
❄️ Caldera Chronicles ❄️

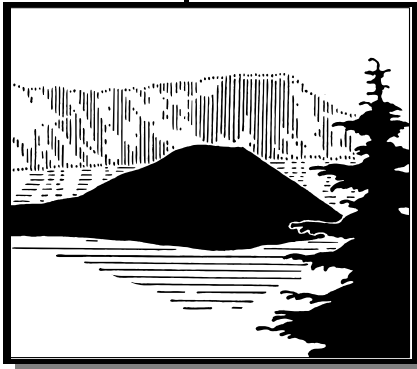
Volume 1 Issue 11

Spring 2001

Season's End

Thank you! Thanks to all of you Ski Patrollers who worked so hard this year! Your help in protecting the park and park visitors was greatly appreciated by park staff, other ski patrollers and the public we are dedicated to serve.

It was a slow winter this year compared to last season. We did not have any significant SARs and our primary rescue toboggan collected a little dust. However, our practice sled got a little use and a lot of training was accomplished throughout the warm winter. We had about 8 new people and a few 2nd year patrollers that needed some training requirements fulfilled. We were able to certify many from this group and do some more advanced training for our returning veterans. Although we did not have any significant SARs, the patrol was very helpful on 2 small searches, a couple of minor medicals and one vehicle accident. And as usual, the public education contacts during routine patrols helped prevent many potential rescues before they happened. The patrol issued a handful of verbal warnings and provided edu-



ational contacts that protected park resources from a variety of threats. The patrol also helped out on several park projects including snow surveys, trail marking, ava-

lanche evaluation, snowmobile patrol and snow shoveling.

As you may have noticed the title of my little article is "Season's End". However, I want to remind you that just because the snow is melting, we do not have to say good bye until next year. There are plenty of summer projects we need

help with. Some related to ski patrol and some not. By having ski patrollers participate in summer activities, we can provide a further service to the park and also help the ski patroller become more familiar with Crater Lake. Some patrollers have already signed up for work projects and trail patrol. A great deal of fun can also be had while enjoying the warmer weather after the snow is gone. Once again you are all invited to our summer technical rescue clinic and our seasonal solstice party. I will be sending out additional information when I get some more exact dates. These events have been well attended by patrollers and

the Ski Patrol "concert" last summer was a big hit! Feel free to contact me if you are interested in helping out in any way during the warmer months.

In closing, I want to once again thank each and every one of you for all the help you provided the park. We could not do it without you! I look forward to seeing many of you up here in the coming months. For those of you that will not return until the snow fly's, I hope you have a great summer and I look forward to seeing you up here next year.

John Broward

Crater Lake Ski Patrol Patches

If there is anyone interested in adding some extra Patches to your Ski clothing contact J.T.

We are selling these patches at our cost of \$3.25ea. If interested contact me at home at 541-273-9286 or **jhummel@ncelec.com**



Park is a protected area for this and future generations. This includes park wildlife. Since dogs and other domestic animals chance and harass park critters, we have to exclude them from roaming around the backcountry. Pets are permitted in paved areas as long as they are on a leash.

Facts about Crater Lake

Pets in the Back-country

Often ski patrollers tell visitors that pets are not permitted in the backcountry. Some times the visitors asks why. Hopefully, many of you will remember that the reason is to protect park wildlife. Crater Lake National

Greatest Depth: 1,932'
Average Depth: 1,500'
Surface Elevation: Approximately 6,000'.
Widest Point: 6.02 miles.

- Narrowest Point: 4.54 miles.
- Distance around the lake: 33 miles
- Height before collapse: estimated 11,000 to 12,000 feet.
- Surface Temp: 32-65F
Last Total Freeze: 1949.
- High Point on Rim: Hillman Peak (8,151)
- Low Point on Rim: Palisade Point (6,700)

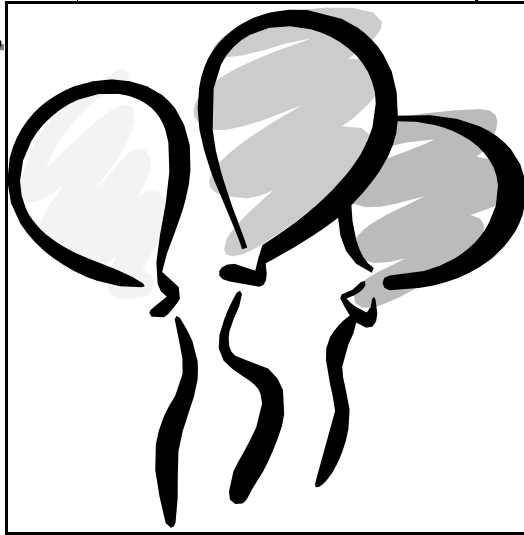
- Park Established: May 22nd, 1902. Park Size: 286 sq miles,
- 183,000 acres. Average Snow: 533"

Anniversary Coming Up!

Crater Lake National Park's 100th anniversary is coming up in 2002! The park will be celebrating in a variety of ways, including an artist in the park program, special events, and a variety of special publications. Since the ski patrol is an important part of the park operation, you will be invited to attend many of these events. Stayed tuned for more information, as we get closer to the big date.

