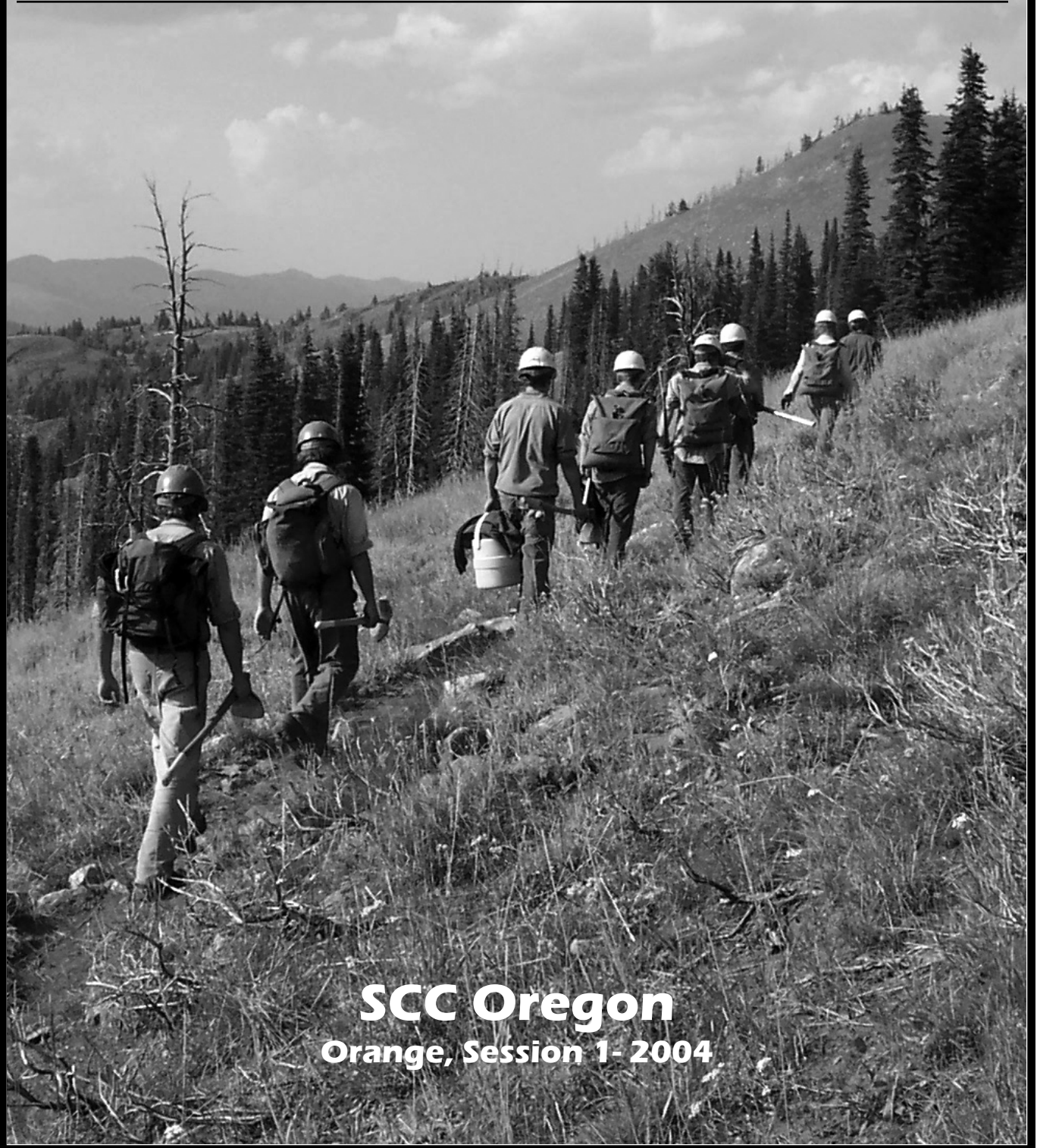




Crew Journal



SCC Oregon
Orange, Session 1- 2004



Well, it's that time of year here at NYC, with the final tool count completed and the vans neatly tucked into their winter parking spaces, its time to sit back, reflect on the season and start recounting the tales of adventure and hardship that you'll someday tell your grandkids. This journal is a small reflection of your crew's experiences this year; footnotes, scribbled at the end of a long day by hands aching from swinging a tool. To anyone else who hasn't lived outside for over a month, done a safety circle at 5:30 AM, done the pushup-challenge, or chugged a gallon of vesper, these notes might not seem like much. But I hope that for you they are a small key to unlocking memories that will stay with you for a lifetime. And I'm not just referring to memories of smelly vans, blistered feet, and poison oak rashes. Sure that's all part of the gig; but it's the shared hardships that bring people together and forge memories of good friends, great achievements, and incredible places.

