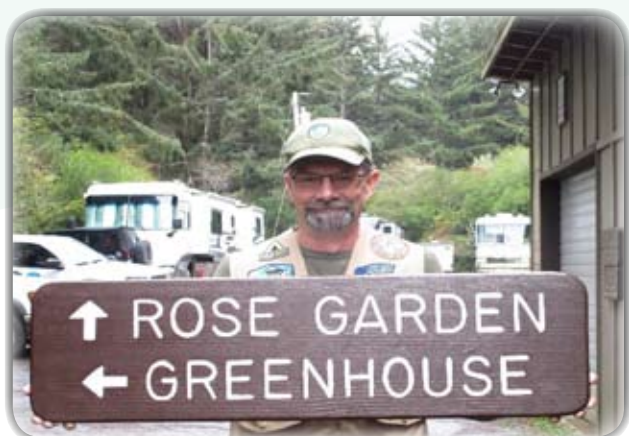


POND CLEANING IN 1996

There is a season and a time for routine tasks, just like at home. Watch for announcements on our website and Facebook as to when and how you can help. Please consider joining us. It will be fun and I think you'll gain a lot of pride in Shore Acres State Park and its beautiful gardens. ■



SETTING UP THE LEAPING FROG DISPLAY IN 2019



WOOD SIGN REBUILT BY VOLUNTEER PATRICK MICHAUD



HINO CRIMSON AZALEAS WILL BLOOM AGAIN NEXT SPRING.

— **Memberships Matter** — YOUR MAILING LABEL HAS A CODE THAT INDICATES YOUR "MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY"/"YEAR" OR "GIFT"

Friends of Shore Acres Membership runs from Jan. 1 THRU Dec. 31. Membership Renewal Letters were mailed in December, 2021.

Thanks!

PLEASE NOTE: This page does not reflect Membership Renewals received after Dec. 10, 2021.

The lists will be updated in the 2022 Annual Summer Journal.

Thanks!

LIFE (\$500)

David and Shirley Bridgham, North Bend
Bruce's Street Rods-

Bruce and Kittie Lou English, Bandon
Don and Margaret Burdg, Aurora, CO
Barbara Cribb, Coos Bay
Joe and Allene DaPRON, Bellevue, WA
Johanna and Bob Dillard, North Bend
Ann Evanow, Westlake, OR
Rich and Jody Hamel, Lake City, CO
Merry Anne Hamlin, Medford
Hargens Construction Co.-
Gary and Rody Hargens, Coos Bay



Dick and Vicky Henschel, Concord, CA
Carolyn M. Kindrick, Portland
(In Memory of Lily Busick)
MJ Koreiva, Coos Bay
Alice and Jim Layport, Coos Bay
Dr. Michael and Carol Lucas, Concord, CA
Don Lynam, Bandon
Diane Mathis, Travelers RST, SC
Christine M. Moffitt, Coos Bay
Sue and Jack Mueller, Bandon
Dennis and Kathi Netter, Coos Bay

Mike and Robynn Reed, North Bend
Wanda Pike Rees, S. Pasadena, CA
Dale Sause, North Bend
Jim L. Scavera, North Bend
Seaboard Properties, Trina Mattoon, Coos Bay
Carol Jean Shiningier, Eugene
Liz Tarrant, Elgin, OR
Barbara L. Taylor and Steven Fowler, North Bend
Jim and Diane Verger, North Bend
Dick and Judy Wagner, North Bend
Dell and Roberta Willis, North Bend

SUSTAINING (\$250) - SU/21

Kent and Jill Hoddick, Portland • JW White Painting, Jay and Melody White Coos Bay



*SU/22
Lynn and Reubin Menashian, North Bend*

BENEFACTOR (\$100) - BE/21

Curtis and Eileen Adams, Coos Bay
John and Barbara Anderson, Coos Bay
Melanie Bloom, Coos Bay
George and Judy Buckingham, Chiloquin, OR
Mike and Lois Burk, Portland, OR
Dawn Buxton, Coos Bay
Ray and Dora Daniels, North Bend
Betsy Groben, Coos Bay
Jerry and Shirley Champagne-Harris, North Bend



Dale and Susan Karstetter, North Bend
Lynn Larsen, Portland, OR
Chuck and Karin Lowrie, Pine Grove, CA
Bob Macy, Coos Bay
Ron and Kathy Metzger, North Bend
Anne Radford, The Dalles
Timm and Bob Etta Slater, North Bend
David and Brenda Slawson, Medford
Ed and Judy Swenson, Bandon

Michael and Barbara Taylor, North Bend
Ted and Carolyn Terry, Coos Bay
Ellen Thompson, North Bend
Bill and Gail Whiteman, McMinnville

*BE/22
Jerry and Valerie Boggs, Scottsburg
William Foster, Medford
Marty Obrien-Sheldon, Coos Bay
Mark and Lori Stern, Springfield*

SPONSOR (\$50) - SP/21

Hank W. Beuttel, Bandon
Susan T and Robert J Coraor, Schnecksville, PA
Rod and Cathy Danielson, Coos Bay
Jim and Archi Davenport, Coos Bay
Shirley Eidswick, Medford
Leslie Gabel, North Bend
Joan Glasgow, Coos Bay

Bill and Gini-Thatcher Hengen
Chuck and Mary Howard, Coos Bay
Monita Johnson, North Bend
Judy Kaplan, Brookings
Kay Kerriden, North Bend
Paul and Noreen Lesage, Lake Oswego



