



The OBSIDIAN



Volume VII

Eugene, Oregon, September, 1944

No. 4

Capt. Wiper Decorated

Charles Wiper has been presented the air medal for "meritorious achievement in combat operational flights of a hazardous nature." Flying an A-24 Douglas dive bomber, he took part in seven combat missions against the enemy in the south and southwest Pacific.

Puzzle at Whitebranch

Something very odd has come over Whitebranch. Where a good sized stream of silty water should be rushing across the road at Lost Creek Ranch, a mere brooklet of nearly clear water flows. And where a torrent of very dirty water should be entering Proxy Creek there is a mere dribble. Dirty to be sure but a trickle, nevertheless. Yet at the Whitebranch crossing neither the quantity nor the quality has altered. What has Whitebranch been up to?

President's Tea

The Beach Camp—that's the one that had the president, you know, and consequently the President's Tea, really spread itself this year. After going through that delightful bit of nonsense in honor of "King Ray" and "Queen Lillian", they put on one for Florence who missed out last year owing to there having been NO SUMMER CAMP. 'Twas really quite a social event.

We are happy to announce that Lt. John Brown, who was previously reported missing in action is still alive and has been heard from. No further details are available at the present.

Summer Camp

Something new was tried this year, the experiment of holding two camps. It seems to have worked out very well. At least the people from each came back with tales of high good times. The Beach Camp was held at Purdy's Inn near Yachats. This is new country to Obsidians and should have provided many interesting trips, as indeed, it did. The Mountain Camp was held at Obsidian Camp. The old stove top was still there and after a bit of work by Elmer McBee, was soon functioning perfectly, with Ada Smith really turning out the meals. Of course this was old country to most Obsidians but they went ahead wearing down the mountains just as enthusiastically as they always do. Many have been heard to say that they hoped two camps would be held again next year, adding only, that it would be nice to have them come at different times.

Missing in Action

Lt. Joseph Jackson has been reported missing in action over Rumania. He was a member of the 71st fighting squadron. Now that Rumania has surrendered we are hoping to hear that Lt. Jackson is among those freed by the entry of the Russians. He is the third Obsidian reported missing while flying in the European theater.

Correction

The members are requested to bring their own dishes to the Annual meeting potluck.

John Skillern is spending a few days at home while on furlough.

Notice of Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Obsidians, Inc., will be held at the Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 12th & Pearl Sts., October 3, 1944. Dinner will be at 6:30 p. m. Each member coming bring a potluck dish and coffee will be furnished by the Club. Each member bring own dishes.

Following the dinner will be the annual business meeting, election of directors, reports of committees, etc. Polls will be open from 7:30 to 8:30. Only ACTIVE members, whose dues are paid, are eligible to vote. Dues for the ensuing year will be payable at this time, amount \$2.00, and the secretary will be prepared to receive them. There are nine directors to be elected—six men and three women. Following is a list of candidates selected by the Nominating Committee:

Robert H. Lemon, Ray B. Boals, J. Dorr Hamlin, Hugh P. Currin, Paul G. Wiser, Elmer F. McBee, Doran S. McKee, Sterling F. Patterson, Frank P. Sipe, Edward P. Kremer, Louis W. Waldorf, Darwin E. Yoran, Hazel Stalsberg, Jane Hall, Nancy Hamlin, Florence Sims, Helen Smith, Arlene Brandt.

The Annual Picture Contest will be held October 3, 1944, at the Episcopal Church Parish Hall. Leave your enlargements with Adeline Adams, 1939 Alder St. Judging will be by popular vote, the same as last year. Cash prizes will be awarded.

Help to carry on while our boys are fighting for us—so don't forget this important meeting and dinner date.

Helen Smith,
Secretary

Eugene, Ore.

Local Walks

June, July, August
By FRANK SIPE

Local walks trips for June, July and August have been surprisingly successful, only one trip failing to be held because of lack of patronage. During this time Obsidians and their friends explored the Mohawk Hills, bicycled (and motored) to Coburg Bridge for a picnic, climbed through the cool woods by forest trail to the magnificent lookout of Hardesty Mountain, picnicked again at Seavy's, climbed the Middle Sister, and rediscovered the beautiful Rosary Lakes near Odell Lake.

Three work trips into the Willamette National Forest were held during this period. The Forest Service furnished the transportation, and the Obsidians furnished the labor for rehabilitating forest camps. The following camps were worked on: River's Edge, Shady Dell, Trout Creek, and Big Lake. A fine turn out was had for the first two trips; the Big Lake trip, unfortunately, was not so well attended. The Obsidians are very grateful to the Forest Service for these opportunities to assist in maintaining the recreational facilities in the Cascades.

Accident

Cy Fulton, one of our brand new members, was very seriously injured shortly after returning from his vacation, when a car smashed into the one that he was driving. He is no longer confined to the hospital but he is still far from well. His car was completely wrecked, it is said.