Thank you for taking on the adventure of NYC this season. With your commitment, courage and hard work NYC crews have left a lasting legacy. While you were slogging through the woods, huddling around the fire, seeking any type of moisture available, sharpening pulaskis, or finishing the last remnants of an all too-large meal; up to twenty-one other crews were doing the same things across Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Northern California. The work completed by NYC crews went farther than ever before, pleased a record number of project sponsors, helped out the natural areas and communities in the Northwest, and, most importantly, . . . showed the general public that teens are responsible enough to complete a hard job with style!

As you embark on your next adventure, whatever it may be, remember the things you did here. Remember the challenges you faced and that nothing is impossible. All you need is a fistful of gorp, a PB&J and some good friends in your bump line. Make it happen!

Best Wishes,

Joe Waksmundski
Program Manager

Marion County Parks
Project Name- The Bridge over the creek Jory

Week 1: Date: June 14th

Saturday: We had orientation and learned what we would be doing for our work and how we would do it. We learned the rules of camp and different techniques for low-impact camping.

Monday: What we did was taking down a bridge and clearing a trail for horses.
Neal D

Tuesday: The project that we're doing this week is to build a bridge in south Salem in the forest. We are also doing trails and cleaning them up like cutting down branches and trees. I am doing the trails because, I like clearing up the branches to let horses and other people walk on our trails. Jason

Wednesday: our goals include finishing the bridge we put up and continue clearing up the trails until they are nice and pretty. Also I think that a general consensus would be for us as a group to continue to impress our higher ranking bosses, not only for this week but the next 4.

Thursday: Today we continued our work on the bridge, finishing bolting down the cross-planks and working on the gravel approach ramp on the far side of the bridge. We also cleared more brush from our breakfast from the various trails and laid down mulch. Our breakfast consisted of canned peaches and brown sugar though it tasted good, it wasn't very filling. Our lemon cake also did not cook fully I ate some olives. Wait- I didn't read the topic we learned to work better.
Mark W.

Friday: We went to work for 4 hours we immediately packed up camp when we got off work! Our bridge & trails are awesome! We got a ton of people who came through and said we did an excellent job! We completed it! All of it! We are all together in a van about 25 miles from weekend sight. Ashley B.

Linn County Parks and Rec.
Project Name- River Bend Park

Week 2: Date: June 20th

Sunday: Weekend Site 19th and 20th

This weekend was the first actual "weekend site" I think everyone thoroughly enjoyed it, including all the other crews. The rec. trips were fun. There was a "nature walk", a hike to the falls, a trip to a dam and some other stuff. Everyone gets along well it seems like; it's nice to see everyone. Today we set off to our new site a short ways out of Sweet Home, building a new trail for some handicapped kids at camp attitude. The water isn't far away, which is good because it's super duper hot! Right now Oliver is singing Rent songs while making shot gun. I think everyone likes our crew despite some "anger" between two certain people today, we always have lots of fun! Paige

Monday: began work building new trail, wide enough for future improvements to make a wheelchair accessible trail. We brushed for about 850 yards, and dug trail bed to the first intersection with the road. The crew worked an 8 hour shift. It was rather hot and sunny all day.
Mark W.

Tuesday: we finish the trail that we started on Monday and began a new trail today.
Matthew W.

Wednesday: Our goals for the week is to get trails done and to clear brush and make the trails five feet wide and eight feet tall for wheel chair access, but mostly for handicapped and disabled people. Also our crew is going to work really hard and try to get all the trails done and accomplished. Jason W.

