

June 2007

SUCCESSFUL INAUGURAL "BIRDATHON IN STATE PARKS"

On May 5th and 6th, Trust staffers David Roberts, Jill Tuleya, and Dave Eshbaugh took part in the Trust's inaugural "**Birdathon in State Parks**" raising over \$6,000 in funding to support Oregon's state parks system.

What is a Birdathon, you ask? It's an event like a "walkathon" except that those participating get pledges for the number of bird species seen and heard in a single 24-hour period. It's also a new and exciting way to visit many of Oregon's most spectacular places and see many amazing species of birds—all while raising needed funding for state parks.



*Jill Tuleya and Dave Eshbaugh birding Boiler Bay State Recreation Area
(Photo by David Roberts)*



Red-necked Grebe (Photo courtesy of USFWS)

Our Birdathon started at 6:00pm Friday at Taft Park (just south of Lincoln City), with a beautiful breeding plumage Red-necked Grebe and a rare (but otherwise unremarkable) immature Glaucous Gull and ended 24-hours later at Basket Slough National Wildlife Refuge, as we counted duck species (including an uncommon Blue-winged Teal) until our time ran out. In between, we saw several amazing natural spectacles, such as the young Bald Eagle that flew over Yaquina Head, causing several thousand Common Murres to fly off the rocks for the relative safety of rafting together on the ocean's surface.

We had a great time while counting 116 species of birds and visiting several of Oregon's most spectacular natural areas. For more information about the 2007 "Birdathon in State Parks" please visit our website.

It's not too late for you to support Oregon State Parks Trust's inaugural "Birdathon in State Parks." You can make a pledge by phone (503-227-0479 or 800-497-2757), mail (2100 SW River Pkwy, 4th Fl, Portland, OR 97201-8009, or online at www.oregonstateparkstrust.org/help/Donate.

RON GOULD AND RUDY RADA JOIN THE TRUST'S BOARD

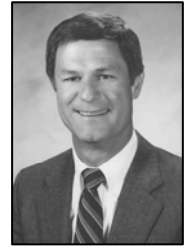
Oregon State Parks Trust has elected **Rudy Rada** of Pendleton, Oregon and **Ronald B. "Ron" Gould** of Portland, Oregon to its Board of Trustees.

Rudy Rada is a retired Assistant Superintendent for the Pendleton Public School District. A graduate of Western Oregon University and Colorado State University, he serves on the City of Pendleton's Parks and Recreation Commission and is Co-Chair of the Pendleton Skateboard Park fundraising committee. Rada also served as Chair of the Umatilla County Courthouse Clock Restoration Committee.



Rudy Rada

Ronald B. "Ron" Gould is a retired Executive Director for Tonkon Torp LLP Attorneys. Previous to Tonkon Torp, he worked for Deloitte & Touche from 1972-1997. Gould has an MBA with honors and BS from the University of California, Berkeley. A longtime board member and volunteer for United Way of the Columbia-Willamette, his past community service includes board or leadership positions with Junior Achievement, The Association for Portland Progress (now Portland Business Alliance), The Leaders Roundtable, and the Audit Implementation Steering Committee of Portland Public Schools.



Ron Gould

SUPPORT YOUR STATE PARKS

As the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing Oregon's magnificent State Parks, we depend on contributions from people like you. Please show your support by making a donation today!

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FINAL DEDICATION FOR THE WILLAMETTE RIVER WATER TRAIL



Paddlers on WRWT (Photo by Jill Weston Tuleya)

Oregon State Parks Trust took part in the final dedication event for the Willamette River Water Trail, held at Willamette Park on Saturday, June 2.

Many paddlers and other water trail supporters attended, enjoying fine weather and sunshine, lively music by the "Sassparilla Jug Band", and many other festivities. Displays at the event highlighted aspects of the water trail and featured the contributions of its many supporters. Event participants

even got the opportunity to take a canoe and kayak out for a paddle on the new section of the river trail.

Special honored guests and speakers attending the event included Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski, US Congressman David Wu, Department of Interior Deputy Secretary Lynn Scarlett, Oregon Parks and Recreation Director Tim Wood, and Portland Parks and Recreation Director Zari Santner. The Trust was represented by current trustees Jerry Hulsman and Lee Jimerson and former trustee Jim Parr, as well as the Trust's staff.



Governor Kulongoski cutting the ribbon on the third phase of the WRWT (Photo by David Roberts)

Oregon State Parks Trust is proud to be a supporting partner of the Willamette River Water Trail. For more information about the trail, please go to www.willamettewatertrail.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT OREGON STATE PARKS

Tryon Summer Solstice

Jun 21, 2007 at Tryon Creek State Natural Area. 7-9 pm: "A Midsummer Night's Celebration." Celebrate the longest daylight of the year with storytelling, activities and guided forest hikes. (Park info:

www.oregonstateparks.org/park_144.php).

