



# The OBSIDIAN



VOLUME X

EUGENE, OREGON - AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1950

NO. 8

## NEW WILD AREAS PLANNED

All Obsidians, and others interested in the high mountain country of the Cascades, will be pleased to learn that the Forest Service is planning to establish new dedicated areas in the vicinity of Eugene.

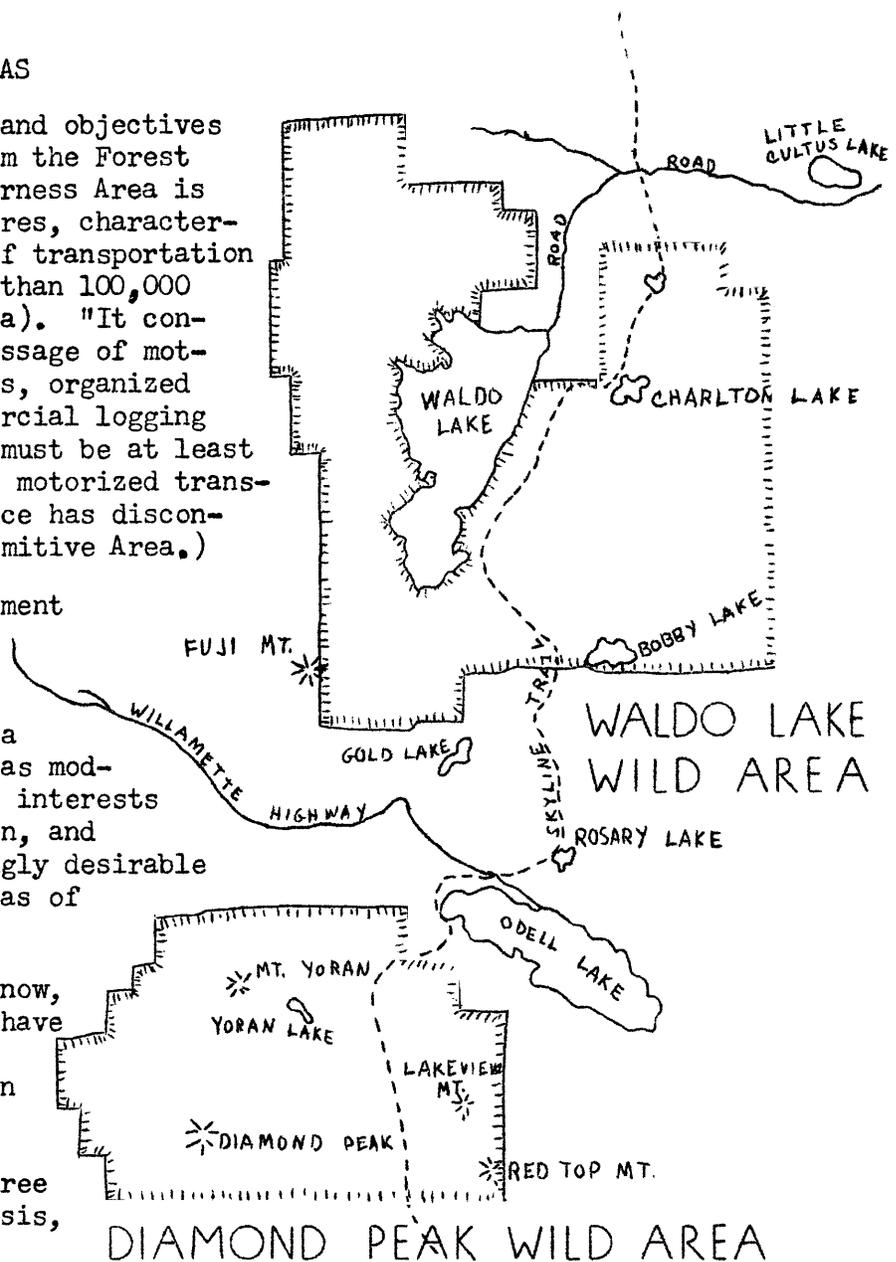
### WILDERNESS and WILD AREAS

A few definitions of terms and objectives will be in order. Quoting from the Forest Service regulations: "A Wilderness Area is an area of at least 100,000 acres, characterized by primitive conditions of transportation and habitation." (If smaller than 100,000 acres, it is called a Wild Area). "It contains no provisions for the passage of motorized transportation. Resorts, organized camps, summer homes, and commercial logging are excluded. The boundaries must be at least 1/2 mile back from any route for motorized transportation." (The Forest Service has discontinued the use of the term Primitive Area.)

