



The OBSIDIAN



Volume IV

Eugene, Oregon, December, 1940

No. 1

Portable Ski Tow Approved By Board at Special Meeting

Purchase of a portable ski tow by the Obsidian club was approved at a recent meeting of the board of directors. The model chosen is a Sweden Speed ski tow, Model C, seven and three-fourths horsepower. Cost of the tow is \$342.50 while the 1200 feet of rope specially treated to avoid soiling clothing costs \$14. Insurance will be \$27.23 a year.

Under proper management, the tow could be paid for in two years. Memberships for its use can be sold either by the day or by the season to Obsidians or non-members.

No Attendant Needed

The machine weights 350 pounds and uses about two gallons of gas a day. It can handle 12 persons at one time. No attendant is necessary to operate the machine after it is once started.

The tow would probably be left at Hand lake, and later moved to the White Branch area. At present, two tows of this same make are being used at Mount Hood.

Skiing Starts

The tow will be bought and put into use as soon as possible as mid-December finds the ski season well started. The cold wave that swept across the country brought the first heavy snow of the year to the Cascades on November 9. Many enthusiastic souls opened the season on November 10, and have been going each week since then.

Ski instruction will be offered this year on the McKenzie by Tony Vogel, while the Willamette Ski Patrol is also making plans for teaching skiing.

Obsidians to Hie to Cabins For New Year's Frivolities

By BOB WILSON

Attention, Warblers!

Members who have not turned in their songbooks to Dr. Gullion are reminded that if they do, the books will be returned to them with the Rotary songs added. Everyone who has one of these incomplete books is asked to write his name and address on it and give it to Dr. Gullion as soon as possible.

February 9 to 16 Selected as Dates For Winter Outing

Although the New Year's party is the biggest and nearest event among Obsidian activities, the outing committee is looking ahead to the winter outing, which this year will be held from February 9 to 16. Sterling Behnke, chairman, and Glen Sims and Bill Parrish are considering four locations. On page four of this paper is a coupon which those interested in attending the outing are asked to check and leave at Hendershott's.

The four possibilities for winter outing for this season are:

Sun Valley—Excellent skiing, accommodations, atmosphere. The minimum charge for a week will be about \$65.

Crater Lake—New territory for a winter outing. Now only 185 miles from Eugene on the new Willamette highway. Excellent accommodations.

Mount Hood—Familiar to most Obsidian skiers. Headquarters at Mazama lodge.

Hear ye! Hear ye! All you Obsidians and your friends—that grand and glorious occasion is almost upon us—to wit: the annual New Year's party. December 31 and January 1 is the date; the new lodge location at Camp Belknap is the place. A traditional feature will be the liar's contest; there will be dancing, midnight lunch, a grand New Year's Day turkey dinner. Music for dancing will be played by Chester Pietka, accordionist, and Verne Sellin, violinist. There will be fox trots for those who want 'em, and plenty of schottisches, polkas, waltzes, Virginia reel, et cetera. Sure, you can trip the light (?) fantastic in ski boots.

You'll Be Hungry

All are advised to practice on the technique of the schottische and the waltz, for there will be a contest on each. There'll be plenty of noise-makers and confetti to properly mark the entrance of the babe 1941. And the midnight lunch—just the thing to top off the evening—you'll need nourishment after those dances, for Scandinavian jive has the so-called modern article backed off the map for letting off that surplus of vim, vinegar, and vitality. To close the evening, we'll warble a few ditties in close harmony. Then if you want to go out and arouse the tree speaks with vociferous cries of "Happy New Year", why, suit yourself—but remember, skiing will be the thing next day (after a swell

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"THE OBSIDIAN"

Member Federation of Western
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Associate Member—Pacific Na-
tional Ski Association

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Emblems at Last

A big bouquet of orchids or Indian paint brush or something to Doris Sims, Florence Sims, and Mary Gillespie, who pitched in and finished up the work on the new Obsidian emblems so they would be available in plenty of time. The Princess club in general deserves credit, too, for their work on the emblems, but it was the three gals finished them up. Obsidian club secretary Blanche Osborn now has them—35c. One will be presented to each paid-up member, however. They are similar to our old emblem, except that they have the word "Obsidian" in large white letters across the top on the black.

WINTER OUTING

(Continued From Page One)

Hoodoo — Site of last years' shouting.

The cost for a week's outing at any of the last three will be about the same as in previous years.



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SKI TOGS

HERE AND THERE

+ + +

Wallace Clark is writing a column, called "Ski Heil!" each week in the Register-Guard. The first story, published November 29, was an entertaining and informative one on this year's skiing prospects.

+ + +

One of the most striking exhibits at the recent Lane county art fair was Myrtie Hamlin's prize-winning photograph of Eagle Cap in the Willamette mountains. This picture won the grand prize in the Obsidian picture contest.