✦ **Champoeg Bluegrass at Butteville**

Jun 22, 2007 at Champoeg State Heritage Area. 7-9 pm. Music at the Historic Butteville Museum and Store. Featuring the Rogue Bluegrass Band. (Park info: www.oregonstateparks.org/park_113.php).

✦ **Milo McIver Let's Go Camping**

Jun 23, 2007 - Jun 24, 2007 at Milo McIver State Park. Learn how to camp with help from the experts. Ideal for beginner and first-time campers. (Park info: www.oregonstateparks.org/park_142.php).

✦ **Tryon "The Bear, the Wolf and Me"**

Jun 24, 2007 at Tryon Creek State Natural Area. 2-3 pm. Join Damon Bowen, naturalist and biologist, to explore the personal value of nature. Learn about grizzly bears and wolf predator/prey relationships. (Park info: www.oregonstateparks.org/park_144.php).

✦ **Tryon Creek Birds**

Jun 30, 2007 at Tryon Creek State Natural Area. Tryon Creek is home to more than 60 species of birds that spend all or part of the year in our forest. We will look at birds that live here, practice bird identification and listen to bird languages. (Park info: www.oregonstateparks.org/park_144.php).

For more information about these and other events at Oregon State Parks go to www.oregonstateparks.org/events.php.

STUB STEWART STATE PARKS TO OPEN JULY 8

State and local officials are ready to celebrate the grand opening of Oregon's first new state park campground in more than 30 years. Stub Stewart State Park, in western Washington County, will officially open on Sunday, July 8, 2007.



Stub Stewart State Park (Photo courtesy OPRD)

“This is momentous,” says Tim Wood, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department director. “Stub Stewart represents an unprecedented combination of hard work, unique land deals and community support.”

The 1,654-acre park includes:

- 15 miles of park trails for hiking, horseback riding and mountain biking through meadows and forests teeming with wildlife and native plants. Park trails connect to the 21-mile Banks-Vernonia trail, which links the communities of Banks, Buxton, Manning, Tophill and Vernonia.

- Stub Stewart Welcome Center, including registration check-in window for campers and an interpretive display area.
- Brooke Creek hike-in camp with 23 primitive sites, restrooms, a kitchen shelter and two common areas with fire rings.
- Dairy Creek Camp West camp loop, with 43 full-hookup RV sites and 12 walk-in tent sites.
- Mountain Dale Cabin Village with 15 rustic-style cabins.
- Hilltop Picnic Area offering a stunning panoramic view of the Coast range mountains with parking for 35 cars and 10-15 RVs, modern restrooms and a trailhead for the park's trail system.
- Clay Hill equestrian staging and day-use area, with a restroom, water and extra room for trailer parking.
- Hares Canyon Horse Camp, with 14 full hookup campsites. This is the only state park horse camp with RV hookup sites and a fully-accessible shower-restroom.

Many of the state park campgrounds and trails near Portland—Milo McIver near Estacada, Ainsworth in the Columbia Gorge, Champoeg in the Willamette Valley—are extremely busy in the summer. When Stub Stewart opens, the number of state park campsites within 35 miles of Portland will increase more than 40%.

“Stub Stewart adds the kind of camping and trails we need to serve Oregon’s most populated region,” says Wood. “Parks are important to the relaxed Oregon way of life and our economy, and Stub Stewart is within easy reach of millions of Oregonians.”

Most of the funding for park construction—\$14.5 million—came from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department’s share of the Oregon Lottery. Voters dedicated lottery funding to state parks in 1998 to help pay for maintenance, park development and local community recreation through grants. Stub Stewart construction was also supported with more than \$2 million in federal money from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Volunteers helped build key features such as the horse and hike-in camps.

The park includes many accessible features—such as ramps and wheelchair-accessible picnic tables—designed to make the park easy to use.

Campers eager to visit Stub Stewart may now call 1-800-452-5687, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. to make campsite and cabin reservations for stays starting August 16 and later. Reservations are also available online at www.oregonstateparks.org. The park’s campsites and cabins will be available on a first-come, first-served basis from July 8 to August 16.

Portions of the park will open on a limited basis between now and July 8 as construction crews complete their work and leave the park. Visitors can receive updates on the status of the park—and download maps and other information—online at www.oregonstateparks.org/park_255.php. Up-to-date information on the park is also available through the park information line at 1-800-551-6949, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors who would like to see the park before the July 8 opening should call or check online first to find out if entry will be possible.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – PORTLAND METRO AREA

Can you lend a hand? Oregon State Parks Trust is seeking volunteers to help us with general office work at our Portland office. How can you help? We need volunteers to help us with routine filing, labeling flyers and brochures, data entry, preparing mailings, and more. Whether you can help out on

a regular basis or just once in a while, contact Jill Tuleya at 503-227-0479 or jill <at> oregonstateparkstrust.org.

TO CONTACT US

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