

Woodburn, Oregon
May 3 to 5

We planned our weekend to begin on Friday, but some members arrived early Thursday to take a tour of the Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival ahead of the weekend crowd. When the rest of the members arrived Friday, Pam Mayne, Barb Pace and Martha Lindegren had already completed one jigsaw puzzle and were embarking on a second one.

We gathered in the clubhouse Friday evening for happy time, food and fun. The weekend agenda, brochures and maps were handed out. Newcomer Becky Steward was welcomed.

Our coffee cake contest started at 9a.m. Saturday. Ten categories of coffee cakes were sent to the members ahead of time so they could choose which categories to enter. The entries included:

- Julia Childs/buttery category - deliciously prepared, using an entire pound of butter, by Myrthalyne Thompson.



- Betty Crocker/all-American category—prepared by Ann Pearson, our very own chef.



- Paula Deen/road kill category—a joint scrape-up effort by Gayle Blek and Sandy Brown, piping hot with furry wildlife draped on top. (Gayle put it together. Sandy baked it.)



Rachel Ray/lo-cal category— prepared by calorie-watcher, dollar-watcher treasurer June Willoughby.



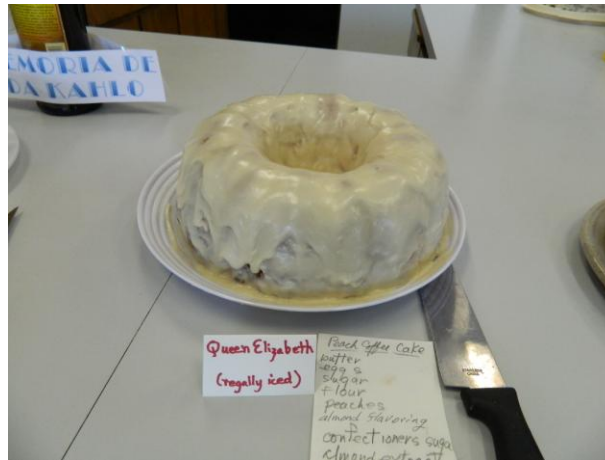
- Aunt Jemima/flat but syrupy category—no syrup, two hotcakes from Elmer's Restaurant spread with apricot preserves and cream cheese in the middle and on top presented by Dorene Thomas.



- Hillary/diplomatic cracked glass ceiling category—judiciously considered and imported by Marjo Sankey and Jeanette Haller.



- Queen Elizabeth/regally iced category—white icing and internal peaches presented by first lady Pam Mayne.



- Frieda Kahlo/Cinco de Mayo category—Kahlua-soaked coffee cake by Janet Horton complete with empty Kahlua bottle and pictures of Frieda Kahlo. Janet gave a short background talk reminding us that Frieda Kahlo is the 20th century's most renowned female surrealist artist.



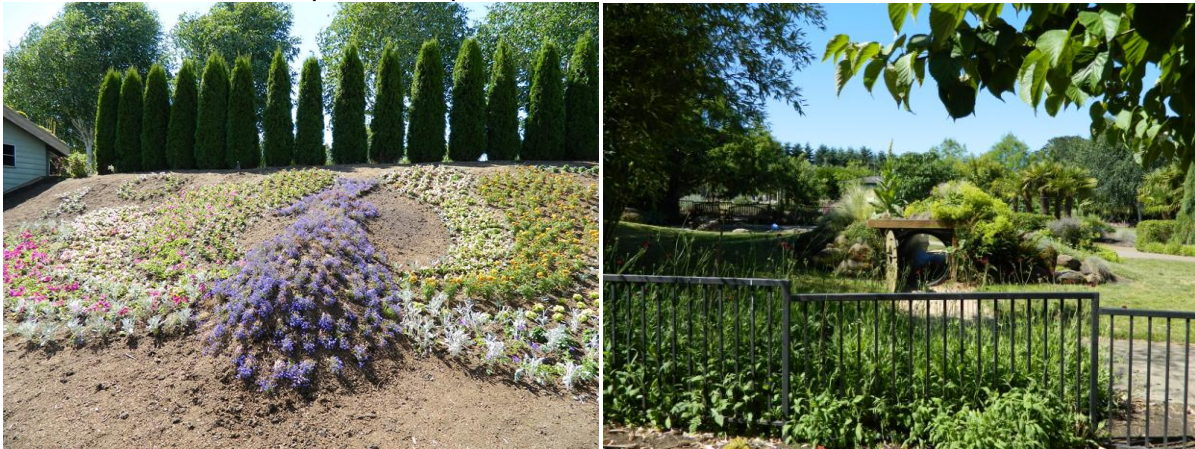
After tasting these coffee cakes to die for, we headed off to the Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival, 40 acres of flowers, and the Woodburn Company Stores outlet mall, 110 stores conveniently located right behind the park.

For our dinner Saturday evening, our hostesses supplied beef taco lasagna. Vegetarian taco lasagna was supplied by chapter chef Ann Pearson.

Prizes were awarded to our coffee cake bakers: a road kill cookbook for the Paula Deen entry, a tiara and magic wand for the Queen Elizabeth cake, and a nutcracker with thighs of steel for the Hillary entry.

We had more coffee cake for breakfast on Sunday and then went off to christen Becky Steward's new rig. Activities for Sunday included a tour of the Jesse Settlemier house, an early Victorian home built by the founder of Woodburn and listed on the National Registry of Historic Homes. Some of us went to Champoeg State Park for a Founder's Day celebration. This park was the site of Oregon's first provisional government. Others visited the Oregon Gardens.

Admission included a tram ride to tour the gardens and visit the Frank Lloyd Wright Garden House. It was designed by Wright in 1957 and brought to the Oregon Gardens in 2002. It is the only building in Oregon designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and the only Wright building in the Pacific Northwest that is open to the public.



Oregon Gardens



Frank Lloyd Wright House

We walked to Elmer's Restaurant for dinner Sunday night and gathered at the clubhouse afterwards for a celebration of Martha Lindegren's 92nd birthday. Janet Horton and June Willoughby played their guitars and led a sing-along.

On Monday, we said our goodbyes until next time.—
Dorene Thomas