



The OBSIDIAN



VOLUME X

EUGENE, OREGON - NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1950

NO. 9

George Jack. New President

The Annual Meeting of the Obsidian Club, preceded by an excellent dinner, was held at Veteran's Memorial Hall, on October 3. Balloting by the members of the club resulted in the following Board of Directors for the year 1949-1950:

Ray Cavagnaro	Doris Sims
Dorr Hamlin	Jean Hjelte
George Jack	Blanche Beckett
Clarence Scherer	Frank Sipe
Mike Stahl	

The new Board presents the officers, chosen in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, for the coming year:

President	George Jack
Vice President	Mike Stahl
Secretary	Doris Sims
Treasurer	Ray Cavagnaro

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Trips	Frank Sipe
Entertainment	Roxie Waldorf and Helen Weiser
Library	Dorothy Spencer
Membership	Jean Hjelte
Search	Ray Sims
Building	Doran McKee, Louis Waldorf
Ski	George Korn
Lodge	Dorr Hamlin
Climbing	Mike Stahl
Publications	Blanche Beckett
Camera	Helen McGillicuddy
Scientific	Chloeanne Owens
Auditing	Clarence Scherer
Outing	

TRIPS COMMITTEE

Here they are, folks! Here is the first installment of another marvelous year of hiking over beautiful country. The new Trips Committee, headed by Frank Sipe and aided by Adeline Adams, Wayne Bailey, and Glen Sims, list the following hikes for November and December. Come on!!! Bring your friends - let's make this the best hiking season ever. Have fun! -- Don't let a little rain stop you, Ducks!

NOV. 5 WORK TRIP Dorr Hamlin, Ldr.
Since last week's trip was cancelled because of rain, here is your chance to have another weekend of enjoyment. Don't be misled by our calling this a "work-trip!" All of us know how much pleasure there is in working with jolly companions around us. It seems, too, that no trip goes without our enjoying plenty of food and idle moments around the fire. So be sure to join us this weekend.

NOV. 12 CHIEF'S INITIATION

NOV. 19 BAILEY HILL-Thelma Watson, Ldr.
An easy local hike on the hilltop southwest of town.

NOV. 26 COAST TRIP Adeline Adams, Ldr.

DEC. 3 MT. PISGAH-Clarence Scherer, Ldr.
A short trip on a knoll near Springfield; a nice afternoon's climb.

DEC. 10 MISTLETOE TRIP Ray Cavagnaro
This is a traditional trip with Obsidians
(Continued Page 2)

DORIS SIMS, SECRETARY

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"THE OBSIDIAN"

MEMBER: Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs; Pacific Northwestern Ski Association; Central Cascade Recreational Council.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

George Jack	President
Mike Stahl	Vice President
Doris Sims	Secretary
Ray Cavagnaro	Treasurer
Dorr Hamlin - Jean Hjelte - Frank Sipe	
Clarence Scherer - Blanche Beckett	

EDITOR: Blanche Beckett....Phone 5-4569

REPORTER: George Jack.....Phone 4-2127

Several of our members are now serving in the Armed Forces; their service addresses will be in the next Obsidian.

Harold Jack	Bob Pfeiffer
Norman Richards	Lloyd Gust
Ralph Johnson	

P I C T U R E N I G H T

There will be a picture night on Tuesday, November 28, at the downtown Community Center. Pictures of the 1950 Obsidian Summer Camp and other trips will be shown. As well as including all Obsidians and their friends, the committee especially invites the public.

HAVE YOU HEARD ?

- that Judy Egge left Sunday night by plane for Philadelphia where she will embark on a honeymoon that sounds like a fairy story - boat trip to Europe - motor trip through Germany and a new home in Norway. That Joe Andress is a lucky guy!
- that the McBees are on an extended vacation trip to Mexico. Have fun, Elmer!
- that Dorothy Spencer's third finger, left hand, is adorned with a sparkler, placed there by Cupid himself!
- the Glen Sims have just returned from a trip in British Columbia.
- that Van Purdy, Eugene's top skiing instructor, is spending a short term in the hospital. Chloeanne Owens is also in the hospital - but both are improving.
- that George Korn was elected 1st Vice President of the PNSA at Santiam Lodge, last weekend, according to reports from Obsidian delegate Doris Sims. And Buster Campbell was named President.

TRIPS(Continued)

and fortunate are we to have mistletoe "for the picking" right in our own locality!

