

KEEPING HOPE AND DREAMS ALIVE

ORAL HULL FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND Newsletter

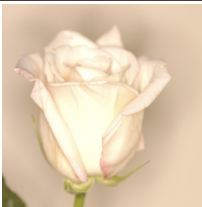
January-February 2014

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It's impossible to end 2013 and begin 2014 without remembering our friend and board member who passed away in 2013. He held our park in his heart and he will be dearly missed.

**Rest in Peace!
ALBERT ROUSE**



From the Desk of Executive DIRECTOR Sharon Elder



It's a new year! 2013 was fantastic and 2014 looks even better! We have already set our 2014 dates for workshops, events and of course the camp retreats. See page 2 for exact dates. We have added a new camp retreat for Blind Veterans which should prove to be just as exciting, challenging and rewarding as our other Adventure summer camp retreats.

We are scheduling more 3 day and 4 night events throughout the year and in fact, just finished our Winter Hoedown that was very well received by those who attended. See page 7 for pictures.

With overwhelming board approval we will also be offering 1 and 2 day workshops designed to educate

and inform those with blindness and vision loss. Some examples of topics are: stress reduction, mobility training for those new to blindness, technology workshops, cooking, and health and wellness workshops, just to name a few.

We also need to rev up our fundraising and will start off with our 3rd annual Breakfast Fundraiser on June 4, 2014. **SAVE THE DATE NOW!** A Fall fundraiser is currently being planned by our board Fundraising Committee Chair, Mary Lee Turner.

It goes without saying that running a 22 acre park with 7 buildings is always a "work in progress". The financial challenges can be daunting but remembering the mission of our Foundation and knowing how important the park is to our guests, keeps the staff, volunteers and board members working diligently toward finding new avenues of financial resources. We have attracted some new board members who come with numerous skill sets to

add to our board. New members are: Peter Wight, Stella Brown and Eddie Greenly. Please welcome them to the Oral Hull family!

**Oral Hull
by Ron Blanton
Over far too fast
But what a time we
both had
Oral Hull camp: Chill!
Susie and the crew,
Oral Hull folks are the
best.
We love Monster
Mash!
Surrounded by love
Other people just like
me
Blind camp changes
lives
The way I feel,
Buoyed by the fun we
had
Totally awesome!**

Calendar of events

January 1 - New Years Day—Office Closed

January 18 - No Board Meeting

February 12 - 15 Winter Fest Event

February 1 - Board Meeting

March 12-15 - St. Patrick’s Day Event

March 15 - Board Meeting

April 5 - Neighborhood Open House

April 18-20 – Technology Workshop

April 19 - Board Meeting

May 17 - Board Meeting

May 22-25 - Memorial Day Event

June 4 - Annual Fundraising Breakfast

June 21 - Board Meeting

July 16–20 - Family Retreat

July - No Board Meeting

July 23-28 - Friends & Alumni Retreat

August 4-10 - Moderate Adventure Retreat

August 13-19 — High Adventure Retreat

August - No Board Meeting

August 23 - Lions BBQ and Fun Day

September 3-9 - Blinded Veterans Retreat

September 20 - Board Meeting

October 18 - Board Meeting

October 22-25 - Monster Mash Event

November 15 - Annual Meeting

November 27 - Thanksgiving Dinner at the Park

December 10-13 Holiday Event

December 24-25 Office closed



Fishing in our trout pond couldn't get much better than this! Nice catch Wes!

The Winter Olympics— Oral Hull Style!

It's time for winter fun at the park! February 5 - 8 we'll have our own winter Olympics here and on Mt. Hood. Who will take home the gold medal?



Join us for a 4-day, 3-night winter adventure with great food, fun activities, musical entertainment, tubing on Mt. Hood and

camaraderie with friends, both old and new.

\$85 includes your room, meals and activities. Our theme this year is The 2014 Winter Olympics – Oral Hull Style! Come join us as a judge, referee, spectator or competing athlete. Retreat director Lindsey Dorm and staff have great “Olympic” activities waiting for YOU!



Oral Hull Foundation

Wish List

Scotch, masking, duct tape

X-long twin mattress pads

Pillows for twin beds

Plastic x-long twin bed protectors

24 luggage racks for suitcases in dorm rooms

Golf cart—used or new

#10 blank white envelopes (not self sealing)

Copy paper for the office

Bingo prizes: coffee mugs, toiletries, candy, cookies, snack size munchies.

2014 - Camp retreat schedule and fees

Family Camp — July 16-20, 2014

Cost: Call for information: 503-668-6195. Bring the entire family (or just the ones you like...) to participate in 5 days of family oriented activities. You'll learn more than you ever thought you could while enjoying all the amenities of Oral Hull Park.