Mary Paczesniak, Coos Bay
Donna Rabin and Steve Richardson, Coos Bay
Lyn Topits, Coos Bay
Karen McCarthy Walters, Medford
Ken and Anna Woodard, Portland

*SP/22
David Goldstein, Coos Bay*

PATRON (\$25) - PA/21

Jay Anderson, North Bend
Bud and Barbara Baumgartner, Sweet Home
Anne Bellomy, Coos Bay
Shary and John Brams, Portland
Lori Bunyard, Coos Bay
Peter and Karen Crosby, North Bend
Helen Doving, Coos Bay
Cheryl Drumheller, North Bend



Becky Duke, Coos Bay
Donna Flammang, Coos Bay
Jerry and Joady Gorelick, Coos Bay
Mike and Penny Kielman, Eagle Point
Lou Kolkhorst, Coos Bay
Bill and Sharon Lemoine, North Bend
Ida McBride, Lake Villa, IL
Lynda Mueller, Silverton, OR

Mike Perkins and Carol Ventgen, North Bend
Paul Poresky, Coos Bay
Bill Russell, Bandon
Linda and Peter Ryer, Seattle, WA
Russell Shaddix, Arcata, CA
Pauline Vierra, Reedsport
John Weibel, Staten Island, NY

*PA/22
Allen and Janet Thiessen, Aurora OR*

FAMILY (\$15) - FA/21

Jerry H. Chadwick, Coos Bay
Paul and Annie Comfort, Coos Bay
Jacqueline Cruse, Tenmile, OR
Kim Cooper Findling, Bend
Alice (Bridgham) Freeman, Fairfield, CA
Karen Hensler, North Bend
Constance and John Huntsman, Coos Bay
Carla Johnson, Coos Bay

Betty Kennedy and Deb Wigant, Coos Bay
Ray and Lori Lee, Coos Bay
Rick and Ellie Martial, Coos Bay
Janet McIntire, Rockaway Beach, OR
Stephen and Lori Metschan, Black Diamond, WA
Barbara and Bernie Metzger, North Bend
H.M. and Mary Rines, Yoncalla
Dennis and Jo Lynne Roberts, Vancouver, WA



Richard and Char Schmidt, Coquille
Arthur Schuldt, North Bend
Pamela Stevens, Myrtle Point
Irene Sund, North Bend
Coco Sutton and Mike Hoyt, North Bend

*FA/22
Al and Terri Eslinger, North Bend
Kathryn Wright, Coos Bay*

INDIVIDUAL (\$10) - IN/21

Clara Capron, Bellingham, WA
Bonnie Fritz, Newberg, OR
Marilyn Hammond, Coos Bay
Kathleen Hornstuen, Coos Bay
Patricia Johnson, Coos Bay



Betty Mault, Coos Bay
D.K. Rigsby, Coos Bay
Virginia Rondel, Cottage Grove
Alice Schmidt, Coquille

Thanks!

*IN/22
Nancy Santos, Coos Bay*

PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT-ELECT MESSAGES

FRIENDS ANNUAL YEAR - SEPT. 1, 2021 - AUG. 31, 2022



KEEPING THE GAVEL FOR 1 MORE YEAR

By Kathi Netter, President, 2019-22



Two winter seasons without Holiday Lights! Although I can remember the years before Holiday Lights brightened the usual dark, damp winter evenings at Shore Acres, I have become comfortably addicted to the newer tradition of the creatively themed light displays throughout the gardens and the aroma of spiced warm cider and cookies in the Garden House. It has been a time that we all can share and enjoy. The outpouring

of community effort to make it happen each year is testimony to the spirit of the season.

But Holiday Lights is not all that the Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. is about. Our Mission Statement stresses our "participation in interpretive, educational and physical development programs with the Sunset Bay State Park Management Unit."

LOOKING FORWARD TO MY TURN IN 2022

By Dora Daniels, President-Elect 2022-23



The natural beauty of our beautiful Oregon Coast is always so much more dramatic during the months of November through December, so enhanced by the festive Holiday Lights at Shore Acres State Park. It is with heavy hearts we will not be displaying the spectacular scenes again this year. It is with an abundance of caution Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. in cooperation with Shore Acres State Park has determined it is

not safe for the Friends of Shore Acres to host this event so we will again cancel our annual event for 2021.

We are well aware of the feelings of frustration by so many who make their visit to view the holiday lights an annual family affair that often is the kick off to their holiday activities. We feel the same and are hopeful we can safely open in 2022! Another big loss for our community is the closure of the Shutter Creek Department of Corrections (DOC) facility. The DOC crews were a huge part of the setting up and disassembling the structures for the event. We always need local volunteers to do the work but in the future will need even more with the loss of the DOC crews.

Of course, Shore Acres State Park is not just about the Holiday Lights. It has the year around gardens that can be enjoyed every day of the year. Depending on the season, you may see something different on each visit. There are hiking

The effects of the COVID pandemic have been widespread and our beloved park has suffered as well, from reduced funding and staffing to fewer volunteer resources to help maintain its beauty and health. With this in mind, the Friends Board of Directors working together with the park staff, are considering ways to diversify and enhance volunteer opportunities throughout the year.

