



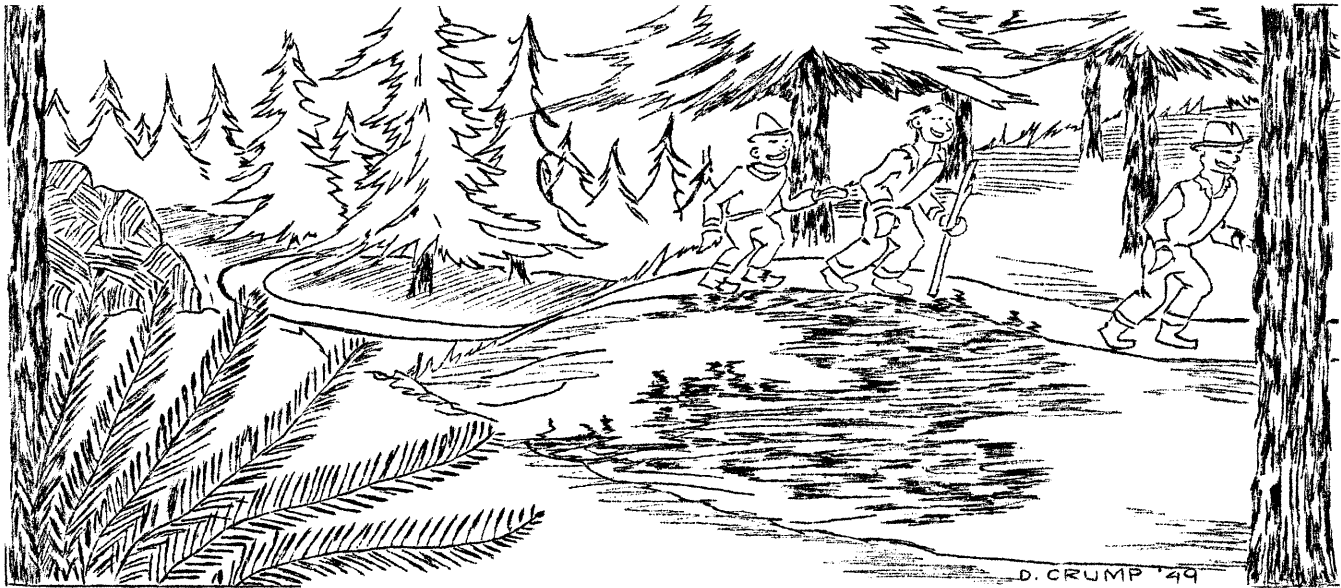
The OBSIDIAN



VOLUME IX

EUGENE, OREGON - APRIL 1949

NO. 3



LOCAL WALKS

Here they are, folks! Here is the first installment of another marvelous year of hiking over the unexcelled forest trails of Oregon. Again you will feel the soft fir needles under your feet; inhale fragrant odors of Salal and evergreens; meet new friends and renew acquaintance with old ones. Come along, bring your friends, and make this the best hiking season in history.

Your Local Walks committee is listing the trips for April, May, and June. Trips for summer and fall will appear in the Obsidian at a later date.

April 3. SPENCER BUTTE. Lloyd Helikson, Blanche Beckett, leaders. A good warm-up trip, not too difficult after the long winter staying at home.

April 10. COBURG MOUNTAINS. Ernie Ruberg, Katherine Thompson, leaders. This is one of the most attractive and unspoiled areas near Eugene.

April 17. EASTER. DILLARD ROAD. Thelma Watson, Dorothy Spencer, leaders. A short afternoon hike, in the wooded hills south-east of Eugene.

April 24. WENDLING AREA. Wayne Bailey, Horace Plumb, leaders. An abandoned logging railroad of Booth Kelly leads far back into the hills east of Wendling, through an old logged area.

May 1. SEAVY BUTTE. Frank Sipe, Louis Waldorf, leaders. An all day trip, in Coburg area, with lunch at spring behind butte. Good views of the valley, Fern Ridge Dam, etc.

May 8. SILVER CREEK FALLS. Dorr Hamlin, Myrtie Hamlin, leaders. This trip has become almost traditional with the Obsidians. The leisurely hike over the trails of this State Park, east of Salem, ending in a pot luck dinner, is an experience everyone wishes to repeat.

May 15. CLARK BUTTE. Bayard McConnaughey, William Schallek, leaders. This is in the Fall Creek Area, close to some of the sustained yield logging operations of the National Forest.

May 22. WARD BUTTE. Glen Sims, Paul Weiser, leaders. A few miles south of Cottage Grove.
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"THE OBSIDIAN"

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1906 Friendly St.	154 W. D St.
Eugene, Oregon	Springfield, Ore.

Judy Egge is our new Secretary. All correspondence should go to her at 1658½ E. 13th, Eugene, Ore.

Have you seen the January issue of the Western Outdoor Quarterly? Every Obsidian should be reading this small publication. Keeps us informed on what is happening in the field of Conservation of wild areas against uncalled for exploitation. Did you know certain areas of Olympic National Park are still in danger of being logged over?

