



# The OBSIDIAN



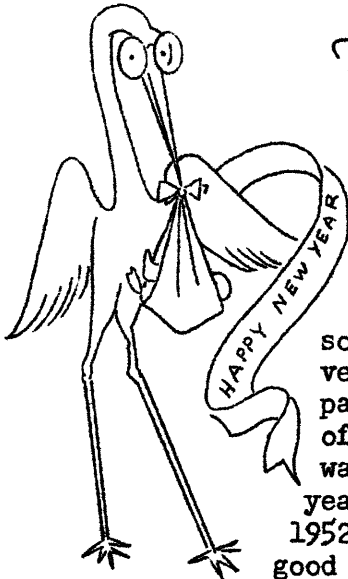
VOLUME XII

EUGENE, OREGON - JANUARY 1952

NO. 1

## PROSPECTS GOOD

For A Bright '52



For any one of us to consider that we have had a successful year as an Obsidian, we must have had a season full of fun, adventure and good companionship. For all of us, I believe 1951 was just that sort of year, and I am certain 1952 will be just as good or better.

This year, as in the past, our club is starting its new year with committees which promise many activities throughout the entire season. For the committees to be successful in carrying out their various events or activities, it is first necessary for all of us to attend as many of their planned trips or social functions as possible. Remember, to attend is to have fun.

I can think of no event sponsored by the Obsidians which does not offer fun and good companionship. Yes, even that awful work trip to the cabin always offers a pleasant weekend which many have discovered evidently, for it is always well attended. So let's not lose sight of the fact that all activities planned in our club are planned for our enjoyment. Also remember there is always someone hoping they will see you at the activities just as you hope to see certain others there.

This thing is beginning to sound like a lecture. Well, maybe it is. I just wanted to lecture to you that for your own best possible enjoyment throughout 1952 — attend as many fun-packed Obsidian hikes, climbs, picnics and parties as you have time for.

Dale Carlson

## JANUARY TRIPS SCHEDULE

Keith Brunig, Chairman of Trips Committee, lists the following hikes for the balance of the month and the first week in February:

Jan. 20 - SPRINGFIELD PARK. George Jack, Leader. This is a short hike on the hills south of Springfield.

Jan. 27 - SEAVY BUTTE. Henry Jeppeson, Leader. An interesting climb in the Coburg area. A good view of Eugene and west toward Fern Ridge Lake. All day trip.

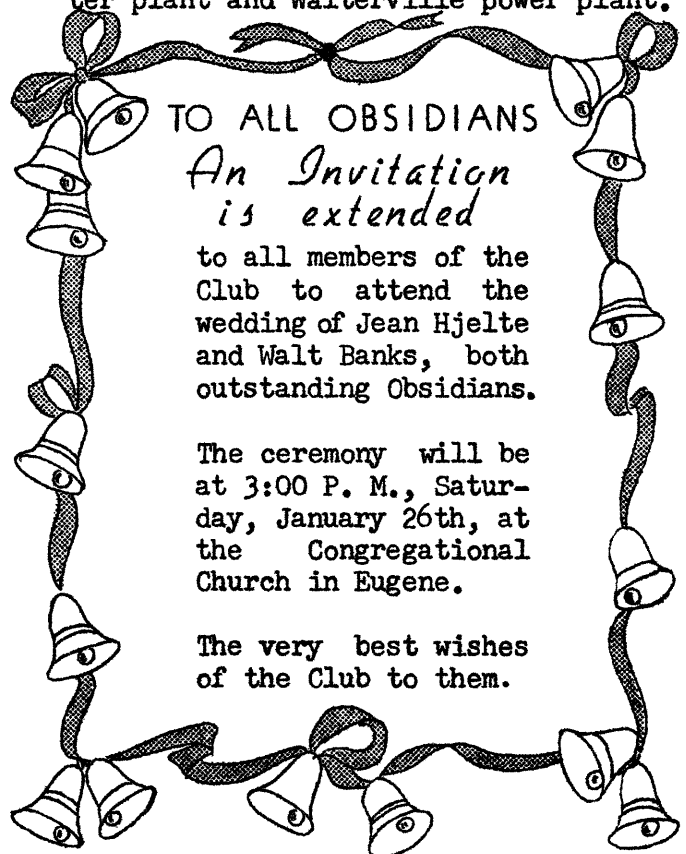
Feb. 3 - FILTRATION PLANT. Merle Bailey, Leader. A conducted tour of our filter plant and Walterville power plant.