Quoting again from a Government Publication: "Most of the nation's wild areas have been tamed by highways, automobiles, and other devices of a mechanical civilization. But as modern developments continue, the interests of recreation, public education, and science have made it increasingly desirable to preserve representative areas of our original wilderness."

It will be of interest to know, that so far 77 of these areas have been set aside as wilderness. They cover 14 million acres, in 73 National Forests, in 11 states. Oregon now has 8 such areas. They are Eagle Cap, Three Sisters, Gearhart Mt., Kalmiopsis,

(Continued on Page 2)



WILDERNESS AREAS(Continued)

Mt. Hood, Mt. Jefferson, Mountain Lakes, and Strawberry Mt.

Washington State has three such areas, and California has 18.

NEW WILD AREAS

The accompanying maps are intended to give Obsidians a more definite picture of the Forest Service plans. Three Wild areas, Diamond Peak, Waldo Lake, and Mt. Washington, will be dedicated, and certain changes made in the boundaries of the Three Sisters Wilderness Area.

DIAMOND PEAK WILD AREA

This will include about 50 square miles of high country around Diamond Lake, Lakeview Mt., Redtop Mt., etc.

WALDO LAKE WILD AREA

This will take in about 58 square miles of the country around Waldo Lake, but the lake itself will not be a part of the wild area. Roads are already established into the north end of the lake, and roads of any kind are not permitted in any wild area. The Forest Service plans to permit the establishment of a resort at this north end of the lake. The Wild Area will, however, include many small lakes, and no roads will be permitted in to any of them.

MT. WASHINGTON WILD AREA

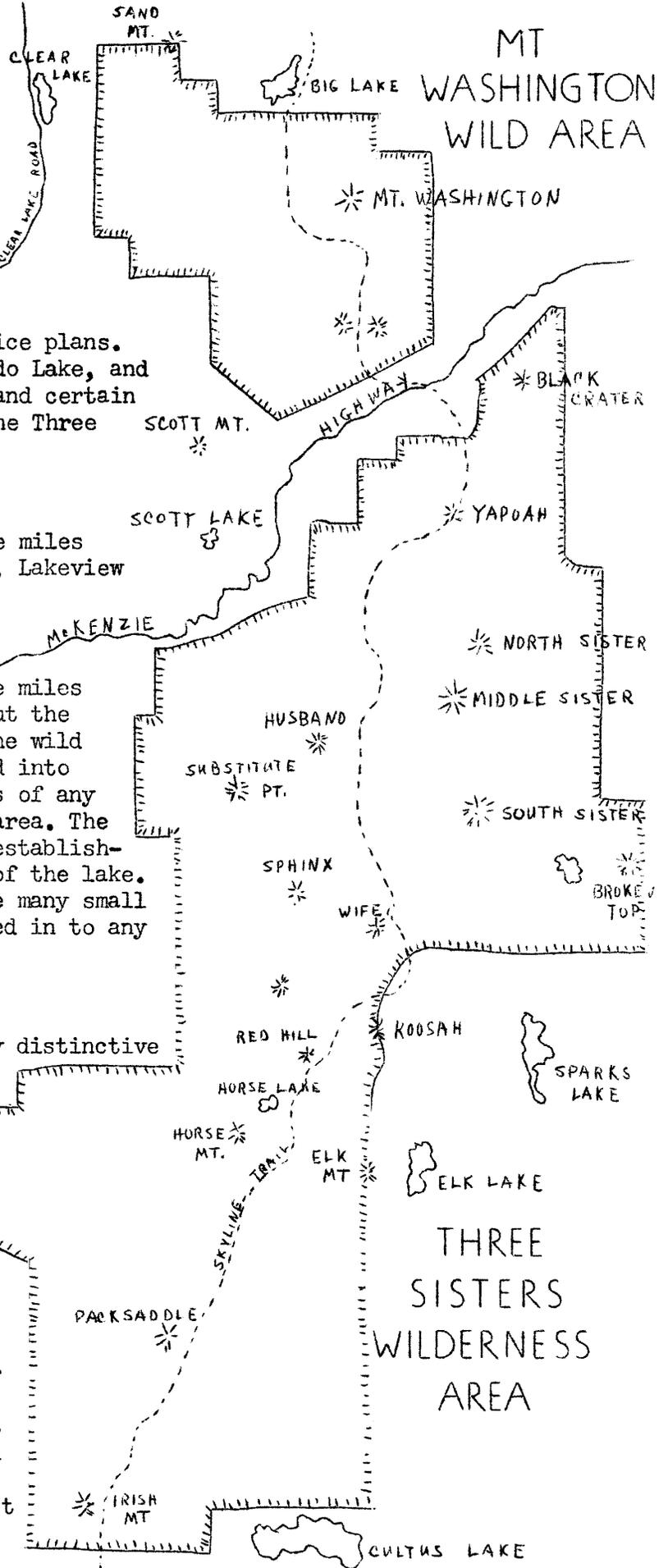
About 50 square miles of the very distinctive volcanic country around Mt. Washington will be included