Friday: Our goals for this week are to fully accomplish the trails and also to be fantastic at everything! Ha Ha so far our group has done 3 of the 4 trails and will finish the fourth trail tomorrow. We will have to be in the ball so that we will be fully done with the task given to us, it's going to be hard because it's a switch-back trail, but the good part about that is that this particular section went by the guidelines for people in wheelchairs so it will be a little easier. Also, it's the end of the second week and people are at their throats a little hopefully we will make it through the first week goal. We are learning to get up earlier and also work more efficiently. For instance, our trails have been getting better with the growing days. In the SEED groups we have learned about various plants and flowers around the area which leaned into which of the plants are better. May sound bad but moist old moss head is great stuff. We also learned from the blue crew by coming with your mama jokes. It was funny in the beginning, but now some lost the laughs. Learned about some native Indian stuff like the tools utensils they used. Plus how they hunted and other good stuff. Oliver M.

Friday: This week we made brand new trail in a future park near Sweet Home for camp attitude, a camp for handicapped kids. The trails we built are made to be wheel chair accessible, so they had to be made 5 feet wide and fairly even. We made a lot of progress on our trail building skills and we have all learned how to use the various tools properly and efficiently. One of this week's challenges was the fact that we were building new trail, not just maintaining old ones, like last week. There was not just lopping to be done, but clearing the ground of debris. Doing this involved a dreaded process called "the bump line." One of the bigger problems, though, was a certain amount of tension and irritation of some people with one another. Fatigue and homesickness took their toll in the forms of anger and sensitivity for some individuals.
Melissa A.

National Forest: Fremont
Ranger District: Paisley
Project Name- Cache Cabin Get-away

Week 3: Date: June 28th

Monday: This weekend we packed up and left for our weekend sight which was located near Diamond Lake. It was a very relaxing weekend due to sleeping in until 7am and being able to relax and catch up with the rest of the crews. Our rec. trips were fun and relaxing as well. We had crews going to Diamond Lake, Crater Lake, hiking, exploring, and just being able to write a letter, or look at the scenery. This weekend was also parents' weekend, which was fun to be able to see your parents or to even meet your friends' parents. Saturday was the day they arrived after the rec. trips and we had an awesome dinner, we had sub sandwiches. Potatoes salad, brownies, and even pop! Sunday we figured out where each crew is going but not for 1 week for 2 which meant no weekend site. My crew (orange crew) went east to Paisley maintaining a trail, which is very long but not too harsh. My 2nd NYC weekend and I hope everyone else's was great mine was. 3 weeks to go!

Tuesday: This week we are to maintain a trail somewhere near Paisley in the Fremont National Forest. The trail is pretty long, but the maintenance is minimal. The weeds don't have long roots, so just one sweep with a hoe or McLeod takes care of it most times. We get rid of the berms that form on the edge of trails as well, and when we come across a stump in the trail, we pull it out. We also made several drain dips to direct rainwater away from the trail. Melissa A.

Wednesday: This week has been a little....Ya. The first day went well & all but it seems as though we have been going "down hill" so to speak. Our main goal is to just get the work done & done right. We have had to go back a lot, fixing things that just weren't up to standard. To be specific a little something called a water bar/drainage dip. For the rest of the week I want to complete one, once & not have to go back. Paige

Thursday: We learned to do it the first time and learned to build water bars also dug out stumps and made the trail look a lot better than on Monday and we saw deer tracks and we also saw some bear claws in the trees. They were called aspen and ponderosa pine. Matthew

Friday: Some of our crew's challenges were the trail job. Our goal was to have 8' by 10' window all of the way down the trail. It took us 3 to 4 days to do it correctly, but on Thursday and Friday we made a serious bump line to take us to the final spot today. All together with new trail and fixed trail we covered over 2000 feet. Also, one challenge is that now that our crew has finally worked a little and some people blew up at each other and maybe some minor grudges have formed either from knowledge of a person for 3 weeks or isn't thinking things. One of our accomplishments was finally getting a bump line and doing serious work the last few days. With our new rover John we learned that everything tastes better without tofu or is that just me? We have been having some excellent food choices with the help of John. For example we had excellent "gourmet" kielbasa also with break fast with potatoes with eggs & potatoes with pancakes. Some good stuff. All in all our crew is still in tact and that's all someone can ask for. The crew has crumbled some, but returned in the end. Oliver M.

National Forest: Fremont
Ranger District: Paisley
Project Name- Cache Cabin Get-away

Week 4: Date: July 5th

Monday: This weekend our crew made a trip to a small town called paisley. We made phone calls to home, went to the only general store in town and got what ever we needed. We also were able to do our laundry and take wonderful showers. On Sunday we had a day to ourselves to relax or to go on a walk and write a letter. It was a nice day to even take a nap which we all needed! Our weekend I thought was very calming.