Volunteer work in the Information and Gift Shop, as well as many generous supporters has provided substantial funding for projects throughout the park, but "hands-on" work would be especially appreciated during these times. I hope our many faithful members and supporters will watch for volunteer activities to participate in as we develop them.

We will continue to plan for the next Holiday Lights season, but in the meantime, there are meaningful ways to continue contributing to the Holiday Spirit at Shore Acres. We'll see you there! ■

Message on our Home Page at
www.shoreacres.net - Posted Mid-Oct.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS AT SHORE ACRES 2021 CANCELED – With deep disappointment and regret, Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. and the Sunset Bay Management Unit of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) announce that the 34th Holiday Lights at Shore Acres 2021 is canceled due to the uncertainty of the COVID-19 Pandemic and its potential risk to the health and safety of volunteers, visitors, and park staff. Our traditional 50-60 thousand visitors represent local, state, national and international communities, increasing the potential for spreading COVID-19 among our most vulnerable populations, many of whom volunteer and host this event. ■



trails and walking paths to enjoy as well as the beautiful ocean and Observation Building. The sound of the roaring ocean never fails to be amazing. We are hoping to again host Dahlia Day in September, as well as Rhododendron Sunday on Mother's Day in May, State Parks Day in June and Rose Sunday on Fathers' Day in June.

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. is an organization dedicated to assisting and supporting our own local Shore Acres State Park. It was founded on December 4, 1986 and continues today. We are a 501c3 corporation with a board of directors composed of 13 volunteers from our local communities. We love our park and take our positions very seriously.

I am looking forward to assuming the position of FoSA President in September, 2022. As always, David and Shirley Bridgman have set us on a course of success with their vision and development of this organization and I hope to serve and represent the mission at their level of professional volunteerism.

I wish you good health and happiness and hope that you will have many opportunities to visit Shore Acres State Park to enjoy the many wonders and beauty the park has to share with our community. ■

From Shoreacres to Shore Acres State Park . . .

Shore Acres History

AT ITS ZENITH, L. J. SIMPSON'S SHOREACRES ESTATE STRETCHED FROM SUNSET BAY TO CAPE ARAGO.

1905 - Louis bought the property from Jake Evans for \$4,000.

1907 - Louis began building his first mansion on the bluff (site of the present Observation Building) as a Christmas present for his wife Cassie. He began landscaping the formal gardens that would include exotic plants from all over the world and planted Monterey Cypress at the entrance to the gardens. He built a carriage house/barn complex at the north end of the property and a gardener's cottage (the only structure still standing) near the formal gardens. At the south end, L. J. built a dairy farm complex where he raised prize-winning Holsteins.

1914 - Enlarged the mansion to include a Roman Bath with a 26'x52' swimming pool that used both fresh and salt water. Built rose pergolas and greenhouse. Reconstruction of the south end of the formal gardens included a Japanese garden and 100' pond. Also built Sunset Bay Inn which was destroyed by a fierce storm in 1939.

1921, April - Cassie Simpson died after a long illness.

1921- July - The mansion burned to the ground.

1927 - Louis and his second wife Lela moved into a second mansion that stretched 224' along the bluff.

1932 - Louis and Lela gave the Cape Arago portion of the estate to the state of Oregon.

1942 - The U.S. Army closed the road at Sunset Bay and the Simpsons moved to a home in nearby Barview.

1942, December - The Simpsons sold the remainder of the estate for \$29,000 to Oregon for the development of a public park.

World War II Years - The U. S. Army occupied the site and the mansion became a barracks and officers club.

1948, December - Because the second mansion needed too many repairs it was razed.

1949, January - Louis J. Simpson died at his home in Barview. He is buried in the Simpson family mausoleum at Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland, California.

1974-75 - Oregon State Parks launched a program to rehabilitate Shore Acres. Landscape architect Joseph Paiva prepared a design similar to but slightly more formal than the original garden. The new design included sloping the gardens to improve drainage. A rededication ceremony was held Sept. 18, 1975.

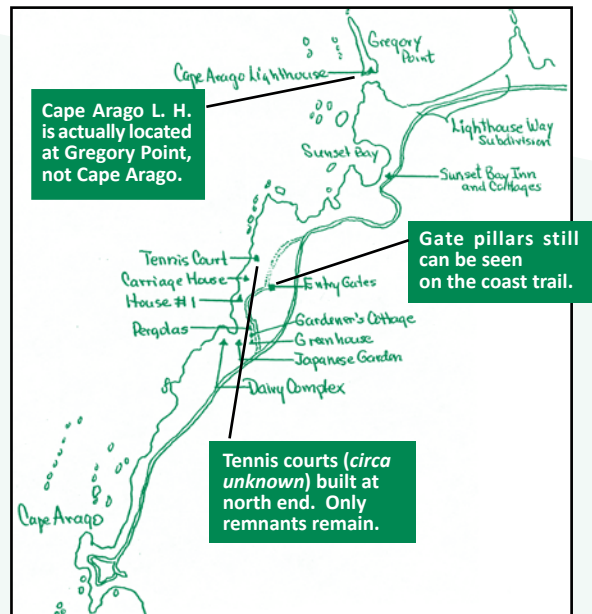
1977 - All America Rose Selections Display Garden established.

