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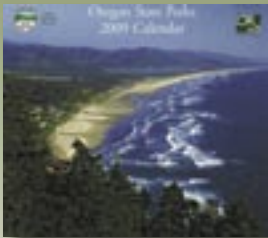
The Oregon State Parks Trust Newsletter

Fall 2008

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Golden Opportunity at Silver Falls State Park

Situated in the foothills of Oregon's Cascade Mountains, 26 miles east of Salem. Silver Falls defines "state park" for many Oregonians. Its great forests, out-of-this-world waterfalls, and nationally-significant historic structures, along with a variety of recreational opportunities, make this park an Oregon icon.

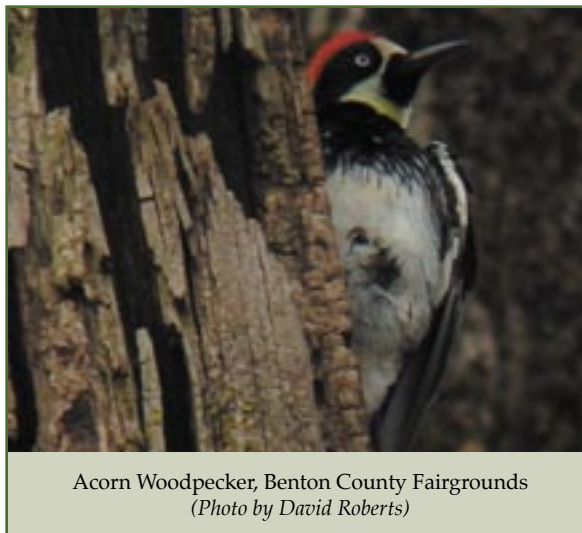
As remarkable as Silver Falls State Parks is, much needs to be updated and improved. Public access needs to be enhanced. (cont. page 4)



Silver Creek Falls (Photo courtesy of OPRD)

Champoeg Interpretive Campaign Update

On August 21, 2008, the Champoeg State Heritage Area's visitor center closed for much needed renovations to the park's interpretive exhibits. The park's previous interpretive displays, which were last updated in 1988, were outdated and in disrepair. Oregon State Parks Trust played a leading role in raising funds for the update of interpretive displays at this historically important park. (cont. page 3)



Acorn Woodpecker, Benton County Fairgrounds
(Photo by David Roberts)

2008 Birding for Oregon Parks

Oregon State Parks Trust held its second annual *Birding for Oregon Parks* event April 26-27. The fundraising event, which is similar to a "walkathon" (where volunteers raise funds from pledges); however *Birding for Oregon Parks* pledges are for the number of bird species seen or heard. (cont. page 4)

Silver Falls State Park *(continued)*

Better and more visitor facilities are needed. Interpretive and learning opportunities must be improved. Historically-significant structures, many created by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), need to be restored and preserved.

Oregon State Parks Trust, in collaboration with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), is developing plans to raise funds needed to improve and enhance Silver Falls State Park. Like the Trust's successful fundraising for the restoration of Vista House, we will focus on the most significant elements of OPRD's comprehensive plan for the park. For instance:

- Building a new north entrance and visitor welcoming center, improving public access and orienting visitors to the park.
- Enhancing existing—and establishing new—trails to provide opportunities for equestrian, cycling, and hiking activities.
- Restoring natural meadow areas and developing related interpretive programs and other opportunities to learn.
- Rebuilding and rehabilitating notable CCC bridges and other historic structures throughout the park.

Want to help? Interested in volunteering? Want to donate? Have questions? Please contact David Roberts, Development Associate at (503) 227-0479 or email info@oregonstateparkstrust.org.



Silver Falls Lower South Falls (Photo courtesy of OPRD)

2008 Birding for Oregon Parks *(continued)*



Scoping for new species in Yaquina Bay
(Photo courtesy of David Roberts)

This year's team "The Great Auk and the Passenger Pigeons" visited several state parks and other birding sites in the Willamette Valley, in the Coast Range, and along the Oregon Coast. Highlights included:

- Several thousand geese calling and flying overhead at Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge.
- Red-shouldered Hawk seen and heard at the Sarah Helmick State Recreation Area.
- Having two or three Northern Pygmy Owls respond to a whistled imitation of their call at the Drift Creek Wilderness Area.

