



The  
**OBSIDIAN**



VOLUME XI

EUGENE, OREGON - MAY 1951

NO. 5

# JOHN CRAIG MEMORIAL

April 29  
 1951

## Ski Tour and Ski Race

It was Bud Nasholm, long-time Eugene skier, who broke the trail for the John Templeton Craig Memorial Ski Race, and set flag markers, and it was four men and four women of the Obsidian Club who followed Nasholm and carried the memorial mail, packing the trail for the ski racers who followed them, several hours later.

In the mail-carrying official ski tour party were: Ray Sims, Jean Hjelte, Helen McGillicuddy, ("Miss McKenzie Pass"), Kitty Lou Shaw, ("Miss Willamette Pass"), Mrs. Ray Sims, Jim Newsom, George Korn, and Glen Sims.

The packing of the trail, as things turned out, was very necessary, due to the blizzard which raged at the highest altitudes, around the Dee Wright Memorial. The race and tour started, not from Windy Point, as at first announced, but 4 miles east of Windy Point, giving the skiers quite a

climb. The course was figured at 22 miles to the finish at Alder Springs. The advance party did not try to make particularly good time, but arranged to be handy with food and water, as the racers went by, but even so, their elapsed time was only eight hours, about six of which was skiing time. Hans Hoolaas, Eugene, winner, made the trip in three hours and 31 minutes.



how the tour and race came to be created is an interesting story as told by George Korn at the banquet, afterward, at McKenzie School, served by the ladies of the McKenzie River Club. He described the wish of the Obsidians to have something here to honor the McKenzie country, comparing with the annual Donner Pass Ski Race, and with the famed Snowshoe Thompson cross-country ski race. It was Har-

the tour with the memorial mail across the snow-locked summit route originally pioneered by Craig, and the ski race. Both tour were sponsored by the Obsidians and Tri-Pass Club and by the Pacific Northwestern Ski Association, assuring attendance of

the wish of the Obsidians to have something here to honor the McKenzie country, comparing with the annual Donner Pass Ski Race, and with the famed Snowshoe Thompson cross-country ski race. It was Har-



The Ob-

sidians and the Tri-Pass Ski Club then took up the work of ar-

(Continued on Page 4)

## "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: Adeline Adams Phone 5-6526

## CORRECTION

Last month's Obsidian stated that Euc Paris and Dick were enjoying a visit at home at the same time, which was an error, as Mrs. Paris reports that Dick was still in the thick of the battle in Korea at that time. (Sorry-my-error-M.C.)

\* \* \* \*

Dale Christiansen's service address is: Dale R. Christiansen, FCSN, 325-71-03 1st Division, U.S.S. Diphda(TAKA 59) c/o F.P.O., San Francisco, Calif.

## NEW MEMBERS

Donald Gilbert	Associate
Robert Elston	Junior

## NEWS BRIEFS

--Waldorf's on a leisurely trip across the country, expect to be gone about 6 weeks.  
 --Mike Stahl's mother convalescing at home.  
 --Helen & Paul Weiser traveling to Alaska May 15th - by boat from Vancouver to Skagway and by train to White Horse. They'll be back just in time for their Bonfire Party in the Ash Grove, Decoration Day.  
 --Making \$47 at Old Timer's Party -- for benefit of building fund.

## COMPLETING THE SCIENCE COMMITTEE

ChloeAnn Owens is a member of the Science Committee, though her name was omitted.

## JACK CLIMBED EARLY

An early ascent of Three Fingered Jack was made by Obsidians Ray Harris, Eugene Sebring and Ed Keller on April 8 of this year. They skied to Jack Butte, where a base camp was made. Ideal snow climbing conditions contributed to successful ascent at 10 o'clock in the morning.

## S C O O P

The Outing Committee has announced that Summer Camp this year will be held at one of Nature's most beautiful spots -- GREEN LAKES --- the three jewel-like lakes which are situated between the South Sister and Broken Top. The change in location has been made because of requests from many of the members for a camp nearer home than those we have had the last two years.

REMEMBER -- AUGUST 5-19

(Prospectus in June Obsidian)

## CLIMBING SCHOOL IN SESSION

The annual school in mountaineering sponsored by the Obsidians has been very well attended by those interested in the more technical aspects of climbing. A greater number of practical outdoor sessions highlights the varied schedule this season. All participants are urged to learn the knot tying essential to climbing and to wear proper footgear during the climbs. A wealth of basic fundamentals can be learned by reading from the Handbook of American Mountaineering, and the Manual of Ski Mountaineering.

First session was an indoor lecture on Snow and Ice Tactics by Ed Keller. 23 students were present.

The second meeting was an outdoor session on Hayrick Butte at Santiam area in which Sterling Behnke gave the instruction on cutting steps, climbing with crampons, use of ice axes in self arrest and belaying and all other things in climbing on snow and ice. There were 17 out on the slope and after instruction everybody went skiing.

