



The OBSIDIAN



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NO. 3

WHEEL (n.) The machinery which propels or operates anything. APRIL 11TH - CRATER LAKE TRIP BY GREYHOUND BUS. Clarence Bankhead at the wheel. Money oils the wheels of life, but we assure you this trip won't take much money. \$5.50 per person will cover the round trip. The bus will leave at approximately 5 a.m., but Clarence promises a smooth trip so you can catch up on that extra shut-eye en route. Loading point will be the Court House with a pick-up stop on the campus. This trip is not only planned for skiers but for camera fans and sight-seers as well. The bus will take its passengers directly to the Lake where there is a shelter with a fireplace providing a place to eat lunch. The bus will also serve as a shuttle for the skiers and will return them from the bottom of the run. SIGN UP EARLY...

...AT HENDERSHOTT'S

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Friendly Ruth West, Secretary of the active and important McKenzie River Protective and Development Assn. was recently honored by a lengthy article in the Lane News about her many activities. The close cooperation enjoyed by the Obsidians with this McKenzie group was mentioned. They are also strongly opposed to construction of dams on the Upper McKenzie and are desirous that the Three Sisters Wilderness area be retained in its original boundary.



TRAILINGS

TRAILINGS (a path through the wilderness to follow in a long straggling line, something dragging behind) This issue with apologies to Webster - not a member of the Obsidians.

THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY has an interesting evening planned for Friday, March 19th. A lecture on bird identification...in Room 16, Science Bldg., 8 p.m.

LOST: THE OBSIDIAN COFFEEPOT... Anyone knowing the whereabouts of this valuable item, please contact Thelma Watson. It is urgently needed for the HOBO BREAKFAST!

RUMOR has it that our good friend "Doc" Keller is about to join the ranks of the "Benedicks." He'll rope up with a Minneapolis gal, come April 24th, and we'll bet she's a skier - hailing from that snow country! Good luck, Ed!

CLANCY, our Greyhound mountain goat, is back in Toledo hunting up a new truck. Whassa matter, Clarence, do they think you can execute those Mt. trails better in a truck than a bus?

CONSERVATION (n.) The act of preserving from loss or injury, as natural resources. This is an important year for conservationists. Please do your part by writing to the proper authorities. (Names and addresses were given in last month's bulletin) A night wire is very inexpensive but send along your word of opposition. Dinosaur, Upper McKenzie Dams, The Three Sisters area, Rainier National Park - are the conservation problems. Karl Ontank of the Obsidian Conservation Committee will be glad to assist you with any questions.

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HELEN MCGILLICUDDY MERE-WETHER is back with us again while Allen is doing his stint in the Far East.

OUR BULLETIN EDITOR, RAY CAVAGNARO, is on his way east to visit all his old haunts around Chicago, and to pilot a Better Buick back to God's country.

WE'RE DEVELOPING a great bunch of advanced skiers from the looks of the bandaged knees - Bill Beaman, Adeline Adams, both Sebrings, and Helen Kilpatrick!

THE BAILEYS - Castellor and Merle, are officers in the newly incorporated Electric League of Oregon which is made up of contractors, equipment dealers and utility men.

MESSAGE (n.) An official communication, communicated from an official to his communicants as a communication. Let me out of here!

We have a message from our club President of importance to everyone:

MUCH confronts our club this year of 1954. It can and must be one of our finest years. We cannot afford to let it be a year of defeat as we stand to lose too greatly. The most pressing issues at this time seem to be those of protecting the boundaries of the Three Sisters Wilderness area and preserving the rare and distinguished beauty of our upper McKenzie falls area. These issues are of greatest importance to us and cannot be over emphasized. To lose these areas now, would mean their loss forever.

Without its high bluffs, the stately trees, and the three beautiful waterfalls the proposed new Clear Lake "cut-off" to the Santiam highway would not begin to rival the beauty of the near roadside and distant scenery found along the high McKenzie Pass.

This new highway from the Belknap Junction to the Santiam must be left unmarred if the Upper McKenzie is to retain its reputation as a place of enchanting beauty.

Take a large portion of the water from these falls and you take away the majestic beauty of the falls. If we allow this destruction to occur we should bow our heads in shame for we would thereby cheat thousands of people of a gorgeous sight which rightly belongs to them. Cut a wide right-of-way through the fine timber from the Falls to McKenzie Bridge and man will have accomplished much toward destroying the beauty of this area which nature has been so patiently and delicately building. The concrete spillways at the falls and along the stream's course would also do much to desecrate the natural beauty there.

If the proposed dams on the McKenzie were a necessity, we could not stand in the way of their construction. The additional power needed in this area can be purchased or could be produced elsewhere without the unforgivable destruction of such a scenic area. It has been pointed out that it will be much cheaper for the people of the Eugene vicinity to purchase power pro-

duced in this area rather than to buy it elsewhere. Is this statement true? Is it not worth something to have these grand waterfalls? If we must consider the monetary angle is it not true that hundreds of thousands of dollars are spent in our country annually by the tourists who come to visit and view the beauty of Oregon. Slice away the beauty and you will be slicing away the revenue. But isn't the true value to be considered? Rather than to be selfish and take away from all this marvelous beauty, let's be generous and preserve it for present and future.

Dale Carlson



Quotes from a Mazama's letter concerning our summer camp site on the north side of Mt. Hood - "A real beauty spot, both from the standpoint of scenic grandeur and the rarity and abundance of flowers found there."

PLAN TO JOIN US THERE - AUG. 1 - 14

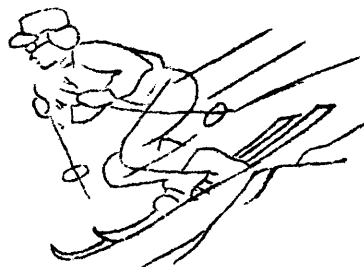
CLIMBING SCHOOL

Plans have now been completed for the Obsidian Climbing School....Indoor meetings will be held in the Airpark Administration Building, located between 12th and 13th on Almaden Street. The Climbing Committee has spent a great deal of time and put forth much effort in order to make this a successful climbing year. They have been able to obtain the services of the American Alpine Club members as instructors. Schedule for the course is as follows:

April 20 - Snow and Ice, Indoor Meeting.
 April 24,25 - Outdoor Meeting, at Hoodoo and Hayrick.
 May 4 - Rock Work, Indoor Meeting.
 May 9,16 - Rock Work, Outdoor Meeting.
 June 5,6 - Outdoor, Climb of Three Fing-
 gered Jack.

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The Edelweiss Ski Club at Roseburg reports that the Taft Mountain road is now clear for skiers and the ski area operating — largely through the efforts of the club — The whole town helped with the project.



SKI (n.) A wooden runner attached to foot for sliding on snow. Also used sometimes with aid of posterior of body for descending hill

said body shouldn't have been caught on anyhow.

This is the Golden Anniversary of skiing. In 1904 or 50 years ago, the National Ski Assn. was founded. Skiing has progressed and Ski divisions have been formed. One of the seven is the Pacific Northwestern Ski Association. The National Ski Patrol system, Ski Clubs, Ski Tournaments, etc., and Obsidians have played a part in bringing up skiing where it is today. Old timers in Eugene concocted slats and trekked the barren slopes and the wooded trails. Sans taws and lodges, they explored the wonderland of the McKenzie in winter, and the lava beds, Three Sisters, etc. Then came the White Branch Ski area. Then Santiam and Willamette Ski areas, with their developments -- and ski trains to Crescent Lake, Obsidian sponsored ski meets, Ski tours to Waldo Lake, and the Ski bus trip to Crater Lake annually.

With skiing brought up to date and as the bulletin goes to press, word is that the John Craig Tour and Race, sponsored jointly by the Obsidians and Tri-Pass Ski Club will originate and end at Alder Springs this year so that skiers and observers will see the thrill of both the start and finish. Obsidians have made the John Craig Race a huge success by touring along breaking the trail for the racers, encouraging them over the lonely snow-bound McKenzie Pass.

My message today, Obsidians, is to plan this year to take part in some way honoring the 50th Anniversary of Skiing, honor a pioneer, John Craig, whose story you know. You can do this by coming up on April 25th, Sunday, and taking a ski tour or playing around and seeing this exciting race - at the same time seeing the pass in all its Winter splendor.

George Korn

NEW MEMBERS

Kathleen Eads	Active Membership
1489 Willamette St.	
Arthur (Buddy) Steele, Jr.	Junior Membership
1320 River Road	
Wendell Johnson	Junior Membership
2013 Charnelton St.	

OUTING (n.) HOLIDAY (adv.) without, not within! as in winter - both within and without MAZAMA LODGE.

As guests of the Mazamas, Obsidians and friends spent their annual Winter Outing at the Mazama Lodge at Mt. Hood, March 6th and 7th. Saturday saw the skiers whizzing down the trails, zigzagging the slopes, then rushing back to the top for more. The camera fans and Lodge skiers found much material for pictures and laughter -- what with the dazzling splendor of majestic Mt. Hood, Timberline Lodge, snow fights, - tobogganers, and skiers. The snow being slightly icy in early morning, there were many examples of acrobatics at their best, the participants being both those on skis and those on foot. Saturday evening, our hosts, The Mazamas, served an excellent dinner to all. Then the young and more hearty joined in folk dancing - the bruised and tired were soon engrossed in cards. A good night's sleep and an early breakfast Sunday and back to the slopes. With a bit of wax on the skis, we really got some speed on the frozen trails and slopes ... too much speed we might add... (we have the bruises and sprains to prove it.) As an end to the happy story, those who went enjoyed ... those who stayed home missed a wonderful weekend.

Gene Sebring

SEASHORE (n.) By the sea, by the sea, by the beautiful sea. A place where the hiking group from Eugene visits frequently.

All you folks who know how beautiful our Oregon coast is this time of year, missed a great trip March 28th. Thirteen took advantage of it though, and hiked over the dunes and along the beach at Siltcoos Outlet, feasted on Lillian Johnson's whipped cream pie, picnicked in the Siuslaw Forest camp, sunbathed and even waded, Ask Mildred Ball-she only froze two toes!

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Two 8,000 foot mountains civilized man had never seen before have been discovered in the South American jungle by a bird hunter. There is a challenge for some over-active Obsidians.

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The well-known SPORTHAUS of California have sent the club several of their Ski Equipment catalogs - chock full of quality merchandise. Any interested member desiring a catalog may contact Secretary Scherer - 6-1345.

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PARTY PARTY PARTY (n.) A select company gathered together for hilarity, fun and food, as an Obsidian Potluck(slang). An affair for all ages.

And wasn't it hilarious at the George Washington Costume Party? The talk as guests were leaving was a wish that "George" had a birthday more often. Everyone had fun with the big variety of games - crossed the Delaware on mechanics' carts with flags waving, -- and Helen Hughes told the biggest lie - threw dollars across the Potomac; passed the buck which promptly disappeared up Les Cooper's sleeve; ate cherry pie with and without pits. Henry Carlson won the pie eating contest, Bette Hack lost by one pit. Gerry Fehly, Bud Steele, Larry Leighton made a proper mess of the rest of the pie contest. Blanche Bailey and Myrtle Smith tied for honors as "best-dressed woman" - both appearing in most appropriate Washingtonian era garb. Dorr Hamlin as a Revolutionary soldier was awarded a prize also for most appropriate man's costume. Vina Amort as a sailor won the prize for least appropriate costume, George being an Army man. Ray Cavagnaro got the prize for "zaniest" costume, appearing in night cap and wrapped in bed spread as "George Washington Sleeping Here." Art Steele won the intelligence game of historical characters. The evening was fun with a capital F U N and the committee deserves a thousand thanks for this party.

BOARD (n.) A council, a group of persons elected to management. The stage of a theatre. An ulcer factory where Obsidians get their business done, dig up all those nasty jobs for people on committees.

It was reported that the California Alpine Club has requested a piece of suitably inscribed Obsidian to make up their new lodge fireplace.

Thelma Watson received wholehearted approval of a fine list of hikes and events for the Spring, Summer and Fall. Some excellent weekend trips are planned. (See announcements above for balance of March and month of April).

Ten years ago this month: Ray Boals was club President, Helen Smith, Secretary. Arlene Brant(Keasling) was voted to membership and Walt Banks was accepted as a Junior Member. A special meeting was called to consider the purchase of a lot for a town club house. The club voted to buy a lot way out in the country at 17th and High for \$525.

Karl Onthank reported that progress is being made in letter writing and investigation regarding conservation problems. Hearings on Dinosaur are now being held. National Parks appropriations are being cut and Congress must be told that the Parks are not enjoying enough care now and to cut their budgets would prove ruinous. A motion is being prepared for Congress regarding this issue by Obsidians. A motion was made to send a letter of thanks to the Forest Service thanking them for re-routing the road improvement to save Paradise park. The entrance was the only thing slightly damaged by the road change, whereas the plan would have brought the road directly through the park destroying a good deal of it.

Building Committee displayed handsome blueprints of our Club House. Ways of financing the building were discussed and will be presented to the club shortly. Bailey Castelloe will be glad to show the prints to anyone interested.

Obsidian Emblems and sleeve patches are available for sale - Contact Blanche Bailey 4-9388. Your car should have one of these attractive and identifying window stickers.

TRIPS (v.i) Excursion, step lightly, stumble, usually brought on by efficient committee specializing in a variety for all to enjoy.

Look at the fine array of hikes the Trips Committee have for us to "stumble over."

Mar. 21 - HOBO BREAKFAST at Armitage Park.

Bring your breakfast and cook on an open fire by the river. Coffee will be furnished. Meet at the City Park at 8:30 a.m. Dorr Hamlin will lead. There will be a short hike after breakfast.

Mar. 28 - SPENCER BUTTE TRIP led by Keith Newsom. Also - for the ski enthusiasts - there is the trip AROUND ODELL LAKE.

Apr. 4 - CAP HAGEN led by Bernie Lehrman.

Apr. 11 - CRATER LAKE by Greyhound Bus -- See Page 1 for details.

Apr. 18 - HAPPY EASTER - no planned hike.

Apr. 20 - CLIMBING SCHOOL BEGINS.

Apr. 25 - SPRINGFIELD BUTTE - Patsy Stahl will lead.

SECT. 34.66 P.L.&R.