Friends & Alumni — July 23-28, 2014

Cost: \$400.00 Come enjoy the more traditional activities of hiking, swimming, fishing, archery, crafts, hay rides and the camaraderie of old and new friends!

Moderate Adventure — August 4-10 2014

Cost: \$500.00 Enjoy a week of white water rafting, hiking, challenge course, exciting fun and more activities to choose from, or just sit back and relax with a good book or friend in our beautiful park surroundings.

High Adventure — August 13-19, 2014

Cost: \$600.00 A more strenuous and fast paced week that will challenge, excite and ignite the fire in you to be the best that you can be. Includes: white water rafting, challenge course, kayaking, and so much more!

NEW—Blinded/Low Vision Vets Retreat (open to blinded vets and spouses) September 3 -9, 2014

Cost: \$500 Recreational, social and educational fun for our blinded vets. Activities include: white water rafting, indoor rock wall climbing, archery, golfing and more!

Send in your \$100 deposit NOW to hold your spot! Call Susie at Oral Hull Park, 503-668-6195 for any additional questions, or visit our website to download registration forms. [Www.oralhull.org](http://www.oralhull.org)



What kind of adventure awaits you?



Braille Flag Donation from Rae and Patti Hail

We received an incredible gift from Rae and Patti Hail from Newport, Oregon this past summer. In a special presentation, with several Oral Hull Foundation Board members in attendance, a bronze Braille plaque was given to Oral Hull Park depicting our symbol of national pride, the flag of the United States.

The **Braille flag** is a fully tactile graphic accompanied with a user key that aids the blind in denoting the orientation and colors of the American flag's stripes, stars and blue field. It also contains the Pledge of Allegiance in raised print and grades one and two Braille. It was created at the Kansas Braille Transcription Institute in

Wichita, Kansas.

The Braille flag was endorsed by the Blinded Veterans Association during its 61st Annual Convention in Buffalo, New York, in 2006. Congressman Todd Tiahrt of Kansas, along with 16

others, co-sponsored a bill asking the 110th Congress to place the Braille flag as a monument to Americas' blinded veterans, blind service members, and other blind Americans at the Arlington National Cemetery.



Rae and Patti were kind enough to assist us as volunteers for our summer 2013 Adventure camps. The plaque has been placed in the Rainbow Lodge foyer for all to enjoy! Please be sure to check it out on your next visit to the park. Thank you Rae and Patti for your thoughtfulness.

NW HARMONY CHORUS BROUGHT THE HOLIDAYS TO ORAL HULL PARK!

One of our favorite and certainly the highlight of our December is the wonderful presentation we receive each year from the NW Harmony Chorus group.



NW Harmony Chorus is an a capella 4-part harmony barber shop style group. These very talented ladies have been donating their melodious voices to

Oral Hull Park for many years. In addition, they rent our facility early every year in preparation for their regional competition. When they are here they fill our

buildings and grounds with all sorts of delightful music! They are fun, lively, energetic and we can't say enough good things about this group, their talents and their willingness to share them with us! We wish them the best of luck in their 2014 competition!



LONG MAY SHE WAVE...

Some of you may or may not be aware of the very tall flagpole that sits just outside our offices and just inside the entry way into Oral Hull Park. Our flag is a source of pride and it can be seen from three blocks away. Unfortunately the aging rope holding it up fell apart last Fall and we have been trying to figure out how to get our flag back up and "waving".

Without a ladder tall enough or a "bucket

truck" we were at a loss. That is until our electric company happened to come along to repair a low hanging wire. It just so hap-

pened that they came with a bucket truck. Asking the driver for his help to re-hang our flag was an easy "yes" from him. He said his company is always glad to help out. With night fast approaching most of the flag assembling was done in the dark but we are now back in the business of having our flag where it should be!



2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President - Dr. Gilbert Rivero
dr.garivero@gmail.com

1st VP - James McCree
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2nd VP - Frank Synoground
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Treasurer - Jack Monteith
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Asst. Treasurer - Don Roach
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Past President - Tom Ciesielski
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BOARD MEMBERS

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Lions Clubs Representative
Mary Lee Turner
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Oregon Federation of Garden Clubs Representative
Evelyn Mell
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Oregon Commission for the Blind Representative

Patricia Kepler
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Staff:

Executive Director - Sharon Elder

sharonelder@oralhull.org

Administrative Assistant - Susie Ripley

Susie@oralhull.org

Office Contact Information:

Phone: 503-668-6195

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Email: oralhull@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

JUNE 4, 2014

SAVE THE DATE! June 4, 2014 we will hold our third annual Breakfast Fundraiser at the Holiday Inn at the Airport, in Portland, Oregon from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

How can you help? There are several ways:

- Be a Table Captain who will work to get 8 guests to a table who are willing to donate money at the conclusion of the breakfast
- Seek sponsorship from businesses to help defray the cost of the breakfast. Approximate breakfast costs are : \$2200
- Encourage your family and friends who cannot attend the breakfast to donate via our website at www.oralhull.org.

