

Jacksonville Woodlands
Association
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The JWA Board would like to thank the JWA partners – City of Jacksonville, Bureau of Land Management – Southern Oregon Land Conservancy - whose active support and ongoing contributions play a vital role in the Jacksonville Woodlands success. And, thank you to the JWA membership and Jacksonville community for the generous financial contributions which provides the financial resources to sustain the Jacksonville Woodlands!



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Liz's Spirit Lives on Through New Trail

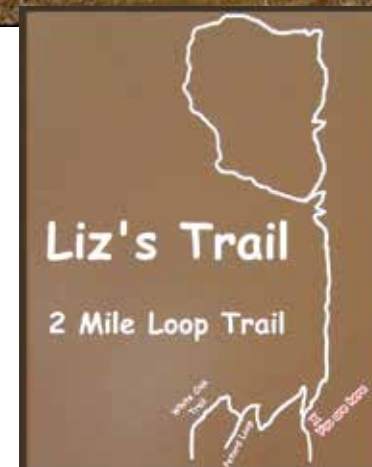


Woodlands hikers now have an additional two-mile loop trail to step out on. Liz's trail was officially opened at the annual Hike-a-thon celebration in April. The trail honors the spirit of Liz Braislin, a long-time JWA supporter and volunteer. The Braislin family participated in the formal ribbon cutting.

The new trail is a wonderful example of how community partnerships can work to make a dream become a reality. Trail easements, which allowed for trail construction on private parcels, were donated by James and Nadine Tattersall, Roger Sutton, George and Kathryn Carlson, William and Lyla Reed, Sherry Abbott, and Douglas and Jane Berning. Funds for the trail construction were provided by the Liz Braislin family and the Bureau of Land Management, with the JWA providing matching funds. Northwest Youth Corps members completed much of the labor. (For

more information on how the project came together so quickly, see the JWA newsletter for fall of 2009, available at jvwoodlands.org.)

Liz Braislin passed away in 2008, but her family hopes that as future generations tread the paths in the Woodlands, her generous spirit will be felt and remembered.



Proud family Liz and John Braislin's family joined in the hike-a-thon celebration for the dedication of Liz's trail, including cutting the ribbon. Several generations are now ready to walk the same trails Liz supported so enthusiastically.



Jacksonville Woodlands Association
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Special Thanks

“Jacksonville is for the Birds” As Part of the Hike-a-Thon program, a live auction of artistic birdhouses created by local artists was held with sale proceeds benefitting the Jacksonville Woodlands Association. “Thanks” to the local artists who participated in the event and Anne Brooke who coordinated the event. Once again, the **Good Bean Coffee Company** provided coffee for event participants. Lunch was provided by the **Jacksonville Chiropractic Clinic**. Thank You!!



Education and Wonder Found at Arboretum

The Beekman Arboretum was established in 1997 at the back of the Beekman House and at the entrance to the one mile loop trail. Over the years I have found a number of people are unaware of what an arboretum is. An arboretum is a collection of trees and shrubs grown for scientific and/or educational purposes. The Beekman Arboretum specializes in plants from Jackson County, so the beautiful Coastal Redwood which was offered has no place in the Beekman Arboretum. Over the years we have developed a collection of over a hundred different trees and shrubs, to say nothing of the herbaceous plants. There are twenty-two conifers native to Jackson County growing in the Arboretum. I believe that is all the conifers native to Jackson County. Besides the addition of plants, we have added another bench. Also three bat houses have been installed by Bob Budes and friend to hopefully encourage bats in the area.



Arboretum Men Alan Horobin, Ed Rova, Tony Hess and Dick Ames, with friend Pokey donate their time and effort to keeping up the arboretum.

However there is more than the educational aspect of the Arboretum; it is also a place where one can wander through, enjoy nature and sit and wonder. The Arboretum is maintained by volunteers Dick Ames, Ed Rova, Tony Hess, Will Naumann, and John Isaak. Additional support by the City of Jacksonville Public Works/Parks staff is also acknowledge and appreciated. -- by Alan Horobin

Your continued donations to the Jacksonville Woodlands Association will help continue with the ongoing development and maintenance of the Beekman Arboretum.

Through the Seasons: A Family Guide

by Kate Williams



Woodlands Fun The Williams kids, Caleb and Emma Pearl, enjoy hiking the trails and participating in special activities along the way.

My family and I moved to Jacksonville, Oregon nine years ago for many reasons: the small-town feel, the historic beauty, but mostly, for the trail system. In which other town in southern Oregon can one walk outside one’s door, and be in close walking distance of more than 10 miles of trails? Which other town can boast that its hillsides have been preserved for the enjoyment of ALL who come to visit? The trail system was our draw, and the trail system has lived up to our expectations.

