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James Cassidy, at the Drew's Road Overlook, sampling a piece of diatomaceous lacustrine mudstone on Stop 2 of the 2011 OSSS Summer Tour.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by James Cassidy

Hello current, up-to-date, OSSS members (errr...and the rest of you)! I sincerely hope you are enjoying the first few weeks of "real" summer weather – as for me, at the time of this writing, it is another cold June day(!) However, if it's hot weather you want, I am bringing you to the heat and the sun this August 9-11 at the *OSSS Summer Tour - Orifices of Oregon 2012!!!* The dream lives!!!!... but more on that later. First-things-first, business is business... I am asking, imploring, beseeching, and entreating that you do your best to get current with your OSSS membership. We have come a long way to bring our membership list into the 21st century and right now we need you to help get the data right so we can continue to grow and offer opportunities for networking, touring, sharing, professional development, and having fun!!! Are you a lapsed member? You might be and just don't know it. Just because you are receiving this newsletter is no indication of your

current membership status. If your membership has lapsed, this will be the last hardcopy newsletter you will be receiving (!) So please get-right with the Society (super easy to do on the web-site at:

http://www.oregonsoils.org/?page_id=116 – no excuses! – do it now!!!!) – The best is yet to come!

Speaking of the best – I have been dreaming of the *Orifices of Oregon* summer tour now for a couple of years and it is finally coming into focus and will be a reality at the beginning of this August! Save the dates – August 9-11!!! Warning: This summer tour IS FOR THE HARDCORE ONLY!!! – No kids, no puppies, no fear! Three days in the heat and dust with two nights camping out in the open under the stars – lots of rocks, glass, stones, cracks, holes, juniper, and BIG SKY!!!! Are you ready to sweat? Missing the grit between your teeth lately? Sleep on the ground much these days or have you gone soft? Is sitting in front of a computer day-in and day-out making you forget why you got into soils in the first place? What has happened? Is REALITY slipping away? Time to unplug and to get up and away from that screen! The real world is still out there – let's go see it and feel it!!! *OSSS Summer Tour 2012 – The Orifices of Oregon* will put you firmly back in touch!!!

On August 9, 10, and 11, a hardcore group of reality-seeking human beings will depart from Bend, Oregon, at 8:00 a.m. (sharp!!!) heading to points east and south into the magnificence of central Oregon to witness the grandeur of one of the most beautiful places on the planet Earth! People from all over the world come to experience and see what is just sitting in our backyard! We will be visiting amazing geologic features such as Glass Butte, Hart Mountain, Sunstone Mines, Abert Rim, Summer Lake Hot Springs, Crack in the Ground, Fort Rock, Hole in the Ground – and more!!! Though you are welcome to drive yourself, I strongly encourage you to ride in the vans with us – group cohesion, baby – let's stay tight for fast decision making – we can go wherever/do whatever we want if we are of one mind! If you insist on driving, let's do our best to carpool. It will help save on your fuel costs and keep us tight. Again, this is for hardcore humans only! Three days, two nights, limited comforts, free of the trappings of modern life, all for \$50 registration and ~\$20 for other expenses (fuel contribution and second night camping). We will provide hot supper for the two nights that we are out in the rough. You bring your breakfast/snacks/lunch or we will find it on the road! We will have as many 8-passenger vans as we need and will be asking for some gas contribution (except for students!). Both nights we will be camping at two different hot springs – one is a free site, the other I have negotiated a group rate. What could be

better after a long, hot dusty day on the road than a cool night in a hot spring out in the middle of Central Oregon? Anyway, I hope you will bring your spirit of adventure and help us to explain the phenomenon we are looking at - Rock-nerds – we need you! I am still looking for help for having people meet up with us to give us some background on what we are seeing – particularly, Hart Mountain area, Abert Rim area, and BLM juniper removal near Lakeview – let me know if you have contacts! Also, we will be visiting a sunstone mine so anyone who is an expert on that would be great too. The whole trip should be about 450 miles over paved asphalt, improved gravel and possibly a few short sections of unimproved 2 tracks (4 wheel high clearance vehicles not required but rethink your low riders!). Please consider that when deciding about whether to drive or not (!)

I am excited about the tour. It is going to be fun and beautiful and HARDCORE!!! Let's do it! *Orifices of Oregon 2012 Summer Tour!* Hope to see you there!!

