



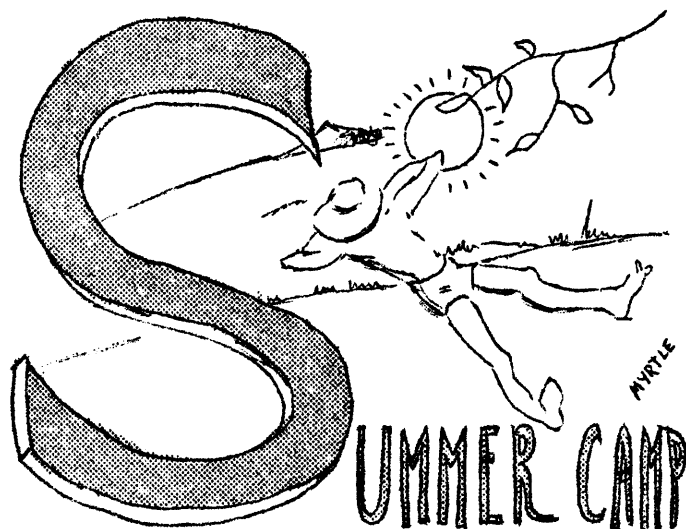
# The OBSIDIAN



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NO. 7



## *"Look Into Nature's Warm Heart"*

Like our Cascades, the Yosemite is another lovely mountain garden. John Muir tells that "on the upper meadows there are miles of blue gentians and daisies, white and blue violets; and great breadths of rosy purple heathworts covering rocky moraines with a marvelous abundance of bloom, enlivened by hummingbirds, butterflies and a host of other insects as beautiful as flowers." We'll see many familiar blossoms: shooting-stars, alpine lily, rein orchis, pussy-paws, lupine, Indian paint brush, godetia, Collinsia, yarrow, great willow herb, Columbine, Penstemon, sky pilots, Kalmia, and if luck is with us, the snow plant.

With few exceptions all the Sierra trees are growing in the Park - nine species of pine, two of silver fir, one each of Douglas spruce, libocedrus, hemlock, juniper, and sequoia - sixteen conifers in all, and about the same number of round headed trees, oaks, maples, poplars, laurel, alder, dogwood, tunion, etc. The sturdy red cedar (*Juniperus occidentalis*) grows on the tops of the granite domes and ridges and glacier pavements of the upper pine belt. The mountain pine (*Pinus monticola*) is far the largest of the Sierra tree mountaineers.

Blacktail deer reach the high Sierra about the first of June. There are panthers, foxes, badgers, porcupines and coyotes but not in large numbers. The two squirrels, the Douglas and the California gray, keep all the woods lively. There are woodchuck, mountain beaver, gophers, and the haymaking pikas. "A great variety of lizards enliven the warm portions of the park; there are many snakes in the canyons and lower forests, but they are mostly handsome and harmless; and frogs abound in all the bogs, marshes, pools and lakes, however cold and high and isolated." The Sierra bear, brown or gray, tramps over all the Park.

And as for birds - tiny nuthatches calling "Yank yank" (R.H.), Clarkes crow, Orioles, tanagers, hawks, golden eagles, grouse, song sparrows, sage cocks, mountain quail; watch for Mallards and wood ducks at Lake Tenaya; log cock - the Sierra

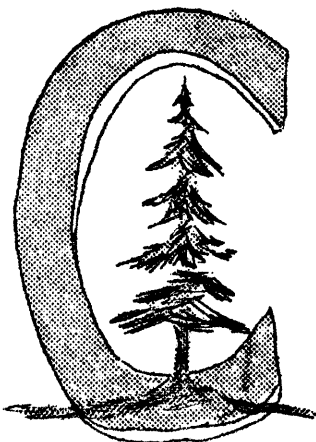
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SUMMER CAMP? What must we tell you of this vacation trip for the Obsidians in 1955? Will it be so different from other years? YES! I believe it will be as different and exciting as each previous year's camp has been.

YOSEMITE! It is a name that lures many people each year. WHY? Because it is part of our National Park system which is dedicated to the conservation of America's scenic, scientific and historic heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of our country. It is a place where we can still see the mighty work of time and art, unspoiled by human hands. A place that, as we look down into the deep canyons, up at towering cliffs, mountains, or over a sky blue lake, we have "peace of mind" and are indeed thankful for this preservation of nature and other parks like Yosemite.