Hiking the trails is a favorite family pastime for us Williamses. My husband will take the kids hiking every weekend, and end up at the Good Bean coffee shop for a treat afterwards. The kids look forward to certain rituals with every hike: my son leads the uphill section, my daughter the downhill. There are a couple of overhanging madrone tree branches that lean over the trail, and Dad will lift each one and they’ll count the seconds the can suspend themselves before they need Daddy’s help down. They love ending up at the Panorama Point bench to enjoy looking out at the town, and to indulge in a couple of bites of chocolate before continuing on.

This ritual of hiking the trails, in all seasons, whether to see fall color, hike in a snow storm, or to marvel at the spring wildflower display – these are just a given for our family. There are some fun activities we look forward to during the year that may not be so obvious. For example, in the fall we enjoy hiking the trails with a little basket, collecting interesting leaves, acorns, cones, sticks and pieces of bark. Sometimes we’ll gather these bits of autumn’s glory and display them on a special plate. Other times we’ll give the objects ‘personality’, gluing googly-eyes on them, and playing with them like some kids play with Barbies or action figures. If you do collect leaves in the Woodlands, be sure not to pick up poison oak leaves!

In the late spring or early summer, one of our favorite activities is to have duck races. That’s right, duck races. When the spring rains swell Jackson Creek and the summer sun gives us those first warm days, this is a great time to bring our rubber duckies, water shoes or rain boots, and head over to one of the Jackson Forks bridges. The kids will stand upstream, ducks in hand, while I – the judge – stand downstream at the ‘finish line’ to declare the winner. This is so much fun for the kids, and it is pretty darn cheery to see those little ducks racing down the creek.

No matter the season, there is every reason to get out in Nature with your family and enjoy the gift of the Jacksonville Woodlands trails. Enjoy!

Woods Grove Conservation Easement Signed



It’s official Jacksonville mayor Bruce Garrett, Southern Oregon Land Conservancy president Kara Olmo, JWA exec. dir. Larry Smith, and SOLC exec. dir. Diane Garcia sign the easement agreement. The signing was the culmination of a ten-year effort.

Success Through Partnerships and Donations

When organizations get together, combined with volunteer effort and donations of time and money, the benefits to the community seem endless. In addition to Liz's trail and the Hike-a-thon, mentioned elsewhere, another good example is the Scheffel-Thurston annual park cleanup. The JWA, Jacksonville Garden Club and Jacksonville Booster's Club join to sponsor the event. Over the past two years, volunteers from the clubs as well as neighbors Steven Gardner, Phil Gustafson, and Steven and Marilyn Earl, Boy Scouts, and the Jacksonville Parks Department have revitalized the park with benches, a park plaque, the removal of non-native shrubs, the addition of new decomposed granite on the pathway, and the installation of stepping stones. The stones are imprinted with the word for "welcome" in the languages of Jacksonville pioneer immigrants.

Another good example of partnerships is the placement of 14 new dog-poop stations throughout Jacksonville parks, urban trails and the Woodlands trail system. Joining in this effort are veterinarians Dr. Susan Konecny of **Home Pet Vet**, and Dr. Brad Frank, of the **Jacksonville Animal Hospital**, along with Whit Parker of the **Jacksonville Review**. Ongoing maintenance and bag replacement is being jointly funded by the city of Jacksonville and JWA.

JWA is also partnering with the city, BLM, Southern Oregon Land Conservancy, and the Trust for Public Land to protect fritillary habitat. This year JWA also helped the Jacksonville Heritage Society providing landscape maintenance at the Historic Beekman House.

Of course, JWA wouldn't be able to do any of this without its members and donations. For some projects, donations provide the matching funds needed to get federal and state grants. Dollars are also needed for ongoing programs, such as maintaining the Woodlands trails, securing conservation easements, performing fuel reduction activities as needed, controlling noxious weeds, and providing Woodlands information in the form of interpretive panels, brochures, and the website.



Park Cleanup Tony Hess, Jon Gailis, Bob Schroeter, and Charley Wilson work to clean up Scheffel-Thurston Park. Below, the public art sculpture "Sunflower" was designed and created by Jeremy Criswell.