+ + +

Obsidians are fast becoming air-minded. Eileen Baker, who is taking the civilian pilot training course at the university, recently achieved her first solo. Jean Taylor also completed the course the past summer.

+ + +

Bryan Ryan is working at the Santiam ski bowl, where he is in charge of ski safety, ski instruction, and publicity.

+ + +

Of interest to many Obsidians is the first aid course for skiers being offered by the Willamette Ski Patrol. Nelson Paris is the instructor. The classes are mainly for Patrol members, but others interested may attend.

Ply Needles

Princess meetings these last two months have been busy with scissors and needles as the gals worked on the new Obsidian club emblems. Helen Smith, hostess for the October gathering, served a good turnout with angel pie and hot chocolate after the snipping session. At Helen Kilpatrick's, in November, they drew names for the Christmas party, which was planned for Charlotte Lemon's — Princess Meadow Lark—Tuesday, December 10.

Let a Little Sunshine In

Man with big nose: "Wonder why my mustache won't grow?"
Man with mean disposition: "Too much shade, probably."

Search Organized

Members of the Obsidians, the Ski Patrol, and the Ski Lauferers organized a search for a Portland hunter, Ralph Woods, who was lost above Oakridge, Sunday, September 29.

Mr. Woods became separated from companions on Saturday, but finally found his way to Westfir shortly before the party of searchers started hunting for him.

Those making the trip to Oakridge and receiving the thanks of Mr. Woods were: Harold Trotter, John Skillern, Bailey Castelloe, Bob Wilson, Gerald Johnson, Sterling Behnke, Robert Swennes, Miner Hamlin, Al Hoffman, Ray Sims, Norvald Nelson and Wallace Clark.

PATIENTLY IMPATIENT

"Your husband seems very impatient lately."

"Yes, he is, very."

"What's the matter?"

"He's getting tired waiting for a chance to get out where he can sit patiently hour after hour waiting for a fish to nibble at his bait."

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PAST YEAR'S PROGRESS REVIEWED AT ANNUAL MEET

To elect officers, hold their annual picture contest and review events of the past year, members of the Obsidian club met the evening of October 1 at the Anchorage. Directors elected were: Sterling Behnke, Dr. O. R. Gullion, Blanche Osborn, Alvin Lynch, Norman Lee, Jean Randolph, Vint Gillespie, Dorr Hamlin and Eileen Baker.

Myrtie Hamlin won the grand prize in the picture contest with her beautiful photograph of Eagle Cap, one of the highest peaks in the Wallowa region, which the Obsidians climbed during summer camp this year. She also won third place in the landscape and human interest divisions and first, second and third prizes in the nature division. Other prize winners were: landscapes, Florence Sims, first; Ray Sims, second; human interest Bryan Ryan, first and Eileen Baker, second; snow scenes, Paul Lafferty, first; Ray Sims, second and Bryan Ryan, third. Judges were Ray

Boals, Paul Wiser and Cy Fulton.

Norman Lee, membership chairman, reported a total membership of 165, with 15 senior and nine junior members admitted during the past year. J. R. Bruckart, Willamette national forest supervisor, was made an honorary member during the year. Norman, as head of the ski committee, also reported on ski meets of the past year. Margaret Norton reported on social events; Miriam Yoder, on publications and library; Dorr Hamlin, on the new cabins; Vint Gillespie, on local walks. Harold Trotter told of the only search made during the past year, when Ralph Woods of Portland was lost near Westfir on September 29.

Ray Sims talked on the club's winter outing and summer camp. Bob Lemon, auditor, gave his report.

Elizabeth Gullion described the meeting of the Western Federation of Outdoor clubs at Snoqualmie, Washington.

The members voted to retain the old emblem and add the word "Obsidian" to it.

Also on the program were accordion number by Kathryn Ann Heidenreich, daughter of Joe and Vera Heidenreich, and pictures and slides shown by Glen Sims, Guil Hollingsworth, Wayne Bailey, Ray Boals, and Elizabeth Gullion.

NEW YEAR PARTY

(Continued From Page One)

breakfast), and then, about 3 p.m., the main event, folks—the big New Year's turkey dinner, complete with all sorts of trimmings, and we do mean all. (Eat too much if you're so inclined, but the management disclaims responsibility for consequences.)

As for cost of the above described extravaganza, 'twill be about the same as last year—watch bulletin board at Hendershott's store for details, and sign up early.

P.S.—Prospective entrants in the liar's contest will please notify Ray Sims or Bob Wilson.

Go Collegiate

The feminine members of the club were well represented November 3, when Elizabeth Gullion led a party of six women on the Little Fall Creek trip. Instead of going up Fall Creek, the party joined the geology field trip from the university and spent the afternoon at the Cottage Grove dam site. Those on the trip were Elizabeth, Myrtie Hamlin, Nellie Moore, Bertha Deckmann, Helen Smith and Marian Hayes.

