

A Very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year to All



Volume VII

Eugene, Oregon, December, 1944

No. 5

Sgt. Sterling Behnke—One of a group of 44 mountain climbers on an expedition to locate the C.47 Air Transport that crashed on Sept. 18th near the top of an unnamed 12,160 ft. Alaskan peak.

Lt. John W. Brown, Jr.—Was missing in action over Europe, taken prisoner in Belgium, escaped from a train en route to Germany and made his way back to Allied lines. Has been visiting his wife and baby son in Eugene.

Jack L. Bogan, SC 3/c—Writing home from Tinian Island, one of the Marianna Group, Jack says, "out of five times the Japs flew over bombs were dropped only twice."

Sgt. Philip W. Campbell—Trained at Camp Lejuene, N. C., graduated in Radar. Now in Hawaii.

Robert Edwards — Whereabouts unknown.

Pvt. LeRoy Farnham—Information unavailable.

Lt. Walter Gilbert—An observer with the Army Air Force at Clovis, New Mexico.

Cpl. Brian Gillespie—Recently home on furlough. Now somewhere across the Atlantic as waist gunner in a B-17 Bomber.

Pvt. Robert Gray—Enjoying Florida sunshine at Avon Park as instructor in Celestial Navigation.

PFC. Gordon Guillion—In a Medical Detachment at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma, driving a 5-ton truck.

T. Sgt. Al Hoffman—Map making with the Engineers in England.

Capt. R. R. Hewitt—With the Marines — recently returned from the Pacific area. Expects to be home for Christmas.

Pvt. Fred E. Hughes, Jr.—Letter just received from Fred in

SALUTE TO OUR MEMBERS IN THE SERVICE

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WISHING
YOU A
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Germany. Has seen quite a bit of Europe, but says, "none of it compares with the great Northwest". Snow where he is now and wishes for his skis. (Snow on McKenzie Pass about eight inches. Members appreciate your letter—write again.)

Major Gerald Johnson—In Leyte area. Just shot down his 23rd Jap plane. Was recently entertained aboard Admiral Halsey's Flag Ship. Spoke for five minutes on the Army Hour Sunday, Dec. 10th, giving the part taken by the Air Corp in closing the Ormoc corridor. (Fine Gerald—keep up the good work. Best of luck to you.)

2nd Lt. Ralph W. Johnson—Completed Officers Candidate course Nov. 16, at Ft. Benning, Ga. Spent a brief furlough at home the latter part of November.

Cpl. Robert Keeney—With a Medical Battalion near the front lines in Italy.

Lt. Col. Paul Lafferty—Home on furlough, Paul informs us he is still with the Mountain Troops

now in Texas. Lt. Col. and Mrs. Lafferty are the parents of another son, David Edgar, born Nov. 16th. Congratulations Paul and Jean. (How about it Chiefs, shall we call this one "Little Goshlin'?"')

Capt. Ralph F. Lafferty—Now in the Panhandle country, too, but we'll bet longing for the Three Sisters country.

Lt. Norman L. Lee—Fort Lawton, Washington. Judy and the girls are living in Seattle.

Pvt. Jean McMorran, WAC—Gravelly Point, D. C.

Lt. John B. Merrill—Blackland Air Base, Wasco, Texas. Will be in Eugene December 16th.

Cpl. Forest Morgan—Flight Engineer at Ardmore, Oklahoma —will complete his course in January.

Blanche Osborn, WASP—Stationed for the past several months at Las Vegas, Nevada. Expected home for the holidays.

Lt. W. C. Peltier—Spent part of last summer in the hospital. Now back in the artillery somewhere in the South Seas.

Sgt. Chester Pietka—Landed in England in October with the 11th Armored Division.

June Porterfield, S. C. 1/c—Aboard the S. S. St. Louis somewhere in the Pacific. Called on several Obsidians while home on leave in September.

Van Wesley Purdy, S 2/c—Somewhere in the Pacific on the U. S. S. Brooks.

