

CYCLE OREGON THOUSANDS FED BY BUTTE FALLS VOLUNTEERS

Many thanks to all of the wonderful Butte Falls area folks who gave of their time to help with the visit of Cycle Oregon. Community volunteers started working on Monday when the shipment of food arrived. First all of the food had to be transferred to the refrigerated truck that would remain in Butte Falls. Next came the big job of inventorying the shipment. Tuesday morning found members of Home Extension busy weighing and portioning out helpings of pasta salad, chicken salad, egg salad and sprouts. When evening rolled around the group found themselves staring at dozens of large boxes each filled with 24 packages of pita bread. The bread had to be cut into halves and then wrapped. A few hours into slicing the bread and after being told by the Cycle Oregon staff that the shipment was short ten slices of bread it was determined that an error had been made, and in fact, four times as many slices of bread as needed had been shipped. Considering over two thousand lunches were being made that was a lot of bread. This was a BIG RELIEF to the group cutting bread. Finally enough pita bread was sliced and wrapped and the volunteers could go home to their families. Wednesday found an even larger number of volunteers at the hall. This was the day that all of the prepared portions along with apples, cookies, dessert, trail mix, napkins and utensils would be packed into the small cardboard lunch boxes. For someone unfamiliar with what was happening, a visit to the hall would look like an assembly line at Harry and Davids. As each box was passed down the line another item was added. At the end of the line the boxes were closed and packed into larger cardboard boxes and ready to be transported to the truck for storage. By early Wednesday afternoon 2350 lunches were packed and stored on the truck.



Cycle Oregon riders enjoying their lunch on a beautiful fall day by Lake of the Woods.

The crew working at Lake of the Woods arrived there shortly after 7am only to find it a long wait for the first cyclist to arrive. Many hours and a couple of thousand lunches later after the last cyclist had been fed the crew was able to load the remainder of the supplies back on the truck, empty the trash cans into the dumpster, load up the cans, bottles and cardboard and headed for home. A little after 5:30 when the last volunteers left the lake there was nothing showing to tell that over 2000 cyclists had stopped there for lunch. It was a long day for the volunteers but one filled with fun.



Ed Arnold and Wes Rader packing box lunches for Cycle Oregon.



Butte Falls Sister Recyclers (l-r) Kimberly, Heidi and Elizabeth McLauchlan stand next to some of the thousands of containers cleaned and bagged for recycling.

