

Orlando and husband build dream house

by Tom Golden
Staff Writer

Why are English instructor Emily Orlando, a self-proclaimed "East coast person and apartment baby," and her husband Charlie Foster, a man with no formal training in architecture, building a house?

"I saw how important it was for him... for his sense of being," said Orlando. "He wanted something he could look at; a piece of him that would be around after he's gone. The house has become a lasting memorial."

If people look at the house as a memorial to Foster, they surely will remember him as a unique man. The house, which Orlando anticipates will be ready for Christmas, is done in an, "old fashioned post and beam construction style," which involves cutting notches into, "massive beams," and crossing them. They've been

working on the house for two years. "His dream was to build something unique; to challenge himself into doing something this massive." Orlando describes the house as, "a mini-Timberline."

Foster's toughest challenge came before he felled the first tree. "Probably the hardest thing he did was convincing me that this was right!" said Orlando.

Once he got past that, he had many more hurdles to overcome before beginning the actual construction process. With no formal construction background, Foster first had to do some research. Then he drew up the plans and got Clackamas County's approval.

The house is 1500 square feet with two floors. It has a solid rock foundation and chimney. In his design Foster decided that the house would be energy efficient or as Orlando says, "I got

no gables." The house has a passively solar efficient kitchen, two bedrooms, a television room, and an office, "with a solid oak floor; that was what I whined for," said Orlando.

Orlando has had to do more than whine. Her husband owns a saw mill which he used to cut the trees he felled into posts, beams, and other wood products. He did the wiring, the plumbing and the cabinets in the kitchen. As Orlando said, "I've been right there; pouring concrete and learning things I've never wanted to learn."

How did Orlando find time to help build a house and still teach classes? "It's really hard to divide my time. I'm positive my classes haven't suffered. I don't have too much fun time. We've had to refuse a lot of invitations. I would never do it again, but I would never want any other house."

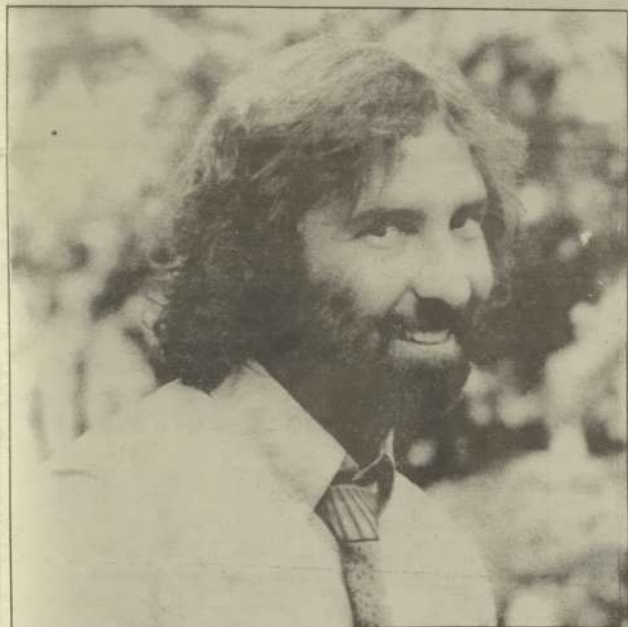


Emily Orlando, instructor/house builder.

Photo by Beth Coffey

Rafting, scuba diving, mountain climbing, skiing...

Instructor enjoys adventurous outdoor activities



Don Shula in his favorite place... outdoors.

Photo by Beth Coffey

and down the sidelines leading the Miami Dolphins to victory.

Traveling across the country from Miami to Oregon City, you find another Don Shula. The two are second-cousins.

The second Don Shula is an instructor at Clackamas Community College teaching classes ranging from economics to high school science. But, Shula's love is the outdoors.

"If it's outdoors, I like it," stated Shula. "I like being out where you can look out and see everything."

Shula has been white water rafting steadily since 1980 when he took a class entitled "Live, Learn, and Teach" at Lewis and Clark College in Portland.

"There is a natural beauty of being on the water," said Shula, who also kayaks and mountain climbs, among other outdoor activities. He said that ever since he read "Huck Finn" and saw the river trips that Huck and Jim took he has been interested in rafting.

One thing Shula enjoys about

rafting is taking people out who have never tried it. "I want to share the experience of rafting... to take people out in nature and appreciate it," explained Shula, "and to create some happiness in their lives."

Shula also enjoys mountain climbing. "It's more work than rafting," he said, "as I get older I float more rivers and climb fewer mountains." Shula said that he has climbed many of the peaks many times. He started climbing in 1965 in Arizona.

Scuba diving is another activity that Shula has ventured into. "It's like going to another planet," he said, "If you really want to see what the world is like go down into the ocean." He said that he had scuba dived in the Florida Keys, the Cook Islands, and Fiji, among other places.

Shula, who has just started his tenth fall at Clackamas, said he is looking forward to next year when he will instruct a wilderness class in addition to the teaching he is doing now. He is hoping to include handicapped students and

he would like to work with foreign students to teach them about Oregon.

When it comes to Clackamas Community College he feels that the quality of instruction, namely the English department, is better than many people give it credit for. He said that just because it is a community college doesn't make it a second rate school.

Shula is hoping to have a student orientation, such as an outdoor trip, to meet other students. "Everybody going to the college will enjoy it more."

Shula has two sons, an 18 year old freshman at Oregon State University and a 14 year old freshman at Corvallis High School. When they were ages eight and four, Shula took them and climbed the south sister of the Three Sisters in central Oregon.

Originally, Shula passed through Oregon on his way to the University of Washington, and something drew him back. According to Shula, it was the beauty of the state.

by Christopher Curran
Design/Sports Editor

The first impression many

people get when they hear the name, Don Shula, they think of a football coach marching up

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