2nd Lt. Charles B. Ryan—Mountain Troops have been moved to Texas and Bryan reports he is now a "Mule Skinner".

Lloyd Sims, R.M. 2/c—Radio operator at the Naval Air Station, North Island off the San Diego coast.

(Continued on Page Three)

"THE OBSIDIAN"

*Member of Federation of
Western Clubs*

*Associate Member of Pacific Na-
tional Ski Association*

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Gerald Huff

Hallowe'en Party

By THELMA WATSON

On Saturday evening, October
29, thirty five Obsidians and
friends enjoyed an evening of
fun at the home of Mr. and Mrs.
Cy Fulton on Floral Drive.

We were greeted on the front
lawn by a Jack-o-Lantern shin-
ing out from under a shock of
cornstalks.

From the basement garage
through the dark passage to the
upper floor, one wondered if Ann
Bolyn was about, so many weird
noises. Turned out to be three of
our good Princesses doing an ex-
cellent job of giving us the Hal-
lowe'en scare.

The group made their way to
Cy's studio, all decorated in fes-
tive Hallowe'en fashion (on the
walls being many of Cy's paint-
ings).

The entertainment committee
kept us busy with games such as
pumping the broomstick, passing
a walnut on two fingers, bingo,
and to fully test our ability to
concentrate we were given a
large paper pumpkin, on one side
was written many scrambled
words characteristic of Hallow-
e'en. When time was called, Ann
Connell was the winner with all
words unscrambled correctly.

Jane then passed a small punch
board around, with instructions
to punch and do what ever the
small piece of paper stated. This
resulted in many god laughs for
some real talent was displayed.

After some dancing to tunes
from the Obsidian music box, the
grand march took us to the kitch-
en door to find delicious home
made pumpkin pie, Korn's
doughnuts, and cider awaiting
us.

The party broke up to the tune
of "Surely had a wonderful time,
thanks a lot!"

The Fultons said, "We will
know that to be true, if you come
again."

And we will!!

Obsidian (to sniffing Jun-
ior): "Little boy have you a
handkerchief?"

Junior: "Yes, Sir, but I never
loan it to strangers."

Princess Activities

In October, the Obsidian Prin-
cesses gathered at the home of
Helen Kilpatrick. Reva Moore
was assistant hostess. Plans were
made for the Annual Hallowe'en
party for the club. Doris Sims,
Nellie Moore, Jane Hall, Eileen
Baker Wilson, Thelma Watson,
Florence Fulton, Vera Heiden-
reich were appointed committee.

The group enjoyed hearing of
Thelma Watson hike around Mt.
Hood. Any one desiring informa-
tion about a circum ambulation,
contact Thelma. Jane Hall gave
an interesting account of her
summer vacation in the Cana-
dian Rockies.

November meeting was held
at the home of Vera Heidenreich
with Nellie Moore co-hostess.
Plans were made for our Christ-
mas party which will be held at
the home of Minnie McCracken.
A gift exchange will be held, a
fifty cent limit having been
agreed upon. It was decided to
complete the afgan for the Red
Cross at the meeting.

Generous servings of particu-
larly delicious dessert prepared
by Nellie Moore were served to
the following members, Char-
lotte Lemon, Helen Wiser, Doris
Sims, Thelma Watson, Vera
Heidenreich, Nellie Moore and
Minnie McCracken.

Princesses will have charge of
the USO Kitchen January 8 to
14th. Mary Gillespie is chairman
of the week.

Officers of the group for this
year are Minnie McCracken,
president; Vera Heidenreich,
vice-president; Charlotte Lemon,
secretary-treasurer. Jane Hall is
chairman for Red Cross Hand-
work.



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32 E. 11th Ave.

Eugene, Ore.

Sept. 22, 1944

To the Editor:

I have just finished reading the last issue of the OBSIDIAN, and there are two items to which I certainly wish to register my disapproval. Your slur regarding the President's Tea at the "Beach Camp" was certainly uncalled for. There was no "Beach Camp". There was an Official Obsidian Summer Outing, and of course the president was there, as he should have been.

