

Straub Quarterly

Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center

“In partnership with the community, we create awareness and understanding of our relationship to the environment.”

Kids Love 2008 Forest Discovery Camps

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Who We Are

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Imagine a week long adventure exploring the Santiam State Forest in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains. During your adventure you might visit sun-filled meadows and mature forests of towering Douglas-fir, hemlock and western red cedar trees. Along the way you hike to waterfalls plunging into punchbowls of broken basalt and windswept peaks reaching up to 5000 feet in elevation. During Forest Discovery Camps 2008, thirty-four Salem students in fourth grade through middle school did just that.

Through a collaborative effort from the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center, the summer camps were offered free of charge to youth in Salem. Jon Mayer, Recreation and Education Coordinator at the Santiam State Forest and FSEL Board Member described the mission of the summer camps. “Our goal with these camps is to fill them with fun, hands-on educational activities that will help students connect to the forest and give them a better of understanding of this unique ecosystem, its natural processes and how important it is to sustainably manage forests for both society and the environment.”



Students participating in the 2008 Forest Discovery Camps.

Each day truly was an adventure. Nine year old Avery Chitwood may have said it best, “I’ve been camping only, but I didn’t learn anything like this!” Students participated in a wide variety of games, crafts, journaling and had ample time to simply relax in the forest.

Forest Discovery Camps, cont. from page 1

The full week-long schedule included activities and lessons such as safe outdoor recreation, Leave-No-Trace practices, plant identification, watershed education, forest management, and environmental stewardship. The students explored many beautiful locations across the Santiam State Forest, including trips to Shellburg Falls, Santiam Horse Camp, and Butte Creek Falls Recreation Area.

One of the favorite summer camp days was discovering the wildlife of the area. Whether it was dissecting owl pellets, analyzing animals' skulls or hiking deep into the woods to discover where animals prefer to live, students couldn't get enough. "My sister and I are going to be wildlife biologist buddies in the forest," said Kieran Lance of that day.



A field trip to Shellburg Falls was a highlight of the Forestry Discovery Camps 2008.

Laurie Aguirre, a long time teacher in the public school system volunteered throughout the week. She commented, "Today's children have become disconnected from nature. Direct experiences like these camps are invaluable in reconnecting them to their natural world and understanding how all living things are interconnected. The student interviews conducted on the final day of the week overwhelmingly evidenced that these camps have provided the beginning of a connection to the natural world."



Students get hands-on with a raccoon!

The last day of summer day camp wrapped up by focusing on how to become good stewards of natural resources. The big event for this discussion was the volunteer project. Students worked together to learn about and remove invasive weeds. The kids rolled up their sleeves and pulled armloads of English Ivy from thankful Douglas-fir trees opening up places for native plants to flourish. It was hard work yet, also one of the students' favorite days of camp. Forest Discovery Camps 2008 was a great success!

Volunteers Wanted!

The Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center would not be who we are today without the help of volunteers. The FSELC is an entirely volunteer-based non-profit organization that needs your help!

We need volunteers to assist with projects such as:

- Restoration
- Newsletter Coordinator
- Office assistance
- Thank you letters
- Publicize/ promote programs
- Create community Partnerships

To volunteer, please contact Lisa at lisa@fselc.org or (503) 391-4145.

If you would like to volunteer, but do not see anything listed that interests you, never fear! Please feel free to contact us with your ideas.

THANK YOU!!!



2008-09 Lecture Series Begins October 23

The Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center is thrilled to announce the 2008-09 Lecture Series schedule. This year will kick off with a talk by Dr. Ellen Morris Bishop on Thursday, October 23. Dr. Bishop's talk is titled, *"Past Voices, Future Choices: Lessons from the Rocks"*.

Her talk discusses how Oregon's fascinating geological history offers deep insights into the environmental and resource challenges we face today. Dr. Bishop will talk about how to read Oregon's geological record and apply its lessons to help Oregon craft a brighter future. Dr. Bishop is Executive Director of the Oregon Paleo Lands Institute. Her books include *In Search of Ancient Oregon: A Geological and Natural History*, *Hiking Oregon's Geology*, and *Best Hikes with Dogs: Oregon*.

