

Crater Lake Currents



Jen Beck's little ones enjoy the Castle Crest Wildflower Garden. Photo by Jen Beck

July 1, 2015

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A big thank you to **Mike Traut**, **Brian Coulter**, and the rest of the Maintenance staff who helped set up and cook lunch during seasonal orientation. Together, we all ate 100 burgers and 100 hot dogs. Training must work up quite an appetite!

CALDERA NEWS

Art on the Rim

The annual Art on the Rim art show will be held in the Community House on **July 11 and 12, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** Former Crater Lake artists-in-residence will be displaying and selling artwork inspired by this park.

Casual Conversations Coming Soon

With the help of our new librarian, **Heidrun Perez**, Casual Conversations will begin soon in the Science and Learning Center. Casual Conversations will be held on **Wednesday nights at 7 p.m.** Join fellow rangers and researchers for science discussions and refreshments. Look for fliers around the park.

Free Ranger-led Programs

For ranger-led programs that don't require tickets or reservations look no further than the numerous talks and hikes provided by Interpretation. All programs began on **Friday, June 26**, except for Watchman Peak Sunset Hikes, which begin on **July 1**.

Sinnott Memorial Talks

20-minute talks from the perch of Sinnott Memorial overlooking the lake. Everyday - 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m., & 2:30 p.m.

Lodge Talks

20-minute talks in the Great Room of the Lodge or on the back porch. Everyday - 4 p.m.

Sun Notch Hike

1-hour easy hike with great views of Phantom Ship. Meet at trailhead. Sun & Wed - 2 p.m.

Plaikni Falls

1.5-hour easy hike to a waterfall. Meet at trailhead. Mon, Thurs, & Sat - 2 p.m.

Garfield Peak

2.5-hours, strenuous (1000' elevation gain) hike to great views of the lake and beyond. Meet on back porch of the Lodge. Tues & Fri - 2 p.m.

Watchman Peak Sunset Hike

1.5-hour hike to the Watchman Lookout for a spectacular view of sunset. Meet at Watchman Overlook. Everyday - start times vary, see newspaper or ask at visitor center

Evening Campground Programs

45-minute outdoor program in the Amphitheater in Mazama Campground. Topics as varied as our interpreters! Everyday - start times vary, see newspaper or ask at visitor center

Contracting Deadlines in July

Summer has started, which means that contracting deadlines are upon us. See the deadlines below if you are in need of contracting. Contact Contracting Officer **Jack Northcutt** if you have any questions.

- **7/10** - Cooperative Agreements (including task agreements and modifications)
- **7/17** - GSA Delivery Order
- **7/17** - Simplified Acquisitions (\$3,000-\$24,999)
- **7/17** - Interagency Agreements
- **7/17** - Architect/Engineer IDIQ Task Orders
- **7/31** - Contract Modifications
- **7/31** - Purchases <\$3,000 Requiring a Purchase Order

Trails Crew Participates in National Get Outdoors Day

By Jen Gifford, Trails Supervisor

On June 13 the Crater Lake Trail Crew teamed up with the Umpqua National Forest to host a National Get Outdoors Day event at Diamond Lake Campground. There were crosscut saw demonstrations, talks on trail maintenance, and branding of the “cookies” cut by the participants.

National Get Outdoors Day is a new annual event to encourage healthy, active outdoor fun. The prime goals of the day are reaching first-time visitors to public lands and reconnecting our youth to the great outdoors.



GEOGRAPHY QUIZ!

By Chris Wayne, Park Geographer



Welcome to a new column, Geography Quiz! Hopefully it will be slightly entertaining as well as slightly educational. One correct respondent will get a random piece of GIS swag. No, I'm not giving away any GPS units. Think pencils, stickers, or yo-yos. Maybe a personalized map of the correct answer as well, autographed by your esteemed Park Geographer.

