

Marking 75 Years of Family Ownership Coastal Mountain Sport Haus Continues to Transform

By Scott Laird

When the land on Nehalem Hwy 10 miles north of Vernonia was purchased by Willie Wolff in 1938 it was a dream come true for the German immigrant who desired to be an American farmer. He worked and saved for a piece of land he could farm.

Now, 75 years later, the property has a new life and purpose under Wolff's granddaughter and her husband, Sandy and Glen Crinklaw.

Coastal Mountain Sport Haus is a European style inn that recently caught the attention of Travel & Leisure Magazine and has been nominated as one of the World's Best Places to stay. Results won't be known until August of this year. "We are so thrilled to be nominated, it is like we have already won," said Innkeeper Sandy Crinklaw. The Crinklaws have been operating the inn since 2009.

"It was May of 1938 when my grandfather and grandmother, along with my mother, moved from Portland to the farm located on what is now known as Nehalem Highway North," says Crinklaw. Her grandfather Willie was primarily a dairy farmer, but also raised horses, pigs, chickens and turkeys. He tilled and worked the land with horses, and later gave way to more modern methods of farming with machines. Listed as one



of Columbia County's historical properties, there are only two other families who have owned this property since it was homesteaded.

Today the property has been reborn as an Agribusiness/Destination

trails for hiking, the mountains and the coast make this a perfect spot and base camp for those seeking an active getaway. Their proximity to Portland, wine country, Mount St. Helens and the Columbia Gorge makes the Sport Haus an easy drive from most local, major attractions. The special setting at the banks of the Nehalem River is a haven for guests who want privacy and a bit of pampering. Visitors come to see Oregon, they come to revisit farm life, they come to experience the rural setting, and the natural environment.

"We have met some wonderful people from throughout North America," says Crinklaw. "It is a great destination for those who want to unwind,

refresh and reconnect."

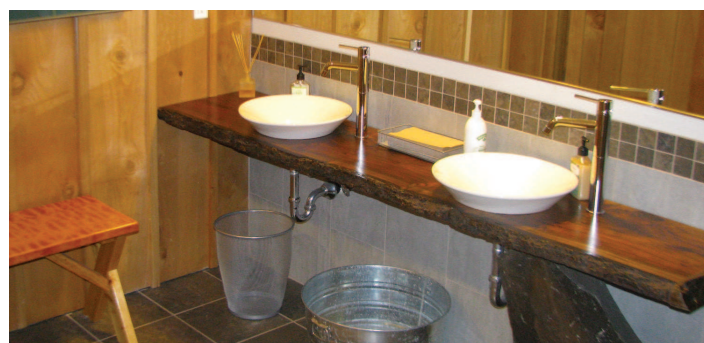
The Crinklaws took special care when they built the inn back in 2007. An array of solar panels to heat the water, large windows that provide lots of natural lighting, energy efficient lighting, low flow water restrictors, and radiant heating in the flooring, make a stay at the Sport Haus an environmentally friendly and sustainable vacation.

"We tried to create a smooth transition from outside to inside," said Crinklaw during a recent tour. "No matter what the weather, you can feel like you are outside. We really tried to invite the natural environment in."

Covered decks downstairs and upstairs allow guests to relax overlooking beautiful green pastures. Birds zip around the trees and decks. Crinklaw names a short list of bird sightings: bald eagle, harrier hawk, western tanager,



Resort, set on 130 acres, and the only destination resort in Columbia County. Cycling, yoga and a love of the outdoors is the inspiration for the business model. Access to great roads for bicycling,



common flicker, redheaded woodpecker, yellow finches, and tree swallows-all in one day. The wide open space of the pasture allows guest the unusual opportunity to observe the birds in flight unobstructed, swooping and diving. Deer

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