DEC. 17 CHRISTMAS GREEN TRIP Dr. Omar Gullion, Ldr. Here's that opportunity to get your Christmas greens and have lots of fun doing it. Bring your friends and your raincoats!

* * *

For those who were unable to attend the Annual Meeting, we have summarized some of the activities of the various interests of the club.

TRIPS COMMITTEE

George Jack and his committee planned 35 trips this season with only 7 cancelled because of rain. A total of 535 hikers participated, averaging about 16 a trip. Two mountain climbs were sponsored by the Trips Committee, Diamond Peak and Mt. Thielsen in a joint climb with the Chemeketans. Trips drawing the largest groups were Chase Gardens, Silver Creek Falls, Coast Trip, Mystery Trip, and McKenzie River Hike. The net receipts were \$119.08, including \$41.58 from a New Year's Party.

MEMBERSHIP

Judy Egge reported a total membership of 311, of these 202 were active members; - 61 associate and 48 Junior members. 34 new members were accepted throughout the year, and the loss of membership because of non-payment of dues was 54.

CLIMBING

Lloyd Gust, Chairman, submitted a list of 9 official climbs successfully completed, and 4 cancelled because of inclement weather. A total of 135 participated in the peak climbs. The Climbing School covering basic knowledge of rock technique and rope work was well attended by more than 50.

PUBLICATIONS

Frank Sipe published 10 numbers of the Obsidian Bulletin, printing 350 copies of each number, featuring a Holiday number,
(Continued Page 4)



Pictures! Pictures! Pictures! Bring 'em to the annual Obsidian Picture Contest Nov. 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Y.M.C.A. And come to see them and relive the pleasant trips of the past year. Here are the rules:

1. All members may enter the contest but only pictures taken on official Obsidian trips between Nov. 1, 1949 and Nov. 1, 1950 may be entered in classes A - D.
2. Prizes will be awarded for the best pictures in the following classifications with black and whites and slides being judged for separate prizes in each class:
 - a. Landscapes including snow scenes.
 - b. Climbing and skiing activities.
 - c. Plant and animal life.
 - d. Human interest.
 - e. Any one of the foregoing not on an Obsidian trip.
3. All black and white pictures must be enlarged to 5" by 7" or larger and must be mounted on appropriate mounts.
4. Prize-winning black and white pictures become the property of the club but slides will be returned to their owners.
5. As many black and whites may be entered as you wish but only 2 slides may be entered in each classification.
6. Your name and the date the picture or slide was taken must be written on the back of the mounts. Slides should be in boxes labeled with the owner's name.
7. All entries must be left with the chairman or with Thelma Watson at Russell's by Wednesday, November 8.

All pictures will be judged before the contest by three competent judges. All slides entered in the contest will be shown and others as well if time permits. Doughnuts and cider will be available for

Paul Civin
Bertha Deckmann
Doris Lyon
Hazel Stalsberg
Helen Erickson, Chairman

MOUNTAINEERING AND TEAMWORK

By John D. Scott
Editor, Mazama Annual Magazine

Mountain climbing is the art of ascending and descending a mountain in such a way that the trip is a pleasure. Like any other sport if you don't think it's fun, why do it at all?

Of course there are a few who do it as a stunt, or to try to make a time record, or are out solely for newspaper publicity. I'm not talking about those climbers. Fun is a minor consideration with them.

In this section of the Northwest there are two general classes of climbs; small group climbs (two to five individuals) and large party climbs (fifteen or more persons).

Small group climbs are generally composed of members of nearly equal ability and physical strength well known to each other. No one in particular is leader and decisions are made by majority agreement and discussion. Responsibility is, or should be shared by everyone equally, and herein lies a hazard. What is everybody's business sometimes turns out to be nobody's business. Two climbers may be equal in climbing ability and physical endurance, yet vastly different in the exercise of good judgment and freedom from carelessness.

More mountaineering fatalities have occurred in small group climbs than in large ones but it is only fair to add that difficult and hazardous climbs are much more often made by small parties. And because of the freedom from responsibility and from the slowness of any large party, small party climbs will always be popular among young and adventurous climbers.

Large group climbing particularly by people of all ages and abilities is a quite different kettle of fish. It is a game in the best American tradition of teamwork, cooperation and consideration for the other fellow. These qualities also apply to small groups but they are much more important in large parties and the lack of them is disastrous to the very essence of mountaineering, namely for everybody to have fun.