The Dance Goes On

To the Del Rey, on Thursday nights, come an ever-increasing number of schottische, hambo, and square dance enthusiasts for the Obsidian club's weekly dance. Under the leadership of Dr. Gullion and Helen Smith, new dances are introduced and old ones improved. Chester Pietka's accordion playing is supplemented by records, for which the club now has a specially indexed case.

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Ski Waxes—the finest made for better skiing: Victor Sohms, try the blue label; Ski Gliss, the entire line; Avalanche, scientifically made; Hannes Schneider, indorsed by the father of skiing; Anderson and Thompson (or A&T), for a graphite base try A&T; Ostobye, used by experts.

This Side of Portland!

Ski Goggles—39c

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Page Four

The OBSIDIAN

Hallowe'en Party

The Four Oaks Grange west of Eugene was the scene of this year's annual Obsidian dance on the night of October 31.

Amid weird lights and eerie noises guests finally wound their way over hurdles and through twisting stairways to the main hall where dancing was the feature of the evening. Chester Pietka furnished the music, and Darwin Yoran was on hand to call square dances and Paul Joneses.

Fortune telling, the awarding of prizes for the best costumes in several classes, and a feed of doughnuts and cider served to a capacity crowd completed the entertainment.

To the two new princesses, Adeline Adams and Ann Brenner, assisted by the social committee, goes credit for a very successful party.

Greenery Trip Set for Sunday

Bringing in the Yule log—or at least the Yule tree and greenery for decorations and wreaths—will occupy the Obsidians on Sunday, December 15. Led by Helen Kilpatrick, the group will leave Hendershott's at 8 a.m., and will return early in the afternoon—taking their lunch along, however. A suitable spot nine or ten miles from Eugene will be found, probably, said Mrs. Kilpatrick, up Fall Creek way. Very little hiking will be involved.

Here is your chance to pick the site of your winter outing. If you intend to go, clip this coupon and vote:

Sun Valley;Hoodoo;

Mt. Hood;Crater Lake

Send to Hendershott's

Happy New Year!

Of the social events on the calendar, we
Are choosing the annual New
Year's spree;
It starts off the year in a holiday
mood
With dancing and singing and
plenty of food.

The hogs will be called and the
lies will be told
As we dance in the new and bow
out the old.
There'll be schottisches, polkas,
Virginia reels,
When we all get together and
kick up our heels.

In short, we're planning a most
festive night,
Ere we climb out of bed in the
dawn's early light,
For remember, the skiing has
just begun—
So come, you Obsidians, and let's
have some fun!

Crater Visited

Six Obsidians saw a preview of winter scenery in the Cascades on the trip to Yapoah Crater, just north of the North Sister, on October 26. Leaving the summit on the Skyline Trail, the group, led by Alvin Lynch, hiked past Mattheau lakes, across a lava bed and through the forest. One of the season's first snowfalls covered the landscape, growing deeper as the trail rose. Clouds and mists obscured the Sisters, but occasionally the North, draped in white, was revealed against the background of a brilliantly blue sky.

Three of the party climbed to the top of the crater. Those making the trip were, besides, Alvin, Thelma Watson, Bertha Deckmann, Jean Randolph, Bailey Castelloe and Bob Edwards.

**LOUIS ENTERTAINS
AT FIRST REUNION**

A big reunion for both Chiefs and Princesses was held November 30-December 1, at Louis Waldorf's McKenzie valley cabin. The Chiefs went up Saturday night, had a big feed on delicious clam chowder made by Louis and Roxy Waldorf. The Princesses drove up early Sunday and joined them for breakfast. Then skiing at the summit, and loafing at the cabin, were enjoyed by all according to inclination. A potluck dinner finished the festivities.

Chiefs present were: Horsefeathers, Smoketurner, Kodak, Henscratch, Paintbrush, Prunes, Spreadingeagle, O.K., Packhorse, Brokentop, Hilene, Mudhen, Twister, Wet Wash, Hucklabberry, Trailor, Little Brother, Ki yi, Nut Cracker, Windless, Moccasin, Firebuilder, and Wise Owl.

The Princesses present were: Blue Water, Dawn, Silver Wing, Wild Flower, Drifting Cloud, Butterfly, Evening Star, Lightning, Pine Tree, White Dove, Sahali, Moon Dance, Warbler, Pine Squirrel, Rosy Cloud, and Wren. Oneita Behnke was there for dinner and Judy Lee for breakfast.

To Rooster Rock

One of the last trips of the fall season was the one to Rooster Rock, in the Santiam country, October 13. Tony Vogel and Miner Hamlin led the group of nine Obsidians and five from Sweet Home to the top of the rock, which from the east resembles a rooster. Those on the trip were Tony, Miner, Bob Edwards, Lloyd Helikson, Dr. Gullion, Elizabeth Gullion, Alvin Lynch, Helen Smith and Lucille Gray.