The team counted 142 species (up from 117 in 2007) while traveling just over 200 miles in 24 hours of birding. More importantly, thanks to many generous donors, we raised over \$8,000 for Oregon's state parks. **Please consider participating in Birding for Oregon Parks next year (May 2-3, 2009) by joining our team (beginners welcome), doing your own Birding for Oregon Parks event or making a pledge.** Details will be announced in the next *Preserve and Enhance* newsletter and at www.oregonstateparkstrust.org.

Welcome New Trustees!

Oregon State Parks Trust has elected Nicole R. Palmateer Armstrong, Laurie Munro Bloch, Charles F. "Chuck" Sams III, and Kristen Pempel Stram to its Board of Trustees.



Nicole R. Palmateer Armstrong is the owner of Armstrong Public Affairs & Communications. A resident of Salem (Marion County), she was formerly Interim Executive Director of the Friends of the Children Oregon Initiative. Her favorite state park is Jesse M. Honeyman Memorial State Park.



Laurie Munro Bloch is the principal of Laurie Munro Bloch, LLC. A resident of Portland (Multnomah County) Laurie has served as a Director and on the Executive Committee of the Oregon Symphony Association. Her favorite state park is Silver Falls.



Charles F. "Chuck" Sams III is Cocopah, Cayuse, and Sioux and the National Director for the Tribal & Native Lands Program for the Trust for Public Land. A resident of Portland (Multnomah County), his favorite state parks are Jesse M. Honeyman Memorial State Park and Wallowa Lake.



Kristen Pempel Stram is a development consultant. A resident of Portland (Multnomah County), she was formerly Director of Training and Campaign Director for CCS Fund Raising. Her favorite state park is Hug Point.

Oregon State Parks Trust would like to acknowledge the enormous contributions made by retiring Trustees: **Mary V. Bishop, Cynthia J. Ford, Robert G. "Rob" Hinnen, Gerald R. "Jerry" Hulsman, and Rudy Rada.** Cynthia Ford is the last of the founding trustees to retire, having served on the Board for more than 12 1/2 years.

Finally, it is with great sadness that the Trust reports the passing of **Nancy N. Russell**, an inspiration leader who helped found our organization, raise over \$2 million needed to restore Vista House and served for several years as an emeritus trustee. We will miss you, Nancy!

New Office Manager - Julie Hubbard



Julie's professional experience is all with non-profit organizations. Most recently, she has enjoyed organizing administrative responsibilities as Camp-In Coordinator at the Museum of Science in Boston, MA. Julie has a B.S. degree in Parks and Recreation Management from Northern Arizona University. Her favorite Oregon State Park is Bridal Veil Falls State Scenic Viewpoint.

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Thank you also to the dedicated members of our Board of Trustees!

Champoeg Interpretive Campaign *(continued)*

The planned new exhibits and displays, scheduled to reopen to the public in mid-November, in advance of Oregon's Sesquicentennial celebrations, will provide visitors with a greater appreciation of the vital role that Champoeg played as the gateway to the exploration and settlement of the Willamette Valley and Oregon.

Oregon State Parks Trust's Champoeg Interpretive Campaign has seen a generous response from local businesses, foundations and individuals. The **James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation** and the **Collins Foundation** each awarded grants of

\$50,000 while the **Spirit Mountain Community Fund** pledged an additional \$50,000 for the project's completion.

Please contact us if you are interested in learning more about Champoeg Interpretive Campaign.

Donations can be made by sending your contribution to the Champoeg Interpretive Campaign, Oregon State Parks Trust, 2100 SW River Parkway, 4th Floor, Portland, OR 97201-8009 or online at www.oregonstateparkstrust.org.



Champoeg State Heritage Area visitor center
(Photo courtesy of Dave Eshbaugh)

Oxens to Engines: 2007 Parks Co-op Groups Meet

The 2007 Oregon Parks and Recreation Department co-op group conference, **Oxens to Engines: Power, Progress, Partnerships** took place October 6-8 in beautiful Klamath Falls, Oregon.

Oregon State Parks Trust would like to thank the following businesses and organizations whose generous donations of goods and services made the 2007 Co-Op Conference live and silent auction a great success:

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Oregon State Parks Trust Joins Earth Share of Oregon



Oregon State Parks Trust is proud to be an official member organization of Earth Share of Oregon. Earth Share is a federation of leading non-profit conservation organizations, working to promote environmental awareness and charitable giving. For more information please call Meghan Humphreys at: 503-223-9015 phone or visit Earth Share online at www.earthshare-oregon.org

From Your Board Chair...

Thank you for your support of Oregon State Parks Trust, the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing Oregon's state parks.