THREE SISTERS WILDERNESS AREA

This will remain substantially as it was before, so far as recreational values are concerned. A large section from the western part of the old Primitive Area, including such landmarks as Horsepasture Mt., Ollalie Mt., upper Horse Creek, etc. will be excluded. After much careful study, the Forest Service decided this area was low in recreational value, and that withholding it from future timber harvest would be difficult to justify.

(Continued on Page 3)

DIAMOND PEAK



## WILDERNESS AREAS(Cont.) - FIELD PARTY

During the last week end in August, a field party spent four days visiting these areas, with the purpose of getting a clear picture of the new arrangements. The party was headed by Bill Parke, Recreation Director for Region 6 (Wash. and Oregon). Members of the party represented various interests and viewpoints. J. R. Bruckart and Roy Elliott, of the Willamette Forest; Ralph Crawford, Supervisor of the Deschutes Forest; Robert W. Sawyer, of Bend; Dr. C. A. Downs, Chemeketans; Ding Cannon, Trails Club; Virlis Fisher, Mazamas; Bill McMahon, Upper Will. Rod and Gun Club; Louis Waldorf, and Frank Sipe, Obsidians.

Note: These maps and descriptions, have been worked out by your editor; some of the boundaries have not yet been finally established. Any errors you find, you can lay at the door of your editor, F. Sipe.

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

In retrospect now we refer to the past year of Obsidian activity. It has been a full year indeed, embracing many enjoyable times for members and their friends.

I have been privileged to serve the club as President and chairman of the Board of Directors. I can tell you it has been a hard working Board, and one that was faced with making many important decisions. The sincerity of their purpose and their self sacrificing, diligent work have set a standard, I feel, that future Boards will find difficult to meet.

Credit for the successful year lies entirely with these Board members and the club membership who have so whole-heartedly given their cooperation to club functions.

May I take this opportunity then to thank each one of you for your generous help on various committees.

Highlight of the year was the long-dreamed-of Obsidian Summer Camp in the Grand Tetons - made possible by a keen, spirited camp committee and a Greyhound bus.

Another important note to be added to the heritage of our club, is the appointment of the Obsidian Club as a member of the Willamette National Forest advisory Council. We are to represent recreation and conservation in this council of delegates from labor, management of our lumber industry, U. S. Forest Service, and the Chamber of Commerce.

It has been a distinct honor to be your President this past year, and I shall continue to look forward to seeing all of you on the trail trips and climbs.

Sincerely, Ray L. Cavagnaro

## HEAVENLY DAYS by Blanche Beckett

"If Heaven is like this, I'm goin' to start being very good!" - a member of this year's Grand Teton Natl Park Summer Camp was overheard to say. The panorama of beautiful lakes and solid granite mountains was the Obsidians' "Heaven" for their two week vacation.

Our campsite, on the banks of lovely String Lake, was so close to Nature that a lady moose came regularly to bathe with us every afternoon. The first morning in camp we were content to explore our new surroundings and drink in the beauty of the lakes which were strung like beads around the base of the mountains. When we drove out of camp we had to unlock the log which barricaded it and gave us our privacy.

The Rangers were most helpful and friendly, had dinner with us and talked at our campfire, even after we upset the dinner table on one of them.

The first big hike attempted was St. John, Lake of the Craggs and Hanging Canyon. 33 started, but as vantage points were reached, hikers kept dropping out until only 12 reached the 11,417 ft. St. John.

Lake Solitude was one of those dream spots, reached by Cascade Canyon, prettiest of all the Teton Trails. One group gained the ridge above the lake and came down Paintbrush Canyon, a beautiful experience they will never forget. Bradley Lake provided the fishermen with the time of their lives; Hidden Falls just had to be "shot" by all photographers. Nicest thing about the long trips was the thought of those super meals of Edna Temple's waiting at the end of the trail.