The Purposes of the Federation are: "To advance the common aims of member clubs and societies, to disseminate information concerning them, to increase the interest of the public in the outdoors, to assist conservation and research endeavors of member clubs." If you think these are worthy purposes, better join the Federation today.

NEWS NOTES

MT. HOOD SKI TRIP...The ski bus trip, Mar. 6 taken by many Obsidians & friends, was a new experience for our club. Timberline Lodge was reached at 10 AM; departure was at 5 PM. This gave time to try out all the ski lifts, and explore a lot of trails. Verdict - we should do this more often!

MARY'S PEAK SKI TRIP...On March 13, 15 Obsidians visited the only ski area in the Coast Range. The Helonskis of Corvallis, were hosts. They had the road plowed to near the summit, and had their ski tow going. The day was wet, with ceiling zero, but the group had a fine time anyway.

MOONLIGHT SKI PARTY...As guests of the Oakridge "Ridgers" and the Temples, about 30 attended the ski party in the Willamette Area. The moon overslept, but electric lights and gas lanterns lit up the hill. A pot luck lunch, and music, featured the evening. We hope to be invited again next year.

THE NORMAN LEES AND PAUL LAFFERTYS spent a week skiing at Sun Valley and nearby areas recently. DoAnn Edblom skied with them at Sun Valley.

FLORENCE AND GLEN SIMS spent the week of March 20-27 at Anthony Lakes, skiing every day. Margaret Walker accompanied them. HELEN AND PAUL WEISER have gone to California and southern points for a three -- weeks vacation.

MARGARET VAUGHAN is now MRS. JOSEPH GUTH.

(LOCAL WALKS(Continued))

age Grove, a trail leads to this butte, on which is located a fire guard lookout.

May 29-30. COAST TRIP. Ray Sims, Doris Sims, leaders. This is the Memorial Day weekend, and an excellent chance to renew acquaintances with our beach friends. Be sure to sign up early for this trip, since reservations must be made by the leaders, well in advance.

June 5. FERN TRIP. Ruth Hopson, leader. Starts at Paradise Camp above McKenzie Bridge. This is a scientific and educational trip, as well as a good hike. We hope a good many Obsidians will be interested in this. See Ruth's article on Ferns, in this issue, for a description of this trip.

June 12. CASTLE ROCK. Mike Stahl, Dorothy Steinmetz, leaders. If you have gone on the preceding hikes, you are now in good condition to tackle this one. On reaching the top, you will get a marvelous view of the McKenzie country. Qualifying.

June 19. HARDESTY MOUNTAIN. Ray Cavagnaro and Clarence Scherer, leaders. We hope the Rhododendrons will be in flower by this time. In any event, the trail leads through miles of completely primeval forest. Qualifying.

June 26. SUNSHINE SHELTER. Gilbert Sprague and Britt Britton, leaders. This will be a ski climb, if snow is still sufficient; some hiking can probably be had at Sims Butte, where the snow may be well gone.

NOTE

SIGN UP for each trip at HENDERSHOTT's. A FEE of ten cents is collected from each hiker, during the trip.

THE LEADER is in responsible charge of hike and each hiker is expected to follow his directions.

TRANSPORTATION is usually in private cars; each passenger should reimburse his driver. A cent and a half a mile is considered about right.

A SECOND SHEET has been posted for the trip to Crater Lake, Apr. 10. Leaders - Doris Sims and Olivia Watt ask Obsidians to urge their friends to go--even if they do not ski. This is a rare opportunity to see the famous lake in its winter dress. Leave: 5 AM from Hendershott's - \$5.00.

FERNS - Near the Obsidian Cabin

Ruth Hopson

Early in June I should like to suggest a "fern" trip from Obsidian Cabin. The Peakfinder Trail, that starts at Paradise Camp, offers a large number of species, and several other rewards. The way is steep, first through a forest of Douglas Fir, then, near the top, through an unusual forest of Western Flowering Dogwood. After a hike of about two and a half miles, the trail leads out onto the open hillside, where the CCCs forgot to finish it. At one spot near the top, the trail comes close to a steep ravine where a musical stream waters a beautiful deepwoods fern garden. Here Western Sword fern, Western Maidenhair fern, and Lady fern grow in verdant beauty. The triangular fronds of Licorice fern hang from the moss-covered rocks in several places along the trail.

Beyond the Dogwood forest, the way is through Poison Oak, as is usual on these dry southern exposures. Here, if the day is dry and warm, numerous Fence Lizards will hurry out of our way.

Once we are successfully by the Poison Oak and out above the trees, nature's rock gardens are resplendent with ferns. These are best visited early in June, because soon the ground is dry and so are the plants. The Gold-back fern, one of the little rock ferns that grows here, is mechanized to combat the "dryness". When the weather is dry, it "dessicates" and curls up into a crisp roll, to await the rains. After the plant has soaked up sufficient moisture, the fronds become green again and gracefully uncoil. A golden powder on the back of the green frond protects this fern from too much drying.

Thick patches of Oregon Cliffbrake, and Lace fern, are at the foot of almost every rock exposure. At a little higher altitude, Parsley fern is found. In the shade of a rock is also the Bladder fern.