MAP FROM "THE FIRST SIMPSON HOUSE, 1907-1921: SHORE ACRES STATE PARK," REPORT BY STEPHEN DOW BECKHAM FOR FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES, INC.-1997



Colorized Version 2015

SIMPSON'S FIRST MANSION ON THE BLUFF, CIRCA 1910



Colorized Version 2015

Garden House (former Gardener's Cottage) - early 1900s - Note the half-moon shape of the first pond which Simpson would modify to present shape, circa 1914



SHORE ACRES GARDENS 1975

. . . And Friends of Shore Acres Inc.

Friends' and Park's Cooperative Milestones

INFORMATION AND GIFT CENTER AND ENTRANCE – 1988 - Garden cart; 1989 GAIC 8'x8'; 1992 IGC 24'x24'; 2003 IGC 32'x48' and Gazebo/Columns; 2012 Storage building; Trex decks; Interpretive panel; 2014 New water heater and HVAC system; 2017 Building Sign - *Information & Gift Center*

ELECTRICAL – 1988 Underground wiring in formal garden and first parking lot lights; 1991 Underground wiring in pond area; 1999 Underground wiring of east gardens

GARDEN HOUSE – 1993 New wiring, lights, paint; 1998 New carpet; 1999 Kitchen remodel; 2000 New foundation and ceilings; 2006 New interior doors; 2008 restoration upstairs front windows; 2009 restoration upstairs small windows; House painted inside and out; 2011 restoration dining room windows; 2012 New Trex back porch deck; 2013 New Trex front porch and steps; New front bedroom windows; 2017 House painted inside and out.

STORAGE BUILDINGS – 1993 Friends' storage building 24'x24'; 2002 Storage building doubled in size; 2009 Second storage building for Friends and Park

MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN – 1996 Memorial Fountain and Display built; 2005 Memorial Fountain Display redone; 2006 Gifts and Memorials Display created; 2010 Memorial Fountain renovated; 2019 Gifts and Memorials Plaques replaced

ROSE PERGOLA – 1999 New rose pergola; 2013 Replaced wood with new cedar

PAVILION – 2001 Pavilion built; 2015 Replaced artificial turf

SIMPSON REEF OVERLOOK – 2003 New parking lot, viewing platform and displays

OBSERVATION BUILDING – 2005 Wiring and path lights; 2006 Paver path; 2012 New Interpretive panels; 2015 New doors; 2016 New sign

POND – 2005 Resurfaced base

GARDEN BENCHES – 2015 New redwood benches

PARKING LOTS – 1995 Doubled parking and added parking lot lights; 2000 50-space parking lot East

WALKWAYS AND ROADS – 2010 Paver paths near Garden House and Pavilion; 2013 Paver path from Garden House to parking lot; 2014 New walk east of pond; 2015 New walk to South Rose Garden; 2017 New "Welcome to Shore Acres" sign at main entrance; 2018 New walk in Greenhouse yard; Permanent reflectors on Cape Arago Hwy from Sunset Bay to Shore Acres

. . . ALWAYS . . .

WHATEVER THE FRIENDS CAN DO FOR THE PARK

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Thanksgiving thru New Year's Eve

A community tradition began in 1987 when the Friends of Shore Acres decided to string a few lights to help celebrate the holidays. That first season, 6,000 miniature lights, one large Christmas tree, and the decorated and open Garden House drew 9,000 visitors.

Now, at least 325,000 LED lights, 20 large landscape lights, dozens of small landscape lights, 26 large holiday trees, dozens of lighted sculptures, the festive open house, and entertainment in the Pavilion attract more than 50,000 visitors each season.



"Breathtaking"
Alberta, Canada

"Absolutely Unique!"
Florence, OR

"So Beautiful!"
New York, NY

*"An Oregon
Masterpiece"*
Portland, OR

Numbers vary with the weather and visitors come from almost every state and many different countries. They enjoy hot cider, coffee, punch, and cookies.

Planning for the season begins in January with inventory, completing the lighting plan and ordering replacement lights.

During spring and summer, sculptures are created and refurbished and the new lights are prepared for the setup of the new season.

About the middle of October, sculpture displays are set up and lights stringers, tree decorators and house decorators work for about 6 weeks to complete the display by Thanksgiving. The total number of volunteers for the event is about 1,500, which also includes button makers, spice makers, lights checkers, house cleaners, host teams, entertainers and Information and Gift Center volunteers.

Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. with the support of businesses and individuals pay for the lights, the decorations, and all display expenses. Shore Acres State Park and the Friends pay the light bill.

Also contributing to the success of the Friends and the Holiday Lights are park staff, our members, our Information and Gift Center and *visitors like you.* ■

Volunteers Welcome

Co-chair - Shirley & David Bridgman
541-756-5401 or bridgman@puerto.com



FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES INFORMATION & GIFT CENTER (IGC)



541-888-2472

By Lou Kolkhorst, Volunteer Store Manager

1-866-888-6100



The Friends of Shore Acres Information and Gift Center, like the beautiful plants at Shore Acres Botanical Gardens, continues to grow and blossom each year. All profits are used within the gardens to help Oregon Parks and Recreation Department continue the great job they do maintaining them.

All the workers in the IGC are volunteers, and have been from the first shopping cart, to the previous IGC building, to our current building. The growth has not stopped. The building has either shrunk, or we are just running out of room. So we have started the process of making more room. With the blessing of our park management, we are beginning a design to enclose the current open deck to make shopping easier for you. We hope to make it our garden decoration room, and also a covered area for you to view the Gardens even in inclement weather.