I want to tell you what trips are being planned. As you might guess in this new area for an Obsidian encampment, there will be no idle days. Some of the trips will be by our bus, such as the trip to lower Yosemite Valley. This is actually the tourist center and from the valley you will see Yosemite Falls which has a drop of over 2400 feet; you will see the gigantic Half Dome, a granite rock monument to nature that rises 8850 feet. You will see Mirror Lake, and travel along beautiful trails of trees and lakes. You will see the lodges

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LEAR LAKE was never clearer and the Oregon sun seldom sunnier as Thelma Watson led a crew of 16 by boat across the lake and then to Big Springs. (Bob Medill wants to know if Big Springs is the source of Clear Lake or

the source of the McKenzie) The youngest Sebring was along and enjoyed hiking and boating and attention from all the gals — he'll make a good Obsidian! Marge and Bill, the Albany Beamans and the Smokey Baileys were at the campground and visited with the hikers on their return. Someday the road to Clear Lake will be a dandy, but . . .

Tumalo Falls was in its full glory on June 26th the day Merle and Blanche Bailey arranged a pleasant holiday for the club. Those few who made an overnight trip of it reported the camp to be one of Oregon's finest — with a distinct Motel-like atmosphere including carpeting, showers, TV and noisy neighbors. Smokey and Mac can give you best information and directions. The McWilliams & Baileys were joined Sunday by Myrtie, Thelma, Catherine, & Ray and Mary Cavagnaro. After a dandy potluck the party hiked 2 miles along the beautiful stream of sparkling clear water that ultimately is the Bend country water supply.

SUMMER CAMP (Continued from Page 1)  
and can stock up on cards and souvenirs.

At Glacier Point we will look down into the Valley "Floor", 3000 feet below and out toward the Sierra crests. There are many interesting lakes and sights. Just how much we use Clancy for these excursions remains to be seen. We'll decide around the campfire, OK? ?

There are plenty of hikes and climbs for all. The Gaylor Lakes area is excellent, and we have knowledge of many others. For the climbers we offer 13,500' Mt. Dana, and possibly Mt. Whitney if the group wishes. Park Rangers will guide when requested, and will visit our campfires for lectures.

"Oh brother", time is running out so I'd better get back to "push-ups". Don't want to drop out along the trail you know. Please sign up as soon as possible so that your committee can make proper arrangements for you. Pay your fee to Ray Cavagnaro as soon as you can. It isn't safe for us to carry the money along. SEE YOU ALL IN CAMP!

Lloyd Plaisted, Chairman



The convention this year, and a most important year it is, will be held at beautiful Idyllwild in Southern California. The dates are September 3, 4, and 5. Idyllwild is 110 miles from Los Angeles in Riverside County and is in the heart of one of the finest vacation spots. With Joshua Tree National Monument, Palomar Observatory, Catalina Island, Hollywood, Hidden Lodge, Fern Valley (a 40,000 acre wilderness area). Rates are exceedingly low for the three day accommodation — \$11.00 per person includes meals from lunch Saturday to lunch Monday. It has been requested that reservations be made by August 15th. Your club secretary can assist you. (Please take note of the following:)

#### GLACIER PEAK WILDERNESS OUTING AUGUST 5-8, 1955

In order that the F.W.O.C. and their members may become acquainted with the suggested additions and deletions to the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area, Richard Brooks, F.W.O.C. Wash, V.P., has asked the Conservation Committee of the Mountaineers to sponsor a trip into the area. Each person or group going on this outing will plan their own commissary, however the committee will furnish coffee for a small charge. All of the hiking trips into the area will be from road head so there will be no need for a pack train. To attend this outing, send reservation together with deposit of \$1.00 to Leo Gallagher, P. O. Box 1505, Tacoma 1, Wash. The trip starts at Darrington Ranger Station, about 30 miles East of Arlington, Wash., August 5.

"LOOK INTO NATURE'S WARM HEART" (Continued)  
woodpecker, Lewis woodpecker; Plovers along the sandy shores of nearly all the mountain lakes and an ouzel in every waterfall, "Go see him and love him, and thru' him as through a window look into Nature's warm heart." John Muir.