Other possible rewards of this trip: Water Cusels at the spring; a Hermit Thrush singing its song "Oh so pretty, pretty" along the trail; flocks of Chickadees and Kinglets. Perhaps the Phantom Orchis will be in bloom in the upper woods. If the day is clear, there will be the view of the Three Sisters, glistening white with snow.

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FERNS(Continued from Page 3)

On the way back down the trail, through the woods, we may find two other species of ferns that were missed. These are Deer fern and Spreading Wood fern; along the highway will be Bracken or Western Brake fern; near the beginning of the horse-pasture trail, Sierra Woodfern; in the woods back of Obsidian cabin, Virginia Grapefern; in swamps at Limberlost Camp, Leathery Grapefern; under the huge boulders that form small caves in the talus at the lower end of Deer Butte, Maiden-hair Splenwort; on shady rocks, Holly fern; in back of the "old" Obsidian cabin, Oak fern.

Other ferns in this general vicinity are -- Oregon Woodsia, near Clear Lake; -- Andersons Shield fern, in saddle of Horse-pasture Mt; Coastal Wood fern, at basalt outcrops in the Coburg Mts.

Would you like to see seventeen species of Oregon's beautiful ferns? Then be sure to make this trip!

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SKI TRIPS - APRIL & MAY

April 3. SKI PATROL EXAMINATION AT HOODOO BOWL.

April 10. CRATER LAKE. Doris Sims, Olivia Watt. Ski bus trip; one day.

April 17. THREE FINGERED JACK. Paul Lafferty, Frank Eaton. Overnite; Santiam.

April 24. GOLD LAKE. Bob Pfeiffer, Don Nacker.

May 1. HAND LAKE--SIMS BUTTE. Harold Trotter, Miner Hamlin.

May 8. SANTIAM PASS TO MCKENZIE PASS - Overnite. John Watt, Bob Moffitt.

May 15. DIAMOND PEAK. Jack Meissner, Gilbert Sprague. Overnite at Summit Lodge.

May 22. SUNSHINE SHELTER. Bryan Ryan, John Quiner.

May 29. FAIRVIEW MT. John Quiner, Bailey Castelloe.

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FOR YOUR ENTERTAINMENT

THE EVENING OF THURSDAY -- APRIL 7 -- IS BEING RESERVED FOR THE SHOWING OF THREE COLORFUL 16MM SOUND MOVIES, ENTITLED ---

"MAJESTIC NORWAY"

"PICTURESQUE DENMARK"

"CLASSIC OF SKIING"

These films are being sent to the Entertainment Committee by the SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINES SYSTEM, INC. Time of showing - 8 PM. Place to be announced later.

The same evening you will be privileged to see the film "SKI TIPS" distributed by

AETNA CASUALTY & SURETY CO. Movies of the "NATIONAL CROSS COUNTRY RACES" held at Anthony Lakes, made by George Korn, and other movies of that area made by Glen Sims will also be shown.

LATER IN APRIL

there will be an evening for colored slides - Monday, April 25 at 8 PM. The main feature of the evening will be a special group of slides entitled "Caravan Camps" brought to Eugene especially for your pleasure. Caravan Camps, Inc., is an organization which plans and makes possible - Hiking, Fishing, Sailing, Skiing, - and other types of outdoor trips here in the Pacific Northwest. Also on the program will be slides from Anthony Lakes -- and from the Obsidian Junior Championship Races at Hoodoo, March 27.

THERE WILL BE SMALL ADMISSION CHARGES FOR THESE ENTERTAINMENTS. PLACE OF SHOWING TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

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LOCAL WALKS SUMMARY

APRIL 3 SPENCER BUTTE
Ldrs: Lloyd Helikson, Blanche Beckett
APRIL 10 COBURG MOUNTAINS
Ldrs: Ernie Ruberg, Katherine Thompson
APRIL 17 EASTER - DILLARD ROAD
Ldrs: Thelma Watson, Dorothy Spencer
APRIL 24 WENDLING AREA
Ldrs: Wayne Bailey, Horace Plumb
MAY 1 SEAVY BUTTE
Ldrs: Frank Sipe, Louis Waldorf
MAY 8 SILVER CREEK FALLS
Ldrs: Dorr Hamlin, Myrtie Hamlin
MAY 15 CLARK BUTTE
Ldrs: Bayard McConnaughey, Bill Schallek
MAY 22 WARD BUTTE
Ldrs: Glen Sims, Paul Weiser
MAY 29-30 COAST TRIP
Ldrs: Ray Sims, Doris Sims
JUNE 5 FERN TRIP
Ldrs: Ruth Hopson
JUNE 12 CASTLE ROCK
Ldrs: Mike Stahl, Dorothy Steinmetz
JUNE 19 HARDESTY MOUNTAIN
Ldrs: Ray Cavagnaro, Clarence Scherer
JUNE 26 SUNSHINE SHELTER
Ldrs: Gilbert Sprague, Britt Britton

SECT. 562 P. L. & R.