## TO ALL OBSIDIANS An Invitation is extended

to all members of the Club to attend the wedding of Jean Hjelte and Walt Banks, both outstanding Obsidians.

The ceremony will be at 3:00 P. M., Saturday, January 26th, at the Congregational Church in Eugene.

The very best wishes of the Club to them.



**"THE OBSIDIAN"**

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

**Board of Directors**

Mike Stahl . . . . . President  
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     George Jack              Blanche Bailey  
 EDITOR & REPORTER: Blanche Bailey 4-9388

**NEW MEMBERS**

Active: Bob Northrop - 1437 E. 21st St.  
 Associate:  
     Margaret Wiese              - 236 E. 13th St.  
     Bill Johnston              -  
 Junior: Kenneth Hamilton- 795 Park Ave.

**PRINCESS DOINGS**

Going back to Salome's Grand Opening at the Princess Initiation, my apologies to our Obsidian Mystery Pig for crediting her with only \$8.00 when the actual sum she presented was \$30.00. This was my error - one too big to be overlooked.

On Dec. 17th, the Princesses were entertained by Margaret Markley assisted by Virginia Drake, at a dessert Christmas Party. For the gift exchange, a number was placed on each tray corresponding to a number on each gift. On receiving her gift, each Princess chose another from under the sparkling Christmas tree and presented it. Christmas music was enjoyed during the evening. Mary C.

The daughter of our own Ruth Onthank, Chairman of our Science Comm., Mrs. Edith Tour, is very seriously ill in the hospital. She is desperately in need of blood donors, and we make this appeal to those Obsidians who can do so to give a pint of blood immediately. Please call Mrs. Virginia Callahan, 4-3063, and make an appointment.

**NEW YEAR'S PARTY CANCELLED**

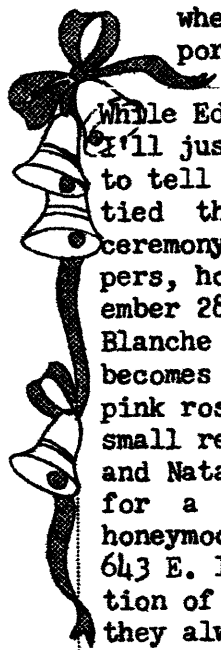
Due to the small registration for our Annual New Year's Party this year, it was necessary to cancel it. Our thanks go to those who did the preliminary work on it though, and particularly Britt Ash, who arranged for the use of the Forest Service's buildings. Better luck next year, we hope!

**CLUB HOUSE NEWS**

Progress is being made by the Building Committee on arrangements for permission to build a club house on our lot. They hope to have definite good news to announce soon. There will be plenty of other problems, but none that a determined bunch of mountaineers cannot surmount.  
 L. W.

*Have you heard?*

- that Doug and Amy Lou Spencer are the proud parents of a little daughter named (of all things) Sue. Our ex-Assistant District Attorney now lives in Cottage Grove.
- that Marjorie Beckett is wearing a sparkler on her left hand which presages a merging next summer with one Bill Beaman of Albany.
- that Jean Hjelte's father is here for her wedding from Porto Rico, -- where he is in the pineapple exporting business.