So the inaugural question: CRLA is at the top of several hydrological Basins. A hydrological Basin is an area defined by topography. Every drop of water that lands in a basin (like from snow or rain), or originates in it (like from a spring) ends up in the same place. Usually it is a river system that ends up in the ocean...but not always. (Lots of hints here!)

Name the basins that originate in Crater Lake and their sources. The more detailed your answer, the better your chances of winning and/or getting better stuff (but don't go over a paragraph; illustrations are welcome). Scott, Dave, and Mark need not apply. Sorry, but y'all know the answer and probably have plenty of GIS swag (and a few of my GPS's...?).

Submit your answers to **chris_wayne@nps.gov**, subject line **"geoquiz."** Due date is **Monday, July 13**. Winners will be announced in the next Crater Lake Currents, along with the next question.

SAFETY AND WELLNESS

The **July 15** safety meeting at **7: 15 a.m.** in the Maintenance Building will be on Portable Power Tools Safety: an introduction to portable power tools for the novice user. The video emphasizes safe work practices and the use of proper personal protective equipment. Includes drills, sanders, routers, and other equipment.

Here are a few tips to get you thinking about power tool safety. From <http://www.teched101.com/pdf/powtolsaf.pdf>:

1. DON'T operate a machine until receiving proper instruction and fully understanding how to use it.
2. WEAR EYE PROTECTION.
3. Use ALL safety guards exactly as they are supposed to be used.
4. WEAR EAR PROTECTION.
5. Make all adjustments to machines with the power off.
6. Start & stop the machine yourself. STAY WITH THE MACHINE UNTIL IT STOPS.
7. Keep a SAFE DISTANCE between your hands & all moving parts on the machine.
8. Make sure everyone is clear BEFORE you turn on the power.
9. NEVER work on a machine or power tools when you're TIRED or HURRIED.
10. Operate the machine BY YOURSELF - unless you need a helper.

What's Blooming Now

By Jen Beck, Botanist

Are you feeling tired? Frustrated? Or maybe you just plain have the blues? I have a sure-fire cure: a stroll through the Castle Crest Wildflower Garden! Even if you're already content and feeling good about life, the floral display that is peaking right now at the Wildflower Garden is sure to lift your spirits even higher. Get out and let the glorious palette of wildflowers remind you of what it's all about.



Lewis' Monkeyflower (*Mimulus lewisii*). This species was named after Meriwether Lewis, who first collected it in 1805 in Montana. Monkeyflowers have very sensitive stigmas (the portion of the flower that receives pollen) that close when lightly touched by an insect tongue, piece of grass, etc., which is theorized to aid in pollination. This species is pollinated by bees.



Elephant's Head Pedicularis (*Pedicularis groelandica*). Come on, a bunch of pink elephant-like flowers clustered together like this? How cool is that?? This species is a partial root parasite, which means it taps into the roots of its neighbors to supplement its meals in addition to photosynthesizing its own food. This species is pollinated by bumblebees.



Blue Stickseed (*Hackelia micrantha*). Our native version of forget-me-nots, it is hard to forget this little beauty. If you brush up against it, you won't forget it, either, as you will be picking the "stickseeds" off your pants and/or socks for quite some time. This species is pollinated by a variety of insects including flies, bees, and butterflies.



Anderson's Lupine (*Lupinus andersonii*). This plant is blooming not only at the Castle Crest Wildflower Garden, but also park-wide. It can be wonderfully fragrant, especially when the sun hits one of its larger meadow populations. This species is pollinated by bees and bumblebees.



Scarlet Gilia (*Ipomopsis aggregata* var. *formosissima*). This is another species that was first collected by Meriwether Lewis (1806 in northern Idaho). Our red-flowered plants are pollinated by hummingbirds, but whitish to pale-pink flowered versions may be pollinated by bees during the day and moths during the evening hours.