Tuesday: this week for our project we are making trails accessible to horses and mountain biking. We are clear duff and making water bars. Water bars are for when it rains all the water will go into one of those bars so it doesn't destroy the whole trail. Hopefully we will get a lot of trail that we can before graduation and before we leave to go back home. Jason

Wednesday: This week our goal has been to construct as much new trail as possible, and to add or improve drainage dips on existing trail. We exceeded expectations today, making about 1500 feet of trail, more than any previous day. The layer of duff was shallower than before, allowing us to quickly cut tread. Unfortunately, Jason began showing symptoms of an ear infection today, but managed to miss only an hour of work today, for which he should be admired. Overall we worked quite well today. Mark W.

Thursday: 800 feet of trail was done today. So far this week all together not counting Friday we did 3,800 feet of trail! We did well today the duff was much lesser today! Soil was easier to work with! We learned we could do anything if we stop and think and believe something. Is possible! 4 people from crew went down trail and fixed the water bars. Ashley B.

Friday: this week we did more trail and more water bars (AKA water features, rolling dips, and drainage dips). We had a little problem with having to go back and repeatedly redo trail that wasn't up to par. But, we pulled it together and tom said our trail looked beautiful! We were proud of ourselves that time and morale was up! Jay had an ear infection that took him out of work for a few hours. We put in a few extra minutes each and made up those hours, though!
Mel

During the 4th week I was proud of our crew! We finally did superb trail work, (compared to our 3rd week) in Fremont. The 3rd week was "iffy" but we just needed some "us time" which we got on our wonderful 4th of July!! I think Tom is finally proud of us. I will be sad when our 5th & final week rolls around. Until then we are going to enjoy our last weekend site. Paige

On Saturday we went into town to get some showers and got some laundry done. On Sunday all we are doing is just slept hanged out. I and Jason and Ashley got to call our moms since everybody was using the only phone in town. When we got back we washed up some. Now we are going to have a very good 4th of July dinner.

National Forest: Umpqua
Ranger District Diamond lake
Project Name- Diamonds are a girl's best friend

Week 5: Date: July 12th

Sunday: It's Sunday today! 5 and one half days until graduation. Over the weekend we stayed at Pringle Falls Campground, Right by the River. For the Rec. trips Cheryl took some people to... Random lakes, we sat on picnic tables the whole time. Woohoo! Tom took some others to lava caves; I heard that was pretty fun. Knowing Tom it was probably very educational. Kat's trip was going on a hike & Casey's people went to another lake. The talent show was fun! Blue Crew's song was funny. Mark did his daddy shark rap. Little Bongo Chris Rapped too. He is good. Joanna sang, & Mel put her legs behind her head. Now for our 5th week, we are near Diamond Lake. We will be doing slash piles all week. Sounds boring & easy bur I'm still excited to do it. Our Crew seems to be..."Getting Upset" with each other. Then again we are around each other 24/7 for almost 5 weeks now. We are counting down the days till Saturday, but I know we will all miss this place. At least I will. I'm super duper hyper mega bonzo hungry so I'm going to help with dinner! Paige

Monday: We started slash piles, it's kind of fun, not as hard as trails or bridges. The piles weren't as good as could be, but it was only our first day! We had a hot sunny day, as usual! Nothing much really surprising happened! We got a treat after work; we got to go to dry creek and made a store stop! Ashley B.

Tuesday: Our project this week entails the collecting and strategically stacking sticks and wood, we are creating slash piles to be later burned. The location of our work site is in the Umpqua National Forest by the Toketee Ranger Station. Bill R.

Wednesday: Our goals for the week are to make slash piles for burning the next year. So, slash piles are just raking up sticks and kindle for to start a fire. We are basically cleaning the forest up to prevent the forest fires to reduce them for the fire fighters. Our goal is to get as much done as possible for this week even though this is our last week and session. Jason W.

Thursday: We learned how to make slash piles, and how to cut tarps for slash piles. That's about it. Today was our last full work day. Hooray, the leaders finished chain sawing today, doing work in advance due to the rising fire danger level. Paige and I had an interesting philosophical discussion involving human perception of reality. A US Forest service fire engine crew also visited with two engines and showed us their equipment, with a fire hose demonstration. Mark W.

