

Hidden Bottle Hunt 2022

Explanations for Zone 3 Clues



BottleDrop[®]
Oregon Redemption Center

CLUE 1

The day is here, the time has come
Crack the clues, and you'll have won
I'll tell you now the bottle's not on the playa
It's hidden in a county named after aging carya

SOLVE 1

This is a narrowing clue, intended to direct hunters to the correct county in Zone 3. "Not on the playa" is meant to keep folks out of the flatter, more arid counties in the zone. Carya is the species name for hickory. Aging carya is "Old Hickory" which was the nickname of Andrew Jackson, after whom Jackson County was named.

CLUE 2

The county is vast so let's narrow in
It's tempting to say Gold Hill is where to begin
But for this hunt you should search somewhere south of center
This place wouldn't exist without the help of a mentor

SOLVE 2

This clue tells us that the Bottle isn't in Gold Hill, and is, in fact, somewhere south of center, meaning Central Point. The final line is a subtle nod to the origin story of the trail system where the bottle was hidden. The "mentor" referenced here was Larry Smith, longtime teacher and trail advocate in Jacksonville, whose student, Brian Mulhollen, negotiated the land deal that secured the trail location.

CLUE 3

Does the hunt have you watching Caliban and Desdemona?
You might try looking closer to where Oregon hits California
Nobody said it would be easy to find the bottle
But you sure aren't going to get any help from Othello

"Klaatu barada nikto" might ease your labor
But the words would surely get jumbled by a friendly neighbor

SOLVE 3

This clue could get hunters to the correct city (with a bit of strategic misdirect and confusion). The clue tells us to go south toward Ashland (Shakespeare characters) but not in Ashland (won't get any help from Othello). The clue might misdirect hunters to somewhere near the Oregon-California border, but the real solve here are the cross streets of Oregon Street and California Street, which put us in Jacksonville. And to confirm that, we've got the famous magic words "klaatu barada nikto" that were jumbled by the character Ash Williams in the 1992 film "Army of Darkness." Ash was played by the actor Bruce Campbell, who now calls Jacksonville home.



CLUE 4

It's true that Medford stole this city's seat
But later they struck a deal that was pretty sweet

Scenic woodlands surround -
But the treasure's on the least "appreciated" property around
Don't surmise that's because it's got a vice
It was sold by a guy so nice they named him twice

Find the story about a young kid's gall
Leading to a trail that reminds us of John Paul

So step, stride, stroll your way
Trek, trudge, traipse all day
Just when you think you're too tired to continue the quest
Your search will put you on a loop, near a peaceful place to rest

SOLVE 4

Clue 4 gets us to the right trail. Jacksonville was the Jackson County seat before it was transferred to Medford, and the "deal that was pretty sweet" is the land deal negotiated by the Jacksonville Woodland's Association with the City of Medford to secure the property. The final hide location is on the Quarry Trail, just above the historic quarry used by the Rogue River Rail company. The solve for "least appreciated" is the property being sold by the City of Medford for \$1,060, the same amount Medford paid for the land in 1908, and the "guy so nice they named him twice" is Andy Anderson, the City Manager in Medford at the time, who sold the property (yes, I know the name doesn't quite repeat, but it's still fun, right?). The "young kid's gall" is a reference to the gumption shown by 6th grader Brian Mulholland, who negotiated the land deal with the City of Medford, under the mentorship of his teacher, Larry Smith. The "trail that reminds us of John Paul" is the Old Catholic Wagon Trail, which connects to the Quarry Trail. The first two lines in the second half of the clue are synonyms for hiking, which suggest the hide is on a trail, and a "peaceful place to rest" is the Jacksonville Cemetery, located next to the trail. Here's a link to the full story about the land purchase: [History – Jacksonville Woodlands Association \(jvwoodlands.org\)](https://www.jvwoodlands.org/history)



CLUE 5

To the Woodlands Association
Great job on the negotiation
That secured a beautiful trail
Next to which we've hidden the grail

You're on the right path if you're walk is a loop
A Wagon and a Quarry will give you the scoop

The fork in the road decides your fate
Stay to the side by 238
Let the mighty madrone show you the place
Check behind the rock and you'll have a smile on your face

SOLVE 5

The first part of this clue confirms what everybody likely knows by now, which is the that the bottle is hidden on a trail in Jacksonville, and it again references the land deal. The middle section confirms that we're talking about the Catholic Wagon Trail to the Quarry Trail. Stick to the side by 238 tells us that the bottle is on the lower trail nearer Hwy 238. And finally, the bottle was hidden behind a rock by a grove of madrone trees.

Thank you!