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Dr. Jan Kreider

"Comparing the Costs and Benefits of Alternative Fuel Cars"

Conflicting claims abound about the various alternatives to gasoline to power our cars, such as ethanol, electricity, and natural gas. Dr. Jan Kreider will examine those claims by applying comprehensive "life cycle analysis" of the alternative fuels. Dr. Kreider is Professor Emeritus of Engineering at the University of Colorado and Founding Director of the University's Joint Center for Energy Management. He has received many awards for outstanding research and has written a dozen books and nearly 200 articles.

Thursday, January 29, 2009

Denise DeLuca

"Biomimicry: Innovation Inspired by Nature"

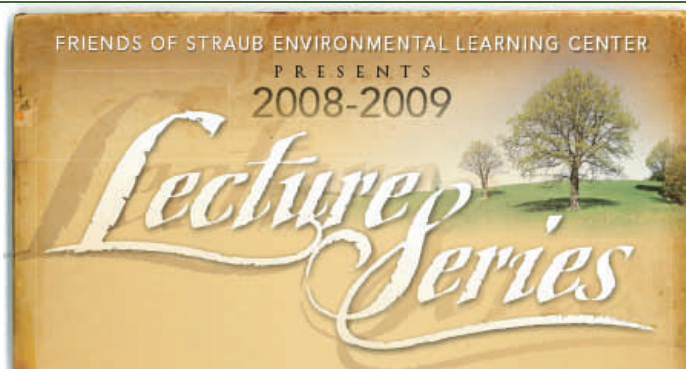
Solar cells that mimic leaves. Superglues from barnacles. Businesses that run like a redwood forest. Denise DeLuca will talk about the emerging science of biomimicry and give examples of technological and design innovations adapted from nature. A civil engineer, DeLuca is the Outreach Director for the Biomimicry Institute.

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mike Beagle

"Engaging Hunters and Anglers to Protect our Backcountry Heritage"

Hunters and anglers were among the country's first conservationists. It is imperative we speak up to pass on



our hunting and angling heritage, which is inextricably linked to healthy public lands. Mike Beagle will talk about how hunters and anglers are working to conserve backcountry lands. Beagle is co-founder of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers. A former military officer and teacher, he is now a field coordinator for Trout Unlimited.

Thursday, March 19, 2009

Dr. Ted Brekken

"The Promise of Wave Power"

If just 0.2 percent of the ocean's energy could be tapped, it could power the entire world. Dr. Ted Brekken will talk about the potential of wave energy to become an integral part of our electricity supply. Dr. Brekken is Co-Director of Oregon State University's Wallace Energy Systems and Renewables Facility.

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Martin LeBlanc

"Working Together to 'Leave No Child Inside'"

The "Leave No Child Inside" campaign is seeking to reverse alarming trends in children's activities and reconnect children with nature. Martin LeBlanc will talk about the campaign and give examples of how communities are working to give their children experiences in nature. LeBlanc is the National Youth Education Director for Sierra Club and Vice President of the Children and Nature Network.

Thursday, May 28, 2009

Russ Morgan

"Wolf Conservation and Management in Oregon: Perspectives, Challenges, and Future Implications"

Wolves are making a controversial comeback in Oregon. Oregon Wolf Coordinator Russ Morgan will give a history and status of wolves in Oregon and the West and discuss Oregon's new wolf management plan and the challenges of modern wolf management. Morgan has worked at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife since 1987.

All Lecture Series events are held at 7:00 p.m. at the Loucks Auditorium, Salem Public Library.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

October 17: Green Salem meeting. 7:00 p.m., FSELCL.

October 18: Oak savannah/riparian restoration day. 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., FSELCL.

October 21: "Favorite Plants of Western Cascade Butterflies" by Tanya Harvey, Native Plant Society meeting. 7:00 p.m., FSELCL.

October 23: Lecture Series: "Past Voices, Future Choices: Lessons from the Rocks", Dr. Ellen Morris Bishop. 7:00 p.m., Loucks Auditorium, Salem Library.