Avalanche Watch-out Situations

1) Heavy dense snowfall or rain.



2) New snowfall greater than 12".

3) New snowfall Greater than 1" an hour.

4) Wind loading greater than 15 mph.

5) Long/clear/cold spell followed by significant snowfall

6) Storms than begin cold and

end warm.

7) Rapid temperature rise during the day.

8) Prolonged period of above freezing temperatures

9) Intense sun, especially near cliff bands.

10) Any combination of above

From the Crater Lake Ski Patrol handbook

Have You Ever Skied the Rim?

You say you haven't skied the Rim? Then you have not experienced Crater Lake to its full potential. Sure Skiing out to Sun Notch or out West Rim to the Watchmen is a awesome ski, but it seems to be the same old thing. Don't get me wrong; I will never get tired of skiing to these places.

Yet to Ski the Rim is a Fresh and exciting Experience. Crater Lake takes on a whole new perceptive from the other side. Wizard Island, Watchmen, and Hillman as well as Llao appear differently from the other vantage points along the

rim. To see Phantom Ship from Kerr Notch is like trying to describe the Lake to a friend who has never seen Crater Lake before. Getting up early on the second day and walking to the rim with your coffee and seeing the lake view with all it's colors, as well as the sun coming up behind you is breath taking.

Skiing past Mt. Scott and heading on the downhill side, the view of Garfield, Applegate, & Dutton is stunning. Picking a weekend to Ski the Rim is a challenge, because you don't know what the weather will be like when that weekend comes around. Sometimes the first day could be overcast with poor visibility and second could be very rewarding. So when next season comes around put a date on your calendar to Ski the Rim, (preferably March

or early April) and have a complete Crater Lake Experience!

Have a Great Summer

J.T. Hummel

ion". As volunteers of the Crater Lake Ski Patrol, you too should be invited to the event. There has also been an interest in having our own Ski Patrol Reunion that would be separate from other reunions.

If you are interested in helping plan a patrol reunion, let John Broward know. If you are interested in attending a reunion and/or if you are in contact with former patrollers, than stay tuned in the coming months for further information.



Ski Patrol Uniforms

Ski Patrol Reunion?

In case you have not heard, Crater Lake National Park will be celebrating it's 100 year anniversary next year (2002). Among the many activities planned, there will be a "Employee Reun-

A new addition to ski patrol uniforms will be implemented next season. We will now have a "Peruvian" style hat available to keep your ears warm. Since they are being purchased for a higher cost than the ball caps, we do not yet know how they will be distributed among the patrol. We will probably give hats to those patrollers who have been with us for several seasons.

In the mean time, if you are interested in purchasing a hat with the ski patrol emblem, contact Mas-sif directly and ask for Randy Benham. The phone number is: (541) 476-9163. The cost is approximately \$15.00 each.

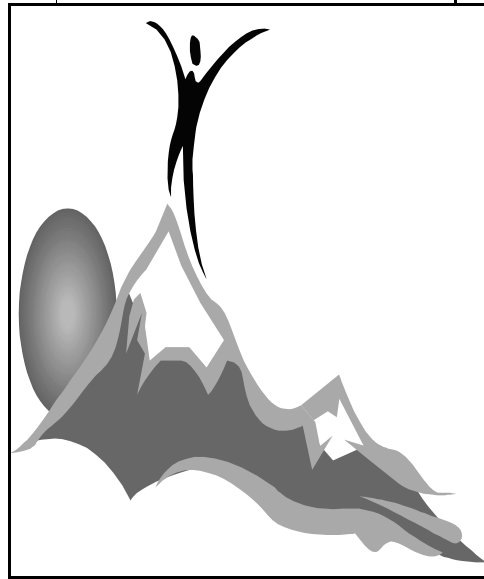
Summer Help Needed

Come be a part of Crater Lake during the warm summer months. The park needs assistance with a variety of projects including: trail patrol, ski trail and avalanche by-pass marking, work on wine glass cabin, wizard island patrol (includes free boat ride with NPS vessel), and many more!

Call John Broward if you are interested in any of these projects.

Ski Trails Sliced Up!

This winter has seen one of the lowest snowfalls ever at Crater Lake! It



is amazing how little snow we have received. Global warming has shown what the future might hold for us in southern Oregon.

Due to the low snowfall the Park's plow crew started opening summer use areas early. As a result of this,

trails such as the Hemlock Loop, Mazama Loop and West Rim were sliced up by bulldozers so much that they had to be closed earlier than ever before. In the eyes of a skier it was a pity because there was really another month to six weeks of good skiing in these areas.

If you are also sad to see the trails closed so early, you can let the park know by writing to the superintendent at: PO Box 07, Crater Lake, or. 97604 or fill out a comment card the next time you are in the visitor center.

Opportunity Knocks

Want an opportunity to get out of your office and make a meaningful contribution to the park? Fresh air, hard work, enlightening conversation...?