Support Jacksonville Woodlands Association

JACKSONVILLE WOODLANDS HISTORIC NATURAL PARK AND TRAILS
320 Acres of scenic woodlands including:
Sarah Zigler Interpretive Trail
Rich Gulch Mining District
Beekman Woods and Arboretum
14 Miles of Maintained Hiking Trails
Historic Sites with Interpretive Panels
All available for Public Use

Local Artist ~ T-Shirts \$5.00 Available at Good Bean Coffee (S-M-L sizes only)

Please donate to the Jacksonville Woodlands Association

Coming Soon: A Richer French Gulch

Work is underway to improve the French Gulch/Rich Gulch area of the Woodlands. The proposed project includes new trails, displays, protective fencing, trail bridges, and trail side panels. Boy Scouts and JWA and Forest Park volunteers have worked over the past two years to build a circular trail through French Gulch, and from the base of the ditch to the top of the cliff, connecting the trail to the Rich Gulch and Panoramic Point trails. A trail display, designed by Don Thomas and funded by the BLM, will soon be installed, and an Eagle Scout project is planned that will rebuild Petard's original gold-capturing sluice box. The JWA is looking for original mining equipment including mining equipment and cannon. For Additional information or update on the project, please contact JWA Executive Director Larry Smith: info@jvwoodlands.org; 541-899-7402.

JWA Thanks Those Who Started It All Hike-a-thon Celebrates 20 Years

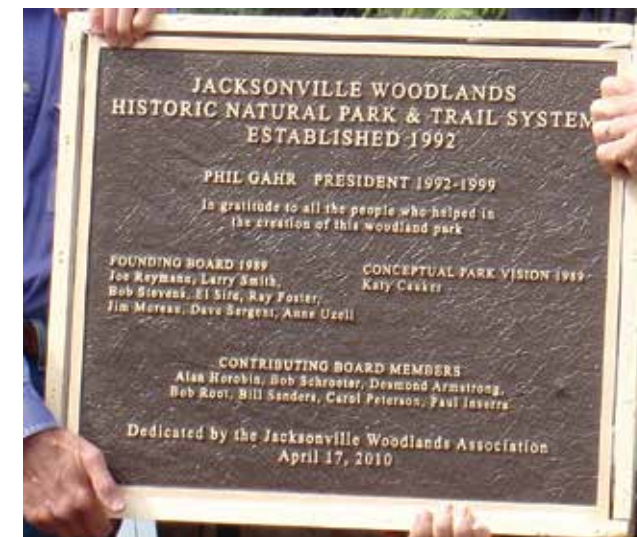


The success of the Jacksonville Woodlands is a result of concerned individuals coming together with a vision to protect and preserve Jacksonville scenic view sheds and woodland's habit. Jacksonville today would be a very different community had it not been for the efforts of these community leaders.

The 2010 Jacksonville Woodlands Association Hike-a-Thon celebrated the JWA's 20th year as an advocate for the Jacksonville Woodlands. The Hike-a-Thon event started with JWA Executive Director Larry Smith guiding three consecutive weekend hikes on trails located within the Jacksonville Woodlands, including the Beekman Woods & Arboretum, the Sarah Zigler Interpretative Trail, and the Rich Gulch Trails. Participants enjoyed Larry's leisurely-paced walk viewing the Spring wild flower display featuring the Fritillary Gentner, JWA's signature wildflower.

The Hike-a-Thon celebration, held on April 17, 2010, was opened by Larry who guided the program activities. Jacksonville Mayor Bruce Garrett read a proclamation commending the JWA and extending the City's appreciation to the Jacksonville Woodlands Association for its success and 20 years of effort to develop and sustain the Jacksonville Woodlands. John Gerritsma, Area Manager for Ashland Resource Area representing the Bureau of Land Management commended and acknowledged the success of the Jacksonville Woodlands and the partnership of the BLM and the JWA. For the keynote presentation former JWA president, Phil Gahr, highlighted the history of the JWA through the planning and development of the Jacksonville Woodlands Historic Natural Park and Trail System.

-- by Charley Wilson



Thank you Founders! JWA president, Charles Wilson, presented a plaque to Phil Gahr and the founding JWA Board members. The plaque was then installed on the Rich Gulch Trailhead kiosk.



The Jacksonville Forest Park was created in the 1,800-acre Jacksonville Watershed. It is located in the lower part of the watershed and covers 1,080 acres of forested mountains, valleys, roads, trails and streams. For access to the Forest Park from Jacksonville, take highway 238 West for .7 miles to Mary-Ann Drive and Reservoir Road, take the Reservoir Road one mile to the Forest Park Kiosk and the Park's entrance.

The Trail System

The Forest Park is dedicated to non-motorized recreation, hiking, running, mountain biking, and horseback riding. Since the park was created in 2008, a network of more than 5 miles of trails has been built, including a trail on the historic Bullis Railroad grade. The Rail Trail is almost a mile long and starts at the entrance of the Park's Kiosk. The Rail Trail is the site of the famous 1916 train wreck that occurred when a runaway train loaded with logs rolled out of control and crashed into the ravine. Norling Creek and Ridge View trails are easy trails that go higher into the park, leading the hiker or mountain biker to the site of an old underground gold mine. Here a bridge with a viewing platform crosses Cantrall Creek. The front of the mine is also the start of the Granite Trail, a rather steep mile-long trail going to the top of the park.