Adeline Adams

(Good reading about the Sierra animals and birds: Sally Carrighar's "One Day On Beetle Rock". Knopf, 1947.)

HELP!

KEEP OREGON CLEAN AND GREEN

# "TIGER OF THE SNOWS"

Of the many books and articles written about the conquest of Everest, Tenzing's own account of the successful assault is to me the most interesting.

Getting to the top of Everest was an obsession with Tenzing. He had been with six other expeditions in their attempt to scale it, and from the time he was a lad, it had been the dream of his life. No work was too hard nor no sacrifice too great for him to make to attain his life's desire. His deep devotion to the mountain created in him a strength of character, great religious faith, and a refreshing philosophical outlook on life.

However, the world to which Tenzing returned after climbing Everest, presented conflicting problems. Had he reached the top first? Was he Indian or Nepali? These and countless other questions bombarded him. His simple, peaceful life was over; but the greatness of the man, his humility and understanding of human nature remained unchanged.

B.B.

## YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

...met at the home of Blanche Bailey for the July meeting. "Board" is always an interesting event with much interesting discussion and business to attend to.

...all committees gave their reports and a lengthy discussion was held on the importance of signing up for all trips as soon as possible. Both Climbing Committee and Trips Committee reported about 1/3 of the folks attending the trips ever sign up. It makes a hardship on the leader to properly plan details of the trip and transportation. It is a requirement and a courtesy to others to sign up for all trips.

...Climbing committee report by Jim Jeppesen revealed successful ascents of St. Helens, McLaughlin, and Hood to date (Tenderfoot climb of Diamond going on while bulletin goes to press).

...Trips committee's Carlson reported on the month's fine trips, and announced the trip for July 24 to Tipsoo Lookout, not the Santiam area as shown on the schedule.

...Summer Outing report—Lloyd Plaisted—made mention of the slow camp sign-up. The deadline is approaching for ordering bus and supplies — MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN UP IMMEDIATELY.

...Entertainment's Bette Hack reported the Black Canyon picnic for July 16.

...David Brian Carlson, Jr., and Betty Mart were accepted as new members.



ust a wonderful bunch of trips coming up for all Obsidians to enjoy. Here is a quick summary to remind you to mark your calendar.

JULY 24 - TIPSOO BUTTE. A visit to the Lookout manned by Ray & Jimmy Sims.

JULY 31 - AUGUST 14 - OBSIDIAN SUMMER CAMP

AUGUST 7 - MT. YORAN. George Hermach will guide Obsidians up this interesting peak and show them a closeup of Diamond.

AUGUST 21 - A DRIVE TO DIAMOND LAKE AND TO CRATER LAKE with Jim Kezer as guide. Jim was Ranger-Naturalist at Crater Lake & knows this country well.

AUGUST 21 - the climbers will be tackling MT. THIELSEN, Gale Burwell leading.

AUGUST 28 - the climbers will be on the NORTH SISTER and the other folks will visit Obsidian Falls, Scott Camp, etc.

## LET'S GO CLIMBING

In spite of the weather the year's climbs are progressing and started out on June 19, with the climbing of Mt. Hood. To date, a total of 29 have climbed 3 peaks. The climb of Diamond (July 17) will add to this total. Three Fingered Jack was cancelled because of doubtful weather. Dave Burwell has consented to a re-schedule.

Remember that Washington was omitted from the schedule, but is coming up September 11 under the leadership of Ray Harris.

Please check your schedule and tell those you know who are interested in climbs and trips about the specified dates — in other words advertise our club activities. Climbs at hand are:

JULY 24 - MIDDLE SISTER.

JULY 31 - THREE FINGERED JACK. A re-schedule of a very interesting mountain with thrilling view and experiences. Camp at Jack Lake. Dave Burwell, leader.

(Middle Sister...right up in the McKenzie country with camp at Scott Camp. A full view of the Wilderness area. Jim Jeppesen, leader.)

Remember, check your schedule for all climbs. If you, or a friend desire a copy of the schedule, contact Hendershott's or Jim Jeppesen, phone 5-3434. For camping supplies see Hendershott's and for all climbing needs see Mary Trotter at 258 E. 16th.