Hike of the Month

Castle Crest Wildflower Trail

By Jen Gifford, Trails Supervisor

The Castle Crest Wildflower Trail is located right across Munson Valley Road from Park Headquarters making this the perfect lunch break walk. At just over a half mile long, this historic loop trail wanders through a lush landscape of wildflowers, shrubs, and old growth trees. The trail itself is of interest as it breaks away from the normal soil tread and utilizes stepping stones through the wetter areas of the trail and stone steps to negotiate the steep inclines. Pick up the trail guide for this trail at the trailhead and learn about some of the wildflowers that grow along the trail and the various forest types found along this short loop.

The trailhead for this trail is located on East Rim Drive, less than one mile from Park Headquarters. A spur trail near the trailhead also takes you directly to Park Headquarters where you cross the road at the 3-way stop signs.



Open to: Foot travel only. Not wheelchair accessible due to steps and uneven trail tread.

Difficulty: Very easy

Distance: 0.5-mile loop with additional 0.4-mile spur trail

PEOPLE OF THE LAKE

COMING...

Sharon Flesch joined the Interpretation division on June 28.

Andrew Fraser will hopefully be joining the Revegetation Crew on July 6, or soon thereafter.

GOING...

Jeff Watson left Crater Lake on June 26 to accept a position as an administrative assistant with the Veterans Administration. Bon voyage, Jeff.

MOVING AROUND...

Suann Sauvey is moving from Budget Technician for Maintenance into the position of Budget Analyst. Congratulations, Suann!

Laura Bellasalma will be moving from her Facility Services position into a new Administrative Assistant position for Maintenance.



Congratulations to **Lauren Jones** and **Seth Macey**, who were married (well, mostly) at Smith Rock State Park on **June 28!!**

Come out and celebrate with them at a potluck at their place in Steel Circle on **Sunday, July 5, from noon to 6 p.m.** The couple will provide sandwiches, cake, and some beverages. Feel free to bring a side dish to share. There is also a card in the Sager lunchroom for everyone to sign and an envelope near the superintendent's office in Sager for donations towards a wedding gift from the park.

IN THE COMMUNITY



Fourth of July at Diamond Lake

What: This is a Crater Lake tradition. Ask around; you can probably get a ride to Diamond Lake. Music, kids games, and BBQ. Fireworks show at 10 p.m. Saturday night. 541-793-3333

Where: Diamond Lake Resort

When: Friday and Saturday, July 3 - 4, fireworks start at 10 p.m. Saturday

Fourth of July at Klamath Falls

What: Celebrate our nation's independence in historic downtown Klamath Falls. The festivities will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday with a colorful parade down Klamath Avenue and will end with an aerial fireworks display over Lake Euwana. The parade will travel down Klamath Avenue and more than 80 entries are expected. Marching bands, classic cars, fire trucks, horses, performers, and floats are part of the fun!

Where: Downtown Klamath Falls, Fireworks over Lake Euwana

When: Saturday, July 4, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Fourth of July in Medford

What: Live music and the largest fireworks show in Oregon (according to their website).

Where: Jackson County Fairgrounds, 1 Peninger Rd, Central Point

When: Saturday, July 4, 10:05 p.m.

Fourth of July in Ashland

What: The event begins with a run organized by the Ashland Parks & Recreation Department, followed by a Parade beginning at 10 a.m. After the parade, there are over one hundred booths in Lithia Park featuring food, crafts, information, and music. A fireworks show begins at dusk. 541-482-3486

Where: Downtown Ashland

When: Saturday, July 4, 10 a.m - 10 p.m.

"All Things Crater Lake"

What: An open call invitational exhibit open to members and non-members of the Klamath Art Association and gallery. Will showcase all kinds of art, photography, crafts, rustic style textile design, and furniture design (small) that depict what Crater Lake NP and Crater Lake Lodge are about.

Where: Klamath Art Association, 120 Riverside Drive, Klamath Falls

When: Exhibit runs from July 5-26, Reception Sunday, July 12, noon to 4 p.m.