The current building was built in 2003 and was done with Lottery income and the Friends of Shore Acres money, no tax dollars. The expansion will be by the Friends of Shore Acres. This is made possible by your support and the fantastic help of our local volunteers and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department's hosts who travel from many states to help. For more information about that, please read the enclosed article by Pam Warner Stevens, our Local IGC Volunteers Coordinator.

One of the fun things about volunteering in the IGC, is listening to the great comments by visitors and meeting people from all over the world. All of us have a great time showing off our park, answering questions about our area and just visiting with the guests.

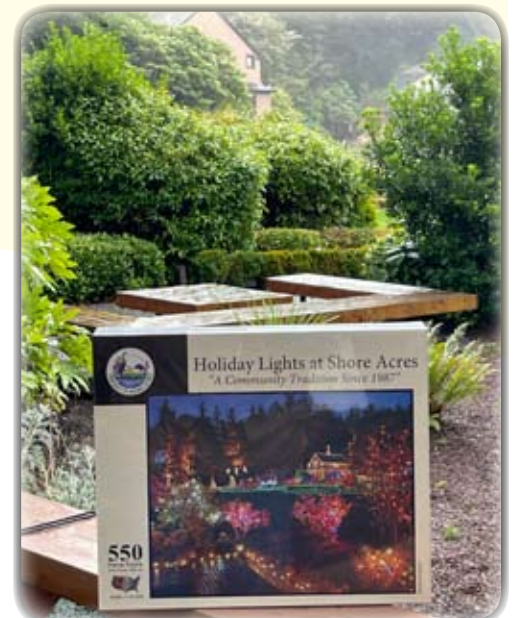
We are always working with various vendors, traveling to gift shows and using local manufactures to provide a wide variety of items for your shopping convenience. We have a great selection of books covering our area, local history and things to do. We have books covering cooking, gardening, hiking, mushrooming, rock collecting, boating and many other areas. We have seeds and garden decorations to help you with your yard. We have experiments, games and books for the younger family members. We have a Penny Smasher with 4 designs. We have backpacks, clothes and caps. The list goes on.

Please come out and visit the shop, meet our volunteers, and oh yes, feel free to shop. ■

FRIENDS IGC VOLUNTEERS - 2021 - Lorie Bunyard, Barbara Cribb, Lynn Danner, Norma Davis, Barbara Dodge, Sharon Frank, Marilyn Hammond, Patricia Johnson, Kris Kain, Betty Kennedy, Dorothy McCurdy, Clay Morrow, Linda Pearson, David Rigsby, Pamela Stevens, Ellen Thompson, Debbie Wigant, Patti Worthen and Donna Flammang.

Thanks!

IGC AND PARK MAINTENANCE HOSTS 2020-2021 - Gale and Steve Andersen, Dave and Dee Austin, Judy Cole and Dan Schneider, Susan and Wayne Johnson, Gary Meineken and Julie Schwarze, John and Pam Ragan, Dennis and Jo Lynne Roberts, Gypsy Rose, Jeff and Sue Sauter, Gina Simone and Thom Schneidt, Gary and Mary Kay Van Hooser, Lance and Pam Waage, Bob and Camille McCullough, Larry and Rayna Cameron, Tom and Carolyn Beard, Ian Savage, Patrick Michaud, Jude and Michael Chastain, Margaret Evans, Krystal Noel and Pete Jelen, Roger and Tamyra Wilson.





WORKING AS A VOLUNTEER AT THE IGC

By Pam Stevens, Local IGC Volunteers Coordinator



The IGC is a working partnership between the Sunset Bay Management Unit and Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. (FoSA). The store is managed by FoSA and uses OPRD volunteers as well as volunteers from the local area. Net proceeds from IGC sales go directly back into the park for interpretation, projects, supplies and park enhancement. FoSA began its early endeavors with garden cart sales in the early 80's. The IGC has grown tremendously since the early cart days, and today we feature a beautiful information and gift center that is one of the finest on the Oregon Coast.

The Center features many Shore Acres branded gift items for visitors to take back home as well as a unique variety of beautiful gifts. Each item is carefully selected by our store manager Lou Kolkhorst including books, postcards, jewelry, blankets, pillows, puzzles, wind chimes, wind spinners, night lights, clothing, a children's section of toys and books and many other items too numerous to list.

Many of our local volunteers have worked at the IGC for years and enjoy their time sharing information with visitors and earning funding for our cherished Shore Acres State Park and Sunset Bay Management Unit. We are always looking for new local people to fill out our volunteer roster at the store. All store training is provided by FoSA volunteers. Local volunteers are asked commit to volunteering once per month or more if needed. There are always two volunteers working during each shift that will vary according to the time of year. Volunteer duties include opening and/or closing of the Information and Gift Center, turning light displays and store lights on or off, and using a computerized cash register to complete all sales. It is important to become familiar with store merchandise so you can restock sold items and be able to promote the items we sell. Light store cleanup including sweeping, vacuuming, dusting and trash removal are required to keep the store tidy and presentable. Volunteers should also be familiar with the local area and history of Shore Acres to be able to answer visitor questions.

Other requirements include an annual OPRD background check, proof of Current Covid 19 vaccine and attending a yearly training refresher at the store. Currently, for safety reasons, wearing a mask is required of volunteers during shift as well as customers entering the store.