Many went on Sunday to the "Church of The Transfiguration", where the view from the picture window combined with the stirring sermon made us awed and humble.

We went en masse a la Greyhound for a full day in Yellowstone Park. All the geysers gushed and the paint pots bubbled right on schedule for us. Our own Mildred Ericson, Ranger Naturalist at Mammoth Hot Springs, personally conducted us on a tour.

The bears really had us tagged as easy marks, after taking our 17 lbs. of bacon, but Roy foiled them with an electric fence - they're probably still running!! Speaking of Roy - head of the camp - more luxury - his motor for the men's electric shavers!



TRIPS COMMITTEE by G. H. Jack

Twenty-five trips have been sponsored by the Trips Committee since they took office in November. Educational trips included Chase Gardens, the Peavey Arboretum and the Hunt Mineral Collection in Lebanon. Obsidians enjoy pot luck which helped account for the good attendance at the New Years Party, the Sunday Surprise and Silver Creek Falls trips. Two mountain climbs were sponsored by the Trips Committee. Twenty-four climbed Diamond Peak while eight ascended Mt. Thielsen in a joint climb with the Salem Chemeketans. The annual mystery trip proved popular again this year when a successful search was made for the Blue Bucket mine under the leadership of George Korn. The schedule is complete for each Sunday until November first when the new Trips Committee takes office. Included are trips to Waldo Lake, McKenzie Underground, Fuji Mountain, Skyline Trail, Deer Butte, Rooster Rock and Obsidian Cabin.

LODGE COMMITTEE by Dorr Hamlin

The Cabin Committee reports that on a recent visit there we found everything in good shape, but the committee is sorry that the club does not make more use of the cabin. We will soon need a work trip to get things in readiness for winter, such as some repairs and plenty of wood for the winter use - let's all get together.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE by Judy Egge

There has been a steady upward trend in the growth of membership in the Obsidians, of which every club or organization is desirous. You will be interested to know that since October, 1949, 34 new members have been accepted, thus making the grand total 311. Of this number, 202 are active members; 61 are associate; and 48 are juniors.

Something which should be brought to your attention at this time is the payment of dues. Dues of \$2.00 for senior members and \$1.00 for junior members are payable the 1st of October. At the last Board meeting, 54 members had to be dropped because their dues were in arrears. So be a member in good standing and keep your dues paid up.

FEDERATION MEETING by Dorr Hamlin

The Federation of Outdoor Clubs met Sept. 2,3,&4, 1950 at Clair Tappaan Lodge at Donner Pass in the High Sierras. The meeting was opened Saturday P.M. by the President, Harry James of the Trail Finders. Evening session was followed by pictures after which there was entertainment and bonfire until 11:30.

Sunday morning meeting was called at 9 A.M. when all clubs made their reports. and several talks were made; among them was a talk by Perry Thompson of the Forest Service which was very interesting and instructive.

The afternoon was mostly taken up with short hikes and Committee meetings. The evening was spent mostly with pictures of the High Sierra Skiing, and the trip through Zion Park Canyon. Monday morning meeting was called at 9 AM when Mr. Kittredge of Yosemite National Park made quite a talk on Parks and their needs.

Several committees made their reports. The Alpine Club of Washington and the O.A.C. of Corvallis were admitted into membership in the Federation.

The Resolution Committee Reported on Dinosaur National Park, San Jacinto Tramway and overnight camping in park areas.

Mr. Cannon reported on wild life in Oregon and the acquisition of some land to the Three Sisters and Waldo Lake Wild areas.

Also great stress was made to try to keep Picnic Grounds and roadsides clean.

The next meeting of the Federation will be held at the Mazama Club Lodge on Mt. Hood. John Barnard of San Francisco was elected president for next year.

Oct. 3 ANNUAL MEETING 6:00 P.M.  
REMEMBER - ANNUAL MEETING - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1950 - AT VETS MEMORIAL BUILDING - \$1.75 PER PERSON. REGISTER WITH DORIS SIMS - 2181 WASHINGTON - PHONE 4-9546.

Hugh Currin, injured in an auto accident while Obsidians were in camp, is now up and around, but wearing a cast - should have come to Camp, Hugh!

SECT. 34.66 P.L.&R.