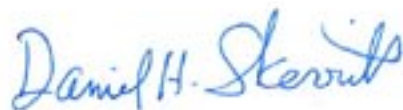
I hope you enjoy reading this issue of our Preserve & Enhance newsletter, as it highlights several of Oregon State Parks Trust's recent accomplishments. Also inside is our 2007 annual report, including a THANK YOU to those who so generously donated to and volunteered for Oregon State Parks Trust. Your support is critical to our continued success, especially as we receive 93.8% of our funding from contributions made by people just like you.

As I write this, we're experiencing a time of unprecedented financial uncertainty. This is also true at Oregon State Parks Trust, where what we can accomplish depends in large part on what you can do to help. In times like these, I think that it is very important that our organization uses the hard-earned money that you donate responsibly; I'm pleased to report that in 2007, 90.6% of every dollar we received was used to preserve and enhance Oregon's state parks (and that we're looking for ways to be even more efficient in the future).

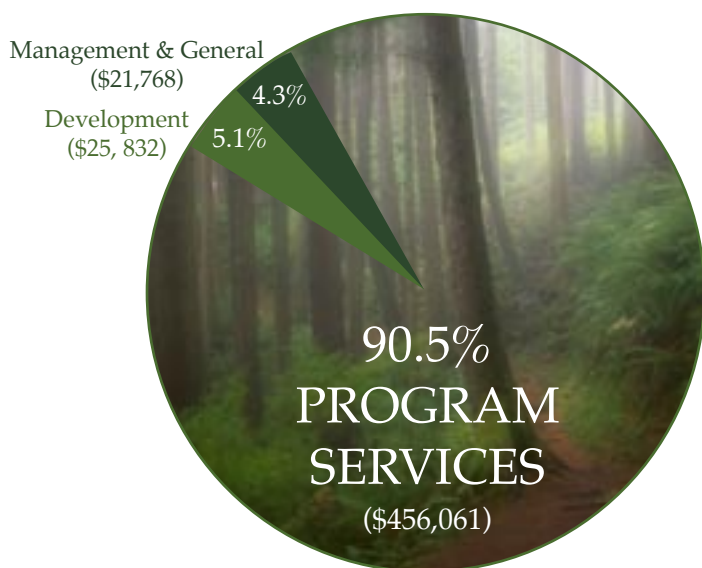
Despite the challenges we face, I'm optimistic about the future of Oregon's state parks. As you've read in this newsletter, Oregon State Parks Trust is poised to launch an exciting campaign to enhance an Oregon state park icon: Silver Falls State Park. We're also going to be involved in other projects that will protect and improve many other state parks throughout Oregon. Most important: I know that you, like me, love Oregon's state parks... I know that you understand the value of our preserving our cultural heritage... and I know that you care about having access to and opportunities for outdoor recreation.

What can you do to help? If you can make a donation, please give generously to Oregon State Parks Trust. If you have the time, please volunteer for our organization or at an Oregon state park. If you're interested in helping lead Oregon State Parks Trust, please contact us about joining a committee or our board. And, most of all, please take the time to get out and enjoy Oregon's wonderful state parks.

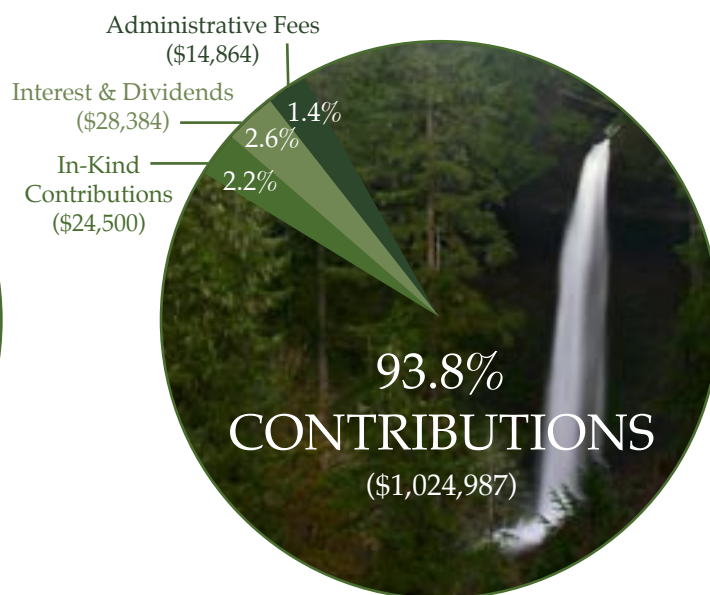
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