

OUTDOORS

EXPLORE NEWBERRY VOLCANO:



From the summit of Paulina Peak, Paulina Lake, East Lake and the Big Obsidian Flow are visible. PHOTOS BY EDDY BINFORD-ROSS

OREGON'S LAND OF LAVA

Eddy Binford-Ross Salem Statesman Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

A land of lava sprawls across the western section of Oregon's High Desert. Cinder cones dot the landscape, lava flows stretch for miles and standing prominently among it all is a massive 80,000-year-old caldera. This is the Newberry Volcano.

Preserved since 1990, Newberry National Volcanic Monument allows people to interact with the unique geology of the region in an intimate way. I spent the day in Newberry exploring the dynamic landscape of the monument and delving into the history of the region. It's a place you can trek among lava fields, hike to the top of a peak, see views of the Cascades and spend time in the woods.

Formed half a million years ago, Newberry, a shield volcano, provides a snapshot into the volcanic history of the central part of the state. By volume, it's the largest volcano in the Cascade Range, extending from the caldera south of Bend, under the city and to Smith Rock State Park.

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The Big Obsidian Flow stretches under Paulina Peak.

Hang your hat on these outdoor 'pearls of wisdom'



Fishing
Henry Miller
Guest columnist

I'm going fishing, or maybe crabbing, depending on the water and weather.

So I decided to haul the recycle bin out to the curb, so to speak, and compile a collection of the outdoors-related pearls of wisdom that have been appeared at the bottoms of the columns since I started adding them at the start of the pandemic lockdown in April 2020.

"Pearls" in this case means applying the rule of rubbing them across your teeth to see if they are real or fake.

Rough and gritty, it's real. Smooth, it's fake.

Here goes:

On the topic of fishing...

"Experienced, successful anglers always say that smaller fish taste better," says anyone who never catches big fish, me included.

"Anyone who has ever used the phrase 'the camera adds 10 pounds' hasn't seen any of my fish pictures."

"Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you provide him with a lifetime of ruinous expense and futility."

"Fishing consists of a jerk on one end of a line waiting for a jerk on the other end."

That, by the way, is a borrowed quote from my ex wife.

"I only fish catch-and-release" is the greatest line ever conceived for not catching any fish.

"Politicians and lawyers who aren't anglers seem to me to be a tragic waste of experienced, highly qualified liars."

"An optimist is an angler who can sit on a rock in a sleet storm without a bite for three hours and talk about how great it is that there aren't any mosquitoes."

"I do my best thinking while waiting for a fish to bite. I've done a whole lot of thinking in my life."

"Funny how an angler can forget their license, their rods or their tackle box. But I've never met one who forgot to bring the cooler."

"One of the best lessons that fishing teaches is that if you're tempted to snap at something, it's better to keep your mouth shut."

From the quote book of late, great

friend and outdoor writer nonpareil, John Higley: "I don't know if I love fishing, or just love being in the places where you find fish."

On the topic of camp cuisine...

"One of life's unsolvable mysteries: How do you tell when sauerkraut goes bad?"

"You know that nasty, watery stuff that always comes out of condiment squeeze bottles? What's worse: Ketchup water or mustard water? Discuss."

I asked an old-timer on the Nestucca River if he'd fished there his whole life. He responded, "not yet."

And finally ...

"You're never lost if you don't care where you wind up."

Coho fishing on Willamette, North Santiam

A season-high 856 coho "silver" salmon passed through the fish ladder at Oregon City Falls on the Willamette River on Sept. 26 on their spawning run upriver.

And the total count of adult coho above the falls was 4,318 through Sept. 28.

Fishing is open on the Willamette

from the falls to the Highway 20 bridge in Albany for coho.

For fishing rules on the North and South Santiam rivers, check pages 47 and 48 of the "2021 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations" for specific dates and open areas for silvers.

Printed copies of reg books are available free at license agents or online at eregulations.com.

Note: For those fishing the North Santiam, access at Fishermen's Bend, Niagara and Minto county parks remain closed because of wildfire damage.

But Packsaddle Park recently opened, and the North Santiam from the Stayton-Scio Bridge to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife markers at the park opens Oct. 15 for silvers.

Note 2: Farther down the Willamette, fishing for coho is picking up on the Clackamas River, which enters the Willamette at Clackamette Park in Oregon City.

For a map and directions to the park online, go to Oregon City's page for Clackamette Park at orc.city.org.

Thought for the week: Going fishing is like eating garlic. If everybody's doing it, nobody notices the smell.

HenryMillerSJ@gmail.com