October 27: "Plastics and Human Health", Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility. 7:00 p.m., FSELCL.

October 30: Amateur Naturalist Class: *Mushrooms and Lichens*. 7:00 p.m., FSELCL. \$5 per person, please call to register.

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

30

November 12: Amateur Naturalist Class: *Rain Gardens*. 7:00 p.m., FSELCL. \$5 per person, please call to register.

November 19: Bird and bat box construction demonstration. 7:00 p.m., FSELCL.

November 20: Lecture Series: "Comparing the Costs and Benefits of Alternative Fuel Cars", Dr. Jan Kreider. 7:00 p.m., Loucks Auditorium, Salem Library.

November 21: Green Salem meeting. 7:00 p.m., FSELCL.

November 22: Sustainable Holiday Market. 10:00 a.m.— 5:30 p.m., Bush Elementary School.

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

December 4: "Ethnobotany" by Dr. Morris Johnson, Native Plant Society meeting. 7:00 p.m., FSELCL.

December 11: Amateur Naturalist Class: *GPS Basics*. 7:00 p.m., FSELCL. \$5 per person, please call to register.

December 19: Green Salem meeting. 7:00 p.m., FSELCL.

Have a happy holiday season!



The FSELCL designation means the event is held at the Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center. The FSELCL is located at 1320 A St. NE, Salem 97301, next to Olinger Pool, near North Salem High. For questions or further information about any of the events, please contact Lisa at lisa@fselc.org or (503) 391-4145.



Sustainable Holiday Market

The Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center is proud to announce its first ever Straub Sustainable Holiday Market!

The Market provides a unique shopping opportunity to find holiday gifts. A wonderful array of earth-friendly



holiday gifts will be presented by local vendors. Visitors will be able to shop for gifts that are biodegradable, energy-saving, locally and regionally produced, fair trade, and chemical free products. The Market will also feature holiday projects by local schools.

The FSELc is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to environmental education. All proceeds from the Sustainable Holiday Market will benefit our numerous environmental education programs for all ages. Thank you to all those participating.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center Sustainable Holiday Market

Date: Saturday, November 22, 2008

Time: 10:00 a.m.—5:30p.m.

Location: Bush Elementary School

2008-09 Amateur Naturalist Series Schedule

The Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center's Amateur Naturalist Series has begun! Last year, hundreds of Oregonians attended this series to learn more about Oregon's natural environment. Join us at any of the scheduled events! ***Please note that registration is required for all Amateur Naturalist Series programs. Please email lisa@fselc.org or call 503-391-4145 to reserve your space.***

Mushroom and Lichen Identification

Thursday, October 30, 7:00 p.m.
Jon Mayer

Rain Gardens

Wednesday, November 12, 7:00 p.m.
Deborah Topp

GPS Basics

Thursday, December 11, 7:00 p.m.
Josh Travers and Jon Mayer

Urban Tree Care

Thursday, January 15, 7:00 p.m.
Kristin Ramsted

Naturescaping

Thursday, February 12, 7:00 p.m.
Gail Gredler

Raptors of Oregon

Thursday, March 12, 7:00 p.m.
Susan LaFontaine

Wildflower Identification

Talk day and time TBA
Dr. Morris Johnson

Geology of the Columbia River Gorge

Talk day and time TBA
Fieldtrip Saturday, April 18
Scott Pike

Beginning Entomology

Thursday, May 14, 7:00 p.m.
Tentative field trip Saturday, May 16
David McCorkle

Marine Life

Thursday, June 11, 7:00 p.m.
Tentative field trip Saturday, June 13
Ron Crouse





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In an effort promote sustainability of our natural resources, please request to be on our electronic version mailing list if you are receiving this publication on paper. Send your email address to: fselc@fselc.org or call (503)391-4145.

Thank you for caring about our environment.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DONORS

Please take a moment to read through these fabulous donors who have so graciously donated funds to the Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center. Funds from the public help provide the continuation and growth of our programs and activities.



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If you would like to donate funds to the FSEL please contact Lisa Olivares, lisa@fselc.org or call (503) 391- 4145.