FRIENDS OF SHORE ACRES FACEBOOK

We started our page in 2011 and have now grown to over 4,350 followers. Our page is used to keep visitors informed of what is happening at Shore Acres State Park. We like to share lovely views of what is blooming in the gardens, park improvements and annual events as well as what is happening at the Shore Acres Information and Gift Center.

Follow us on Facebook under Friends of Shore Acres to stay up to date on the latest news! Look for official Friends of Shore Acres logo!



Volunteering at Shore Acres Information and Gift Center is a wonderful experience where you get to visit people from all over the world and work in one of Oregon's most beautiful state parks. Your enthusiasm and volunteer work help us make Shore Acres a premier spot to visit on the Oregon Coast.

If you are interested in finding out more about volunteering at the Shore Acres Information and Gift Center please contact me @ 541-551-1290 or email plwarnerstevens@gmail.com ■

SUNSET BAY MANAGEMENT UNIT CHANGES



NEW PARK MANAGER AT SUNSET BAY MANAGEMENT UNIT (SBMU)

Lee Ricci is the Park Manager for the Sunset Bay SBMU. Lee worked with the National Park Service at Cedar Breaks National Monument. The Southern Utah area is home to some of the oldest trees, darkest skies, and reddest rocks in the country. Lee then had the opportunity to move to the Nebraska sandhills and become the Superintendent of Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area, the largest reservoir in Nebraska. Lee started working with OPRD mid-September and already loves the South Coast. ■

RIDER FREY, RANGER 2, MOVES FROM SUNSET BAY TO SHORE ACRES



Ranger Frey staining the table he built to collect host packages/mail at the SBMU office. All lumber cut/ripped/planned from the large Monterey Cypress which fell at the Shore Acres garden entrance in 2016.

Rider Frey received his degree from Kansas State University in Park Management and Conservation specializing in Interpreting Nature. He moved from his home state of Kansas to Coos County in 2010, where he worked at a retreat center that specializes in outdoor education. In 2016 he started as a Ranger Assistant (RA) with the Sunset Bay Management Unit (SBMU). During his time as an RA and Ranger 1 he worked at both Sunset Bay and Shore Acres. Rider has been one of the Ranger 2s at the SBMU since 2018 and in 2020 due to his extensive knowledge of plant care and gardening was moved to Shore Acres. He currently fills the role of head interpretive ranger, wastewater operator in training, lead hazard tree evaluator, and is a commissioned officer for OPRD. In his free time, he enjoys mushroom hunting, hiking, and caring for his garden which boasts vegetables from around the world. ■

GREENHOUSE GETS LIVING WALL/ HANGING GARDEN

By Rider Frey, Ranger 2

One of the fun projects of 2020 was the construction and planting of a living wall/hanging garden in the Shore Acres Greenhouse. With the help of host Dave Austin we constructed the wall itself using water/rot resistant material. When the wall was completed it was sealed and painted then filled with sphagnum moss/coco husks/and a tropical plant mix.

We have been slowly filling the wall with all sorts of epiphytic plants and other exciting tropical species that call the jungle's canopy home. Most of the current denizens of the wall are large bromeliads and vining plants. Over time the wall will become completely filled with plants/live moss and create the look of a full hanging garden. ■



Rider surveys the wall in preparation for planting.



The living wall shortly after planting bromeliad "pups" which were collected from plants already present in the Greenhouse.

NOTE FROM JESS HAYWARD: "Rider says in a couple of years this will all grow together and we will not be able to see the wood/wire frame it was all built on. It is a great and unique addition to the Greenhouse."

*ToSA provided funding for materials
Thanks!*

NEWS FROM THE GARDEN

By Jess Hayward, Ranger 1



Wow! A lot has happened since March 2020 when Covid-19 hit Oregon State Parks. It has greatly affected not only the past couple of years, but our future as well. Like all of Oregon's State Parks, Shore Acres was hit hard. 2020 became a year of survival as Rider Frey and I worked hard to keep the gardens alive and not allowing Mother Nature to completely take over.

In 2020 we lost all of our Ranger Assistants and our Shutter Creek Dept. of Corrections crews with a combined total of 9,780 labor hours lost.

The year 2021 did not start out well for us, but we soon put together a plan that would lead us through 2021 and looking toward the future of Shore Acres State Park. We are still without our Shutter Creek Department of Corrections crews as Shutter Creek is closing. Which leaves us with 4,980 lost labor hours and we are working on how to make up for that. In 2021 we did get some of our Ranger Assistants back but were still at a loss of 1,920 labor hours for our Ranger Assistants, so the gardens are not at the Shore Acres standard and that is heartbreaking to us who are here every day trying to keep things moving forward.



East Rose pergola rebuilt by Park Host Dave Austin.

2021 has been better than 2020 and we are amazed at what we did accomplish this year: reservoir cleanout; pond cleanout; boxwood hedges trimmed; day use mowing and upkeep; sanding/staining the L-shaped benches; various painting projects; pressure washing decks and pathways; East and West rose pergolas rebuilt; NW gate pergola rebuilt; new gate installed at Shore Acres entrance; new gate at IGC entrance to the formal gardens; and other various maintenance projects.

Most of these items had not been done since 2018/2019. All of this on top of our regular daily operational needs and garden care. We are truly amazed at where we are today and what we have accomplished under the circumstances that we now operate.