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That Thesis

Ruth Hopson's thesis has almost become an Obsidian project, so many have had a hand in it. So everyone will be glad to learn that it is nearing completion. Ruth has collected over 800 flowers. Did you know there were that many varieties in the McKinzie valley? She has also taken innumerable notes on animal life, and we don't mean salamanders only, and yards or is it miles of pictures. She is beginning the writing now. It looks to us as though it would be a volume the size of the Encyclopedia Britannica when finished. We think she plans on scaring the examining board into giving her that degree.

Oregon Trail Council, Inc.
Boy Scouts of America
Aug. 24, 1944

Mr. Ray Boals
1706 Jefferson,
Eugene, Oregon.
Dear Mr. Boals:

Permit me to express my appreciation and that of the Oregon Trail Council for the kind interest in our hiking program taken this past summer by the Obsidians. We had a very successful season and without a doubt, the high spots of the Summer were the three trips up the Middle Sister.

We wish to express our thanks to Mr. Ray Sims, Percy Brown, Bob Lemon, and Elmer McBee who led the various trips. The certificates which you made available were greatly appreciated by the boys who received them.

Sincerely yours,
K. A. Wells
Scout Executive

United State Department of
Agriculture
Forest Service
Willamette National Forest
Recreation Lowell, Oregon
Maintenance Forest Camps
June 21, 1944

President, Obsidians
Eugene, Oregon

Dear Mr. Boals:

Regarding the excellent service rendered by the group of Eu-

gene Obsidians June 18, the Forest Service of the West Boundary District wishes to thank all the men and women for the fine work done on River's Edge and Shady Dell Forest Camps. This work was performed under the handicap of rain and semi-wintery conditions.

This voluntary service, in our opinion is outstanding at a time like this. Please give this letter general publicity among your group.

Very truly yours,
A. J. Briem
District Ranger

Warren Waldorf in India

The Waldorfs tell us that their son, Warren, is now stationed in India. He is in the photographic section of the Air Force, or as Louie phrases it, "the hypo squad". Warren having majored in journalism at the U, was made editor of the paper going over on the transport. He did such a good job that he has been kept on as editor of the camp paper.

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Wild Life

We don't know where the antelope roam but we have a pretty good idea about the deer and the elk. They roam all over the country immediately surrounding the Mountain Camp. They are both plentiful and unusually tame this year. They must have heard that nothing more lethal than a camera was allowed in camp. Catherine Dunlop took a picture of elk at what she estimated as twenty feet. We do hope she didn't jiggle the camera. Another group of hikers counted twenty four elk in one herd. Deer were not so plentiful but several were seen at quite close quarters.

Married

While most Obsidians were away enjoying Summer Camp, Alfred Tyson remained in town. Imagine our surprise on returning to find Alfred married. The bride, formerly Miss Caroline Hines, is a graduate of the University of Kentucky and took her M.A. at Columbia U. She has been serving as student director in St. Mary's Episcopal church for the last three years. They are leaving almost at once for Berkley, where Alfred, who is studying for the Episcopal ministry, will take work at the Church Divinity School. Alfred has been a hard worker on the Entertainment Committee and we shall miss him very much. We hope that he and Mrs. Tyson will be very happy in their new home.

Local Walks

September-October

Sept. 3-4. GOLD LAKE-WALDO LAKE. Labor day. Bob Lemon, leader. Camp at Gold Lake, or other adjacent camp spot (Odell Lake); hike to Waldo Lake and other points of interest nearby. Qualifying.

Sept. 10. THREE FINGERED JACK. Cliff Stalsberg, leader. A major climb. Call Cliff Stalsberg for details and arrangements. Qualifying.

Sept. 17. PICNIC. Hamlin Orchards. Myrtie Hamlin, leader. Come about 1:30 or 2 p. m. with pot luck dinner. Games or other recreation in afternoon.

Sept. 23-24. OBSIDIAN CABIN, work trip. Dorr Hamlin, leader. The usual fall work trip to cabin, combining a small amount of work with a large amount of fun. An exploring trip up the McKenzie or White Branch may be staged, if practicable.

Oct. 1. WORK TRIP, picking filberts at Waldorf orchards. Louis Waldorf, leader.

Oct. 8. SKYLINE TRAIL, south to Collier Glacier, then west to Frog Camp. Thelma Watson, leader. This is an especially interesting loop trip, with views of the great lava country. Qualifying.

Oct. 15. WORK TRIP. Ruth Hopson, leader. Assisting some Obsidian with fall harvest.

Oct. 22. EUGENE WATER BOARD. Hugh Currin, leader. A conducted tour through some of the water board plants, with a

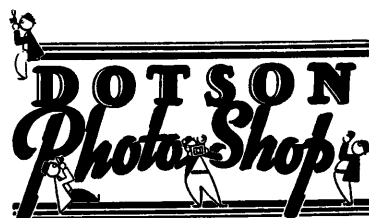
side trip to Mt. Boals. Those contemplating a climb bring proper equipment.

Oct. 29. WARNER LAKE, in the Coburg Mts. Elmer McBee, leader. This mythical lake has caused much argument and speculation among Obsidians, so bring your compasses, altimeters, contour maps, etc. and settle the question definitely. Qualifying.

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