In the 1930's, when Jacksonville residents got tired of drinking the water from the reservoir, they built a wooden wire-wrapped pipeline that went from the old mine to bring fresh water to the City. Remnants of the pipeline can be seen on the Rail Trail. The Ridge View Trail joins the Naversen Family Trail and a ridge line with spectacular views. The Ol'Miners Trail goes up a canyon to the site of gold mining from 150 years ago. Miners brought water to pour in ditches

Welcome to the Jacksonville Forest Park



to power their water cannons to blast the gold and dirt and rocks loose from the canyon walls. The Ol'Miners Trail goes for about a mile through a beautiful pine and madrone forest.

Support, Funding, and Management

The Forest Park is one of Jacksonville's city parks and managed by the City of Jacksonville. The Jacksonville Park Rangers are volunteers who are sworn officers of the Court who help manage and protect all city parks. They are also the principal planners and coordinators of the Forest Park. While the city provides some funds for the creation of trails and bridges in the Park, the principal financial support comes from private donations and grants. These funds are used directly for construction, as well as being used to bring in trail building teams from the Northwest Youth Corp. The Youth Corp provides a team of 12 young people led by two experienced trail building leaders. They have put in five weeks of work has over the last two years, building many of the new trails. Federal Grants have provided 90 percent of the funding of the Youth Corps and the Forest Park funds provided 10 percent.

JWA support for the Forest Park

In Partnership with the Forest Park Volunteers, the Jacksonville Woodlands Association supports the Forest Park effort primarily through advocacy and fund raising from grants and donations. For example, the JWA received at \$5,000 grant from the Ben Cheney Foundation for the Bullis Railroad Trail project. Only Forest Park dedicated funds received by the JWA are used for Forest Park projects and programs. Through this partnership, the development of the Forest Park will benefit Jacksonville residents and visitors by providing enhanced open space and recreational opportunities, which is the purpose and

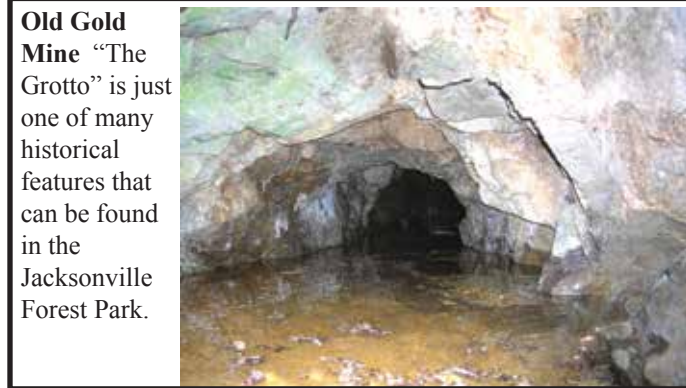


mission of the JWA.

The Jacksonville Woodlands Association and other City organization members help by working on the trails, assisting in erosion control and building bridges. Three of the Park Rangers are JWA members. While the Forest Park is not a part of the Woodlands system of trails, the JWA has generously shared its knowledge of trails management. Local organizations like the Jacksonville Boosters Club foundation have provided significant grant funds for bridge construction materials, and its members worked with the Park Rangers, a limited amount of Jacksonville Public Works crews, and other volunteers.

Recreation Events

The creation of the Forest Park trails has quickly attracted the attention of race organizers for running and mountain bike races. In the spring of 2010, two mountain bike races were held in the Forest Park by Echelon Events, an experienced events organization. The first race was the Super D, a thrilling three mile race starting above the Forest Park north boundary, and ending at the dam and reservoir. A second downhill race gave the mountain bikers a short, but fast race in the upper part of the park. In August, the Stagecoach Cross Country mountain bike race was held. This tough race covered 25 miles of Forest Park trails and nearby roads to give even the hardest mountain biker an endurance challenge. In July, the Jacksonville Sesquicentennial Run took place entirely in the Forest Park. Sponsored and organized by the Southern Oregon Runners, the city of Jacksonville, Jacksonville Woodlands Association, and the Park Rangers, over a hundred runners turned out for the 5K, 10K, and 100-yard kids' races. The 10K runners faced the challenge of an elevation gain of 700 feet from top to bottom, with the race route covering most of the park. The races were under the expert and energetic leadership of Dr. Doug Naversen, who laid out the race courses and was at the end of the races to hand out awards, medals, and congratulations to the winners and all finishers.



Old Gold Mine "The Grotto" is just one of many historical features that can be found in the Jacksonville Forest Park.

