

Soap Creek Schoolhouse Foundation

Annual Newsletter

May 2010

Hello to all the neighbors, friends, and former students of the Soap Creek Schoolhouse.
Happy Springtime!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS !

NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC

Sunday, July 25
2-5 pm

Location: 27630 Writsman Creek Dr.,

The home of Brett Reistad and
Sarah Uebel.

Bring a salad, dessert, or side dish, and
any beer or wine you desire.

All else is provided!

GARAGE SALE

Donation Drop-Off
at schoolhouse

Saturday
August 7,
9-4

**Garage
Sale**
at schoolhouse

Saturday
August 14,
9-4

Please no TV's or big appliances.
If you need help transporting any large
donations or if you'd like to help with the
garage sale, please contact Nancy Hyde.

FINANCES / MAINTENANCE :

THANKS for your great support last year:

\$436 from Dues and Donations,

+ \$930 from the Garage Sale

= \$1366 !

Our biggest bill last year was \$525 for insurance.

No building renovation projects were done last year.

Projects **this** year will include **painting the schoolhouse (!)** and
adding gravel to the parking lot.

Neighborhood Notes

PAINTING: Derek Ellis of Quality Painting of Oregon is painting the exterior of the schoolhouse this spring, for a reduced rate. Please extend your support to his business to show your appreciation!

(541) 231-0313, QPaint@msn.com. Thank you!



The grey primer on the schoolhouse reminds some of how the building used to be white, many years ago.

Local notes from the OSU Beef Ranch manager, Janice Allen:

This spring there has been a large project of clearing blackberries and ivy from the creek edges of OSU pastures, and the installation of fencing to keep the cattle away from the stream and the riparian areas. In the next year or two, native trees will be planted in the cleared areas, in an effort to restore the habitat to a more natural state. This type of project has been undertaken at the OSU beef ranch as well as the poultry, horse, and sheep ranches. Funding is through the Farm Service Administration (FSA) of the USDA, through a program called CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program).

A 15-acre forage trial is being planted at the intersection of Soap Creek Road and Tampico Road. The trial is of a combination of Brassicas and Sudan Grass, and its goal is to develop a pasture grass which will keep producing further into the hot days of summer. The forage trial will probably be surrounded by oats.

The three older Black Angus bulls of the OSU herd will probably be sold this year. New arrivals include 2 Black Angus bulls from the Rockin' D ranch in Junction City, and a Hereford bull from Chandler's in Baker City.

Neighborhood Notes, cont.

Limited Elk Hunt: This spring the ODFW issued two elk permits for antlerless elk in the Soap Creek Valley, under very specific constraints. Both elk were shot on the same date and the “hunt” ended early (read “Barrel Shoot”.) The hunt was an attempt to instill the fear of man into the ever-growing elk herd which makes itself at home in the otherwise-protected pastures of the OSU Beef Ranch and surrounding hills. Extensive fence damage is a continuing problem for the OSU ranch, and the elk are becoming less intimidated by people and cars. There are no established plans, but future limited elk hunts MAY be permitted on OSU agricultural land as part of the Airlie-Lewisburg Elk Hunt next Dec. 1-March 15. For other local hunting dates and information, go to www.cof.orst.edu/cf/recreation/hunt_info.php

Do you have any **Schoolhouse “stuff”** stored at your house?

As years roll by and people come and go, it’s easy to lose track of any items being held for safekeeping by neighbors and friends.

If you are currently taking care of any schoolhouse items, please drop me an email or note telling me what you have, and I’ll make a master list.

Thanks! Nancy Hyde

Check Out Our WEBSITE !

Joe Crockett developed a beautiful website for us last year:
www.SoapCreekSchoolhouse.ORG

It contains the history of the schoolhouse, old photos, directions for visitors, and newsletter information.

If you have anything interesting to add to the site, contact Joe Crockett directly.

Cat Newsheller, neighbor extraordinaire and former president of the Schoolhouse board, is still living in Oban, Scotland with her family and enjoying it very much. They expect to stay there for another year or so.

Word from Former Schoolhouse Students and Neighbors

In Memoriam:

Kenneth Coon, passed away in 2001.

Paul Maddux, passed away in 2009.

Virginia Govier Gent, passed away in 2009.

From Mildred Maddux Burchell:

“Our folks in mid 30’s lived at west side base of Coffin Butte and (my sister) Alice, Don Paul and I went to school at Tampico School. We had no history up on Soap Creek although in my memory I think we went up to the schoolhouse for a ball game. Where would that have been played?”

From Alice Palmer-Bumbera, who alone has confessed to a bit of youthful vandalism to the then-abandoned schoolhouse:

“Hi I am Alice Palmer-Bumbera, I attended Soap Creek School perhaps 3rd grade. Our Mom & Dad owned the logging camp and Mom cook and my sister & I help serve meals... Count me in how can I help ? Will send dues and a bit extra.... Thanks for all the work you are doing.”