The third session was held indoors on regular climbing, rock climbing, equipment and use of compass on a climb -- 15 students heard Bill Byrd lecture, after which Bill showed his beautiful slides taken on his climbs in the Grand Tetons.

Due to rain on Sunday, May 6, the Mountaineering School was held at the Coburg Caves instead of Eagle Rock. Sixteen attended, and like true Oregon Ducks, braved the downpour and had a fire inside the caves to dry out afterward. The regular hiking trip went to Eagle Rock under Ray Sims leadership as planned.

Watch sign-up sheets at Hendershott's..  
 ...Please direct questions or suggestions to Ray Harris or Ed Keller.

## TRIPS FOR MAY

May 12-13 SILVER CREEK FALLS. Dorr Hamlin Leader. Here's your first chance to sleep out this spring if you wish, as the park is open to overnight camping now. However, if you wish to go Sunday morning - join the group at City Hall, at 7:30 a.m. There'll be a potluck at the end of the trail around the loop.

May 20 HUCKLEBERRY MOUNTAIN. Roy Temple, Leader. A short distance from Oakridge, this hike of about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles along the High Prairie Road gives a fine view of the Salmon Creek Country.

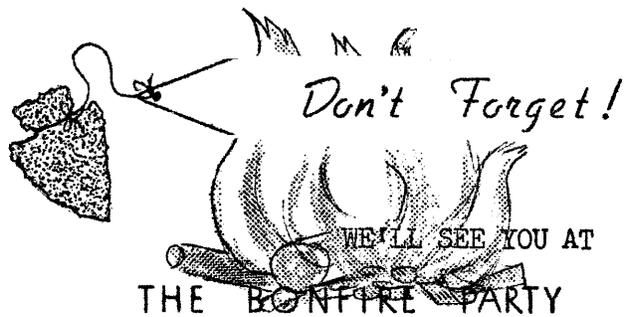
May 27 TIPSOO BUTTE, Qualifying. Bob Lemon, Leader. This butte is only one-half mile west of the present western boundary of the Three Sisters Wilderness Area. Here is a chance for us to take a good look into this exceptional territory. After all our virgin forest has been harvested (except those set aside as Wild or Wilderness Areas it may be very satisfying to drive to a point on the excellent surfaced road that now leads up the South Fork, then take a trail through the few miles of sustained yield territory to spend the day, or several days in a country still unchanged by man and his enormous machinery. Let's take a look!

## 75 - LET'S MAKE IT A DOLLAR!!

But even that would be too much for an enticing basket, which upon opening..... by the interested basketeers?!...?..gave forth a real live - but scrawny looking-chicken, a sprouted potato, a chewed-up looking parsnip and other mousy objects! This was the fate that befell Dorr Hamlin at the Basket Social -- but after the excitement he was presented with a very handsome billfold by the Obsidian Club - as a remembrance of his 80th birthday, - April 27. Maybe this made up a little for the trick basket, and Dorr did get a little something to eat after all.

Besides being helpful to the building fund, the Basket Social proved to be the most outstanding show put on for Obsidians for many years. Earl "Col. I. M. Totakeyou" Britton, Clarence "Col. Wish U. Hadn't" Scherer, and Ray "Gimmeall U. Got" Cavagnaro, certainly put on a very entertaining show, complete with auction box, banging cane, shrill whistle, jokes, and a particularly entertaining tin can trick calling for a raise in bid as each

(Continued on Page 4)



Our first big outdoor get-together will be on May 30, Wednesday, at Weiser's ash grove, 1245 Coburg Road.

Games will start at 4 p.m., soft ball, volley ball, and horseshoes; -- so come prepared to join in.

Potluck supper will be served at 6 p.m. Bring your own table service, as well as your favorite dish, and the Climbing and Entertainment Committees will furnish coffee, cream and sugar.

There will be a sign-up sheet at Hendershott's for those needing transportation, so come on all Obsidians, and bring your friends!

The 1950 Climbing Certificates will be awarded at this time.

## OUR GRAND OLD MAN

If there is anyone who can bridge the gap between generations it's Dorr Hamlin, who, although 15 years past the state retirement age - 65 - has only recently given up his daily 8 or 10 hours at the office of the Eugene Fruit Growers.

He still goes skiing --- rarely misses any kind of a hiking trip, social affair or potluck (even though on a strict diet).

When a hike is scheduled he walks to the meeting place instead of driving and then he hikes out with the rest of the group -- and keeps up with them -- even though many are not more than one-fourth his age. Since 1930 Dorr has been one of the most active Obsidians and young and old are always happy to have him along.

A final and true test of his character is that in all the years (21 at least) and on all the trips, there has never been a display of temper, an angry or complaining word about anyone or anything.