The item regarding "Summer Camp", I regard as both false and misleading as there was only one Official Obsidian Summer Outing held this year. By a vote of eight of the nine members of the Board, I, as chairman of the Outing Committee was instructed to arrange for, and to have the Outing on the coast, which with the assistance of other committee members was arranged for, and a most successful and enjoyable Outing was had in spite of the opposition which we encountered on the part of some Obsidians who were dissatisfied and worked to the detriment of the committee and the organization. Now, after these certain members failed to prevent a successful Outing at the coast, you are trying to justify their actions by making it appear to the membership that there were two Obsidian Summer Outings this year, and that was the Official Obsidian Summer Outing as authorized by the Board and carried out by the Outing Committee at Purdy's Inn on the coast.

I will appreciate it, if you will

Jack Lamb Film Shop

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Aircraft Rescue Unit

An Aircraft Rescue Unit is being organized in Eugene by the Willamette Ski patrol at the request of the National Defense Council. These are being formed thruout the country by the various branches of the National Ski Patrol.

Dorr Hamlin is chairman of the unit and Ray Sims representative for the Obsidians. Various groups of high school ski clubs, University Forest cooperators, woodsmen and outdoor people are to participate.

The object is to act as search and rescue units in this area when planes are reported down. Members of the club may be asked to be on alert to be called. Practice skiing and compass work trips may be arranged and gasoline provided.

Planes downed or in trouble are to be reported to Ray Sims, Ed Thurston, Kenneth Shoemaker and Tony Vogel.

This kind of service is right up the alley of the Obsidians and similar to the emergency in which the club was organized.

SALUTE TO OUR MEMBERS

(Continued from Page One)

PFC. Clarene Skillern—Married Nov. 10th in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Baltimore, Md., to Dorris-Mae Tupper. Congratulations "Can".

PFC. John Skillern—Somewhere on the Atlantic seaboard.

Capt. Warren E. Smith—On Guam with the Headquarters Company, 3rd Marine Div. Have a baseball league on the island and Warren E. is captain of one of the teams.

Lt. R. H. Swennes—Completed training at Fort Benning, Ga., and is ready for overseas duty.

Margaret Thompson, WAC—

publish this letter in the next issue of the "OBSIDIAN".

Respectfully,

D. E. Yoran, chairman of the Obsidian Outing Committee

Editor's Note: The above letter was not sent to the present editor.

A private in the Women's Army Corp in training at Des Moines, Iowa. (Have you read Margaret's interesting articles on WAC life in the Guard?)

Patricia Tiffany, RM 3/c—In the WAVES, stationed in Seattle.

Wm. Tugman, Jr.—Continuing his studies at the University of Washington.

Robert W. Wilson, SK 1/c, USNR—From Dutch Harbor, Alaska, Bob writes to Marjorie that it is snowing and the scenery is gorgeous. Has been on several hikes. On one he climbed a high peak from the top of which could be seen a large expanse of the Bering Sea. At another time he saw two wild foxes.

Capt. Charles Wiper, Jr.—With Air Support Command in the Pacific area.

Major Thomas Wiper—In the Air Corp somewhere in the European area.

GOLD STARS

LT. JOSEPH JACKSON
LT. COLVER WALLER

In Memorium

Second Lt. Colver K. Waller, first reported as missing in action January 27 in Italy, was killed on that date. He was serving as bombardier-navigator on a B-25 bomber at Valletty, between Rome and the Anzio beachhead.

Lt. Joseph H. Jackson, Jr., pilot of a P38 fighter plane, has been killed in action over Romania. Previously reported missing in action, Lieutenant Jackson went down over Romania after a raid in June, 1944.

Patronize our advertisers.