From Ron Palmer, Alice Bumbera’s brother:

“ My sister Alice forwarded your e mail to her on to me here in Cottage Grove. Alice now lives in New Jersey and I sent both her and my brother (lives in Colorado) a copy of the recent foundation newsletter. All three of us attended school at the Soap Creek school when our father had a logging company near there. As a matter of fact, we lived in a home located less than a hundred yards from the school house. It's probably hard to believe, but as I remember the logging camp there had about 20 or so small homes. All had outside toilets !! Down near the main road and about 50 yards or so was located the "cook house". My mom and a couple of other wives of loggers did all the cooking as I recall.....

I am now trying to round up some pictures and memories from those days from my sis and brother. When I get some semblance of order to them, I will contact Joe Crockett. All 3 of us are now age 69 and older and our memories are questionable (ha ha !!). I attended my first year of school there and I believe the year was 1945 or 1946. I will keep trying to get some info together and pass on to Joe Crockett. Also, I will soon be renewing my annual membership dues.

Best Regards, Ron Palmer”

Word from Former Schoolhouse Students and Neighbors, cont.

Dennis Dunham attended Soap Creek Schoolhouse the last year it was open (1945-46), and then transferred to Mountain View in Lewisburg. Dennis and his wife visited the Schoolhouse last summer, from their home near Chiloquin.

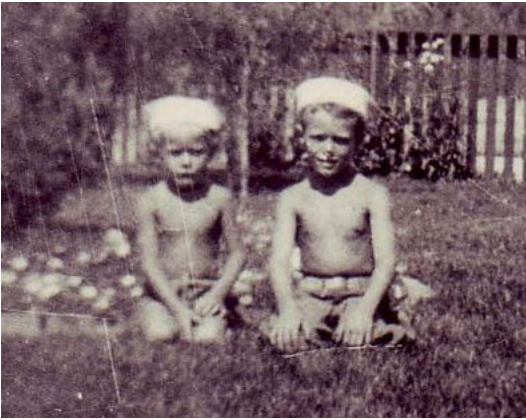


From Glenn Dunham:

“My brother Dennis and I attended the school the year it closed and went to Mt. View where I graduated in the eight grade. Our teacher was Mrs. Peterson. I had a crush on Darlene Christenson but my arch rival Leonard beat me out. I think the number of students was 13. Dennis & I lived with our aunt and uncle Dickman (possibly the present OSU ranch house, ed.). Living in the valley was a super experience being able to play in the woods, fish in the creek and swim in the quarry. There was a roller skating rink in Mt. View, I hope it's still there but I doubt it. I'm sending two pictures, one of my brother and me and the other is just to show Darlene what she missed. Thanks for keeping the school alive, Glenn Dunham, Redlands, CA “

*Hi Nancy---I'm glad someone is keeping the school house in great shape. I'm sitting here wondering what I might have done in school if I had the resources then we have now like this computer. Do you know we have the old door off the outhouse hanging on our wall in our home? It just happened to jump into our pickup truck many years ago and I couldn't say no to the poor thing, out there in the weather all those years. Have you ever heard from my old flame Darlene Christianson? Thanks for your e-mail. I'm going to enclose a picture of a project my wife and I restored a while back. As a kid I loved airplanes and wanted to fly. I joined the U.S. Navy aviation branch but I was not a pilot but I learned because I got to fly as the second man in a two place a/c. I got my private pilots license then got bug to have my own plane. In the late '80s I bought a small four seat plane and really fell in love with private aviation. After flying our first plane my wife and I decided to get a plane we could restore to pristine condition so we went on a hunt for the one we knew we would love to fly. After three years of working in our hangar we ended up with a 1943 Stearman bi-plane. These were used to train pilots in WWII and made me feel like the Peanuts character Snoopy. Hope you don't mind my long winded message but you never know where the little school's students wandered and what they did with their time. I've included a picture of the plane along with a car. The car is a 1940 Ford which is another project my wife and I restored. Another 3 neat years of loving what you want to do.” (See photos, next page.)

Glenn Dunham photos:



The Soap Creek Schoolhouse is available for use throughout the year, for small meetings of local interest. Please obtain permission and a key by contacting either Bart Spiller at 745-9007, or Nancy Hyde at 745-7470. A \$20 key deposit is required. Note: the Schoolhouse Foundation does not endorse any political or religious group but does allow its facilities to be used by such groups.

CONTACTS: Nancy Hyde, 745-7470 or nhyde@peak.org,
Bart Spiller, 745-9007,
Joe Crockett (website) 745-5354 or jcrockett@earthlink.net

Please provide your email address, to reduce printing and mailing costs. Thanks!



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES and DONATIONS

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

\$10 Annual Membership Dues \$ _____

Any Additional Donations \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please make checks to "Soap Creek Schoolhouse", and mail to:
Nancy Hyde, Treasurer, 37845 Soap Creek Road, Corvallis, OR 97330.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!