Friday: It's our last day! We finished our slash piles! We did lots of pick ups! We have big clean up! We have a 4 hour drive to Eugene, to Elijah Bristow Park! Today is our last day of all the 5 weeks! We've accomplished so much here! I'll miss everyone especially Tom. Ashley B.

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...

The day I was leader of the day. Paige E.

The day I had to pour cement after spilling 3 loads on the trail it was not fun. Erin B.

The day when Matt was LOD, and I was extremely intimidated to have a bump line and over worked myself too hard. I awoke the next day with an aching body that wouldn't go away, till three days later. Oliver M.

Every day at NYC is a good challenging day because you take on every challenge that you don't learn in a city. Jason W.

When Paige was LOD and she was the nicest person. Bill R.

Thursday of week one, because brush clearing! Mark W.

When I got lost and had to carry a 4 gallon jug of water $\frac{1}{2}$ miles plus having to find my way back. Ashley B.

Probably the very first Sunday, because I was not quite sure if I could be able to handle this job. Melissa A.

Getting to know my crew since that I am shy to talk to new people. Neal D.

When I came out here and leave here Matthew W.

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...

Rapping around the fire. Being scared by Tom, with Mel & Erin. Sleeping at the fire station. Paige E.

Experiencing being leader of the day. Swimming in the creek with everyone. Hearing the thunder storm. Erin B.

Seeing my family at the two week stage. Hanging with friends at weekend sites. Meeting new people and seeing which "way they roll" Oliver M.

Being leader of the day. Enjoying standing in the rain with our crew telling my personal history. Meeting new people and with them. Jason W.

Dueling Jay, Neal, and Paige in the woods with toy pistols. Watching Ashley do the "Tootsie Roll" dance in front of Troy and Shamah at the weekend site, and hearing their comments about it. Forming the "Trio of Insanity" with Josh and Brandon. Mark W.

Going through withdrawals for taco bell (psych). Paige's "Oh...well anyway."

Telling ghost stories around the fire. Squirted people with the squirt gun. Drawing cat whiskers on Erin while she slept and seeing her reaction. Melissa A.

Making new friends. Getting back massages, getting and completing my 1st job. Ashley B.

2nd was building my very first bridge. 3rd is building a lot of trail I had a lot of fun doing it. Neal D.

Making new friends out here. Going on field trips on the weekend with Danielle they were fun. Matthew W.

One Thing I Will Always Remember...

The weird findings in Sweet Home by camp attitude. Paige E.

The trails I made and the friends I have made as well. Erin B.

I will always remember when our camp got flooded by the rain and all of the orange crew huddled around the fire creating some rhymes. Even our crew leader joined in so the whole circle of crew members were included. Good times, woo, woo. Oliver M.

All the cool friends I made and the trails and all the good times we had together.
Jason W.

Everyone I met at camp and I think our crew leader & rovers are awesome! I've learned and gained much here! These 5 weeks were good use! Ashley B.

WAY TO GO!!! I'll always remember...Oh...umm...what was it...doing it, I forgot it already! Mark W.

From Now On I Will Always...

Respect & Enjoy ALL "free time" respect everyone even the elders like Tom.
Erin B.

Wake up on time, or a chainsaw might come around camp and violently wake you up.
How one simple mistake can give one leader such joy, one my never know! Oliver M.

Respect what I have at home! Think twice before I say or do. Ashley B.

I will relish running water electricity, and the protective bubble I call my home
and sanctuary! Melissa A.

Treat others with respect even when they look different and also treat other
peoples thing they same way that I do. Neal D.

All we keep working on be safe at work. Matthew W.

At NYC I Learned...

You can put the words "your mom" in front of any sentence & it will be funny.
Paige E.

People can drive you Insane! Erin B.

The phrase that pays, really means you'll when said in front of Big "J" & road trips
suck! Oliver M.

That you can't triple-psyche a double-psyche but you can octo-psyche, hepta-psyche. Hamburger buns, balsamic vinegar, and water chestnuts make a superb sandwich. Trees are pointy and dangerous. Mark W.

Girls are very easily spooked. Mosquitoes are not my friend. Bill R.

How to make patience a virtue! I'm much more comfortable being outside! And I'm a new me! Ashley B.

How to use various tools properly as well as how to pace myself when I work. Melissa A.

How to sharpen Pulaski's better. How to build trails well. And learned all the different ways to use your guy's tools. Neal D.

To live on my own and I also learned a lot from Tom. Matthew W.