While Editor Blanche isn't looking, I'll just slip in a little note here to tell you that she and Merle Bailey tied the knot at a pretty wedding ceremony accented with Christmas tapers, holly and poinsettias, on December 28 at the First Methodist Church. Blanche wore the orchid shade that becomes her so well, and carried pink rosebuds and violets. After a small reception, daughters Marjorie and Natalie and Ardath saw them off for a few days of fun on a coast honeymoon. They are now at home at 643 E. 12th Ave. A perfect combination of two wonderful people. May they always be happy. Mary C.

**LOOKING AHEAD TO SUMMER CAMP**

Of course you haven't given a thought to summer camp at this time of year; but won't you look ahead a bit and talk it over with your family and give the Outing Committee some idea of where you would like to go and how many of you can go to the Wallawas if that is the chosen spot? At the Potluck dinner on the 29th, we'd like an expression from most of you, so start thinking about it.

*I Was Thinking.....*

The object ... of (the Obsidians) is ... to explore the mountains, lakes, streams, and trails of the Northwest, and particularly the country surrounding the upper Willamette Valley; ... to encourage our citizens to enjoy the outdoors and to see its value as a community asset; ... to preserve by all reasonable means the natural beauty of forest, stream, and other features of mountain scenery; to aid and assist as far as possible in the acquisition of the geological and biological information concerning our country ... from Article 2, Obsidian Constitution.

Nope, the article doesn't even mention mountain climbing, yet it is the article stating the purposes for which the club was formed. It does say however, "to explore ... to encourage ... to preserve ..."

I've been a mountain climber, myself; or at least a Lookout climber. My object on most of our outings has been to climb, to see, to enjoy. That's fine, too. The article does mention that. But it stresses the more serious side of the outdoors; to explore our wilderness places; to study them, to preserve them and to teach and encourage others to value them as we do.

This year, if all goes well, we plan to do a bit more of this serious work. Under the guidance of the Scientific Committee, we plan to explore and evaluate, if possible, eight or more areas in our Santiam-McKenzie-Willamette part of the Cascades. These areas are "controversial"; the Forest Service and recreational groups are not sure of their recreational, scientific, or wilderness values. In order to decide for ourselves, and to advise them we must gain first-hand knowledge of these places.

To accomplish this, we are asking for volunteer "teams" each of which will study one area, first from maps and whatever literature is available; then, during the spring and summer, will visit and explore it, and then lead a regular Obsidian trip through it.

All this sounds like a lot of activity. I almost said "work", but I can't see much work in getting out in the mountains. Fact is, I've a notion it will turn out to be a whale of a lot of fun.

Pretty much what we've always done, but with a more definite purpose.

If you want to volunteer, just phone me or any member of the Scientific Committee. Everyone can help in this project, and the more members, the more we can accomplish.

Mike

#### OBSIDIAN "SKI-OFF" POTLUCK DINNER JANUARY 29

As a grand opening or kick-off to the Obsidian Ski Season, the Entertainment Committee has arranged a get-together potluck dinner at the downtown YMCA, at 6:30 P.M., on Tuesday, January 29. Bring your favorite potluck dish, and your own table service, and the coffee, cream and sugar will be furnished.

There will be a ski movie and possibly some other ski pictures and the Climbing Committee will take this opportunity to make presentations of awards to those who have completed their 10 peaks.

If there is any time left we will square dance! Don't forget the date! We'll see you all there!

#### NEW YEAR'S CLIMB OF MT. HOOD

Although several attempts have been made to reach the top of Mt. Hood on New Year's Day, none have been successful till 1952 when six of our Obsidians and three OSC students reached the summit. Their plans had been carefully made well in advance, and each climber was equipped with all the necessary equipment for a tough snow climb.

They left the south slope at 2 A.M. and were viewing a 120 mile panorama from the top nine hours later. This is the first time, they believe, that any of the frailer sex has climbed at this time of year, so Virginia Drake of our club has the honor of being first, with Marilyn Smith of Seattle. The Obsidians making the climb were Dr. Ed Keller, Dennie Koupal, Bill Byrd, Joe Daniels, Gene Sebring, and Virginia Drake.