OSSS 2012 Summer Tour Itinerary

Stop Name	Date	Travel Time	Arrive	Time at Location	Leave	1/ Utm_z	1/ Utm_e	1/ Utm_n	Elev_ft
Bend	8/9/2012	--	7:00 AM	Start	8:00 AM	10T	632325	5E+06	3845
Glass Buttes	8/9/2012	2 hr	10:00 AM	3 hrs	1:00 PM	10T	738542	5E+06	4989
Riley Gas Stop	8/9/2012	30 min	1:30 PM	30 min	2:00 PM	11T	297067	5E+06	4226
Hart Mountain Refuge	8/9/2012	2 hr	4:00 PM	2 hrs	6:00 PM	11T	282000	5E+06	5617
Camp at Hart Mt Hot Spring Camp	8/9/2012	30 min	6:30 PM	13 hrs	7:30 AM	11T	278955	5E+06	5975
Sunstone Mine	8/10/2012	1 hr	8:30 AM	2 hrs	10:30 AM	11T	265234	5E+06	4600
Plush - Lunch Stop	8/10/2012	1 hr	11:30 AM	1 hr	12:30 PM	11T	260819	5E+06	4524
BLM Juniper Tree Cutting	8/10/2012	30 min	1:00 PM	30 min	1:30 PM	10T	741777	5E+06	5561
Abert Rim	8/10/2012	1 hr	2:30 PM	30 min	3:00 PM	10T	734616	5E+06	4340
Summer Lake Hot Springs Camp	8/10/2012	1 hr	4:00 PM	15 hrs	7:30 AM	10T	692526	5E+06	4263
Crack in the Ground	8/11/2012	2 hr	9:30 AM	1 hr	10:30 AM	10T	688594	5E+06	4489
Fort Rock	8/11/2012	1 hr	11:30 AM	2 hrs	1:30 PM	10T	656547	5E+06	4358
Hole in the Ground	8/11/2012	30 min	2:00 PM	1 hr	3:00 PM	10T	645227	5E+06	4699
Big Hole	8/11/2012	30 min	3:30 PM	30 min	4:00 PM	10T	636990	5E+06	4728
Lava Butte	8/11/2012	45 min	4:45 AM	30 min	5:15 PM	10T	632465	5E+06	4520
Bend	8/11/2012	25 min	5:45 AM	End	--	10T	632325	5E+06	3845

1/ UTM coordinates are in NAD 83. Please check OSSS website events page for the latest updates and changes at: http://www.oregonsoils.org/?page_id=5

OSSS 2012 SUMMER TOUR REGISTRATION

Orifice\$ of Oregon!!!

2012 OSSS Summer Tour

Thursday, August 9th – Saturday, August 11th

Warning! This is for the HARDCORE ONLY!!!!

☞ *Openings, Holes, Cavities, Cracks, Vents, Outlets...(!)* ☛

Attractions to consume!

- Central Oregon waaaay out there! – HARDCORE!!! Hot & Gritty!
- Glass Butte, Hart Mountain, Sunstone Mining(!), Crack in the Ground
- Fort Rock, Hole in the Ground, Ice Cave, Big Hole, Lava Butte...
- Camping @ two hot springs (2 nights) – bring your own gear!
- Hot supper provided for two nights! – bring your own mess kit!
- Van transportation provided! – \$15 gas contribution (Free for students)
- Drive yourself if you want!!! - (but ride in the vans, for Pete's sake!)
- Breakfast/snacks/lunch on the road – you supply
- \$50 per person (\$75 for late registration – after July 27th!)

Registration **must** be received before July 27th to receive a chance at super-secret prizes!

Register and pay on-line (OSSS Website)

or make checks out to OSSS and mail this form to:

OSSS Summer Tour 2012

P.O. Box 391

Corvallis, OR 97333

Call me anytime if you have questions, comments, suggestions...

Work phone: 541-737-6810 Cell: 541-602-4387

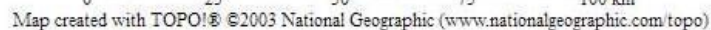
Email: james.cassidy@oregonstate.edu

Rendezvous at (Location
TBA) in Bend @ 7:30am
(8:00am departure) on
Thursday (8/9)! Be There!

Name(s)
Address
City
State and Zip
Phone
Email
Riding in Van? YES NO
Hardcore? YES NO

Please register as soon as possible to guarantee a spot in a van and to make sure we get all the needed supplies!!! HARDCORE!