We just finished Fall rose pruning and the dahlias are almost divided and packed away for winter storage. Park Host Patrick Michaud, is re-working all of the wood signs from inside and outside of the gardens. Patrick is also sanding and staining park benches from inside the gardens to get them show-ready for 2022.

Inside the gardens, Savage Tree Service and Park Rangers just finished removing 4 dead trees that the last few windstorms had caused to lean and uproot. It was better to take them down in a controlled manner than let them come down on their own with the possibility of someone getting hurt.

Fall planting has started with some new lilies, daffodils, crocus, pink rock rose shrub and a lion head maple that will replace one that has died out.

Other projects over the next couple of months include: edging the lawns; general maintenance on buildings; winterizing equipment; installing safety cones at booth; rebuilding water lines at the pump house; rebuilding sink area in men's restroom; re-building display bench in greenhouse; start of garden master plan booklet; Ranger Frey finishing wastewater certification; and work on our sustainability options/plans for 2022-2023.



NW Pergola by gate. Project started by Park Host Dave Austin and finished by Park Ranger Assistant Seven Converse and Park Ranger 2 Rider Frey.

The majority of 2021 has been triaging the garden and attempting to recover from the huge losses the park suffered. One of the beautiful things about the garden is that we work with the seasons and our changes are slow and steady like the plants that inhabit this wonderful place. It will take 3-5 years to recover from the effects of 2020 on Shore Acres. We are strongly committed to the gardens and will continue to work to the best of our abilities to keep moving Shore Acres forward to reach the standards for which the Botanical Gardens at Shore Acres State Park are known. ■

Thanks and More Thanks!

Kudos to Chris Owens and Marilyn Hurt who volunteered in 2020 to join us a few hours a month to help out.

Special thanks to FoSA for general financial support and for providing the funding for a new park maintenance host site, which has been in use since June of 2021. This has been and will continue to be a huge help. ■

POND PROBLEMS IN 2021

By Rider Frey, Ranger 2

The late summer “algal bloom” was a result of two main factors. After cleaning out the pond this spring we removed a lot of the good “bugs” that help break down detritus and balance out the internal ecology of the pond, which returns to normal due to the presence of gold fish which are introduced after a cleaning. *They bring in good bacteria, and consume algae.*

Since our friend Louie the otter has been present, we have not been able to keep a population of goldfish alive long enough to aid in this process. Also, at the end of the summer season (height of the bloom/when we had staff to address the issue) we allocated the remaining ranger assistants to help out with the trimming and hedging to prepare us for Holiday Lights instead of a summer pond clean.

Remaining algae will die off during the colder/greyer months and/or be washed out this upcoming spring. The plan, moving forward is to acquire more gold fish and allocate 2 days this next summer to prevent a large algal bloom. ■



POND CLEANING IN APRIL 2021



ALGAL BLOOM IN OCTOBER



GOLD FISH IN 2018

. . . LOOKING FORWARD TO SPRING OF 2022 . . .



LILY PODS AFTER POND CLEANING



BASES FOR LEAPING FROG DISPLAY

SOUTH COAST DISTRICT NEWS



There have been some recent changes for OPRD within the South Coast District. The District office has changed locations. The South Coast District Office is now located on the second floor of the Lifeboat Station Museum at Port Orford Heads State Park. This change relocates the office centrally within the district. Being located centrally within the district provides efficiency for district operations.