#### ECHOES OF THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Entertainment Committee noted with pleasure the enthusiastic response of almost 100 persons attending the party Dec.

(Continued Page 4)

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## CHRISTMAS PARTY(Continued)

16th. Every delightful concoction of salad and dessert was there and even 3rd helpings did not deplete them. Decorations were lovely and directly responsible to Helen McGillicuddy. Our vice-president, Clarence Scherer, had the biggest load as M.C., and for his deft handling of the program on behalf of the Obsidian Chiefs, deserves the most credit for the party's success. Roxie Waldorf's violin and Chester Pietka's accordion accompanied the Christmas carols. A trio of Sunny and Terry Hamlin and Penny Fischer highlighted the children's acts with "Rudolph", and Penny sang German carols. Leslie Cooper presented some unusual magic acts and Dean Stevens, wonderfully convincing as Santa Claus, distributed the gifts. Kathryn Thompson presented two delightful puppets, intriguing young and old even without the aid of props.

## LETTER FROM GERMANY

Supply Co. 2QM Bn.  
APO 42, New York.

Howdy Folks:

Just finished reading the October and November issue of the Obsidian, which I receive from Mel Lindley.

Mel is stationed with the Air Force at Neubiberg, Germany and I am at Bad Kruerznach, Germany. Both of us are making plans to meet atop the Zugspitz in the German-Austrian Alps for some schuss-booming like we used to do back in Oregon.

Mel's address is H & HQ 86th A.B.G.,  
APO 65, New York, N.Y.

Yours truly,  
Sgt. Bob Pfeiffer  
(Chief Eagle Feather)

DR. RUTH E. HOPSON ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENT  
OF AMERICAN NATURE STUDY SOCIETY

Our Ruth is certainly making a name for herself when she can win in such an election, with Roger T. Peterson of Long Island, N.Y., nationally famous bird artist and author of several books, as president.

While attending the Philadelphia meeting Ruth presented an original kodachrome on the natural history of Oregon. She was also discussion leader of a joint meeting of the Science Teachings Societies of America.

## RETURN ADDRESS FOR BULLETIN

OBSIDIANS, INC., P.O. BOX 322, EUGENE, O



## SCHEDULE

This year's Ski Committee has endeavored to plan a ski schedule for all members and friends which will keep the enthusiasm for "Snow sailing" at high pitch all winter. In addition to the trips listed below, there will be extra events and special programs of races and fun on each date if the weather permits.

Jan. 13 - The Obsidians chartering a bus for the Willamette Area.

Jan. 27 - Bus leaving at 7 A.M. for Santiam Area.

Feb. 10 - Bus #3 leaving at 8 A.M. for Willamette Area.

Feb. 24 - Bus #4 leaving Court House at 7 A.M. for Santiam Area.

Mar. 8-9 MOONLIGHT COSTUME PARTY. Willamette Area.

Mar. 21-22-23 - SPRING SKI OUTING, Suttle Lake Lodge.

Apr. 6 - ANNUAL CRATER LAKE BUS TRIP. Fare \$5.50 for Non-Members. \$5.00 for Members.

Apr. 27 - JOHN CRAIG MEMORIAL RACE

This event staged last year for the first time proved very popular. This is sponsored by the PNSA and arranged jointly by the Tri-Pass Ski Club and the Obsidians, Inc. The Obsidians will again mark the trail from Windy Point to Alder Springs on the McKenzie Highway for the racers.

May 11 - Waldo Lake. This will be a cross country tour open to all members and friends.

May 25 - Sunshine Shelter. Annual popular Ski Trip.

June 8 - A trip to Mt. Hood via chartered bus. This has been scheduled during the Annual Golden Rose Tournament. If enough interest and enthusiasm is shown this can be made an overnight trip with accommodations either at Mazama Lodge or the Trails Club cabin.

Doris Sims & Clarence Bankhead

SECT. 34.66 P.L.&R.