And as a worker he is unequalled. For years he has headed the Cabin Committee; he has planned many work trips and the old song "Everybody Works But Father" can never be applied in his case.

Truly Dorr may be classed as the Grand Old Man of the Obsidians --- but old in years only - not in spirit, disposition, mentality or activity.

## JOHN CRAIG MEMORIAL RACE &amp; TOUR(Cont.)

Mrs. Ray Sims was appointed PNSA chairman for the tour; George Korn handled arrangements for the race. Others who worked hard on the project included a group who provided hot coffee and sandwiches at Alder Springs: Tri-Passers Mrs. George Korn, Laurita Page, Mrs. Peter Paris, George Paris, Mrs. Newson, Mr. & Mrs. Dolph Janes, Jean Brooks, and others; Obsidians Mr. & Mrs. Ernie Keasling, Mr. and Mrs. Bailey Castelloe, Mrs. Glen Sims.

Invitations were sent to all ski clubs of the Northwest, and some contestants from the Donner Pass Race in California came as invited guests.

First official event was the Chamber of Commerce luncheon, Friday noon, when George Nottingham of the Jr. C. of C. introduced the 10 girls who represented various ski areas, each of whom was a competent skier: Shirley Ward, "Miss Stevens Pass", Everett, Wn. S.C; Thelma Jacobson, "Miss Mt. Hood", Portland Cascade S.C.; Barbara Olson, "Miss Government Camp", Portland Cheechakos; Pat Nerney, "Miss Donner Pass", Donner Pass S.C.; Rachel Ordway, "Miss Diamond Peak", Sec. of Oakridge Ridgers; June Clark, "Miss Santiam Pass", Bend Skyliners; Alice Romberg, "Miss Three Sisters", McKenzie River Guides Assoc.; Kitty Lou Shaw, "Miss Willamette Pass", Tri-Pass S.C.; Helen McGillicuddy, "Miss McKenzie Pass", Obsidians; Jean Carlson, "Miss Mary's Peak", OSC Mt. Club; Ellie Anderson, "Miss Soda Spring", Lake Tahoe, Cal. Misses Stevens Pass, Mt. Hood, Donner Pass, Santiam Pass, & Soda Spring all entered the race, while Misses Willamette Pass & McKenzie Pass took the tour.

Friday, there was a tour of the U. of O. Campus, conducted by Mrs. Sims, for the girls, and at 3:30 the actual mail carrying started, with receipt by the "pony express rider", Clarence Best, of the mail sack on the front steps of the Post Office, from Postmaster Ethan Newman; Clarence rode his horse to Hendershott's, where he loaded the sack with John Templeton Craig Memorial mail. Then up Willamette St. with a police escort and caravan of cars following, stopping at Marley's, Chamber of Commerce, City Hall, Fennell's on the Campus, collecting mail all along the way to Springfield Airport, from which point the "pony express rider" surrendered the mail to Milton Ruberg, pilot, who flew the precious cargo to Bend. Then by stagecoach it went to Sisters, thence by Greyhound

Bus, driven by Clarence Bankhead, to the snowline, from where the touring skiers and ski racers took it on skis the rest of the way. On reaching Alder Springs, the "Miss Ski Tour" candidates escorted it by car to McKenzie Bridge Post Office, where Willis Brewster, Post master, accepted it and sent it on its way by regular mail service.

The Sons of Norway had the ski representatives as their guests at potluck dinner Friday evening, and Saturday morning the girls left for Santiam Pass, where they spent the day skiing as guests of Ed Thurston, operator of the ski tows and chair lift and were entertained at dinner and dancing at Sisters, by the Sisters businessmen.

Residents of the little town of Sisters were wonderful hosts for the 50 or 60 skiers, providing lodging, and plenty of grand entertainment.

After the trip across the summit on skis, the McKenzie River Club entertained the party at a banquet at which the winners of the race were presented their well-earned trophies by "Miss Ski Tour of 1951", Kitty Lou Shaw.

\* \* \*

## BASKET SOCIAL(Cont)

can gave up a smaller can—endless succession of cans! The music of Chester Pietka and Joann Carlson made happy dancing for "light-as-a-feather" feet. The "old-timers" were "tickled to death".

The building and entertainment committees were responsible for planning this delightful party, and to them goes the appreciation of "The Old-Timers"!

## NOTICE

All Obsidians completing climbs of the Three Sisters or the ten Cascade Peaks in 1950 are eligible for awards. All climbs must have been made on officially scheduled club climbs.

Sign up for these awards at Hendershott's before Saturday, May 26. The register posted there will close on that date.

The awards will be presented at the Bonfire Party, May 30, at Weiser's.

Wayne Bailey, Chm. Climbing School

SECT. 34.66 P.L.&R.