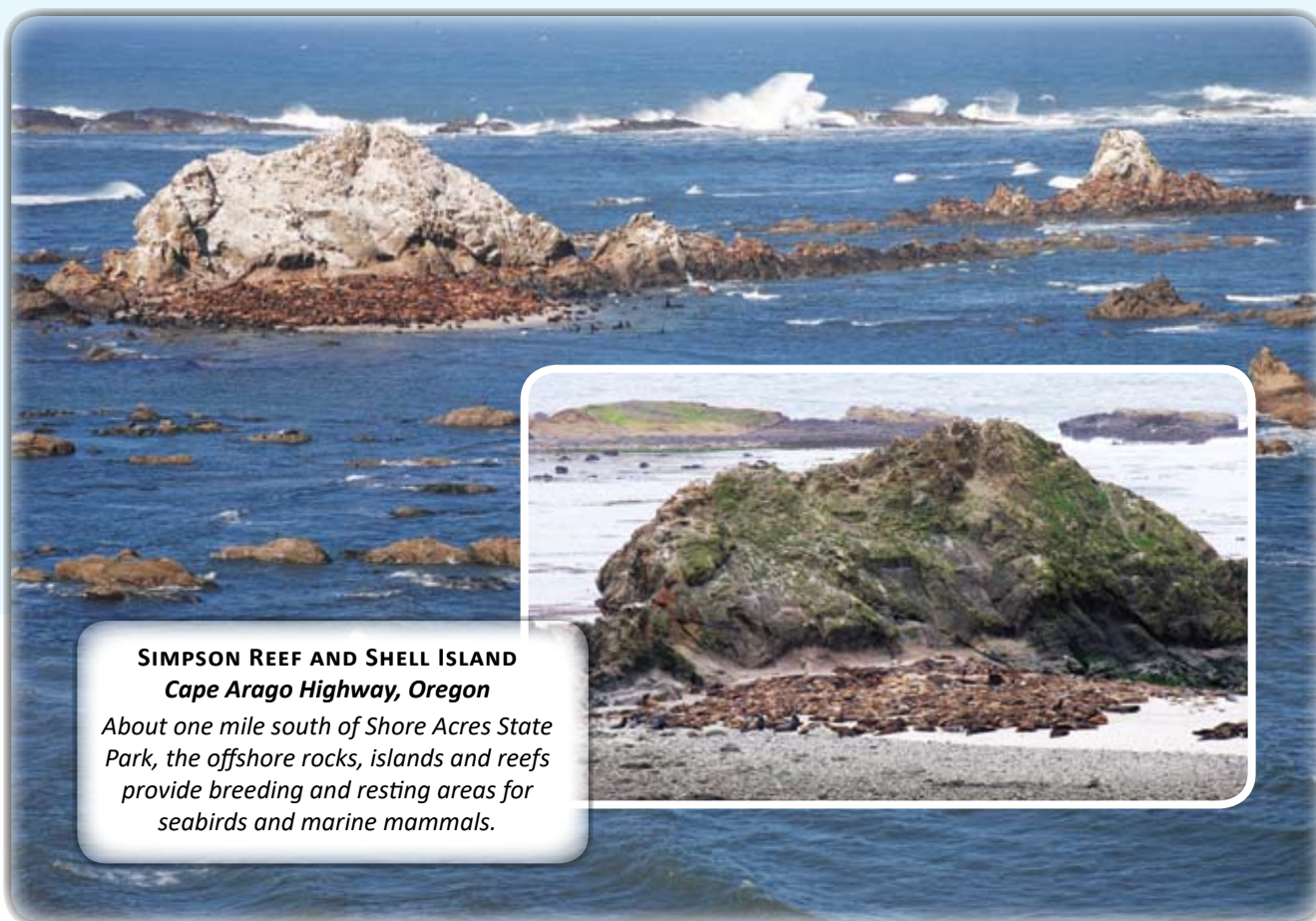
Additionally, with the retirement of Larry Becker the South Coast District has a new District Manager. Justin Helberg is the new South Coast District Manager for OPRD. He assumed the role of South Coast District Manager in April 2021. Justin started his career with OPRD in June of 1998 at Honeyman State Park.

Over his 23 years with the department Justin has spent time working in many different roles and parks along the Oregon Coast. The majority of his career has been spent within the Central Coast District of OPRD, but he has worked as far north as the Columbia River.

Justin is very excited to have the chance to work along the beautiful south coast of Oregon. As a lifelong coastal Oregonian, he is excited to be able to now contribute work to this wonderful stretch of Oregon Coast. Justin and his wife have 5 children and take every chance possible to explore the richness of Oregon. With this recent move to the South Coast, Justin and his family are excited to start a new adventure of discovery along this beautiful stretch of Oregon coast. ■

The South Coast District has 5 Management Units: Umpqua MU, Sunset Bay MU, Bullards Beach MU, Cape Blanco MU and Harris Beach MU. Geographically, the South Coast District runs from Reedsport to the Oregon/California Boarder.

SCENES SOUTH OF SHORE ACRES

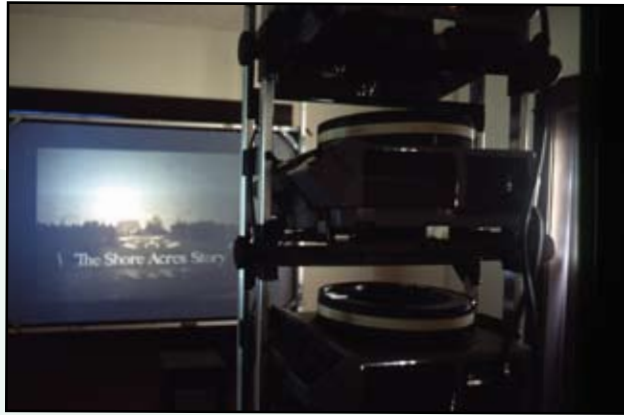


SIMPSON REEF AND SHELL ISLAND Cape Arago Highway, Oregon

About one mile south of Shore Acres State Park, the offshore rocks, islands and reefs provide breeding and resting areas for seabirds and marine mammals.

ARCHIVAL ALBUMS PROJECT BEGUN IN 2014

How Friends of Shore Acres Happened



Shirley Bridgham

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. ■

Aerials and Gardens – 1986



Ward Robertson



Ward Robertson



Ward Robertson



Shirley Bridgham

ARCHIVAL ALBUMS PROJECT BEGUN IN 2014

Album Note from Shirley Bridgham - September 2014



Friends of Shore Acres, Inc. was founded on December 4, 1986.
1st Birthday - Dec. 4, 1987
1st Christmas Lights - Dec. 11, 1987
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.*

Garden and Shore Acres Wave – 1986



Shirley Bridgham

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. ■



Shirley Bridgham



Shirley Bridgham

ARCHIVAL ALBUMS PROJECT BEGUN IN 2014

Album Note from David Bridgham - September 2014



The Archival 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. ■

Historical Photos from 1986-87



DR. ED QUINN LEADS GARDEN TOUR.



LIVING ROOM IS READY FOR VISITORS. NOTE ORANGE CARPET.

THE ARCHIVAL ALBUMS ARE 11X14 BOOKS ON FILE. THEY ARE ALSO SAVED AS PDF FILES AND AS OF 2021, 30 ALBUMS ARE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE AT www.shoreacres.net. ■