When a large group climb is conducted on the basis of "every fellow for himself and Devil take the hindmost" some few may go home very pleased with themselves, but many will not. And the possibility of someone getting hit by a fall-

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PUBLICATIONS(Continued)

Winter Outing, Trails, Mountaineering, Summer Outing, Three Sisters Mountains, and a Wild Area number. The annual cost of the papers was approximately \$200.

LODGE

Dorr Hamlin informed the Club that the Lodge is in fine condition and ready always for use by all Obsidians.

LIBRARY

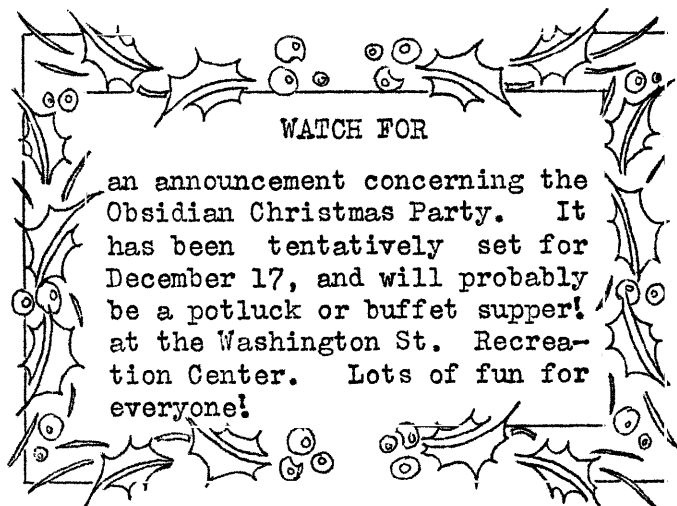
Helen Erickson and her committee clipped and filed all articles of our club in a scrapbook, and will sponsor the Obsidian Picture Contest Nov. 15. (See Page 3)

SUMMER OUTING

Summer Camp this year was held at String Lake in the Teton National Forest, Aug. 6-20, attended by 37 members traveling by Greyhound bus and 9 by private cars. This was the first trip of this type to be attempted by the club and it was a howling success! 6 members drove over or stopped in for short visits at camp and many wonderful trips were scheduled. Committee: Roy Temple, Chairman; Don Temple, John King, Ray Sims.

ALL OBSIDIANS!!

This is YOUR paper; the Publications Committee requests that if you have news material, please outline it and give it to a member of the committee as follows: Ray Sims, Bill Lindgren, Mary Castelloe, Helen Hughes, and the Editor, Blanche Beckett.



WATCH FOR

an announcement concerning the Obsidian Christmas Party. It has been tentatively set for December 17, and will probably be a potluck or buffet supper! at the Washington St. Recreation Center. Lots of fun for everyone!

NEW MEMBER

Lloyd Plaisted 1260 Monroe St.

Sponsors:

Virginia Drake, Ray Sims

MOUNTAINEERING AND TEAMWORK(Continued)

ing stone or of a straggler getting lost trying to find the way back to camp in the dark or in a storm, often crystallizes into fact.

That is why leaders of large group climbs have to be mountaineers of experience, good judgment and responsibility, have plenty of consideration for the weaker and inexperienced members and the ability to command respect enough to enforce their decisions. Caught out in a storm, party leaders need all this and plenty of old-fashioned guts besides if everyone is to get back to camp safe—and happy.

A large group climb is a cooperative enterprise. People should know what is expected of them before they join one. Many a time I have seen one over-timid or out-of-condition climber hold up 25 climbers. If you are unwilling to give up some of your personal tastes, such as starting and stopping when you please, going your own gait, stepping out of line to take pictures, changing clothes, eating and drinking when you feel like it, or carrying your axe and crampons so as to jab your companions, you had much better stay out of big party climbs.

On the other hand if you are a fellow who likes to do things with a group of friends, who enjoys contributing your share toward the group's success in overcoming a difficult objective, or if you have a flair for initiating newcomers into your favorite sport; in a word if you like to participate in good teamwork while combatting colossal natural obstacles, then a large mountain climbing expedition is just your meat.

And not the least of the pleasures of mountaineering are talking over an interesting climb afterwards and looking at the pictures. A big group can always stage a more satisfactory "get together" of this kind than a small one.

NOTE: TRIP LEADERS

George Jack — Phone 4-2127 — is the Official Club Reporter. Please call him and he will see that your announcements of trips or entertainments are given prompt and interesting notices in the Register-Guard.

SECT. 34.66 P.L.&R.