And PLEASE, OH PLEASE, folks, try and sign up at Hendershott's in time for the leader to make plans.

Jim Jeppesen

# TRAILINGS

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- The Waldorfs will be glad to know that one of Oregon's most beautiful falls has been renamed for Mrs. Waldorf. After a recent visit to Proxy Falls, Nancy Scherer was asked where she had been — her answer was "Roxie Falls".

- The Douglas Spencers are proud to introduce their new son - David Douglas, born on June 14th.

- Lloyd Helikson, Jr, arrived on June 28th and is a happy addition to the family.

- Keith Newsom, along with 33 Explorer Scouts, made a trip down the rugged Umpqua River in a rubber life raft. The trip of 52 miles took 6 days.

- 16 Obsidian Princesses enjoyed a delightful potluck picnic on Helen Smith's patio July 6. The date was chosen for the occurrence of the full moon which lighted a short hike up Gillespie Butte. A most interesting sight was a nest of 4 baby Killdeer out in the field. Adeline Adams will Princess the September Pow-Wow.

- Bailey Castelloe had his own circuits rewired recently at the hospital. He liked being waited on - all is well again.

- Dean Bovard, a charter member and past president, sent a word of encouragement and a nice contribution to the Building Committee. Many thanks, friend.

- Dowell Callis and son Pat sent their renewal of membership in our club, although they are now members of Hood River's two clubs, the Crag Rats and Alpines. "First love is the Obsidians" Dowell says.

- David Brian Carlson was accepted as an Obsidian Junior Member. At 1 week we believe he takes honors as being the youngest. Won't be long tho he will be running Dad up the mountains. David is a most welcome member to our club.

- Margaret Markley, when she completed the ascent of Mt. McLaughlin, became winner of her Ten Peaks award. Our congratulations to a grand Obsidian.

- At the potluck picnic at Black Canyon Camp July 16, George Korn turned all his day's receipts over to the Building Committee . . . Thank You, George!



Be sure brain is engaged before putting mouth into gear.



EDITOR THIS ISSUE: RAY CAVAGNARO

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EUGENE, OREGON

FOURTY-ONE people enjoyed a rugged 4th of July at Quaking Aspen Swamp in the western Three Sisters Wilderness area, with log bridges, snow, rain, and lost trails giving the 3-day trip a real flavor of wilderness.

The 39 hikers left French Pete Camp at about 10 A.M. July 2, following the French Pete Creek Trail for about 6 miles, crossing the creek 6 times - via logs, some provided by nature, others by the Forest Service. All were a bit tricky, and some logs succeeded in dumping a person (or two!) in the creek.

Then the trail led up Aspen Creek toward French Mt. Here the snow added its bit to the fun, with deep drifts in the canyon stalling the pack train. Rain joined the party here too, but didn't stay long. After a considerable amount of hauling on horses, mules, and packs, we got started again, and reached Wolverine Meadow, about 1½ miles short of Quaking Aspen. Here we camped for the night, in an open, forested area. Wet firewood gave off volumes of smoke, and, after a great deal of fanning, blowing, and coaxing, cooked our suppers.

Next morning a group under the leadership of Phil Zalesky and Pat Stahl left for Olallie Mt. and Lamb Springs, and the rest of us proceeded to Quaking Aspen Swamp, where we found a beautiful meadow, lots of flowers, a fine camp spot, and even some sunshine.

We returned to French Pete Camp on July 4 by way of Lowder Mt. Way Trail; that is, we followed it until it got lost, and then we headed down the ridge, over rocks and logs, through brush, and down cliffs (well, almost) until, very weary, we reached the cars about 9 P.M. The pack train headed up over Yankee Mt. and emerged, via Tipsoo Trail, at Walker Creek.

The 39 hikers came from Seattle, Portland, McMinnville, Junction City, Redmond, and Eugene; 15 were Obsidians. The packers were Frank Riley and helper, of Welches, Ore., and Art Belknap of McKenzie Bridge.

The biologists were delighted with this part of the Wilderness, and made extensive collections; the camera fans used many rolls of film, even though the weather was cloudy; everyone had a fine time. Except for one pack horse. He was tired . . . and stayed at Tipsoo.

Mike Stahl

BULK RATE

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