We're planning a division trail workday to help get the Cleetwood Cove Trail open. The dates will depend on how the plowing progresses, but we're looking at either sometime in the May 7-9 period, or May 21 (in conjunction with division meeting

I would love to see

as many people as possible participate. Supervisors, can you please try to keep these dates open for your staff? Let's figure on about a half-day of work and lunch.

Stay tuned for details,

Dave

Counter Clockwise?

This Winter I decided to do "The true Rim Trip".

Now, for those of you who don't understand the difference between a Rim Trip, and a "True Rim Trip", I'll explain.

Most people whom Cross Country Ski around Crater Lake Start at the Rim, ski out West Rim Road, and go around the Lake Clockwise. In doing this you fin-

ish your trip at a point 3 miles away from where you left your vehicle and almost 1,000 feet lower.

The "Purist" Complete Rim trip Begins at Steel



Center, is skied out East Rim Road counter clockwise, and when you Ski into Rim Village you continue East to Raven Trailhead and down Raven trail to finish where you started at Steel Center.

I had heard that it is much more difficult counter-clockwise, but some of us

though not physically born in "Missouri" still have the tendency and need to experience for ourselves, rather than take someone's word for it.

I'm now a believer.

Day 1 a Friday

The weather was blustery, but the forecast said it would break up, so a Friend and I set out East Rim Road with 35-pound Backpacks. My thought was that the first Day to day and a half would be uphill and after that it would be more downhill. A couple of times during the first day the weather closed in a little and visibility was limited, but we made Castle Crag the

First evening and set up our tents before dark, had dinner and went to sleep with about 15-20 mile per hour winds blowing, but slept well.

Day 2, Saturday

Morning brought a spectacular sunrise and clear weather, and after breakfast it was a short day to Wineglass overlook where I intended to spend at least 1 night to get some full moon photos. Except for the last 3 miles to Wineglass the rest of the second day

was all uphill as well. Crystal clear night and the morning brought the full moon to set directly across from where we were camped.

Day 3 Sunday

We skied from Wineglass to the back of Hillman under a blazing sun, clear skies, and many wonderful photo opportunities. The most interesting phenomenon was that we still seemed to be doing more uphill than downhill, and the last stretch is a pretty good hill going up the backside of Hillman, but we were rewarded with an awesome sunset and breath taking view of Mount Bailey and Mount Thielsen for dinner.

Day 4 Monday

Beautiful sunrise over Majestic Hillman and some more great photo ops then we continued climbing up The West Rim Road. Where did all this uphill come from, and why

aren't our packs feeling that much lighter than when we left?

Ah, but now we are at Watchman overlook and I know there's finally some downhill coming,



a little icy, but between us we only made three "snow turtles" before getting to Discovery Point.

Finally we are at Rim Village, stop in for a cup of coffee and a bowl of Chili before heading out to Raven Trail Head and the last 1-¼ miles of this adventure.

Our legs are a little spent, and the trail a little icy still, so we opted to leave the packs at the rim and ski Raven to the truck without the extra weight. This proved to be a wise decision as it was very icy in some of the shaded areas.

Neither of us are "from Missouri" anymore,... it really is more difficult counter-clockwise, but the camaraderie, photos and sense of accomplishment were more than worth the extra effort.

I would do it again, well maybe someday but I think I'll go Clockwise the next time.

Wild Bill

LEAVE NO TRACE TIPS FOR WINTER BACKCOUNTRY USERS

We winter backcountry users love the solitude of nature in winter, we love the pristine sparkly new snow, the sound of the wind through the trees, and the sun or snow on our faces, and most importantly for some, the lack of human traces on this splendor. Here are a few tips for all of us to become less impacting and more informed backcountry enjoyers.

Would you like to write a article for the

Caldera Chronicles

~~Volume 1 Issue 9~~ ~~Winter 2000~~

Sub-
mit

articles to:

John Broward

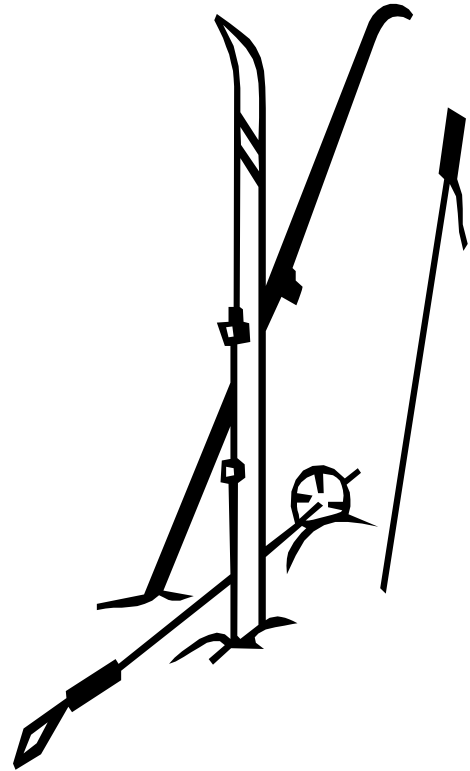
Email mail address:

John_Broward@nps.gov

OR Mail direct to the editor:

Email address:

wheels@internetcds.com



REMEMBER TO ALWAYS :



Ski Safely and Have Fun!



Return
Address

Forwarding
Address