Season's
Greetings

From

HENDERSHOTT'S

Local Walks Schedule

November, December,
1944
January, February
1945

Nov. 26—Hike: College Crest, Lorane Road, Braes, Old Airport. Afternoon trip. Leader: Arlene Brant. Phone 4136-M.

Dec. 3—Bus and hike: New Airport and Weather Bureau via Santa Clara. Leader: Nellie Moore. Phone 266-W. Qualifying.

Dec. 10—Gillespie Butte, Pioneer Cemetery, Country Club Area. Travel as announced. Leader: Louis Waldorf. Phone 4268-W. Cars: 4 miles est.

Dec. 17—Greenery Trip; Gullion Tree Farms. Car est. 30 miles round trip. Leader: Dr. Gullion. Phone 133 or 4163-W.

Jan. 7 — Southern Pacific Term Facilities Hike. Leader: Ray Sims. Phone 1640 or 4330-W.

Jan. 14—Mt. Pisgah; short but interesting and scenic trip. Car mileage est. 12 miles. Leader: Darwin Yoran. Phone 2567-W. Qualifying.

Jan. 21—Chase Gardens. Hike. Beautiful trip. Hike via Ferry St. Return by Springfield. Leader: Gladys Lees. Phone 4406-W.

Jan. 28—Museums: University of Oregon on the Campus. Don't miss this. Hike. Helen Kilpatrick, leader. Phone 1708-J.

Feb. 4—Camp Creek: via Hayden Bridge to creek. Hike to junction of creek with McKenzie. Leader: Jane Hall. Phone 2459-W.

Feb. 11—Spencer Butte Country, as leader determines. Hike. Leader: Lloyd Helickson. Phone 2645-M. Qualifying.

Feb. 18—Industrial Trip through manufacturing plant week-day evening. Leader: R. B. Boals. Phone 851-J.

Feb. 25—Coburg Hills. Car and hike. Estimated car mileage

New Members

Active member status was voted, at the November Board meeting, to Robert Lyon who climbed the North Sister last summer. We wish to welcome Mr. Lyon to our club and extend to him an invitation to participate in our future activities.

Gribskov-Skovbo

Miss Elizabeth Anne Skovbo, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Skovbo, was married in November in the Danish Lutheran Church of Junction City, to Pvt. Ivan J. Gribskov of Cosad, Nebraska. Betty has many friends among the Obsidians who wish her much happiness.

Federation

At the annual meeting of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, J. Dorr Hamlin was elected Vice-President for Oregon. Louis Waldorf, alternate delegate, gave a report on this meeting at the Obsidian Annual Meeting in October.

Picture Contest

Although there were not many individual entrants in the 1944 Annual Picture Contest, the majority of the prints were of excellent composition, showing the exhibitors had taken care in selecting their subjects. Prize winners were: Myrtie Hamlin, Bertha Deckman and Ruth Hopson.

Harold Trotter, who has been at the Bremerton Navy Yards for over two years, is home for a week or ten days.

round trip 15. Leader: Bertha Deckman. Phone 4858-J. Qualifying.

Kid Party

The social committee will sponsor a Kid Party on Saturday, January 27, at the home of Cy and Florence Fulton. Special admission price 29c. Roxie Waldorf, chairman.

A Valentine party will be held on Thursday, February 15, at a place to be announced later. Doris Sims, chairman.

On March 15, a St. Patrick's party will be held with Paul Campbell, chairman. Save your pennies.

Watch for a notice in the Register-Guard concerning a lecture on India by Mrs. David Campbell.

Gillespie Butte Trip

An even dozen members enjoyed the Dec. 10 hike led by Louis Waldorf. Starting from their orchard, we crossed both golf links, visited the Heidenreichs, climbed Gillespie Butte and visited the pioneer cemetery. The Sisters and other mountains were visible from this vantage point. Return was made thru Cal Young's grove and pasture to Waldorf's. Here we spent a pleasant hour around the fireplace, while Roxie and Mertie served chocolate and home-made cookies.

For Gifts
Photographic

Ask Dot!