All funds received will be used to support our service to those who are blind or with low vision loss.

Come Join Us For Breakfast!
In Support of
The Oral Hull Foundation for
the Blind, Inc.
June 4, 2014
Portland Airport Holiday Inn
8 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Keeping Hope and Dreams
Alive!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS—DECEMBER 2013

Memorials

For Wayne and Nona Hall

Kay and James Maybry

Gary and Jackie Hall

Juanita and Sharon Short

Alan and Donna Grauf

Yvonne and Ellis Rodgers

Michael and Judy Ouellette

Norman and Angela Good

Yvonne and Marvin Dorgan

John and Suzanne Mejica

For Ed Self

Patsy Self

Annual End of Year Appeal

Hermine Mattfeld

Frank and Kaye Synoground

Mary Chambers

Orient Electric

Harry Johnson

Elaine Ryan

Marvin Cummerford

James and Ione Parrish

Ruth and Clark Hoffman

Maxine Brickley

Owen Oatley - in honor of

Sue and Tom Ciesielski

Richard Hardegger

Jerry and Susie Ripley

Patti Davie

Howard and Paula Merritt

Jack and Marleen Monteith

Laura Means Pope

Advoda Communications

Lions Clubs & Lions Club Members

Ft. Vancouver Lions Club

Gerald and Mary Hopkins

Crooked River Ranch Lions Club

Sharon Elder

Lions Clubs & Lions Club Members

Sharon Rollins

Dick and Mary Hankins

Doris Lions Club

Don Roach

John and Areta Schock

Bert Diamond

Grants

Joe Weston Foundation

In Kind Donations

Jerry and Susan Ripley

Miracle Clean Enterprises, LLC

Sharon Elder

Dean's Auto

Estate of Albert Rouse



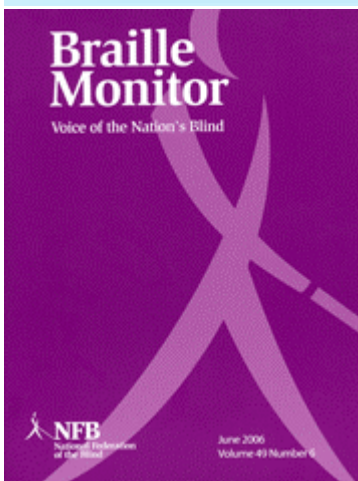
Donations are the lifeblood of maintaining our programs, activities and repairs to our aging buildings on our park grounds. Your kind consideration with immediate funds, matching company gifts or designating the Oral Hull Foundation in your will or other planned gifts will ensure the continuation of our services to those that are blind or vision impaired. Donations can be made via our website at www.oralhull.org or via check to PO Box 157, Sandy, OR, 97055.

December –2013 Winter Western Holiday

December 14, 2013 - Oral Hull park guests ended 2013 with a 3 night 4 day winter western hoedown. Cowboy hats and western attire were a fashion statement as guests donned their favorite blue jeans and boots. Director Lindsey, along with staff, Tina, William, Susie, Jerry, Annette, and Sharon worked hard to provide lots of western fun! The next event is scheduled for February (see page 2) for further details). You won't want to miss out on all the excitement!



Did you know?



The *Braille Monitor* is the leading publication of the National Federation of the Blind. It covers the events and activities of the NFB and addresses the many issues and concerns of the blind.

The *Braille Monitor* offers a positive philosophy about blindness to both blind readers and the public at large; serves as a vehicle for advocacy and protection of civil rights; addresses social concerns affecting the blind; discusses issues relating to employment, education, legislation, and rehabilitation; and provides news of products and technology used by the blind. To learn more you can contact the NFB by phone at 410-659-9314, ext. 2344; or by e-mail nfbpublications@nfb.org

The *Braille Monitor* has been the voice of the nation's blind since 1957.

January-February 2014

CELEBRATING 52 YEARS OF KEEPING HOPE AND DREAMS ALIVE!

ORAL HULL FOUNDATION FOR
THE BLIND

Email:

oralhull@gmail.com

Phone: 503.668.6195

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PO Box 157

Sandy, Oregon 97055

Mission Statement

The mission of the Oral Hull Foundation for the Blind is to provide facilities, programs and services including social, educational and recreational activities for people who are blind, and visually impaired.

ORAL HULL FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND

Po Box 157

Sandy, OR 97055

TO: