



The OBSIDIAN

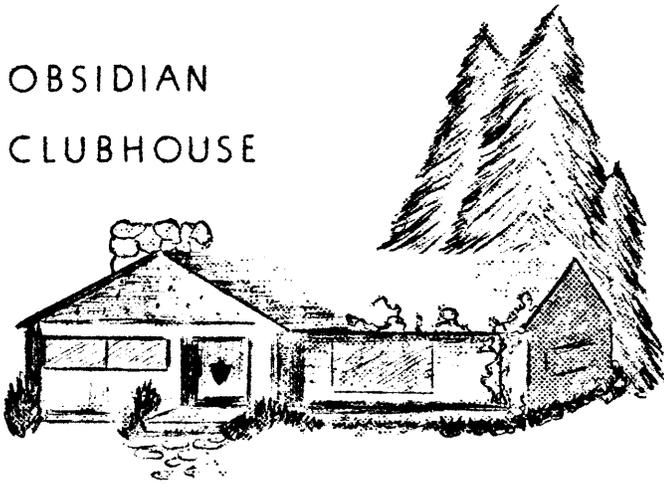


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NO. 4

OBSIDIAN CLUBHOUSE



A Home At Last

After years of wishing and planning, we Obsidians are to have a home of our own -- on our lot at Seventeenth and High Streets. A place where we can have our all-member meetings, parties and potlucks; and a room where we can invite our friends and the public to enjoy with us our beautiful pictures. There will be a library for our books, magazines and enlarged pictures, a place for board meetings and club records; store rooms for outing and climbing equipment. We will make plenty of use of it!

IF

we can raise the money to pay for it. About \$7,000.00 cash will be needed, besides the work we can do ourselves. Of this amount, the board has approved the use of \$2,000.00 of club funds. This leaves a substantial amount of reserve. To make the clubhouse a success, it will be necessary for every member to fully support it, financially and otherwise.

A potluck dinner and general meeting will be held in the River Road Women's clubhouse on Saturday evening May 1 -(May Day), to show and discuss plans; and to start the financial ball rolling. All members are urged to be present.

Bailey Castelleo, Chairman
Bldg. Comm.
Louis Waldorf, Financial Chm.

Supervisor Bruckart Retires

J. R. Bruckart, supervisor of the Willamette National Forest will retire June 30, after 45 years with the U. S. Forest Service. He has been supervisor since 1938 and is keenly interested in the Obsidian Club as well as outdoor recreation for those to come.

He began his career as a guard of the Snoqualmie National Forest in 1909. In 1914, while a ranger at Darrington, Washington, he met the girl who later became his wife.

He was supervisor of the Olympic National Forest when President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the controversial park. The land for the park was taken from the Olympic National Forest and was opposed by the Forest Service. He was also supervisor of the Gifford Pinchot (formerly Columbia) National Forest.

It is very understandable to all Obsidians that his love of the outdoors and the necessity of protecting nature resulted in his decision to start his career in the Forest Service. His father, a prospector and miner, brought his son "Ray" up in the woods which may have been a contributing factor to his interest in the woods.

For those who would like to reminisce and for those who were not in Eugene during the war years, would you like to reflect or project those years when both gas and help were very hard to get?

On occasion we would assist some farmer harvest a bean or nut crop. Then came the time when members of the group were almost beside themselves from lack of association with their McKenzie playground and other wonderful outdoor places. How could we get gas to take us there? The answer? The Forest Service, of course. After a consultation with the supervisor of the Willamette National Forest, it was disclosed that the Forest Service could supply the gas if the club would lend a
(Continued on Page 4)

OUR SUMMER OUTING AT MOUNT HOOD

Come the first of August there will be some of those good folks heading down the trail. Their destination will be the flower covered meadows of Eden Park, where elevation is about 6,000 feet. It is about six miles from Tilly Jane Camp where the cars will be left. The road leading to Tilly Jane Camp can be reached either from the Mount Hood highway to the South or the northerly approach by way of the Columbia River Highway. For those not wishing to hike, horses will be available. They will probably be in luck as Charles and Bessie are planning to join us again this year and that means we EAT again with a capital E. There will be more privacy and seclusion in this remote area. If you wish to shake a leg at Timberline Lodge it is only a mere 17 miles; or maybe chat with a fellow mountaineer is more to your taste - well it's only a hop and a skip to the top of Oregon's highest. There is much to see that won't take too much exertion - falls, lakes, glaciers, more accessible than last year with trails leading to the "four winds." You can get away from the city life - so join us for a restful vacation at the foot of scenic Mount Hood. There will be special rates for family groups. Ask Mike or Louie about the grandeur of this outing. Colored slides showing this area can be seen at our Camp Rally on Thursday, May 27 at the Washington Street Recreation Center - at 7:30 p.m.

The Outing Committee

Gene Sebring, Ray Harris, Walt Banks

● TRAILINGS ●

Indians used to broadcast messages by holding a wet blanket over a fire. Now we have television and get to see the wet blanket in person.

Glen and Florence Sims are back in Eugene once more after having spent the last 9 months traveling leisurely across the United States. After cooking with gas all that time in their trailer home, Florence finds herself reaching for a match to light her electric stove! Welcome home, Glen and Florence!

Miss Ardith Marie Bailey, daughter of Blanche and Merle, was married to Albert Younglove on Saturday, April 10th. The young couple will live in Riverside, Cal., after honeymooning at the Oregon Coast. The bridegroom has been home from army duty in Korea only a short time. Good luck Al and Ardith.

NEWS OF OUR TRIPS

An aura of mystery highlighted the April 11th trip to Crater Lake. 38 persons were aboard at 5 a.m.; at 7:30, nearing the summit, the bus was flagged by a hitch-hiker dressed very suspiciously in striped suit - but the "always-be-kind-to-hitch-hikers" bus driver Clarence Bankhead ignored his clothes and took him on where he made himself at home, stretched out in the most comfortable seat. As always the law wins out, and at the top of the hill a road block was set up manned by none other than George Korn in full Canadian Mountie Uniform, armed with an axe, milkcan and rope; he proceeded to board the bus and capture the convict, who was thereby joyously reunited with some of his shady looking buddies. In addition to this hilarity, the day was spent making 6 ski runs, hearing about the aspects of Crater Lake from a Ranger Naturalist on hand to lecture and furnish information, eating and taking pictures. Home was reached about 9 p.m., after a day of wonderful sunny weather as evidenced by the glowing countenances of practically all (voice from back of bus..."Is the heat on?").

White Branch Ski Area was visited on March 18 by 14 members, Castelloes leading. Weather was perfect and view of Three Sisters in winter garb was striking.

The Hobo Breakfast, Hamlins leading, was March 21, at Armitage Park. The favorite event is becoming traditional - and what could be nicer than a happy bunch of hobos cooking breakfast out of doors?

Keith Newsom led 16 folks up Spencer Butte on March 28. An overcast sky limited the view. Many young people made the trip, and it is nice to see them coming along with their folks. A few early spring flowers were observed along the trail.

TRAILINGS(Continued)

Natalie Beckett was home to be Maid of Honor for Ardith. Her stay was short, however, as she had to return to Greeley, Colorado the next day.

Many Obsidian girls shed bitter tears when they heard that Ray brought a hot number named "Ruby" home with him from Detroit! Obsidians will enjoy attending the annual John Craig Memorial Ski Race on April 25 starting at Alder Springs, and ending at the same place. Tri-Pass Ski Club and Junior Chamber of Commerce, the sponsors, deserve our support.

OUR CLIMBING SCHOOL

We know club members and their friends have been looking forward to the announcement of the annual mountaineering school. This year it will be marked by seven sessions giving folks a well rounded knowledge of climbing techniques and some good practical experience. We urge that you attend all sessions of this well planned school. I know all that "stuff" you say. Well friend, we can't emphasize enough the value of brushing up on your own climbing techniques. While you are doing it, why don't you bring along a new member - it will help you and be very good encouragement to the friend who wants to learn this part of Obsidian activity that is so darn much fun.

We read about the accidents and tragedies encountered on the mountains. But we do know that most accidents are avoidable and most are due to carelessness and ignorance, and lack of experience. Our club has not had a serious mountaineering accident in its nearly 26 years. Maybe you don't intend to do a lot of vigorous climbing this year. You know the townsfolk think of mountain climbing and Obsidians as synonymous terms. So actually, whether you intend to climb or not, it would be smart to have the up to date knowledge of the latest climbing techniques, so that you can discuss this activity intelligently.

Let's see everybody out to the climbing school. It has been well planned by an excellent committee.

* * * * *
 * A schedule of events has been mailed *
 * to you. Keep it in a handy place for *
 * easy reference. *
 * * * * *

SPECIAL EVENT

On April 23rd, a fine film entitled "A Trip Down The Yampa River", taken by Dr. Harold C. Bradley of the Sierra Club while on a two week expedition in Dinosaur National Monument, will be shown. The Natural History Society has engaged Chapman Hall for Friday night, April 23rd, at 8 p.m. This interesting movie and lecture is an Obsidian "aided" event, and we wish to express our thanks to the N.H.S. for their kind assistance to our club.

Also, Britt Ash of the Forest Service, will show his slides on Upper McKenzie River and Three Sisters Wilderness areas. Remember the field trip to Fern Ridge Lake on Sunday, Apr. 25, leaving Condon Hall at 8:30 a.m., for bird & flower identification.



As there is no worldly gain without some loss, so there is no worldly loss without some gain. If thou hast lost thy wealth, thou hast lost some trouble with it. If thou art degraded from thy honor, thou art likewise freed from the stroke of envy. If sickness has blurred thy beauty, it hath delivered thee from pride. Set the allowances against the loss and thou shalt find no loss great. (Francis Quarles)

TWO GOOD BUYS

The Wilderness Society is one of the national agencies most active in conservation, especially of the kind of resources with which outdoor groups are most concerned. Give it your help and encouragement by joining as suggested in the last Bulletin. Send \$2.00 dues to the Wilderness Society, 2114 P St., N.W., Washington, D.C. You get the fine publication - THE LIVING WILDERNESS as well as the satisfaction of doing a bit to help.

Another effective conservation agency is the National Parks Association. It carries the brunt of the battle to protect these against encroachment. It publishes the excellent, and well illustrated quarterly National Parks Magazine. Membership, which includes the magazine is \$3.00 a year. Send to: National Parks Assoc., 2114 P St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

In sending your subscription mention that you are a member of the Obsidians.

REMEMBER...the important meeting of the club on Saturday evening, May 1, at the River Road Women's Club. If you are interested in our new club house and the future of the club, be sure to be present at 6:30 p.m.

TRAILINGS (Continued)

Among those making the trip to Crater Lake was Dolores Jeppesen, home for Spring vacation from her teaching position in Palo Alto, Cal. She returned to Cal. last Saturday night, taking back evidences of Oregon sunshine.

Thelma Watson (sporting a Crater Lake tan) and a fine crew mailed out the 1954 trip schedules this week - and aren't they dandy!

SUPERVISOR BRUCKART RETIRES(Continued)
hand in cleaning up some campgrounds. What gaiety as we were transported in a truck, all standing up, to a campground where many hands made light work!

Supervisor Bruckart's administration took place during a transition period, the most critical period of the Willamette Forest. Forest Service timber sales as well as recreation in the forest has expanded greatly since 1938. During this time many changes have taken place and many loggers have come from distant places to the Willamette Valley.

While Mr. Bruckart was supervisor, two outstanding recreation areas were completed. You have doubtless enjoyed the privileges of the Fall Creek Recreation area and the Hoodoo Lodge and ski bowl on the Santiam.

The Forest Service has sponsored trips for interested groups to sustained yield areas in order to view the cutting.

Mr. Bruckart was wont to accompany such organizations as Obsidians & Natural History Society into primitive areas to study what the Forest Service had in mind in establishing or changing such areas.

This civic minded man was president of the Oregon Trail Council of Boy Scouts five years, which resulted in his receiving the high rewards of Silver Beaver and Silver Antelope. He has also been president of the Eugene Rotary Club.

In 1950 the South Fork Bridge was named in honor of this man. It is called Bruckart Bridge. The interesting aspect is the unanimous good will shown by the people of the McKenzie area in naming this bridge for Mr. Bruckart, and also the high regard shown by the Forest Service for their leader.

A REMEDY



No matter how frigid you're feeling,
You'll find the smile more or less healing.
It grows in a wreath
All around the front teeth,
Thus preserving the face from congealing.

Anthony Euwer

BOARD NOTES

The April Board of Directors meeting was held at the home of Frances Newsom. Prior to eating a huge dessert whipped up by Frances for all present, here is what your Board did:

Bailey Castelloe & Louie Waldorf reported for the building committee. Discussed financing of the clubhouse; agreed that funds necessary to complete building must be secured before building program can be undertaken; voted \$2,000 of club treasury made available to Bldg. Comm.; approved plans for general meeting of members on May 1 to review plans and the program of financing the project.

Obsidian "Miss Trips of 1954" Thelma Watson reported on trips of past month. They were well attended and successful. A Junior member, Keith Newsom, led one and did an excellent job. Approved plans of trips committee to cooperate with the FWOC by making Three Sisters Wilderness area trip on July 3-4-5. Packers have been engaged for \$7.50 per member for the 3 day circle trip, which starts at Foley Springs, then on to Horsepasture.

Our entertainment chairman Margaret Markley had to resign from this duty. Jean Banks agreed to fill the job for the remainder of the year. Margaret received commendation for the wonderful job she did in organizing her committee and the fine events that we have had this year. The next event will be May 1 at River Road Women's Clubhouse - a potluck dinner at which clubhouse plans will be discussed. Karl Onthank reported Scientific & Conservation Comm. hard at work--see report.

Gene Sebring reported plans for Summer Outing (Aug. 1-14) progressing; Ray Harris was approved to replace Al Lindley on Committee; packer is engaged; learned that Ned Graves plans to be in camp for one week. Blanche Bailey reported a number of folks have forgotten the detail of paying their yearly dues. Please, if you are one, may we have your help? You can't call yourself an Obsidian you know, unless your dues are paid.

Frances Newsom, club librarian, is still "cutting up."

Ray Harris reported Climbing Committee Summer Schedule and Mountaineering School all prepared.

SECT. 34.66 P.L.&R.

SCIENTIFIC AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

It has been the thought of the Board of Directors that the following information is of the utmost importance to members. We have therefore requested that The Conservation Committee present to the membership this detailed report. You will find its reading well worth the time.

1) House hearings are over but the committee has not yet reported. News is that mail to congress, to the President, and to the Interior Department has awakened them to the fact that people care. Dam proponents insinuate that opponents "don't know what they are talking about," that most protests come from the East where people don't know how much the West needs water, and so on. Hence, it is important that congressmen be told that some of our people have been there, that we have heard their reports, seen their pictures and that we know that the recommendation of Secretary McKay is not supported by the facts: that Reclamation Bureau data show that alternative proposals would store as much water at less cost; that there has been no showing of clear necessity for the Echo Park and Split Mountain Dams; that invasion of a National Park (or Monument) is a clear violation of sound policy long ago laid down by Congress itself; that with so much uncertainty and disagreement among engineers as to the merits of the various proposals, and even as to the fundamental facts, no sound decision be made except to take no action. And how do they expect to balance the budget and at the same time to authorize dams with no more justification than these? But whatever you say, do write soon. The Washington situation is confused, as usual, with substantial forces "on our side." What we do can quite possibly tip the balance. The House has three almost identical bills, HR4443, 4449, 4463. The Senate version is S1555 on which hearings may start soon. So write to Congressmen and Senators, and do it now. Your chairman has detailed material he would be glad to have Obsidians read, unfortunately only one set. But letters need not be long arguments. It is more essential to protest the invasion of a National Monument and point out that these two dams are not essential for the Upper Colorado project since Reclamation Service studies show that alternative dams would be equally serviceable and cost less. You might add a boost for Congressman LeRoy Johnson's bill to make the Monument a National Park. If you have friends or relatives else-

where whom you can get to write similarly to their Congressmen, do so. If Congressmen come to feel that this is a "hot potato" it could easily be allowed to die in committee. Write to Congressmen from Oregon: Representative Homer D. Angell, Sam Coon, Harris Ellsworth, Walter Norblad, A. L. Miller, Chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and Wm. H. Harrison, Chairman of the Subcommittee which held the hearing. Address all these at the House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. Also write Senators Guy Cordon and Wayne Morse at the Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

2) National Park Appropriations: The Board of Directors has adopted a resolution urging Congress to approve the appropriation requested by the Administration for the maintenance of National Parks. It may be taken for granted that the economy-minded Administration has not asked for more than is needed. Obsidians may recall Bernard DeVoto's article in November Harpers recommending that the parks be closed and people barred from them until they can be properly maintained, and supporting this somewhat startling idea by convincing evidence he gathered while visiting a number of them last summer. Probably he didn't mean to be taken quite literally but it's plain that if the parks are to be kept even decently sanitary and safe they will require all they have been allowed to ask for. At this writing the House has already approved the Interior Department's budget, including the National Parks. It now goes to the Senate, so write Senators.

Upper McKenzie: E.W.E.B. is going right ahead with plans for both Cougar and Beaver Marsh dams. McKenzie people are organizing and will welcome aid. They got flood control dams planned for the main river moved to tributaries (Cougar Creek, Blue River, etc.) and are determined to save "the finest river in the U.S.", and certainly one of the most famous, especially for its beauty. Mike Stahl and Dale Carlson are a special committee on this. Let them know your interest.

Rainier National Park: A Tacoma business group is organized avowedly to break down park policy in order to promote commercialization of Rainier on an all-year-round basis, specifically including an aerial tramway.

Three Sisters Wilderness Area: The Trips Committee plans hikes to Horsepasture Mt., and Substitute Point in the area and others on its fringes. Plan to go and take others interested. The more people who have seen the area and understand the problem, the better.

State Water Resources Committee: of which our former regional, later chief, forester Lyle Watts, is chairman, held a public hearing at Eugene March 15, at which Obsidians were represented by Louie Waldorf and your chairman Karl Onthank. That the state government is aroused to the need for study and action to protect and properly administer our water resources is itself encouraging, but recreation and scenic beauty have no legal status whatever—only irrigation, domestic and industrial use and power. At the meeting both the McKenzie Protective Assn. and the new McKenzie Chamber of Commerce representatives spoke emphatically against any water power development on the Upper McKenzie. The importance of proper recognition of recreation and scenery was urged by Dan Allen, representing the Eugene Chamber of Commerce and Eugene Izaak Walton League, and by others, but it will take a lot of education — not so much of the committee as of the public and particularly the Legislature, to bring this about. Talk to candidates for the legislature and write to the committee expressing your views. It is trying to get the facts and to find out what people want, so tell them. Address: Lyle F. Watts, Chairman of the Water Resources Committee, 506 Swetland Bldg., Portland, Oregon.

U.S. Forest Service Public Hearing on Road Projects: held March 15th was attended by representatives of Park and Recreational Interests. The Forest Service announced that the new McKenzie Fish Lake Road would be kept 200 feet back from the stream bank — most places farther back — that other forest roads would likewise be kept back from the stream banks. Roy Elliott, chairman of the County Parks and Recreation Commission, made an excellent presentation "as a citizen" and Kenneth Neilson, chairman of the County Commissioners, "made it official" for the County. Karl Onthank, Chairman

Don't Be A "Litterbug"

A "Litterbug" is one of these abominable characters who throw refuse up and down the highways and along our scenic trails.

There is an ever-increasing problem of the unsightly mess along our trails of such things as paper bags, orange peels, fruit cores, candy wrappers and even bottles. We as Obsidians must do our part to see that this practice is STOPPED. If you see someone throw refuse on the trail, please politely remind him that it is improper. Just think of the well travelled and favorite trail to the Three Sisters Area we all so much enjoy.

Now if everyone who travelled its path strewed one piece of debris, what a mess it would be at the end of the year. I think that is part of our problem — we say to ourselves, "I shouldn't toss this paper bag here, but is one bag in this forest? Ha, the adds up to a of stuff, if felt the Let us all help others must stamp "Litterbug."



what big one bag big pile everyone same way. do our part and to remember we out the trail

We have another member of this family who is even more hideous and obnoxious. He is the car "Litterbug" who throws from his moving auto, whole bags of stuff, papers, tissue, just anything. They are a definite menace to the Oregon highways, and we must stop their heinous crimes. How? It is not an easy answer to give. First we must certainly set a good example ourselves. If you have a chance to confront a "car litterbug" tell him of the campaign to Keep Oregon Clean and Green.

Don't be a "Litterbug" will ya'?