2012 OSSS Summer Tour - Thursday, Friday, Saturday - August 9-11, 2012



STUDENTS' CORNER

by Roslyn Albee

~ OSU Soil Students Head to Central Oregon ~

The summer soil trip is coming up for OSSS, but in the meantime the students of Oregon State University have been exploring Oregon's soil orders. The Oregon State Soil Judging Team, along with the OSU class CSS 466 - Soil Morphology and Classification, traveled over the Cascades to check out some eastern Oregon Andisols. Jay Noller made our first stop at Tombstone Pass where we learned some of the history of Iron Mountain and how Native Americans wanted to control it as an arrowhead source. We made a quick stop for some coffee and bagels in the beautiful town of Sisters before heading to our first soil location at the Rock Springs Ranch northwest of Bend. The ranch had a beautiful pond with tuff rocks surrounding part of it, as shown in the picture. A lesson was taught about how over just a short distance there can be a change in soil orders, such as in our case of an Andisol and Mollisol. Jay wants his students to use their senses in making soil observations. One of the methods used to test for Andisol properties is a test for "smeariness." This is done by wetting a portion of the soil and working it between thumb and finger to detect how easily the wetted soil slips under pressure. Andisols have short-range-order minerals with a high specific surface area and roughness, giving them a soapy feel. Andisols also tend to have a weak mechanical strength and will slip more easily. Another indicator is how fast the soil dries on the fingers. Andisols have an abrasive quality that de-oils and rapidly dries out the skin (within seconds). Andisols, due to their high macroporosity and rapid drainage, tend to dry out quickly. We loaded back into the vans and headed back over the mountains. After entering the Willamette Valley, an ice cream stop made for a perfect conclusion to our exploration of Eastern Oregon's Andisols.



Tuff rocks surrounding a pond at Rock Springs Ranch - site of an Oregon State University soil judging team field trip to eastern Oregon.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

I just wanted to remind you all that you don't have to be on the Oregon Society of Soil Scientist executive board to submit articles for the sharpshooter. We welcome submissions from all of our members. Articles can be pretty much about anything with a link to the soil. You can be creative; we have had stories, poems, travel logs, articles about our members, new technology and research summaries submitted for past sharpshooters. What about a photo essay? Pictures are always good for our visually starved members. Articles can be emailed to the newsletter editor (see the Executive Board contact information page for the most current sharpshooter email contact address).

SAVE THE DATE

OSSS Winter Meeting and Soil Quality Network 2013

February 28 - March 1 – Mark your calendar!!!

Location: McMenamins Edgefield, Troutdale, Oregon

Two topic tracts:

- Soil, Soil, and More Soil
- Soil Quality Related to Water Quality and Quantity

Day-1 – Field Excursions

Day-2 – Outstanding Presentations

Culminating Panel Discussion

DATES TO REMEMBER



August, 9 – 11, 2012: Oregon Society of Soil Scientists 2012 "Orifices of Oregon" Summer Tour. Located in South Central Oregon, this includes Ft. Rock, hole-in-the-ground, crack-in-the-ground, lava flows, sunstone mining, and more. For the latest information visit the OSSS events page at: http://www.oregonsoils.org/?page_id=5

February 4 – September 22, 2012: "Dig It – The Secrets of Soil," Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit at The Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture (MAC), 2316 West First Avenue,

Spokane, WA. Visit the Spokane Conservation District website for more information:

<http://www.sccd.org/digitpromo/digit.html>

October 21 – 24, 2012: ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Annual Meetings, "Visions for a Sustainable Planet," Cincinnati, OH. Visit their meetings page for the latest information: <https://www.soils.org/meetings>

February 28 – March 1, 2013: Oregon Society of Soil Scientists Winter Meeting, McMenamins Edgefield, Troutdale, Oregon. Visit our events page for the latest information:

http://www.oregonsoils.org/?page_id=5

Spring 2013: 2013 National Collegiate Soils Contest, Platteville, WI. More information to come.

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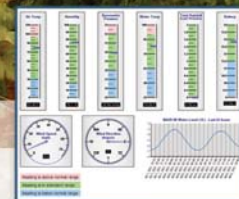
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Sharpshooter

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OSSS
Box 391
Corvallis, OR 97339

Website and email address:
<http://www.oregonsoils.org>

Advertisements

Reach more than a hundred soil science professionals with an advertisement in the *Sharpshooter*. And the price is right—whole page \$45, 1/2 page \$25, 1/4 page \$15, or 1/6 page \$10. All you need to do is provide a disk and hard copy to the *Sharpshooter* editor by the deadline (first of the month – January, March, June, and November).

All articles and advertisements submitted are subject to room available basis.

News items

Remember all articles submitted to the *Sharpshooter* can be emailed to the Sharpshooter editor (see below) in most any text, http, or word processing format. Pictures are best in 300 dpi jpg format.

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